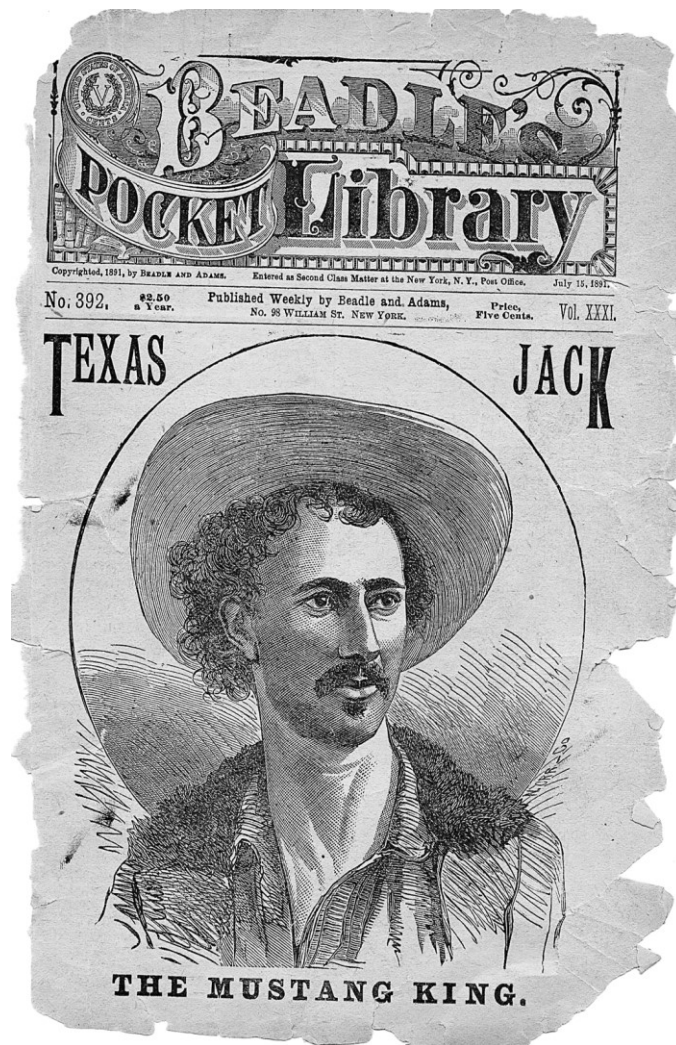




Volume XXXIV no. 2

www.texasjack.org

July 2019



Exploring a Treasure Trove of Old Documents

By Rand McKinney

I inherited several boxes of old photos, letters, and documents from my mother, Virginia Van Leu Omohundro. She was the youngest daughter of Malvern Hill Omohundro, Sr., who was the author of the *Omohundro Genealogical Record* (the “big book”) and the younger brother of Texas Jack. For many years these boxes sat in a closet, and I vowed to look through them “some day,” and with this issue of *The Scout* that day has finally come!

Continued on page 3

Cover of the Dime Novel: *Texas Jack, The Mustang King*



from the Editor's Desk...



As I was writing this issue and going through boxes of old letters, photos, and mementos I started thinking about the upcoming TJA Roundup in Chicago, next summer. Then I thought back on the very first Roundup, back in 1980, in Leadville, CO, held on the centennial of Texas Jack's death in that city. I was only eighteen years old at the time, and I enjoyed learning about Texas Jack, his life and times, and experiencing Leadville. I went with my mother. My uncle, M.H. Omohundro, Jr., was there, along with his wife Libbey, Frank and Mary Margaret Sullivan, Dennis and Julie Greene, and many others. It was to be the first Roundup among many that I was to attend over the years. I don't think the founders of the Association would have dared to dream (though of course they would be pleased) that the Association would be going strong forty years later!

As we approach the fortieth anniversary of the Association, we can look back with pride on what we as a group have done to preserve and promote the memory of Jack and "rectify an oversight of history" (as an early TJA brochure put it). We can also reflect on many enjoyable times spent with friends and family at Roundups, visiting interesting places across the nation, and just having some good old-fashioned fun!

Looking back, it seems like the world has changed almost as much since 1980 as it did in the prior century since Texas Jack's death. In 1980, there was essentially no internet, no cell phones, and the world was still in the grips of a cold war. As Alvin Toffler observed in *Future Shock*, not only are things changing, but the pace of change is accelerating. It's probably a truism to say that the Association must adapt if it is to survive the next forty (or even ten) years, but it's important to recognize nevertheless. What that really means isn't exactly clear, but without a doubt it means that the younger generation must pick up the torch at some point. So ultimately, it's up to them. Perhaps *The Scout* will become an entirely online publication (as so many print publications have in the last decade). Perhaps we'll have "virtual" Roundups. Who knows! It seems certain that the TJA as we know it will change to some extent as we move into the future.

It's worthwhile to recognize that Texas Jack adapted to *his* changing times: during wartime, as a boy, he used his riding and tracking skills as a messenger and scout; when opportunity presented itself in Texas after the war, he drove cattle; when he discovered the Great Plains he used his skills and knowledge to make a living as a scout and hunting guide; when the frontier began to disappear he leveraged his fame on the stage. We can take a page out of Jack's book--We should start to have a discussion about how our Association is going to adapt, survive, and thrive as we move into our fifth decade.

Rand McKinney, Guest Editor

The Texas Jack Scout

Vol. XXXIV, no.2

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: Larry Tyree, Lees Summit, MO
V. President: Rob Omohundro, Modesto, CA
Secretary: Melisa Brown, Nipomo, CA
Treasurer: Rick Omohundro, Salt Lick, KY
Director: Carole Brown, Nipomo, CA

Scout Editors: (current issue): Production Mgr. – Larry Tyree, Guest – Rand McKinney, Layout – Linda Omohundro

Founder: Frank Sullivan, Springfield, IL
First Chairman: Malvern H. Omohundro, Jr., Richmond, VA

Honorary Members

Julie Greene, Carmel, CA
Mario Morlacchi, Milano, Italy

Past Honorary Members

Edna Nees, Scottsville, VA
Dennis Greene, Carmel, CA
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



There are many interesting items in the boxes, including some pages from a Dime Novel about Texas Jack (page 1).

