

Volume XXVIII no. 3

www.texasjack.org

November 2013



GUNFIGHTERS, OUTLAWS AND LAWMEN OF THE OLD WEST



By Driftin' AaronG aka Aaron Poff



Americaremembers.com

Now we all know that Texas Jack was no gunfighter, however, that being said, we do know he was very proficient with firearms of most any kind. He was extremely accurate with both rifle and pistol, and it is my guess that in any situation he could have stood up with the likes of Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday, Jack Slade or any of the so-called gunfighters of the time.

In this article I'll deal with the gunfighters, those that were outlaws and lawmen of the 1800s. And there are those gunfighters who have stood on both sides of the law. Some good and some not so good. **Johnny Ringo** was said to have been the fastest gun of any of the gunfighters alive and has been compared to **John Wesley Hardin**. Johnny Ringo was deadly with both a rifle and pistol and killed his first man when he was 12 years old. Most gunfighters were afraid to face him in a stand-up face to face gunfight. Johnny Ringo was a man with a quickness of the gun like no other, except for John Wesley Hardin. He was romanticized in both life and after his death. Upon his death in 1882, after being found...

Continued on Page 3

The Texas Jack Scout



from the Editor's Desk...



Throughout most of my life I've had a great interest in gunfighters, outlaws and lawmen of the old west, and thus, here I've completed some research on the history of many of these men who lived and died by the gun during the greatest of times in American history.

Today we find that most gunfighters of the old west are found in Hollywood with all its fiction and adventures of the men who became popular gunmen. Of course this began with the first dime novels which printed up stories to enthrall their eager and avid readers. These so-called pulp novels were extremely popular written accounts of legendary old west gunslingers.

My goal for writing about gunfighters, outlaws and lawmen of the old west is to compare the adventures of such men with the true written legend of our own Texas Jack, who was a true hero of the old west, and a man who knew his own weapons and who could defend himself on any given occasion; a man who might very well have earned an honest reputation as a true lawman and gunfighter of his time, and his many pardons, who were not only his pardons, but his true friends, and their travels across this great continent of expansion from the 1800s to the modern day truths and myths.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next Texas Jack Roundup in Virginia City, Nevada, in 2014.

(Note) My apologies for being a little late with this article. Due to the move to my new home here in Hamilton, Montana, and some physical disabilities I've been going through, one of which is some problems with my eyes, it has been difficult for me to complete this. Hopefully what I've written is satisfactory and meets with your interests. It has been my intention to excite and create something a little different and bring you some extra history of the old west. Thank you for your patience with me while completing this interesting and fun task.

Driftin' Aaron G Poff Guest Editor

The Texas Jack Scout

Vol. XXVIII, no.3

An Occasional Publication of
The Texas Jack Association, Inc.

A Non-Profit Corporation

www.texasjack.org

Subscription is included in annual membership dues of \$25.00. Contact:

The Texas Jack Association

Rick Omohundro, Treasurer

PO Box 91

Salt Lick, KY 40371

The Texas Jack Association was founded in 1980 by Frank Sullivan to commemorate John Baker Omohundro, prairie scout, western hunting guide, and Wild West showman.

The Texas Jack Scout publishes articles about John B. "Texas Jack" Omohundro, the times and places in which he lived, and individuals who have contributed substantially to maintaining his memory.

Officers

President: Randy Golladay, Scottsville, VA

V. President: Mary Golladay, Scottsville, VA

Secretary: Linda Omohundro, Columbus, OH

Treasurer: Rick Omohundro, Salt Lick, KY

Director: Linda Omohundro, Columbus, OH

Scout Editors: (current issue): Production Mgr-Larry Tyree, Guest-Aaron Poff, Layout-Linda Omohundro

Historian: Edna Nees, Scottsville, VA

Founder: Frank Sullivan, Springfield, IL

First Chairman: Malvern H. Omohundro, Jr., Richmond VA

Honorary Member

Edna Nees, Scottsville, VA

Past Honorary Members

Mrs. Henry R. Coe, Cody, WY

The Earl of Dunraven VII, Co. Limerick, Ireland

Mr. Fred H. Garlow, Jr. Cody, WY

Grandson of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody

The Knight of Glin, Co. Limerick, Ireland

Great-grandson of the Earl of Dunraven IV

Mr. Herschel C. Logan, Santa Ana, CA

Author of *Buckskin and Satin*

Mrs. Nellie Snyder Yost, North Platte, NE

Historian of the Plains

The Texas Jack Scout

Continued from page 1

in Turkey Creek Canyon just outside of Tombstone, Arizona, it looked as if he committed suicide by shooting himself in the head, but some believed he was murdered by his drinking partner, **Frank "Buckskin" Leslie**, or a young gambler named "**Johnny-Behind-the-Deuce.**" To complicate matters further, **Wyatt Earp** later claimed that he had killed Ringo. The truth is unknown to this day.

Throughout the 1800s gunslingers came from every walk of life, from simple farmers and ranchers to city dwellers growing up with unrest in the nation. The Civil War created many of these gunmen since life became almost intolerable to so many in the south after losing the war.

Immediately following the Civil War the U.S. Congress passed the "Reconstruction Act of 1867," which marked the beginning of the radical reconstruction period that lasted for a full decade. Thus came the carpetbaggers, travelers who arrive in a new region with only a satchel or carpet bag, and who attempt to profit from, or gain control of their new surroundings, often against the will or consent of the original habitants, stealing from the farmers, their land and holdings with the support of the northern armies. Many of them were former Union Soldiers. The acts of lawlessness created deprivation and physical harm to southern residents, causing many to become outlaws. Some of these southern outlaws became famous, such as **Jesse and Frank James, Cole Younger, the Daltons** and many more, therefore more gunfighters or gunmen became popular to the readers of the growing dime novels.

During this time of reconstruction, our own Texas Jack Omohundro was not of this breed of gunmen, but rather became the great

legend of the west as a plainsman, scout, hunter and actor. He was a breed far above the so-called gunslinger. He and **Buffalo Bill Cody** and their pard, **Wild Bill Hickok** withstood the test of time. Wild Bill Hickok becoming that well-known lawmen we've all read about in so many books and of course Hollywood movies.

***Tom Horn** (below) (November 21, 1860 – November 20, 1903). U.S. Army Scout, Lawman, Outlaw, Detective, Assassin



At sixteen, Tom Horn headed to the American Southwest, where he was hired by the U.S. Cavalry as a civilian scout under **Al Sieber** and became involved in the Apache Wars, aiding in the capture of warriors such as Geronimo. Horn allegedly killed his first man in a duel – a second lieutenant in the Mexican Army. Horn was present at Geronimo's final surrender, acting as interpreter under Charles B. Gatewood.

Tom Horn later hired out his skills with a gun when he took part in the Pleasant Valley War in Arizona between cattlemen and

The Texas Jack Scout

sheep men, but it is not known which side he was allied, and both sides suffered several killings for which no known suspects were ever identified.

Horn worked in Arizona for a time as a deputy sheriff, where he drew the attention of the Pinkerton Detective Agency due to his intensive tracking abilities. Hired by the agency around early 1890, he handled investigations in Colorado and Wyoming, around other western states, and around the Rocky Mountain area, working out of the Denver office. He became known for his calm under pressure, and his ability to track down anyone assigned to him.

Tom Horn resigned from the agency under pressure in 1894. Over the course of the late 1890s he hired out as a range deputy U.S. Marshal and detective for various wealthy ranchers in Wyoming and Colorado, specifically during the Johnson County War, when he worked for the Wyoming Stock Growers Association; and is alleged to have been involved in the killing of Nate Champion and Nick Ray on April 9, 1892. In 1895, Horn supposedly killed a known cattle thief named William Lewis near Iron Mountain, Wyoming. Horn was exonerated for that crime and for another six weeks later, the murder of Fred Powell. In 1896, a ranchman named Campbell who had a large stock of money, was last seen with Horn before he disappeared.

Although his official title was "Range Detective," he actually functioned as a hired killer, and in 1900 he was implicated in several murders of rustlers and robbery suspects in northwest Colorado. He then investigated the Wilcox Train Robbery where he obtained information that he passed on to Charlie Siringo, who was working the case for the Pinkertons. This

information indicated that either **George Curry**, or **Kid Curry** had killed Sheriff Johiah Hazen. Both outlaws were members of the **Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch** gang, which was known then as "The Hole-in-the-Wall Gang."

Horn left that line of work briefly to serve a stint in the Army during the Spanish American War. Before he could steam from Tampa to Cuba, he contracted malaria. When his health recovered he returned to Wyoming. Shortly after his return, in 1901, Horn began working for wealthy cattle baron John C. Coble.

On July 18, 1901, Horn was again working near Iron Mountain when Willie Nickell, the 14 year-old son of a shepherding rancher, was murdered. Horn was arrested for the murder after a questionable confession to Joe Lefors, an office deputy in the U.S. Marshal's office, in 1902.

Based upon circumstantial evidence, Horn's trial went to jury on October 23, 1902. The jury returned a verdict of guilty the next day. A hearing several days later sentenced Tom Horn to death by hanging. Horn was given an execution date of November 20, 1903, which was carried out in Cheyenne.

It is still debated today whether Horn committed the murder. Many books have been written about Tom Horn, and some books say the author and historian thought he was innocent of the murder, while others thought he was guilty. Tom Horn has the distinction of being one of the few people in the "Wild West" to have been hanged by an automated process. Tom Horn was buried in the Columbia Cemetery in Boulder, Colorado, on December 3, 1903.

**Adapted from Wikipedia*

The Texas Jack Scout

The list of gunmen and men with shadowed backgrounds, and men who stood up for law and justice are too numerous to name, but men like, **Robert Clay Allison, Cullen Baker, Sam Bass and Billy the Kid** are just a rare few that I've discovered who were pretty handy as gunmen.

***Doc Holliday** (August 14, 1851 – November 8, 1887).



Holliday was a dentist by trade. We've all read about Doc Holliday (left) and of course have seen him in numerous movies and television episodes. He was a man that had been taught his southern etiquette and manners which would forever reflect his demeanor.

Shortly after Doc Holliday graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Dental School, he returned to his home in the south to begin his dental career. But at the age of 23 he fled to Dallas, Texas. No one was quite sure why he moved to Dallas, but strong historical research suggests that Holliday, who'd contracted tuberculosis, thought he'd be better off in a drier climate.

Holliday continued with his dental career while living in Dallas, but the Dallas nightlife, especially the drinking and card games called out to him. Soon, his gambling habits directed his life. By the mid-1870s he'd already developed a strong reputation for card playing and fighting.

After escaping a murder charge in Dallas, he went on the move. He relocated to various different cities before settling in Dodge City, Kansas, a hot spot for gunfighters and the city where he befriended Wyatt Earp. He later followed Earp to Tombstone, Arizona,

a booming mining and frontier town near the Mexican border. Tombstone is an interesting place to visit even today and has a booming tourist business.

It was in Tombstone that the Doc Holliday legend that would be passed down from one generation to the next was made. On October 26, 1881, Holliday and the Earps found themselves in an intense firefight with cowboys **Ike and Billy Clanton, and Frank McLaury and his brother Tom**. More than 30 shots were fired in a 30-second battle that came to be known as the shootout at the O.K. Corral.

Doc Holliday died in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, on November 8, 1887. He was known as a criminal and folk hero.

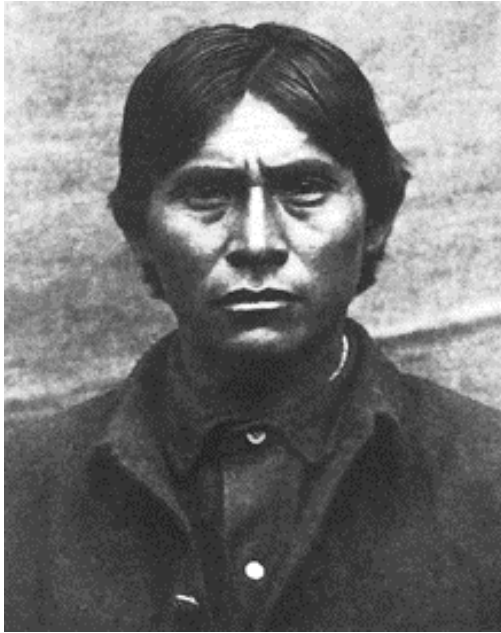
**Adapted from Biography True Story*

Throughout the old west there were a number of women who became known as women who could handle guns about as well as most men. These women were rare indeed. There was **Laura "Della Rose" Bullion (aka "The Rose of the Wild Bunch), Pearl Hart and Sandy King**. And of course there was **Calamity Jane**, and last but not least **"Little Miss Sure Shot" herself, Annie Oakley**, who knew her guns more than any other woman and all the men that shot against her.

***The Apache Kid** – (below) Born sometime in the 1860s on the San Carlos Indian Reservation.

His given Indian name was, "Haskay-bay-nay-natyl." He is said to have been the fiercest Apache next to Geronimo, as well as being a notorious outlaw of the late 19th century. He began by working at odd jobs in Globe, Arizona, and was soon befriended by the famous Army scout, Al Sieber.

The Texas Jack Scout



At this time, early settlers of the Southwest faced numerous raiding bands of Apaches, and General George Crook had come up with the idea to use Apaches to fight other Apaches. Enlisting Apache Indians from San Carlos and other reservations, the enlisted scouts could locate the trails that the hunted Apaches traveled.

In 1881, the Kid enlisted in the Indian Scouts and was so good at the job that he was promoted to sergeant in July 1882. The following year he accompanied General George Crook on the expedition of the Sierra Madre.

The Geronimo campaign of 1885-1886 found the Apache Kid in Mexico early in 1885 with Al Seiber, and when the chief of scouts was recalled in the fall, the Kid rode with him back to San Carlos. He re-enlisted with Lieutenant Crawford's call for one hundred scouts for Mexican duty and again went south in late 1885. In the Mexican town of Huassabas, on the Bavispe River, the Kid nearly lost his life in a drunken riot

in which he had been a participant. Rather than see the Kid shot by a Mexican firing squad, the judge fined him twenty dollars, and the Army sent him back to San Carlos.

In May, 1887, the Apache Kid was left in charge of the Indian Scouts and guardhouse at San Carlos when Captain Pierce and Al Sieber, and an Anglo scout were both gone on business. Though the brewing of *iswin*, a beverage made of fermented fruit or corn, was illegal on the reservation, with the while officers gone, the Indian Scouts decided to have a party. As the liquor flowed freely, a man named **Gon-Zizzie** killed the Apache Kid's father, Togo-de-Chuz. Kid's friends, in turn, killed Gon-Zizzie. However, the killing of Gon-Zizzie was not enough for the Apache Kid. He went to the home of Gon-Zizzie's brother, Rip, and killed him. Captain Pierce, upon his return to San Carlos arrested the Kid and his friends, and from somewhere in the crowd, Al Sieber was shot in the ankle. The Kid and his friends fled from San Carlos, even though it was undetermined who fired the shot that wounded Al Sieber and crippled him for life. It was for certain, however, that the Apache Kid and his friends had not fired that shot, for they had been disarmed prior to Al Sieber being shot.

The Army, reacting swiftly, soon sent two troops of the Fourth Cavalry to find the Apache Kid and the others who had escaped. For two weeks the Cavalry followed the fugitives along the banks of the San Carlos River, when finally, with the aid of more Indian Scouts, they located the Kid and his band in the Rincon Mountains.

The soldiers seized upon the Apaches' horses and equipment while the Indians fled on foot into the rocky canyons. In negotiations with the soldiers, Kid relayed a

The Texas Jack Scout

message to General Miles stating that if the Army would recall the cavalry that he and his band would surrender. When Miles complied, the Apache Kid and seven members of his band surrendered on June 25th.

