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PARDS ON TOUR

by
Margaret Jones



*T*hey say never believe what you read in the newspapers these days, and you could believe even less 130 years ago, but if you believe the press of Texas Jack's day, he had a roaring good time with Doc Carver on Carver's famous exhibition shooting tour of 1878.

The McCracken Research Library of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, holds the 16 volume scrapbook collection of Doc Carver, world renowned competitive shooter and showman. Carver's scrapbooks are predominantly press clipping books that follow his career, along with programs, show bills, letters from famous people, records and scores of shooting competitions, and countless items of memorabilia of a long and lively career. I scanned these amazing books on microfilm one afternoon in Cody at our 2006 Roundup and realized that it would take months to thoroughly

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The Texas Jack Scout

from the Editor's Desk...



I hope that you'll enjoy this issue of the *Scout*, featuring an article by our very own Margaret Jones, regarding Dr. William F. "Doc" Carver. Much like Texas Jack and so many other western figures, Dr. Carver's life is marked by exploration and change.

In this issue of the *Scout*, we have included information regarding the 2010 Roundup. I hope that each and every member will be able to participate. The *Scout* is an integral component of the Texas Jack Association, always both entertaining and didactic. However, the heart and life of our organization is manifested in our biennial Roundups. Golden, Colorado is the perfect setting for the upcoming Roundup because it is a fitting analogy for the Texas Jack Association itself: the intermingling of the past and the present. You'll be afforded the opportunity to network and reunite with other members, and to celebrate the life of Texas Jack as we visit his resting place.

As a lifetime member of the Texas Jack Association, I know that each Roundup has been for me a unique opportunity to expand my knowledge and re-ignite my interest regarding the complex and intriguing life of Texas Jack and his contemporaries. History has always been a personal passion of mine and the Roundups provide a break from the mundane and a chance to enter fascinating world of western history. The enthusiasm of our members is what makes the Roundups such a brilliant opportunity; with each additional member who decides to participate, the experience improves for everyone. Register early and don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity! I'll see you there!

Stephanie Greene,
Guest Editor

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The Texas Jack Association
Rene Tyree
244 NW Whitlock Dr.
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

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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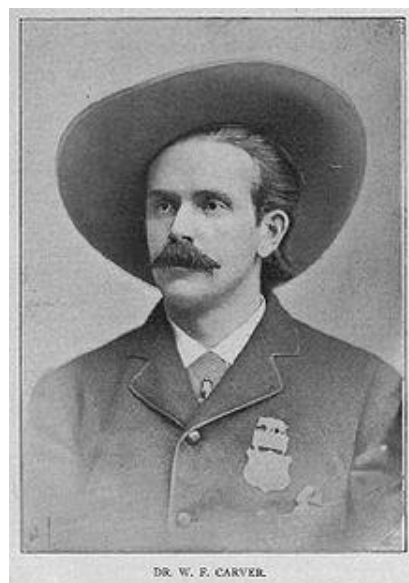
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Continued from page 1

read them. It also became obvious that any reader would need a “mental filter” to sift through the exaggerations and half truths of the Victorian press. Throwing accuracy aside, the scrapbooks are a lot of fun—the Victorian public wanted Western heroes with over-the-top adventures and accomplishments, and that’s what our Western showmen and the journalists of the day delivered.

Unfortunately, the only biography of Doc Carver, written in 1957 by Raymond Thorp, was based primarily on information from the Carver scrapbooks. Titled *Spirit Gun of the West—the Story of Doc W.F. Carver, Plainsman, trapper, buffalo hunter, Medicine Chief of the Santee Sioux, World’s champion marksman, and Originator of the American Wild West Show*, it had no bibliography. Letters from Nebraska archivists of the time show great disappointment in the book which Thorp wrote with no input from the elderly Nebraska pioneers still alive in the 20th century who had known Carver. To add insult to injury, the scrapbooks, a wonderful collection of truth, exaggerations, and lies, were sealed to the public after Thorp’s access to them by Charles R. Nordin, of Omaha, Nebraska, then owner of the scrapbooks. According to Thorp in *Spirit Gun*, “To Charles Nordin went all of Doc’s trophies and guns; the fabulous saddle, covered with coins shot in every part of the world—and for which “Teddy” Roosevelt offered ten thousand dollars; to Charles also went Doc’s sixteen priceless scrapbooks.” Fortunately for us, the scrapbooks ended up in the hands of Howell H. Howard, who donated them to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in 1979. Sealed no more, they are a delightful record of the country’s interest in “real Western heroes.”

William Frank Carver, later known as Doc, was born in 1851 in Winslow, Illinois, to William and Deborah Carver. His official publicity biography describes his childhood kidnapping by Indians, but historians rule this out as nothing but the sensationalized fiction that showmen of the time created to authenticate their western persona. In reality, Carver remained in Winslow, where his father was a physician.



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doc_Carver

In 1872, Doc Carver began homesteading in Frontier County, Nebraska, and practicing dentistry at nearby Fort McPherson and North Platte. He was later joined by his mother and brother in 1873. It was at this time, according to the journals of Ena Palmer Raymonde Ballantine McClary, that he began to develop his skills as a marksman, coached by Ena herself, who already had a local reputation as a hunter and marksman.

Ena writes in her diary on October 8, 1872: “I went to walk with the — D r— (ie my ‘little bubber—’) We had a good a good little time of it! Shot lots! I just did the finest shooting out!”

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We shot for the championship of ‘Ameraky’ — who beat? — Ask the — Dr.! —” [sic]

Carver still had lots to learn, as Ena recounts in a near disaster in her March 21, 1873, diary entry:

I was reading by my table when the Doctor accidentally discharged his pistol. The ball, just passing my side and entering the wall, went on into Madame’s room [Mrs. Palmer], raising a cloud of dust! The muzzle of the pistol was in about a foot and a half of my face. I only remember a flash, fog and crash! I suppose I must have fainted as I did not speak. The Doctor says he cried out “O my God! Baby have I shot you?” and when I did not answer he rushed to the eating room and called Bert [Ena’s brother]. No one asked what was the matter; they had heard the pistol and one look at the Doctor’s white, horror-stricken face told the rest! Ena was killed! Ma says the Doctor passed her door like a shadow— then Bert—then Pa [William], Black [Jack] Fritcher, and Oscar! And then she came out, the great horror dawning upon her too and growing a fearful certainty before she reached my door. And now I remember and

passing my head from the table looked half-bewildered on the forms crowded before me!” . . . “Ma had fallen down at the door! And mingled with her wild words was the Doctor’s voice, laughing a poor trembling hysterical laugh when he sees me stand up and say “I don’t believe I am shot,” . . . “And the Doctor looks at me, and seems only half credulous as he says over and over again, “And did I ‘most kill you, little Baby?” I trust it will be a lesson for him — he is too careless with fire-arms!

1875 found Carver practicing dentistry in Cheyenne, WY. Between 1875 and 1878, he began shooting for wagers and developing his reputation as a top shooter.

Frontier County, Nebraska, was and is a sparsely populated agricultural and cattle raising county. Although Frontier County never had the notoriety of some western counties with gunfights, massacres, and range wars, an amazing number of “Western personalities” passed through there. Buffalo Bill Cody, Texas Jack, and the North brothers were attached to near-by Fort McPherson, Doc Carver had a homestead there, and James Butler “Wild Bill” Hickok was a one-time resident. These “Western personalities” formed life-long relationships, appeared on stage together, and

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intertwined their “enhanced” western personas around each other. They also shared some remarkable experiences. One such occurred in 1878, when Texas Jack accompanied Doc Carver on his 6 month Eastern exhibition shooting tour which drew record crowds and impressive headlines.

Neither Texas Jack nor Doc Carver became household names in the amazing manner of Buffalo Bill Cody, although both men spent much of their lives performing in the wildly popular 19th century phenomena of Western stage melodramas and large outdoor exhibitions known as Wild West Shows. This reading audience is well-versed in Texas Jack’s enterprises, but may not appreciate Doc Carver’s amazing ability as an endurance shooter which earned him money and fame.

Yes, many of the exciting Western adventures attributed to Carver by Carver were fictional. He was a small town boy who arrived in the West too late. Yet to achieve notice as a Western shootist, one needed some Western thrills, and Carver and his publicity agents and the press supplied these thrills in an era when publicity knew no boundaries. Putting the self-promotion aside, Carver was a phenomenal marksman for his time, and few modern shooters could equal the witnessed skill and endurance which he displayed on demand.

Carver’s earliest scrapbook contains his first of a lifetime of public shooting challenges. In the *San Francisco Chronicle* of Dec 13, 1877, he states:

I will bet \$250 to \$500 a side that I can make more fancy shots with a rifle than any man in the world. I will bet \$250 to \$500 that I can break 100 glass balls quicker with a Winchester rifle, using 2 or more guns, than any man with a shotgun and shoot the same distances I do with a rifle. I will bet \$250 against \$350 that I can break two glass balls thrown in the air at the same time and will shoot a Winchester rifle, loading at the same time while the balls are in the air, making a double shot. I will bet \$1,000 that I can go on the plains and kill more buffalo on one run, shooting from a horse’s back, than any man in the world, and if buffalo are not found, will run elk.



1873 Winchester

<http://www.oldwestguns.ca/products/>

Quite an ambitious start for a shooting career!

The *Oakland Tribune* of February 22, 1878, writes of a match at the Oakland Trotting Park of Oakland, California, where Carver hit 885 of 1,000 glass balls thrown in the air during a period of 2 ½ hours using his Ballard rifle.

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Also, at this event, he announced his intentions to travel to the East for an exhibition shooting tour. Carver's bold debut as a professional shooter was launched!

For readers who are unfamiliar with glass ball targets used in shooting competitions, they were the fore-runners of the clay disks used in today's trap and skeet shooting. Glass balls were approximately 2 ½ inches in diameter and were generally shot outdoors in large, open areas, and thrown by hand or by a trap machine to a height of about 35 feet. The direction of the glass ball was the same for each shot, and if the balls were hand thrown, it placed a great importance on the thrower being consistent with his aim and toss. Modern trap machines change the angle of each clay disk or the shooter changes his position relative to the path of the disk, requiring reactions to the varying directions or angles of the clay disks. And, of course, modern trap and skeet are shot with shotguns, whereas Carver was shooting a single bullet from a rifle. The glass ball shooters of the 19th century knew, in general, exactly where the balls would go, and matches became lengthy marathons of endurance and consistency in contrast to today's trap and skeet events, where faster targets and varying angles and leads emphasize quick reaction and coordination over much fewer numbers of targets.

Doc and Texas Jack met in 1872, when Doc moved to Frontier County as a homesteader and dentist, and Texas Jack was scouting and guiding out of Fort McPherson. Both young men spent considerable time at the sod house of

Ann and Dempsey Palmer and their daughter, Ena, the diarist. By 1878, the three young people had married and gone their separate ways, although Doc was again a bachelor. Texas Jack had had a successful stage career in the East—what better person to escort his old friend on his Eastern exhibition shooting tour! According to the June 12, 1878, *Evening Union* of New Haven, Connecticut, Carver hit the East with a flurry of publicity, both paid for and free:

Dr. W.F. Carver, the champion rifle shot of the world, was visited by a *Union* reporter at the New Haven House this morning. In talking with the Doctor, the first thing that strikes one is that he is fully aware of the advantage of newspaper advertising and is willing and glad to avail himself of it. Instead of the backwardness of the backwoodsman, he proves to be as forward to rush into print as a Congressman. He delights in being interviewed, and on his trip across the continent has had a plenty of it, (not a surfeit, however) the last thing a column and a half in the *New York Sun*.

Carver began his official shooting tour in New York City where he did a series of one-man shooting exhibitions, each one besting the former in accuracy and time. Publicity was well

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placed and well received. The Big Apple loved Doc Carver and his “pard,” Texas Jack. The Carver scrapbooks contained (or so it looked) every article available about Carver’s Eastern tour. If an article appeared in a morning issue and re-appeared in the evening issue with a new title, it was pasted in the scrapbook. Thanks to Carver’s thoroughness, there are many lively accounts of Doc and Texas Jack on tour in the scrapbooks.

The first exhibition was held on July 4, 1878, at the Deerfoot Driving Club of Brooklyn. The *New York Times* of July 5, 1878, wrote:

Dr. William F. Carver, who for years past has astonished the Pacific Slope by his marvelous feats of marksmanship, gave his first exhibition of rifle-shooting yesterday in this vicinity at the Brooklyn Driving Park. Texas Jack (John B. Omohundro) who accompanies Dr. Carver, was on the grounds, with his flowing ringlets, keen brown eyes, and face blackened by exposure to the prairie sun, attracted much attention. Dr. Carver is a taller and more powerful man than Texas Jack. Yesterday he was rigged out in an immense sombrero, much larger than Texas Jack’s, and clad in raiment of the costliest kind and latest cut.

The *Sun* of the same day continued the story:

At 3 PM yesterday Dr. Carver stepped to the front of the little shed near the centre of Deerfoot Park. Four Winchester rifles lay on a table to his right. The famed Texas Jack and Col. Fletcher of San Francisco briskly shoved bullets into the rifles, supplying themselves from a strong rug carpetbag on the table.

The expertise and discipline of Carver’s shooting cannot be understood without some computations and knowledge of firearms. If Doc shot 1,000 times in 2½ hours as he did in Oakland, California, in February of the same year, he shot his rifle 400 times per hour, 200 times every 30 minutes, 100 times every 15 minutes. That last rate of fire means one round every 9 seconds average. His rifles got extremely hot and had to be cooled down with water and re-loaded by Texas Jack and others in a rhythm that matched Carver’s shooting.

It is also important to remember that in Carver’s early shooting exhibitions, he was breaking small moving targets with a single projectile from his rifle rather than using the wider spread of hundreds of small pellets in a shotgun load. Even for non-shooters, it should be clear that a much higher degree of accuracy is required to hit a target with a single rifle bullet than to catch the same target in a much wider pattern or

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spread of hundreds of pellets.

A publication called *Forest and Stream—Rod and Gun* on July 11, 1878, described the process:

On a long table were placed the 4 rifles, under the charge of the well-known Texas Jack, who superintended the loading and cooling of the pieces Our western rifleman was ably assisted by Texas Jack, the well-known scout and guide of the prairies who apparently is as much delighted in Dr. Carver's skill as if he himself were accomplishing the feats we have described.

Carver was visited almost daily by reporters. The *New York Herald* of July 8, 1878, reported that "a reporter of the *Herald* visited the hotel at the Brooklyn Driving Park yesterday to see what Dr. Carver was doing on Sunday. The Doctor was not there, but had gone to Coney Island with Texas Jack."

The *New York Sun* (date missing) reported: "He began his day's work by strolling through the woods of Long Island in the early morning in company with Texas Jack, shooting at all the birds they could see. ... They filled a pillow case with small fry and then prepared for the great task [the shooting exhibition]."

For his July 13th shooting exhibition in the New York City area, Carver announced he would

shoot 5,500 glass balls in 500 minutes (8 hours, 20 minutes). The *New York Sun* article continued by stating that Carver "would have to raise [to] his shoulder, with the left arm fully extended, not less than 55,000 lbs, the recoil from each shot making at least 10 lbs to be resisted." Carver shot quickly and accurately for his first 2,000 shots. When he hit 3,000, both eyes became severely inflamed and his time was decreasing. Doc shot with both eyes open in the day before eye and hearing protection were required and his inflamed eyes added another challenge to his exhibition. The same article quoted Texas Jack: "You see, in cleaning and cooling, the water goes up the stock. A little will run into the magazine and then it spurts hot into the Doctor's eyes." Additional problems for Carver's eyes were burnt powder residue carried by the wind and powdered glass hitting his eyes from the exploding glass balls. In addition, the July heat had to be miserable.

After 4,000 shots, Carver left the field to have his eyes bathed in camphor and borax by the doctor who was present. Carver returned to the field in a new blue suit and broke 5,500 balls with ten minutes to spare. The *New York Times* of July 14, 1878, in an article called "The Great Rifle Shot," said Carver's eyes burned for days and his shoulder was so sore he couldn't move.

A reporter for the *New York Herald* visited Carver later in Brooklyn and found him with bandaged eyes, under a doctor's care, "comfortably sprawled out on the bed, robed in a handsomely trimmed brown silk wrapper, and Texas Jack lying on an Indian blanket in true

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Plains style.”

While Carver was recovering from the monumental rifle shooting marathon, *Harper's Weekly* of July 13, 1878, printed a full-length portrait of Carver with his rifle. He was described as 6' 2," 190 pounds with auburn hair and red mustache, ruddy complexion, regular features, clear brown eyes, no flashy jewelry, handsome and well proportioned.

My favorite article featuring both Doc and Texas Jack was in *Field and Stream* (present name of *Forest and Stream/Rod and Gun*) of July 18, 1878. It seems that both gentlemen visited the *Field and Stream* offices:

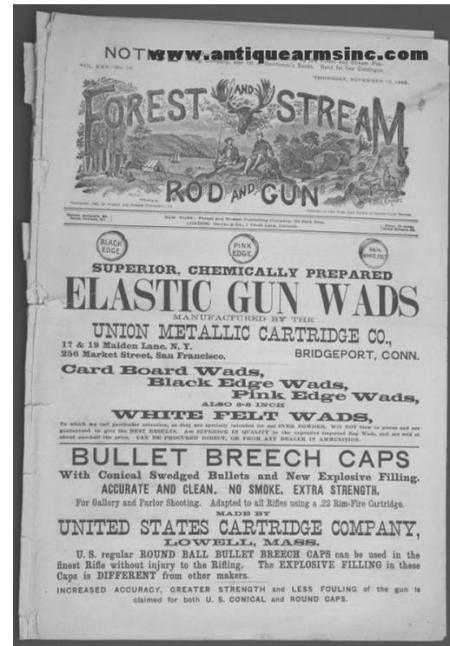
Fulton Street—Seated in our chair, deeply absorbed in constructing an editorial (the office being quiet for the once), we heard a stealthy tread. We were too busy even to cast an eye on the intruder, and away ran the pen over the paper. Then we heard a little *swish* in the air, and something darted out like a long white snake and enveloped us. It was so quietly, so neatly done, that we were half unconscious of what it was. Perhaps, after all, we were dozing, for it was so warm. Presently we felt the chair move quietly, and we were forthwith yanked into the middle of the room.

Somebody had lassoed us. Whether we were indebted for this favor to Dr. Carver or to Mr. John Omahondru [sic] we were not quite certain. Both of these gentlemen looked as innocent as lambs. The lasso was round the chair, but no one had the other end of the lasso in hand. We were assured by both these gentlemen that when a lasso has been long in service that it made loops of its own accord, as that particular lasso, though it had caught in its wild career many a buffalo, bronco, and steer—never yet had caught that strange hybrid, a quill-driver; so accordingly the lasso of its own volition, unassisted by human hands, had leaped out and entangled us. Just then the FOREST AND STREAM AND ROD AND GUN Errand Boy, a very important personage, indeed, dignified withal, having incautiously crossed the floor, was caught up by the right leg as he lifted that member from the floor, and the pile of copy he had in his hand was scattered. Mr. Omahondro [sic] offered to throw that lasso at the pen

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which stuck in the editorial inkstand; but we declined to see this tour de force. "It's the neatest thing in the world,"

said Texas Jack; "you don't use force, only knack." Saying this, the publisher of the paper had in a trice the lasso thrown over his head. But the publisher of this journal knows a trick or two. So seizing the lasso where the iron ring is attached to it, he held that fast so that it couldn't be tightened on him. "You are up to the trick," cried Dr. Carver. "Some one must have shown you that. Just get a good grip on the ring end of the lasso, and it can't be made taut on you. This lasso is made of buffalo hide and is light and supple, but will hold all creation. On the plains, we don't call it a lasso, only a rope, you never hear lasso. Now Jack and I will go on the landing of the stairs here, and as there are crowds of people coming up to the offices all the time, we will have lots of fun for the next half hour roping them. It's so hot that people might be obliged to us for helping them up.



<http://www.antiquearmsinc.com/forest-stream-1885.htm>

Posted above this clipping in the scrapbook is another bit of humor from the *Sun*: "At 2 o'clock Dr. Carver stepped into the field. It was raining hard. He began firing at the drops, and in five minutes had shot a dry space of half an acre around him."

And so, Doc Carver and Texas Jack, the "Pards on Tour," took on the East—all major cities were visited. The gate price was reasonable and families attended. In an era without radios and television, outdoor entertainment was very

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popular. Many a city boy marveled at the two Westerners and yearned to be a marksman like Doc Carver. During the tour, Doc acquired a young new wife named Josephine, a pair of trained elk named Yosemite and Minnehaha, a horse named Winnepug, and a medal from President Rutherford B. Hayes.



A poster promoting Carver "As He Appeared before the Emperor of Germany and Thirty Thousand Officers and Soldiers at Potsdam, June 13th 1880"

<http://antiquesandthearts.com/AW-2005-11-01-09-03-51p1.htm>

Carver continued his shooting career in the United States and Europe. Spring 1883 brought Carver face to face with Captain Adam Bogardus, a world class marksman, in an exciting 25 match shotgun competition in various American cities. This competition which captivated America at the time was like

today's World Series of baseball. Doc humiliated Bogardus by winning 19 matches, tying 3, and losing only 3. For those shotgun enthusiasts reading this, Doc used a W.W. Greener and Bogardus used a Webley and Scott. During this time period, Carver and Buffalo Bill Cody formed "Buffalo Bill and Doctor Carver's Wild West," an outdoor Western traveling show. Their partnership lasted a year followed by long legal disputes and the end of their friendship. From 1883-1885, Carver and Captain Jack Crawford, cowboy poet and Cody's former partner in frontier dramas, partnered in "Carver and Crawford Wild West." In 1886, he performed his shooting skills in "W.W. Cole's New Colossal Show," and from 1887-1888 in "Adam Forepaugh's New and Greatest All-Feature Show and Wild West Combination." From 1889-1893, Carver developed his own "Wild America" outdoor show that toured the United States, Europe, and Australia. Carver always billed himself as "Evil Spirit of the Plains" (a name he claimed was given to him by Spotted Tale of the Brule Sioux) and "Champion Shot of the World."



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A poster of Dr W.F. Carver, the "Evil Spirit of the Plains," as "Champion Rifle Shot of the World" in Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West shows.



A poster picturing Buffalo Bill Cody and Dr W.F. Carver together
<http://antiquesandthearts.com/AW-2005-11-01-09-03-51p1.htm>

In Doc's later years, he developed a diving horse act that continued until his death in 1927. A Disney movie, *Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken* (1991) is loosely based on his diving horse act, with Cliff Robertson playing Carver. In 1969, he was inducted into the National Trapshooting Hall of Fame.



<http://www.squidoo.com/wildhearts>

Much has been made of the shooting skills of people like Annie Oakley or Buffalo Bill Cody, but they shot to entertain and rarely competed. Carver challenged all takers with nerves of steel and amazing physical endurance and is still a legend among modern shooters. 🍻



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**PLEASE VISIT THE NEW AND IMPROVED
TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION WEBSITE!**

<http://www.texasjack.org>

NEXT *SCOUT* ISSUE INFORMATION

The deadline for the March 2010 issue of *The Scout* is February 15, 2010.

Please send ideas and materials to our Guest Editor:

Kelly Wyche

637 N Abington Street

Arlington, VA 22203

703-522-7232

kwyche@comstockhomebuilding.com

THE 2010 ROUNDUP

Hotel information



Table Mountain Inn, Golden, CO

Welcome to Table Mountain Inn, where the spirit of the West, the splendor of the mountains, and old fashioned warm hospitality combine to form an extraordinary Golden, Colorado hotel.

The 1991 renovation and reopening of the Table Mountain Inn has earned its historical significance as the longest-operating hotel in Golden and brought it full circle from its Spanish-style beginnings. January 31, 2009, marks the 84th anniversary of the Table Mountain Inn, thus earning it the distinction as the most successful hotel in Golden's history. On that date it was in operation for 69 years.

In the Guestrooms you will find added comfort and relaxation with King-sized accommodations and complimentary amenities. Down comforters and pillows make for a restful night's sleep. Included are high-speed wireless internet access and spacious desks. Guests will enjoy waking up to in-room coffee and/or Celestial Seasonings tea that are of course, complimentary.

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Below are indoor and outdoor views of the Kokopelli Room where our banquet will be held. Left is a view of Table Mountain for which the Inn is named.



We have a choice of two styles of rooms: Basic @ \$134* and larger @ \$144*

*To receive these discounted rates--state that you are with the **Texas Jack Association.**

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Golden, CO 80401
(888) 292-8331 (303) 732-5447

Please make your reservation as early as possible, so we will know if we need to set aside a larger block of rooms.



If you would like to make your airline reservations early, Denver International Airport (DEN) is the largest, and is 30 miles from the hotel. There are many smaller airports your travel agent can advise you on.



Golden Clear Creek RV Park
1400 10th St, Golden, CO
(303) 278-1437 1st come 1st serve basis
<http://ci.golden.co.us/Page.asp?NavID=329>
Dakota Ridge RV Park
17800 W Colfax Ave, Golden, CO 80401-5605
303) 279-1625 for reservations
dakotaridgerv.com

The Texas Jack Scout

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

DENVER AREA (Thurs. 7/29/10)

- 10:00 Depart for Lookout Mtn.
- 10:30 Visit Cody Museum – upper right
- Noon Lunch: Cody Inn
- 1:30 Depart for Denver
- 2:00 Denver Art Museum – mid right
- 3:30 Leave for Hotel



LEADVILLE (Fri. 7/30/10)

- 8:00 Depart
- 10:30 Lake Co. Library (TJ exhibit, presentation)
- 11:00 Heritage Museum/Healey House
- 11:30 Tabor Opera House - below left
- Noon Shopping
- 12:30 Golden Burro Restaurant – lower right
- 1:30 Evergreen Cemetery – below right
- 2:30 Depart
- 5:00 Arrive Hotel



GOLDEN (Sat. 7/31/10)

- 9:00-11:00 Business Meeting
- Lunch on your own
- Optional tours
- 5:00 No Host Cocktails
- 6:30 Banquet



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Texas Jack Association
2010 ROUNDUP
REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP FORM
July 28-Aug. 1, 2010 Golden, CO

(Roundup participants must make their own hotel reservations before June 28, 2010)

_____ Adult(s) @ \$135.00/person = _____

_____ Student(s) (13 yrs to college) @ \$120.00/person = _____

_____ Children (5 yrs to 12) @ \$80.00/person = _____

_____ Children (4 and under) free

***** Registrations received by April 1 will receive a FREE reproduction of a Texas Jack Dime Novel!**

***NOTE:** All attendees must be current members of the TJA:

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

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

Names on membership: _____

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

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

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

Please make dinner selections on back →

The Texas Jack Scout



BANQUET INDIVIDUAL SELECTIONS

(One choice per person)

_____ Atlantic Salmon Pan Seared & Topped w/ Lemon Burre Blanc. Served over Cilantro Lime Rice w/ Grilled Asparagus

_____ Pinon Crusted Cherry Chicken sautéed w/ Cherries, Shallots & Fresh Rosemary

_____ Braised Buffalo Pot Roast Served over Mashed Potatoes w/ Pan Au Jus & Fresh Grated Horseradish Sauce & Fresh Seasonal Vegetables.

_____ Seared Spinach & Roasted Eggplant layered w/ Lemon Butter Sauce and Served w/ Cilantro Lime Rice

All meals include salad, rolls & butter, ice tea, water, dessert.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email address: _____

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

Send completed form and check to:

Rene Tyree, Treasurer TJA
244 NW Whitlock Drive
Lee's Summit, MO 64081

The Texas Jack Scout



It is hard to believe that we are in November already. However this year has been a good one for the Texas Jack Association. Since obtaining 501 (c) III tax exemption status with the IRS, we have been able to benefit by not needing to pay taxes, have received reimbursement from previous years' payments, and continue to benefit as we prepare for future Association activities next summer. Individuals have also benefited by making a donation to the TJA and claimed the tax exemption for their contributions.

As you will see in this issue, a Dime Novel Reprint has been produced for the benefit of the Texas Jack Association to relive some of the renown of John B. Omohundro. It also gives members the opportunity to have a reproduction of a piece of historical memorabilia.

Roundup 2010 plans are underway for a great visit to Golden and Leadville, Colorado. We will retrace footsteps of Texas Jack Omohundro, Buffalo Bill, and other western heroes from the 1870s. It is time to begin making your plans for next summer!

Please consider also that each one of us in the Association are the eyes and ears that can help to continue the forward momentum of new discoveries, and sharing information about the life and times of Texas Jack. I would urge each one to consider a role in the Association, whether as a future member of the Board, or part of a committee such as Projects of Special Interest, or other standing committees such as Finance, or Membership, or the next Roundup. The Texas Jack Association needs you!

*Larry Tyree,
President*



Sweatshirt \$20



**Polo shirt \$20,
T shirt \$15**



Mug \$15



Travel Mug \$15



Posters \$15



We have a wide assortment of shirt sizes available. The polo shirts come in two colors: a white polo (embroidered image), and a beige polo (a screened image).

Please make check payable to the **Texas Jack Association** and mail to:
The Texas Jack Association
 % Rene Tyree, Treasurer
 244 NW Whitlock Dr.
 Lee's Summit, MO 64081

**NOW'S THE TIME TO GET YOUR
 ORDER IN!
 BUY FOR CHRISTMAS!
 PLAN AHEAD FOR THE ROUNDUP!**

The Texas Jack Scout

WANNA BE A COWBOY ... November 2005

By: Aaron G. Poff

Have you ever watched the deer and the antelope play?
Or seen a buffalo up close and stand in awe at what you see
Have you ever wanted to be a cowboy and ride a workin' bronc?
I wanna be a cowboy, the cowboy I've always wanted to be

I've ridden a few broncs in my day and loved it ever' time
I've ridden in Kansas, Utah, and up Montana way
I've ridden good ones an' bad ones, an' I loved 'em all
And I've been throwed a time or two, that I can truly say

I've banged my head, bruised my shoulder, and bumped my bum
I've been thrown through a fence, and crashed into a barn wall
I've been kicked, bucked off, knocked out, and bitten where I'll never say
But you know what my friends, when I'm on a good one, I find myself in awe

Sittin' on a bronc and watching an early sunrise, or seein' a golden sunset
Just me and the horse sharing a moment of splendor and joy
Or ridin' easy across a wide prairie, or over a high mountain pass
Enjoying the beauty of God's creations, reminding me of when I was a boy

Have you ever watched the deer and the antelope play
Or seen a buffalo up close and stand in awe at what you see
Have you ever wanted to be a cowboy and ride a workin' bronc
Yep, a rip-ropin,' gun-totin,' bronc bustin' cowboy I'll always wanna be



The Texas Jack Scout

Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolver

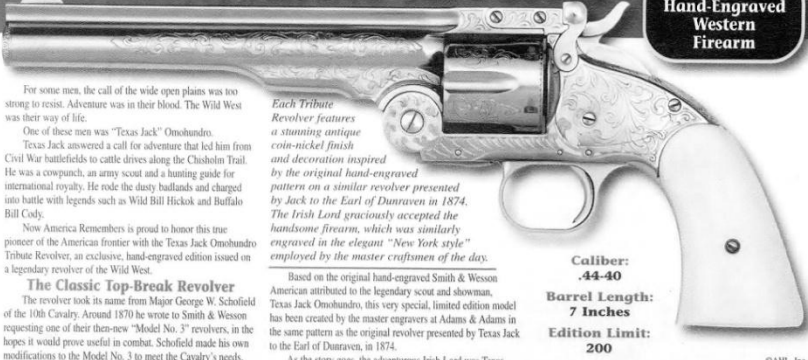
This is "a nice photocopy of an ad for replica of Texas Jack's Smith and Wesson revolver. My friends in the print shop here gave it to me because they have done Texas Jack Association work for us before and know I'm interested. The ad was in *American Rifleman*, Vol 157 no 8, August 2009. It is a working revolver; but still it strikes me as quite expensive, and yet collectors will probably gobble up the 200 copies. What I liked about the ad was the prominence of Texas Jack Omohundro's name. He and the Earl of Dunraven are described correctly in the ad."

John Omohundro, Hannawa Falls, NY

America Remembers® Presents

The Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolver

A Classic Hand-Engraved Western Firearm



Caliber: .44-40
Barrel Length: 7 Inches
Edition Limit: 200

©AHL, Inc.

Free Display Case

In order to display and protect your Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolver, you will receive a handsome, luxuriously lined custom made display case with each order.

I wish to reserve ___ of the Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolver, a working Top-Break Model Revolver, at the current issue price of \$3,495. My deposit of \$195 per Tribute is enclosed. I wish to pay the balance at the rate of \$150 per month, no interest or carrying charges. Thirty-day return privilege.

*All orders are subject to acceptance and credit verification prior to shipment. Virginia residents please add 5% sales tax.

Check enclosed for \$ _____
 Charge payment of \$ _____ to:
 VISA MasterCard AMEX Discover

No. _____ Exp. _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Daytime Telephone No. (_____) _____

America Remembers®
10226 Timber Ridge Drive, Ashland, Virginia 23005
www.americaremembers.com
To place your reservation toll-free call
1-800-682-2291

For some men, the call of the wide open plains was too strong to resist. Adventure was in their blood. The Wild West was their way of life.

One of these men was "Texas Jack" Omohundro. Texas Jack answered a call for adventure that led him from Civil War battlefields to cattle drives along the Chisholm Trail. He was a cowpunch, an army scout and a hunting guide for international royalty. He rode the dusty badlands and charged into battle with legends such as Wild Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody.

Now America Remembers is proud to honor this true pioneer of the American frontier with the Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolver, an exclusive, hand-engraved edition issued on a legendary revolver of the Wild West.

The Classic Top-Break Revolver

The revolver took its name from Major George W. Schofield of the 10th Cavalry. Around 1870 he wrote to Smith & Wesson requesting one of their then-new "Model No. 3" revolvers, in the hopes it would prove useful in combat. Schofield made his own modifications to the Model No. 3 to meet the Cavalry's needs, and in 1875 Smith & Wesson incorporated these refinements into a design they named after the Major, hoping to obtain significant military contracts for their revolvers.

Each Tribute Revolver features a stunning antique coin-nickel finish and decoration inspired by the original hand-engraved pattern on a similar revolver presented by Jack to the Earl of Dunraven in 1874. The Irish Lord graciously accepted the handsome firearm, which was similarly engraved in the elegant "New York style" employed by the master craftsmen of the day.

Based on the original hand-engraved Smith & Wesson American attributed to the legendary scout and showman, Texas Jack Omohundro, this very special, limited edition model has been created by the master engravers at Adams & Adams in the same pattern as the original revolver presented by Texas Jack to the Earl of Dunraven, in 1874.

As the story goes, the adventurous Irish Lord was Texas Jack's most enthusiastic hunting patron, and in 1874, on their third hunt together on the American Frontier, it was decided that since Texas Jack had a S&W American, the Earl should have one as well. The gun was handsomely engraved in the elegant "New York style" employed by craftsmen, such as L.D. Nimschke, nickel-plated and fitted with ivory stocks. A Southerner, Omohundro had a distinguished Civil War record serving under Generals Fitzhugh Lee and J.E.B. Stuart.

After the war he became a scout and befriended such western legends as Will Bill Hickok and Buffalo Bill Cody, who he first met in 1871 when he hired on as a scout with a hunting party that included the Earl of Dunraven. Omohundro and Cody became fast friends and when Cody started his first Wild West performances in theaters, Texas Jack became a key player in the early troupe. He left the show in 1876 to write and perform on his own. Texas Jack died in Leadville, Colorado in 1880, at the young age of 34. His role in the American West, his friendship with Ned Buntline and Buffalo Bill Cody, among others, made his name legendary.

For this special issue we have chosen the fine quality No. 3 2nd Model Top-Break revolver manufactured by A. Uberti, to serve as the pallet for master engraver John Adams, Jr. of Adams & Adams. Limited to only 200 hand-engraved and unique nickel-plated examples, each gun comes with Ultra Ivory grips. The Ultra Ivory grips are produced by Eagle Grips and are a substitute ivory offering durability with the classic look and feel of ivory. This Tribute has been designed in cooperation with noted western firearms author and photographer Dennis Adler.

Honor a True American Cowboy With This Exclusive Offer - Only 200 Available

Only 200 Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolvers will ever be produced and demand is expected to be very strong. Reservations will be accepted in the order they are received. You can mail us your order form, or to prioritize your order and confirm availability, call us toll-free at 1-800-682-2291. We will arrange delivery of your working revolver through a licensed firearms dealer of your choice. And, of course, if you are not fully satisfied with your Tribute after your personal inspection, you may return it to us in original un-fired condition within 30-days for a complete and courteous refund.

Don't miss your opportunity to honor an authentic cowboy legend with a true museum-quality firearm of the Old West era. It will surely take you back to a time when Texas Jack Omohundro and his legendary revolver carved a chapter for themselves in the history of the American West. Once you hold it in your hands, you'll understand why The Texas Jack Omohundro Tribute Revolver is destined to become the centerpiece of your fine firearms collection.

Note the handsome grips which perfectly complement the classic engraving.

As a "top-break" revolver, the Schofield could be loaded quicker than other sidearms of the day and could be operated one-handed. With the barrel latch released, the barrel could be pulled down and the spent cartridge would be ejected. Major Schofield's design relocated the barrel latch from the barrel to the frame. As a result, a shooter could operate the latch with his thumb and open the gun for loading and unloading with just one hand. With practice, a shooter could refill all the chambers at once without looking. This was a major advantage for a mounted soldier, and provided the Schofield with an advantage over the Colt Peacekeeper.

The Ordnance Board granted Smith & Wesson a contract to outfit the military with Schofields, providing they could make the revolvers work with the .45 Colt ammunition already in use. Smith & Wesson instead developed their own, slightly shorter .45 caliber round. When it became obvious the two cartridges would not work interchangeably in the Schofield, although they both worked in the Colt, the U.S. Government dropped the Schofield and continued with the Colt.

From the ad:

"For some men, the call of the wide open plains was too strong to resist. Adventure was in their blood. The Wild West was their way of life.

One of these men was 'Texas Jack' Omohundro.

Texas Jack answered a call for adventure that led him from Civil War battlefields to cattle drives along the Chisholm Trail...

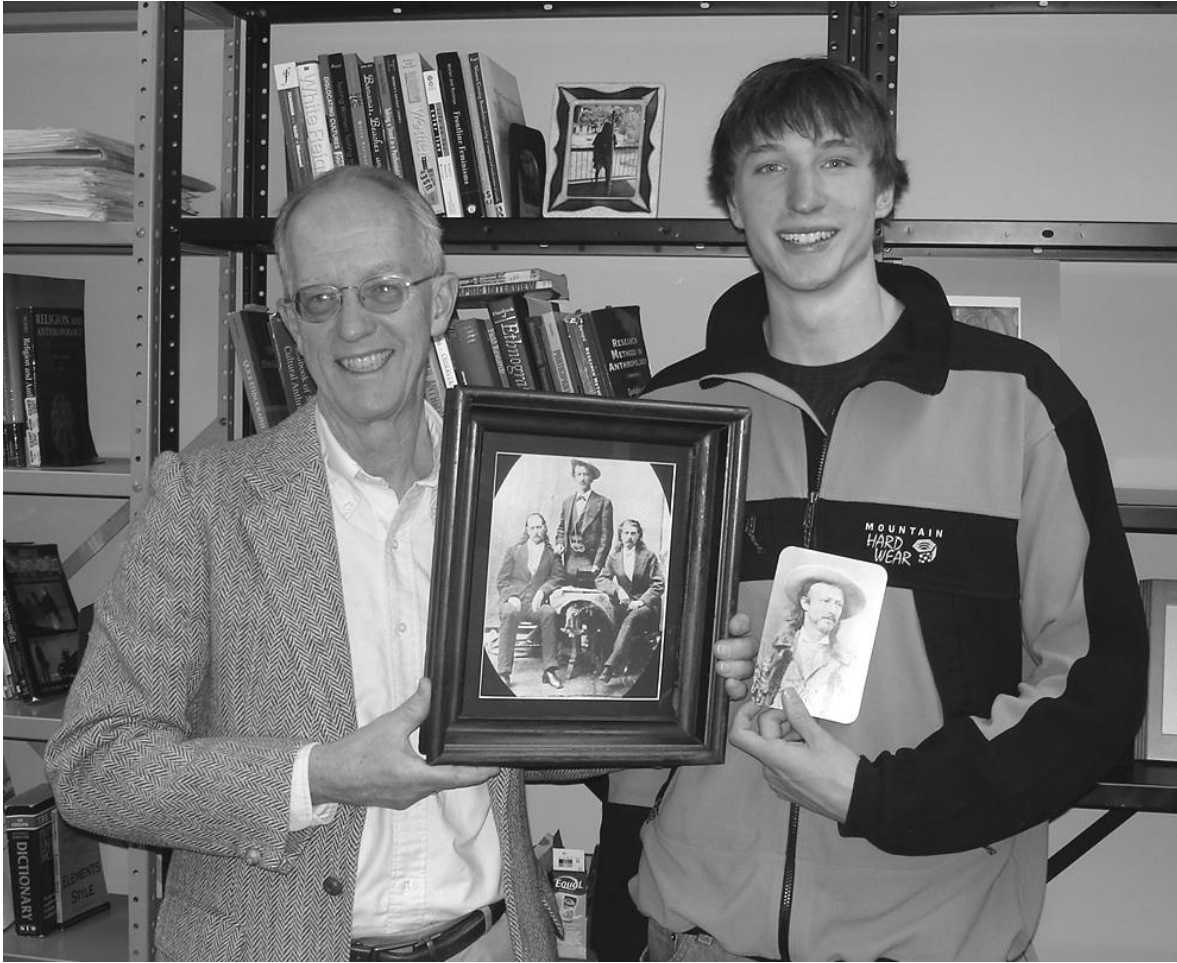
[We are] proud to honor this true pioneer of the American frontier with the Texas Jack tribute Revolver, an exclusive, hand-engraved edition issued on a legendary revolver of the Wild West.

As the story goes, the adventurous Irish Lord, [the Earl of Dunraven], was Texas Jack's most enthusiastic hunting patron, and in 1874, ...it was decided since Texas Jack had a Smith & Wesson American, the Earl should have one as well.

Honor an authentic cowboy legend with a true museum-quality firearm of the Old West era...and be taken back in time..."

The Texas Jack Scout

SURPRISE DISCOVERY



Cousins of Jack: TJA member John Omohundro, left, a professor in northern New York, recently discovered that his advisee, Alex Raynor, was a cousin on the Omohundro side. Alex's grandmother is Virginia Omohundro, now of St. Augustine, Florida, a descendent of Richard O. of Fluvanna and John's fourth cousin. Alex is therefore John's fourth cousin twice removed. Virginia and Alex, being descendants from

Richard's son Richard, are genealogically closer to Texas Jack than John is. The envy doesn't quite show in this photo. Alex is an environmental studies sophomore and an active brother in Delta Kappa fraternity. The framed portrait is of (L to R) Wild Bill Hickok, Texas Jack, and Buffalo Bill Cody, when they starred in their stage show, 1874. 🦮

The Texas Jack Scout



ANNOUNCING:

Texas Jack Dime Novel Reprint



Hundreds of issues of Dime Novels, Paper Stories, Books, and memorabilia were made of John B. Omohundro (Texas Jack) during his life and afterward. Now you can own a reproduction of an authentic Dime Novel!



\$10.00* (Includes shipping)

Name: _____

No. of Copies: _____

Address: _____

Total \$: _____

(Please make checks payable to: **Texas Jack Association**) *Photocopy this page and send it to:*

Dime Novel Reprint, % Larry Tyree, 244 N.W. Whitlock Dr., Lee's Summit, MO 64081

The Texas Jack Scout



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The Texas Jack Scout

Stephanie Greene
18329 Loxahatchee River Road
Jupiter, FL 33458

TO: