Saddlebag Newsletter

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Welcome to the "New" *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.

February 27, 2022

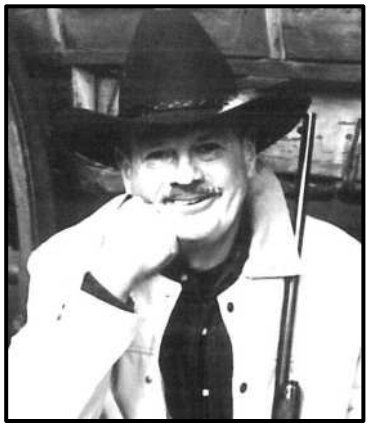
Latest Fireside Stories Episode

The Peacemaker Colt 45. Outlaws, lawmen, cowboys and the army made this gun famous. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mCvAm9VgNIc&t=129s

Headstone of Sheriff Albertus Sweet will be unveiled on March 7, 2022, in Lampasas, Texas (See full story below)

Mike Gray Tombstone Dedication March 9, 2022, in Colma, California

Death of Historian Chip Carlson



Historian and author Chip Carlson died on January 4, 2022 at the age of 84. Carlson was a speaker for the 2007 WOLA Shootout in Cheyenne and was scheduled to participate in the 2018 WWHA Roundup, but had to cancel at the last minute.

Chip Carlson, born in 1937, died at Davis Hospice Center in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Chip was a Cheyenne historian and author who devoted twenty years to investigating and documenting the Tom Horn episode of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The results of that work were three published books. The most recent, *Tom Horn: Blood on the Moon - Dark History of the Murderous Cattle Detective*, won the annual award for history/biography of

the Wyoming State Historical Society. For seven years, he was a member of the Speakers Bureau of the Wyoming Council for the Humanities. He was also a member of the Wyoming Historical Society, Western Writers of America and a former member of Wild West History Association.

In 1993 he organized the retrial of Tom Horn in the Laramie County Courthouse, which attracted international attention to Wyoming and resulted in Horn's acquittal. *The New York Times* reported on the trial and summarized it with the headline "Once Guilty, Now Innocent, But Still Dead." He worked as a consultant on a permanent exhibit on Tom Horn at the location where the gallows stood in the old Laramie County Courthouse.

Carlson was a graduate of Colgate University, where he was editor of his college newspaper, with a major in philosophy and a minor in Spanish. While in college he studied in South America as a member of the Argentine Study Group. After graduation he worked in Mexico, Puerto Rico, Minnesota and Canada. He moved to Wyoming in 1977. Chip was employed by Pitney Bowes, Cheyenne Frontier Days and Sierra Trading Post. For many years he was a volunteer on the Concessions Committee for Cheyenne Frontier Days. Chip loved Wyoming, hunting, the Boston Red Sox and large dogs. He is survived by his wife, Susan; children, John, Lisa, Jenna and Tina; stepsons, Alan and Ken; sister, Anne; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Memorials in his memory may be sent to Black Dog Animal Rescue, 2407 E. 9th, Cheyenne, Wyoming, 82001 A private family service will be held in the summer of 2022. Cremation is under the care of Schrader, Aragon and Jacoby Funeral Home.

February 23, 2022

WWHA Journal for March 2022 is in the mail!

Roundup Registration form, as well as Vendor/Exhibitor and Roundup Program Advertising forms are now posted on this website.

New URL address for WWHA YouTube Channel

The WWHA YouTube channel has a new URL (address). Previously we had an address assigned by YouTube. The YouTube "Custom" revision is much shorter and easy to remember: https://www.youtube.com/c/WildWestHistoryAssociation.

On March 1st, WWHA President Jim Dunham will dive into the world of Hollywood and the incident that took place on the set of the movie "Rust."

On March 15th "Wyoming." You will love the music. Two lovely Wyoming ladies gave WWHA permission to use their song, which is now the #1 song in that state.

On April 1st, Mike Bell will tell the life and times of Kid Curry.

Roundup Collectors Panel

The WWHA Rapid City/Deadwood Roundup has added Peg Aplan to the Collector's Panel. Pet lives some 17 miles from Rapid City and will provide information on her collection of Wild West memorabilia.

February 11, 2022

Nominations for WWHA Board of Directors

Marshall Trimble, WWHA 2nd Vice-President, and chair of the "Nominations" committee, announces that nominations for board seats may be made between March 1st and June 30th, 2022. The board is comprised of 18 board seats (expanded from 15 in 2020) with each board member being elected for a term of three years. With a rotation of three-year terms, each year six board seats are open for election or reelection.

Current board members whose terms expire in July 2022 are: Donna Harrell, Dr. James Bailey, Ruth McWhirter, Elizabeth Weathers, Charlotte Steele, and Jean Smith (who is filling the unexpired term of Ron Woggon who retired from the board in January 2022). Each of these board members are seeking reelection and will be nominated at the annual WWHA membership meeting on Saturday, July 23, 2022 during the Rapid City/Deadwood Roundup.

Additionally, the board currently has three vacancies, including that of Carroll Moore, retiring and leaving an unexpired term through 2024; also, the board seat of the late Bill Hunter with a board term expiring in 2023, and an unfilled board seat with a term expiring in 2024. The WWHA bylaws do not require that all 18 seats be filled at all times.