The Kid and four others were court-martialed and found guilty of mutiny and desertion and sentenced to death by firing squad. However, General Miles was upset over the verdict and ordered the court to reconsider the sentence. When the court reconvened on August 3rd, they were re-sentenced to life in prison. Miles was still not satisfied and reduced the sentence to ten years. Beginning their sentence in the San Carlos guardhouse, they were later sent to Alcatraz.

However, their conviction was soon overturned on October 13, 1888, due to prejudice among the officers of the court-martial trial, and the Indians were returned to San Carlos as free men. This caused an outrage among the citizens of the area and a new warrant was issued in October, 1889, in Gila County for the re-arrest of freed Apaches for assault to commit murder in the wounding of Al Sieber.

The Apache Kid and his four Apaches were convicted and given a seven year sentence. As they were being transported to the prison, the Apache Kid, along with several others escaped. During the escape, one guard was killed and another guard died of an apparent heart attack. The Kid and the others fled,

their tracks obliterated by a snowstorm. It would be the last "official" sighting of the Apache Kid, though unconfirmed reports of his whereabouts would continue to filter in for years to come.

There were many reports of his death, but none ever confirmed. There is a gravesite that is said to have been the Apache Kid's, but never proven. He was hunted on both sides of the border for years, and local ranches said they had tracked him down relentlessly after so many attacks on their ranches, but it was never proven whether they caught and killed him. It is said that the Apache Kid committed all these relentless crimes in order to get revenge for how the military treated the Indian Scouts. Even historians cannot agree to all the crimes that the Apache Kid was supposedly guilty of, and is not certain as to when, where or how he finally died.

**Adapted from Legends of America*

Native Americans


Throughout our history, Native Americans were treated horribly. They were lied to, treaties were broken by our government, and these people were treated wrongly. Yet, out of the anger and hatred came Native Americans who gave of themselves for this nation, and who lived and died bravely. For those proud Native Americans I wrote the following poem and since November 11th is Veterans Day, let us all remember these brave warriors.

NATIVE AMERICAN SOLDIERS...March 2011

By: Driftin' AaronG

*There have been soldiers of every race, color and creed
And proud Native American Warriors always fulfill a need*

The Texas Jack Scout



*Often times as I drive across an Indian reservation I'll see our flag waving high
Just knowing it's where a Native American soldier lives I can give a prayer to the spirits in the
sky*

*I've thanked a lot of veterans for their service on many a given day
But did I ever thank a Native American Veteran for their service? For them too I must pray*

*There are lots of Native American heroes that love this country just like me
Thousands in fact since the 19th century and through today I'm proud to see*

*From the early Army scouts through World Wars One and Two
And on through Korea and Vietnam and Iraq they march in honorable view*

*Heroes everyone, some winning the most distinguished medals with honor and pride
To serve this nation they've learned to love with dedication and not accept a free ride*

*Many have paid the ultimate price for freedom and liberty
And to be honored by all is an earned gift of a warrior's dignity*

*Their service to America is a proud heritage to behold
And to march into harm's way and give of each soul is eternally bold*

*With the light of a great spiritual gift from above
Each warrior has earned his golden feather as it's carried by a heavenly dove*

*Not only has the male warriors carried the torch for this nation
But the women of the many tribes have served with honor and great distinction*

*So maybe as the 21st century unfolds to a great recognition of each Native American tribe
The Native American soldiers will be awarded their due as America should honorably inscribe*

*With the history of the great warriors of today and of those in the past
Let us remember veterans of every race, color and creed and those who have fought to the last*

*To honor these warriors is never enough that we can give
But to never forget and remember their sacrifice so their children can freely and proudly live*

*The families of so many proud soldiers have waited, hoped, prayed and cried
For these are the Native American Soldiers who have sacrificed and so many have fought and
bravely died*

* * *

The Texas Jack Scout

*John Westley Hardin (1853 – 1895)

Hardin's violent career began in 1867 with a schoolyard squabble in which he stabbed another youth. At fifteen, he shot and killed a black man as a result of a chance meeting and an argument. With the so-called reconstruction government looking for him, he fled to his brother's house, twenty-five miles north of Sumpter, Texas, where in 1868 he claimed to have killed three Union soldiers who sought to arrest him. And within another year, he killed another soldier at Richard Bottom.

In 1871 Hardin went as a cowboy up the Chisholm Trail. He killed seven individuals en route and three more in Abilene, Kansas. Hardin added at least four more names to his death list before surrendering to the sheriff of Cherokee County in September, 1872.

During Hardin's time he was constantly pursued in Texas. He took his wife and children to Florida and Alabama, adding more names to his death list before the Texas Rangers captured him in Pensacola, Florida, on July 23, 1877. He was tried for the murder of deputy sheriff Charles Webb and sentenced on September 28, 1878, to twenty-five years in prison. He made repeated efforts to escape, read books on theology, was superintendent of the prison Sunday school and studied law.

He was pardoned on March 16, 1894, and admitted to the bar to practice law. However, upon moving to El Paso he found he could not lead a decent life. He had an affair with a wife of one of his clients, Martin Morose, and when Morose found out about it, hired killers to assassinate Hardin. Hardin was killed by one of the killers and died instantly and was buried in Concordia

Cemetery, El Paso, Texas, on August 19th, 1895. It was estimated that John Wesley Hardin had killed 42 men. I believe that had there ever been a shoot-out between John Wesley Hardin and Johnny Ringo, it may have been a tie, but of course either one would have killed the other or they both might have died. Something I guess, we'll never know.

**Adapted from Frontier Times*

Other lawmen and the Texas Rangers

There were a lot of lawmen in the old west. Many became U.S. Marshals, County Sheriffs and City Marshals. There was **Bat Masterson** who was so professional as a lawman that he only shot and killed one person in his career, and later became a sports writer. Wild Bill Hickok we know and love as a plainsman and lawman was murdered while playing cards in Deadwood, South Dakota. Like the outlaws, lawmen were so many that I cannot name them all, but rather picked out just a few to make it interesting for the readers.

As for the Texas Rangers, their exploits fighting Comanches and other wild tribes of the southwest is a story within itself and needs a complete article to write their story, but I will write a bit about them here. My son, Andrew bought me the book of the life of Texas Jack that I find very enjoyable. In the book, *Buckskin and Satin*, by Herschel C. Logan, which is the life of Texas Jack Omohundro and his wife, Mlle. Morlacchi, Logan writes about Texas Jack's exploits as a buckskin clad Scout, Indian Fighter, Plainsman, Cowboy, Hunter, Guide and Actor.

On Page 20-21 in *Buckskin and Satin*, Texas

The Texas Jack Scout

Jack's good friend, Major Burke, indicated in his writings, as has previously been mentioned, that Jack had at one time been a Texas Ranger. This may have been possible; certainly he had those qualities found in the Rangers. Walter Prescott Webb in his book, *The Texas Rangers*, quotes Governor Sam Houston's able description of Texas Rangers.

“It is evident to my mind that Texas Rangers stand preeminent on the score of economy and usefulness . . . They are excellent horsemen, accustomed to hardships, and the horses of Texas, having been raised on grass can perform service without requiring grain to subsist them . . . The Texans are acquainted with Indian habits, and also their mode of warfare. They are woodsmen and marksmen.” The book

goes on to tell more about the Texas Rangers and Texas Jack. This my friends and neighbors is Texas Jack in my own opinion here today. And one day I'd like to try and write an article with our own information about Texas Jack and this book that I'm finding so interesting to read. Having read this about the Texas Rangers and the fact that Texas Jack was real Texas Ranger material, I had previously written a poem for Texas Jack that I'd like to share with you now, but please do understand that it is a poem of fiction about Texas Jack. In my mind I've always wondered what Texas Jack might have accomplished had he not died on that fateful day in Leadville, Colorado. Here is just one of the thoughts that came to mind had he lived.

