

VOLUME VII NO. 2

JUNE 1992

Annie Oakley Pierced Hearts of Local Fans

by David A. Maurer

October 27, 1991

THE DAILY PROGRESS, Charlottesville, Virginia

Many famous performers have visited Charlottesville over the years, but few have generated the level of excitement that markswoman Annie Oakley did when she arrived in town on April 2, 1908.

At the time of her visit, Oakley was one of the best-known and best-loved women in the world. Although she was 46 years old when she skipped onto a field near the old horse show grounds, she put on one of the most incredible exhibitions of shooting accuracy ever seen in the area.

Wearing a beautifully embroidered shooting dress she designed and sewed herself, she bowed, waved and threw kisses to the large crowd before picking up a gold-plated .22-caliber rifle. Those who were expecting to see a rootin' tootin' woman as hard as the Santa Fe Trail and as big as her reputation were in for a surprise.

Only 5-foot tall and weighing 100 pounds, the pretty woman who was called "America's Sweetheart" was a gentle, quiet-spoken person. Just like in most towns where she performed during her career, Oakley won the crowd's heart before she ever fired a shot.

She was born in a log cabin in Darke County, Ohio, on August 13, 1860, and given the name Phoebe Ann Moses. Her father died when she was 6, and by the time she was 8, she was shooting small game to help put food on the table.

She became such an expert hunter and deadly shot that by the time she reached her early teens, she was helping to support her family with money she made selling game to a Cincinnati hotel.

In a 1914 interview, she talked about her early hunting days.

"When I first commenced shooting in the fields of Ohio, my gun was a single-barrel muzzle-loader and, as well as I can remember, was 16-bore," she said. "I used black powder, cut my own wads out of cardboard boxes, and thought I had the best gun on earth. Anyway, I managed to kill a great many ruffed grouse, quail and rabbits," she said. "I wouldn't say how much, as I might be classed as a game-hog, but any man who has ever tried to make a living

(continued, next page)

and raise a family on 27 acres of poor land will readily understand that it was a hard proposition, and that every penny derived from the sale of game helped."

When Jack Frost, the owner of the hotel where Oakley sold game, heard she was in town visiting her sister one Thanksgiving, he arranged a shooting match between her and professional sharpshooter Frank E. Butler. Butler was a champion marksman who put on shooting exhibitions at stock shows.

Butler agreed to the match but was struck dumb when he saw his opponent was a 15-year-old country girl.

Shooting trap-released pigeons, something Oakley had never done before, she beat Butler by hitting 24 out of 25 birds in flight. Although Butler lost the match, he won a bride. He married Oakley a year later.

When Oakley became a part of Butler's show, which traveled the vaudeville

and circus circuits, she needed a stage name. The shooting area where the couple had met, now a part of Cincinnati, was called Oakley. From then on the world would come to know Mrs. Butler as Miss Annie Oakley, the Peerless Lady Wing-Shot.

After the famous Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull saw Oakley's performance in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1883, he was so impressed that he gave her the name "Watanya Cicilia," which translated as "Little Sure Shot." The name stuck and would stay with Oakley for the rest of her career.

The first feat Oakley performed in Charlottesville was shooting tiny pieces of chalk from between her husband's fingers at 30 paces. She was only warming up.

Oakley's uncanny accuracy with guns was well documented during the 17 years she spent with the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, and countless exhibitions and shooting matches. However, even by today's standards when firearms are much more accurate, her shooting remains remarkable.

One of her tricks was to hit the thin edge of a playing card at 90 feet. She also would shoot dimes tossed into the air at 30 paces. While using a .22 caliber rifle, she once shot 943 out of 1,000 glass balls tossed in the air, and with a shotgun hit 4,772



Annie Oakley put on an exhibition in Charlottesville in 1908.

(please see OAKLEY, p. 14)

Batteaux, Scottsville, & an Omohundro

by Edna N. Nees

Edward Scott came to Albemarle County, Virginia in 1744. He had two sons, David and John. David ran the ferry across the James River and John laid off the town in 1818, naming the town after the Scott family.

The Edward Scott Batteau (pictured below) was built in 1990 by some of the Scottsville townspeople. It is fifty-three feet long and seven and one-half feet wide and draws four to six inches of water. The poles are twelve feet long and weigh ten pounds. To pole a batteau you keep your weight behind it and shove the pole in the flowing water or on river rock and follow the pole down the boat before returning to pole again.



Local people became interested in batteaux in 1983 when Richmond, Virginia dug up remains of sixty historical crafts as they were excavating to build the James Center, an office building.

Many of the counties have built a batteau and each year they have a race from Lynchburg to Maidens, near Goochland, Virginia.

Batteaux were originally built in 1775 by two brothers, Anthony and Benjamin Rucker, of Amherst County, Virginia. Thomas Jefferson was said to be present at the first launching.

They were used to transport tobacco, corn, wheat and other farm products down the eastern rivers. On the return trip they brought back china, books, cloth and other finished goods. Thomas Jefferson watched as great Tuscan pillars of Carrara marble were unloaded from batteaux onto wagons to be carried to Charlottesville and set up in front of the pavilion and Rotunda, to complete the University of Virginia. Until the early 1800's the wooden boats were the primary means of transportation along the eastern rivers.




In 1840, batteaux died out between Lynchburg and Richmond because of the James River Kanawha Canal, which could transport more goods much more quickly than with manpower alone. While a batteau could haul ten to fifteen tons at a time, canal barges, drawn by horses, could carry four times as much.

Richard Omohundro, V (Texas Jack's grandfather) started operating a batteau from Scottsville to Richmond. This didn't offer Richard the opportunity he desired, so around 1800, when John Scott offered him a position to oversee and run Scott's big farm on the James River just west of Scottsville, he accepted. Richard married Edith Seay soon after and lived on the Scott farm for nearly twenty years, where most of his children were born.

About 1820, Richard had accumulated enough to buy a farm and build one of the first brick homes in Fluvanna County. He named it "Gale Hill." Edith died in 1856 and Richard died in 1860. They are buried in the family cemetery at "Gale Hill."

At left, citizens of Scottsville, Virginia prepare to launch the Edward Scott Batteau, June 1991. [Photos courtesy Edna N. Nees.]



TEXAS JACK

THE TEXAS JACK ASSOCIATION, INC.
A Non-Profit,
Tax-Deductible Corporation

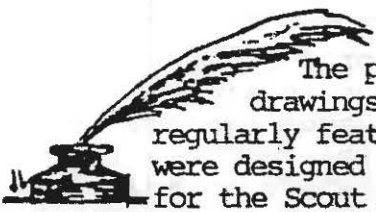
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*deceased



The pen and ink drawings used above regularly featured columns were designed especially for the Scout by California Western painter, Dan Balkin.

DEADLINE FOR SENDING ITEMS FOR THE OCTOBER SCOUT IS AUGUST 15.

Introducing . . .



a younger brother of Texas Jack,
MARTIN WOODVILLE OMOHUNDRO

"Wood," as he was known by his friends, was born December 28, 1855, in Fluvanna County, Virginia, the ninth child of John Burwell and Catherine Baker Omohundro.

Wood was quite a horseman in his youth, winning many tournament contests. Tournaments were popular in his day and were akin to those held by knights of the Middle Ages. The object was to "catch" an iron ring with a lance while galloping past on horseback. "Wood rode a small black mare that he called 'Flying Lucy.' He had her well trained and she could run like the 'dickens' at the first start, and then slack up as she got near the ring, so Wood took the ring nearly every time."

When in his early twenties, Wood ran a general mercantile store at different points along the railroad line being built parallel to the James River. When the line was completed in 1881, he sold the business and went to Wilson County, Tennessee where three of his older brothers were already living. He settled in Nashville and entered the livestock business, at which he fared quite well. In 1899, he married Sarah Ethel Lena Davis, a cousin of Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy. Wood and Sarah had four children, three of whom lived to adulthood: Myra Katherine, Martin B., and Imalenna.

Wood died December 10, 1913, and is buried at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Nashville. Sarah, who was fifteen years his junior, survived him by twenty-one years.

Younger brother Malvern wrote, "Wood had a lot of common sense, was full of energy and thrift, dry fun and jokes, and afraid of nothing, with a heart as big as all out-of-doors."

[Information and quotations from THE OMOHUNDRO GENEALOGICAL RECORD. Photo courtesy Edna Nees. Edna has a copy of a letter from Texas Jack to Wood that she is including in her supplement to the GENEALOGICAL RECORD. She hopes to have the book ready in time to bring to the San Antonio Round-Up.]



Wood and Sarah Omohundro

The James River and Kanawha Canal

by Malvern Hill Omohundro

Wood, my brother, loved this canal so well that I am contributing this piece to him.

In the beginning of the English colony in Virginia, our first settlement was at Jamestown on the James River, 1607. From that time on civilization advanced up the river, and until about 1835, when the railroads first began to appear in this wilderness country, James River was about the main source of public conveyance. At first the river was traversed by the little push boat, the battoe, pushed by the hands of man alone. As soon as the Revolutionary War was over and prosperity began, the leading citizens of Virginia and the great planters on both sides of this river began to look to something more substantial and satisfactory than pushing boats by hand; so it was in 1785 that the James River Company was organized as the connecting link between East and West and George Washington was elected president of the company, but his other interests and duties prevented him from giving the time to it that he wished to do, so Edmund Randolph then became the acting president. Randolph was succeeded by William Foushee of Richmond, and Washington remained honorary president until 1795 at which time Dr. Foushee became president in name as well as in fact. Boats soon began to enter Richmond over this little canal to Westham, 6 miles up the river, and the project continued to grow until 1836 when the State of Virginia took it over after a hard fight in the Legislature for a railroad, against which it won, I think, by one vote, and began a tremendous undertaking for that time; but after some seven years of intensive work and the expenditure of some \$40,000,000 the canal as far as Buchanan and Lexington was completed.

First came the packet boat, which was a beautiful little boat that carried the mail and about 40 or 50 passengers at most. These boats were pulled by a tow line hitched to three horses generally the same color--white, black, gray, sorrel, or bay. These horses generally travelled in a fox trot with the driver on the rear horse and a small horn around his shoulder. This horn he blew for each set of locks to be ready by the time he got there, which of course was not long. These horses were generally changed about every 10 or 15 miles. The boat generally travelled at the rate of 10 miles an hour and ran day and night. On this boat the wealth, culture, and refinement of the James River section could be found going to and from Richmond. Many big planters as well as members of the professions generally had a good time meeting their friends, sitting on the deck at night, drinking mint juleps fresh from the bar and telling big jokes, playing cards and other games. The food and drinks on these packet boats were the best this country could afford. This was a part of the high life of old Virginia at that time and the people learned to love and talk about that canal like a dear member of the family. My big brother "Wood" used to say he loved it like a woman.

My first trip from my old home in Fluvanna County to Richmond was on one of these boats with my mother and father in April 1873, to see "Texas Jack" (J.B. Omohundro) and "Buffalo Bill," who showed in Richmond in the old Broad Street Theatre at 7th and Broad for 3 days and nights to an overcrowded house. I was then a little over six years old. We stopped at the old Exchange Hotel, then the finest in the city, on the north side

of East Franklin between 13th and 14th Street, with a bridge across the street to the Ballard House. Many things I saw and did are vivid in my mind today as though it were but yesterday. I could write many lines on the sights and experiences on that trip; however, I will content myself by relating only a few.

The boat landed at Richmond at 5:00 a.m., and it was a pill for me to have to get up at that time; however, when I finally got my eyes open and stepped ashore among the big crowd and the roar of the hotel runners, about the first thing I saw was my Brother John, who clasped us with open arms and led us to a hack, now "taxi." We drove to the Exchange Hotel and on my way I saw many sights, but one I had never seen before



and that was a street sprinkler, pulled by a mule and driven by a Negro. That evening we went to the theatre and met Col. Cody and also Ned Buntline, who wrote the play, and many others, as well as Dove Eye and Hazel Eye, two leading ladies of the show. It seemed to me they danced on the end of their toes. Also I remember the Indians, who traced the white men's steps by picking up every little scrap and smelling it, just as a dog would do. Then my brother would run out and lasso the Indian and drag him in, and the crowd would roar.

Coming back to the old canal, it did some freight hauling as well as passenger hauling. The freight boat was built on the same order as the packet boat, though somewhat larger and of course much cheaper and rougher, but it had a deck, except some wood-hauling boats, which were open top and called "Boot Jacks." There were a great many of these freight boats; they carried a crew of 5 or 6 men, did their cooking and sleeping in one end and had a stable for the mules in the front end. They were always on the move day and night, when not loading or unloading freight. They were generally pulled by one mule, sometimes two, and made about 2 or 3 miles an hour. These boats were very accommodating to their customers, would take on or put off freight anywhere, and if the farmer was nearly done threshing wheat when the boat happened to come along he would shout, "Come over and help me finish, and I will send my wheat by you to Richmond." The captain would tie up his boat and go with all his men to the threshing machine to help finish; and then all hands would load the wheat on the boat, and the captain would start his boat again. When they got within half a mile of the locks, the steersman would blow his tin horn and holler, "Locks ready!" The horn was about 8 feet long, about one foot or more in diameter at the far end and less than one inch in diameter at the mouth, and could be heard for a long distance, at times for miles. To hear this horn blowing late in the night was certainly a lonesome sound. The captain would often take his customer with him to Richmond on the boat, or if he couldn't go, he would do shopping for him, all free of charge.

All this is only a slight touch of the easy going business and social life up and down the old canal, and no wonder that the people along the line did not want to give it up. But progress must go forward, and in June 1879 the canal passed from under the old management and the Richmond and Alleghany R.R. Co. (now C.&O.) started to laying its tracks up the tow path. The job was completed in 1881. Many people thought the railroad would develop and improve the country much better and faster than the canal could ever do, but time has not proven this a fact.

[Excerpted from THE OMOHUNDRO GENEALOGICAL RECORD. Drawing from FLUVANNA COUNTY SKETCHBOOK 1777-1963, a project of the Fluvanna Civil War Commission]

The Scouting Report

WELCOME! to new members. . .

...Dennis Brooks
...Harvey Willard

THANK YOU! to. . .

- ..Everette Grizzard of Cary, NC for the following tidbit: Wanting a copy of BUCKSKIN AND SATIN, the out-of-print Texas Jack biography by Herschel C. Logan, Everette contacted several used book stores and found one that specializes in locating out-of-print books. Several months later he was pleased to obtain a copy of BUCKSKIN AND SATIN in good condition, without dust cover, for \$55.
- ..Jack Omohundro of Crowley, LA for sending a photograph (sent to him by a friend) of the streetsign for Omohundro Street in Rockport, TX. Jack has written to the mayor asking for more information and will send to the SCOUT any that he gets--if and when.
- ..to Jack Omohundro (again) for sending "Smith & Wesson and History" by Robert H. O'Meara from the May 1986 GUNS magazine. Following is an excerpt:

For reasons I've never understood, the only Smith & Wesson product of which Hollywood seems ever to have taken significant note is Dirty Harry's .44 Magnum Model 29. I'm sure the motion picture series starring Clint Eastwood was a major factor in the popularity of this model. On the other hand, how often have you seen an S&W tucked in the holster of a western movie character?

For the most part, Hollywood seems to have ignored the fact that single-action Model No.3s and double-action Favorites, among others, were extremely popular in the "Old West." They were in the holsters of the valiant black cavalry troops known during the Indian Wars as "Buffalo Soldiers." Jesse James and his brother Frank carried them. Brevet General Custer had a pair of finely engraved Model No. 2 Army revolvers. According to legend, Buffalo Bill's .44 American so impressed the prince of Russia that he influenced his government to equip the army with S&Ws. John Wesley Hardin, Dallas Stoudenmire, Pat Garrett, Cimmaron Beach, "Texas Jack" Omohundro, and a host of other oldtime gunfighters were known to favor Smith & Wesson revolvers.

In fact, contrary to popular belief, Wyatt Earp is said to have carried and used an engraved nickel-plated Model No. 3 in his showdown with the Clanton-McLowry faction at Tombstone's O.K. Corral.

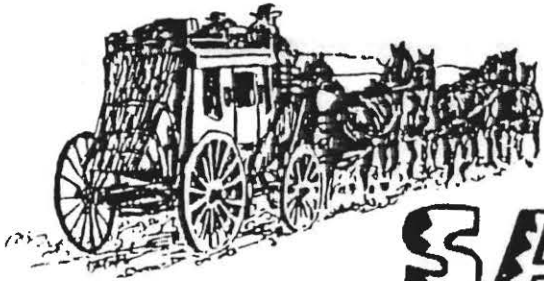
While the entertainment industry has all but ignored these facts, they have not escaped the notice of gun collectors. The surge in interest in S&Ws as collectors' items is relatively recent but gaining daily in popularity as Roy Jinks, S&Ws official historian, can testify.

With this popularity has come curiosity. Collectors are asking when their S&Ws were made, where they were shipped and who may have owned them before. From his office in a small one-story building across the street from the main plant on Roosevelt Avenue in Springfield, Massachusetts, Roy answers these questions, insofar as possible, from the records he maintains of more than 130 years of S&W production.

Jack has written to Roy Jinks for more information about Texas Jack's .44 American, but since Roy receives 300 to 400 inquiries every month, it may be awhile before an answer is forthcoming!

THIS 'N THAT. . .

- .. "As customary, TEXAS JACK's name will be resubmitted to the Hall of Great Westerners selection committee this summer for consideration." This was written (April 7, 1992) to Jack Omohundro by B. Byron Price, Executive Director of the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. To have Texas Jack inducted into the Hall of Fame is one of Jack's pet projects. He urges all Association members to write letters to Mr. Price in support of this cause. Address your petitions to: B. Byron Price, Executive Director, National Cowboy Hall of Fame, 1700 Northeast 63rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.
- .. Ever notice how as soon as you learn something new, it tends to start popping up everywhere? That's how it's been for Lowell, Massachusetts (where Texas Jack and Josephine had a home and where Josephine is buried). First, I read in a travel magazine that Lowell is one of the few cities left (along with San Francisco) that still operates streetcars. Then I noticed that former presidential candidate Paul Tsongas resides in Lowell. And just the other day there was a blurb in the paper about four unpublished manuscripts by Jack Kerouac that are soon to be released by his estate. Kerouac, best known for ON THE ROAD, was born and raised in Lowell.
- .. As those of you who have a copy know, THE OMOHUNDRO GENEALOGICAL RECORD is a treasure trove of anecdotes such as this one, about America "Eppa" Virginia Shores, found on page 607: "She was married when I was five days old, and I understand it was a runaway match. They met the preacher on the road east of Central Plains, Va., where they stopped, made up a fire, and were married. I had the old chunks of the fire pointed out to me lots of times when I was a child."



A VISIT TO ...

SAN ANTONIO

PART III: SITES TO SEE

San Antonio has something to interest everyone! What follows is but a sampling of the varied attractions and points of interest. To obtain more information to help you plan your free time at the Round-Up, write to: San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau, Box 2277, San Antonio, TX 78298 OR call: 1-800-447-3372.

BROOKS AIR FORCE BASE One of San Antonio's four U.S. Air Force bases, Brooks is unique in the annals of flight history. It has witnessed both the initial flights of our fledgling Air Force and our proudest moments in space. Founded in the early days of World War I as a pilot training base, it was also here that the original astronauts received their medical evaluations and training. You can see this exciting panorama of history for yourself in the museum at Hangar 9--the oldest hangar in the U.S. Air Force. (The other bases are Lackland, Randolph, and Kelly.)

SAN FERNANDO CATHEDRAL Founded in the mid 1700's, it was here, in the south bell tower, that Santa Anna raised the red flag of "No Surrender" during the battle of the Alamo. Legend has it that the remains of the gallant defenders of the Alamo were buried inside the main entrance.

SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK To follow The Mission Trail in San Antonio is to step back to Spanish Colonial times, when Spain ruled Texas, over 250 years ago. Start your tour with Mission Concepcion, the oldest unrestored church in the United States. Continue with Mission San Jose--the largest of the missions--which has been fully restored as one of the nation's finest examples of early Spanish architecture. And conclude your travel back into time with Missions San Juan and Espada.

EL MERCADO The restored Mexican and Farmers Market. A center of activity, filled with people, produce, products, shopping, and restaurants that give San Antonio much of its style.

LA VILLITA Site of one of San Antonio's original settlements, located just steps from the River Walk. Today, the adobe dwellings serve as homes for artisans, galleries and restaurants.

THE SPANISH GOVERNOR'S PALACE The only remaining example in Texas of an early aristocratic Spanish Colonial home. Adults \$1; children under 14, 50¢.

THE ALAMO The shrine of Texas Liberty. Where Colonel William B. Travis, Davy Crockett and a handful of Texans made their last stand for Independence against Mexican General Santa Anna's army of 2,500. Free.

ALAMO IMAX THEATER "Alamo...The Price of Freedom," sponsored by Luby's. 45 minutes docudrama tells the story of 189 Texans, Tejanos and settlers who chose to die for freedom. Shown daily on Texas' biggest screen. Located in Rivercenter. Admission.

SAN ANTONIO ZOO Internationally famous. One of the best collections of animals in the U.S., the San Antonio Zoo is unique in that it is one of the few zoos that features barless "natural habitat" cages for many of its animals. Persons 12-61 \$5; 62 & over \$3.50; children 3-11 \$3; under 3 free. Open 9:30 am to 6:30 pm.

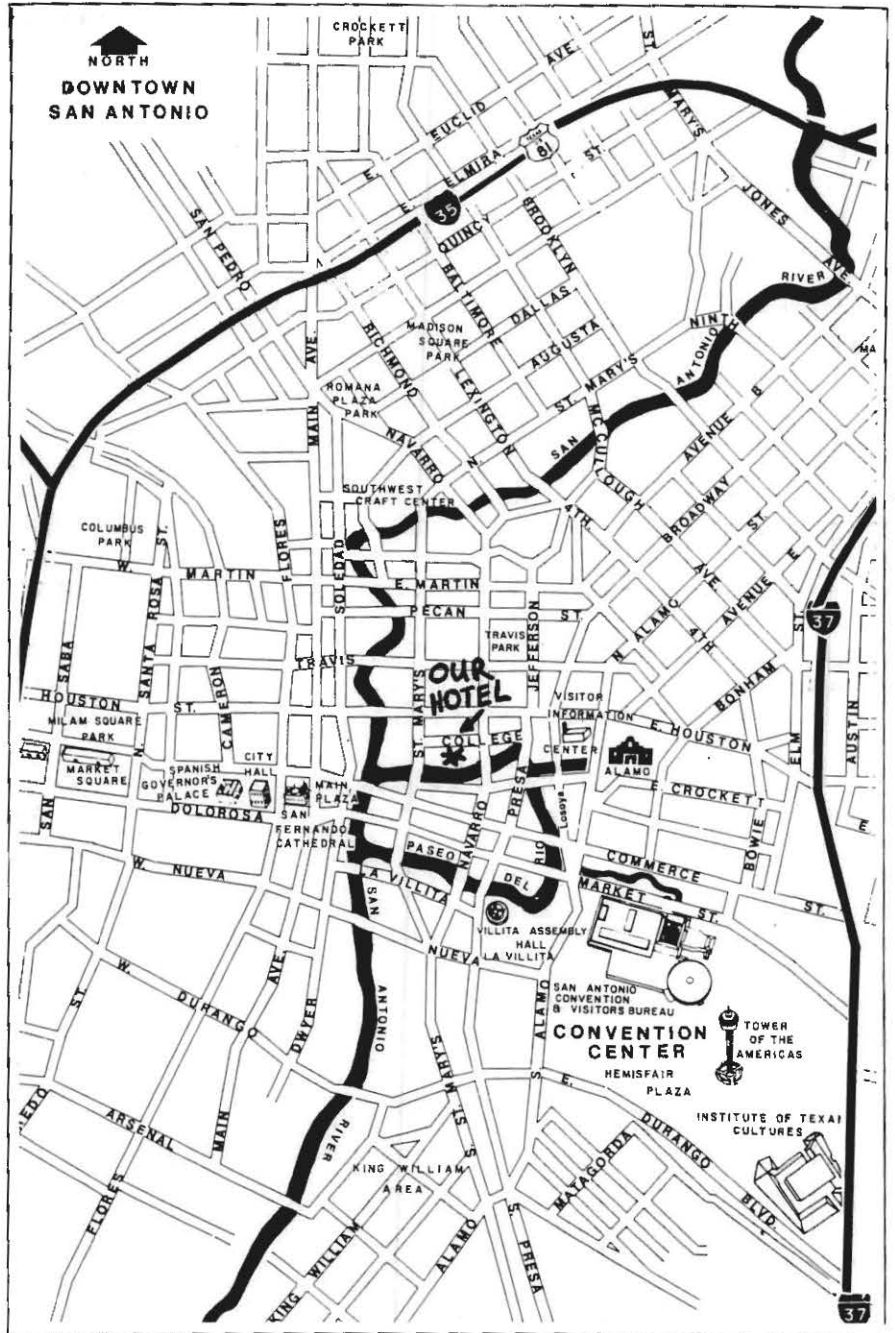
A room with a view.

Tower of the Americas

Dining • Observation Level



You haven't really seen San Antonio until you've seen it from the top. From 579 feet above the city, the view from the newly renovated observation level is spectacular! Tower Observation Level Hours: Daily from 8:00 am - 11:00 pm. Elevator Fees: Adults \$2.00, Senior Citizens \$1.25, Children (4-12) \$1.00, Free for children under 4 years old.



NAVARRO HOUSE Restored home of Jose Antonio Navarro, a former mayor of San Antonio during Mexican rule. One of the few remaining historically significant structures which gives a good picture of life during the struggle for Texas independence. Admission.

NAVARRO STREET CROSSING Before bridges spanned the river, a ford for carts and horses existed in this area. On Sunday afternoon it became the city's first carriage wash. A marker describes the crossing at what is now Navarro Street.

HERTZBURG CIRCUS MUSEUM Backing onto the River Walk, this museum is one of the largest collections of American circus life memorabilia in the world. Free.

MUSEUM OF ART A turn-of-the-century brewery that has been converted to a contemporary museum. It now houses examples of pre-Columbian art, archaeological relics, paintings by the Old Masters and modern art. Adults \$4; Seniors \$2; children 4-11 \$1.75; under 4 free.

THE GUENTHER HOUSE Carl Hilmar Guenther, the founder of Pioneer Flour Mills, built this elegant home in 1860. It has been restored by the company and welcomes visitors as a museum, restaurant and retail store.

FORT SAM HOUSTON MUSEUM Depicts the history of this National Historic Landmark site and of the Army in San Antonio from 1845 to present. Free.

HEMISFAIR PLAZA Site of the 1968 World's Fair, The Tower of the Americas, art galleries, theaters, museums, rides and amusements, and the Institute of Texan Cultures. No admission to the grounds. Open daily 10 am to midnight.

LONE STAR BUCKHORN HALL OF HORNS A taste of Old Texas at the Buckhorn Bar, a restored Wild West saloon. Plus displays of native Texas wildlife and the world's largest collection of deer antlers. Adults \$3; children \$1.

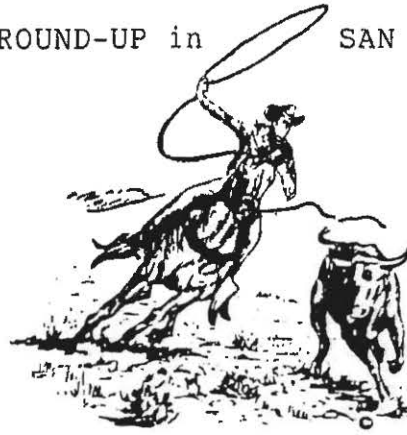
WITTE MUSEUM San Antonio landmark founded in 1926, housing award-winning, hands-on exhibitions ranging from 65-million-year-old Texas dinosaurs to walk-through dioramas illustrating the flora, fauna and wildlife of Texas, unique exhibits on animals' perception of their world, and the culture and cave paintings of ancient man of the Lower Pecos region of Texas. Adults \$4; Seniors \$2; Children \$1.75 (4-11); under 4 free. Call for times: 829-SAMA.

KING WILLIAM HISTORIC AREA A 25-block area on the south bank of the San Antonio River. Originally settled by German merchants, today zoned as the state's first historic district. Many of the mansions are restored or are being restored. The San Antonio Conservation Society at 107 King William Street provides a walking tour.

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! Often called "the world's most unique museum," its eight awe-inspiring galleries of strange and bizarre exhibits will constantly thrill you, occasionally chill you, and always amaze you. Located across from the Alamo. Call for admission prices: 224-9299. Open daily 9 am to 10 pm June through August.

[Information copied from various promotional brochures. Prices and times subject to change.]

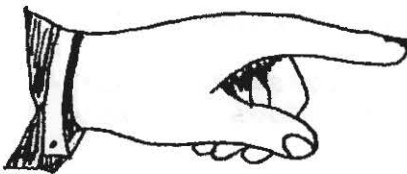
ROUND-UP in SAN ANTONIO!



- Wednesday, July 8. *Afternoon, starting about 2 P.M. registration at La Mansion del Rio Hotel, convention headquarters
- Thursday, July 9. *Evening: get-together in Hospitality Room
*Morning: business meeting of all members
*Afternoon: guided bus tour of San Antonio
*Evening: dinner aboard a river barge on the San Antonio River
- Friday, July 10. Morning and afternoon are free. See pages 10-12 for suggested activities. An all-day guided tour of the LBJ Ranch can be arranged if enough people are interested.
*Evening: Farewell Banquet at La Mansion del Rio Hotel. There will be a cash bar and music for dancing.

*THIS EVENT IS COVERED BY YOUR REGISTRATION FEE.

ROUND-UP REGISTRATION



If you have just found out that you will be able to attend the Round-Up after all, do not despair that you have missed the registration deadline. There's always room for one (or two or three) more! Send in your registration fee of \$85.00 PER PERSON posthaste. Make checks payable to the Texas Jack Association and mail to Jack Omohundro, 425 North Ave. K, Crowley, LA 70526. Questions? Call Jack at (318)783-0396.

PLEASE NOTE: Your registration fee does not include lodgings. You are responsible for making your own hotel reservations. Information about accommodations at La Mansion del Rio Hotel is in the February/March SCOUT. For additional information call the hotel at 1-800-531-7208 and identify yourself as a Texas Jack Association member to obtain the special rate of \$75.00 (plus tax) per room (single or double).



OAKLEY

continued from p. 2

out of 5,000 glass balls in nine hours.

Another famous trick she performed was to hit a playing card thrown into the air five or six times before it hit the ground. This feat gave rise to the term "Annie Oakley" for complimentary passes with holes punched in them.

On May, 4, 1894, in West Orange, New Jersey, Oakley performed for one of the earliest motion pictures ever made. The jittery picture shows Oakley firing 25 shots in 27 seconds with her Model 91 .22-caliber Marlin rifle.

While giving an exhibition with the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show in Berlin in 1889, Oakley, upon request, shot a cigarette out of the mouth of Crown Prince William, later to become Germany's Wilhelm II.

Another sure crowd pleaser was when Oakley waited for two clay pigeons to be released, then leaped over a table, picked up a gun, and shot them down. But a near-fatal head-on train wreck in 1901 drained much of Oakley's vigor.

Oakley later told a friend that within 17 hours of the wreck, in which she suffered severe internal injuries, her hair turned white. Her buoyancy and energy never returned, but her shooting skills did.

Toward the end of her Charlottesville performance, Oakley turned her back on a small target some 30 yards away. Pointing the rifle over her shoulder, she used the reflection in a silver-plated knife to aim and fire.

She hit the target.

In 1915, Oakley and her husband joined the staff at the Carolina Hotel at Pinehurst, North Carolina. She gave firearms instruction to men and women and often dazzled guests with her shooting.

But by October, 1926, ill and partially crippled from a 1922 car accident, Oakley saw the end of the trail growing near. Always modest, she calmly made arrangements to have a woman embalmer prepare her body.

Then, on November 3, 1926, "Little Sure Shot" died. She was cremated, as she had requested, and her ashes put in a silver loving cup given to her by the people of France in 1889.

Three weeks later, her husband died and Oakley's ashes were buried with him in Greenville, Ohio. During her career, Oakley had given countless interviews but one sentence she spoke during a 1900 interview in Minneapolis said a lot about her view of life.

"Any woman who does not thoroughly enjoy tramping across the country on a clear frosty morning with a good gun and a pair of dogs, does not know how to enjoy life," she said.



Contributed by Edna Nees of Scottsville, Virginia and reprinted with permission of the author. [Ed. Note: The Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming has an exhibit devoted to Annie Oakley. The Center is located 50 miles east of Yellowstone National Park and is open March through November. For more information, write to the Center at Box 1000, Cody, WY 82414.]

ABSENTEE BALLOT

If you have an opinion about something but can't be in San Antonio to voice it, write it on this ballot and send it to Jack Omohundro at the address given below. If you don't wish to tear up your SCOUT, simply write your thoughts on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Where do you suggest the 1994 convention be held and why?
2. Would you be willing to organize the next convention? _____
3. Would you be willing to serve as an officer of the Association for the 1993-1994 term? _____ Which office? _____
4. Would you be willing to be editor of the SCOUT for the 1993-1994 term? (Edna Nees, bless her heart, has volunteered to continue being responsible for taking the prepared copy to the printer and then doing the mailout.) _____
5. List anything else you would like included on the agenda of the business meeting:
6. Any comments in general about the Association, the Round-Up, or the SCOUT?

MAIL TO: Jack H. Omohundro, 425 North Ave. K, Crowley, LA 70526 THANK YOU!



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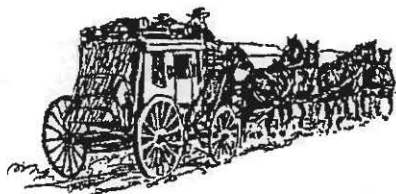
The next issue of the SCOUT will feature lots of pictures from our convention in San Antonio and an accounting of the good time had by all. The new officers will be announced as will the 1994 convention site and other items decided at the business meeting. But why wait to read about it? Come see for yourself! (Registration details are on page 13.) However, I must warn you--Texas Jack Round-Ups are notoriously addictive. Once you attend one, you never miss another one! That's because they're fun, educational, and there's usually an unexpected adventure. There's also lots of "extras." For this year's event, Edna Nees is working to have her update to the OMOHUNDRO GENEALOGICAL RECORD ready, I'm making a display showing how the SCOUT is assembled, Henry Kucharzyk will share more about his search for Josephine in Lowell, and who knows who else has something planned? Be there to find out!!

See you in San Antonio!

Kitty

Kitty V. Wyche, Editor

P.S. Charter members, don't forget to wear your charter pin!



MOVING? If you are planning to move or have already moved, please send your new address to the SCOUT
C/O Jack H. Omohundro, 425 North Ave. K,
Crowley, LA 70526.

Edna N. Nees
Route 1, Box 250
Scottsville, VA 24590



TO:

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