

The TEXAS JACK SCOUT

Volume XIII, Number 3

Fall 1998



Luncheon in the gardens of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center

THE 1998 TEXAS JACK ROUNDUP IN CODY, WYOMING

By Rick W. Omohundro, outgoing president

The Texas Jack Association's ninth biennial Roundup took place in Cody, WY on July 1 through July 4.

Thursday, July 2nd, began with a tour of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center's (BBHC) vaults. The tour was conducted by Dr. Paul Fees, the museum's chief curator. A couple of the tour's highlights were seeing an original Texas Jack

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Fellow TJA members;

I would like to express my appreciation for electing me as your president for the next two years. I sincerely hope that I will acquit myself as well as did my predecessors.

That being said, I have but one request of all of you: Get involved and stay involved! That is really two requests but heck, who's counting? While I will continue to press forward with our attempts to see that Jack is given his rightful place in the history of the west, it will require your support and participation to bring them to fruition.

Dennis and Julie Greene put it very aptly when they said (I'm paraphrasing here), "Repeated requests by one or two individuals are relatively easy to decline but if there was a groundswell of support for an action (such as getting Jack his own postage stamp) it becomes tougher to dismiss." I firmly believe that if we pull together, we'll be rewarded with results!

I would like to take this moment to plug our web site, www.texas-jack.org. As more and more of you come "online" I hope you will visit the site, offer suggestions, and maybe contribute some content. It already provides a wealth of information on Jack and his life. I'd like to see it include topical information on TJA members and their activities.

This brings me back to my request, your involvement! As with the Association, the website will only be what you make it. Submissions/suggestions for site content can be made through the site to the webmaster or you can contact me via e-mail or regular mail.

Again, thank you for your confidence and support.

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Robert Biff Hansen Springfield, MO
Mark Hansen Springfield, MO
Bobbie Hansen Springfield, MO
Ann Wyche Virginia Beach, VA
Barbara Curtis Yuba City, CA
Charles Curtis Yuba City, CA

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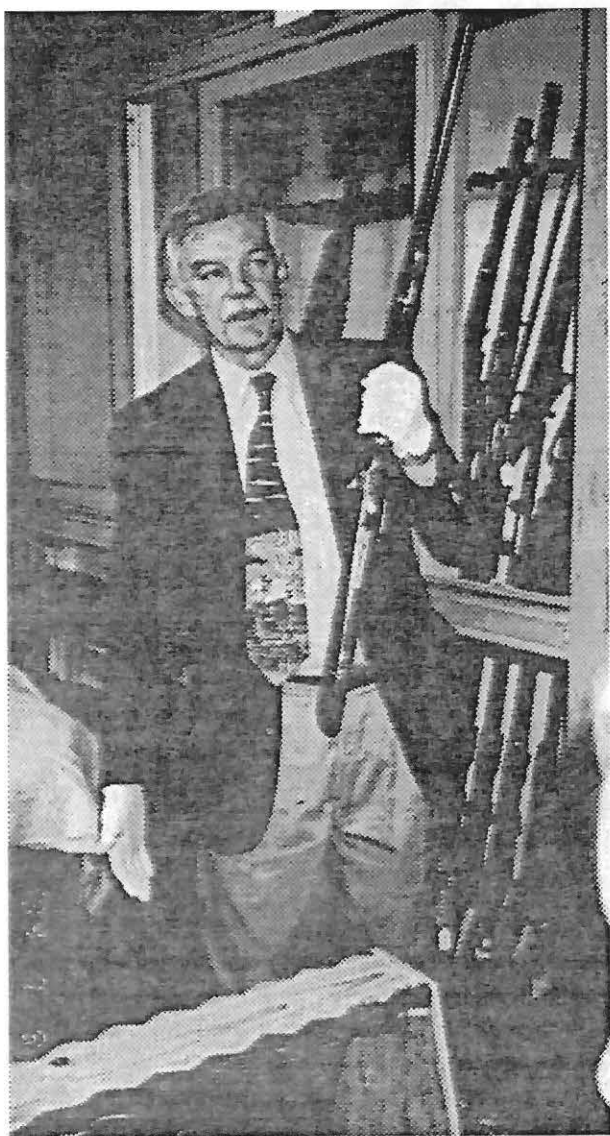
Mrs. Henry R. Coe, Cody WY
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The Earl of Dunraven VII, County Limerick, Ireland
Dr: Paul Fees, Cody, WY
Curator, Buffalo Bill Historical Center
Mr. Fred H. Garlow (deceased), Cody, WY
Grandson of W. F. Cody
The Knight of Glin, County Limerick, Ireland
Great-grandson of the Earl of Dunraven IV
Mr. Herschel C. Logan (deceased), Santa Ana, CA
Author of *Buckskin and Satin*
Mrs. Nellie Snyder Yost (deceased), North Platte, NE
Historian and author of *Buffalo Bill*