A TALL TALE OF TEXAS JACK...February 2010

“A Tale of Fiction”

By: Driftin' AaronG

*This is a story, just a tall wild tale of a tale I had in mind
About ol' Texas Jack, he was a knowin' he was one of a kind*

*Fresh out a' Denver a headin' over the great divide
Headin' to Texas with its borders so vast an' wide*

*Comanches on the warpath the paper read loud and true
So Texas Jack packed up his gear an' rode out under a sky of blue*

*Out across the rockies an' toward Texas he rode
His great steed an' he as they lived by the western code*

*Makin' his way down across the Texas panhandle jus' travelin' long the way
Texas Jack, searchin' for adventure and wild times keepin' his excitement at bay*

*As he came across the Indian territory of the feared Comanche tribe
A colt .45 on his right hip an' with his Winchester, his name on any Comanche he could inscribe*

*An' on that fateful day Texas Jack rode with the burning sun up high
It was then that the Comanches came bloodthirstily out of a deep canyon almost blinded by the
sky*

The Texas Jack Scout



*Texas Jack turned his great steed and rode into the hot dry blistery sun
No horse could ever outrun this stallion of his that was bred for danger an' wild fun*

*And yet another band of Comanches came closing in from far up ahead
But Texas Jack an' his great steed ran even faster just a hopin' not to get dead*

*An' then all of a sudden, Texas Jack pulled back on his reins an' turned to give a good fight
He aimed his Winchester an' with his first three shots, only wounding three 'cause he felt it was
right*

*The Comanches reined up and watched Texas Jack as he sat his horse all wild an' proud
An' the Comanches with bright painted colors and feathers being almost like a shroud*

*Texas Jack rode slowly toward the rock-hard faces standing proud and tall
He approached them with caution with a hope that today he'd not fall*

*He stopped just short of the tall chief that stood there with great pride
"I come in peace or war, your choice" Jack said. "I'll fight or stand at your side"*

*The great Quannah Parker stood there in awe staring at this brave man an' his great steed
"You are not welcome here in the land of the Comanche, but you are a great warrior indeed*

*"I only come in peace an' hope to stop a terrible war between your people an' mine"
Quannah Parker stood there in awe of the brave man for a seemingly long time*

*Texas Jack sat there on his great stallion waiting with courage for what the Comanches might
say*

It was then that Quannah Parker said, "We'll meet again hopefully in peace on some great day"

*The Comanches slowly turned their horses an' rode away, each carrying his deadly war lance
An' ol' Texas Jack just sitting there takin' a deep breath knowin' he'd just won a second chance*

*He decided right then an' there to become a Ranger Scout and find the thrill of a little more
danger*

So Texas Jack turned his faithful steed an' rode south in hopes of findin' a Texas Ranger

* * *

From all of the accounts I've read of Texas Jack, this encounter with Quannah Parker and his Comanche tribe might very well have been something Jack might have accomplished had he lived. However, this is only from my own personal imagination, but something that might well have become factual. And who knows, maybe one day

my imagination will write yet another fictional adventure of Texas Jack that might have been true had it not been thwarted by his death in Leadville, Colorado. A great lawman he would have made had he lived to become an even bigger legend than he had already become during his lifetime. No doubt in my mind that he would have gone



The Texas Jack Scout

on to become the greatest of men from the old west even though he has already won his place in western history.

John B. "Texas Jack" Omohundro

A True Leader of Destiny

“With the fame he proudly earned
The glory he humbly found
The true legend he rightfully became”

P.S. If you want to see an old gunfight that probably is pretty much like most gun battles of the west, I think the movie "Open Range" says it all in the final gunfight of the movie.

Best Wishes and God Bless

"Driftin' AaronG" Poff

November 2013



Reminder:

At the 2012 Roundup we learned that Silas Omohundro, and ancestor of many of us, does not have a headstone. He is buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, VA. We decided at the business meeting to take up donations to buy him a stone. Edna Nees has informed us that only a third of the amount needed has been collected. Ole Silas is lying there totally unknown. He really needs his headstone with his name on it. Please give whatever you can. Mail it to:

Edna Nees,

213 Coles Rolling Road,

Scottsville, VA 24590

The Texas Jack Scout



WHO ARE WE ANYWAY? THE SEARCH CONTINUES.....

*By: Rick Omohundro
Salt Lick, KY*

WHO ARE WE ANYWAY? This was the question asked by Malvern Hill Omohundro on page 14 of *The Omohundro Genealogical Record*. He went on to record a few stories and theories, none of which have yet to be proven.

About a year ago I learned of the National Geographic's Genographic Project. It started in 2005, and it basically uses advanced DNA analysis and works with indigenous communities to help answer fundamental questions about where humans originated and how we came to populate the Earth. To date the project has more than 600,000 participants. I decided to participate in this program to see if it would shed any light as to where Richard 1A came from. Also, my DNA results would conclude the same results for all of us that have a direct relationship to Richard 1A, at least for the paternal DNA markers. Most of what follows in this article is quoted or semi-quoted from the report I received after weeks of testing my DNA.

Each marker represents the migratory path of successive groups that eventually coalesced to form our branch of the tree. We start with the marker for our oldest ancestor, and walk forward to more recent times, showing at each step the line of our ancestors who lived up to that point.

What is a marker? Each of us carries DNA that is a combination of genes passed from both our mother and father, giving us traits that range from eye color and height to athleticism and disease susceptibility. As part of this process, the Y-chromosome is passed directly from father to son, unchanged, from generation to generation down a purely male line. Mitochondrial DNA, on the other hand, is passed from mothers to their children, but only their daughters pass it on to the next generation. It traces a purely maternal line. My mother's line is not shown here as I am following the Omohundro line for this article.

A marker is a mutation. The DNA is passed on unchanged, unless a mutation—a random, naturally occurring, usually harmless change—occurs. The mutation, or marker, acts as a beacon; it can be mapped through generations because it will be passed down for thousands of years.

When geneticists identify such a marker, they try to figure out when it first occurred, and in which geographic region of the world. Each marker is essentially the beginning of a new lineage on the family tree of the human race. Tracking the lineages provides a picture of how small tribes of modern humans in Africa tens of thousands of years ago diversified and spread to populate the world.

By looking at the markers we carry, we can trace our lineage, ancestor by ancestor, to reveal the path they traveled as they moved out of Africa. Our story begins with our earliest ancestor. Who were they, where did they live, and what is their story?

The Texas Jack Scout



The common direct paternal ancestor of all men alive today was born in Africa around 140,000 years ago. Dubbed “Y-chromosome Adam” by the popular press, he was neither the first human male nor the only man alive in his time. He was, though, the only male whose Y-chromosome lineage is still around today. All men, including our direct paternal ancestors, trace their ancestry to one of this man’s descendants.

The Omohundro family can trace its origin along the following DNA markers and these can be followed on the maps shown below: **M42 - M168 - M89 - P128 - M45 - M207 - P231 - M343 - L278 - P310 - L21.**

Marker M42: Around 75,000 years ago, the BT branch of the Y-chromosome tree was born, defined by many genetic markers, including M42. The common ancestor of most men living today, some of this man’s descendants would begin the journey out of Africa, to India and the Middle East. Small groups would eventually reach the Americas. Others would settle in Europe, and some from this line remained near their ancestral homeland in Africa.

Marker M168: As humans left Africa, they migrated across the globe in a web of paths that spread out like the branches of a tree, each limb of migration identifiable by a marker in our DNA. For male lineages, the M168 branch was one of the first to leave the African homeland.

Moving outward from Africa and along the coastline, members of this lineage were some of the earliest settlers in Asia, Southeast Asia, and Australia. Some from this line would even travel over the land bridge to reach the Americas.

The man who gave rise to the first genetic marker in our lineage probably lived in northeast Africa in the region of the Rift Valley, perhaps in present-day Ethiopia, Kenya, or Tanzania. Scientists put the most likely date for when he lived at around 70,000 years ago. His descendants became the only lineage to survive outside of Africa, making him the common ancestor of every non-African man living today.