One unusual item is an old scrapbook, consisting of many old newspaper clippings going back to the late 1860s, pasted on top of what appears to be a used account book. I discovered that this scrapbook is mentioned in the Omohundro Genealogical Record, in the following passage:

"Here at 'Brightly' we have a trunk that belonged to my mother, Margaret A. Shores Omohundro [*TJ's father's second wife* - ed.] Its contents are varied; among the things dear to her heart are two scrapbooks that were many years in the making. Their arrangement you might call 'the crazy quilt pattern,' for she seems to have pasted in each article that appealed to her as she read it." Unfortunately, the book is in very bad condition, and much of it has been soaked in what seems to be candle wax. However, there are a few items that are of interest.

There is an undated newspaper clipping that I determined came from a Philadelphia newspaper about a dinner that Texas Jack gave in 1876-77 [1]. I discovered that part of this newspaper article is included in both *Omohundro Genealogical Record* and *Buckskin and Satin*. I have transcribed the entire article below. Unfortunately, the end of the article is missing from the scrapbook, so we are left to speculate on most of what Mr. Burke said.

Texas Jack's Feast*

Grand Antelope dinner—speech by Arizona John

On last Saturday evening a festive party sat down to a superb antelope dinner given by Texas Jack, the well-known Western scout and husband of Morlacchi, the celebrated danseuse, at Nash's restaurant, Chestnut street below Eleventh. Among those present were Mr. C. Hart, of the *New York Herald*; Mr. Taylor, of the *New York Graphite*; John W. Forney, Jr., and Mr. Donnelly, of the Press; R. Merrill, of the Times; John F. Wallis, of the *Saturday Evening Mirror*; John M. Burke ("Arizona John") [2], W. H. Wallis, of the Arch-street Theatre; and Messrs. Sam'l C. Dubois, Hensler, Wm. Haines, clerk to Mayor Stokely [3], Clayton Erb and James Lafferty.

The dinner was given by Texas Jack in commemoration of his return from a hunting expedition to the wilds of the Far West, where he had been as guide to Sir John Reid [4] and a party of English sportsmen. The trip was exceedingly successful, and after taking Sir John's trophies of the hunt to New York for shipment to England, Texas Jack returned to this city bringing with him a fine antelope and a magnificent deer which formed the staple of last Saturday evening's dinner.

That excellent host, Steve Nash, did everything to make things pass off pleasantly, and thanks to the incomparable skill of Elijah Russell, formerly cook at the Hunters' Home at the Centennial Grounds, who served the eatables up in splendid style, the bill of fare was

The Texas Jack Scout



superb. After the various delicacies had been amply discussed, Mr. S.C. Dubois toasted Texas Jack, who arose and said that not feeling in the best possible health, his friend “Arizona John” had kindly consented to reply for him, whereupon Mr. Burke proceeded to deliver the following speech:

Gentlemen: As Jack’s innate modesty prevents him making any extended remarks, I feel constrained, on his behalf and by his request to speak for him, and disabuse the minds of those present from prevalent false ideas, and offer as an excuse for my remarks....

NOTES

1. Library of Congress Online (Chronicling America)

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83016348/1877-04-28/ed-1/seq-4/>

2. John M. Burke (1842 – April 12, 1917), also known as "Arizona John" was a publicist, manager, and press agent for Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show from 1883 until Cody's death 1917. In 1877, he was a part of the 'Texas Jack Combination'.

3. William Strumberg Stokley served as the mayor of Philadelphia from 1872 to 1881.

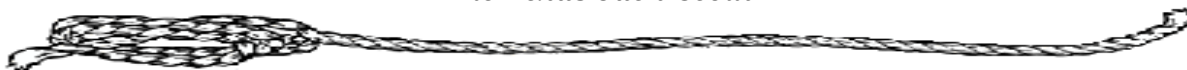
4. I believe this is Sir John Rae Reid (1841–1885), 3rd baronet of Ewell Grove, who was known to be an avid hunter. See <http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/ReidFamily.html>.

More on the Reid Expedition

Reading this article made me curious about the hunting expedition with Sir John Reid. I found a very interesting article in the online Library of Congress archive from *The Cecil Whig* (Elkton, Md.), April 28, 1877, apparently reprinted from another publication, “Rod and Gun.”

What struck me is that the hunt occurred in Oct, 1876, just four months after “Custer’s Last Stand” at the Battle of Little Big Horn (June, 1876). Although the article says they were hunting, on the Sioux Indian reservation, it seems they were a long way from the official “Great Sioux Reservation” established in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 in present-day South Dakota. However, the Sioux reserved the right to hunt and travel in "unceded" territory and that is probably what the article refers to. In retrospect, we can see that the Indians were the ones who should have been afraid, as they were soon to be utterly decimated, but at that time they were still a force to be reckoned with, and the Sioux in particular were feared.





