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Omohundros in the Civil War

By Susan Omohundro and Terry Omohundro



Introduction:

At the TJA Roundup this past summer in Virginia, attention turned to the sesquicentennial of the Civil War and the involvement of the Omohundros. Terry Omohundro of Kentucky has been working on family genealogy and service records. He generated for us a list of Omohundros and Mohundros who had service records on the National Park Service website <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>. He also gave us the names of men in the *Omohundro Genealogical Record (OGR)*, published by Malvern Omohundro, who would have been the right age for participation in the war. Between these two sources we came up with a list of 48 men who have the surname Omohundro (or Mohundro) or are the son or grandson of a female Omohundro.

To summarize our main findings:

- Approximately half of these men are descendants of Richard 1D, the Omohundro who first settled in Fluvanna County during Revolutionary War times. At least 16 of these men were natives of Fluvanna County; several others were in families that had moved on to Tennessee and other places.
- Eight of the men were from Westmoreland County, the original home of the Omohundros, making that the second most frequent source of soldiers.
- Predictably, most of the Omohundros who fought in the Civil War supported the South. We have located eight Union soldiers. And we have found two cases of divided families—their stories are especially intriguing.
- Minimally, 9 of the 48 men described below died during the Civil War and another 3 were wounded but survived.
- 38 of the 48 men were born in Virginia. Of these 38, 8 died in the war, 7 left Virginia after the war, 2 left before the war, and the remaining 23 chose to remain in their home state.

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from the Editor's Desk...



We still dream of coming across the script of one of Ned Buntline's old plays for Texas Jack and Buffalo Bill— such as *Scouts of the Prairie*, or *Scouts of the Plains*— but since Buntline composed them in short flurries in hotel rooms a day or so before the shows, and the pards didn't really follow the scripts very closely anyway, the chances are not good of one popping up. Newspaper reviews make it clear that the stage shows were mostly action of the classic melodramatic sort: curtain up, buddies chat about life on the range, boy meets girl, boy (or girl) gets tied up by the Indians, buddies dash in at the last minute for the rescue, boy gets girl, curtain down. Many Hollywood films today aren't any more complex than that, yet we still enjoy the formula. The genius is in the details— the hero's horsemanship, say, or the authenticity of the grungy saloon. So the details must also have mattered to the audience at *The Scouts*. These were real plainsmen, doing their own rope-twirling, and filling the house with the smell of real gunpowder. Add a beautiful Italian miss with well-turned ankle, and heck, I know I'd have enjoyed it.

Commemorating wars is a duty, not a pleasure. 1863 was a bad time in America, but many men and women put pretty much everything on the line to serve for the cause, whether that was secession, union, abolition, states' rights, a free Kansas, or just making sure one's cousins' backs were covered. We owe them the respect of being remembered. Susan's and Terry's article is a start.

John and Susan Omohundro, Guest Editors

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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.

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Thus, Texas Jack and his brother were in a distinct minority, most choosing to stay put and make the best of things.

In the following paragraphs we have tried to group related individuals. We begin with those from Fluvanna County. The page numbers for each veteran refers to his description in the *Omohundro Genealogical Record (OGR)*.

Of greatest interest to TJA members will be John B. ("Texas Jack") Omohundro and his brother Orville.

John B. Omohundro - p 513

This is "Texas Jack," who served in the 5th Regiment, Company G, Virginia Cavalry. His life story has been told numerous times in *The Texas Jack Scout*; his war record is described by Tipton Omohundro in the *Scout* Volume XVI, no. 3, September 2001.

After engaging in informal military scouting of the Virginia countryside as a youth, Jack formally enlisted in the Confederate army on February 15, 1864, when he was 17 years old, and achieved his goal of serving under J.E.B. Stuart. In March, U. S. Grant was made head of Union forces, and he pursued the war with vigor. The Wilderness Campaign soon ensued in Virginia, followed by the siege of Richmond. The end of the war came on April 9, 1865, after considerable hardship for Virginians. Fortunately, Jack survived his experiences, and soon set out west to seek better opportunities.



O. [Orville] C. [Calhoun] Omohundro, also identified as J. O. C. Omohundro in service records - p 501-3

Orville is Texas Jack's next-older brother, born in 1844 in Fluvanna County. He served in the 5th Regiment, Co. G, Virginia Cavalry, entering as a private and leaving as a sergeant, then in the 5th Regiment, Co. E, Virginia Cavalry as 2nd lieutenant.

According to the *OGR*, Orville was wounded three times, the last, in late 1864, being a ball through his ankle. Rather than surrender, he rode 138 miles from Winchester to his parents' house near Palmyra, where he was recovering when the war ended.

After the war, he studied medicine, eventually moving to Nashville, Tennessee, where he married, had 3 children, practiced medicine, and died in 1921.

Left is a photo of John Baker (left), age 16, with his brother Orville C., 18, about a year before they enlisted. It is from *OGR*.

Robert L. Omohundro, also identified as R. M. Omohundro, Robert Omohundro, and R.L. Omohundro in service records - p 365

He is a great-grandson of Richard 1D of Fluvanna Co. and second cousin of Texas Jack. His father, William, was a minister in Fluvanna Co. Robert was born in 1837, the oldest of four children. He entered the 19th Regiment, Co. C., as a private and mustered out as a corporal. This regiment suffered heavy losses in battles in Virginia. Robert survived the war, but died in 1866.

One has to wonder whether he died as a result of war injuries.

Thomas W. [Washington] Omohundro, also identified as Thomas W. Omohundro - p 365

Born in 1839, he is the younger brother of Robert. He entered the 19th Regiment, Co. C, Virginia Infantry as a private and mustered out as a sergeant. Note that he served in the same company as his brother. One wishes they had recorded their memories of their experiences. He married in 1867, moved to Richmond, entered the grocery business, and died in 1871.

Thomas Henry Griffin, Sr. - p 374

His mother, Mildred, was the sister of William, so he is a first cousin of Robert and Thomas (above), and a second cousin of Texas Jack. He was born in 1842. He was a private in Hucksted's Co., Virginia Light Artillery (Fluvanna Co.). He didn't marry until he was 40. He was Fluvanna Co. commissioner of revenue for many years.

Thomas Jefferson Melton - p 379-80

His mother, Elizabeth, was a sister of Mildred and William, so Thomas Griffin, Thomas Melton, Robert Omohundro, and Thomas Omohundro are all first cousins, and he is a second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. Thomas was born in 1843. Like his cousin Thomas Griffin, Thomas was a private in Hucksted's Co., Virginia Light Artillery. He was promoted to corporal in Snead's Co., Virginia Light Artillery (Fluvanna). He also served in the 5th Battalion, Co. D., Virginia Infantry. He married in 1866.

Richard M. [Muse] Omohundro, also identified in service records as Rich. M. Omohundro and R. M. Omohundro - p 392

He was a grandson of Richard 1D, first cousin once removed of Robert L., Thomas W., Thomas Henry, and Thomas Jefferson (see above), and first cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1822, married in 1848, the father of several children by 1860, and established as owner and operator of a freight boat on the James River, so he was a bit old to participate in the war.

Nonetheless, he was a member of several local units: the Virginia Military Institute Corps of Cadets; Hucksted's Company, Virginia Light Artillery (Fluvanna Artillery); the 2nd Regiment, Co. K., Virginia Infantry, Local Defense; and the 2nd Battalion, Companies K and B, Virginia Infantry, Local Defense.

After the war, in 1873, he and his family moved to Missouri. He died in St. Louis in 1901.

Tipton Turner Omohundro, Sr. - p 761

He was a grandson of Richard 1D through Richard's youngest son, Ellis, and first cousin once removed of Texas Jack. Born in 1826, he was the oldest of four sons of Ellis to serve in the war. He married in 1850. He and his wife settled in Albemarle Co. and had 8 children. We find no service record, but according to the *OGR* he was in the 51st Regiment, Co. G. He died in 1908.

William W. [Woolling] Omohundro - p 770

Another son of Ellis, he was born in 1828 in Amherst Co. He entered the 13th Battalion, Co. C., as a private and rose to be corporal by 1862, when he died in Abingdon, Va. in November. Unfortunately, we do not know whether he died of injuries or disease. He was not married.

Thomas A. [Allen] Omohundro, also identified in service records as T. O. Omohundro, T. A. Omohundro, and F. Omohundro. - p 796

A younger son of Ellis, he was born in 1837. After the war he settled in Bowling Green,

Missouri. He fathered 6 children.

He served as a private in the 5th Regiment, Co. G, Virginia Infantry; 5th Regiment, Co. A, Virginia Cavalry, and 11th Regiment, Co. A, Virginia Infantry. These units participated in several major battles with heavy losses.

John B. [Baxter] Omohundro - p 797

He was the youngest of Ellis's 14 children, and he himself produced 14 children. He was born in 1841 and married in 1863. He served in the 13th Battalion, Co. C, Virginia Light Artillery, entering as a private and mustering out as a corporal, as did his brother William (above). However, he survived the war, and his brother did not.

William H. [Hunter] Omohundro - p 29

He was born in 1825 as the oldest of 9 children. John (below) is his next younger brother. He spent his whole life in Richmond Co. and earned his living as a merchant in Farmers Fork. He married in 1850 and was father of 9 children, most born before the war.

He was a private in the 5th Regiment, Virginia Cavalry, and the 15th Regiment, Co. A., Virginia Cavalry. His brother John also served in those units. Both survived the war and prospered afterwards.

John M. [Meredith] Omohundro, also identified as John Omohundro in service records - p. 37

John spent all his life (1827-1890) in Westmoreland Co. He married about 1850, sired 8 children, and was a farmer.

Like his brother, he was a bit old to be a soldier, but it appears he served in several units - the 9th, 5th, and 15th Regiments, Virginia Cavalry; 32nd Battalion, Co. B, Virginia Cavalry; 15th Battalion Co. A, Virginia Cavalry; and 111th Regiment, Co. 5, Virginia Cavalry. He rose to be 1st lieutenant.

John and his brother William were both in the 5th and 15th Regiments. John was only a second cousin of George E. (below), but they served at times in the same units, probably because they were both from Westmoreland Co.

George E. Omohundro, also identified as G. M. Omohundro and George O'Mohondro in service records - p 82-83

He was born in 1841 in Westmoreland Co, fathered 5 children in two marriages, and died in 1897.

Although the *OGR* does not mention his war record, he is another soldier who served in several units that saw heavy action. He was a private in the 111th Regiment, Virginia Militia; of unidentified rank in the 9th Regiment, Virginia Cavalry; a sergeant in the 15th Battalion, Virginia Cavalry and its successor, the 15th Regiment, Co. A, Virginia Cavalry.

He is a second cousin of John Meredith and William Hunter Omohundro, described above. William, John, and George are all fourth cousins once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro.

Julius Bliss Hall - p 61-62

His mother was Mary Ann Omohundro from Westmoreland Co. who married a local farmer. Julius was born in 1831. He served in several units: 111th Regiment, Virginia Militia; the 9th and 15th Regiments, Virginia Cavalry; and the 15th Battalion, Virginia Cavalry. He mustered out as a 2nd lieutenant. He married in 1865 and became a farmer near Richmond, heading a family of 8 children.

Luther F. Hall - p 62

He is a younger brother of Julius, born in 1838. He was a private in the 9th Regiment, Co. C., Virginia Cavalry. According to the *OGR*, he "Died in service during Civil War." (p. 62). We wish we knew more. The *OGR* rarely provides much detail about Civil War experiences.

Sheldon Moss Hall - p 62

An older brother of Julius and Luther, he was born in 1828. Like his brother Luther, he was a private in the 9th Regiment, Co. C., Virginia Cavalry. He married twice, but we know little about his life.

The Hall brothers are fourth cousins once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro.

Marion Mohundro - p 1004

He was born in 1841, the eldest of three brothers who fought in the Civil War. According to the *OGR*, he went to Texas, did not marry, and was killed in the Civil War. We suppose he fought for the South. We have not found a service record for him, unless he is the T. M. Mohundro who was a private in the 2nd Regiment, Texas Infantry (Confederate).

Peter E. Mohundro, also identified in service records as P. E. Mohundro - p 1005

Born in 1843, Peter was the middle brother. He was a private in the 23rd Regiment, Co. G, Mississippi Infantry (Confederate). He died in battle at Grenada, Mississippi.

John M. [Monroe] Mohundro - p 1038

A native of Arkansas, born in 1845, he was the brother of Peter and Marion (above). After the war he returned to Arkansas, married, and raised a family.

John is interesting because he fought for the Union, in the 1st Battalion, Co. B., Mississippi Mounted Rifles. This unit did not form until 1864. It served in Tennessee in the defense of Memphis and in Mississippi. His brothers fought for the South. Both of them died in action. Perhaps, by 1864, John could see which side was likely to win the war.

These three men described above were sons of Thomas Duffy Mohundro, who was born in Virginia, married in Tennessee, and died in Mississippi. Thomas' father William, though a Virginian, also spent time in Tennessee. These people got around. Thomas D. moved to the wilderness of northern Mississippi in 1832 with his wife and baby. His farm prospered, and he fathered at least 9 children in all. He must have spent time in Arkansas as well, because John was born there, but he died in Mississippi. Unfortunately, we know nothing of the family's political views.

Marion, Peter and John are fourth cousins once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro.

Columbus [Cornelius] E. Mohundro - p 895-6, 939

His father was born in Virginia but settled in Tennessee. Cornelius (usually called "Jack") was born in Tennessee in 1836. He is a fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro and second cousin of Marion, Peter, and John (above). His father died young. "Jack" and his older brother ran away from their stepfather and headed farther west to Missouri. "Jack" married there in 1860. He was a private in the Webster County Battalion, Missouri Home Guard (Union). Much later Jack and his family moved still farther west to Washington.

James C. [Calhoun] O'Mohundro [Mohundro] - p 863, 874

He was born in 1847 in Tennessee. He is a first cousin of William T. and Henry C. (below) and fifth cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. James was in the 1st Regiment of the Tennessee Mounted Infantry (Union). He found time to marry in 1864. After the war he became

a farmer in Arkansas and head of a large family.

William T. Omohundro [Mohundro] - p 832, 847, 848

His father was another Omohundro who chose to move to Missouri. He is a fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro. We don't know when William was born. According to the *OGR*, he enlisted in the 31st Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry on August 20, 1861, at Springfield, Illinois. The government record says that he was a private in Co. K. The *OGR* says that he was mustered out July 20, 1865. He died in Danville, Illinois, in 1915, according to the National Cemetery Administration, US Veterans Gravesites. He never married.

Henry C. Mohundro [Omohundro] - p 848

Henry was William's older brother. Again, we don't know much about him, not even his birth and death dates, only that he never married. He was a private in the 79th Regiment, Co. E., Ohio Infantry. Both the 31st and 79th Regiments participated in many significant battles in several states. Henry and William might have been together in the field at times.

Lit [Littleton] J. Omohundro - p 471-3

His father, Silas, was one of the biggest slave dealers in Richmond, so it is surprising that Littleton, the oldest son, fought for the Union. One of 14 children, Littleton was born in December, 1839, making him 21 when war began. Though born in Virginia, Littleton must have moved to Ohio, for he was a corporal in Neff's Detachment, Ohio Volunteers (Cincinnati Rifles).

In 1874, in Cincinnati again, he married. He did business in Chattanooga, Nashville, and finally Dallas, Texas, where he died in 1911.

S. [Sidney Mortimer] Omohundro, Sr. - p 474

Sidney was Littleton's younger brother, born in 1843 in Richmond, Virginia. He was only 18 when the war began. He too joined the Union side in Ohio. He joined the 4th Regiment, Ohio Cavalry as a private and rose to be Sergeant. This regiment traveled all through the South.

Just after the war, in 1866, he married in Cincinnati. Like his older brother, he moved on from Cincinnati, finally settling in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Littleton and Sidney are paternal first cousins of Texas Jack Omohundro. They were sons of Silas's marriage with Martha Tandy. After she died in 1847, he married Corinna Clark in 1848. Perhaps the boys were not happy in the new arrangement and thus moved out to Ohio.

Their brother Silas, oldest child of Corinna, died in Philadelphia in 1861 of typhoid when he was only 16. He had been sent to school there.

Perhaps we should say a word about Silas Omohundro, the father of Littleton and Sidney. He was Texas Jack Omohundro's uncle. More significantly, as mentioned, he was perhaps the largest slave trader in Richmond. *Richmond Burning*, by Nelson Lankford (2002) tells more about his war experiences. Silas died in 1864 of natural causes, perhaps cancer. He is buried in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery in an unmarked grave, but not in the Omohundro plot. Edna Nees is raising money for a headstone - see more about this in a future issue of the *Scout* and in the July 2012 issue.

S. [Silas] B. [Buford] Omohundro, also identified as Silas B. Omohundro - p 488, 491

Born in 1845 in Fluvanna, one of 10 children, he is also a great grandson of Richard 1D. His father, "Uncle Dick," ran a popular tavern. Silas B. was a private in the Goochland Light Artillery, and also in the 2nd Regiment, Co. K, Virginia Cavalry. He never married and died in 1910.

Silas B. was a first cousin of Littleton and Sidney who fought on the Union side. Silas

B. is thus the nephew of their father, Silas. Silas B. was likely named after his uncle. Silas B. is a paternal first cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro.

Elisha M. (Melton) Omohundro - p 243

He was a great-grandson of Richard 1D and second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1844, and died, unmarried, on June 9, 1862, at the battle of Port Republic. He was buried near Louisa Courthouse, and his name is on the Orange Co. Confederate Monument. He was a private in Co. C, 13th Regiment, Virginia Infantry.

Richard F. [Flint] Omohundro, Jr. - pp. 210,240,244

He is the brother of Elisha, so he is yet another great-grandson of Richard 1D and second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro from Fluvanna Co. He was born in 1849, so he was just a boy when war began. He was educated at Virginia Military Institute. He was a private in an unidentified unit in Virginia. He was said to be handsome, but he never married, and died in 1891.

John W. [Washington] Omohundro - p 232

He was another great-grandson of Richard 1D of Fluvanna Co. and second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. He is a first cousin of Elisha and Richard (above). His parents had already moved west to Tennessee, where he was born in 1839. He married in 1880 in Tennessee, had 7 children, and died in 1913 in Indiana.

He served in the Confederate Army for 4 years, first in the 44th Regiment, Co. E, where he rose from private to 2nd lieutenant, then in the 19th Battalion, Co. E, Virginia Heavy Artillery, also as 2nd lieutenant, spending most of his time defending Richmond.

R. [Richard] C. [Calvin] Omohundro - p 320, 322

He is also a great-grandson of Richard 1D and second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. He is a second cousin of Elisha, Richard F., and John. His father, born in Fluvanna Co., became a prosperous businessman in Charlottesville. Richard (known as "Cal") was born in 1842. He served as a private in Troop F of the 10th Regiment, Virginia Cavalry. After the war he married, had a family, and became a businessman in New Market.

William H. [Henry] Omohundro - p 54

He was born in 1840 to a prosperous Westmoreland Co. farmer. He and his younger brother John are fourth cousins once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro and first cousins of Benjamin and Thomas (below). He served in the 55th Regiment, Co. E., Virginia Infantry, entering in 1861 as a private and mustered out as 1st lieutenant. After the war he married, settled on his farm near Stratford, and raised a family of four.

John R. [Richard] Omohundro - p 54, 56

John was born in 1843. Not quite 20, he was mortally wounded on July 3, 1863, at the Battle of Gettysburg. Like his older brother, he was a private in the 55th Regiment, Co. E, Virginia Infantry.

B. P. [Benjamin Porter] Omohundro - p. 27, 51

He was born in 1839 in Richmond Co. to a prosperous plantation owner (Thomas 2E), married in 1862, survived the war, and had 5 children. He is a fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro and first cousin of William and John (above) and Thomas (below).

He served as a private in the 47th Regiment, Co. C, Virginia Infantry. This unit formed in 1861 and saw battle at Gettysburg, among other places.

Thomas M. [Miles] Omohundro, also identified in service records as Thomas and as F. M.

Omohundro - p. 46

He was born in 1832 on the family farm near Farmers Fork, Virginia, became a leading merchant of the community, and died there in 1895. In 1862 he married a second cousin and they produced 10 children. He is a fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro and first cousin of William, John, and Benjamin (above).

Thomas enlisted in 1861 and served in several units - 5th Regiment, Virginia Cavalry, 11th Regiment, Co. A, Virginia Infantry, 15th Regiment, Co. A, Virginia Cavalry, and 40th Regiment, Co. D, Virginia Infantry. He rose to 1st lieutenant and was wounded just before the end of the war (no details available).

James T. Omohundro [James Thomas Berryman Omohundro] - p. 827

Born in Charlotte Co. in 1836, he was living in Baltimore when the war began. He returned to Virginia, serving as a private in the 18th Regiment, Companies D and H, Virginia Infantry. According to the *OGR*, he was shot in the right knee on the second day of the battle of Gettysburg.

After the war, in 1865, he married and fathered 8 children. He became a railroad engineer, eventually returning to Baltimore to live out his years, surviving until 1911. He is a fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro and second cousin of all the Mohundros described earlier.

Next, we list men whose mother or grandmother was an Omohundro. This is not necessarily a complete list, because veterans with common names (e.g. Jones, or Stone) are not easy to trace in the NPS site. These men are listed in alphabetical order by surname.

John Henry Chiles - p 249

Born in 1838, he married his first cousin, Emma Omohundro, in 1865. She was a second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. During the war, he was a private in the 5th Regiment, Virginia Cavalry. He died in 1873.

William French - p 226

His mother was Martha Omohundro. He is a great-grandson of Richard 1D and second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1844 in Goochland Co. According to the *OGR*, William served in place of his older brother Mason, who was a married man with children. The NPS lists four records for men from Virginia named William French; probably at least one is for our William French. William never married; no death date is given.

Thomas Cary Jones - p 704

His mother was Nancy Omohundro, and he was born in Fluvanna Co. in 1822. He is first cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro. He married in 1852 and fathered 6 children by 1863. We find no service record, but according to the *OGR* he "was killed in Civil War at Winchester, Virginia, Sept. 19, 1864."

James Sam [or Samuel] Kent - p 337

He is great-grandson of Richard 1D and second cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. His mother was Temperance Omohundro. He was born in Virginia in 1840. James Samuel Kent was 2nd Lieutenant in the 5th Battalion, Virginia Infantry. He married in 1876, and in later years he lived in Kentucky.

Everard P. Nelms - p 70

His mother was an Omohundro from Westmoreland County, and he is a fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1839 and died, unmarried, in 1863.

We find no service record, but the *OGR* states that he was "Killed in or died from effects of War Between the States."

Edward D. Pettit - p 254

He is a great-grandson of Richard 1D and second cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1840. He was a private in the 38th Battalion, Co. D., Virginia Light Artillery. He was married; he died in 1923; we know no more.

Joseph Samuel Pettit - p 150-51

Grandson of an Omohundro and brother-in-law of an aunt of Texas Jack Omohundro, he was born in Cumberland Co., Virginia in 1822. He married in 1847. He and his family lived in Richmond, then in Alabama, "where he entered the service of war" although we find no service record. He was a planter in Alabama, and lived to be almost 90.

William Beverley Pettit - p 155-6

Joseph (above) and William are brothers. His grandmother was an Omohundro, and he is also brother-in-law of an aunt of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1825. The *OGR* describes his life and career at length, but does not mention service in the Civil War. Yet he was called "Colonel." There is a NPS record for a William B. Pettit who was in Snead's Co., Virginia Light Artillery (Fluvanna Co.) and in Ancell's Co., Virginia Light Artillery. That man's highest rank was 1st lieutenant. William married in 1851, fathered 7 children, and sent them all to college. William had a distinguished career as a lawyer in Fluvanna Co. and died in 1905.

William G. Pettit - p 258

He is the son of Elizabeth Omohundro and great-grandson of Richard 1D. He was born in Fluvanna Co. in 1830. He married Orano Omohundro, his first cousin once removed, in 1856, making him doubly cousin to Texas Jack Omohundro. His occupation is described as "overseer." He was a corporal in the 44th Regiment, Co. K., Virginia Infantry and "went out with the Fluvanna troops." According to the *OGR*, he was killed at Chancellorsville on May 2, 1863, "the day Jackson was wounded."

Edward Paul Pruitt - p 1079

He was born in 1837 in Kentucky. His mother was an Omohundro. He is fourth cousin once removed of Texas Jack Omohundro. He married his first cousin, Mary Jane Omohundro, in 1856. They moved to Missouri before the Civil War, and most of their 9 children were born there. He fought for the Union as a private in Spilman's Co. C., Missouri Home Guard, and the 7th Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps (Missouri).

Silas Morton Seay - p 466

His mother was Ellen Omohundro, and he married his first cousin, Bettie Omohundro. He is a first cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro. He was born in 1842 and married in 1878. He was in the Goochland Light Artillery. In civilian life, he was first mate on the James River and Kanawha Canal packet boat for many years, "and could tell jokes by the hour of his experiences on the boat."

Henry B. Woolling - p 175

He is a first cousin of Silas Seay, grandson of Richard 1D and first cousin of Texas Jack Omohundro, born in 1836. He was a private in Shoemaker's Co., Virginia Horse Artillery (Beauregard Rifles). He never married and died in 1921.

Last, Terry found a number of men with service records in the National Park Service database who are not identified by these names in the *OGR* (it is not uncommon for names to be

misspelled in the records):

Hugh J. Mohundro - private in Ham's Regiment, Co. C, Mississippi Cavalry.


J. M. Mohundro - private in 15th Consolidated Regiment, Co. E., Tennessee Cavalry. This Union regiment formed in 1864 and served in Mississippi as well as Tennessee. Could this be John Monroe Mohundro?

T. M. Mohundro - private in the 2nd Regiment, Co. K., Texas Infantry. Might this be Marion Mohundro?

W. H. Mohundro - also a private in the 2nd Regiment, Co. K., Texas Infantry. T. M. and W. H. could be brothers.

J. E. Omohandro - 15th Regiment, Virginia Cavalry. This might be one of the several other Omohundros who served in the 15th Regiment.

J. B. Omohundro - private in the 4th Regiment, Co. C., Virginia Cavalry. This could be one of several J. B. Omohundros but not Texas Jack Omohundro.

This is not an exhaustive list of Omohundro kin who were soldiers in the Civil War. We did not pay the National Archives for individual service records, so we cannot provide details here for most individuals. We relied on the National Park Service website, but many other sources exist. This could be an on-going study. We encourage TJA members who are Civil War buffs to extend and correct our work. 

Prairie Fever: British Aristocrats in the American West 1830-1890

John T. Omohundro, reviewer

By Peter Pagnamenta

Norton, 2012



Texas Jack's adventures as a big game hunting guide have been reported several times in the *Scout*, most recently a news clipping about Yellowstone in his own words (maybe!), Volume XX,

no. 4, November 2005. His most famous client was the Fourth Earl of Dunraven, above, a wealthy Irishman who wrote well and enthusiastically about his travels—and of Texas Jack—in *The Great Divide* and other books. Pagnamenta's new book shows that the Earl's delight with the American West and big game hunting was widely shared among the upper crust of the British Isles and Western Europe. Between the 1830s and 1890s, a period coinciding with Queen Victoria's long reign, well-to-do

Englishmen and women flocked to the prairie and the Rockies, spent a lot of money, shot a lot of animals, and had a marvelous time.

Surprisingly, when the British (and some Germans and Russians) were pursuing their bison, they had no American counterparts. The eastern rich Yankees had little interest in the harsh life of the prairies and mountains (before the Civil War, few Americans even went trekking in the uncharted Adirondacks, near my home here in northern New York). Upper-class Americans didn't respond to the novels and shows about the pioneer, Indian, and plainsman life that inspired the Europeans and the Americans of more modest means, like young Bill Cody (and who knows: John Baker O.?) The novels of James Fenimore Cooper, Washington Irving and Captain Mayne Reid generated a desire

among Europeans and many Americans to see the West, with its massive herds of buffalo, colorful Indians, and sunburnt cowboys. Francis Parkman's history, *The Oregon Trail*, was also motivating. George Catlin toured his paintings of Native Americans in Britain and Europe, and artists painted gigantic panoramas of western mountains and rivers on tall scrolls of canvas, which rolled in front of paying audiences like the view from the window of a moving Pullman car.

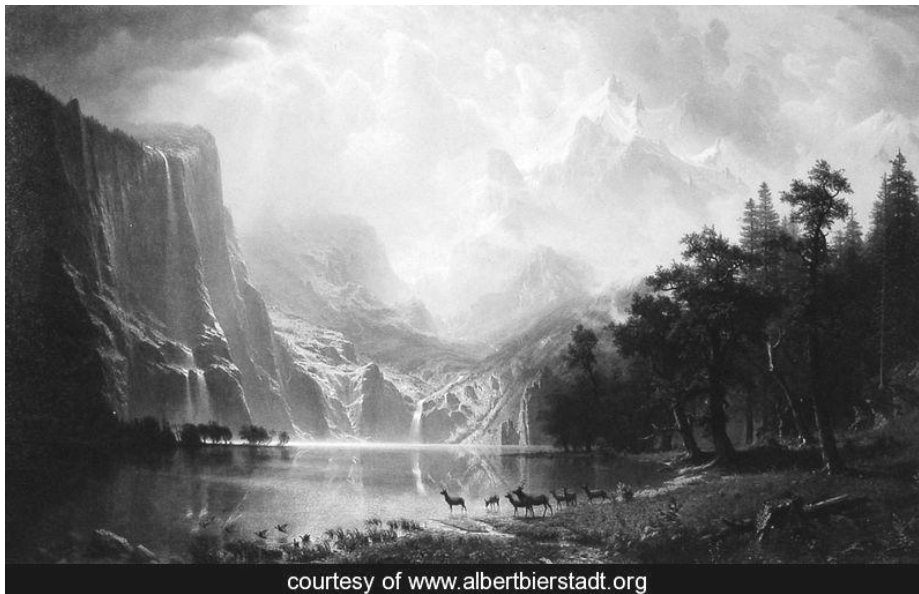
The real West offered very hard going when the first British visited in the 1830s, but by 1860 the railroad, coach lines, hotels, and hunting lodges made adventures cheaper, shorter, less uncomfortable, and better guided.

The real West was hard-going socially, as well. The rough plainsmen and cowboys viewed these visitors as bizarre, entertaining, snooty, but perhaps a source

of profit. For their part, the tourists were shocked at the informality and egalitarian relations among Americans. The tourists might dress in deerskin and camp under the stars on a buffalo skin, but they weren't going to adopt American manners and democratic ways.

Lord Dunraven loved the Rockies more than the prairie, and preferred hunting elk and mountain sheep rather than buffalo. Compared to many of the European visitors, he was well-read, tolerant, and insightful about this landscape. He met and conversed with Theodore Roosevelt, with whom he shared a passion for big game hunting and the opinion that many western landscapes should be preserved for posterity as parks. In 1872, recently rich from the discovery of coal deposits at his estate in Wales, he purchased 6,000 acres of Estes Park. He brought his new bride to see the park and returned almost annually for the next sixteen years.

He commissioned Alfred Bierstadt, then a highly sought-after landscape artist, to paint a view of Estes from the front porch of his lodge, then he hung the work in his Castle Adair in Ireland. He hired Buffalo Bill and Texas Jack several times for hunting expeditions in Colorado, Yellowstone and Montana.



courtesy of www.albertbierstadt.org

AMONG THE SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS - Albert Bierstadt

Dunraven was vilified by residents in Colorado because he acquired the Estes land by ruse. Land was intended to be bought in 160-acre parcels for settlement, but through agents and payments to locals who were bribed to sign for parcels, he amassed thousands of acres. Colorado newspapers criticized him, and the state

initiated a grand jury investigation. The Earl's Park also suffered constant incursions by hunters and squatters. So he commercialized Estes, building a hotel for big game hunters. When it was obvious that such a park would not serve his desire for wilderness, he sold it in 1908.

Phase two of the British invasion may be dated from the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876. Many British and Europeans attended, to see Indians and bison, but also to be enticed by a representation of the frontier as the "Golden West." More than just the scene of hunting

were slow in the British Isles, and the estate-owning rich had to find something worthwhile for their non-inheriting second- and third-sons to pursue.

One response was to establish British "colonies" staffed by the upper-class young to raise sheep and cattle. The first was Victoria, in Western Kansas, in 1876. Other colonies included Le Mars, in Iowa, begun in 1878, and Rugby, on the Cumberland Plateau of eastern Tennessee, in 1880. There was also Florence, in Eastern Kansas in 1880 and Runnymede, in south-central Kansas, in 1885.



The tennis club in Runnymede, Harper County, Kansas. In the late 1880s, F. J. S. Turnly established an English colony and training school for the sons of British gentlemen to learn the secrets of successful farming. Unfortunately, most of the young men were wealthy and their interest in farming waned. Instead they raced horses, partied, and played tennis. The colony disbanded in 1892 when the families in England decided their sons were learning very little about agriculture. Photo dated 1891 from Kansas Historical Society.

These colonies were British to the hilt, in their fast horses, big houses, hounds, and sport hunting. Pagnamenta reports:

Foxhunting, the essential pastime and passion of the British countryside, proved impossible because there were no foxes, but the settlers formed a Hunt Club nevertheless, with huntsman and horn, and chased antelope and coyote with dogs, wearing the correct red hunting coats and black bowler hats. (p 185)

Many wealthy British, too old or disinclined to travel west, invested from their London clubs in rangeland or beef ranches, or they sat on boards of corporations established for that purpose. Lord Tweedmouth and the Earl of Aberdeen, for example, joined forces to invest in the 200,000-acre Rocking Chair Ranch in the Texas panhandle, sending a young nephew to check up on their investment. Books appeared in Britain extolling the prospects and providing tips for getting rich, such as *The Beef Bonanza, or How to Get Rich on the Plains*, by General James Brisbin. Lord Dunraven participated, investing in an outfit called the Dakota Stock and Grazing Company. By the late 'eighties, as much as 15% of the beef industry is estimated to have been in British hands. Congress, which began to worry about this trend, ordered a report that claimed that 21 million acres were owned by foreigners—an overestimate, probably,

but the right magnitude.

Now the British were no longer quaint or irritating, they were a downright national threat. Look what they did to Ireland! Americans cried, They'll become the same exploitative landlords here. Congress passed the Alien Land Bill of 1887, excluding non-citizens from buying land in the western territories. States like Colorado followed with their own restrictions.

But the boom was over anyway. The frontier was obviously disappearing. Nature was fickle and cruel, and profits were highly uncertain. Most British cattle colonies didn't prosper. When Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show toured England for the second time in 1892, it was still immensely popular, but everyone understood that his show was about the glorious past. The Wild West was history.

The British withdrew from the states, but true enthusiasts like Lord Dunraven turned to Canada for opportunities to hunt big game and invest in the West. The legal and social environment was more receptive to their class of tourist.

Pagnamenta has introduced me to a part of Western history of which I was entirely ignorant. I now understand Lord Dunraven and Texas Jack in the context of a whole century of Euro-American contact. The photos in his book, of English pioneers dressed as cow-boys, and of American and English cartoons about the British invasion, add to the reader's enjoyment. 🦮

Malvern's Memories

This recollection of attending Texas Jack's early stage show was written by Malvern Omohundro, author of Omohundro Genealogical Record, under the entry for William Winn Wooling, Jr. (1835-1930), p 181. -eds.

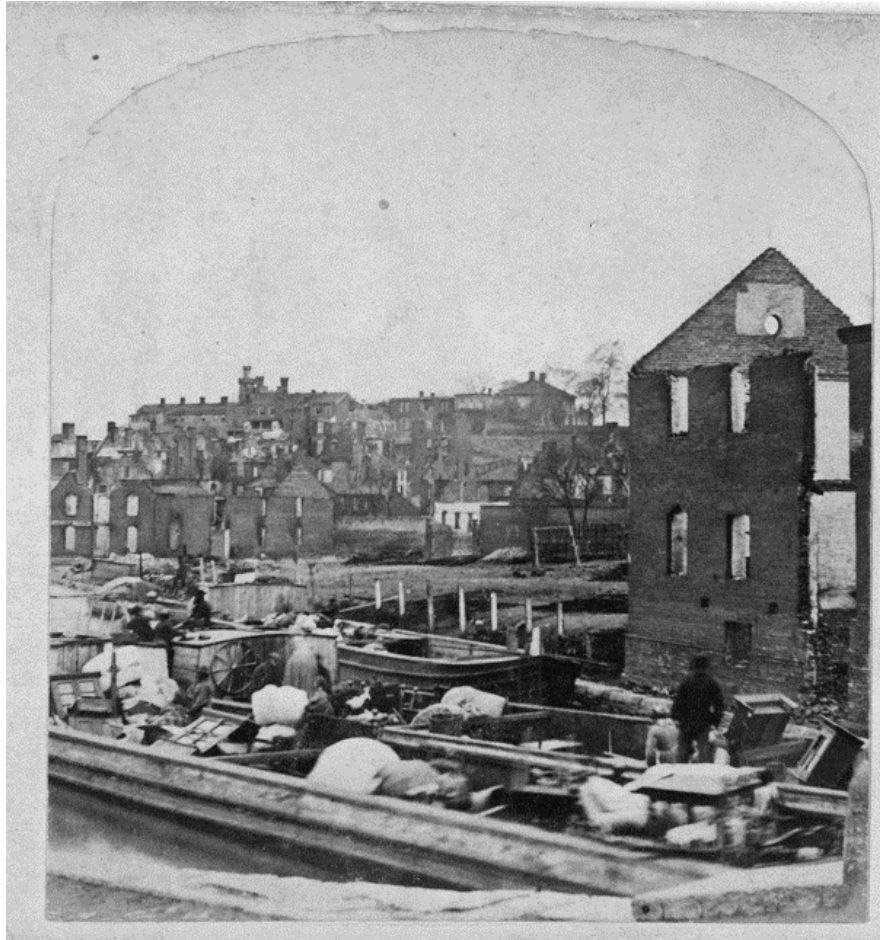
[William Wooling],
Billy as he was called,
was Captain on the old
James River and
Kanawha Canal Packet
Boat.

He was said to be the most popular captain ever on the canal. Passengers would lay over for days to catch his boat. (People were not in such a hurry in those days.) His boat was always crowded. The canal officials called him the "slow coach" with a fat packet book! He never married until late in life, after he came off the boat. He was often asked why he did not get married, and he would laughingly say, "I have never had time."

My first trip to Richmond with my mother and father

was in April, 1873. I was then a little over six years of age, and it was on Capt. Bill's boat. We went down to see "Texas Jack" (J. B. Omohundro, my half brother) and "Buffalo Bill" (Wm. F. Cody) when they first started out with the Wild West Show, shown on the stage in 1873.


Buffalo Bill, Ned Buntline, John, and all his friends and relatives that he had invited down, stopped at the Old Exchange Hotel on the North side of Franklin Street between 13th and 14th Streets. It had a bridge connecting it with the Old Ballard House. It was then the finest hotel in the city. John paid all expenses. No one of us was allowed to spend a cent for anything.



Packet boats docked in Richmond on the James River and Kanawha Canal soon after the Civil War (note the roofless structures). Photo courtesy of Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.



Richmond's Exchange Hotel, built in 1841, was linked by a bridge to the Ballard House, opened in 1855, when they merged in the 1870s to become the Ballard-Exchange. They were demolished in 1900. Photo from Wikipedia.

The rest of the Company, including many Indians, stopped at the Old Ford Hotel, corner 11th and Broad Sts. They showed three nights and two days in the Richmond Theater, S. E. Corner 7th and Broad Sts., and the house was packed every time. We had a special reserved box. The trip afforded me many sights, incidents, etc., that are fresh in my mind today, ... 



Richmond Theatre, where the Scouts of the Prairie played in 1873. Photo courtesy Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.

Buffalo Bill Center Changes Name

CODY, Wyo. — The Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody has been renamed to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. The name change was approved recently by the center's board of trustees. While the name change is effective immediately, it will be phased in over the coming months.

The center consists of five museums and a research library that include exhibits on Yellowstone National Park, Western art, Plains Indians, firearms and William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody.

February 17, 2013 11:15 am • Associated Press <http://missoulian.com>

More Than a Sharpshooter: The Real Annie Oakley

By John T. Omohundro

A recent television profile of Annie Oakley emphasized that it was her generation that created newspaper celebrity. Buffalo Bill and Texas Jack benefited from the new trend, also. Here's a short biography of Annie emphasizing the aspects of the television profile that impressed me. Her shooting skill is another subject in itself; I'm interested here in Annie for her personal qualities. No show-biz myth-making is needed to be impressed by her. I'm not sure I would have liked some of the heroes like Cody and Hickok as persons—too much charm or testosterone—but I would like to have met Annie.



Mrs. Phoebe Anne Moses Butler became Annie Oakley the sharpshooter at the age of 18. Photo from Wikipedia.

Phoebe Anne Moses was a destitute child, one of nine raised in frontier Ohio. She and a sister were placed in foster care with an infirmary when she was 9. She then was "bound out" at age 10 as a helper to a family that abused her for minor

transgressions. At 12, in 1872—the year Texas Jack and Buffalo Bill premiered their stage play in Chicago—she ran away, back to her birth family. She had taught herself to trap and shoot to feed the family, and quickly proved skillful enough that she gained a reputation as a successful commercial hunter.

In the 1870s sharpshooting, like horse racing, was a national sport. When crack shot Frank Butler came to Cincinnati with his Baughman and Butler shooting act, 15-year-old Annie was placed in competition with him. She outshot him, but he was smitten anyway. He courted her for a year, and they were married. At first Annie followed Frank on the circuit as a spouse, but opportunities came for her to fill in, then to become a regular. She took the name Annie Oakley, which may have been her grandmother's name (sources differ on this).

Eventually Annie became the star sharpshooter in the act and—shrewdly, lovingly, or what?—husband Butler took a backseat, becoming her supporting performer and business agent.

Show business at that time was like carnie life in our generation: a pretty seedy lifestyle. Annie, however, was born a Quaker and lived her religion, remaining throughout her career a paragon of virtue. While much that we learn casually about these Wild West characters needs to be discounted as legend, this much about Annie is true: she stood out in these shows for being small, female, talented, and respectable. She dressed and behaved modestly.

Annie's and Butler's show was performing in New Orleans in 1885 when Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show came to

town. His people were impressed with Oakley's shooting, but his troupe already featured Captain Adam Henry Bogardus, the world-famous trap shooter, so Cody did not offer Oakley a role right away. Soon accidents and poor receipts threw Buffalo Bill's show on the ropes, so Bogardus quit to form his own show. Annie was hired tentatively to replace him.

The Wild West Show's residence on Staten Island and its performances in Madison Square Garden were triumphs for Oakley. Her shooting was superb, and her manner was very ladylike. Sitting Bull, another of Buffalo Bill's star performers, nicknamed her "Little Sure Shot," and she was often labeled as such on posters.

In 1887 Buffalo Bill took his show back to Europe. He hired flamboyant sharpshooter Lilian Smith, a 15-year old phenomenon, to share the arena with Oakley. Annie, now 26 but claiming to be younger, was not happy with this juvenile, and a rivalry ensued. Annie arranged for a shooting contest at Wimbledon and beat Lilian. However, her relations with Buffalo Bill were becoming strained, in part because of Lilian but also because Cody thought Annie was upstaging him. So Annie left the troupe. She starred in vaudeville and other Wild West shows for a time, but didn't achieve much success. Her rift with Cody was mended in 1889 as his show was touring Paris, largely because Lilian had left. That year Oakley was all the rage as the company entertained during the Paris Exposition.

By 1892 Annie Oakley was also a protagonist in dime novels. She received much press coverage for her marksmanship during the Chicago Columbian Exposition in 1893 (the Wild West Show had been denied participation in the Expo, but Cody set up nearby and siphoned off many customers).

Annie and Frank met Thomas Edison

through Buffalo Bill, and performed shooting tricks for one of Edison's early moving pictures in 1894. By 1900 this new entertainment was eating into the popularity of traveling live shows. After spinal injuries sustained in a train wreck in 1901, Annie retired from Cody's company but continued to star in stage plays. Her celebrity was so great that it was inevitable that some journalist would try for a take-down, which the Hearst papers tried by mistaking her for a cocaine addict and thief with the same name. Oakley responded vigorously, filing libel suits against 55 newspapers carrying the story. She represented herself with dignity during the trials and won 54 of them. Nevertheless, the defense depleted her finances and she signed again with Cody's Wild West in 1910, even though the glory of the cowboy show had faded.




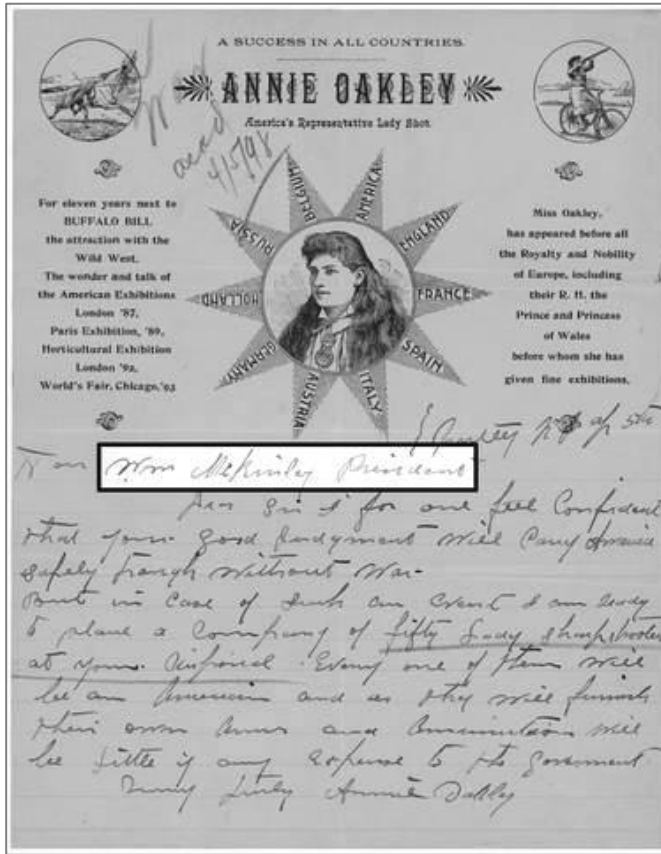
"Miss Annie Oakley" after retirement from the Wild West Shows in 1922. Photo from Wikipedia.

She retired again in 1913, shooting

THE TEXAS JACK SCOUT

only for pleasure as a hunter. She remained in the public eye, advocating that women develop fitness, learn to shoot, and carry guns for defense. She was not a vocal woman's rights advocate, but she supported

women activists behind the scenes. She died of anemia in 1926; loyal Frank starved to death 16 days later. Being childless, she had given away most of her show business fortune to her family and to charities. 



Annie Oakley wrote the above letter to President William McKinley on April 5, 1898, "offering the government the services of a company of 50 'lady sharpshooters' who would provide their own arms and ammunition should the U.S. go to war with Spain." *Poster from Wikipedia.*

The President's MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow Texas Jack Association Members,

I submit this message after having just completed 10 days of winter storm power restoration. The snowfall of March 6 left tens of thousands in Central Virginia

without electrical power, heat or water. The heavy moisture laden snow toppled trees, poles and wires. Saturated ground created challenges with trying to get men and equipment off-road to make repairs. Crews

have traveled into the ravaged areas from out of state and worked side by side with local linemen relentlessly until all power was restored. Customers awaiting power generally found themselves in one of two categories, either angry or determined to persevere.

Prior to the storm I had spent some time browsing through Robert J. Driver, Jr.'s first edition printing of *5th Virginia Calvary*. You may remember that Texas Jack spent his time in the Civil War riding with Company G of this particular unit. The book recounts in great detail numerous events in which the soldiers were without the basic necessities much less any creature comforts. In the book I found no record of cursing God or of blaming their fellow man, friend or foe, for their present state. Instead, there was a resolve to persevere, to survive. Lieutenant Thaddeus Fitzhugh of Company F writes: "The winter was unusually severe, and as we had no tents, we prepared a shed to sleep under by putting two forked posts and a cross pole with fence rails placed obliquely, with blankets and oil cloths spread to shed off the rain and the snow, but for beds we procured straw and spread our blankets overlapping each other under which six of us slept. A big log fire was in our front and when one wanted to turn the order was given 'all turn' ". In this way we spent the winter. One morning we waked to find our blankets covered with two inches of snow, but we had slept unusually warm. The snow that morning covered the ground to a depth of four inches." They could have just as easily been angry but they chose to persevere.

We are in grave danger of forgetting how to take care of ourselves. As a society, we have become almost totally dependent upon others to provide for us. Over the past 2

weeks, I have had the opportunity to meet several folks that have taken great pride in their ability to survive and flourish through this pesky winter storm. Wood stoves provided heat and a cooking appliance. Snow provided water for operating bathrooms and also provided refrigeration for foods until power could be restored. Fire light and oil lanterns provided a way to see and negotiate through their homes. The quiet time proved to be a blessing not a curse. Sleep came earlier and more soundly. Sunrises and sunsets were more appreciated. When power was restored, some were almost sad at having to give up a quieter, less hectic lifestyle. Some vowed to recapture certain aspects of the challenge like the family time, face to face conversations and working together.

I like to think our ability to be resourceful, to "think outside the box" and persevere through our challenges and hardships was passed down through the generations. Texas Jack certainly was one of those role models exhibiting that resourcefulness and ability to persevere in his lifetime. May we follow his example. Not just in the physical hardships we are facing in this journey, but also in the attitude, the fortitude, the inner calm and strength that characterized his life. In doing so, his memory will be immortal.

Tomorrow is the first day of spring. Why am I not surprised they are calling for more snow! It has been said, "If you want to hear God laugh, tell him your plans."

Have a great rest of the winter and a blessed and bountiful spring.

Respectfully,
Randy Golladay, President



Buffalo Bill's Great-grandsons Die in Plane Crash



Barry Cody

Kit Cody

obits.dignitymemorial.com

CODY, Wyo. — Authorities have recovered the bodies of a businessman and two of "Buffalo Bill" Cody's great-grandsons from the wreckage of a small plane that crashed into a central Florida marsh.

The Federal Aviation Administration lost contact with the Cessna 310 on Thursday afternoon, and the crash site was discovered Friday about 20 miles west of Vero Beach, Fla.

The Indian River County Sheriff's Office has identified the victims of the crash as Barry Cody, 65, a resident of Winter Haven, FL, Kit Cody, 67, of Cody, WY, and Robert Krieger, 65, of Polk City, FL.

The Codys were brothers and businessmen. "Buffalo Bill" Cody's former home is now the Scouts Rest Ranch tourist attraction in North Platte.

Kit Cody's son-in-law, Bryan Edwards, tells The Cody Enterprise the three had been "island hopping" in the Bahamas before the crash. They had stopped at the Sebastian Municipal Airport about 30 miles south of Melbourne, Fla., and were on their way to the Bartow Municipal Airport when the crash occurred.

Buffalo Bill, whose real name was William F. Cody, was best known for his Wild West show, which ran from the 1880s to the early 1900s.

February 16, 2013 11:51 am • Associated Press
<http://missoulian.com> and Omaha World-Herald



Ed. We have published the obituaries of many of our honorary members who have passed away. Here are two that we learned have also died:





Mrs. Henry R. Coe

Margaret Shaw "Peg" Coe. Planting Fields Foundation deeply regrets the loss of Peg Coe, 88, who died at her home in Cody, WY, on November 15, 2006. A great supporter of Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park in Oyster Bay, NY, the former country estate of her in-laws, she worked to raise funds for the restoration of artist Robert Chanler's 1922 Buffalo Murals. Born in Cody on Christmas Day, 1917, Peg was "born under a lucky star". In 1943, she married Henry H.R. Coe, son of philanthropist William Robertson Coe and Standard Oil heiress Mai Rogers Coe. Peg and Henry were strong supporters of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center (BBHC) in Wyoming. With rich collections of Native American artifacts and Western art, the BBHC is known as the "Smithsonian of the West". During Peg's tenure as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the BBHC doubled in size and achieved world-class status. Peg was preceded in death by her husband, Henry H.R. Coe. Interment at Riverside Cemetery followed services at Christ Episcopal Church in Cody on November 20, 2006.

<http://www.geni.com> Published: Dec. 3, 2006 *The New York Times*



Fredrick Harrison Garlow, Jr

Birth: Jan. 16, 1911 Death: Jun. 21, 1985
North Platte Cody
Lincoln County Park County
Nebraska, USA Wyoming, USA



Family links:

Parents:

Fredrick Harrison Garlow (1880 - 1918)
Irma Louisa *Cody* Garlow (1883 - 1918)

Burial:

Riverside Cemetery
Cody, Park County,
Wyoming, USA

<http://www.findagrave.com>

NEXT SCOUT ISSUE INFORMATION

The deadline for the July 2013 issue of *The Scout* is **June 15, 2013**. Please send ideas and materials to the Layout Editor: Linda Omohundro
omohndro@sbcglobal.net

614-746-4179

*We do not have the name of the one who volunteered to be the July 2013 Guest Editor. If you are the one or would like to be the one, please contact Linda. Thank you.

THE CIVIL WAR

S S N I C O C C A P Z Y M M S E C P V N
P M H L H C X Y D R O W S B M M A J T P
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ATLANTA
BAYONET
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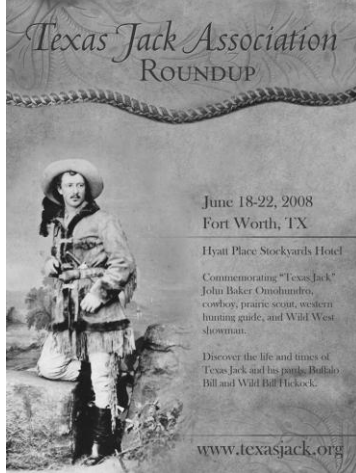
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THE TEXAS JACK SCOUT



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 OLD COWBOY AN' THE ANGEL...January 2011

By: Driftin' AaronG

*It was early one bright sunny morn when the old cowboy rose from his bed
Pulled on his cowboy boots, his old spurs an' placed the Stetson upon his head*

*A cup o' strong black coffee awaited him an' then he was out the door
To the corral he walked an' saddled the ol' bay an' to ride was one more chore*

*This old cowboy had worked the ranch for many a year
Been successful an' raised a family that was in his heart so very dear*

*Today was the day to saddle up an' ride the high ridge
Time to ride upward an' across the ol' bridge*



*He rode with a purpose ever' mile he went
Upward and onward he felt he was sent*

*On that far ridge so many many years ago
He fought the rustlers that came from the far valley below*

*As he crossed the ol' bridge he saw the worn out ol' marker at the grave below
An' wondered why he had lived so long always so tired he felt he'd never know*

*But on this fall day he had a premonition that would answer his need
To be the man he was he could only live by the cowboy creed*

*To work hard from sunup to sundown an' show the world he had grit
To give his best in all that he done an' still have a little git up an' git*

*So finally reaching the ridge so high up towards the blue sky
He stopped at a lonesome far off edge an' gave a soft sigh*

*A single lonely tear rolled down one cheek an' fell to the ground
As he sat alone in the saddle an' rememberin' that storm as it began with a soft sound*

*He thought back in time an' thought about that stormy night
An' how he pulled back on the reins to make his protective fight*

*For he'd killed all the rustlers down by the ol' bridge that night
But one had rode away an' up to the high ridge with all his might*

*It was there on that dark stormy night so many years past
The rustler had disappeared an' the thunder an' lightning was there to last*

THE TEXAS JACK SCOUT

*The horse reared and stammered in wild panic of this wicked storm that was here
But the cowboy hung on tryin' to get the horse under control without any fear*

*The thunder roared an' the lightning struck across the dark stormy sky
An' through it all this old cowboy saw an angel lookin' down at him with a
silent cry*



*It was then that he was able to gallop off away from the edge
Goin' after the stampedin' herd an' tryin' to keep from goin' to the ledge*

*The ledge gave way but this cowboy rode down the slope to save his runnin' steers
Now many years later this old cowboy remembers that night with flowin' tears*

*Ever' year at this time he wanders this land to see the place where he first saw the angel on
high*

This simple old cowboy rememberin' the angel with a soft warm lovin' sigh

*He turned his ol' bay an' rode down past the ol' bridge toward the ranch house all alone
An' angel that night he'd seen in a heavenly glow through the storm had shown*

*He smiled as he walked back into the warm house where his loving wife stood
The old cowboy then gave her a warm hug like ever' cowboy should*

WILLCOX, ARIZONA

By: Driftin' AaronG

I first discovered Willcox, AZ, in October 2012, when I moved my travel trailer here to spend the winter. Willcox is a small town on I-10, about 80 miles east of Tucson. The first thing I discovered was that it was a town filled with very friendly down-home kind of folks. It is the birthplace of the 1940's and 50's cowboy star Rex Allen and his famous horse, Koko.

Railroad Avenue is the real history of Willcox, which was founded in 1880 and was a stopping off point for the U.S. Cavalry that spent much of its time chasing bands of Apaches led by Cochise and Geronimo.

The heart of Willcox in my opinion is Railroad Ave., which supports the Rex Allen Museum and Movie Theater. There is also a Marty Robbins Museum. In the

spring they celebrate the Marty Robbins festival, and in the fall they celebrate Rex Allen days.



I met a lady, whose name is Teresa, that works in the Chamber of Commerce


THE TEXAS JACK SCOUT

here in Willcox, and of course I began talking about Texas Jack. She was very receptive and offered to place Texas Jack posters and the poem, "Spirit of Texas Jack" on their wall with other historic photos from around Arizona. She also stood for a photo with the posters that is shown on page 26.

Another photo I took is at Marshal Bo Downey's Mercantile store at the 1800's poker table shown below with a saloon girl holding a Texas Jack poster, along with Marshal Bo himself and me. If you look closely you'll see another Texas Jack poster on the far wall. Marshal Bo also heads up the Marshal Bo Gunslingers, and they put on a live show every Saturday afternoon for the many visitors that come to Willcox. One of his gunslingers portrays Texas Jack

Vermillion that I wrote about in the November 2012 issue of the *Scout*.

If you come to visit Willcox and you're driving or pulling an RV, then be sure and stop at the Sagebrush RV Park on the west side of town. It's a very warm and inviting RV park with lots of friendly folks. In their office you'll see my poem, "The Mighty Sagebrush Run."

The more traveling I do, the more I seem to talk about Texas Jack. Everyone seems to like what I say, and I feel it's a great way to get people to become more aware of a great man and his time in a vast wild America. The man we know as a frontier scout, cowboy, famous actor, and the man who became another true legend of the Old West... 



Photos by Aaron Poff



PLEASE VISIT THE NEW & IMPROVING TEXAS
JACK ASSOCIATION WEBSITE!

<http://www.texasjack.org>

Thank you to our new webmaster Rand McKinney

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The Texas Jack Scout

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