Our nomadic ancestors followed the good weather and the animals they hunted, although the exact route they followed remains to be determined. In addition to a favorable change in climate, around this same time there was a great leap forward in modern humans’ intellectual capacity. Many scientists believe that the emergence of language gave us a huge advantage over other early human species. Improved tools and weapons, the ability to plan ahead and cooperate with one another, and an increased capacity to exploit resources in ways we hadn’t been able to earlier, all allowed modern humans to rapidly migrate to new territories, exploit new resources, and replace other hominids such as the Neanderthals.

Marker M89: The next male ancestor in our ancestral lineage is the man who gave rise to M89, a marker found in 90 to 95 percent of all non-Africans. This man was born around 50,000 years ago in northern Africa or the Middle East.

The Texas Jack Scout

The first people to leave Africa likely followed a coastal route that eventually ended in Australia. Our ancestors followed the expanding grasslands and plentiful game to the Middle East and beyond, and were part of the second great wave of migration out of Africa.

While many of the descendants of M89 remained in the Middle East, others continued to follow the great herds of wild game through what is now modern-day Iran to the vast steppes of Central Asia.


These semi-arid grass-covered plains formed an ancient “superhighway” stretching from eastern France to Korea. Our ancestors, having migrated north out of Africa into the Middle East, then traveled both east and west along this Central Asian superhighway. A smaller group continued moving north from the Middle East to Anatolia and the Balkans, trading familiar grasslands for forests and high country.

Marker P128: The next male ancestor in our ancestral lineage is the man who gave rise to P128, a marker found in more than half of all non-Africans alive today. This man was born around 45,000 years ago in the Middle East or Central Asia.

The descendants of P128 migrated to the east and north, picking up additional markers on their Y-chromosomes. This lineage is the parent of several major branches on the Y-chromosome tree: O, the most common lineage in East Asia; R (the one to which we belong), the major European Y-chromosome lineage; and Q, the major Y-chromosome lineage in the Americas. These descendant branches went on to settle the rest of Asia, the Americas, and Europe; many others traveled to Southeast Asia.



The Texas Jack Scout



Marker M45: This paternal ancestor traveled with groups in the open savannas between Central and South Asia during the Paleolithic. These big game hunters were the parents to two of the most widespread male lineages in modern populations, one of which spread farther into Asia producing the highest frequency lineages in European populations which is haplogroup R to which we belong.

Marker M207: M207 was born in Central Asia around 30,000 years ago. His descendants would go on to settle in Europe, South Asia and the Middle East over the following 20,000 years.

Marker P231: The Paleolithic ancestor who founded this lineage lived a nomadic lifestyle. His descendants include two major descendant branches that today account for most European men and many others from Central Asia, West Asia, and South Asia.

Marker M343: The first members of this lineage lived as hunter-gatherers on the open savannas that stretched from Korea to Central Europe. They took part in the advances in hunting technology that allowed for population growth and expansions.

Some traveled west across Europe. Others moved back toward their distant ancestors' homelands in Africa, passing through the Levant region. Through these movements and the population boom triggered by the Neolithic Revolution, this lineage and its descendant lineages came to dominate Europe.

Today, it has a wide distribution. In Africa, geneticists have found this lineage in Northern Africa (6 percent) and central Sahel (23 percent). Its frequency in Europe is at times high and at other times moderate. It represents about 7 percent of Russian male lineages, about 13 percent of male lineages in the Balkans, about 21 percent of Eastern European male lineages, 55 to 58 percent of Western European lineages, and about 43 percent of Central European male lineages. In Asia, most men of this lineage are found in West Asia (6 percent) and South Asia (5 percent). However, trace frequencies of around half a percent from this lineage are present in East Asia.

Marker L278: While some from this group traveled west into Central Asia, others moved south toward the Levant region. Today, they are present in trace frequencies of less than 1 percent in Italy, the Ukraine, and the region of the Pannonian Basin.

This branch is not accompanied by a major movement on the map, and research on this branch is continuing.

Marker P310: Members of this lineage have traveled to Central Asia, Europe, and the Levant region. One descendant branch has the highest frequency of any male line in Western Europe. However, rather than a single movement across Europe, this lineage's branches may represent many simultaneous and successive waves of migration.

Today, it is 48 to 52 percent of male lineages in Ireland. It is 45 percent of those in France. It is about 38 percent of the male population in Spain. It is about 8 percent of male lineages in Italy. It

The Texas Jack Scout



is about 5 percent of male lineages in Oman. It is 1 to 2 percent of the male population in Iraq and Lebanon. It is also 1 to 2 percent of the male population in Kazakhstan.

This branch is not accompanied by a major movement on the map, and research on this branch is continuing.

Marker L21: Today, members of this lineage are widely distributed across Europe and West Asia. They reach their highest frequency in Ireland where they and descendant branches contribute to between 35 and 38 percent of the male population. This line is 6 to 7 percent of male lineages in France. It is between 1 and 2 percent of male lineages in Germany. It is 2 to 4 percent of male lineages in Portugal and Spain. It is about 2 percent of the male population in Croatia. It is also present in some paternal lineages from the Ashkenazi Jewish population.

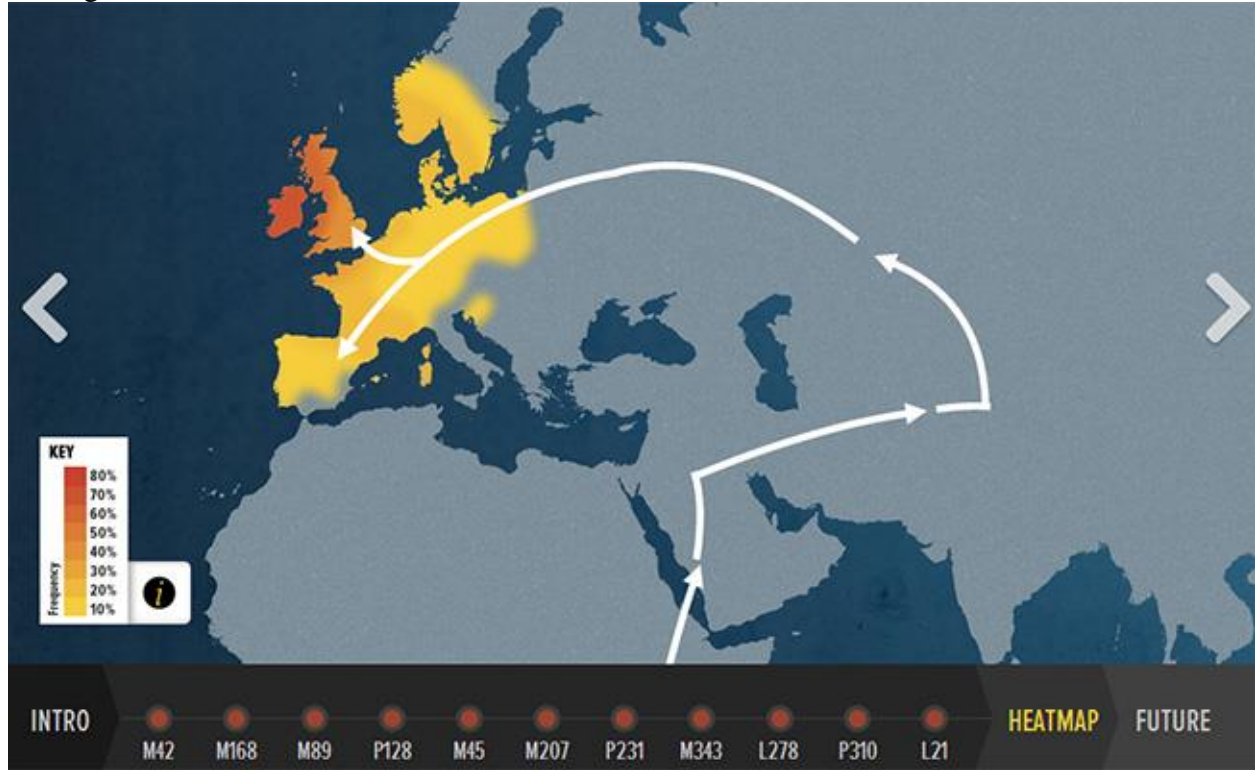
This branch is not accompanied by a major movement on the map, and research on this branch is continuing.