Hunting the Elk

The Cecil Whig. (Elkton, Md.), April 28, 1877

In the early days of October Sir John Ray Reid and his cousin, Mr. Chas. Eaton, accompanied by a gamekeeper, arrived at New York with the intention of setting out on a hunting excursion in the wild Indian country of the West. Securing the service of "Texas Jack," whose hunting exploits and Indian adventures are so well known throughout the country, the party left New York and proceeded to Rawlins. Wy., where they were joined by Tom Sun, better known in the West as "Indian Tom," an old hunter and a well-known Indian fighter. At Rawlins, the hunting outfit was rigged out, and consisted of a wagon, pack mules and saddle ponies, in all about eighteen head of stock. The hunting party had by this time increased to seven people—Sir John Ray Reid, Mr. Charles Eaton, "Texas Jack," "Indian Tom," the gamekeeper Robert and two assistants. The intention was to move into the heart of the Sioux reservation, where it was reported there were elk in abundance. At Fort Steele some of the officers attempted to dissuade the party from the undertaking on account of the hostility of the Indians amid the dangers they would necessarily incur from so perilous an undertaking. The chance of getting scalped did not, however, bull doze the hunters, and they resolved to continue their journey. Seeing them resolved to carry out their programme, Lieut. Keefe, commanding officer at Fort Steele, gave Sir John and his followers all the information and assistance in his power to make the hunt successful. "Texas Jack," who had been through the country only a short time previous, felt satisfied they would encounter no Indians, as he had seen many of the lodges cross the frontier on the approach of Winter.

About sixty miles north of Rawlins, the hunting party struck elk by the thousands, large herds of black-tailed deer and mountain sheep in plenty. Moving north, the party remained along the tributaries of the North Platte river for about three weeks. They came across one herd of elk numbering about 3,000 head and followed them for seven or eight miles. During the run they secured several pair of fine antlers. At one time the herd was driven into camp, and in the confusion and excitement the mules became frightened and nearly stampeded. As much meat as was required was secured from this herd. The party continued still farther north during the latter part of November and had magnificent hunting. Early in December, they changed their course west, struck the Sweet Water, and proceeded along its banks and finally pitched permanent camp near old Independence Rock in Devil Gate country. Here the hunting proved to be exceptionally fine, including elk in abundance and mountain sheep and black-tailed deer in immense quantities.

During the stay in the locality a dozen pair of as fine antlers as have ever fallen to the lot of sportsmen to secure were obtained. Sir John Reid was so well pleased with the prize

The Texas Jack Scout



that these were forwarded to Omaha and sent on to New York for shipment to England. Some of these antlers measure from the base of the skull to the tip over five feet, and will measure in width about four feet. The finest specimen was taken from a fine old buck, killed on Christmas by Sir John himself on one of the highest peaks of the Sweet Water Range. When the carcass was drawn into camp there was great merrymaking, and the Christmas festivities were celebrated with increased enthusiasm. There was no wanton slaughter of game in any respect. The best specimens were singled out and followed, and after the camp was supplied with elk, deer and mountain sheep meat, and Fort-Steele furnished with an ample supply, the balance was forwarded to Omaha, where it was sold at from eight to ten cents per pound to the poor, while Texan beef was bringing twenty and twenty-five cents.

The temperature during the hunt and up to Christmas ranged about zero; shortly after, it began to grow colder and colder until twenty-five degrees below zero was reached. Snow also began to fall heavily, and on the 27th of December the party broke camp and started homeward, passing through Sand Creek, one of the most enterprising mining camps of the West, and reached Rawlins on New Year's Eve. Here the party separated. Sir John Reid and Mr. Eaton continuing their journey across the continent to San Francisco, en route to India, "Indian Jack" repairing to his old Indian haunts, and "Texas Jack" proceeding to New York with the trophies of the hunt secured in the interior of Sioux country.

Texas Jack Grave Site

The boxes contained several items related to Texas Jack's grave site in Leadville, CO. The following newspaper clipping is from the *New York World*, Aug 10, 1887. It's noteworthy that even seven years after his death, Texas Jack was still remembered and written about in newspapers. The article describes Jack's original tombstone, which Buffalo Bill replaced and upgraded in 1908. Note also that the original marker gave Jack's age at his death as 39, while in fact he was 33.

TEXAS JACK'S GRAVE

The Tombstone Above It Would Have Suited Him to a Dot.

LEADVILLE, July 30. — While Buffalo Bill is raising such a furor in England, and while the Britishers, from the royal Prince down to the meanest costermonger, and doing the Wild West Show with vigor, there are few here who recall that other great cowboy of the footlights as well as the foothills, and many a visit has been paid to one quaintly marked grave in the gravelly burying ground of the far-up city. The grave is that of Texas Jack.

The Texas Jack Scout

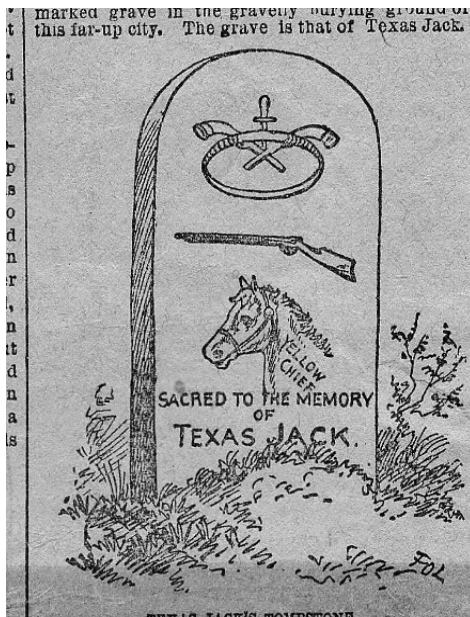


TEXAS JACK'S TOMBSTONE


He had many points in common with his fellow-showman from the plains. They both took seats in the local legislatures, and both tacked the prefix "Hon." to their common everyday legal names. They both were known the country over by their cowboy nicknames, and they were the twin deities to the small boy with an Indian-killing weakness.

In some respects the Hon. J.B. Omohundro was a better stage subject than the Hon. William Cody. He could rage, and filled out a border drama in fine style. He came East, and met Morlacchi, the famous dancer. It was a love match between the rough-and-ready dashing buckrider and the Italian woman trained in the school of La Scala. She little dreamed that she was to meet her fate when she came as the queen of the ballet to fill engagements in this country. The two loved, the gallant border swain and the warm-blooded dark-eyed Italian sylph. They married and could not enjoy each other's society enough. It was while filling an engagement in this pneumonia city that Texas Jack went the way of a majority of the 3,300 who lie about him, and he succumbed to the dread lung trouble.