Other board seats and their term expiration are: 2023 - Paul Marquez, William I. "Bill" Koch, Jim Dunham, Kurt House, Michael Wallis, and one unfilled seat. 2024 - Marshall Trimble, Pam Potter, Roy B. Young, Alan Blanchette, the seat of the retiring Carroll Moore, and one unfilled board seat.

Nominations may be made by the candidate or by another WWHA member who has the permission of the nominee to be nominated. The process for making nominations is two-fold. The first aspect of the nomination process, and the most preferred, is that nominations be made in writing and include the following information: the candidate's name, home address, home and cell phone numbers, and e-mail address. Other requested information include: basic background, current interests (including those related to the Wild West), special skills, current employment, and a brief list of other groups, causes, projects, etc., to which the nominee has contributed. Finally, a statement, in 250 words or more, why the nominee should be elected to the board of the Wild West History Association. If the nomination is made by someone other than the candidate, please add the nominator's name and contact information, both phone and e-mail. The other allowable way to make a nomination is from the floor during the annual membership meeting at a Roundup.

Each nominee is requested to appear before the current board of directors for an opportunity to discuss their nomination and thoughts and ideas for consideration by the board.

Chairman Trimble has provided some of the expectations of a board member: the ability to attend two board meetings per year, one - during the annual Roundup, and the other - in January, at a location to-be-determined by board vote. Additionally, several Internet 'Zoom' meetings are conducted, as called by the president. Each board member is asked to participate on one or more committees.

The WWHA bylaws provide for the elected members of the board to select their own officers.

Nominations are to be submitted to Marshall Trimble, 8119 E. Redwing Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85250 or to marshall.trimble@sccmail.maricopa.edu. The deadline date is firm: June 30, 2022.

Headstone of Sheriff Albertus Sweet, KIA, now repaired, will be unveiled on March 7, 2022 in Lampasas, Texas, contributed by *Chuck Parsons*

Friends of the Wild West have made it their mission not only to preserve the written history of the Wild West but also the more tangible objects which mark their lives: their headstones.

In Lampasas, Texas for many years there has been the broken headstone of Sheriff Albertus Sweet. He was elected sheriff December 2, 1873, re-elected February15, 1876 and served until November 5, 1878.

Sweet was born October 2, 1843. During the Civil War, he served the Confederacy as Sergeant in Company D of the Texas Infantry. Subsequently serving successfully as sheriff during the days of the Horrell-Higgins Feud, Sweet became city marshal of Belton, Texas. There, he was killed while attempting to help the country sheriff make an arrest on December 9, 1881. His remains were taken back to Lampasas where he was buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery.

Through the years his impressive headstone was damaged; rather than let it continue to remain in this condition, a group of historians decided to repair it. On March 7, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. the repaired headstone will be unveiled during a short program. WWHA members and the general public is invited to attend.

The program will take place at the Oak Hills Cemetery, Lampasas, Texas, 100-1099 W. Avenue E, a few blocks off US Highway 183 and close to US Highway 281. The ceremony will begin at 2:00 with an opening prayer by Rick Willis. a local minister. Then, Bill O'Neal, former State Historian of Texas, and author of many books, will provide a biographical sketch of Albertus Sweet. The actual unveiling of the repaired headstone will follow by WWHA members Chuck Parsons, Wild West historian and author, and local historian Jeff Jackson.

Roy Young, editor of the *Journal* of the Wild West History Association, will then provide a few special remarks about why the marking of graves and the repairs of headstones is a priority for WWHA. The Wild West History Association is involved in identifying the graves of westerners and erecting or repairing their headstones which have been broken by the elements or other causes. Oak Hill Cemetery began in 1872 when Hartwell Fountain sold ten acres of land to the city to established this cemetery. It was first known as City Cemetery and renamed Oak Hill in 1908. The Ladies Cemetery Association, a group of concerned women, maintained the cemetery from 1891 to 1948 when the city assumed responsibility

Rick Willis will close the ceremony with a prayer. Following these activities, Jeff Jackson will give a walking tour of Oak Hill Cemetery to view the burial sites of noted Lampasas citizens, local pioneers, veterans of the Texas Revolution, Civil War and other conflicts.

Great Western Trail Marker Project

Several WWHA members are engaged in preserving western heritage along the route of the "Great Western Cattle Trail" which along with several "feeder trails" ran from Matamoros, Mexico, north to Canada. While it was in use, some six million to seven million cattle, or more, and a million horses, or more, made their way up various parts of the route.

In 1874 Captain John T. Lytle and several Cowboys left South Texas with 3,500 head of longhorn cattle. Five years later the route Lytle cut out of the prairie to Ft. Robinson, Nebraska, had become the most significant Cattle Trail in history - The Great Western Trail.

The Great Western trail was less known than the Chisholm Trail, the Great Western Trail was longer in length and carried cattle for two years longer than the Chisholm.

Established in 1878, Doan's Crossing was know on the trail as "the jumping off place." The last place to get mail and supplies before entering Indian Territory. Today the 1881 adobe building , still standing at Doan's is the oldest structure in Wilbarger County, Texas.

In the 1930"s two markers were set at Doan's to commemorate the historical significance of the area.

In 2003, Rotary International, in cooperation with the Great Western Trail Association provided funds for the placement of concrete markers along the entire Great Western Trail, every six miles the trail from the Rio Grande to Ogallala, Nebraska. Oklahoma Set the first post south of the city of Altus near the Red River, and challenged Texas to follow suit. Oklahoma donated the first post in Texas which was set in 2004 during the 121st Doan's May Day Picnic at the Doan's adobe.

Today, most of these markers are falling into a state of disrepair and need sanding and repainting. Some markers have been lost and some were never set.

The WWHA involvement in this project is sanding and repainting a number of these markers. In the picture at left, WWHA member Pam Potter, our past-president, is shown working on one of the markers on a recent snowy day. This maker is seven and one half miles west of Harper, Texas, on US 290. The marker is on private property, but very visible from the highway. GPS co-ords: N30 17.880, W99 22.237. Marker is about 60' north of the edge of pavement.

Fireside Stories

Roy Young's WWHA Fireside Stories video "Who Killed Morgan Earp" has a new trailer ready for viewing. Eddie Lanham, WWHA member who films the videos will now be making a trailer for each video that is made. The trailers will be shown about 3-4 days before the release of a "Fireside Stories" or "Bugs on the Windshield" episode. WWHA is currently releasing two episodes per month, a Fireside story on the 1st, and a Bugs... on the 15th. For the Morgan Earp trailer see: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAva1L2K4I4. You will then notice in the right hand column a list of the videos from which to choose for your viewing pleasure.

200th Anniversary of the James-Samuel Cabin

April 23, 2022 , 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

The 200th Anniversary Celebration, the Original Cabin and Clay County! The event will include five guest speakers, including: Scott Cole: "History of the James-Samuel Cabin," Bryan Shibley: "History of Clay County," Joe Hall: "History of the Samuel Family," Bryan Ivlow: "Guns of the Period," and WWHA member and Rapid City/Deadwood Roundup speaker, Mark Gardner: "Jesse James."

Several James, Samuel and Cole family members will be present as will re-enactors throughout the day!

Call 816-736-8500 or visit www.jessejamesmuseum.org for additional information.

Mike Gray Tombstone Dedication in Colma, California

Michael Gray, Tombstone Justice of the Peace and clerk to the Tombstone Common Council, is getting a new gravemarker. On March 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., Mike Gray relatives will dedicate the new grave marker for Mike Gray, his wife and one daughter. Previously, they were all in one unmarked grave. The new marker appears below. The dedication will be at the Greenlawn Cemetery in Colma, California. All WWHA members are invited to attend. Please contact project coordinator Mike Eberhardt, a stalwart member of WWHA, at mikeceber@sbcglobal.net He will compile a list of WWHA members planning to attend and provide more details and directions.

Coincidentally, Wyatt Earp's grave is only a short distance away in Hills of Eternity Memorial Park. Mike Gray knew Wyatt Earp fairly well. For example, it is believed that Mike Gray swore Wyatt in as a Cochise County deputy sheriff in July 1880. The group will go to Wyatt's grave around 11:00 a.m. and then adjourn to a nearby Colma restaurant for a free lunch for all attendees.

In advance of the event, Mike EberhardtI will send out by email his most recent article on Mike Gray in the *Cochise County Historical Journal* so attendees might learn a bit more about Mike Gray before the event. Contact Mike for further information at: Michael C. Eberhardt, 6006 Club Oaks Drive, Dallas, Texas 75248 - 972-567-0029.

United States Marshals Museum to Host Symposium

Regional and national presenters will examine the deadliest day in the history of the United States Marshals

FORT SMITH, Ark. (January 20, 2021) – The United States Marshals Museum is excited to announce its upcoming symposium, Goingsnake @ 150. On April 15, 1872, a Marshals posse interrupted a Cherokee Nation court session and spurred a gun battle that ended as the deadliest event in the history of the Marshals, the worst instance of Cherokee-on-Cherokee violence, and the largest civilian gunfight in the history of the American West. This event came to be known as the Goingsnake tragedy.

"Questions of sovereignty and responsibility still linger over the tragedy at Goingsnake and the decisions made at the time. We still see the effects of these events in the region today," said Leslie Higgins, the Museum's director of education. David Kennedy, the curator of exhibits and collections, sees the symposium as a way for modern society to understand the issues that shaped our nation. "We will host subject matter experts who can speak authentically about the history of the Marshals, the Cherokee, the legal system at the time, and the cultures which were involved in this tragic event in Indian Territory," Kennedy said.

The Symposium will take place from 9:00 am-4:30 pm on April 8 and 9 at the United States Marshals Museum in Fort Smith. Sessions will include the legal and political history leading to the event, the roles played by the Marshals, the Cherokee Nation, and the military, and the outcomes of the event. Tickets can be purchased for $30 (1 day) or $50 (2 days). Lunch presentations are $15 each and are available only in advance of the event. Tickets are available at Stubs.net.