

# The TEXAS JACK SCOUT

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APRIL, 1990



(Not a true illustration of the actual home place.)

## THE OMOHUNDRO PLACE by Edna Napier Nees

Richard Omohundro IV, and his wife Elizabeth Muse, and their six children came to Fluvanna County, Virginia in 1775. After moving to Fluvanna, four more children were born. The old clapboard house stood between Brems Bluff and Fork Union, Virginia (near Spring Garden Creek). The front part of the house was a story and a half with a cellar under one room. The upstairs had two rooms with separate stairways leading to each room, in order that the boys and girls not be allowed to visit each other. There was no connection between the two

rooms. On May 7, 1778 Richard Omohundro was recommended to the Governor of Virginia as the ideal person to act as ensign in the Militia under Captain Richard Napier. On June 4, 1778, he produced a commission dated May 20th, appointing him ensign of a company of militia in Fluvanna County under Captain Napier (additional information is available in the Fluvanna Minute Book 1, pg. 25).

Richard Omohundro was also one of the founders of Lyles Baptist Church in 1774 located in

Wilmington, Virginia in Fluvanna County and his name is engraved in the plaque on the wall in the church. In the backyard of Richard and Elizabeth's old home site is a large cemetery enclosed with a five foot brickwall; where Richard, Elizabeth and many decedents of different generations are buried among huge boxwoods.

When Richard IV's son, Richard V, was twenty-one; he started out working at a sawmill making twenty-five cents a day. After working at the sawmill for a while, he began operating bateaux, on the James River, between Lynchburg and Richmond, Virginia. The river didn't offer Richard what he desired, so around 1800 he took the position of overseeing and running the farm for John Scott of Scottsville, Virginia (Albemarle County). Mr. Scott was considered to be the wealthiest man in this part of the country.

Richard married Edith Seay and most of their children were born during their twenty years there. Having accumulated enough wealth by 1820, he purchased a 1,000 acre farm, which he named "Gale Hill." It was on this site that he built the first brick house in Fluvanna County. The rest of their nine children were born here. By 1860 Richard had accumulated over \$100,000.00 and owed not a cent to anyone. In the 1890's the house burned was replaced with a frame dwelling, which no longer stands except for the brick chimneys and foundation.

Near the old home site is the family cemetery enclosed by a strong iron fence with artistic posts on which the name Richard Omohundro is inscribed. Richard, his wife Edith, their children and grandchildren are buried there. Richard's

epitaph reads, "Mark the Perfect Man and Behold the Upright for the End of that Man is Peace."

Richard V's son, John Burwell Omohundro, was born November 13, 1816 in Albemarle County near Scottsville, Virginia. He was raised at Gale Hill, and went into the mercantile business in Wilmington, Virginia in Fluvanna County in 1828. In 1840, he married Catherine S. Baker.

In 1845, John, his wife Catherine and their three children (Adelaide Virginia, Bettie, and Orville) moved to "Pleasure Hill," a large plantation on Cunningham Creek 1 1/2 miles west of Palmyra, Virginia; where he farmed on a big scale until the Civil War. Here at "Pleasure Hill," John Baker (Texas Jack), Catherine Mary, Arabella Adelaide, Richard James, Motin Patterson, Martin Woodville, Seldon Bickerton, and Manassas were born. Adelaide Virginia, Catherine Mary, Seldon Bickerton, and Manassas did not live to maturity and were buried at the "Pleasure Hill" Cemetery.

John Burwell Omohundro was called "Captain John" (Roaring Screamer). He was loved and honored by all. He lived to see he fortune fade before his eyes, from the Civil War and security debts. His wife, Catherine Baker Omohundro, died on November 16, 1864 and was buried at "Pleasure Hill" Cemetery. On November 15, 1865, John married Margaret Alice Shores and they had one child, Malvern Hill Omohundro, Sr., author of the Omohundro Genealogy. John Burwell died July 6, 1901 and was buried at "Gale Hill Cemetery." His wife, Margaret, died on December 26, 1924 and was buried in the Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.

Arabella Adelaide O. Nees,  
daughter of John and Catherine  
Omohundro and sister to Texas  
Jack was buried at "Pleasure  
Hill" in 1939 along with her  
mother and many of her brothers  
and sisters. "Pleasure Hill"  
burned in 1905.



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\*Deceased

THE TEXAS JACK SCOUT is a publication of THE TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.

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THIS TEXAS JACK IS NOT OUR  
"TEXAS JACK"  
by Jim Moyer

Since becoming a member of the  
"Texas Jack" Association, I  
have constantly been on the  
alert for historical material  
relating directly or  
indirectly with "Texas Jack."

While scanning through a list  
of used books dealing with the  
West, which were offered for  
sale by a dealer in Colorado,  
I suddenly spied the book, The  
Life of Texas Jack. The  
author was the noted Western  
writer, Glenn Shirley.  
Excitement arose as I thought I  
had discovered a source of new  
information about "Texas Jack"  
previously unknown.

I made a long distance call to  
the dealer to ensure that this  
book would be reserved for me  
and at the same time secured  
the telephone number of the  
author in Stillwater,  
Oklahoma. Making a second  
long distance call to Mr.  
Shirley, I inquired  
immediately into his interest  
and knowledge of "Texas Jack"  
Omohundro.

Laughing softly, he quickly  
informed me that the subject  
of his book was a reformed  
outlaw, Nathaniel Reed, who  
was also known as Texas Jack.  
He mentioned that he  
occasionally received inquires  
similar to mine. He pointed  
out that Reed himself had  
created the title of the book  
and this title had resulted in  
confusion down through the  
years. Be assured if you come  
across this book, this Texas  
Jack is not our "Texas Jack."

"BUFFALO BILL" TRIVIA  
provided by Angela Wyche

Seventy-two years after Congress stripped Buffalo Bill Cody of his Medal of Honor, the Indian scout's name has been restored to the honor roll. William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, who became a famous Western showman after the Indian wars, received the medal in 1872 for his gallantry as an Army scout during the wars. But it was revoked, along with medals of 910 other recipients, in 1917 after Congress retroactively tightened up the rules for the honor. Among other changes, Congress held that only enlisted men and officers could receive the award. A scout was considered a civilian.

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**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations to Scott and Nancy Goodman on the birth of their son, William Kirk Goodman, born July 16, 1989. Parental Grandparents: Richard and Katheryn Goodman. Paternal Great Grandmother: Kate Omohundro Goodman (deceased).

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**OBITUARIES**

George Tipton Omohundro, Jr. from Scottsville, Virginia passed away on Wednesday, January 3, 1990 at age 86.

Charles H. Phillips, Jr. from Richmond, Virginia passed away on Sunday, January 7, 1990 at age 71.

"TEXAS JACK" MAIL POUCH

"The "Roundup" in Leadville interesting and like fun. I hope I shall be able to attend. Please continue to send a copy of the SCOUT."

.... Margret E. Omohundro

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"I used to be a member of the TJA and would like to join again. Please send me info."

.... Alex Hendric

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"As I renew my membership I want to say how much I enjoy The Texas Jack SCOUT. I've been a Milstead for 25 years and to see the name Omohundro so many times give me a very special feeling! An Omohundro never stops being an Omohundro right? At any rate, it's nice to know that I have so many "kin folk" out there."

.... Ann Omohundro Milstead

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"Thank you for the letter and the information regarding the "Roundup" in Leadville. Although, I doubt that we will be able to attend, I certainly wish, we could. Best wishes for a very successful convention."

..... Alice Marie Roggie

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"I hope your membership campaign is successful since we too feel strongly that figures from our American past need to be remembered. Efforts such as yours to preserve our heritage are very important and we are trying to do the same. Good luck and best wishes."

.... Linda Robbius Coleman

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"You are extremely kind to invite me to join you and your family in Leadville for the "Roundup". It sounds like a great time and I can assure you that I would love to be there. Bill and Lissa Omohundro are dear friends of ours so I truly do wish I could join you. I hope that you will all have a terrific time in June.