Roundup in Cody

(continued from page 1)

poster recently obtained by the museum and holding some of Buffalo Bill's and Annie Oakley's guns. A very nice luncheon was held at noon in one of the BBHC's gardens. That evening everyone met at the stadium for an entertaining night of rodeo. The Stampede rodeo was being held this same week and we were fortunate enough to see some of today's best rodeo performers. Dr. Fees also had written a synopsis on Texas Jack which was read to the crowd as well as having us introduced as a group.

Friday, July 3rd, began with some members taking an early whitewater rafting adventure while others attended a parade held on Main Street. The parade featured James Drury (Grand Marshall) who played the lead role in a TV show called "The Virginian." A couple even ventured as far as Yellowstone to take in the sights there. At 6:00 PM everyone met at the Irma Hotel to watch a reenactment of a shootout on the streets of a western town. The shootout featured Jim West as Wild Bill Hickok, the town's sheriff. Following the shootout Jim West and Ebb Tarr, a Buffalo Bill historical reenactor, joined us for dinner in the Governor's room of the Irma Hotel.



Dr. Paul Fees, curator of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, holds one of the many nineteenth-century guns stored in the museum vaults



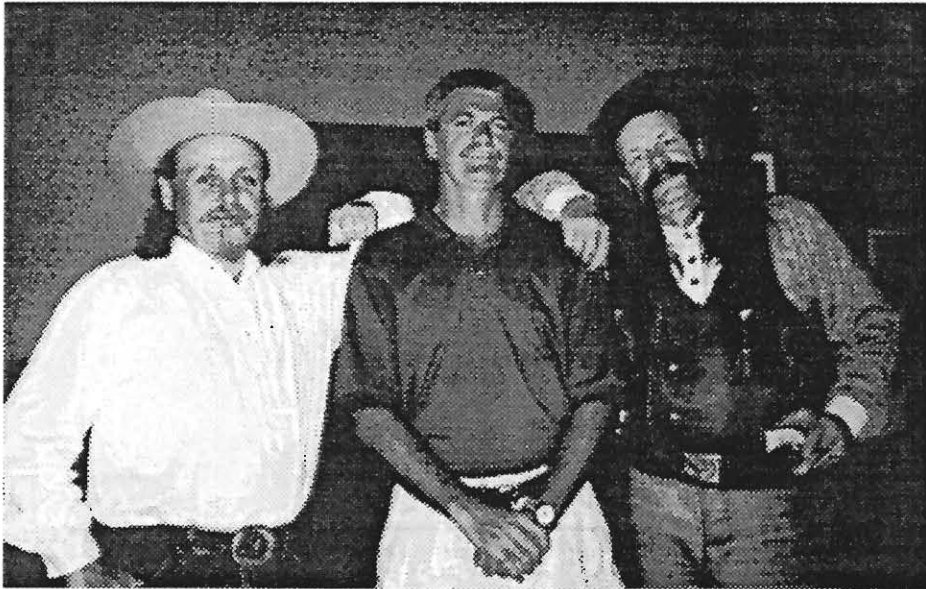
Nancy Omohundro, who helped organize the Roundup with her husband Rick and Edna Nees, poses at the banquet with Wild Bill Hickok (Jim West).

Jim and Ebb entertained us by answering questions about the lives and times of Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody.

Saturday, July 4th, started early with the TJA business meeting. Following the meeting, it was back to Main Street for breakfast and the last of three parades held in Cody over the past three days. Some visited the craft fair held at the City Park while others shopped along Main Street. At 6:00 PM everyone gathered for the social hour

prior to the banquet. Everyone visited and it was a good chance to take photos of those attending this year's Roundup. Again, we invited Jim West (Wild Bill), his wife Linda, and Ebb Tarr (Buffalo Bill) to be our guests. Once again they entertained us with stories about the characters they portray. Following the meal, everyone said their good-byes and parted ways until we gather again in Oklahoma City in the year 2000.

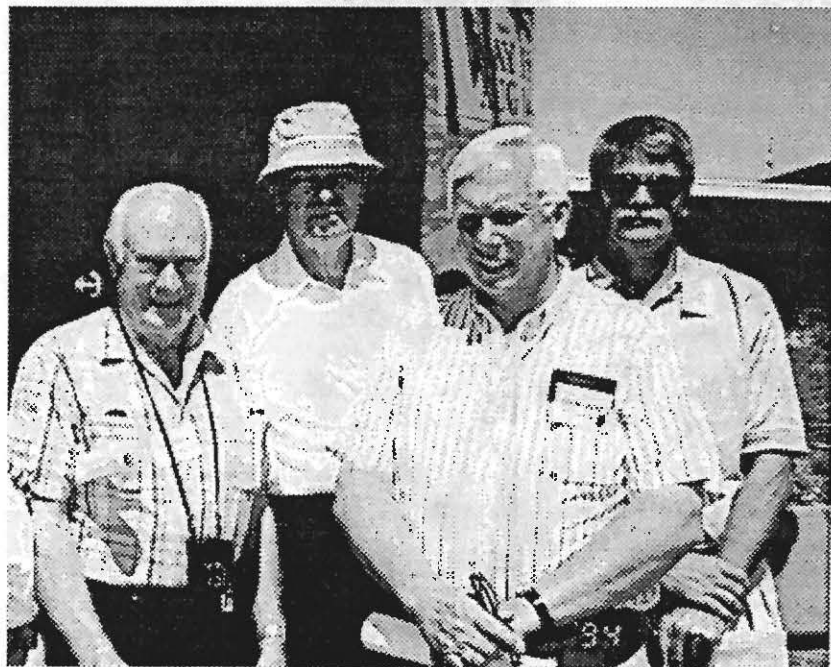
* * *



Outgoing president Rick W. Omohundro stands between "Buffalo Bill" and "Wild Bill Hickok" after their talk at the Irma Hotel.

Some of the TJA's stalwart leaders pose outside the Buffalo Bill Historical Center.

*[L to R]:
Jack Omohundro, Ben Wyche, Richard Bond Omohundro, Rick Omohundro*





At the banquet [L to R]: Rand McKinney, Kim Haeger, Jim Laise, Leonor Abraido-Fandino, Stephen Omohundro, Judy Phillips

New members Barbara and Charlie Mason share a table at the Irma Hotel with Nashville Roundup hosts Richard Bond and Joyce Omohundro



Cousins in Cody

A Genealogy by Harvey Willard

On the facing page is a genealogy of those attending the Roundup. Attendees' names have asterisks after them.

For the attendees directly descendant from John Burwell, Texas Jack is a great-uncle, or great-great uncle, etc.

For the attendees descendant from John Burwell's brother Richard, Texas Jack is a first cousin at various degrees of remove.

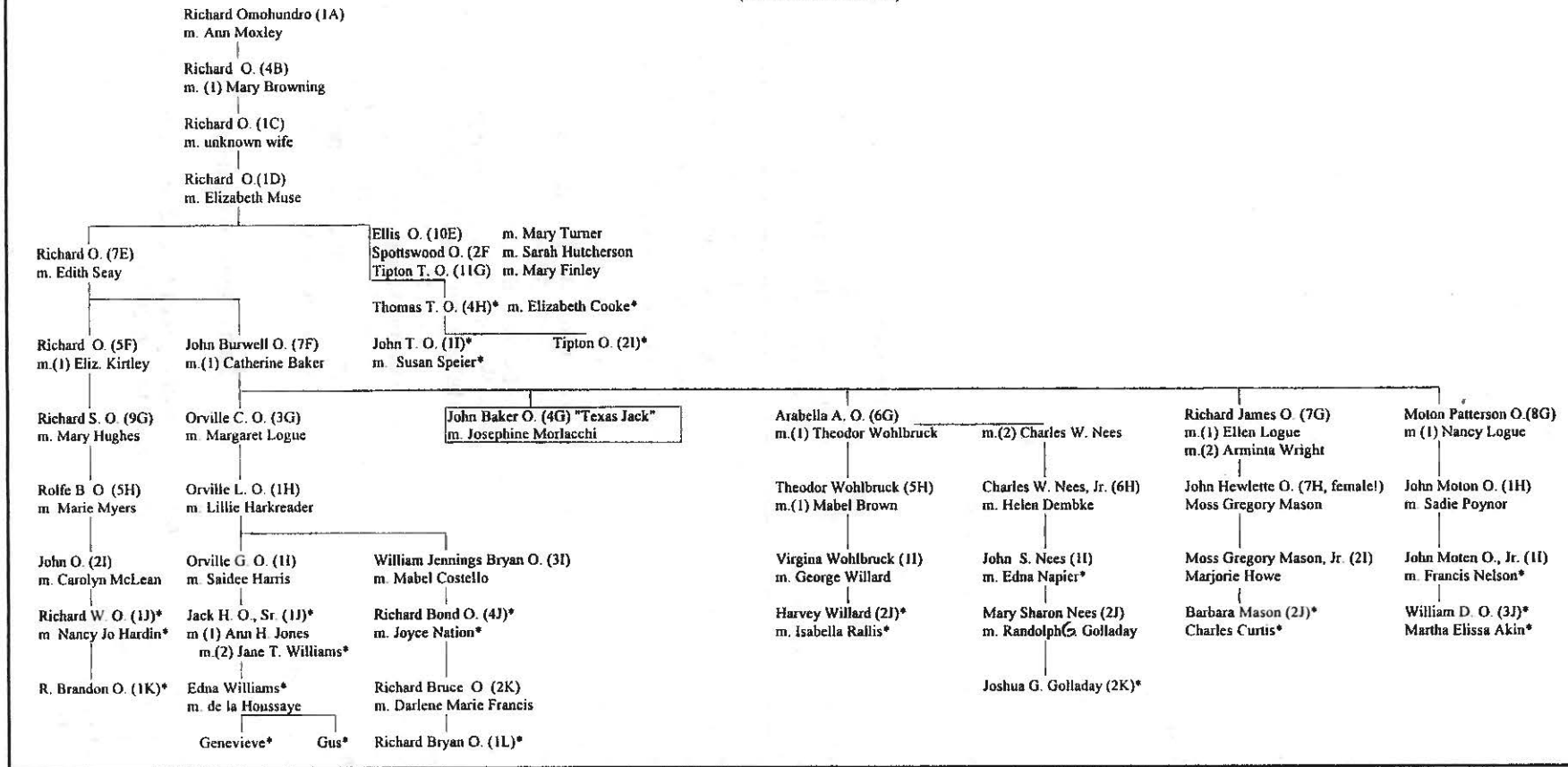
For those descendants of John Burwell's uncle Ellis, Texas Jack is a second cousin at various degrees of remove.



The Omohundro clan shoots the rapids on the Shoshone River

OMOHUNDRO GENEALOGY CHART

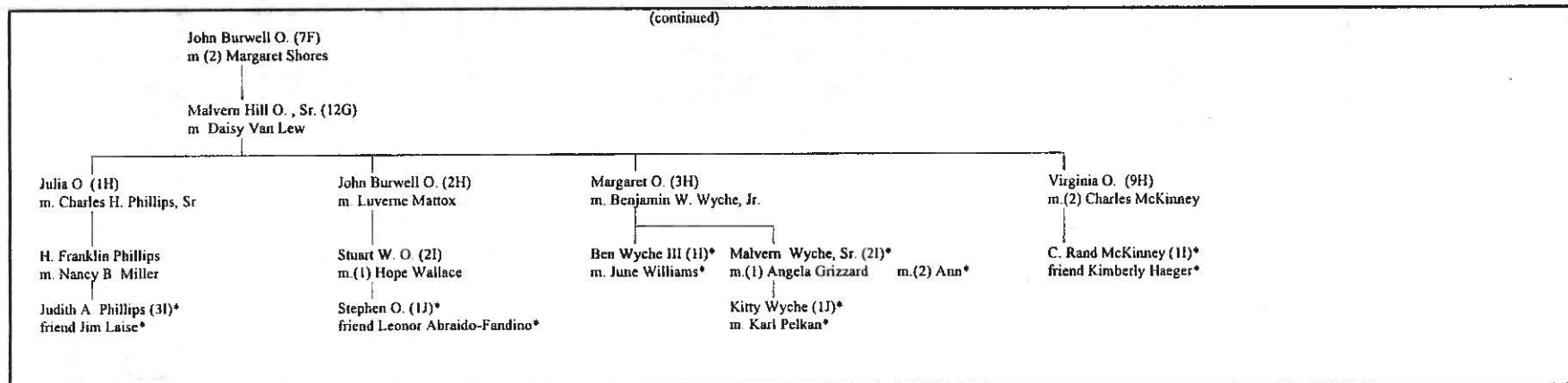
Relationships of 1998 Texas Jack Round-Up Attendees
(* indicates Attendees-37)



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The Texas Jack Scout

(continued)







Left: Our faithful secretary Edna Nees with two handsome, well-dressed men of the Wild West.

Below: Former President Harvey Willard and wife Isabella at the Irma Hotel with reenactors Ebb Tarr ("Buffalo Bill") and Jim West ("Wild Bill").



Memories of the Roundup in Cody

by Jane Omohundro

The 1998 Texas Jack Roundup in Cody, Wyoming was great fun for all 37 members and guests attending. We missed those of you who were unable to be there and were delighted to welcome several "new" Omohundros who joined us for the four days of fun.

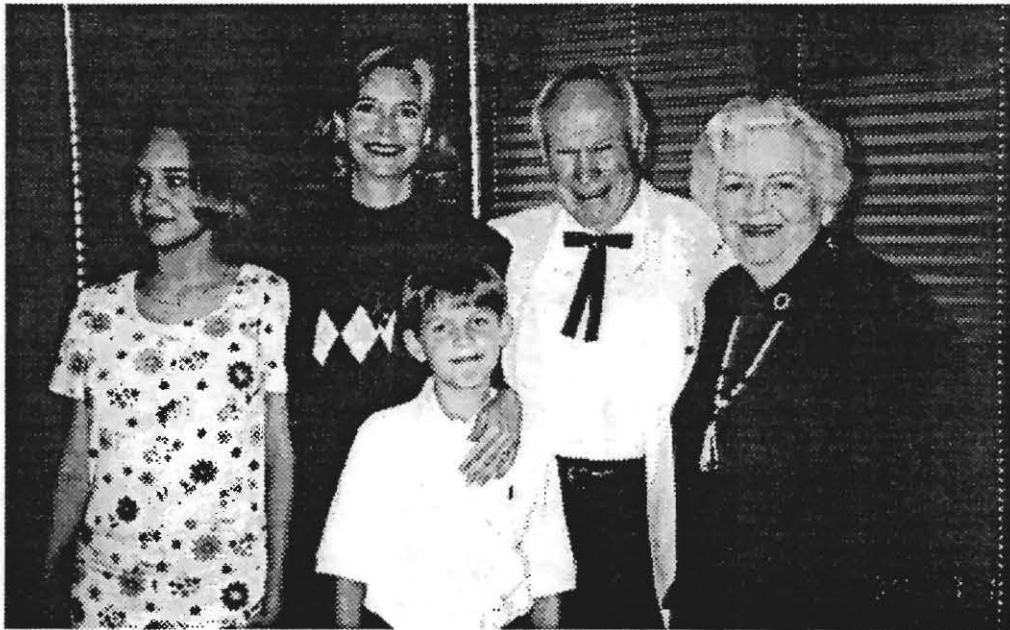
Cody is a delightful town but slightly commercial in the "selling" of Buffalo Bill. But I suppose this is a necessary evil. The townspeople welcomed us with open arms and hearts.

We arrived at the motel on Wednesday and were promptly greeted with a hail storm. It sounded as if we were in the midst of the shoot-out at the OK Corral. The children loved it, and it did cool things off.

Groups broke up, undertaking different endeavors. Some went water rafting. Some made every store on the main street. Each to his or her

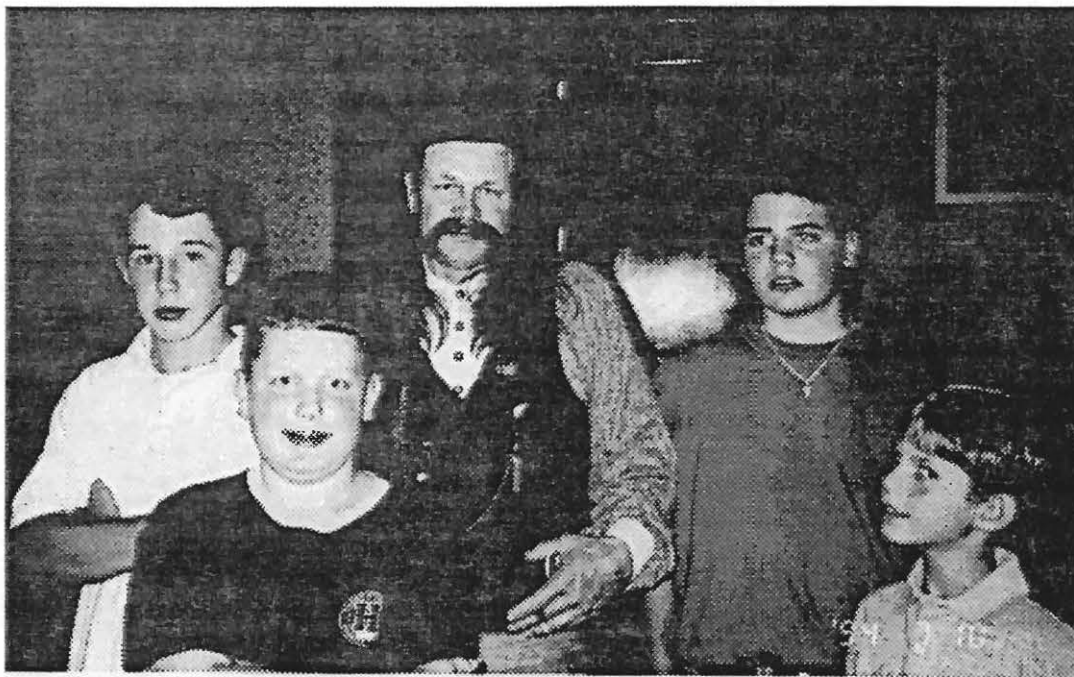
own pleasure. We all enjoyed the parades which took place each day right in front of our motel. There were horses galore, old time cars, clowns, high school bands, floats - all in all, a real old time American 4th of July celebration. It was Americana at its best!!

One of the highlights of our itinerary was a visit to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. We were given VIP treatment by the curator and shown things which were not open to the general public including the well secured basement where thousands of articles are stored. While our first group was on their tour, the alarm bell sounded which scared us all half to death. Everyone exited the building and all were entertained outside the entrance by a couple of really good singers. The thought entered my mind that, just maybe, it was all prearranged, but if so, it certainly added to our enjoyment of the visit.



Jane Omohundro (R) with her husband and former TJA President Jack, her daughter Edna de la Houssaye, and grandchildren Genny and Gus.

Members of the younger generation stand with Wild Bill: Joshua Golladay, Richard Bryan Omohundro, Richard Brandon Omohundro, and Gus de la Houssaye



After our tour, we were invited to a delightful lunch served in the garden of the museum under beautiful old olive trees. A really memorable day!

One night we all attended a performance of the Cody Stampede Rodeo. The contestants were all nationally recognized performers and this Cody stop was one of the shows on the way to Calgary. I, personally, love rodeos and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The clowns were hilarious, the bulls and bucking horses ferocious, the girl barrel racers spectacular. We had only one mishap. One of the over-zealous cowboys broke the neck of the calf which he was wrestling. They announced that all was well but that cow never moved!

Another evening we witnessed a "shoot-out" in front of the Irma Hotel between Wild Bill Hickok and a group of desperados. The hotel was built by Buffalo Bill and named for his daughter. After leaving Wild Bill to clean up the baddies, we went inside the hotel for a sit-down dinner in a private room of the hotel. On leaving the hotel, we were greeted with live Cajun music - Jolie Blonde and Crawfish Pie and Jambalaya have overcome the "Old West."

At our business meeting, it was decided to have our next Roundup in Oklahoma City. The National Cowboy Hall of Fame, which inducted

Texas Jack into its prestigious ranks a few years ago, will be our main point of interest. My husband Jack volunteered to plan this year 2000 Roundup even though I had threatened divorce. I think he knows that I have a weak-willed "no."

Our farewell dinner on Saturday night was, as usual, a momentous occasion. We were entertained by Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody "in person" who each regaled us with tales of derring do. Everyone had their picture taken with our guests and busily took pictures of each other. Then it was time to say *adios* until another two years have rolled by. This is never easy. We seem to always lose one or two but, thankfully, we also always seem to gain a few new friends and faces. This is life and always will be.

Rick, Nancy and Edna did a wonderful job! Hats off to each of you! It is a lot of work and we appreciate all that you did.

I might add that Omohundros trailed along all over the West. We met some in Yellowstone and more in Jackson Hole. I am sure that every one had a great time - I know we did!

Hope to see each and every one of you, plus some new members, in Oklahoma in "the next century."



Above: Charter member Kitty Pelkan and husband Karl with the Wild West actors

Below: Newlyweds Ann and Mal Wyche at the Irma Hotel



Looking fine! Ben and June Wyche at the Association banquet on Sunday night.



Bill Omohundro, from Buffalo, Wyoming, poses with wife Lissa and his mother Francis.



Another Omohundro family unit: Elizabeth and Thomas bracket sons John and Tipton, with John's wife Susan, in the foyer of the Buffalo Bill Historic Center.

Christmas Ideas 1998

Here are several ideas for gifts for friends and relatives. Each price includes shipping and handling. All items are *new this year* except for the famous T-shirt. Profits go to support Texas Jack Association activities. Send a note detailing items, sizes, quantities, and a check made payable to "Texas Jack Association" to Edna Nees, at address on the cover of this newsletter.

Coffee Mugs.....\$15.00

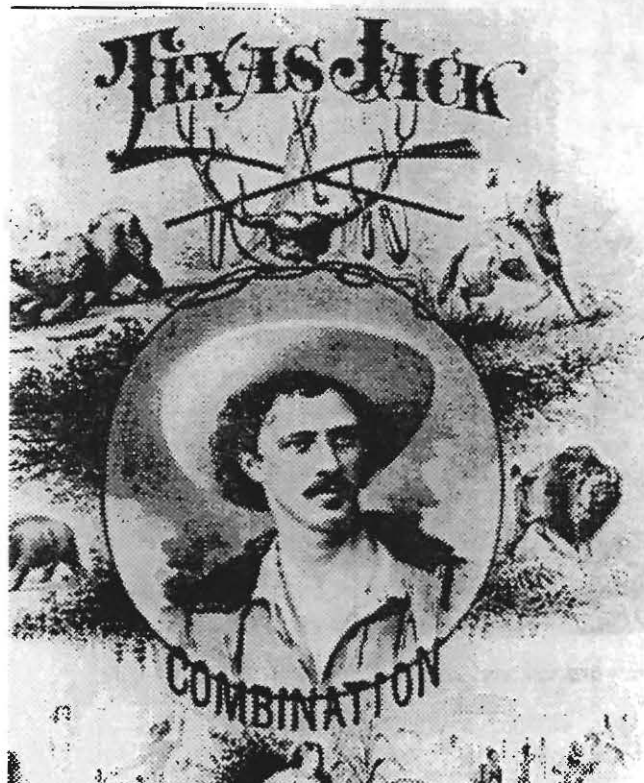
Cream-colored straight-sided porcelain-style mug, 3 3/4 inches tall, with sepia photograph of the "Three Scouts of Old West", and caption with the nicknames and full names of Hickok, Omohundro, and Cody.

Bandanas.....\$5.00

21-inch square cotton kerchief, in cream with a brown oval logo in corner featuring the Texas Jack bust and revolver. A thousand uses!

T-shirts.....\$15.00

The popular Texas Jack poster (see below) nearly covers the front of this 50/50 tee, cream with brown ink.. Always a conversation starter! Sizes: a few children's, a few S, some M, numerous L and XL, some XXL.



Sweatshirts.....\$20

By popular demand: the same poster as on the tee, on a medium-weight long-sleeved crewneck blended-cotton sweat by "Fruit of the Loom", cream with brown ink. Sizes: some M, many L and XL, some XXL.

Polo shirts.....\$20

Smart-looking smooth-surface short-sleeved blended-cotton polo by "Jerzee" with knit collar and cuffs, in white with brown revolver, bust and autograph, as portrayed below, over left breast. Without pockets. Sizes: M, L, XL



**John Burwell Omohundro's Descendents
..... \$45.00**

*by Edna Nees. First edition, 1993, Charlottesville, VA. 212 pp, photos, hardbound, 7.5 in. x 10 in.
John Baker "Texas Jack" Omohundro's father, his brothers and sister, and their descendents.*

**Membership in Texas Jack Association and
subscription to the Scout..... \$15.00**

The best way to promote the memory of Texas Jack. Three issues of the newsletter per year,

offering research and photos of Texas Jack, his cronies, his times, his relatives. News and letters from his contemporary descendents.

Playing cards.....\$12.00

Two matching standard-sized plasticized decks, one with Texas Jack (see design to R) and one with Mlle Morlacchi, in sepia on a cream background. Just don't draw aces and eights!



Our Own Store. . . ?

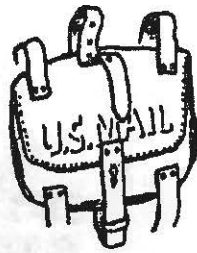


Dr. I. Thomas Stone (R), wife Sally (C) and friend in front of the "Texas Jack Wild West" outfitters store in Fredericksburg, Texas, in March, 1994.

From the Mail Pouch . . .

May 25, 1998

eds: The spring 1998 issue of the Scout described 1870 census records from North Platte, Nebraska. Some follow-up information comes from a correspondent:



May 29, 1998

Dear John and Susan,

In the Spring issue of "Texas Jack Scout" you had the 1870 census for Texas Jack (p. 4).

Also listed on this page was Kate Manning and her brother Peter. She had a sad ending. Enclosed is a little about her. You might be interested in using it.

Sincerely,

Keith Buss
503 Lake Avenue
Gothenburg, Neb.

Keith's enclosure was from the North Platte Cemetery Book, Vol. II, North Platte, Nebraska:

"22. **Murder victim.** The first woman buried in the "new" North Platte Cemetery was Catherine McManus, alias Kate Manning. Her killer, who strangled her, was never brought to trial. She died May 9, 1871, aged 27 years, 20 months and 15 days. . . . It was believed that her brother Peter Manning killed her, but at a trial held in Grand Island, he was found not guilty."

This gives you some idea how rough life on the frontier was.

Keith adds in a June 29 card: "I became interested in Texas Jack because of my interest in Wm. F. Cody. They go together."

Our next correspondent notes that he is related to Texas Jack through the Luthy family line. He and a twin brother were born in Missouri in 1925. He offers a testimonial to Texas Jack.

"A Moment of Glory"

Each man deserves the very best,
Yet lying quietly in the West-
A man who knew
A moment of glory.

Sincerely,

James Luthy Biebinger
86 Hilltop Drive
Weaverville, NC 28787

John received electronic mail from this correspondent:

June 5, 1998

My name is Sharon (Omohundro) Mangini. I was born in Columbus, Ohio and my father's name was Herschel Omohundro. I have four brothers and a sister. Two of my brothers still live in Ohio as does my sister. I moved to Northern California in 1964. I have a brother who lives in Southern California. I am wondering where in you fit with the Omohundros?

Have you been to the Edward Elmer Omohundro web site?
www.jwp.bc.ca/nomad/omohun.html.
It follows my father's family. That's the web site where I found your name. I also saw the Texas Jack group. I wrote to a couple other Omohundros besides you. I had an answer from another John Omohundro who lives in New Mexico and it turns out he is my cousin. My parents were divorced when I was 7 years old and my mother didn't want us to have anything to do with my father's side of the family so I lost track of everyone. None of my father's brothers lived in Ohio, though. There is a company in El Seguno, CA (I don't think that's spelled right) called the Omohundro Company they make raydomes and my husband buys them for the company he works for. The Omohundros who started this company are from Texas, I think. I had a letter from one of them a long time ago. I never got around to answering it. Sending messages over the internet is so much easier.

Regards,
Sharon O. Mangini
Colorado Springs

Mailbag, continued

Some readers will recall that Texas Jack had a namesake who was a Wild West showman in South Africa. M. H. Omohundro, Jr. found the following piece of unsigned Australian verse originally printed in March, 1890, about the latter Texas Jack:

Kieh, Va.
June 2, 1998

Dear Kitty,

I ran across this one very recently. I believe it is Australian from all I can hear of it. I thought you might be interested. I will not be able to attend the meeting in Cody Wyoming, even though I have been a member of the museum for many years. Tell [museum director] Paul Fees that I have memory of him.

As ever,
M. H.

"A Word to Texas Jack"

Texas Jack, you are amusin'. By Lord Harry, how I laughed
When I seen yer rig and saddle with its bulwarks fore-and-aft;
Holy smoke! In such a saddle how the dickens can yer fall?
Why, I seen a gal ride bareback with no bridle on at all!
Gosh! so-help-me! strike-me-balmy! If a bit o' scenery
Like ter you in all yer rig-out on the earth I ever see!
How I'd like ter see a bushman use yer fixins, Texas Jack;
On the remnant of a saddle he can ride to hell and back.
Why, I heerd a mother screamin' when her kid went tossin' by
Ridin' bareback on a buckler that had murder in his eye.

....

The poem goes on in this vein for several verses, relying heavily on dialect, and comparing Texas Jack's riding style, shooting abilities and scouting talents unfavorably to native Australian capabilities. But then it concludes with a patriotic defense of Australian culture.

"P.S.- As poet and as Yankee I will greet you, Texas Jack,
For it isn't no ill-feelin' that is gettin' up my back,
But I won't see this land crowded by each Yank and British cuss
Who takes it in his head to come a-civilizin' us.
So if you feel like shootin' now, don't let yer pistol cough-
(Our Government is very free at chokin' fellers off);
And though on your great continent there's misery in the towns
An' not a few untitled lords and kings without their crowns,
I will admit your countrymen is busted big, an' free,
An' great on ekal rites of men and great on liberty;
I will admit yer fathers punched the gory tyrant's head,
But then we've got our heroes, too, the diggers that is dead -
...." [and so on]

Pals of 1876,

by Irving R. Bacon, 1904. Oil on canvas (original in color), 26 inches by 22 inches. Collection of the Buffalo Bill Historic Center.

[L to R: Ned Buntline, Buffalo Bill Cody, Texas Jack Omohundro]



Water these people *doin'*? The full story inside!



The Texas Jack Scout
Edna Nees
213 Coles Rolling Road
Scottsville, VA 24590



To:

Kitty Wyche Pelkan
6021 37th. Ave. SW
Seattle WA 98126

1998