Saddlebag Newsletter

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A supplement to the WWHA *Journal*
Available On-Line via www.wildwesthistory.org

Welcome to the *Saddlebag* Newsletter. The latest information is headed by the date of posting. Previously posted information will be found by date further down in the newsletter. All information will be retained for reference.

If you have Wild West news, please contact the editor at the e-mail address shown at the top of the *Saddlebag* page. We reserve the right to include or not include any materials submitted to us.

July 12, 2022

Roundup News:

Registrations are now numbering near 135 and a few are yet coming in almost daily. Looks like we will hit the 150 mark, or very near, our average yearly attendance.

The Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center in Rapid City reports that our room block is full. However, as long as they have open guest rooms, they will honor the WWHA rates. Call: 605-343-8550 to reserve your room. Request rates for Wild West History Association. Note: there are times when the local hotel reservations desk is busy and calls are forwarded to the national reservations desk; they will not know about the discounted guest room rate for WWHA.

The hotel DOES have shuttle service to and from the airport. Call the hotel for service: 605-343-8550. Car Rental information: We have arranged with Avis Car Rental for a discounted rate with the following code: G975000. The rental agency is located on the ground floor of the Rapid City Regional Airport. Phone: 605-393-0740. Their rental rates are a good bit lower than can be obtained through a direct call to Avis or through a travel agency or your airline.

The full printed Roundup program was mailed with the June WWHA *Journal*, however, for convenience in making your Roundup plans, the schedule is shown below. NOTE: two speakers have cancelled due to personal reasons, both job related. Erik Wright has been replaced by Paul Marquez who will talk about his ancestral connections to Pat Garrett and the Gutierrez family. Doug Ellison has been replaced by a showing of the new WWHA video on the capture and arrest of John Wesley Hardin; the program will be presented by Pam Potter, Eddie Lanham and Kurt House.

At first read, the program shows we have a "jam-packed" schedule. Yes, we do! As Roundup chair, Roy has always tried to give attendees their money's worth. If the schedule

seems "loaded" pick and choose the events in which you wish to participate. The bus tour is especially full of exciting things to do; again, pick-and-choose the things you wish to do, relaxing on a park bench or sitting in the air-conditioned comfort of our buses. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes and expect the day to be somewhat warm. Anyone who wishes may follow the buses in their own vehicle, or car-pool with others. The only catch will be paying your own admission at the Crazy Horse Memorial.

We look forward to seeing you in Rapid City!

Roundup Schedule of Events

Wednesday, July 20th

9:00 - 3:00	**Board of Directors Meeting - Bear Butte Meeting Room**
12:00 - 1:00	**Board Luncheon**
1:00 - 5:00	**Roundup Registration - Turn in silent and live auction items - Washington Foyer**
1:00 - 5:00	**Vendor/Exhibitor Set-up - Rushmore Room**
6:00 - 9:00	**Opening Reception - Please wear badges for this and all scheduled events Cash Bar, Snacks and Desserts - Rushmore Room**
7:00	**Keynote Presentation, Dr. David Wolff, "Finding Gold and Violence on the Black Hills Mining Frontier"**

Thursday, July 21st - * Unless noted all remaining events will be held in the Rushmore Room***

8:00 - 5:00	**Roundup Registration - turn in silent and live auction items**
8:00 - 9:00	**Final Vendor/Exhibitor Set-up**
9:00 - 9:30	**Roy B. Young, Roundup Chair Welcome, Acknowledge Special Guests, Announcements, Roundup Overview Comments by Jim Dunham, President of WWHA Rapid City representative (appearance tentative) Pennington County Sheriff Kevin Thom**
9:30 - 11:35	**Morning Programs**
9:30 - 10:05	**Bill O'Neal - "Wild Bill Hickok, Prince of Pistoleers"**
10:10 - 10:45	**Donna Harrell - "Colorado Charlie Utter"**
10:45 - 11:00	**Morning Break/ Visit Vendors, Silent Auction Open**
11:00 - 11:35	**Dr. David Wolff - "Seth Bullock"**
11:45 - 12:45	**Six-Shooter Awards Luncheon, Pam Potter and Jim Dunham, co-chairs**

1:00 - 4:30	**Afternoon Programs**
1:30 - 2:05	**Dr. James Bailey - "Frontier Medicine: 19th Century Medical Practices"**
2:10 - 2:45	**Paul Marquez - "Family Connections to Pat Garrett and the Gutierrez Family**
2:45 - 3:00	**Afternoon Break - Visit Vendors, Silent Auction Bids**
3:00 - 3:35	**Pam Potter - "Calamity Jane"**
3:40 - 4:15	**Michael O'Keefe - "Billy the Kid Literature"**
4:20 - 5:00	**Visit vendors, Silent Auction Open**
5:00 - 7:00	**Evening Break/Dinner on your own**
7:00 - 9:00	**Evening Programs** **1. "An Evening With...." To honor one of our own. Roy Young, moderator** **2. "Collectors Panel" Tim Hagaman, moderator,** **panelists: Kurt House, John Boessenecker, and Peg Aplan**

Friday, July 22nd - The day's schedule will be somewhat flexible and some times may move up or down in the hour.

7:45 - 7:55	**Load Buses for annual tour (please remain on same bus during tour)** **Tour sites include: Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Deadwood**
8:00	**Depart Hotel (Do you have your badge?)**
9:00	**Arrive Mount Rushmore. Take group picture in front of the Presidents** **We will be here only one hour. Load buses no later than 10:00.**
10:00	**Depart Rushmore**
11:00	**Arrive Crazy Horse Memorial. Take group picture in front of the memorial. Lunch on your own. Visit museum and see the sites. Must load buses on time.**
12:30	**Depart Crazy Horse Memorial**
1:30	**Arrive Deadwood. Orientation on all three buses. Tour Deadwood. Visit Mount Moriah Cemetery - on your own - via local transportation. Visit local museums as noted in your program, all on your own. Eat a late lunch. Must load buses on time.**
4:30	**Depart Deadwood**
5:45	**Arrive Fort Hays. Tour "Old West Town Square." Demonstrations: rope making, blacksmith shop, tin shop, sawmill, gold panning, and more.**
6:15 - 8:15	**Chuck Wagon Supper at Fort Hays, entertainment**
8:15	**Board buses for return trip to hotel**
9:00	**Arrive at hotel. Rest of the evening on your own. Whew!**

Saturday, July 23rd ***** Unless noted all remaining events will be held in the Rushmore Room***

8:00 - 12:00 **Roundup Registration**

8:00 - 12:00 **Turn in Silent and Live Auction Items, Silent Auction Open**

8:30 - 9:00 **Annual WWHA Business Meeting, including Election of Board Members President Jim Dunham, presiding**

9:00 - 9:10 **Morning Announcements/Banquet Information**

9:10 - 9:30 **"The Last Roundup" Memorials for Deceased Members: Led by Roy Young and Gerald Schaefer**

9:30 - 10:05 **John Boessenecker - "Pearl Hart"**

10:10 - 10:45 **Pam Potter, Eddie Lanham, Kurt House, "WWHA Video on the Capture of John Wesley Hardin"**

10:45 - 11:00 **Morning Break – Visit Vendors, Silent Auction Open**

11:00 - 12:00 **Annual Gunfighters Session – Gerald Schafer and Kurt House, Co-Chairs Speaker: Mark Gardner - "'Jesse James he was a man that was knowed through all the land.' A Short History of the Ballad 'Jesse James.'"**

12:00 - 12:05 **Important Announcements. Yes, very important!**

12:05 - 12:30 **Final Opportunity to visit vendors**

12:30 - 2:00 **Vendor/Exhibitor Tear-Down**

12:30 - 2:00 **Gunfighters Members Only Luncheon - Washington Room**

12:30 - 5:30 **Afternoon Break**

5:30 - 9:00 **Annual "Boots and Spurs Banquet" Dress-Up Occasion - Please Wear Badges**

5:30 - Cash Bar Open all evening

6:00 - 6:45 **Plated Dinner, please place your meal card in front of you; it will be found behind your badge**

6:45 - 7:00 **Presidents Awards - Jim Dunham**

7:00 - 7:45 **WWHA Auctions- Roy Young**

7:45 - 8:15	**That fantastic duo: Jim Dunham and Marshall Trimble**
8:15 - 8:30	**San Antonio Roundup Plans - Pam Potter, David George, Kurt House**
8:30 - 10:00	**Entertainment by *3 Trails West - Cowboy Band***

September WWHA *Journal*:

The September *Journal* is set to be mailed to the membership the first week of September. This issue will feature tributes to the recently deceased historians/authors Fred Nolan and Robert Utley.

Great articles including:

- Mike Cox - Texas Ranger Henry Joseph Richarz
- Lonnie Underhill - "Gunfight at the Spike S Ranch"
- Kent Frates - "Temple Houston"
- Paul Nickens - "The Only Known Photograph of the Apache Chief Victorio. Is It Really Him?"
- Robert Stahl - "The Last Years and Death of John William Poe"
- Quarterly Author Interview and "Relatively Speaking"
- "Reading the West" and "Off the Press"
- And more!

Social Media in the Wild West

Marketing and educating with social media in the Wild Wild West, and is it a necessity? The answer is YES, and with very little cost to the WWHA.

In Spring of 2021, while taking baby steps, the WWHA expanded its presence into the vast world of social media. We had no training. Our objective was to gain more members, and to educate the public about the history of the Wild West. Over the past year, our audio and video platforms have weaved itself into the eyes and ears of thousands.

Currently we have two platforms, Facebook and YouTube.

Facebook: Our WWHA Facebook site is currently adding about 20-30 new members per week. Last week we added 60! If you are not a member, please join the page. FREE!

YouTube: Last month the WWHA YouTube Channel was viewed by over 27,000 people, and is growing exponentially every month. We currently have 46 published videos, plus a few advertisements for the WWHA and Roundup. One of our recent videos about Jack Hays has over 76,000 views since May 1st. Not bad for a target audience. Please view, comment, like, and SUBSCRIBE to our site, which helps the WWHA. YouTube is also FREE!

We normally publish 2 new videos each month. Subscribers will be notified when the videos are released.

Real People-Real Places-Real History.

WWHA Fireside Stories and "Bugs on the Windshield"

Our latest episodes of Fireside Stories are now on our YouTube Channel. The May 1st episode features Kurt House and Eddie Lanham talking about the one and only Jack Hays, Texas Ranger. The May 17th episode of "Bugs on the Windshield" is about Texas Ranger N.O. Reynolds. On June 1st, we released a video featuring Jim Dunham talking about the shooting on the RUST movie set, and firearms in Hollywood.

There have been many comments left on the YouTube page, so we know people are paying attention. All of our videos are increasing in number of views. If you have any suggestions on a topic you would like to see, leave a message on our website under "Contact Us". Thank you to all who have supported our YouTube Channel. Like subscribe and share.

https://www.youtube.com/c/WildWestHistoryAssociation/videos

Billy the Kid's Historical Coalition. By: Josh Slatten

Initially, the thought of forming a business that did nothing but focus on Billy the Kid's history seemed strange to me. I mean, why would someone want to do that? It then popped into my head that this had been done before and, at one point in time, done quite successfully, if success was measured in name recognition and number of members. I had personally never joined any such groups, and after doing a little digging I realized that there was little-to-no historical footprints or evidence that would even suggest these groups existed. This just did not sit well with me. Too much of Billy the Kid's history has already been lost and will continue to slowly slip away if more is not done to preserve it.

I decided to consult a pal of mine, Jason Young, another Billy the Kid enthusiast; and we brainstormed some ideas. What we came up with is: *Billy the Kid's Historical Coalition*. I know - the possessive form of 'Kid' throws some folks off. However, Jason and I both felt like the work we do here should be for the Kid and his legacy in New Mexico and for the native people that he loved so much.

Soon after coming up with the name, Jason began to build our website from the ground up, while I started the legal process of forming what we began to call "the Coalition." Over the course of the next couple months, we surrounded ourselves with some of the most knowledgeable folks in the Kid business - and we were off and running!

One of our main objectives is to maintain and preserve Billy the Kid history and the history of the Lincoln County War. We thought our first order of business would be the placement of a headstone on the lost grave of Regulator and Billy pal, Jose Chavez y Chavez. Chavez was one of the more active Regulators in the Lincoln County War and led quite the life afterwards. His grave had been lost to history and unmarked for the better part of fifty years. After what felt like a lifetime of research, the grave was located, and a proper headstone finally was erected to honor the life of Jose Chavez y Chavez.

Since the placement of our first headstone, two more have been purchased with the donation of some real generous folks. This coming August, the Coalition (sounds cool to say, doesn't it) will be placing a headstone over the forgotten grave of Deputy James Carlyle, who was killed at Greathouse Tavern back in November of 1880 by either Billy the Kid and his gang or his own posse. An additional headstone is also being placed over the grave of Billy the Kid's first fatality, Frank "Windy" Cahill, down in Bonita, Arizona. Not a bad start, if I do say so myself.

As well as headstones and gravesites, the Coalition specializes in locating historical sites related to the Kid and the War that made him famous. While partnering with other organizations

such as *Cold West*, *Friends of Pat Garrett,* and the *WWHA*, we have been able to make some groundbreaking discoveries that will rewrite Kid history as we currently know it.

If you feel like you want to be a part of all that's going on we politely invite you to join our ranks. Make your way over to our website and purchase a membership, one of our yearly journals, or maybe even a coffee mug. All profits go towards our next project, and we are all beyond grateful. You can find us on Facebook at:

https://www.facebook.com/BillytheKidsHistoricalCoalition or at our website at:
https://billythekidshistoricalcoalition.com

The Billy the Kid Historical Coalition Members' Event,

This event, originally scheduled for Fort Sumner in July, is now scheduled to be held at Old Lincoln Days in Lincoln New Mexico on Saturday, August 6, 2022. The public is invited to participate.

The event will start in Lincoln at 5:45 p.m. for a picnic-style meet and greet. Our co-host, Michael Anthony Guidicissi, will show his newest film, *The Final Trial of Billy the Kid* at around 6:30 p.m. Michael will be available afterwards to answer any questions about his film or books. At 8:00 pm we will have "campfire tales" from our guest speakers. Lastly at 9:00 p.m., we will take a walk under the light of a "lantern" where we will stop and discuss the end of the 5-day battle at the empty location where McSween's home once stood, on "The Most Dangerous Street in America"!

Food will be served promptly at 6:00 pm and will consist of BBQ chicken or pork sandwiches with baked beans, potato chips and non alcoholic beverages. The cost is $10.00 per guest and will be required on scene in cash or in advance by card on our website as a donation. The $10 Pals ticket will get guests a meal, one of our magazines and an enchanted evening all about Billy the Kid!

If possible please bring yourself a chair or blanket for the film which is about an hour and twenty-two minutes. We are not sure yet how many chairs we can get yet. Some of the venues may be altered or changed including times, (excluding start and dinner times) depending on circumstances. (We are hoping to use the church or amphitheater and have not received permission yet).

We sincerely hope to see you there. Please respond if you can make it so we can plan accordingly!

Hosted by "Billy the Kid's Historical Coalition" and Michael Anthony Guidicissi Thank You!

Jason Young, Josh Slatten, Brandon Dickson, and Michael Anthony Guidicissi

Cyrus Wells "Doc" Shores History

WWHA member John Goetz has written a three chapter history of Cyrus Wells "Doc" Shores, the intrepid Western Colorado lawman and railroad detective, and has recently donated the document to the Denver Public Library. The donation is in the form of a pdf, which DPL printed out and bound and will soon be available for reading in the Western History and Genealogy department. Currently the document is at the bindery, but when it comes back, patrons can find the Shores story in the DPL catalog.

Tom Moy and the Arizona History Convention

We are pleased to announce that his year's winner of the Don Bufkin Award for the best conference paper on territorial Arizona is WWHA's own Thomas "Tom" Moy for his submission, "Solving a Riddle: Uncovering Chinese Monopoly of Tombstone's Laundry Industry." Moy is a former teacher, principal, and warden with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. His several articles have appeared in the *Journal* of the Wild West History Association. Congratulations, Tom!

Death of Baxter Black

By Clay Risen, **Obituaries Reporter,** ***New York Times,*** June 24, 2022

Baxter Ashby Black, the country's best-known cowboy poet, whose witty, big-hearted verse about cowpokes, feed lots and wide-open vistas elevated the tradition of Western doggerel to something of a folk art, died on June 10 at his home, a ranch outside Benson, Ariz. Baxter Black was born on Jan. 10, 1945, in Brooklyn, where his father, Robert, was serving in the Navy. At his death he was 77. The cause was leukemia, said his wife, Cindy Lou Black.

It's worth pausing to ask why cowboy poetry exists in the first place. Cowboys, after all, are not well known for their communication skills. Yet the genre flourishes; more than 100 cowboy poetry festivals are held each year, and the peripatetic Mr. Black was often featured as the main event.

Reed thin with a handlebar mustache the size of a mop head under a gray Resistol hat, he modeled himself as something of a Will Rogers of the high plains. He seeded his writing with a blend of gentle humor and folk wisdom wrapped in tight rhymes and loose meters, as in his poem "Take Care of Yer Friends":

Friend is a word that I don't throw around.
Though it's used and abused, I still like the sound.
I save it for people who've done right by me
And I know I can count on if ever need be.

Wordsworth it isn't, but Mr. Black didn't lay claim to genius. Cowboy poetry, he said, began as a way to ward off boredom on the trail and to communicate stories among men who rarely cracked a book, and persists because it appeals to those who might be intimidated by formal verse.

And, he said, cowboy poetry is fun. Forget intimations of immortality; Mr. Black's poetry cracked wise about things like horse manure, the evils of vegetarianism and the advantages of artificial preservatives:

Someday I'll just be sitting in my rocker on the porch, and everyone will say I'm looking great, because I'll be so well preserved, no one will know I'm dead, unless they read my expiration date.

His playful verse was infectious; newspaper profiles often carried headlines like "Poem on the Range" and "Write 'em, Cowboy." More than one declared him America's "Poet Lariat."

Though Mr. Black, a former rodeo rider and large-animal veterinarian, primarily identified as a poet, he was even more prolific as an essayist and radio commentator. His weekly column, "On the Edge of Common Sense," appeared every week for 40 years in more than 100 newspapers. His weekly radio show, "Baxter Black on Monday," was heard on about 150 stations.

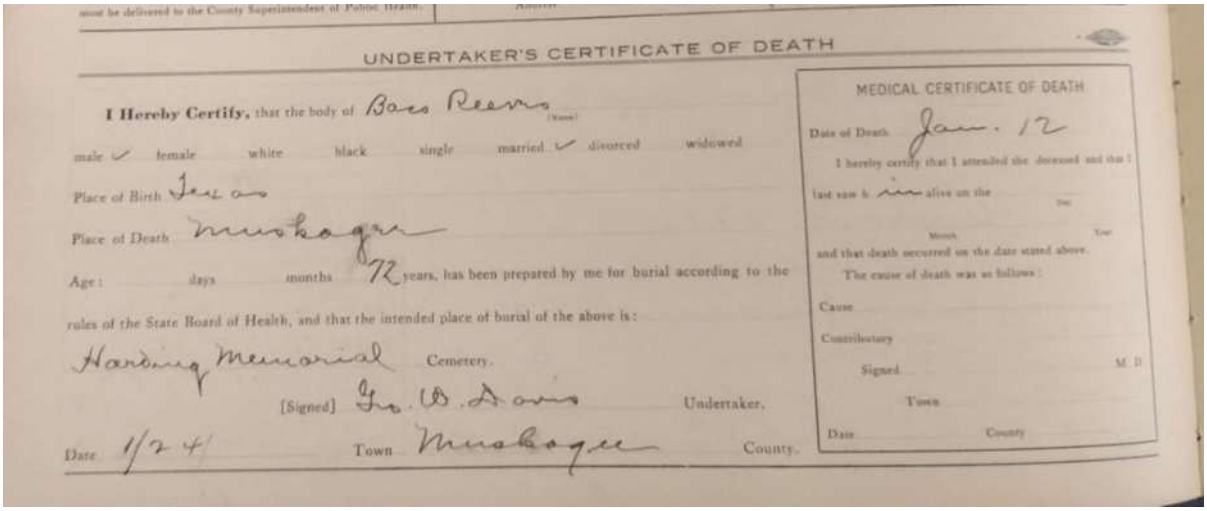
If people outside the rural West knew his name, it was likely for his multiple appearances on Johnny Carson's "Tonight Show" and his years as a guest commentator on NPR, where he specialized in lightheartedly tweaking his cosmopolitan listeners.

Mr. Black wrote more than 30 books, including poetry, fiction and children's literature, which sold an estimated two million copies, his wife said. He also released several audio recordings of his work — an especially popular medium among his fans, who would pop in his tapes during long trips across the Great Plains.

The writer Calvin Trillin, himself no stranger to casual verse, called Mr. Black "probably the nation's most successful living poet."

Bass Reeves Burial Site Found

Recently, a group of ledgers was discovered in the Oklahoma City area. These ledgers contained records of deaths and burials in Muskogee, Oklahoma, for the period 1910—1916.



UNDERTAKER'S CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

I Hereby Certify, that the body of Bass Reeves (Name)

male ✓ female white black single married ✓ divorced widowed

Place of Birth Texas

Place of Death Muskogee

Age: days months 72 years, has been prepared by me for burial according to the rules of the State Board of Health, and that the intended place of burial of the above is:

Harding Memorial Cemetery.

[Signed] Jno. W. Davis Undertaker.

Date 1/24 Town Muskogee County.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Date of Death Jan. 12

I hereby certify that I attended the deceased and that I last saw h alive on the Day Month Year and that death occurred on the date stated above.

The cause of death was as follows:

Cause

Contributory

Signed M. D.

Town

Date County

One of the records is for the burial of former Deputy U.S. Marshal Bass Reeves in Harding Memorial Cemetery. While historians knew Bass was buried in the Muskogee area, there were still differing opinions as to which graveyard was the final resting place of the most prolific law enforcement officer in American history.