.... Senator Alan Simpson  
Wyoming



The  
President's  
MESSAGE

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My Dear Friends:

It's hard to believe that the "Texas Jack Roundup" is just around the corner. Although I have not heard from many of you regarding the trip I have faith that we'll have a wonderful crowd of TJ'ers in Leadville. Don't delay any longer! Make your reservations now to attend! Please make your hotel accommodations directly through the hotel and forward your registration fee to me. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT I KNOW NO LATER THAN MAY 1ST YOUR PLANS. I have some very interesting things planned and some special surprises in store for you. Do I have your attention and curiosity going? I sure hope so.

Those of you who have been working on various projects for the Association, I will be calling on you in Leadville at the Banquet on Friday night to update all of us on your progress over the past two years. So come prepared! Also, be thinking of who you plan to nominate as your new slate of officers for 1990-92. I will not be seeking re-election at the "Roundup." The past two years have been very rewarding, interesting, and educational. However, with being a single parent, holding down a full time job and travelling about for the company I work for, it's really been hard sometimes to give the Association the time it needs. I tried not to let any of you down and I hope for the most part you have been pleased with the operation of the Association. Don't be afraid to take on the responsibility. There are so many of you out there who are very talented and could contribute so much to the organization. I will pass on something that was told me by Angela Wyche when I first took office. "Remember that what you are doing is an act of love for your family." And she was right. If we don't continue with our goal to make "Texas Jack" known to the world and we forget our heritage then the Association will no longer exist. Everything we have worked so hard for all these years would have been in vain. So keep this in mind Friday night at the Banquet when the new officers are nominated. If you are nominated for an office, please think twice before declining. Think about it!

As you can see from the newsletter I had a lot of supporting help from many of you regarding the information used in this issue. I can't thank you enough for all your contributions over the past two years. You have helped to make my job alot easier. Please keep those tid bits of information coming.

This will be the last issue of the SCOUT prior to the "Roundup." If you have any questions at all regarding Leadville please feel free to call.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Colorado. May you and your family have a blessed Easter Holiday.

Your President,



Sue Omohundro Allen

## NEW "TEXAS JACK" MEMBERS

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm and hearty welcome to our new members! We are so very happy you decided to join us. (This list reflects those new members in 1989 that joined after the last issue of the SCOUT and our new members for 1990!)

Kelly O. Albright 25242 Clemens Lane El Toro, CA 92630	Jessica Marie Golladay Rt 1, Box 249-G Scottsville, VA 24590	Joegil Lundquist 8621 NE 6th Street Bellevue, WA 98004
J. R. Allen #2 Milhaven Square Richmond, VA 23233	Joshua Glenn Golladay Rt 1, Box 249-G Scottsville, VA 24590	Lucretia Lunde 2032 Vista Del Rosa Fullerton, CA 92631
Meghan E. Banton Rt 2, Box 72-H Meherrin, VA 23954	Randolph G. Golladay Rt 1, Box 249-G Scottsville, VA 24590	Minnie Lee McGehee P. O. Box 132 Palmyra, VA 22963
Steve C. Banton Rt 2, Box 72-H Meherrin, VA 23954	Patsy H. Haslam 119 Granville Ave Beckley, WV 25801	Melanie Milam P. O. Box 1884 Buena Vista, CO
Bonnie Ruth Bender 6230 E. 6th Street Long Beach, CA 90803	Roma R. Hayles 129 College Park Dr. Seal Beach, CA 90740	Edna N. Nees Rt 1, Box 250 Scottsville, VA 24590
Rick W. Coble P.O. Box 347 Fishers, IN 46038	Jane T. Hobby Box 27132 St. Petersburg, FL 33712	Jeffrey F. Omohundro 1683 Seminole Trail Charlottesville, VA
Michael Foster 3308 Carrington Ave Tampa, FL 33611	Heloise Lunde 812 E. Harmony Lane Fullerton, CA 92631	Dale Omohundro 5418 Bates Street St. Louis, MO 63116
Jeff Omohundro 10362 Brightwood Drive Santa Ana, CA 92705	Kristy Omohundro 10362 Brightwood Dr. Santa Ana, CA 92705	Judith A. Phillips 715 S. Wash. St. 33A Alexandria, VA 22314
Fluvanna Genealogical Soc. Rt 1, Box 57 Fork Union, VA 23055	Thomas Ward Omohundro 2219 Margaret Dr. Newport Beach, CA 92663	John Paul Omohundro 2219 Margaret Dr. Newport Beach, CA

## TRIBUTE TO "TEXAS JACK"

I would like to recognize Franklin Phillips from Newport News, Virginia for his contribution to the "Texas Jack" Association. On March 17, 1990 Franklin brought a "stone" commemorate the birthplace of Texas Jack to R. C. Omohundro in Fork Union. Originally this stone was to be placed at "Pleasant Hill." However, due to damage of the home site, it was decided that the "stone" would be placed at the old Fluvanna County Jail.

Mr. Phillips has a surprise for all of you that come to Leadville, Colorado. It's a project that he has been working on with the town of Leadville. I'd also like to recognize John B. Phillips of Richmond, Virginia for his contribution of providing this surprise for us. (John Phillips is Franklin Phillips' brother.)

On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank the both of you for your dedication and support. We appreciate it so much. For those of you who will not be able to attend the "Roundup" we will report on this surprise in the "Roundup" issue of the SCOUT.

THE DELAWARE HOTEL, LEADVILLE, COLORADO

I thought you might like to know a little bit of the history about the hotel we will be staying in during our visit to Leadville. I found it very interesting.

The Calloway brothers, William, George and John, came West after the Civil War to make their fortunes as merchants rather than miners. Their Delaware Block store was opened in 1886 and closed in 1890. John Calloway ran the Leadville store while the other two brothers ran a similar business in Denver.

The Delaware Block, named after the Calloway's home state, was completed in October, 1886 at an estimated cost of \$80,000.00. An addition was completed two years later. The sidewalk level was designed for stores. The upper floors consisted of fifty rooms suitable for offices or bedrooms. The building was fitted throughout with steam heat, hot and cold water, and gas lights; however, the entire building contained only two public bathrooms and four private bathrooms. The architect, George E. King designed both the Delaware as well as the Tabor Grand/Vendome Hotel across the street.

After the closing of their Leadville store, the Calloway Brothers leased the first floor of the Delaware Block to the Crews Beggs Dry Goods Company which remained at the location until the late 1970's. In the meantime the Calloways sold the building in 1946 for \$40,000.00.

In 1980 the Delaware Block was purchased by Renovation Associates of Denver. Under their ownership the first floor mall was created, however, little renovation took place on the upper two floors. The Delaware Block was again sold in 1982 this time to the Cheyenne Development Corporation along with five other historic Leadville buildings. Cheyenne's project fell through, and in April, 1985 the Delaware Block was acquired by its present owners. Remodeling commenced almost immediately, with the hotel reopening in March, 1986 in time for its centennial year. The renovated rooms feature furniture and decor of the Late Victorian Period including antique quilts, dressers, beds and lace curtains. To accommodate the modern traveler, all rooms have modern baths and cable TV.

I do hope you enjoy your stay at the Delaware Hotel as we go back in time during our stay to re-live the days of the Old West and "Texas Jack."

Registration and the Hospitality Reception for the "Roundup" will be located on the second floor of the hotel. This will be held on Wednesday evening.

See you there!

\*\*\*\*\*  
PLEASE RENEW THESE MEMBERSHIPS IN THE TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION FOR JANUARY, 1990. ENCLOSED IS \$15.00 PER MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR\*\*

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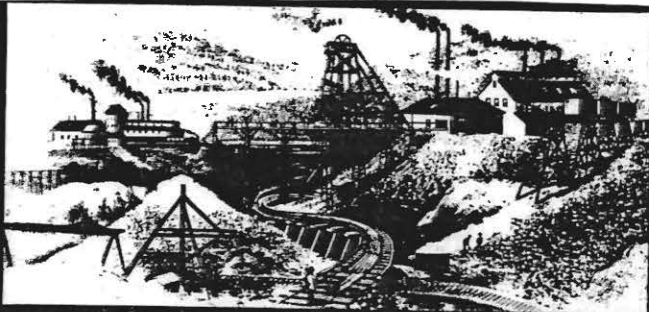
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