

The TEXAS JACK SCOUT

VOLUME I NO. 1

APRIL 1985

TEXAS JACK

COMBINATION

GLOBE THEATER, Friday and Saturday, Matinee Saturday at 2 P. M. Sept. 21 & 22

(See "TEXAS JACK GALLERY" page 11)

★ ★ ★ ★ LOS ANGELES AREA MEMBERS TO MEET

Members of the Texas Jack Association residing in the Los Angeles area will hold a business and social meeting in May in order to get acquainted and make plans for future local events. Also, there are tentative plans for a joint get-together with members of the National Association of Buffalo Bill Collectors, based in Valencia, CA.

DUNRAVEN REMEMBERS TEXAS JACK

"...John Omohundro, better known as Texas Jack...was a good and kind friend to me... a cheery companion, ready for anything, always willing to work, cutting down mountains of difficulties into molehills, always in good humour, never quarrelling - a better hunting companion than Jack...or a more reliable friend, it would be hard to find."

The Earl of Dunraven
"Canadian Nights"

DUNRAVEN REMEMBERED

This is an excerpt from the obituary of The Earl of Dunraven which was printed on July 15, 1926, in the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE. The obituary had been clipped from that almost 60 year old newspaper and put in a copy of "Pastimes and Past Times" by Dunraven where it had been used as a bookmark:

"Wyndham Thomas Wyndham-Quinn, fourth Earl of Dunraven and Mount Earl, was a man of many ambitions and some disappointments. Restless, daring and a lover of sport from his earliest years, he roamed the world, sailed his yachts in many seas and fought hard on many battlefields and also in the political arena. He was as well known in America as in Great Britain and Ireland, and when he wasn't sailing his questing yachts over here he was hunting with Buffalo Bill and Texas Jack long before those hardy individuals ever came east of the Mississippi. He shot buffalo and bully-ragged hostile Indians into friendship with the same zest that marked his yachting."



The President's MESSAGE

In February, we launched our official membership drive. Although the Texas Jack Association has been a bonafide and incorporated organization since 1980, we have never had an "official" membership. The enthusiasm generated at our September '84 Cody, WY meeting, where 11 of us became the initial Charter Members, was the start of our growth and expansion into a viable group. We have made definite strides since then!

Of course, this is just the beginning! We expect (with your help!) to continue to expand our number, for that is an important step in achieving our goal: To make the name J.B. (Texas Jack) Omohundro well known, and to bring to him (belatedly) recognition as an important figure in American history. Naturally, we expect to have a lot of fun along the way as well as educate ourselves and others about that important but brief period of our history that marked the opening of the western frontier.

Our next general meeting will be held in August or September of 1986 in North Platte Nebraska. This will be a three day convention, and already a lot is being planned for your enjoyment at that historic site where Texas Jack and Buffalo Bill met and became fast friends. The exact dates will be announced in plenty of time for you to make plans, but do mark your calendar, and make every effort to attend. I promise you, you'll be glad you did!

In the meantime, we can be in touch through this newsletter, "The Texas Jack Scout". It is published for you, so, don't be a stranger, let us hear from you!

Julie
Julie Greene

"SCOUT" ILLUSTRATIONS BY CALIFORNIA ARTIST

The pen and ink drawings scattered throughout these pages are the handiwork of one of California's fine western painters (and TJA member), Dan Balkin. Just to give you an idea of Dan's real forte', samples of some of his work can be seen on pages 4 and 9.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER AVAILABLE

An up to date list of the membership of the Texas Jack Association will be compiled and printed as of July 1st, 1985.

Those members wishing to receive a copy may do so by sending a stamped self-addressed legal size envelope to: Membership Roster, Box 7000-185, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.

In Our Next Issue . . .

A never before published biography of Texas Jack by famous western author Nellie Snyder Yost, who is also an Honorary Member of the Texas Jack Association.

An interesting and enlightening sketch on that lovable rogue, Ned Buntline.

And just for fun...a handwriting analysis by a graphologist on the signatures of Omohundro, Cody and Hickok!

Plus...our regular columns and many other interesting features!

THE TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.

A NON-PROFIT, TAX DEDUCTIBLE CORPORATION

Officers:

- ✓ Malvern H. Omohundro, Jr., Richmond, VA Chairman
- Julie A. Greene, Palos Verdes, CA President
- Dennis J. Greene, Palos Verdes, CA Vice-President
- Angela G. Wyche, Virginia Beach, VA Secretary
- Stuart W. Omohundro, Van Nuys, CA Treasurer
- Martha M. Sullivan, Denver, CO Director
- Mark H. Greene, Los Angeles, CA Director
- ✓ Frank R. Sullivan, Springfield, IL Founder
- Nellie Snyder Yost, No. Platte, NE Historical Advisor
- Kitty Van Lew Wyche, Virginia Beach, VA... Newsletter Editor
- Frank A. Lydic, North Platte, NE Poet Laureat

Honorary Members:

- ✓ Mrs. Henry H.R. Coe: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, WY
- The Earl of Dunraven VII: Grandnephew of the Earl of Dunraven IV (author of "The Great Divide", "Hunting in the Yellowstone" and "Canadian Nights"), County Limerich, Ireland
- ✓ Dr. Paul Fees: Curator, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, WY
- Mr. Fred H. Garlow: Grandson of William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody, Cody, WY
- ✓ The Knight of Glin: Great Grandson of the Earl of Dunraven IV
- ✓ Mr. Herschel C. Logan: Author of "Buckskin and Satin" (Biography of Texas Jack), Santa Ana, CA
- The Earl of Meath: Grandson of the Earl of Dunraven IV, County Wicklow, Ireland
- ✓ Mrs. Nellie Snyder Yost: Author of "Buffalo Bill", "Medicine Lodge" and "The Call of the Range", North Platte, NE

"THE TEXAS JACK SCOUT"

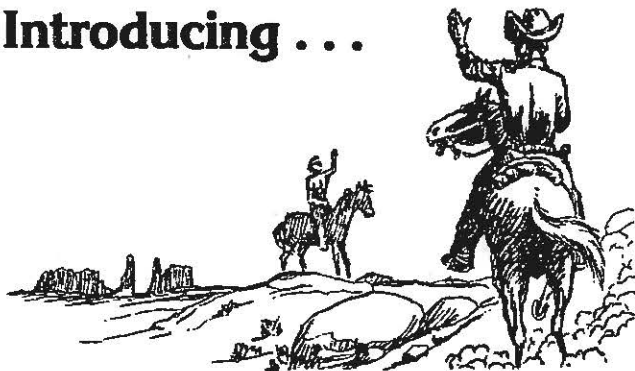
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THE TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. Box 7000-185, Redondo Beach, Ca. 90277

Subscription is included in membership dues of \$10.00 annually from January 1st.

Introducing . . .



...Our Founder and First President...

FRANK R. SULLIVAN

Frank Sullivan, fascinated for many years by the colorful and flamboyant characters of the old American West, became particularly interested in Texas Jack through the writings of the Earl of Dunraven and Dr. George Henry Kingsley, who accompanied Dunraven on the Earls many hunting expeditions in the American Northwest. Says Sullivan, "Both Dunraven and Kingsley wrote extensively about Texas Jack in their writings on their experiences in the West. In 1961 I bought a copy of "Hunting in the Yellowstone" by Dunraven and in 1962 I acquired "Notes on Sport and Travel" by Dr. Kingsley as well as a copy of "Buckskin and Satin" by Herschel Logan, the "Omohundro Genealogy" by Malvern Hill Omohundro and "The Great Divide" by Dunraven."

Born and raised in Springfield, IL, Frank graduated from Dartmouth College with a B.A. in American History. "I was most interested in the American West, and remember my favorite course - "The History of the Frontier and the Influence of the Frontier on American Life". It was referred to as "The Cowboy History Course". He went on to Harvard Law School where he became a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1932.

Frank served in the Navy during World War II as a Lt. Senior Grade, on the Aircraft Carrier Essex in the battles of Okinawa and Japan. It has been said that this cruise was the longest combat cruise of any aircraft carrier in WW II.

Engaging in a general law practice in his home town of Springfield, IL, Frank received the title of Senior Counselor from the Illinois State Bar Association. He

was appointed to the Illinois State Board of Appeals, Service Recognition Board by then Gov. Adlai Stevenson.

Able to trace his family heritage back to John Muncy, who served in the American army in 1776, Sullivan is a long time member of the "Sons of the American Revolution". He has served in the Illinois branch of that society as both president and vice-president.

Active in many historical organizations in his home town, county and the state of Illinois, Frank was instrumental in the organization of the now 700 member strong Sagamon County Historical Society. He served as president of the Springfield chapter of the Navy League of the United States and the Civil War Round Table. He is a member of the Society of Colonial Wars and the Chicago Corral of the Westerners.

Married to the former Mary Margaret Noonan in 1939, Sullivan has 3 grown children, Deborah, Martha and Dowd, and one grandson, Timothy.

On October 8, 1977, Frank arranged a luncheon which took place in Adare, Ireland where he introduced Malvern Hill Omohundro, nephew of Texas Jack to Lord Meath, grandson of Dunraven IV and to Lord Dunraven VII, successor to Dunraven IV. This was the first meeting of the Omohundros and the Dunraven family in more than 100 years.