His grave slab would have suited his ideas to a dot. There is the cartridge belt, with bowie-knife and guns; below, his Winchester. Then a portrait of his pony, Yellow Chief, duly labelled, and finally a few words of the famous man who rests so quietly below:



Sacred to the Memory
Of
TEXAS JACK
(J. B. OMOHUNDRO)
Died June 28, 1880
39, Pneumonia

Morlacchi respected his memory greatly, and showed her feelings by making a permanent retirement from the stage. Alive, Buffalo Bill is giving England a genuine sensation. Dead, his associate, Texas Jack, finds a grave in one of the historic cemeteries of the country, far skyward in the rich soil of his favorite Colorado. 



In Memoriam



Edna A. Nees

Edna Arline (Napier) Nees, 81, of Scottsville, passed away on Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at her home.

Edna was born on December 27, 1937, in Fluvanna County, VA, a daughter of the late Robert Lewis and Emma Pauline (Davis) Napier.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, John Nees.

Survivors include two daughters: Edna "Marie" Nees Banton and husband, Steven and Mary Sharon Nees Golladay and husband, Randolph; three grandchildren: Jessica Golladay Fulford and husband, Robert, Joshua Glenn Golladay and wife, Whitney, and Meghan Elizabeth Banton; and four great-grandchildren: Cody Wayne Fulford, Kadie Lynn Fulford, Lauryn Nicole Golladay, and Jacob "Jett" Golladay.

A graveside service was conducted on Sunday, April 14, 2019, at the Scottsville Cemetery with her son-in-law the Reverend Randy Golladay officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Hospice of the Piedmont, 675 Peter Jefferson Parkway, Suite 300, Charlottesville, Virginia 22911; or Fox Memorial Baptist Church, PO Box 787, Scottsville, Virginia 24590.

Family and friends may share memories and photos at www.thackerbrothers.com.



The Texas Jack Scout



Edna's first involvement with the Texas Jack Association was as co-organizer, with Angela Wyche and Franklin Phillips, of the 1988 Richmond Rally. Edna planned the details of the visit to Fluvanna which included placing a marker at Texas Jack's birth site; coordinating with the Fluvanna Historical Society to provide a luncheon for Rally attendees; and loaning family items for a special Texas Jack exhibit by the Historical Society at the local Stone Jail Museum. The highlight of the exhibit was the Bible in which Jack's birth is recorded. This precious heirloom was inherited by Edna's husband John, a grandson of Texas Jack's sister Arabella Adelaide Omohundro Nees. Another opportunity to see the Bible at the museum was part of the itinerary of the 2004 Charlottesville Roundup.

The Texas Jack Association is deeply appreciative of the many ways in which Edna gave of her time, energy, skill, and knowledge. She never missed a Roundup until her health prevented her from traveling. Following are remembrances of Edna sent by John Omohundro of Saranac Lake, NY and Kitty Wyche Pelkan of Seattle, WA:

I (John Omohundro) had the pleasure of being Edna's and John's house guest for a while in the summer of 1990 while helping set up the archaeology dig for our college when we excavated the Omohundro homestead in Fork Union, VA.

My wife Susan and I already had the impression from meeting her the previous summer that Edna was a spark plug that we were lucky to enlist in the Omohundro project. Edna helped us recruit cousin RC Omohundro and others to prep the grounds for the dig. She also introduced me to other residents whom I could interview about Fluvanna County history.

John and Edna would take Susan and me for delightful evening drives to survey the countryside. She was also a fine cook! I really enjoyed her stories about her life and younger days. Edna enlisted me to help her edit her writing of the John Burwell branch of the Omohundro genealogy.

Because of our friendship with Edna we became active in the Texas Jack Association, where we saw Edna's amazing energies at work again. For many years, Edna WAS the TJA engine, helping plan the Roundups, organizing the paraphernalia for sale, and keeping the records. I understood she did it as a memorial to John, but she also sensed that no one else had her drive to keep things going.



Memories from Kitty Wyche Pelkan

I have lots of memories of Edna, going back to the 1988 Richmond Rally, but I'll mention just three. First, Edna always arrived at the Roundups a day or so early and thus was the person who handled the welcome table. She loved greeting all the participants and finding out whether their connection to Texas Jack was a genealogical link or an interest in history.

The Texas Jack Scout



"Miss Edna" with (l-r) Charles Curtis, Richard Bond Omohundro, Dennis Greene, and Rick Omohundro

Edna was always dressed modestly, and she had a rather matter-of-fact manner, so it was a jaw-dropping sight when, at the 2002 Deadwood Roundup, she appeared in an outdoor reenactment of 1890s town life dressed, in a vintage frock and hat, as the flirtatious and buxom "Miss Edna." She thoroughly got into her role, delighting and astonishing everyone.



l-Relaxing in the popular red rocking chairs in front of the Franklin Hotel in Deadwood, SD are (front row) Edna Nees, center, with Jane and Jack Omohundro on either side; (back row, l-r) Martha Sullivan; Joyce and Richard Bond Omohundro

r-Edna Nees and Gus de la Houssaye welcome registrants to the Deadwood Roundup. On the table are Texas Jack memorabilia and copies of Edna's genealogy book for sale.

Then, at the 2012 Scottsville Roundup, at the gala cookout held at the Nees farm, Edna again surprised us all, this time by participating in a shooting demonstration that showed how quick on the draw she was, with a very accurate aim. Dear Edna! I do believe she is quite busy in heaven, happily organizing everyone, sorting out their genealogy.





THE LEGENDARY MARSHAL BO February 2013

By: Driftin' AaronG

*If you happen to be out in the Arizona desert or anywhere else you might go
And if you're an outlaw gunfighter you should always shy away,
'cause you just might run into Marshal Bo*

*Now young Marshal Bo, he came out of the West
Wanting only to be a lawman and fill his dream in a lifelong quest*

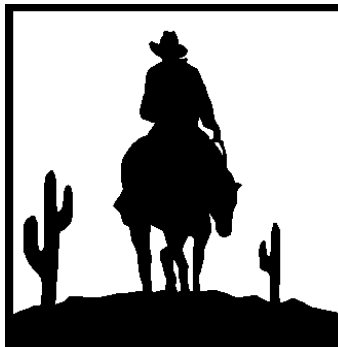
*Young he was when he first pinned on the shiny new star
To do his duty and protect his town and never stray away very far*

*He organized the Marshal Bo Gunslingers who became his posse when in need
To serve justice to the outlaws of ever' brand when he swore the oath that
became his creed*

*As the years went by his lawful fame grew
Across the desert sand the enemies he slew*

*From all the law-abidin' folks over the years he stood as a man at their side
The lawman that took the oath with great honor and pride*

*So when folks sit around on their porch on a warm sunny day
You can hear the stories of the legendary Marshal Bo, as he mounts his steed
and rides away.*





William Henry Jackson, Yellowstone Photographer

By John Thomas Omohundro

Born just three years before John B. “Texas Jack” Omohundro, Jackson traveled many of the same paths that John did: Civil War service, time in Nebraska, visits among the prairie Indians, adventures in Yellowstone, and a trip to Leadville. One major difference: Jackson lived to the ripe old age of 98— remaining professionally active most of that time. And he wrote his autobiography, *Time Exposure* (Patrice Press, Tucson AZ, 1994), which provided me with the information for this profile.

Jackson’s book was reviewed in our local newspaper, because he was born in the next county, in far northern New York, and spent his youth in northern Vermont, just a few hours to the east of me. Mention of his role in the U.S. Geological Survey to Yellowstone in 1871, just a year before Texas Jack and Buffalo Bill guided Lord Dunraven there on a big game hunt, inspired me to read his book.

An interest in art

William was born in 1843 in Keeseville, in the far north of New York, to a father who enjoyed photography and a mother who taught him to paint. At age 15 he apprenticed himself to a photographer in Troy, central New York (near Albany). In 1862 he enlisted in the 12th Vermont Volunteers and was sent to Virginia, where his skill at sketching was useful to his officers. His unit spent most of their deployment defending Washington. His term ended in 1864, and he did not reenlist, returning instead to Rutland, Vermont, to work at hand-tinting photographs and seeking commissions for oil portraits. News of his skill reached Burlington, where a larger gallery offered him steady employment at a decent salary.

Lighting Out for the Territory

While in Burlington, William became engaged, but a lovers’ tiff broke the vows, and he left town with some buddies. They worked their way to the Midwest on the promise of steady work with a relative. The promise wasn’t kept, so they ended up broke on the streets of Detroit for a few weeks until Jackson acquired an art student, who paid their bills to entrain for Illinois and ultimately, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Bullwhacking

In St. Joseph the buddies found work as bullwhackers, earning \$20 a month moving a train of 25 freight wagons to Montana, 1300 miles away over dry, rough prairie and through cold rivers. Each four-ton wagon was pulled by 12 oxen, strong but slow (and less attractive to Indian raiders). The train traveled about 14 miles in an average day. The daily grub never varied: bread, bacon, and coffee.

Before reaching Montana, William abandoned the bushwhackers to hire on with a wagon train of Mormons heading to Salt Lake City, a destination he was eager to reach. In Salt Lake City, he helped build barns and watermills. He also signed on to drive a mule train of freight wagons to California; the pace was slow enough that he had ample time to sketch the land that he

The Texas Jack Scout



passed through. Through the winter of 1866-67 he worked on California's ranches, avoiding the siren's song of gold mining.

Next he hired on to drive 200 horses from California back through Salt Lake City to Cheyenne. Horse driving was more dangerous, because Indians and rustlers coveted the animals, so the drivers were constantly on the lookout for thieves and ambushes. In Cheyenne the horses were loaded onto railcars for Omaha, and the drivers accompanied them.

An Omaha Studio

In Omaha William returned to his career in a photography studio, eventually buying out his employer and bringing his brother Ed in from Vermont. This permitted him to venture onto the prairie to photograph Otoes, Osages, Pawnees and Winnebagos for sale to Easterners avid for images of Indians that couldn't yet be produced in their newspapers and magazines. He used the wet-plate technique, which requires last-minute application of a colloid to the negative before shooting; his gear included an entire dark room mounted on a buggy chassis.

Texas Jack was also in Nebraska at that time. In 1869 he passed through Cottonwood Springs driving a herd of longhorn cattle. Ena Raymonde's Medicine Creek journals from southwestern Nebraska mention Texas Jack often. Both Omohundro and Jackson sensed that Nebraska was a booming place, partly for the complex Indian problems, the scouting and guiding opportunities, and the approach of the transcontinental railroad.

Picking up on the national buzz about transcontinental railroading, Jackson invested wisely in photographing the railroad and the scenery it provided for riders. The stereoscope was all the fashion, so he hired out to make stereo-photographs for railroad promoters.

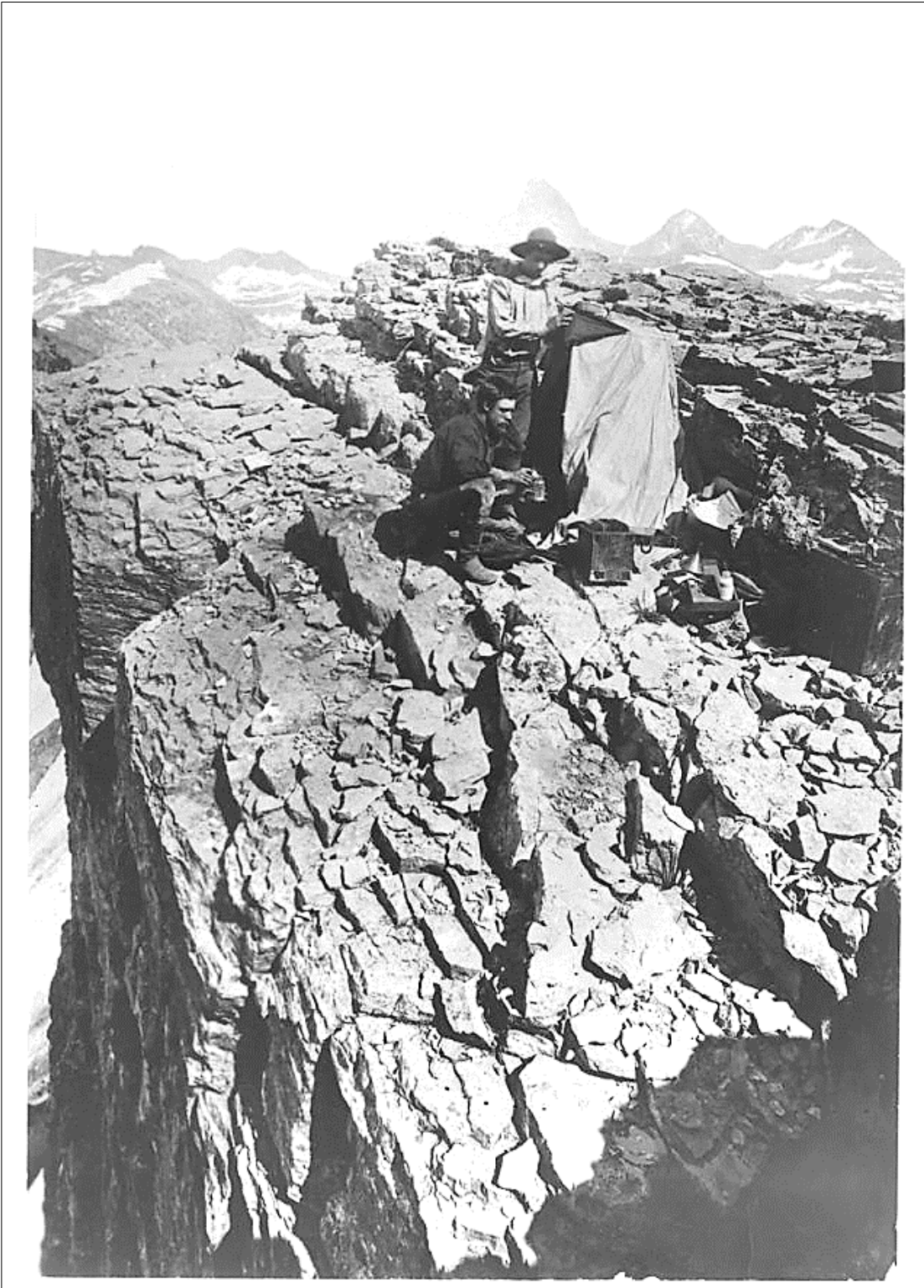
He married in 1869, but his wife died in childbirth in 1872.

The U S Geological Survey

In Omaha Dr. Ferdinand Vandever Hayden, head of the U. S. Geological Survey, admired William's work and so engaged him to join the next survey to the west in 1870. The party of twenty included a meteorologist, ethnologist, entomologist, the artist Henry W. Elliott, the painter Sanford Robertson Gifford, and several teamsters to handle the freight. The Survey's first outing was a two-month expedition to the Uinta Mountains in northern Utah and Pikes Peak in Colorado. Jackson brought 300 pounds of photographic gear, still working with the cumbersome wet-plate method and slow shutter speeds.

Upon his return to Omaha, he was impressed at how enthusiastically his clients bought images of these new lands. Hayden hadn't offered him a salary, so William had to recoup his lost time by selling western prints, but it paid well. So when Hayden asked him to return with the 1871 Survey to Yellowstone, this time with a salary and the company of Thomas Moran, the painter, he quickly agreed. They traveled by mules, in the company of a small detachment of cavalry and a party of engineers, on a 40-day trek.

Jackson took what was probably the first photographs of the Yellowstone region. The other two photographers on the trip either lost their plates or never publicized them. Photographing waterfalls, Jackson would ease his gear to the base, set up his tripod, climb out of the chasm again to his dark room buggy, coat his plates, wrap them in a wet towel, and then scramble back down to his camera. He also took his heavy gear out onto Yellowstone Lake in a wobbly inflatable boat. His photos were used in Washington in the successful push to have Yellowstone declared a national park in 1872.



William Henry Jackson and assistant setting up camera in Yellowstone in 1870s. Library of Congress.

The Texas Jack Scout



Jackson's photo of Hot Spring in Yellowstone Lake, 1871. Library of Congress.



Jackson's photo of Yellowstone Falls from the 1871 survey. Jackson believed the best image of the falls was this painting by Thomas Moran (inset), now at the Department of Interior Museum. Library of Congress.

The Texas Jack Scout



Jackson took his bulky photographic gear onto Yellowstone Lake in this small boat.

Jackson then joined James Stevenson's Geological Survey to the Tetons, bringing a larger format camera supported by an entire "dark tent." He also accompanied James T. Gardner on the Third Survey, in 1873, to the Colorado Rockies. This time he was dispatched on his own itinerary, with two assistants, a cook, and six mules. He climbed some of the 14,000 footers. Once, his mule threw its baggage and many exposed plates were destroyed. He turned back and shot all the lost plates again.

Commercial Photographer

At the end of the Third Survey, Jackson remarried to Emilie Painter in Baltimore, and settled in Washington D.C. The panic of 1873 had a dampening effect on government support of the surveys. But he returned to Colorado in 1874 on some government funds, leading a crew of seven, to explore the San Juan Mountains. That year Texas Jack was back in Yellowstone on a big game hunt with Ireland's Lord Dunraven. In Colorado, Jackson also attempted to photograph individuals of the Uncompahgre Ute tribe, but its shaman declared photography bad for health, so he was rebuffed after just a few images of the chiefs Ouray and Tusk-a-qui-not.



Buckskin Charlie, sub chief of the Utes, photographed by Jackson in the 1870s and colorized as a postcard when he worked for Detroit Photochrom in 1899.

His party carried on to Mesa Verde, where they were among the first non-natives to visit and the first to bring back photographs. When Dr. Hayden arranged for Jackson to return to Mesa Verde in 1875, Jackson, always with an eye out for new technology, took an immense camera that exposed a 20 x 24-inch plate (page 20). He was joined by an archaeological unit to study the ruins. They visited the Navajo and a few of the Pueblos, such as the Tewa, and Jackson took many photos there. In eastern Utah the party narrowly averted a raid by a group of Ute warriors.



Jackson's photographs of the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde, in southern Colorado, were the earliest. Park status didn't come until 1906.

The 1876 Centennial Exposition

Back in Washington, Jackson prepared his western photos for a show at the Philadelphia Centennial. He was also commissioned to create a large 3-D diorama (of Mesa Verde, I suspect), with plaster figures and his painting for backdrop. He found the time to invent a panorama camera that could take 360-degree images. After the Centennial, Jackson returned for more photographs in New Mexico, but the 400 images he shot were all failures. He had put his faith in the new dry film, a much lighter technology which permitted him to carry all his gear on his back, but he concluded that he had left too much time between exposure and development.

Denver Businessman

Dr. Hayden sent Jackson on one final government expedition, to the Wind River Mountains and Jackson Hole, Wyoming, in 1879. Then Jackson set up commercial shop in Denver. He took a trip to Leadville in 1879 to meet Tabor, the wealthy owner of the Little Pittsburgh silver mine and a benefactor of the town. Among other contributions, Tabor build the Tabor Theater, where Texas Jack performed the next year. I wonder if Jackson and Omohundro met? If they had, Jackson would probably have taken the handsome scout's photo.

Regrettably, Texas Jack was just a memory after 1880, but Jackson remained in Denver twelve years, profiting greatly from work with the railroads, which bought his images of the West and sent him on the trains to shoot more. His photos of the Grand Canyon in 1883 were among the first. He eventually was assigned a private railroad car with dark room for these travels. His car carried him throughout the U. S. and Canada.

The Texas Jack Scout

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad engaged Jackson to shoot publicity images for the Chicago Exposition of 1893. While he was in Chicago supervising his exhibit, the organizers enlisted him to shoot photos of the entire fair for their report to their investors. Meanwhile, Buffalo Bill had set up his Wild West Show next door to the exhibition on the shores of Lake Michigan and was selling out daily.

The World Transportation Commission

Soon after Chicago, Jackson was invited by Joseph Pangborn, a journalist turned railroad promoter, to join a privately-funded round-the-world tour of foreign railroads. Jackson accepted, but discovered at the last moment that there was no salary. Rather than lose face by withdrawing, he rushed to New York and arranged a contract with *Harper's Weekly* to provide photos of the commission's travels.

The five-man commission traveled through North Africa to India, Ceylon, Singapore, Bangkok, Australia, and Korea, traveling on trains as much as possible. Jackson soon realized that no real work was getting done, but the hospitality of the host countries was first-class. Much of his diary reports on the sumptuous meals they were served and the sights they were taken to visit.

By the beginning of the second year (1895) the commission was in Vladivostok, on the Pacific coast of Siberia, apparently pinned down by winter. But it accepted an offer to travel on the frozen Amur River west to the start of the Trans-Siberian Railway. The journey was undertaken in open sledges each pulled by three horses. The group was in transit for forty days, often at 20 degrees below zero F., and covered 3,000 miles. Jackson took time to visit a Mongolian village and a Manchurian one.



Jackson (front row, left) and the commission members about to board the Darjeeling train, north India, 1894. Library of Congress.

The Texas Jack Scout



Photography Evolves in Denver

The commission returned to the U. S. in early 1896, and Jackson hurried to his family in Denver. Technological improvements in printing were beginning to impact the profitability of a photo studio. Photos could be reproduced in newspapers and magazines, reducing the demand for his more expensive prints.

He took to the lecture circuit as a way to supplement his income. He sold his gallery to Photochrom, a large Detroit publishing firm, then hired on with them. Detroit sent him west again, to the Black Hills in 1898, then widely across America until 1902. He even spent some time shooting photos in the Adirondack Mountains, my neighborhood here in northern New York.

Not the Retiring Sort

Jackson “retired” from Photochrom in 1909 but continued traveling and photographing for pleasure with his wife Emilie. She died in 1918. He moved to Washington D.C. to organize his massive photo collection for the government, then to New York City in 1929. However, he wasn’t ready to sit on the park bench yet; at the tender age of 85 he was hired as the Research Secretary of the Oregon Trail Society, with a salary and travel duties. In addition, he was commissioned in 1935 by the Department of the Interior to paint murals of the early Geological Surveys of which he’d been a member. He donated his 40,000 photographic plates to the Ford Museum in Dearborn and took a trip in his nineties to revisit his roots near us here in Northern New York. He died at age 98 in 1941.

If this man’s active life hasn’t worn you out just reading about it, you haven’t been paying attention! Had Texas Jack also lived to old age, imagine the various careers he might have explored. Also, there might be a few people alive today who remember meeting Texas Jack, as there are for William Henry Jackson. Jackson’s long career brings me a little closer to Texas Jack’s life and times. 🦮



“Packing the 20 x 24 camera on ‘Old Mare’ Hayden Survey, 1875” <https://photos.com>



The President's
MESSAGE

Texas Jack and Buffalo Bill were certainly creatures of their time and lived in accordance with the need to stay alive, defend themselves and others, and live off of the land, yet also find fame and fortune. They had an appreciation for the Western Frontier and what it meant to the many creatures and peoples that lived there. To be fair, Jack and Bill also did their share of destruction. Toward the last few decades of his life, Buffalo Bill demonstrated his concern about how quickly the West was being carved up by civilization. He did so in the Wild West Shows, allowing the public to see a way of life that certainly was real, but fading. He foresaw a time when bison would be scarce, when a way of life for the Native American tribes would erode, or even be taken from them. All over the United States and in many countries around the world people were mesmerized by the spectacles.

In a little less than a year, the 2020 Roundup in Chicago will be a memory. We will be privy to seeing where it all began on stage with Texas Jack, Buffalo Bill, and Giuseppina Morlacchi. We will gain an

appreciation for the pinnacle of Cody's career as a showman evidenced at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair next to which his Wild West Show operated on neighboring property.

Chicago style pizza will be one of our destinations as well. It has



nothing whatsoever to do with Texas Jack, though I rather imagine he would like the stuff. There are several styles that were developed in Chicago, but the most famous is deep-dish pizza. We will glean new information about the city of Chicago itself while there.

NOTE: We are close but not quite ready with past *Scouts* being made available online. I will send an email with instructions to members when we are completely ready.

Larry Tyree
President

Next Texas Jack Scout Information

The deadline for the November 2019 issue of the *Scout* is November 1, 2019. Please send ideas and materials to our Guest Editor:

Karl Pelkan
kpelkan@seanet.com
6021 37th Avenue SW
Seattle, WA 98126

Thank you, Karl!



The Buffalo Bill Museum, LeClaire, Iowa

One of the many reasons for the 2020 Roundup being in Chicago is its proximity to LeClaire, Iowa, which has the Buffalo Bill Museum, recommended by TJA members, Jean and Michael King. We will be going to tour this amazing tribute to the Wild West and Buffalo Bill during the Roundup. Here are glimpses of what others have said about it from tripadvisor.com:

Quaint and interesting-Small museum with information on river, local area and the man himself (his birthplace). Comes under the quaint and interesting banner - and a good choice if anywhere in the area.

Surprisingly lots to see!-We went on a whim and really enjoyed seeing all of the local history and interesting things to look at. The steamboat was the highlight for us.

Getting to Know Buffalo Bill-The Buffalo Bill Cody Museum is small, but there is a lot packed into it. We learned about his life before his famed rodeo shows. Quite the outdoorsman! We enjoyed seeing a one-room schoolhouse of his era, as well as clothes and household items.

Cute place-The museum was small, but full of great history. Walking on the riverboat was interesting, and informative.

Unexpected surprise!!!!-The museum had so many interesting displays and was well laid-out. Such a surprise that they had an original, BIG, paddleboat inside the building that you could board and explore! Would HIGHLY recommend to history enthusiasts!



CHICAGO ROUNDUP



N O I T A I C O S S A N E E P B H I D K
 A R G V T E G D Y R I N I L C I E U C R
 M Q E A I A G O M K U R A T S V N A A A
 S E B T C R B A S J I I P T E R J D T W
 K O C I N W G K T A N P O R A X R E T L
 R Y H N O U C I R S L R G V O H A N L I
 A C P C A U H P N E Y R I S Y U W S E V
 M O L S B D E A A I E N N J O H N O M I
 D O V E E Y E S N E A I B B F J P D P C
 E N I L T N U B N I A N A C N A C M U Y
 D A T F O R T S F T P K T U O C S O Y P
 V I T S E W I B N C E P M C R M R R F R
 E Y M H S I F U G R I L E A D V I L L E
 E R I E J C O L O R A D O S N L F A U B
 Y L I M N M S I O N I L L I U L L C V A
 L A L A U O K B U F F A L O H I E C A N
 A V Z I L S V S N A I D N I O B G H N Q
 T A E Z V C E E N I T A S R M J R I N U
 I C Z S I R E U L H O R S E O G I E A E
 O S S A L P O L M L O W E L L A W O I T

ASSOCIATION
 BAKER
 BANQUET
 BILL
 BUCKSKIN
 BUFFALO
 BUNTLINE
 CANCAN
 CATTLE
 CAVALRY
 CHICAGO
 CIVILWAR
 COLORADO
 COWBOY
 DANCE

DIMENOVEL
 DOVEEYE
 DUNRAVIN
 EVERGREEN
 FISH
 FLUVANNA
 FORTS
 GIUSEPPINA
 HISTORY
 HORSE
 HUNTER
 ILLINOIS
 INDIANS
 IOWA
 ITALY

JACK
 JOHN
 JUNE
 LASSO
 LEADVILLE
 LECLAIRE
 LOWELL
 MARKSMAN
 MORLACCHI
 MOUNTAINS
 MUSEUM
 NED
 OMOHUNDRO
 ORVILLE
 PIZZA

PLAINS
 PLEASUREHILL
 POWHATAN
 PRAIRIE
 RIFLE
 ROUNDUP
 SATIN
 SCOUT
 SPY
 STAGE
 TABOR
 TEXAS
 VIRGINIA
 WEST



IN THIS ISSUE...

Exploring a Treasure Trove of Old Documents.....	1
From the Editor's Desk.....	2
In Memoriam: Edna Nees Tributes.....	8
The Legendary Marshal Bo.....	11
William Henry Jackson, Yellowstone Photographer.....	12
President's Message.....	21
Next <i>Scout</i> Information.....	21
The Buffalo Bill Museum, LeClaire, IA.....	22
Chicago Roundup Puzzle.....	23



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

TO: