

# The TEXAS JACK SCOUT

Volume V NO. 1

March 1989



WILLIAM F. CODY  
("Buffalo Bill")

*The World's Greatest Exhibitor and Last of the Famous Frontier Scouts*

## When Buffalo Bill Came to Town

he was a handsome man and what I want to know is how do you like your blueeyed boy Mister Death

— e.a. cummings

They are all gone now: the great bisons which roamed the Valley of Virginia and as far west as the Grand Canyon, the Indian warriors who were the terror of the Great Plains, and the two-fisted, two-gun tough guys who were the Knights of the Golden West are all passed on. But Buffalo Bill lives forever. He had a special love for Virginia. Almost every year, for the quarter century that Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show was, the cowboy-and-Indian extravaganza began each session under the big top in Richmond, touring the world.

The Wild West (as 'twere known) wintered oftentimes in Virginia at General Beale's farm. The buffalo and livestock were well-watered and well cared-for at the Virginia farm.

Why Virginia as fountainhead of Buffalo Bill's Wild West? Perhaps it was a matter of friendship. One of Buffalo Bill's earliest and closest friends was a fellow named John Baker Omohundro, popularly known as "Texas Jack."

Omohundro was born in Palmyra, Fluvanna County, on July 26, 1846. He fought in the last years of the War Between the States as a scout of J.E.B. Stuart, and then migrated to Texas where he became a cowboy. After trailing a herd to Nebraska, he became acquainted with William Frederick Cody, a man called "California Joe," a lawman named Hickock who was also known as "Wild Bill," and other scouts and peace officers.

# The President's MESSAGE

I hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday Season! 1989 looks to be a very busy year for us as we begin planning the next Texas Jack Rally. Also, we must not forget to continue with our goal to make Texas Jack well known and bring him the belated recognition he deserves.

The Texas Jack Rally in Richmond was terrific! I really enjoyed meeting my relatives and other members of the Association. I'm really looking forward to the Rally in Leadville, Colorado.

I have really enjoyed hearing from so many of you. A big thank you; to those, who have already renewed their membership. Please keep those membership dues coming along with your cards and letters. We love to hear from you!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Wyches, the Nees and my staff for their support. They have really been a big help to me. I wouldn't be able to do my job without them.

If you have any suggestions or comments you would like to share with us concerning the Association, please feel free to write or call me or any of the other officers.

I hope to see each and everyone of you at the Texas Jack Rally in Leadville, Colorado on June 28 thru July 1, 1990. Until next time...

*Sue*  
Sue Omohundro Allen

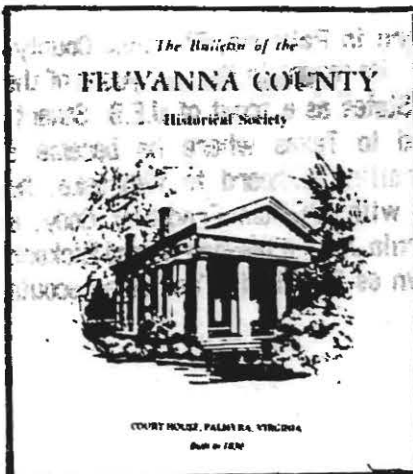
- Malvern H. Omohundro, Jr., Richmond, VA ..Chairman
- Sue O. Allen, Richmond, VA .....President
- Edna Marie Nees Banton, Meherrin, VA. Vice President
- Mary Nees Golladay, Scottsville, VA ..... Secretary
- Edna N. Nees, Scottsville, VA ..... Asst. Secretary
- R. C. Omohundro, Jr., Fork Union, Va. .... Treasurer
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- Dennis J. Greene, Palos Verdes, CA ..... Director
- \* Frank R. Sullivan, Springfield, IL ..... Founder
- Nellie Snyder Yost, N. Platte, NE .. Historical Advisor
- Frank A. Lydic, North Platte, NE ..... Poet Laureat

### HONORARY MEMBERS:

- Mrs. Henry R. Coe: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, WY
- The Earl of Dunraven VII: Grandnephew of the Earl of Dunraven IV (author of THE GREAT DIVIDE, HUNTING IN THE YELLOWSTONE AND CANADIAN NIGHTS), County Limerick, Ireland
- Dr. Paul Fees: Curator, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, WY
- \*Mr. Fred H. Garlow: Grandson of William F. (Buffalo Bill) Cody, Cody, WY
- The Knight of Glin: Great Grandson of the Earl of Dunraven IV, County Limerick, Ireland
- Mr. Herschel C. Logan: Author of BUCKSKIN AND SATIN (Biography of Texas Jack), Santa Ana, CA
- The Earl of Meath: Grandson of the Earl of Dunraven IV County Wicklow, Ireland
- Mrs. Nellie Snyder Yost: Author of BUFFALO BILL, THE CALL OF THE RANGE, NO TIME ON MY HANDS, and MEDICINE LODGE, North Platte, NE

\*Deceased

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



### TALES OF THE LEGENDARY TEXAS JACK

On Sunday, October 23, 1988, Edna Nees addressed the Fluvanna County Historical Society's Annual Fall Meeting. Her topic was "Tales of the Legendary Texas Jack." She presented a condensed autobiography on Texas Jack which was well received by those attending.

Omohundro became well-known as a guide for the Earl of Dunraven's famous Colorado mountain hunting expedition. He was a reporter for the New York Herald during the Indian Wars of 1876. But it was as a compadre of Buffalo Bill and as a player in his Wild West that Omohundro is best known. His nephew (the son of his youngest brother), Malvern Hill Omohundro, Jr., still lives in Richmond, VA.

For the days of Buffalo Bill's Wild West, while gone now, are well recent enough that the crack of a Winchester repeating rifle the panapoly of feathered and buckskinned Indian chiefs, and taste of sasparilla and corn-on-the-cob are with us yet in the mind's eye and ear and taste.

This is the story of Buffalo Bill in Virginia. It begins almost acentury ago with the Wild West closing with the finale of the Virginia State Fair in October of 1888, and ends on June 4, 1913, a quarter century later . . . and a handful of time before Buffalo Bill's own death . . . in Wytheville.

It was an era of triumph, and of tragedy. As often as not, Buffalo Bill would close his annual tour in Virginia, heading into Winter in Danville, quarters. The performance for October 29, 1901, was cancelled because of a tragic train wreck, enroute from Charlotte, North Carolina. Some dozen horses were killed, and one of the young, beautiful, and talented stars of the show, Annie Oakley, was seriously injured.

The Great Wild West trumpeted The State of Richmond. Buffalo Bill in Town thundered The Norfolk Dispatch.

Vast crowds Witness Buffalo Bill Parade echoed The Richmond News. The Wild West Aggregation Delighting Thousands proclaimed The Lynchburg Advance.

I am Coming! his multi-hued posters proclaimed, and, surrendering to patriotism and pride and passion, the crowds cheered.

Here on October 15, in the ragtime year that was 1897 is how The Norfolk Dispatch recorded for Virginians then and now the day that Buffalo Bill and his Wild West came to town:

"Col. William F. Cody, better known as "Buffalo Bill," and his Congress of Rough Riders of the World arrived in town early today and completely captured the city, giving one of the finest parades of any kind ever seen here. It was witnessed by thousands of people who lined the streets six deep all along the route. There was nothing fake about it either, the horsemen of the different races being genuine. The 'Congress' arrived from Petersburg over the Norfolk and Western railway and promptly at 10 o'clock started. It was led by the famous scout and warrior, "Buffalo Bill," who drove a handsome pair of horses and who looked the picture of health, having aged but very little since last here. An English footman sat behind. It was indeed a strange an through the streets of this city, and one that it is a rare pleasure to see.

"After Colonel Cody came the Britishers mounted on fine steeds, and they maintained the dignity that is characteristic of their race. Next came the noble savages . . . the Indians . . . in all their war paint and glory, and the aborigines were for the time centers of attraction. The ruddy faced German cavalymen followed and Cossacks from far-off Russia followed in the rear.

"Some more Indians were sandwiched in between and then came the Arabs of the Sahara mounted on magnificent horses. The Mexican Ruralies, Argentine Gauchos, Spanish Vaqueros, Texan Rangers and Asiatic Tartars followed, and then came the rough riders . . . the American cowboys. Following was a detachment of the Sixth United States Cavalry, who were followed by Uncle Sam's cavalymen."

So it was. It was the kind of circus, the combination of Heaven and heroics to which every little boy and the little boy in ever old man might run away. Reported The Richmond Evening Leader, April 26, 1901: "Willie Kahn, aged 10 and Willie Schwarkins, aged 11, arrived in the city today with Buffalo Bill and stretched out on the grass alongside the tracks this morning for a nap. Policeman Rause spied the boys, who had the air of tramps. They were red-eyed and had evidently slept little during the night. They were taken to the Third Police Station, where they will be held until their parents can be heard from."

But for Buffalo Bill, for his Congress of Rough Riders of the World, his Indian warriors, and dozens of other performers it was, for 30 years, ending for Virginians in Wytheville, on that June evening in 1913, "On with the show."

Who can not picture the gleam in the reporter's eye, the fervent scratching of his pencil, the fever of enthusiasm caught by the typesetter and the reader, even today, nine decades later from this account of the Wild West, led by Colonel Cody himself come to Richmond in the season finale on October 4, 1895.

From the Richmond Times:

"The performance opened with the "Star Spangled Banner," which was beautifully rendered by the cowboy band. After this came the grand review and the crowd had a chance to catch glimpse of the hundreds of people that go to make up this great show. In addition to the cowboys, Mexicans, Gauchos, Arabs, scouts, guides and American negroes that went to make up the procession there was a detachment of fully equipped soldiers of American, England, France, Germany and Russia.

"All these made a grand show as they slowly filed around the ring and in the night exhibition it was made more impressive by the flashlights, which, when turned on the glittering uniforms of the soldiers, cast thousands of beams of light into the darkness of the night.

"Miss Annie Oakley, the celebrated shot, was then introduced, and she did some wonderful work with a rifle that was only equalled by the shooting of Johnnie Baker and Buffalo Bill himself. Miss Oakley is easily the queen of markswomen, and much of her shooting was marvelous.

"Next to Buffalo Bill the Riffian Arab horsemen easily had the call in the public favor. Their riding was not only of the hair-raising description, but their feats of strength and tumbling were a very interesting part of the performance. They built human pyramids that towered four men high, tumbled, turned handsprings, flipflops, forward and back, and turned cartwheels with twists in them that fairly took one's breath away."

He founded the extravaganza that they called the "Wild West" in 1883 and made his several fortunes by exploiting a nostalgic passion looked backward.

"All of my interests are still with the West . . . the modern West," he wrote near the end of his life.

Indeed, he was a most modern westerner. He used his fame as a soapbox to speak out for the rights of Indians and women and to plead for proper management of natural resources. He made constructive and long-term investments in canals and irrigation in stock breeding, in coal and oil development, in publishing, town-building, and tourism.

Wintering here sometimes, visiting here oftentimes, and strutting forth into the world to tour his annual extravaganza all times, Buffalo Bill, Col. William F. Cody, was, in the best sense a Virginian by choice. He was a Virginian, an Iowan, a Nebraskan, all these things and more, a Westerner, and most especially, an American.

He was truly the quintessential Westerner and as much a symbol of America's the new and a determination to succeed . . . qualities which, perhaps characterize all people who place themselves on the frontiers of human endeavor.

He was a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor and, for a time, America's greatest showman. He was a good husband, some say, the best friend of the wild old warrior called Sitting Bull.


In an era of larger-than-life figures, Col. Cody became America's most famous celebrity. Every president from Ulysses Grant to Woodrow Wilson consulted him on Indian affairs.

His good and close friends included artist Frederick Remington and writer Mark Twain. Recalled another friend, Annie Oakley, "He was the simplest of men, as comfortable with cowboys as with kings."


He was the former Pony Express boy who rode his white stallion before the Queen of England and the Emperor of all the Russians.

Yet he returned to Virginia and the eastern towns and cities (he did not tour too much further South) again and again and again, not to earn a fortune and be remembered as a showman, but to fund his grand plan for the opening up of rugged Wyoming to the benefits society


**OPERA HOUSE!**  
**Fri & Sat, April 17 & 18**  
LINKS BETWEEN CIVILIZATION AND SAVAGERY  
**ON THE TRAIL!**

**THE Originals!**  **HEROES!** KIYING


**BUFFALO BILL**  
HON. W. F. CODY.

**BORDER PERILS!**  **INDIAN FIGHTS!**

**TEXAS JACK!**  
J. F. O'NEILL

**DARING DEEDS!**  **Representative Men!**

**WILD BILL!**  
J. F. HICKOK

**DANGER!**  **INDIAN POLICY!** TREACHERY!

**MORLACCHI!**  
IF A NEW AND THRILLING DRAMA OF WINTERY BORDER LIFE  
**Scouts of the Plains!**  
**FULL DRAMATIC COMPANY!**  
 Elaborate Dresses.  
HEALTHY MOVIES, BUSINESS MANAGER

Toward the end, as Europe rushed into the "War to End All Wars" and some fellow named Goldwin and Warner and Mayer were setting up business in Los Angeles (and hiring a retired gunman named Wyatt Earp as a "cinematic technical advisor"), here is how Buffalo Bill wanted to be remembered:

"I don't want to die and have people say, 'Oh there goes another old showman.' I want the people of Wyoming who are living on the land that has been made fertile by my work and expenditure to remember me and say, 'This is the man who opened up Wyoming to the best of civilization.'"

An old friend, who himself had been a cowboy, who shared Col. Cody's love of Virginia, and as well owned a cabin on the Blue Ridge, marked the warrior's death on January 10, 1917.

Remarked Col. Theodore Roosevelt:

"He was one of those men, steelthawed and iron-nerved, whose daring progress opened the great West to settlement and civilization."

And that was how it was, from Hampton Roads to the Virginia Highlands, for a quarter century, when Buffalo Bill came to town. An article from The Virginian Magazine - May-June, 1985 issue.



*W. F. Cody*  
 "BUFFALO BILL"

## WELCOME NEW TJA MEMBERS!

I would like to welcome the following new members to the Texas Jack Association. We are so glad you decided to join us!

Ann Alexander Omohundro  
P. O. Box 5  
Fork Union, Virginia 23055

Ann Omohundro Millstead  
5593 Sedwick Court  
Frederick, MD. 21701

I would like to challenge each and every one of you to sign up at least one new member in 1989. We will call it "Texas Jack's Membership Drive." The member signing up the most new members from now until the Rally in June, will receive a BIG SURPRISE! So let's get to work!

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Peggy and Mark Greene on a new daughter, Stephanie Louise, born, Nov. 29, 1988. Paternal grandparents are Julie and Dennis Greene.

## MEMORIALS

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our sympathy and prayers to those who have lost family member recently:

John S. Nees' mother - Mrs. Helen Nees Jones, daughter-in-law of Arabella Omohundro Nees. Mrs. Jones of Scottsville, Virginia, died on November 30, 1988.

Arthur Scott Omohundro, 80, son of Edward and Alice Omohundro, died on September 26, 1988 at his home in Buena Vista.

Richard Omohundro Harwood, 16, died February 5, 1989. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harwood, and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Richard "Dick" Omohundro, both of Gypsy Hill Farm in Gochland, Virginia.



"R.C. Omohundro" "Sue O. Allen" "George Smith"

### THE OMOHUNDRO DEAD SHOT - CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK!

One day while working on the SCOUT at John and Edna Nees', who should we see coming out of the woods but R.C. Omohundro, Jr. from Fork Union, Virginia and George Smith from Palmyra, Virginia with two pheasants. Both grinning from ear to ear over their kill, Edna took a picture of the two of them as a keepsake. John informed us that the both of them had only been trying for the past two years to kill a pheasant and Saturday, January 28, 1989 was the day!

## PROJECT REPORTS

No report has been received from Mark Greene regarding project #1 - Add a Texas Jack postcard to the Old West Collection Series on sale at Western gift and souvenir shops. I'm sure he will keep us posted on his progress.

Jack H. Omohundro is working on project #2 - Nominating Texas Jack to the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center in Oklahoma City. He wrote a letter to Byron Price, Executive Director of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame on February 23, 1989. Mr. Price's reply was as follows: The policies regarding criteria for induction are under review and will be revised at the upcoming meeting of the Hall board of directors on March 18, 1989. I will be happy to forward new guidelines as soon as they are available. Traditionally, induction ceremonies are held at the Western Heritage Awards each March for qualified nominees submitted the previous year. Mr. Omohundro would be considered for induction in 1990.

Sue Allen is working on project #3 - Petition Yellowstone National Park to name a peak for Texas Jack. Letters have been written to the new Secretary of the Interior, Mike Lujan; Senator Wallop and Senator Stevens regarding project #3. I hope to hear from Secretary Lujan soon, so we can get started on the procedures necessary to accomplish our goal.

Project # 4 - Research Josephine Morlacchi's family is still available. If there is any interested in taking on this project please contact one of the TJA Officers.

No report has been received from Franklin Phillips regarding project #5 - Work to have Texas Jack mentioned in the display of J.E.B. Stuart artifacts in the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond. I'm sure he will keep us posted on his progress.



### FROM THE MAIL POUCH . . .

Jane and I want you all to know that we had a wonderful time at the "Rally" and we are so glad to get to know so many more of our "kin."

Jack H. Omohundro, Crowley, LA

The September issue of the "Texas Jack Scout" was such an interesting one. I certainly did enjoy it.

Betty O. Johnson, Tampa, FL

Angela Wyche volunteered to work on Project #6 - Have Texas Jack mentioned on the next brochure printed for the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody. On January 23, 1989, she received a letter from Paul Fees, Curator of the Buffalo Bill Museum. His reply was as follows: Regarding your suggestion that Texas Jack be featured on our brochure, I am afraid that it probably won't happen soon. Jack was a fascinating and charismatic figure, and he certainly has a close association with Cody. However, all we really have to exhibit are a few photographs and one wonderful poster. On the other hand, we are able to devote an entire corner of the museum to Annie Oakley where we exhibit quite a few personal items, firearms, and even a footlocker that belonged to her. Perhaps some day we will find enough Texas Jack material to create a full-scale exhibit. I would like to be able to feature Jack more prominently.

Dennis and Julie Greene presented a proposal to the TJA Officers regarding the possibility of erecting a road marker such as the one featured in the September, 1988 issue of the SCOUT to be placed on the outskirts of Leadville, Colorado. Let us know what you think! We'd love to hear your comments.

Maivern, Angela and Kitty Wyche presented a proposal to the TJA regarding an iron fence being placed around Texas Jack's grave. Let us know what you think! We'd love to hear your comments.

AS YOU KNOW SOME OF THE ABOVE PROJECTS WILL REQUIRE FUNDING. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE ASSOCIATION HEAR YOUR COMMENTS ON HOW YOU WISH THE MONEY IN THE TJA TREASURY BE SPENT. WE CAN'T PROMISE ANY OF THESE PROJECTS WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE NEXT TJA RALLY. OUR FUNDS ARE VERY LIMITED. PLEASE LET US HEAR YOUR COMMENTS.

My congratulations to the Editor for a most interesting September issues of the SCOUT. It was indeed a pleasure to attend the dedication of the Highway Marker and meet so many TJ friend in July. I am looking ahead to seeing them again.

Paul Perkins, Houston, TX

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

## SEPTEMBER

Kendel Cody Cornwell  
Richard Nelson Goodman  
Dennis Greene  
Julie O. Greene  
John S. Nees  
Elmer A. Omohundro  
Jack H. Omohundro  
James B. Omohundro  
Jim Omohundro  
John B. Omohundro  
Malvern H. Omohundro, Jr.  
Richard E. Omohundro  
Barbara Switzer  
Sally Omohundro Whitescarver  
J. Leroy Wingenbach  
Edward E. Wood  
Benjamin W. Wyche  
Malvern H. Wyche, Sr.  
Malvern H. Wyche Jr.

## OCTOBER

Sue Omohundro Allen  
Marie Nees Banton  
Dr. Henry Doerge  
Thomas Everette  
Carole Bellhause Horstman  
Melody Kramer  
Berryman L. Omohundro, Jr.  
Jack H. Omohundro, Jr.  
Gloria Palmer  
Judith Ammonet Phillips  
Nancy Phillips  
Linda L. Stratz  
Betty Woods  
Kitty Vanlew Wyche

## NOVEMBER

Heather M. Gilbert  
Richard T. Goodman  
Fred Hayles  
Joyce Omohundro Miller  
James Moyer  
Richard E. Omohundro  
Angela B. Phillips  
Angela G. Wyche  
June W. Wyche  
Kelly L. Wyche

Redondo Beach, CA  
McLean, VA  
Palos Verdes, CA  
Palos Verdes, CA  
Scottsville, VA  
Diamond Bar, CA  
Crowley LA  
Sykesville, MD  
El Paso, TX  
Panorama City, CA  
Richmond, VA  
Littleton, CO  
North Platte, NE  
Richmond, VA  
Leadville, OH  
Springfield, IL  
Arlington, VA  
Va. Beach, VA  
Va. Beach, VA

Richmond, VA  
Meherrin, VA  
Middleburgh, NY  
Grizzard Cary, NC  
Springfield, IL  
Dallas, TX  
Sykesville, MD  
Las Vegas NE  
Santa Ana, CA  
Alexandria, VA  
Newport News, VA  
Santa Ana, CA  
Springfield, IL  
Va. Beach, VA

Fayetteville, NC  
Jacksonville, FL  
Westminster, CA  
Hohoku, NJ  
Vienna, VA  
Belmont, MA  
Richmond, VA  
Va. Beach, VA  
Arlington, VA  
Arlington, VA

## DECEMBER

Chester T. Bolling  
Mrs. Henry Coe  
Evelyn B. Empie  
Mary Nees Golladay  
Dr. Stephen M. Omohundro  
Katherine R. Wallace

Goochland, VA  
Cody, WY  
Palos Verdes, CA  
Scottsville, VA  
Champaign, IL  
Silver Springs, MD

## JANUARY

Beryl O. Caterson  
Dr. Marc Garza  
Mark Greene  
Peggy U. Greene  
John Burwell Phillips  
Mrs. Perkins Oglesby  
Ada Omohundro  
Alice K. Omohundro  
Judy Omohundro  
Oscar B. Omohundro, Jr.  
Paul Omohundro  
Dr. Richard M. Omohundro  
Rose O. Omohundro  
William D. Omohundro  
John Satterlee  
Melvin Schulte  
Steven J. Votan

Weaverville, CA  
Dallas, TX  
Jacksonville, FL  
Jacksonville, FL  
Richmond, VA  
Morresonville, IL  
Panorama City, CA  
Roseland, FI  
Santa Ana, CA  
Gordonsville, VA  
New Port Beach, CA  
Fulton, MO  
Lomita, CA  
Buffalo, NY  
Springfield, IL  
Pocahontas, IA  
Wellfleet, NE



## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

We would appreciate knowing how you feel about the newsletters that you have been receiving. Do they contain information that you find interesting? Do you have any suggestions or contributions? If so, we welcome them!

## THE "LONG DRIVE"

*Cowboys drive great herds of cattle across the Plains to move them from grazing lands to the cow towns.*

In 1867, the Kansas Pacific Railway began to reach out into the plains. At Abilene, Kansas, J.G. McCoy established the first of the cow towns from which cattle, driven from Texas, could be shipped to the markets of the East. Soon the map of the American West became dotted with trails. Cattlemen from the wild plains of the Southwest followed them as they made the "long drive" to the cow towns on the Kansas Pacific and the Union Pacific railroads.

The Chisholm Trail began at the Red River in Texas and crossed the Colorado just below present-day Austin, Texas. It stretched 700 miles to Wichita and Abilene. The Old Shawnee Trail entered Kansas at Baxter Springs. The Middle or West Shawnee Trail branched off at the Canadian River and led to Junction City, Kansas. The Pecos Trail joined its west and southwest branches at Horsehead Crossing on the Peco. The Panhandle Trail crossed the mesas of the Stake Plains.

A cowboy, or "waddy", led a rugged life on a drive. A trail herd averaged about 3,000 cattle, and a number of men were required to manage it. First came the scout, who usually rode a day's journey ahead, looking for water and safe fords across streams. At the head of the herd, one on each side, jogged the "point men," or lead riders.

The "swing riders," or "flank men," came next, and at the rear of the herd were the "drag men," or "tail riders." The leader of the outfit was the "trail boss," and the second in command was the "straw boss." The Texas longhorn, a descendant of the Andalusian cattle brought into Mexico by the Spaniards in 1519, was an animal of habit. When a herd moved, the strongest longhorn pushed to the front and usually kept this position of leadership throughout the drive. Each day each animal tended to take the same place in the herd that he had the day before. At night, when the herd rested, cowboys stood watch, singing and whistling to soothe the cattle. With good reason, these night riders sang:

*What keeps the herd from running,  
Stampeding far and wide?  
The cowboy's long, low whistle  
And singing by their side.*

An average day's drive, from sunup to late afternoon, covered from ten to fifteen miles. Many dangers threatened the trail rider. Just before dawn he looked for Indians, who liked to steal his horses. A clap of thunder during a storm—even a loud voice at night or the striking of a match—could set off a stampede. Buffalo herds, dry mesa country, and flooded rivers could also mean trouble. Yet the cowboy, proud and tough, kept the cattle moving. The first summer that the Kansas Pacific reached Abilene, an estimated 35,000 cattle were driven there from Texas. From 1867 to 1884 more than 5,000,000 Texas longhorns followed the trails to shipping points in the North.

When the cowboy reached the end of the trail, he wanted to forget the hardships of the drive and have a good time. He found his fun in the dancing, drinking, and gambling places of such cow towns as Abilene, Dodge City, and Wichita in Kansas, Miles City in Montana, Ogallala and Sidney in Nebraska, and Cheyenne in Wyoming.

Those were the days of the "wild and woolly" West, and there was little law in the cow towns. Often the sound of the six-shooter rang out in the dusty streets. Dodge City, which was known as "the cowboy's capital," counted twenty-five killings in one year. Its cemetery was called Boot Hill, because so many men who were buried there had died "with their boots on."

#### OUTLAWS AND MARSHALS

The "bad man" became a familiar figure. Later stories were told of outlaws like William H. "Billy the Kid" Bonney, Sam Bass, Johnny Ringo, and Bullwack Jones—stories that made these men into heroes. But in real life they were simply bandits and thieves and killers, and anything but heroes.

The stories about the "law men," the marshals of the cow towns, were just as inaccurate. Many of the marshals were known killers who were given their jobs because they were quick on the draw. One of them was Wild Bill Hickok, who strode the streets of Hays City and Abilene in a Prince Albert coat and fancy vest.

Wyatt Earp, who cleaned up Tombstone, Arizona, was a bad man who reformed. Bat Masterson, the marshal of Dodge City, was a gunman before he put on his badge. But there were some honest men who enforced the law—marshals like Patrick Floyd Garrett, who hunted down Billy the Kid, and Tom Smith of Abilene, who put aside his guns and went after desperadoes with his bare hands.

Meanwhile, the "cattle kingdom" was growing. By 1876 it had spread over western Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming, the Dakotas, Colorado, and parts of Utah, Nevada, and New Mexico. Within a few years it brought great changes to the West.

In the early 1870's, for example, a traveler in Montana could have gone miles without seeing so much as a trapper's camp. Huge herds of buffalo "darkened the rolling plains." Every hill every ravine, every thicket had its antelope, elk, and howling coyotes. By 1883, there were no more buffalo, and antelope and elk were scarce. Instead, 600,000 head of cattle grazed on the range. Montana had become a cattle state.

The cattlemen knew both good times and bad. Times were bad everywhere in America during the early 1870's, and the cattleman found few buyers for his herds. He grazed his cattle on public lands and waited for things to get better.

Even when the cattle market was booming—when steers on the Texas plains brought from \$35 to \$50 a head and beef cattle sold in Chicago for \$9.35 per hundred weight—the cattleman had his troubles. He had to be on the lookout for "rustlers" who stole cattle. It was easy enough for these outlaws to stampede a herd and run off with a good part of it. As homesteaders settled in increasing numbers on the Great Plains, they tried to fence off trails and water holes. Sometimes there were small shooting wars between the cattlemen and the homesteaders.

But the cowboys kept the herds moving, bringing beef to a growing population, helping to build America.



Taken from Encyclopedias

PLEASE RENEW THESE MEMBERSHIPS IN THE TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION FOR JANUARY, 1989. ENCLOSED IS \$15.00 PER MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR.\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.  
51-H Braeburn Drive  
Richmond, Virginia 23233

\*\* Dues and contributions to the Association are tax deductible.

Membership dues are payable January 1 of each year. No reminders are mailed. For those of you who have not paid your '88 and/or '89 dues, you will receive this copy of the SCOUT only. We can't continue to operate the TJA without your support. So please get those dues in today!

### FUNDRAISERS

We have had several members interested in compiling receipts from other TJA members to make a Texas Jack Cookbook. If any of you are interested in pursuing this project, please let us hear from you and start sending in your receipts today.

Any interest in having TEXAS JACK SHIRTS made? One of our members surfaced the fundraising idea of having T-Shirts made with the Texas Jack logo. The cost of the shirt would be \$8.00 each plus an additional charge for shipping. The color of the shirt would be beige with the brown logo as featured on our stationary letterhead. They would be ordered in sizes S-M-L-XL in adult and S-M-L in children's. To keep the price at \$8.00 a shirt the minimum order would have to be 200. Let us hear from you if you are interested in pursuing this project. If you like the idea, we can get started now and have them ready for the Rally.

JAMES BUTLER HICKOK "WILD BILL" 1837-1876 was an American frontier scout and peace officer in the West. He was a tall man with a droopy mustache and brown hair that came to his shoulders. He won fame as a marksman. He had a reputation for great courage and skill, and controlled frontier outlaws singlehanded. But never killed a man except in self-defense or in the line of duty.

Hickok was born in Toby Grove, Ill. In 1855, he went to Kansas. There he did farm work, joined the Free State Army, and in 1858 became constable at Monticello. In 1859, he left as a teamster in a freight caravan for Santa Fe. He later worked as a stagecoach driver on the Santa Fe Trail and the Oregon Trail. In 1861, he went to Rock Creek, Nebraska, to recover from an attack by a bear. He quarreled with settlers at Rock Creek, and killed three of them; but was freed on grounds of self defense.

Later in 1861, Hickok took charge of a government wagon train carrying supplies from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to Sedalia, Mo. During the remainder of the Civil War, he served as a scout in the Union Army and as a guerrilla fighter. After he returned to Kansas, he fought against the Indians and scouted for Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer.

In 1869, Hickok was marshal of the rowdy frontier Kansas town of Hays City, later called Hays. For most of 1871, he served as marshal of the cattle town of Abilene, Kansas. There he killed a gambler, and by mistake, a special policeman. He later had another short term as marshal at Hays City. In 1872, he toured the East with the show troupe of Buffalo Bill. Wild Bill Hickok was shot to death in a saloon at Deadwood in the Dakota Territory. He was buried in a cemetery there.

*J.B. Hickok*  
"WILD BILL"

Taken from The World Book Encyclopedia



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