Noting that Texas Jack died in Leadville, Colorado in 1880, Frank decided, in 1980 to arrange a centennial commemoration of that anniversary to take place in Leadville. He organized the Texas Jack Association, Inc. and as it's first president, arranged, together with the cooperative and enthusiastic citizens of Leadville, a three day memorial celebration in honor of Texas Jack. This marked the beginning of the TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION. Frank Sullivan served as president through the Cody, Wyoming meeting in September of 1984.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE "TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION"? LET US KNOW THEIR NAME AND ADDRESS AND WE'LL GET SOME LITERATURE OUT TO THEM!

TEXAS JACK

"THE WHITE KING OF THE PAWNEES"

This "colorful commentary" on Texas Jack was taken from a newspaper article published in 1874. Newspaper and writer unknown. Courtesy Buffalo Bill Museum, Cody, WY.

The hero of this sketch, J. B. Omohundro, better known as Texas Jack, was born on the James river, in Eastern Virginia, in the month of July, 1847, and is, therefore, twenty-seven years old. He was a wayward child, and at the early age of nine years ran away from home, but was captured and brought back by his father, and remained at home discontented until eleven years of age. His second attempt at decamping was successful, and he wandered around among the drovers and stock-raisers until the breaking out of the war. Being of Southern blood, he espoused the "lost cause", returned to his home, and entered into the Confederate service under Floyd. Afterward he was assigned as a scout under

Major General J.B. Stuart, then in command in Northern Virginia. He had delivered a dispatch to General Stuart but a second before the General was killed.

He served during the entire war, and at its close, returned to Texas and entered upon a sailor's life, cruising along the eastern coast, thence to the West Indies and South America, embracing a period of eighteen



months. Was wrecked on the coast of Florida and worked his way back to Texas. This was in 1866. He then became a "cowboy" acting as guide to the drovers between the Colorado and Rio Grande rivers. He had the reputation of being the best guide in the country, and his services were

sought after by every drover of that region. The Texas cattle trade then took a northward direction and Jack opened the first route and drove the first herd of cattle, numbering 3,000 head, through the Indian territory to Western Kansas. He then guided herds to Abilene Kansas and to a point on the North Platte, in the state of Nebraska.

These journeys were long and tedious, and were attended by danger at every point. Bands of hostile Indians infested the entire route and to baffle these lurking murdering fiends required not only a man of bravery, but of judgement and cunning superior to that of the savages. In this he was eminently successful. When all other means failed, Texas Jack was worth a regiment of soldiers in an attack, and his yell when a charge was made is said to have been heard for miles, and to have carried dismay into the ranks of the red devils. In 1870-71 he hunted in Nebraska, and made the acquaintance of Buffalo Bill. He joined the Government scouts in February last,



According to this "Dime Novel" Texas Jack was "KING OF THE MUSTANGS" too!

and during the past season had command, by order of General Walker, of 3,200 Pawnee Indians on their summer hunt.

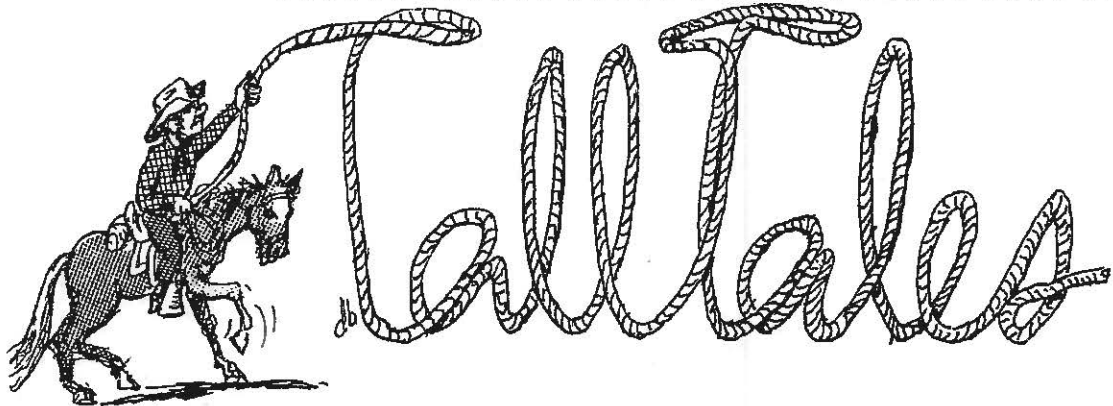
The writer of this article received through General Walker the information that Jack had managed the Indians better than any of his predecessors, and that his report was the most acceptable of any received at the Indian Office. So highly did the Indians regard him that he earned the well-deserved title of "White King of the Pawnees".

His hairbreadth escapes from death at the hands of the Redskins have been numerous and to him on one occasion was Buffalo Bill indebted for his life. It happened in May, 1872, on the Loupe Fork river, Minnesota where a band of Sioux Indians stole some horses. The red thieves were pursued and overtaken by Bill and Jack, who each killed an Indian. A third redskin had just drawn a bead on Bill when Jack's quick eye caught the gleam of the shining barrel, and the next instant, the "noble red" was on his way to the happy hunting ground, his passage from this sublimary sphere being expedited by a bullet from Jack's rifle, at a distance of one hundred and

twenty five yards. Another of the tribe was brought to the ground and apparently killed, but as Jack went sweeping by, the red rascal railed himself and began popping at the scout with a six-shooter, that made Texas Jack mad all over; to think the "big Ingin" had been playing possum on him riled him so, without any ceremony he gave the copper-colored aborigine his quietus and then raised his hair, and the scalp now hangs in Ward's Museum, at Rochester, New York.

The first Indian ever killed by Bill was when he was about 24 years old, and as a somewhat singular coincidence Jack was only about the same age when he performed a similar feat.

Hundreds of incidents could be recited of Jack's skill as an Indian fighter, and his wonderful exploits would fill a volume. His appearance is decidedly prepossessing. His frank laughing countenance, his wealth of dark, curly hair, and his merry, hazel eye make him a general favorite with the fair sex, and coupled with his fine physique and immense strength constitutes him a prince among men.



As you probably know, cowboys out on the range amused themselves by telling stories that had really grotesque punch lines...and FUNNY! Well...here's one that comes from Dan Balkin:

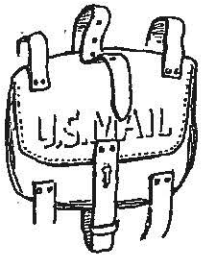
One scorching hot day in Texas, two cow hands riding range, took a breather by resting themselves and their horses in the shade of a cottonwood tree.

"Ma-a-a-n, ah never seen it so hot since 'bout ten y'ar ago ah formed a new hoss shoe fo' mah hoss by heatin' it on the sidewalk in town."

"Wal," said the other cow-poke, "ah remember one time ah was tailin' th' herd an' pickin' up strays. The herd passed close to a large field w'ar popcorn was growin'. Wal, it got so hot that day, th' popcorn in th' field started poppin' away an' flyin' all over. The cattle thought it was snowin'....an' by God they froze t'death!"

That's jest t' set y' thinkin'. Now, let's here your's...

FROM THE MAIL POUCH . . .



"I am a dedicated collector of memorabilia of Buffalo Bill and his associates, and of course, that includes Texas Jack. Last August we visited the grave of Texas Jack in Leadville, and met some very friendly people."

Melvin Schulte
Pocahontas, IA

"...I've been a Western buff for several years. I belong to the Winchester Arms Collectors Association. I have several Winchesters, but mainly collect misc. pistols.... Good luck, and keep the Old West Alive!"

David I. Diestel
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

"Enclosed is my check for charter membership...I am a great, great nephew of Texas Jack. My great grandfather, O.C. (Orville) was the older brother of Jack..."

Jack Harris Omohundro
Crowley, LA

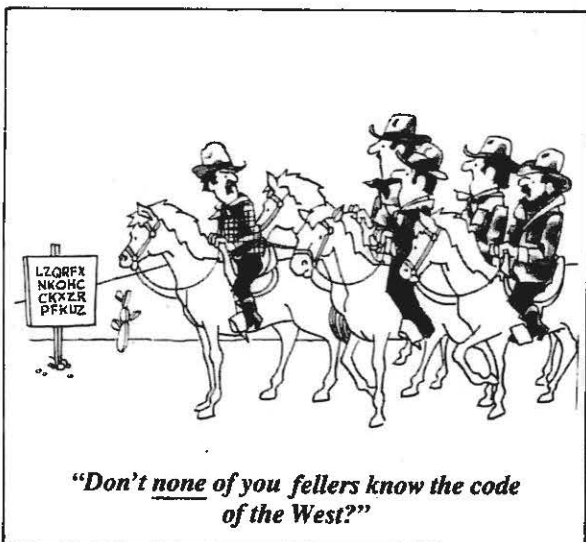
"The Leadville Historical Association is very much interested in the Texas Jack Assoc. We wish to be kept informed of your meeting dates in North Platte, NE in 1986 and in Richmond, VA in 1988...We commend you for your dedication to the promotion of Texas Jack, and wish to join you in your continued efforts. At the Monday night meeting, members voted unanimously to contribute a membership in the Association's name. I gave them your address, and other members stated they would send their individual memberships to you. Members approved holding a Texas Jack Night at a future meeting.

If you or any other individuals are interested in joining the Leadville Historical Assoc. the dues are \$2.00 a year with the fiscal year beginning March 1st. We can keep you abreast of our actions."

Mary Cassidy, President
Leadville Historical Association
P.O. Box 911
Leadville, CO 80461

"I enthusiastically join the TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION!..I am an avid collector and admirer of Bill Cody! I have been since I was 18 and now am 33. I am no blood kin of Cody's, but I feel very close to him in heart and spirit, hence I took his name as my middle name. I am a true pard of the Old West."

Mrs. Kendel Cody Cornwell
Redondo Beach, CA



"...I was unaware just how Texas Jack was placed in my family tree and was happy to learn of our relationship as stated in the newspaper article. You have assumed a great challenge in your efforts to memorialize Texas Jack and I wish you the best success...Enclosed is my check and application (for membership)."

Capt. Elmer A. Omohundro, Jr.
Cmdr. Lomita Sheriff Station
Lomita, CA

"...Since I was fifteen, I have had a love affair with Wyoming and I have a fondness for Nebraska. Apparently I infected my son who has started his medical career in Cody. My younger son and I both worked on the Green River Cattle Association Cattle drive, as riders, and I cooked when the foreman's wife was out of commission. Annie Oakley was a friend of my grandmother's family... 'Diamond Dick', Dr. Richard Tanna, was also a family friend. I have several letters from him when he lived in Norfolk, Nebraska."

Yolande Oglesby
Morrisonville, IL

MEMBER TRACES HERITAGE TO UNION GENERAL

Yolande Oglesby Knight is a great-granddaughter of Gen. Richard J. Oglesby, a Union general in the Civil War. After the war, Gen. Oglesby was also very prominent in the political life of Illinois. It is said that during the California Gold Rush days he drove a string of mules from Illinois across the prairies to California. It appears he had some characteristics in common with Texas Jack!

"...For a number of years, I was a member of the Civil War Roundtable. (My wife said she never thought I was that old!). It was an organization composed of people particularly interested in the two decades that comprised the most important developing years in our country's history (1850-1870). Now, do you think a history buff and cowboy-western painter like me is going to pass up a membership in something like the Texas Jack Association? Y'crazy, man!!! Enclosed is my check for membership."

Dan Balkin
Sherman Oaks, CA

"Congratulations on your creativity and work on Texas Jack - Keep it up and you'll have him "on the map"."

Virginia Van Lew
Fort Worth, TX

"...I have heard stories of Texas Jack since I was a little girl living in Leadville, and have always been interested in him. I was fortunate enough to attend the first meeting of the Texas Jack Association in Leadville, as I was living in Colorado at the time."

Alice Omohundro
Koseland, FL

"...Nellie (Snyder Yost Lydic) and I are due in Lincoln for a historical meeting where Nellie is to tell a group how people in the plains states coped with the Great Depression! While we are there I hope to pick up a bit more information and possibly another picture or so of Texas Jack, as Nebraska's State Historical Society is also located in Lincoln....Both Nellie and I are quite proud of the Texas Jack Charter Membership pins. Nellie wears hers permanently on her top coat, while mine gets transferred to whatever coat I chance to wear when we go out."

Frank A. Lydic
North Platte, NE

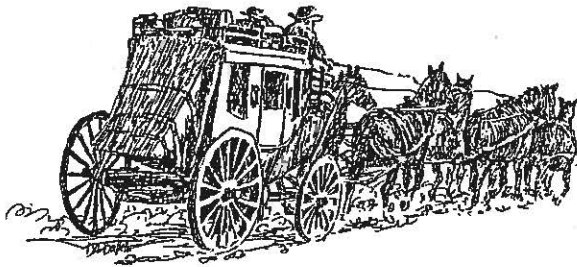
from the Editor's Desk



In order to get this first issue out in April, and to set up the format for the "TEXAS JACK SCOUT", I am serving as acting editor this time only. Kitty Wyche will be taking over and putting out the July issue, and I know that she will have a lot of ideas and plans to make this an interesting and informative newsletter for our members.

Julie
Julie Greene

A VISIT TO . . .



VIRGINIA CITY, NEVADA, which is certainly no ghost town, although it could be viewed as a mere shadow of its flamboyant and colorful heyday in the early 1870's. Then, it was a thriving silver and gold mining town that boasted 4 banks, 5 theatres, 2 red light districts and more than 100 saloons. At an altitude of 6,200 ft., with only rough winding narrow trails for the ore-laden wagons to travel by mule-power, Virginia City boasted a population of 35,000 residents. Miners earned \$4 per day while digging out \$400 million in ore. Just enough for food, shelter and a bit left over for whiskey and wild women.

Now a town of 700 permanent inhabitants, Virginia City is an interesting detour for Nevada visitors who are travelling south from (or north to) Reno, Lake Tahoe or Carson City.

Well-worn wooden sidewalks along the main street (C Street) encourage one's imagination to wander back in history. But windows displaying tee shirts, turquoise jewelry and an offer to have your name printed in headlines or your photo taken in old western garb quickly return one back to the present. There are several interesting western antique shops to browse through, and the Red Garter Saloon, the Bucket of Blood Saloon and the 120 year old Delta Saloon lure thirsty visitors in for hard or soft refreshment, while listening to live old-time music from a piano and banjo.

For \$1.50, one can take a tour of the city in an ancient open air San Francisco trolley from which the guide points out mines, mansions, museums, the railroad and of course, the cemetery (which is the source of many interesting stories). There's the famous Piper's Opera House, where internationally known entertainers once pleased the free

spending miners into pelting them with \$20 gold pieces (daily tours are available), and the ramshackle old Miners Union Hall, as well as the still thriving Savage Mansion, an imposing three-story hostelry with gingerbread facade.

Visitors will enjoy a ride on the Virginia and Truckee Railroad, which puffs along past a landscape dotted with pinion and juniper trees and abandoned mine entrances. One can also tour the Chollar Mine, which was built in 1861 (weather permitting).

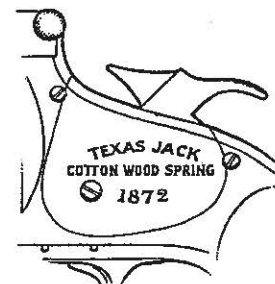
For more information about this historic mining town, write to: Visitors Bureau, C Street, Virginia City, NV 89440



THE TEXAS JACK
ASSOCIATION
LOGO

The picture of Texas Jack was drawn from a photograph of him taken during the period that he was appearing on the stage, around 1877. He was approximately 31 years of age.

The gun is a U.S. Army issue Smith and Wesson revolver that was prevalent in those days. This particular one was inscribed:



We assume that it must have been given to him (we don't know by whom) just before or while he was a U.S. Government scout at Ft. McPherson, which was established at the site of Cotton Wood Spring. The gun is presently in the collection of Herschel Logan.

The portrait of Jack and the gun are, in fact, exact reproductions. We feel that the logo is very representative of Texas Jack and the era in which he lived.

ON BEING A COWBOY

by

J.B. (TEXAS JACK) OMOHUNDRO

Texas Jack was first and foremost a cowboy, and to become a cowboy Jack gives the following prescription for a successful cowboy candidate. This piece was printed on one of the early programs of the Wild West Show.



"Before being counted in and fully endorsed the candidate has had to become an expert horseman, and test the many eccentricities of the stubborn mustang: enjoy the beauties, learn to catch, throw, fondle--oh yes! gently fondle (but not from behind)--and ride the "docile" little Spanish-American plug, an amusing experience in itself, in which you are taught all the mysteries of rear and tare, stop and drop, lay and roll, kick and bite, on and off, under and over heads and tails hand springs, triple somersaults, standing on your head, diving, flip-flaps, getting left (horse leaving you fifteen miles from camp--Indians in the neighborhood, etc.) and all the funny business included in the familiar term of "Bucking"; then learn to handle a rope, catch a calf, stop a crazy cow, throw a beef steer, play with a wild bull, lasso an untamed mustang, and daily endure the dangers of a Spanish matador, with a little Indian scrap thrown in, and if there is anything left of you they'll christen it a first-class cowboy."

Those cowboys often drove large herds of cattle north 2,000 to 3,000 in a bunch. Storms sometimes would strike them and

cause much trouble with the cattle, and this is how Jack describes that:

"On nights when "Old Prob." goes on a spree, leaves the bung out of his water barrel above, prowls around with his flash box, raising a breeze, whispering in tones of thunder, and the cowboy's voice, like the rest of the outfit, is drowned out, steer clear and prepare for action. If them quadrupeds don't go insane, turn tail to the storm, and strike out for civil and religious liberty, then I don't know what "strike out" means. Ordinarily so clumsy and stupid looking, a thousand beef steers can rise like a flock of quail on the roof of an exploding powder mill, and will scud away like a tumble weed before a high wind, with a noise like a receding earthquake. Then comes fun and frolic for the cowboys.

Talk of "Sheridan's ride, twenty miles away"! That was in the daytime, but this is the cowboy's ride with Texas five hundred miles away, and them steers steering straight for home; night time, darker than the word means, hog wallows, prairie dog, wolf, and badger holes, ravines and ravines and precipices ahead, and, if you do your duty, three thousand stampeding steers behind. If your horse don't swap ends, and you hang to them 'till daylight,



you can bless your lucky stars. Many have passed in their checks at this game".

The originals of these paintings by DAN BALKIN are in private collections.

PIN COLLECTING THE START OF A TRADITION?

Anyone who attended the Olympics in Los Angeles last summer was certainly subjected to, and quite possibly caught up by the "pin trading" fever, which began to rival the games themselves in creating enthusiasm and excitement. The little lapel pins produced for the sponsor companies of the Olympics became the subject of numerous "business transactions", big and small, which took place outside and around all the event sights.



Buying, selling and trading pins made budding new entrepreneurs out of ordinary people...athletes (foreign and American), spectators and Olympic volunteers alike. The collection fever had hit! Pins that were produced in small quantities were rare and most desirable. Many brought prices of well over \$100. Even now, pin trading clubs are thriving, and many times one can find a classified ad in the local newspaper offering to buy, sell or trade Olympic pins. People just find lapel pins to be marvelous collectors items.



The Texas Jack Charter Membership pin, which is an exact replica of our logo, and is stamped "Charter Member" on the back, is produced in strictly limited quantities, and we feel that they will become very valuable as collector's items as they can only be obtained by becoming a Charter Member of the Texas Jack Association.

Active members will, as time goes on, have the opportunity to start a collection of Texas Jack pins also, as additional designs will be produced in commemoration of important association events that will take place in the future. Who knows? maybe it will become contagious, and other organizations honoring heroes of the Old West will start producing pins as well. And perhaps we will find ourselves trading and building our own collections. That's how it started at the Olympics!

COMPLIMENTARY COPIES OF THIS ISSUE OF THE "TEXAS JACK SCOUT" ARE BEING SENT TO NON-MEMBERS AS WELL AS MEMBERS. OF COURSE, ALL FUTURE ISSUES WILL GO TO MEMBERS ONLY. TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT YET JOINED THE "TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION", MAY WE URGE YOU TO DO SO...TODAY? WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN OUR WORTHWHILE CAUSE, AND BESIDES, YOU DON'T WANT TO BE LEFT OUT, NOW DO YOU?? PLEASE, USE THE APPLICATION ON PAGE 11 AND JOIN US!

CONGRATULATIONS...

..to Stephen Malvern Omohundro who is due to obtain his Phd. in Physics from Stanford University in May.

..to Randy McKinney, who recently took a position with General Research Corp. in Santa Barbara, CA as a member of the Space Systems Group Technical Staff, conducting research for the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (Star Wars Defense System).

..to Dr. Richard James Oglesby, who recently began his medical practice as an anesthesiologist at West Park Hospital in Cody, WY.

AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Donna Bennisfield (Santa Monica, CA)	April 12
Richard C. Omohundro, Jr. (Columbus, OH)	April 16
Evelyn Furman (Leadville, CO)	April 17
Richard J. Oglesby IV (Cody, WY)	April 21
Dan Balkin (Sherman Oaks, CA)	May 8
Caroline Spencer (Willow Creek, MT)	June 6
Richard Omohundro (Harrisburg, PA)	June 9
Paul Fees (Cody, WY)	June 15
Dick Bennisfield (Santa Monica, CA)	June 18
Margot Kramer (Springfield, IL)	June 24
Robin Theobald (Breckenridge, CO)	June 28

FROM THE TEXAS JACK GALLERY

Many members have expressed an interest in creating a "home gallery" consisting of reproductions of photographs, playbills, dime novels etc., pertaining to Texas Jack and his contemporaries. Toward that end, the TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION will offer to its members reproductions through this column in the SCOUT.

We are initiating this program with two items of outstanding value and beauty in this our premier issue.

The showbill shown here is typical of those posted up around town to announce the forthcoming appearance of the BUFFALO BILL COMBINATION. This particular one advertises the combination's April, 1874 Keokuk, Iowa show. The pictures of the three scouts, Buffalo Bill Cody, Texas Jack Omohundro and Wild Bill Hickok are woodcut portraits made from photographs.

Printed on heavy stock paper, this is an exact duplicate, and the same size as the original, which is an impressive 14" x 32". Printed black on white, this showbill is ready for mounting or framing.

The showbill will be sent to you postpaid for a donation of \$22.00 to the TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION.



The poster shown on the front page of this newsletter advertises the TEXAS JACK COMBINATION. It is a reproduction of a lithograph by W.J. Morgan & Co., Cleveland, Ohio. An original of this poster hangs in the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming, and our reproductions are obtained through the courtesy of the Buffalo Bill Museum. We are extremely impressed with the excellent quality of the photography which shows every detail of this intricate poster. We are sure that you will be more than pleased with it too.

This Black and White 8" x 10" photograph will be sent to you postpaid upon request and receipt of a donation to the TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION of \$15.00.

Allow six weeks for delivery.

MEMBERS EXCHANGE

This column is for those who wish to buy, sell or trade anything that might be of common interest to fellow members. Just submit ads to the TJSout and we'll print it here for you. Submissions for next issue must be received by June 1, 1985.

Interested in buying any items or pictures having to do with Texas Jack or his contemporaries. Submit offers to:

D. J. Greene
515 Palos Verdes Dr. West
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

"The Great Divide" by Earl of Dunraven. Hardcover. \$15.00 ppd.
Order from The T.J. Assoc.
P.O. Box 7000-185
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Please send me information about anything you have for sale concerning Texas Jack, along with cost.

Linda Stratz
5142 Tedford Way
Yorba Linda, CA 92686

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I would like to join the TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION as a:

_____ Charter Member (\$50.00)

_____ Active Member (\$10.00)

Enclosed is my check for: \$50.00 _____ \$10.00 _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone No. () _____

Birthday _____

Please send an application and brochure to: _____

Return to: TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 7000-185, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

"IN PRAISE OF TEXAS JACK"

by
FRANK A. LYDIC

Frank composed this verse especially for our September '84 meeting. He has written many poems about western heros, and we will share others with you as well in upcoming issues.

John Burwell Omohundro,
We honor him today;
Although it was as "Texas Jack",
That most fame came his way.

Born in Fluvanna County,
Of the Old Dominion State;
His ancestors were numbered
Among its history's great.

One was Chief Powhatan,
Who was Pochahantas' sire,
His mother was a beauty
Who could set one's heart afire.

His born lust for adventure,
Which through life did not abate,
Took him while still a "teener",
To the brawling Lone Star State.

He became a skillful roper,
And cattle-hand as well;
Learning skills where later,
His claim to fame would dwell.

In the war between the states,
He to the south was true
Joined its forces and then fought
Against the men in blue.

He was listed as a member
of Stuarts famed command,
Whose horsemen brought undying fame
To a war stricken land.

He fought Sheridan and Custer,
Before the struggle's end;
Although they both in later years
Were glad to call him friend.

After Appomattox,
He headed Texas way,
By vessel, but was shipwrecked
Off Florida, they say.

Here he was a teacher,
And by this effort earned,
Wherewith to go to Texas
The land for which he yearned.

He trailed a herd of Long Horns
From there to Tennessee.
This venture, when completed,
Paid off quite handsomely.

North Platte's first herd from Texas
Arrived in 'sixty nine.
And it was Omohundro,
Who trailed those Long Horn kine.

Here he met Bill Cody,
The Fort McPherson scout.
Between them grew a friendship,
That only death could rout.

In North Platte, Jack tended bar
At Lew Baker's "Alamo";
A place of strong refreshment,
Where Cody used to go.

When winter brought it's arctic chills,
And when the days grew short,
Cody lured his new-found friend
Down to McPherson's Fort.

There he was quickly hired to teach
The first school at the base,
And his skill at calling dances
Brought pleasure to the place.

Jack's life at this Army out-post
Was busy from then on;
At hunting, trailing and scouting,
He was a paragon.

He was with Duke Alexis,
On that world-famed bison kill;
And perhaps shared guided duties
With that Cody known as "Bill".

Famed western writer, Buntline,
Was trying hard to woo
Cody to the stage. Bill said,
"I'll only go, provided
That Jack goes with me, too."

Back in eastern theaters,
They soon became the rage
As viewers watched their gory scenes
Played out upon the stage.

These two men starred in many
A Western holocaust
Where the good guys always won,
And the bad ones always lost.

If one were to compare them,
It would be fair to say,
"They were the Gary Cooper
And John Wayne of their day."

On stage Jack met a woman
Who soon became his wife.
Their union was a fairy tale
That lasted through his life.

She was Josephine Morlacchi,
Girl of European fame,
Who as a ballet dancer
Had been given high acclaim.

Then in eighteen eighty, Jack
Played upon Leadville town,
Where pneumonia, sad to say,
Soon struck this actor down.

There was no stone upon his grave,
Till Cody's show came to
The mining town of Leadville
Then Jack received his due.

Cody bought a granite tombstone
To replace the hand-carved board,
Above the friend who with him
Fame on the stage had scored.

And so now we pause in honoring
The Omohundro name,
As Texas Jack rides on with Cody,
Through Valhalla hills of Fame.

© 1985
by Frank A. Lydic



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

We sincerely hope you enjoy this, our first newsletter. Now, we'd really like to have your involvement in upcoming issues.

If there is anything that you would like to contribute . . . comments, anecdotes, news about yourself or other members, articles, cartoons, suggestions (oh yes, definitely suggestions) . . . if you wish to buy, sell or trade something that might be of interest to other members, then here is your chance, here is your forum!

TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 7000-185 • REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90277

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Ms. Kitty VanLew Wyche
953 E. Piney Branch Dr. #102
Virginia Beach, VA 23451