The map below shows the frequency of our haplogroup in indigenous populations from around the world, providing a more detailed look at where our more recent ancestors settled in their migratory journey. What do we mean by recent? It's difficult to say, as it could vary from a few hundred years ago to a few thousand years ago depending on how much scientists currently know about our particular haplogroup. As more individuals are tested and more information is received worldwide, this information will grow and change.

The Texas Jack Scout

A heatmap of L21 shows a distribution that peaks in Ireland and Britain where it experienced successful expansions, perhaps as part of the post-glacial recolonization of northern Europe at the end of the last ice age. The frequency is lower in the rest of Western Europe. The geographic region with the highest frequency isn't necessarily the place where the haplogroup originated, although this is sometimes the case.



So, what can we conclude from all this. If we want to go back 140,000 years, then we can say we came from Africa as did the rest of mankind living today. But if we want to go back just a few hundred years then it is still not certain exactly where Richard 1A came from. It does, however, lend more credence to the theory that Richard 1A was from England or at least that part of the world. So, THE SEARCH CONTINUES..... 🔫

NEXT SCOUT ISSUE INFORMATION

The deadline for the March 2014 issue of *The Scout* is **February 15, 2014**. Please send ideas and materials to our Layout Editor: **Linda Omohundro**

**5256 Abel Merrill Road
Columbus, OH 43221-5549
614-742-7212**

omohundro@sbcglobal.net

Our scheduled Guest Editor is unable to do it, so we are accepting articles or whatever you think would be interesting and informative about Texas Jack and his era of the late 1800s. There's a lot of talent and information out there. Here is your opportunity!

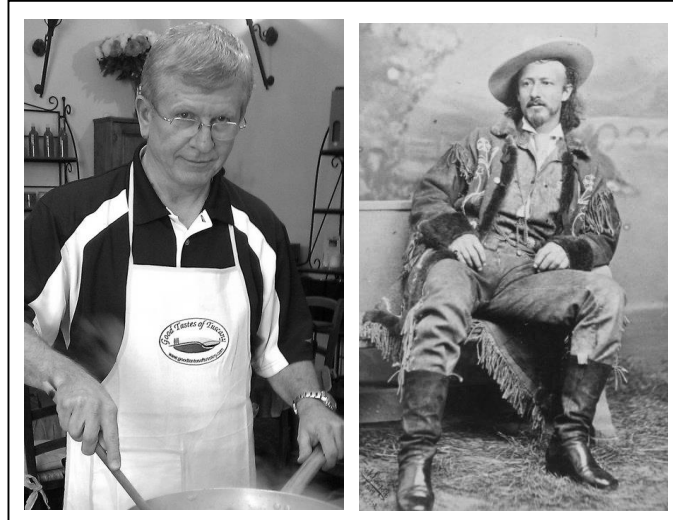
The Texas Jack Scout



Texas Jack Brisket Chili

From Larry Tyree

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- 6 oz Canadian bacon, diced (or ham)
 - 4 cups onion, diced
 - 2 lb brisket, trimmed and cubed
 - 1 cup beef stock
 - 6 garlic cloves, chopped
 - 2 tsp cumin seeds
 - 1 tsp dried oregano
 - 1 tsp coriander
 - 1.5 tsp coarse salt
 - 10 oz. can diced tomatoes
 - 1 can kidney beans, drained
 - 1 can hominy, drained (white or yellow)
 - 1 12 oz bottle beer
 - ½ cup cilantro
 - 1 tsp cayenne pepper, or your favorite chiles
 - 1 tsp black pepper
 - 1 tsp white pepper
 - 4 C peeled cubed butternut, or acorn squash




JACK, I'M
HURRYING!

LARRY, I'M
REAL HONGRY!

- Sauté Canadian bacon over medium-high heat. Add onions. Cover, and reduce to medium heat, for 5 minutes.
- Sprinkle brisket with coarse salt, and pepper, add to pot and stir. Set aside.
- Add stock, garlic, cumin seeds, oregano, coriander and coarse salt to blender. Pour over brisket in pot.
- Add tomatoes, beer, the 3 kinds of pepper, beans, hominy, and cilantro. Bring to simmer. Cover.
- Cook in oven for 2 hours. Uncover, cook 1 hour.
- Partially cook the squash either by steaming, or in microwave.
- Add Squash to the chili. Roast uncovered, 45 min. adding water to keep brisket covered.
- Serves 6.

Have garnishes of cilantro, red onion, diced avocado, shredded cheese, corn tortillas.

Note: This is my modification of a similar recipe from *Bon Appétit* which had no beans or hominy in it. It also used ancho and

green chiles. This version is spicy, but not too hot, and is leaner by using Canadian bacon rather than bacon. I named it in honor of Texas Jack since this was a Texas recipe. 

The Texas Jack Scout



As another year draws rapidly to a close, we reflect on our comings and goings in 2013. We tabulate and rate the year in terms of accomplishments, disappointments, and those things still left to tackle. The technology of which we are advantaged allows the scope of our hopes and dreams to be larger than ever before in history. Visiting a country half way around the world and being home for dinner is not out of the realm of possibility these days.

I often try to take my mind back to the days in which *Texas Jack* lived. I wonder how often, if ever, *Jack* used the word “vacation”. Do you think he ever dreamed of spending a week at the beach, lounging in the sand, watching the waves break? We take annual excursions doing something exciting. We look forward to visiting lands we’ve not seen before, learning the local history, soaking in the culture. Many of us have our dream vacation already mapped out. We know the location and have our expectations formed in our minds. Is this the rule or the exception?

I see the life of *Texas Jack* as one huge albeit short adventure. A life shaped from duty, a sense of country, a willingness to be of service and the raging internal flame to explore. The air of surprise and discovery coupled with the realization of touching points of this earth no man had ever touched before. The humbling effect that knowing you are in the presence of something much

bigger than yourself has upon you. The grandeur, the splendor, the rugged beauty of a pristine land exceeding anything the mind’s eye could have imagined. The fierce raw power unleashed in a mountaintop thunderstorm. The calm peace afforded in a meadow side sunset. Experiencing this discovery each and every day. Not reliving history, but creating history. We live to experience this once or twice in our lives, considering ourselves fortunate. Can you imagine experiencing this in life each day?

We often think it’s all been done. There is nothing new to find, no discoveries left to be made. In this same thought process, we find ourselves merely going through the motions. Have we done it all? Is there nothing left in this world to get excited about? Have you ever reread a book and discovered something you missed the first time through? We hear this said about the Scriptures so very often. I also think we allow ourselves to become complacent in thinking there is nothing new to be learned in the things we’ve done every day for the past twenty five years. We proceed through the days of our lives not really paying attention to the details but seeking only to accomplish the predetermined end result.

How different might our day be should we take the approach of learning one new thing each day? When you pour your coffee into the cup, which way does it rotate? Does it rotate the same way each day? Do you know

The Texas Jack Scout

why? Useless trivia? Possibly, but if the quest excites you, stirs you, awakens something inside you, you are the benefactor. The knowledge is something the world can never take from you. Should we spend an extra second or two in learning observation (providing you don't stop in the middle of a busy street) what have we lost? More importantly, what have we gained?

Our ancestor lived a life filled with the thrill of exploration and discovery. I suspect that were *Texas Jack* here in our world today, his spirit would be no less adventurous. His mind would be no less inquisitive and his explorations would be no less notable than they were 140 years ago. I also believe that were he here to counsel us today, he would be quick to move us to find something new in our lives each and every day. He would tell us to reach a little farther,

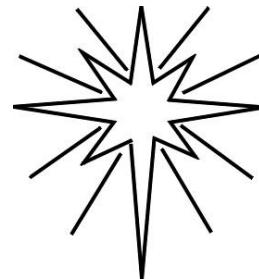
open our minds a little more and drink in the splendor the world has to offer.

As the holiday season is upon us, I pray that you experience all of the Blessings that Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year have to offer. Take a few extra seconds to give Thanks for all that we have. Throughout all of the preparation for Christmas, remember why we celebrate. Without the world being given the greatest Gift of love mankind has ever known, we would have no Christmas to celebrate. This same Gift of love, the Christ Child, gives us hope for the future. Hope for a New Year. Hope for prosperity and peace.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a safe and joyous New Year!

God Bless You!

Randy Golladay TJA President



The Texas Jack Scout



IT'S ALMOST HERE!
What you've been waiting for!
THE 2014 TEXAS JACK ROUNDUP!!!
JUNE 25 TO 28

Roundup Accommodations

We have rooms reserved at the Silverland Inn, in Virginia City, Nevada. We have 15 standard King rooms and 14 double Queens. The price is phenomenal!!!! **\$89.00** a night!! In the past we have been spending \$200.00 a night for rooms. These rooms will be held for us until **April 25**, 2014. If they have not been reserved with a valid credit card by that date, the rooms will go back into the hotel inventory. At these prices we hope members will reserve quickly, which would also make the rest of the planning easier. **The hotel offers 67 rooms,** continental breakfast, indoor pool, hot tub, fitness center, etc. **Check-in 3:00pm and check-out 11:00am.**

You MUST reserve the rooms yourself before APRIL 25, 2014.

Silverland Inn & Suites
100 North E Street • Virginia City, NV 89440
Hotel: (775) 847-4484 • Reservations: (888) 859-4119
Email: info@silverlandusa.com



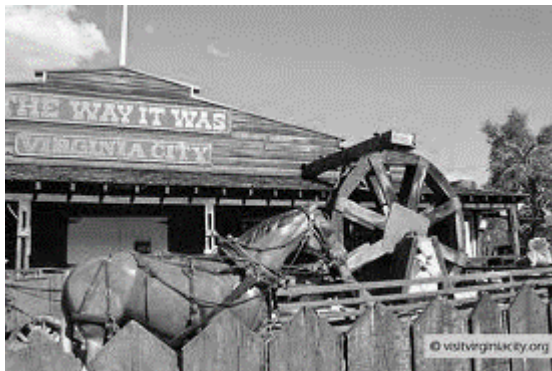
The Texas Jack Scout



<http://www.silverlandusa.com>

Things to Do

These are places that will possibly be on our schedule:



THE WAY IT WAS MUSEUM

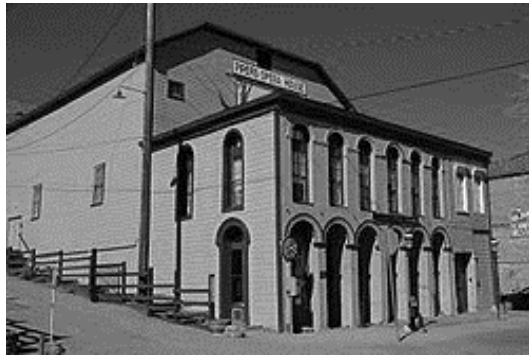
This is one of those places where you can spend as little or as much time as you like. There is a ton of stuff to see. Lots of artifacts, especially from the area's mining history. . Lots of interesting artifacts, from bottles to dolls. Its real worth is information - maps and diagrams - of the many mine tunnels that run beneath the town. *Tripadvisor.com*

The Texas Jack Scout



TERRITORIAL ENTERPRISE-MARK TWAIN MUSEUM

The museum, in the original *Territorial Enterprise* building, has the original desk used by Mark Twain when he was editor of the paper. Other exhibits include antique printing presses, an early Linotype machine, a proof press, stone composing tables (one of which Mark Twain and other employees of the paper used to sleep on), and various other antiques. *Wikipedia*



PIPERS OPERA HOUSE

It was incredibly large and amazingly restored. It has a lot of history. One of the better restored buildings in Virginia City. This opera house is used by the community for school functions, plays, graduations, music, dances and more. The school district actually absorbed this building into their control. It is a must see in town. It even has the oldest elevator in the west! (Buffalo Bill performed there!) *Tripadvisor.com*

WILD WEST MUSEUM For a taste of the old west, be sure to stop in at the Wild West Museum when in Virginia City. Here you will find interesting and informative dioramas along with all manner of cowboy memorabilia. Of particular note are both the display of antique guns and the displays of animal mounts. *Wikipedia.com*

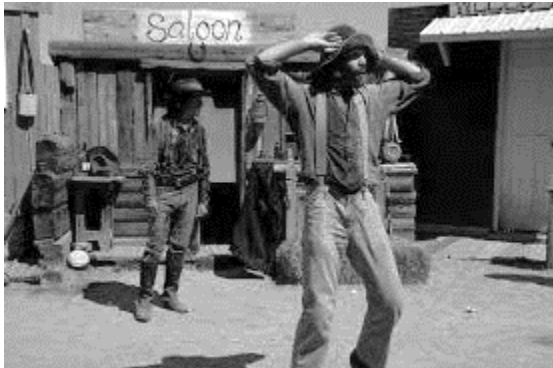


V & T STEAM TRAIN

Anyone who likes an adventure would enjoy the trip. While it is high dessert, there are things to see out there, wild horses, mining ruins, vistas of the distant mountains, and yes, some modern junk of "civilization." The cars are tastefully restored, the crew was friendly. They do a "runby" which is when the train stops, you can get off if you like. The train then backs down the hill a ways, and then comes "charging" past you so you can take pictures of the

train going by. *Tripadvisor.com*

The Texas Jack Scout



VIRGINIA CITY OUTLAWS WILD WEST COMEDY SHOW

Enjoy a half hour of family fun and laughter watching our cowboys entertain you with gun spinning and whip cracking action, a genuine flashback to the old west.

Guaranteed to make you laugh (if you don't...we'll shoot ya!). virginiacityinn.com



MACKAY MANSION MUSEUM

The Mansion is a living museum where historical pieces are displayed and offered for sale. There are also a variety of unique gift items available, as well as fine art and Persian rugs. A tour of The Mackay Mansion Museum reveals many nuggets of Virginia City history. Perhaps the most fascinating is learning of a system of underground tunnels that once led from John Mackay's home to a number of businesses in town. Many say it is haunted.

Nevada-landmarks.com

There is always free time in our Roundup schedule. Virginia City is full of fun and interesting things to see and do on your own. Here are a few:

Mine tours <http://www.visitvirginiacitynv.com/attractions/popular-itineraries-aamp-tours/mines-aamp-mine-tours.html>

Stage coach rides (wild and rough) and Carriage rides
<http://www.visitvirginiacitynv.com/attractions/popular-itineraries-aamp-tours/stage-coach-ride-trolley-aamp-carriage-tours.html>


Peace Officers Museum <http://www.peaceofficersmuseum.org/>

Historic Fourth Ward School & Museum <http://fourthwardschool.org/>

St. Mary's Art Center <http://stmarysartcenter.org/>

Washoe Club Haunted Museum <http://www.thewashoeclub.com/>

Firemen's Museum <http://www.comstockfiremuseum.com/>

Marshall Mint <http://www.marshallmint.com/> 

The Texas Jack Scout



Airports:

Carson City Airport

14 miles to Virginia City
<http://flycarsoncity.com/>



Reno-Tahoe International Airport

22 miles to Virginia City
<http://www.renoairport.com/>



www.allegiantair.com
702-505-8888
www.allegiantair.com



800-435-9792
www.southwest.com



800-433-7300
www.aa.com



800-241-6522
www.united.com



800-221-1212
www.delta.com



800-428-4322
www.usairways.com



CAR RENTALS

Both airports:

Avis—Local #: 775-841-6758, Toll Free #: 1-800-230-4898
Enterprise—Local #: 775-883-7788, Toll Free #: 1-800-261-7331
Hertz—Local #: 775-841-8002, Toll Free #: 1-800-654-3131

Also at Reno:

Budget—800-527-0700
Dollar—800-800-3665
National—877-222-9058
Thrifty—800-847-4389



The Texas Jack Scout



**Texas Jack Association
2014 ROUNDUP
REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP FORMS
June 25-28, 2014 Virginia City, NV**

(Roundup participants should make their own Hotel reservations by April 15, 2014)

____ Adult(s) @ \$150.00/person = _____

____ Student(s) (13 yrs to college) @ \$130.00/person = _____

____ Children (5 yrs to 12) @ \$85.00/person = _____

____ Children (4 and under) free

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Email address: _____

*** Please print first and last names of all who will be attending so name tags can be made:**

The Texas Jack Scout



MEMBERSHIP

***NOTE:** All attendees must be current members of the TJA. If you are not a current member, please fill out the following:

_____ Individual Memberships in Texas Jack Association @ \$25/person = _____

_____ Family Memberships in Texas Jack Association @ \$40/family = _____

Names on membership:

_____ Junior memberships (under 18) in Texas Jack Association @ \$10/person = _____

_____ Senior membership in Texas Jack Association @ \$20/person = _____

Enclose a check payable to: **Texas Jack Association** for: TOTAL = _____

Please send completed forms and check to:

Rick Omohundro, Treasurer TJA
PO Box 91
Salt Lick, KY 40371

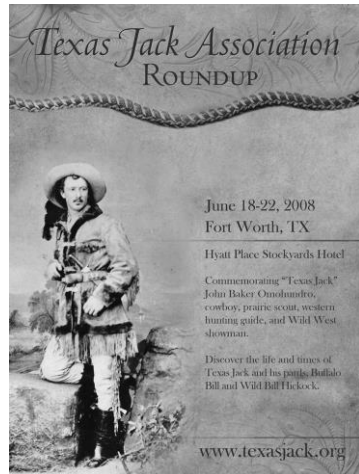
The Texas Jack Scout



TEXAS JACK GEAR FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND THE ROUNDUP



Posters \$15



2010 Roundup Poster Only \$5



tan ball caps



travel mugs - \$15



ceramic coffee mugs - \$15



Cream Sweatshirts - XXL, XL \$20

Cream T-shirts - Small - \$15

<

**White short sleeve polo
XXL, XL, L - \$20**



>

*Prices do not include shipping.

Please make check payable to **The Texas Jack Association** and mail to:
Mary Golladay 93 Coles Rolling Road Scottsville, VA 24590

The following is a CLASSIC from April 2003:

WHAT IF CUSTER HAD SURVIVED LITTLE BIG HORN?

Book Review:

The Court-Martial of George Armstrong Custer

by Douglas C. Jones

NY Scribners, 1976

By John Omohundro

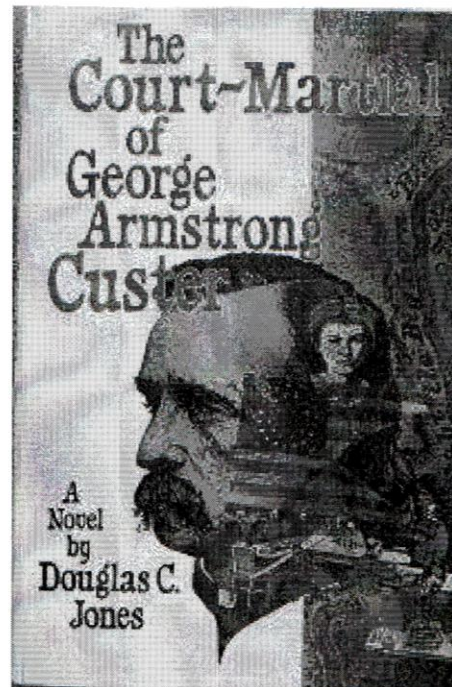
This is a novel of historical fiction, which supposes that General Custer did not die at the battle of Little Big Horn, and was brought to trial for disobeying orders. The author is recognized as a master of historical fiction, and is also the author of *Search for Temperance Moon*, *Barefoot Brigade*, *Winding Stair*, and thirteen other historical novels.

I don't care for trial novels, but was interested in the character of Custer; my beginning reading of history of plains revealed he was a flamboyant, uncontrollable character and that the Little Big Horn may have been due to his errors. What does examination of the evidence indicate? That's what this book attempts to uncover.

Custer's actions and character emerge vividly through the courtroom proceedings. Wisely, the author has kept Custer himself quiet in the novel except when he is called to testify. The author is not omniscient; we see the events only from the lawyers'—and briefly, General Sherman's—points of view. On the other hand, Elizabeth Custer looms large. Custer's relationship to his wife is extremely close and important to the plot, but frankly, quite strange.

I had expected something a tad corny but found the writing, characters, and courtroom action to be gripping. By the end you have had an in-depth look at the evidence for the tragedy and can decide for yourself who is culpable of what. The outcome is, I think, most reasonable.

The battle of Little Big Horn was in June of 1876, the same year that J.B. "Wild Bill" Hickok died. Our own Texas Jack was sent by the *New York Herald* as a dispatch carrier and reporter, to accompany the Cavalry and Army units on



The Court-Martial of George Armstrong Custer supposes that Custer survived the Battle of Little Big Horn and was subsequently put on trial

The Texas Jack Scout

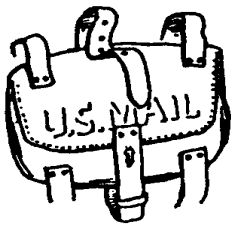


the march. Jack sent a dispatch that was published in the *Herald* in September on the Indian wars (*Buckskin and Satin* p. 142).

Trial judge advocate Major Asa B. Gardner is the Chief Prosecutor, under instructions from Phil Sheridan and William Tecumseh Sherman, at the behest of President Grant. He is 37, single, principled, disciplined, and determined.

The defense lawyer is Allan Jacobson, a cigar-chewing grandfather and civilian from Monroe Michigan, from a firm whose senior partner is Elizabeth Custer's father. His character is reminiscent of the earthy but brilliant Spencer Tracy/Clarence Darrow lawyer from *Inherit the Wind*.

The author, a retired military officer, was born and lives in Arkansas.



Notice there is no current correspondence. We would really like to hear from you. What is going on in your life, what you think of the articles, or ideas for the Guest Editors or for others who wish to contribute. Send correspondence (with permission to print) to Linda Omohundro, Secretary, whose address info is on page 18.



TJA Financial Report

7/1/13 through 11/30/13

Does not reflect income from January through June

12/5/13

Date	Description	Memo	Tag	Amount
INCOME				269.97
Donation				25.00
9/3/13	Richard E. Omohundro, Jr.	Memory of Dr. R. E. Omohundro		25.00
Dues				
7/9/13 to 10/28/13				244.97
EXPENSES				-374.22
Scout Printing & Mailing				-374.22
8/19/13	Corporate Copyright	July 2013 Issue	<u>Printing & Mailing</u>	<u>-374.22</u>
OVERALL TOTAL				-104.25

The Texas Jack Scout



IN THIS ISSUE...

Gunfighters, Outlaws and Lawmen of the Old West.....	1
Silas Omohundro.....	12
Who Are We Anyway?	13
Next <i>Scout</i> Information.....	18
Texas Jack Brisket Chili.....	19
The President's Message.....	20
It's Almost Here!	22
Travel Information.....	26
Registration, Membership Forms.....	27
Texas Jack Gear.....	29
Classic Article.....	30
Financial Report.....	31



The Texas Jack Scout

The Texas Jack Scout
1844 NE Parks Summit Blvd
Lee's Summit, MO 64064

TO: