



Volume XIX, No. 2

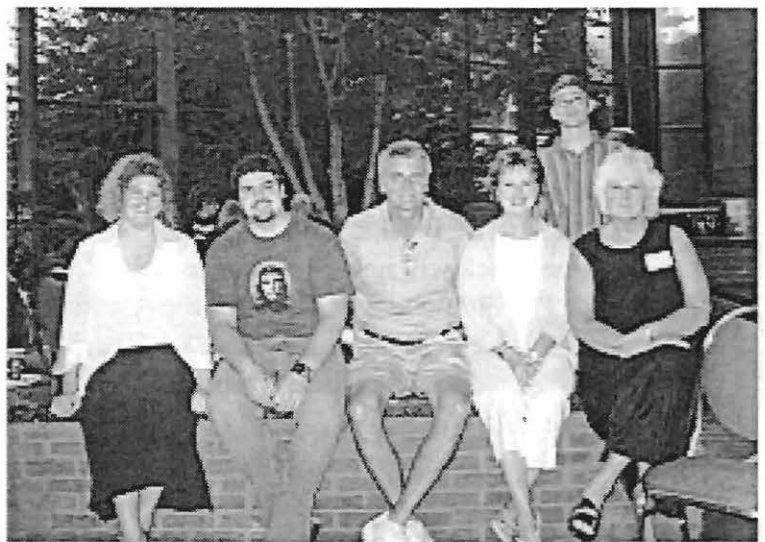
www.texasjack.org

July 2004

## Fun for All at the Fluvanna County, Virginia Roundup!

by Laura Greene, Guest Editor

Texas Jack Association enthusiasts from across the nation came together on July 14<sup>th</sup> 2004 to enjoy a lovely reception which would be the first of many wonderful activities planned throughout the roundup. Members young and old alike were able to catch up and reacquaint themselves in anticipation of an extraordinarily good time hosted by Edna Nees, Marie Banton, Isabella and Harvey Willard and they did not disappoint!



*Meghan Banton, Brandon, Rick, Nancy Omohundro, Marie Banton and Clint Hammock (standing)*



*Isabella Willard, Edna Nees, Nancy Omohundro*

The scenic Omni Hotel in Charlottesville, Virginia was absolutely buzzing with excitement the following morning as everyone woke up bright and early to attend a tour of Thomas Jefferson's famous Monticello plantation. The 5000 acre plantation nestled in gentle Virginian hills outside Charlottesville was a refreshing look back into an era of newly discovered beauty and unsettled frontiers. It was easy to see where Jefferson drew his inspiration!

*continued on page 3*

## From the Editor's Desk...

From the Desk of..

Guest Editor: Laura Greene

2004's Charlottesville Roundup will always remain memorable because I was given the opportunity to visit landmarks that not only related to Texas Jack, but also to the birth and beginnings of our nation. Imagine the excitement and raw courage belonging to the settlers who first landed in Virginia; how could they have predicted that their determination and persistence would eventually lead to the formation of such a powerful country? Perhaps it was something in the Virginia water that brought such success, because centuries later young men born there like Texas Jack would embark from the east coast on another journey demanding an equal amount of strength and bravery to the untamed western lands. Although our country's wilderness has been mapped and charted, it is easy to see how much character one would have needed to have survived there. For all our technological advances, the written words about outstanding men such as Texas Jack will never become too obsolete or too old. The unrelenting strength of the American spirit has remained unchanged throughout the generations as well the stories and adventures of Texas Jack Omohundro.

The administration of the Association however, is changing, and many of you, (especially those who were not able to attend the recent Roundup), are probably very curious about the direction the TJA will now take. I hope my interview with Rand McKinney, our new president, will help to inform you. Thanks to everyone who assisted in this issue!

Laura Greene will also serve as Guest Editor of our next issue. SEND MATERIAL AND IDEAS FOR THE NOVEMBER SCOUT TO LAURA GREENE, 18329 LOXAHATCHIE RIVER ROAD, JUPITER FL 33458 OR [mgreene39@hotmail.com](mailto:mgreene39@hotmail.com).

*The Texas Jack Scout*

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Author of Buckskin and Satin  
Mrs. Nellie Snyder Yost, North Platte, NE

The Texas Jack Association was founded in 1980 to commemorate John B. Omohundro, cowboy, prairie scout, western hunting guide, and Wild West showman, colleague of Buffalo Bill Cody and Wild Bill Hickok.

*The Texas Jack Scout* publishes articles about John B. "Texas Jack" Omohundro, the times and places in which he lived, or individuals who have contributed substantially to maintaining his memory.

After an excellent tour, we were treated to another walk into the past at the historic Michie Tavern where we turned back time and had a mid-day meal delicious enough to reenergize even the most weary traveler (or tourist)! Our adventure



*Dancing at the Michie Tavern*

continued as we were given a tour of the actual Michie Tavern. If we hadn't already felt like we were living in the 17th century, we certainly did after our "tavern wench" (or tour guide) taught us an authentic colonial dance! Let's just say that the Omohundro men have some fancy footwork! Our tour also included several other "living past" experiences, including the chance to write with a quill pen and strum a replica harpsichord instrument.

Next on the agenda was the Special Projects Meeting. It was very well attended and a report on it can be found later in this issue.

Friday morning, we awoke to an absolutely beautiful day that was clear and sunny. Those who were able to get up bright & early enough took a short bus ride to the Bremo plantation at Bremo Bluff and the digs at Spring Garden Creek. Our tour leaders archaeologist Dr. Steven Marqusee

and arboriculturist Woody Cumbo gave us a very informative and fascinating tour of the Bremo Bluff estates of John Hartwell Cocke, colleague of Thomas Jefferson.

In the afternoon, the early risers met up with those who chose to catch a little more shuteye for the dedication at Pleasure Hill Cemetery. Edna Nees and Harvey Willard presented a beautiful plaque at the grave site that recognized the childhood home of Texas Jack. It was a moving experience to stand on ground only feet away from where Texas Jack himself was born. Many members got even closer to the past when they uncovered bricks from the old Omohundro home that once stood there!

Next on the agenda was a visit to the Fluvanna County Museum, once a jail, which was adjacent to the old Fluvanna Court House. The museum was a goldmine of authentic artifacts and even featured a map of Fluvanna that included an outline of the Omohundro plantation!



*Susan Omohundro, archaeologist Dr. Steve Marqusee, K. B. Chapman, and Woody, arboriculturist*

Towards dinner time, we enjoyed a picturesque ride through the Virginia forests to the Nees farm in Scottsville. Once there, we were treated to true



*The Nees Farm*

“southern hospitality” in the form of a picnic supper and everyone was taken with the natural beauty of the area, the great food, and of course the fabulous company! Later in the evening, our entertainment, a captivating civil war lecture by David Born, a convincing confederate soldier reenactment by Daniel Queen, and an informative Confederate flag presentation by Meghan Banton (right) left us wanting more! We found ourselves very grateful to Mary Nees Golladay and her wonderful family for providing one of the best nights of the roundup. Night seemed to fall much too soon as we boarded the bus and headed back to the hotel.



Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> was a day of mixed business and fun as members gathered to discuss the upcoming events and activities of the Association. At 7:00 pm, everyone decked out in their formal attire for the banquet and special entertainment hosted in the Omni Hotel’s Jefferson Room. The banquet was very well attended and put together and everyone there agreed it was the perfect ending to a great

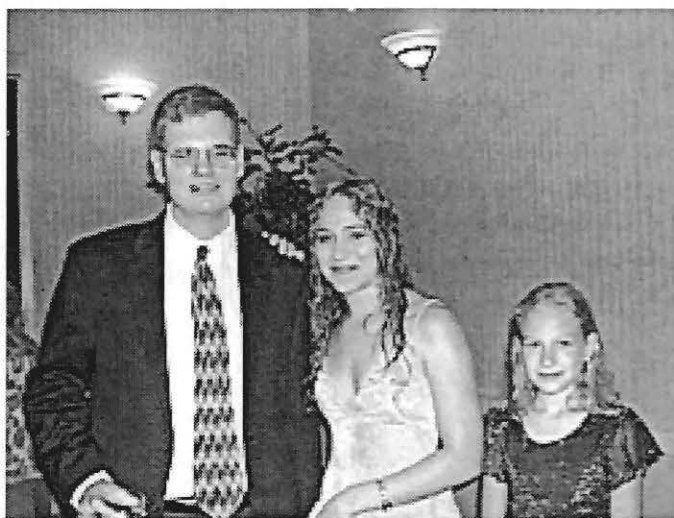
roundup!

Goodbyes and thank you’s were given as members prepared to part ways until the next roundup in 2006 located in the historic town of Cody, Wyoming.

Special Thanks to Larry Tyree, Sheryll Omohundro, Barbara and Charles Curtis, and Richard Omohundro (A big hello from Florida) for sending pictures for this article.

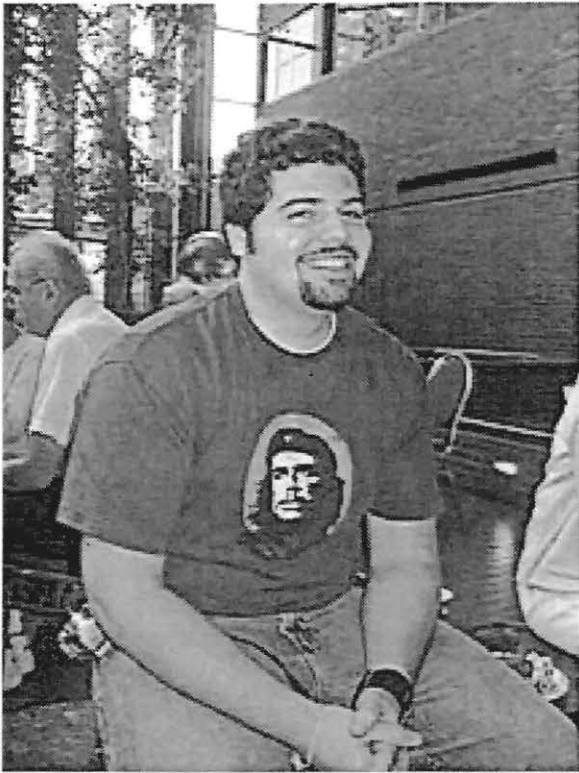


*Kitty Pelkan, Karl Pelkan, Kelly Wyche and Hughes Diller*



*O.P. Harwood, Laura Greene and Lindsay Greene*

## *Folks at the picnic...*



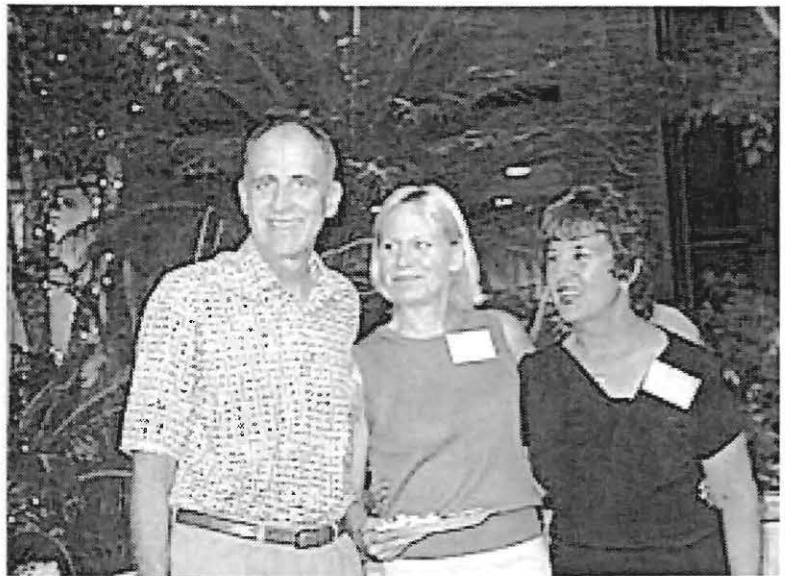
*Brandon Omohundro*



*Meghan Banton (granddaughter of Edna Nees)*



*Daniel Queen, Civil War Re-enactor*



*Mark and Peggy Greene, Barbara Curtis*

## **SPOTLIGHT ON ... Rand McKinney, President, TJA** by Laura Greene

### **What are your future plans for the Association?**

Up to now, the association's main functions have been to publish *The Scout* and put on the roundup every two years. I plan to continue with those, certainly. I would like to increase the membership, as was discussed at some length in Charlottesville. I would also like to try to get more publicity for Texas Jack in any other ways that we can. One example of that is the bookmark that the Association is working on—John Omohundro of New York is taking the lead on that.

### **Will any large changes be made?**

I'm not planning any big changes.

### **What was your favorite part of this year's Roundup?**

It was all so much fun, it's hard to pick one thing. I really enjoyed seeing the Pleasure Hill cemetery and the picnic at the Nees Farm.

### **How can members become more involved in the TJA?**

Writing an article for *The Scout* is a great place to start, or volunteering for a committee or special project. Members who are interested in getting involved should contact the membership committee chairman, Peggy Greene, and she can point them in the right direction.

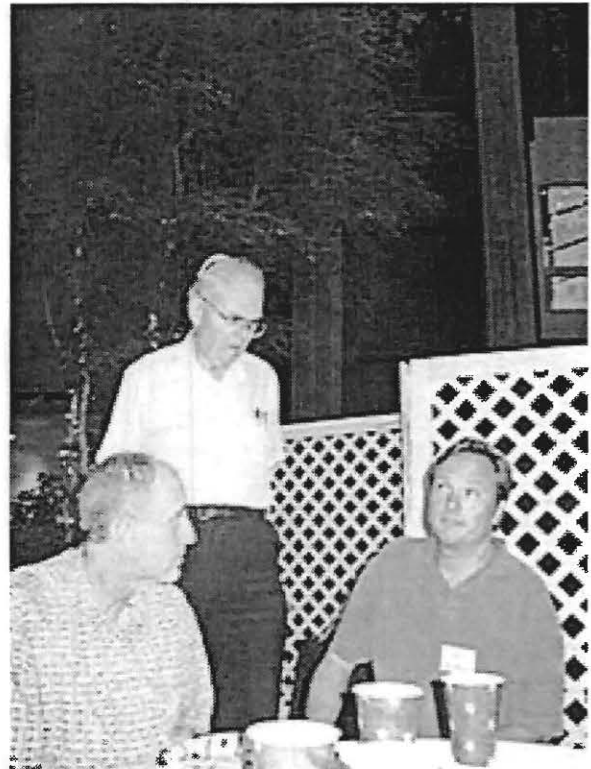
### **Anything else you'd like to say?**

I'm honored to be elected president of the TJA. I'm proud to say I have been involved in the organization since its founding in 1980, and have been to almost all the roundups. It's been a lot of

fun, and I have met many relatives and friends that I would never have met otherwise. I think its important for all members to become involved because we can't rely forever on just a few people to continue to the bulk of the work.

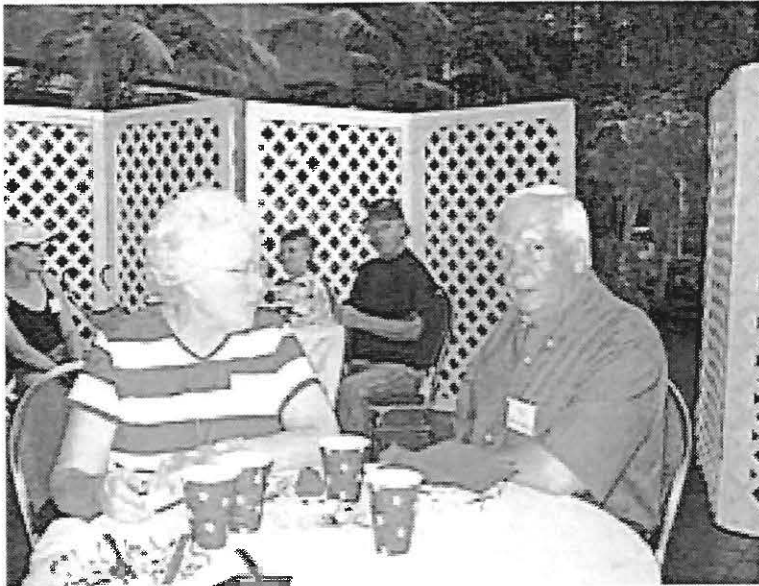
### **Would you have made a good cowboy ?**

I guess so....I love the outdoors, horseback riding (though I'm not very good at it!) And I love a good steak! But seriously, I think cowboying was pretty hard work, and I probably wasn't really cut out for it.



*Mark Greene, Benjamin Wyche (standing),  
Rand McKinney at the reception*

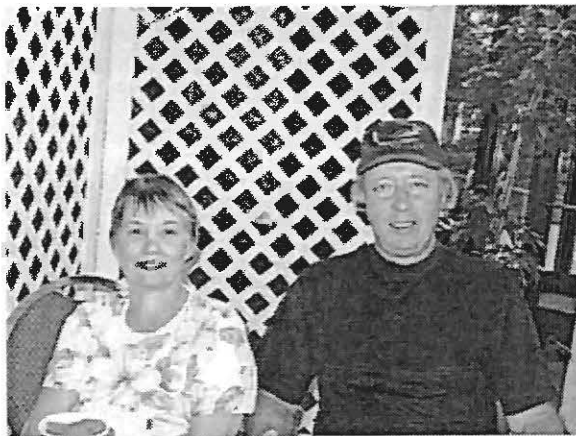
*At the reception...*



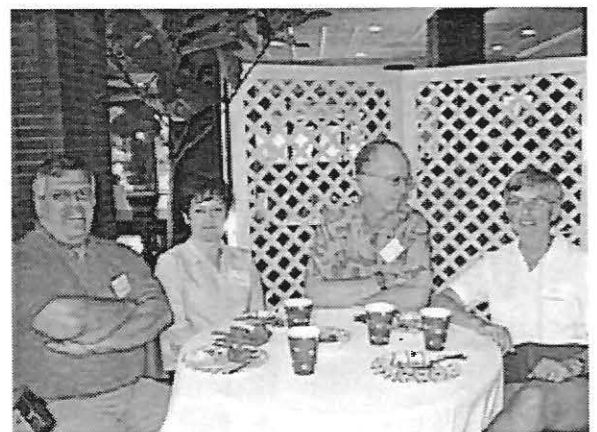
*Edna Nees and Richard B. Omohundro*



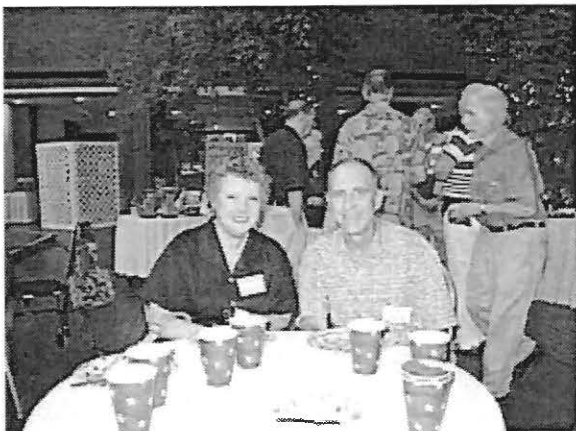
*Candice and Juliet McKinney*



*Beryl and Tom Caterson*



*Steven and Eileen Marqusee,  
John and Susan Omohundro*



*Margaret Jones and Mark Greene*

## **Special Projects Report**

**By John T. Omohundro**

27 people attended the Roundup's Thursday evening meeting on special projects, led by Director John T. Omohundro. Of the 11 items on his distributed list, 4 have been completed. These are restoration of the cemetery at Pleasure Hill (Texas Jack's childhood home), the erection of highway historical markers in Leadville, the erection of directional signs to Texas Jack's gravesite in Leadville, and distribution of a business card promoting the TJA.

The drive for a commemorative postage stamp has still yielded no result, although some members wish to continue trying. On hold for the time being are the reprinting of *Buckskin and Satin* (legal and cost issues), and the effort to have a peak in Yellowstone named for Texas Jack (need a volunteer).

Efforts selected for the current term include:

1. An update of the brochure on Texas Jack that was originally produced by the Greenes. Larry Tyree will research the printing cost. This is a publicity vehicle, to be placed in museums and other places where potential Texas Jack fans might congregate.
2. Production of a bookmark describing Texas Jack and the Assoc. John T. Omohundro has designed it and will get it printed. Initially it will be distributed to members; other locations are possible.
3. Margaret Jones will research the cost and feasibility of ads publicizing the Assoc. in Western magazines.
4. Julie Omohundro. will investigate establishing web links to other organizations - museums, Wild West groups, the Texas Jack store in Fredericksburg Texas, and others.
5. The Association will undertake a mass mailing to all the Omohundro families and lapsed members, in celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, trying to gain new members and renew dropped members. Linda Omohundro will find Omohundro mailing addresses. More volunteers are being recruited.
6. Establishing good relations with the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody and others. The Willards noted that the Cody Museum has reduced coverage on Texas Jack and it is suspected that they have sold various Texas Jack artifacts. Therefore, we may want to look at other museums. Perhaps we should develop a traveling exhibit on Texas Jack that any museum could show temporarily (however, no volunteer has yet stepped forward for this project).

# *At Monticello...*



*Barbara and Charles Curtis*



*Beryl Caterson*

## *At Monticello...*



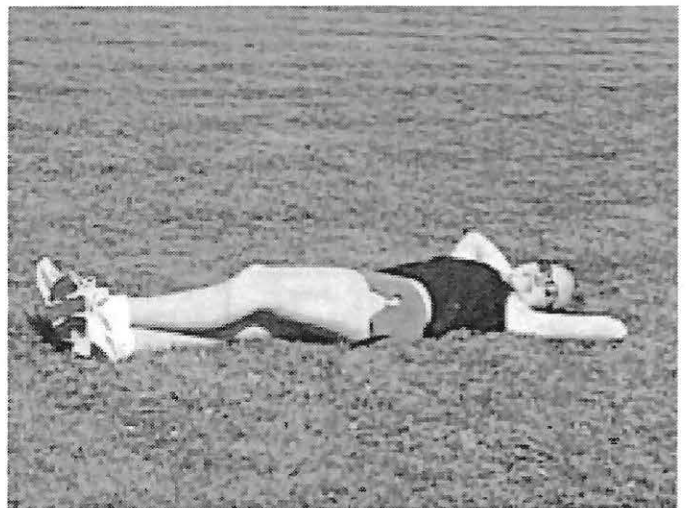
*Jessie Golladay Fulford (Bus driver),  
Edna Nees' granddaughter*



*Kelly Wyche*

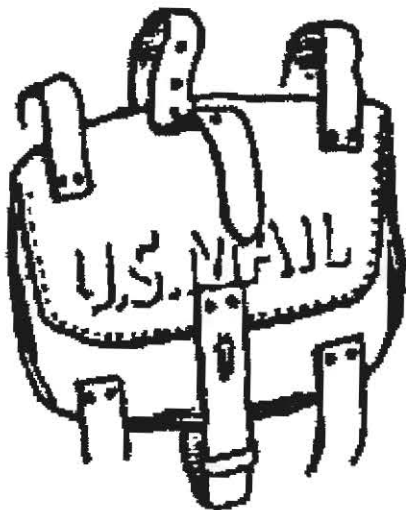


*Jessie Golladay Fulford, Nancy Omohundro  
and Edna Nees*



*Laura Greene*

## From the Mail Pouch...



**From Margaret Jones:**

*"As a new member of the Texas Jack Association, I had the pleasure of attending your Charlottesville 2004 Roundup.*

*What a treat! Not only were the activities fascinating and pertinent to the geographical area and Texas Jack's life, but the organizers were exceedingly helpful and attendees were gracious and friendly. I'm looking forward to future activities, newsletters, and best of all - Roundups!"*

### *In Memoriam...*

## *William "Billy" Gitchell*

William "Billy" Gitchell, lifelong resident and businessman in Charlottesville, VA, passed away Monday, May 24, 2004, at his home. For many years he operated Gitchell's Photography Studio. He was born in Charlottesville on August 25, 1928, the son of the late Frank Leigh Gitchell and Mary Omohundro Gitchell. He was preceded in death by a half-brother, Frank Leigh Gitchell, Jr.; and two half-sisters, Gertrude Gitchell and Frances Gitchell Hussey. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jackie; two sons, Stuart and his wife, Emily, and children, Ryan, Katie, and Faith, all of Richmond, and Bruce and his wife, Jo, and children, David, Jackson, Ashley, and Anna, all of Charlottesville; a brother Robert L. Gitchell and his wife Marian, of Panama City Beach Florida; a maternal aunt, Allie Omohundro Gitchell Kempton; and a number of cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was a lifelong member of Christ Episcopal Church and served many terms on its Vestry. Billy was active in several civic organizations, and most recently served on the board of the American Heart Association. He had a 22 year association with the Boy Scouts of America, serving many years as a scoutmaster and on the Executive Board of the Stonewall Jackson Area Council, B S A . He served in the U.S. Marines Corp during the Korean War and was a drill instructor at Parris Island. Services were held at 11 A.M. Thursday, May 27, 2004, At Christ Episcopal Church, in Charlottesville, VA.

## **Bremo Bluff** by Peggy Greene

Archaeologist Dr. Steven Marqusee and arboriculturist Woody Cumbo gave many of us a very informative and fascinating tour of the Bremo Bluff estates of John Hartwell Cocke, colleague of Thomas Jefferson. Those who didn't make it on this trip might be wondering what is Bremo Bluff? And for those who did make it on this trip here is a little more information.

The Bremo Bluff plantation was built by John Hartwell Cocke over a period of several years ending in 1819 with the completion of the Bremo mansion. John Hartwell Cocke, of Fluvanna County, was a Virginia planter, reformer, general, and statesman. He worked extensively with the James River and Canada Company and the University of Virginia. After he converted to Christianity under the gentle ministrations of his first wife, Ann, Cocke devoted himself to public service and to social reform.

He perceived the two great evils of his day to be slavery and alcohol. Senior Vice-President of the

American Colonization Society for almost 50 years, Cocke proved his earnest intent to end slavery by actually freeing several of his bondsmen. He chose only skilled slaves whom he thought could make a living independently, paid their passage to Africa, and maintained a correspondence with them for years after their arrival. Cocke forwarded to Peyton Skipwith and his family Bibles, cloths, and farming supplies along with his letters. In addition to working slowly to eradicate slavery, Cocke was the preeminent temperance reformer in Virginia. Publicly and privately, he worked to halt the production and consumption of alcohol. He urged his friends not to drink and, where possible, used his influence to deny others access to alcohol. While a director of the James River and Kanawha Company, for example, he managed to criminalize drinking among workers for two years. Cocke was elected president of the Virginia Temperance Society in 1834, and as President of the United States Temperance Union in 1836. He championed the missions of Bible, tract,



and Sunday school societies, was a member of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and spent thirty-three years on the Board of Visitors for the University of Virginia. Tired by war and by the long fight to improve the world around him, Cocke passed away at BreMO in 1866.

Bremo Bluff consists of three elegant homes located along the James River: Upper BreMO, Lower BreMO, and BreMO Recess. BreMO Recess was built about 1812 by Cocke. Here the general and his family resided while building BreMO, a larger and more pretentious establishment. Situated on elevated land some distance back from the James River, the sturdy little house has a high-pointed roof, dormer windows and a Jacobean atmosphere. The mansion at BreMO was built during a period of several years, ending in 1819, under conditions which made possible its exceptional design and execution. The BreMO estate was part of a land grant to Richard Cocke in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and consisted of a very large tract extending along the hills and fertile lowlands bordering on the James River in what are now Fluvanna and Buckingham Counties. The original building on this estate was a small, stone hunting lodge (1725), afterwards amplified into the Lower BreMO residence with its charming Tudor gables and multiple chimneys.

The credit for the superb outline and proportion of BreMO mansion must, however, be given to Thomas Jefferson, whose original plans for BreMO were, during the present generation, seen at the University by students of Jefferson's architecture. These original drawings have been lost or were destroyed in the fire in 1894; but there has never been any doubt of Jefferson's responsibility.

A well-known New York architect writes that he considers BreMO "the most magnificent conception of a house" that he has seen in America. Another says:

"Jefferson's manuscript design, which was preserved in my memory, and seen by those who have described it to me, was, I think, the finest of all his works in classic architecture, in its unity and beauty. I do not even except Monticello, for that, as

we have it, was the fruit of his remodellings of 1796 to 1809, and drafted on his first design of 1769, and thus does not possess quite the artistic unity of BreMO. While rendering his due to Jefferson, I do not forget what it meant to him to have at BreMO such a client as General Cocke, with the courage to carry out the scheme in all its magnificence, and an independent knowledge and skill in architecture to which no doubt must be referred not only the execution of Jefferson's design, but the design of the superb series of outbuildings."

#### References:

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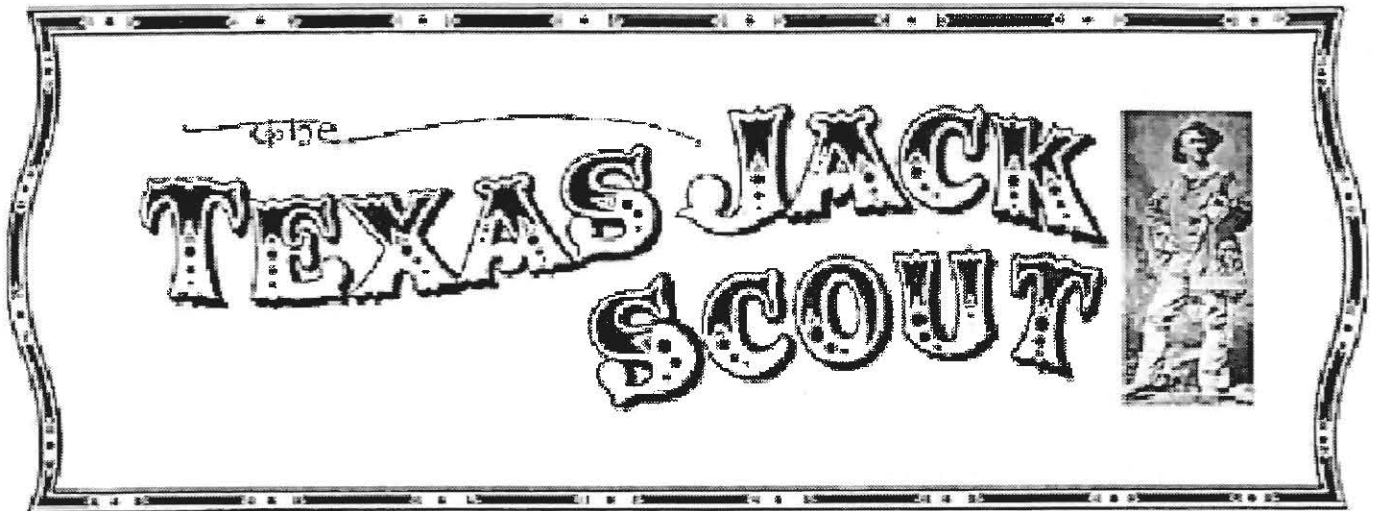
### Sonnet To Virginia

By G. D. Whitmore

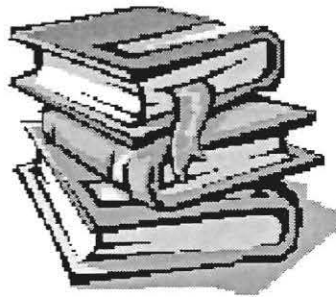
*Taken from The Rebellion Record (1864)*

Great mother of great  
Hark! The Yankee heel-tap!  
Bare now thy ebon breast, let flash thy stealings.  
Where's Floyd? Dignity Mason,  
O great prodigious Southern land!  
(I mean, of course, geographically.)  
Won't your most surprising style of chivalry  
Make some new Cervantes jolly?  
Look forth! our banners fill the Southern sky,  
With every wave our hearts' blood throb:  
Live coals we come! Thy furnace glows.  
Great God, direct the flame and end these woes.

*This poem is submitted by Peggy Greene in the spirit of the Civil War re-enactors that those of us who were able to attend the Roundup were privileged to listen to and get a sense of what was like to be a part of the Civil War.*



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## *At the Pleasure Hill Cemetery...*

*Harvey Willard  
and Edna Nees  
purchased the  
plaque in memory  
of Arabella  
Omohundro  
Wohlbruck Nees, on  
behalf of Edna's  
deceased husband  
and Arabella's  
grandson John S.  
Nees and Harvey  
Willard her  
great-grandson.*



## President's Farewell

by Julie Omohundro

Well! That was quick! By the time you read this issue of the Scout, my two years as President of the Texas Jack Association will have come to an end. My term of office started somewhat dramatically—as we evacuated the smoke-filled town of Deadwood, Colorado. Fortunately, things got quite a bit brighter from there!

It was a busy two years. Our Board of Directors met in the year between Round-ups for the first time. We revised the by-laws, re-incorporated the Association, and found two attorneys and an accountant on the Omohundro family tree to help us with the business and legal side of things. We set up a new website and created a “business card” for members to carry in their wallets and give to people they met who were interested in Texas Jack. We did a survey of our membership. We got a highway marker honoring Texas Jack erected outside of Leadville, Colorado, as well as two signs inside the cemetery to help visitors find their way to Texas Jack's grave. In Virginia, there is a new fence around the family cemetery at Pleasure Hill, a bronze marker identifying the family members who are buried there, and a granite marker identifying Pleasure Hill as Texas Jack's childhood home. We found a new and enthusiastic volunteer to take over as managing editor of the Scout and published six more great issues. We set up a new listserv to help everyone keep in touch better.

Many people contributed to these efforts. Board Member and Immediate Past-President John Omohundro and his wife Susan; Secretary and Round-Up Committee member Edna Nees; President-Elect and webmaster Rand McKinney were the Association's core team during my term of office. They all went well beyond the requirements of their specific offices to ensure that whatever needed doing got done. Special thanks is due to John (and Susan!) Omohundro, as John finishes six years of great

service on the Board of the Association, first as President-Elect, then President, and, most recently, as our Immediate Past President.

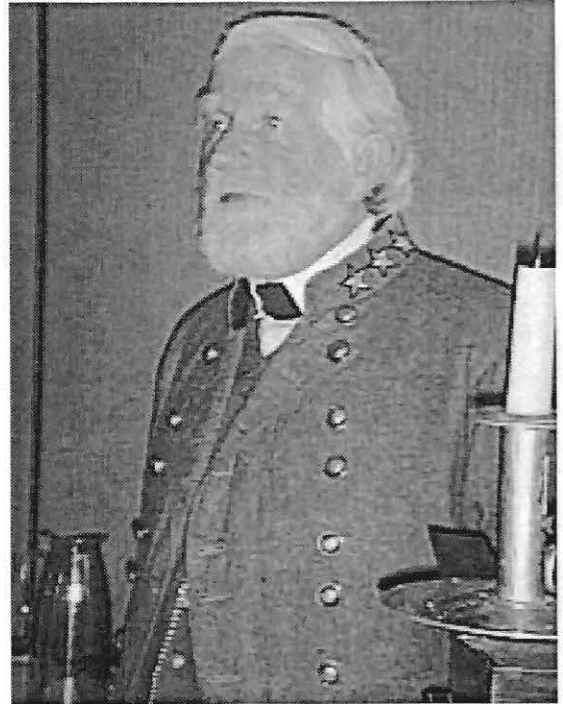
Others who played an important role this year were our new Managing Editor of *The Scout* Larry Tyree and Isabella and Harvey Willard, who, along with Edna Nees, organized this year's Round-Up in Charlottesville. Lorrie Tenos, Kitty Pelkan, Kelly Wyche, Rand and Candice McKinney, Harvey Willard, John and Susan Omohundro were instrumental in getting out *The Scout*. Rick Omohundro continued the invisible but critical job of maintaining the Association's membership database. Bill Omohundro, Michael Foster, and Tipton Omohundro were generous with their legal and business expertise as we navigated the choppy waters of incorporation.

Looking back over the past two years, I see much that bodes well for the future of the Texas Jack Association. From our membership survey, we learned that many members shared our concern that the generation that has carried the torch for the past two decades isn't getting any younger (except at heart!). We recently recruited a number of younger members into active roles. I'm very pleased to have “youngsters” like Rand McKinney taking over as our new President and Peggy Greene joining the Board as our new President-Elect! We also came up with a number of new strategies for increasing our membership in general. You will be hearing more about these efforts in future generations of the Scout. Most important, though, is the continued enthusiasm of our current membership for keeping Texas Jack's memory alive, as expressed in our membership survey and in the attendance at this year's Round-Up. I look forward to continuing this effort by serving as a member of the Board with Rand McKinney, Peggy Greene, Edna Nees, and R.C. Omohundro.

*At the banquet...*



*Beryl Caterson and Peggy Greene*



*David Palmer, Robert E. Lee Re-enactor*



*Jack Omohundro, Jr., Judith Omohundro, Jane Omohundro, Jack Omohundro, Sr.,  
Sheryl Omohundro and Richard L. Omohundro*

## *At the banquet...*



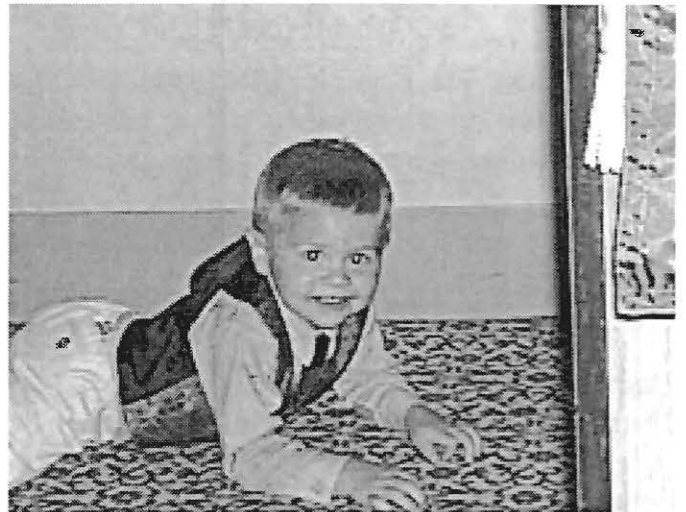
*Lorrie Tenos, Rene Tyree, Julie Omohundro*



*Shelbi Omohundro and her grandmother,  
Joyce Omohundro*



*Carlyle Crane, John and Susan Omohundro*



*Cody Fulford, son of Jessie and Robert Fulford*



*Judith Phillips and Douglas Harwood, Sr.*



*At the banquet...*



*Rene and Larry Tyree*



*Meghan Banton*

*at Michie Tavern...*



*Happy Birthday, Hughes Diller!*

## **TJA Minutes**

### **Charlottesville, July 17, 2004**

*TJA President Julie O. called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. She noted that Rand M. will become Pres.as of Oct. 1.*

**Agenda Item 1.** Edna Nees read the minutes from the 2002 meeting. Betty Woods moved to accept as read. Unanimously approved by voice.

2. Edna read the treasurer's report on behalf of RC Omohundro and distributed a 2 page handout on income and expenses of the past 2 years. Bill Perkins moved that it be accepted as read, unanimously approved by voice, no discussion.

3. Pres Julie O. reported on the effort to gain legal incorporation for the Association. Bill O. of Wyoming, who is a lawyer, did the paperwork, and the Assoc. was notified recently that our application was accepted.. We still need a tax identification number. Julie felt we should not pursue tax-exempt status for one year, until after contact with the IRS and filing of one "informational return." Tax-exempt status will give us more hoops to go through, more accounting to do. If we do one return we can see if tax-exempt status would save us money.

Questions: Richard Bond O.: When did our incorporation elapse?: Julie: not sure, probably many years ago.

Q: Kelly Wyche: Where are we incorporated? Julie: Wyoming

Q: Peggy Greene: Did we file tax returns? J: No, maybe never, not sure because records are incomplete

Q: Kitty Pelkan: Do we need to file:? J: We can do an "informational return" even if we don't owe tax money.

Julie: One reason to incorporate is for hotel contracts and liability concerns. Incorporation protects the Board members from personal liability in case of lawsuits.

Further discussion: Richard Bond O feels we should stay away from the IRS; they'll just cause us headaches; they haven't bothered about us ever before.

Richard C. O. the CPA from Ohio: Generally for a non-profit organization the limit is \$25,000 income before owing tax.

Karl Pelkan: points out that if we're 501(c)3 people can make tax deductible donations; Julie says at present we get few donations.

Beryl Catterson: suggests we need to make sure our official status doesn't lapse again, possibly by having a reminder or booklet for incoming President. Julie: Bill O. of Wyoming is willing to file our annual report for a nominal fee. He will keep records and thus we're not likely to lapse soon.

In other business, Julie reported that the revision of the bylaws was approved by a mail vote by TJA members last year. Subsequently at the Board meeting last summer a few changes were made. One was to loosen restrictions on term limits. This was reported in the Scout. A copy was to be available at the banquet for viewing. It is also on our web site.

Julie mentioned that in addition to the general business meeting, there was a meeting Thurs. evening on special projects, and there would be a Board meeting on Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Madison Room, open to anyone interested.

## **TJA Minutes (continued)**

4. Membership. Rand McKinney reported that we have 87 paid current members, about 150 on the mailing list. Dues have been increased to \$25 per individual or \$40 per family. Is this too high? Dues began at \$10, were raised to \$15 in the '80s, so this is the first increase in a long time. Isabella Willard: Do we need \$25 for the Scout and other expenses? Larry Tyree and Rand both said yes. Also we need money for promotion of the TJA through distribution of free Scouts, and so on.

Rand said he sent reminder postcards to people behind in paying dues. The response to this was weak. Our policy is to send the Scout for about 2 years. after a person joins. Rand wonders if we should set up a 2-year membership? People tend to slide between Roundups and fall in arrears. Beryl suggests putting expiration date on Scout label (this has been done in the past).

The question was raised how new members find out about the Assoc. Margaret Jones found Texas Jack on the internet, rapidly grew interested because of her interest in Western lore and she is related to Ena Palmer, the Nebraska homesteader who knew and wrote about Texas Jack. Richard O. (Jack's son) related a story about Gary Omohundro at Michie's Tavern who had never heard about Texas Jack or the Assoc. even though he lives here. Jack O. Jr. thinks the movie "Hidalgo" might be good publicity for Texas Jack. Isabella wondered if we should show it at the next Roundup, but several people who have seen it said the reference to Texas Jack is fleeting, a few seconds at the beginning. Jack O. Sr. inquired about the status of the Hollywood script written years ago. Mark & Peggy Greene reported that it was never filmed. It did not particularly portray Texas Jack in a favorable light anyway.

There was consideration of a mass mailing to all Omohundros, trying to generate interest in the Assoc. This was done once, long ago, worth doing again, sending a brochure and cover letter mentioning the Association's accomplishments in the past quarter century. Rand suggests Lorrie Tenos can provide e-mail addresses. People interested in genealogy frequently contact her through omohundros.com. It would also be possible to set up a Yahoo discussion group. Rand also proposes a website link exchange; this involves no expense but does need a volunteer.

Rand said he began to look at the cost of placing ads in magazines. It would cost \$500 for a 1/3 page ad in True West. He suggested this is too expensive, to general agreement.

5. Scout. Larry Tyree reported that we are trying to establish a regular schedule for the Scout to appear in March, July, and November. The photo of Texas Jack in the masthead is new. He would like to distribute more copies. He has composed a list of 100 libraries, in places associated with Texas Jack. He would very much like the Assoc. to have non-profit status to save on mailing cost (we could mail bulk rate).

Larry solicited for a proposed hardbound book which will contain copies of all 46 Scouts printed to date. He needs a minimum of 20 volumes, which would cost \$59 plus \$5 postage. If we print 50 or more volumes, the cost will drop to \$50 plus \$5 postage. Peggy inquired how long production would take, whether it would be available for Christmas - Larry said yes, he estimates it will take 2 months after he submits the order. He needs back issues. Kitty Pelkan has them all, will lend to Larry to scan (they can be put on web too). The Association should have some volumes - the Board will take that up on Sat.

Editors for upcoming issues: July 2004 - Peggy Greene [Laura Greene substitute - ed.]; Julie Greene [Laura Greene substitute - ed.], March 2005 - open, July 2005 - John T. O., November- Julie O, March 2006 Kelly Wyche, July- Peggy G.

6. Promotional Items. Edna reports she has mugs, posters, sweatshirts. We have few shirts in large sizes. Several people expressed a preference for the softer polo shirts over the mesh ones. Isabella suggested we

## **TJA Minutes (continued)**

put the mesh ones on sale to move them out. The price has been \$15 for T-shirts, \$20 for polo shirts. There was more interest in the polo shirts than T-shirts. Kitty said she'd like a ladies cut scoop neck T-shirt better than the crew neck. Some discussion about the possibility of an embroidered logo. Edna will research. Larry said it would cost \$150 to set up an embroidery master in three colors; it's a one-time cost. Discussion about color, white vs. beige or cream. Some like white, others beige - Edna will look into getting both. Some interest expressed in a TJA hat. Brim style is important to some. An embroidered hat would probably cost \$6 or \$7 to produce, maybe more, Edna will look into it.

7. Roundup Site Selection. Julie O. presented the case for Leadville CO. We could start in Denver, visit Golden, maybe stay in Vail and visit Leadville by bus for a day.

North Platte NE was another candidate. We could see the Pioneer Museum, Buffalo Bill Museum, Frontier County, Fort McPherson, Scout's Rest (BB's home), etc.

Rand suggested Fort Worth, home of the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame, and the start of the Chisholm trail.

The dark horse candidate was Cody Wyoming. It was generally agreed that people had a good time there in 1988. Cody won more votes than the other locations because Richard Bond O., Rick O. and Edna agreed to organize the Roundup. They will look into having the event around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2006

8. Election of Officers. Rand McKinney presented the nominations - Rand for President, Peggy Greene for Vice-President, Edna Nees for Secretary, and RC Omohundro for Treasurer. Unanimous approval. Outgoing Pres. Julie O. becomes director.

9. Special Projects Report. By John T. O. The consensus at the Thurs. evening meeting was that we need to do more to publicize the Assoc. and to increase membership. Projects of current interest in this line are:

1. An update and distribution of the brochure on Texas Jack and the Association. Larry Tyree the volunteer coordinator to get estimates on printing cost..

2. A bookmark giving brief info. on Texas Jack and the TJA. John T. O the volunteer coordinator to procure.

3. Magazine ads. Likely to be too expensive, but Margaret Jones will research.

4. Development of links to websites such as the Buffalo Bill Club, the museum in Lowell, the Texas Jack store, etc. Julie O. volunteered to work on this

5. A 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary mass mailing to Omohundro families and former TJA members, involving several volunteers.

6. A traveling exhibit on Texas Jack for museums (no volunteer coordinator yet)

Richard Bond O. wants the Assoc. to issue membership cards again, and several people agreed they would like to have them, so it will be done.

*The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 by unanimous consent.*

**New!**

**Texas Jack Association Group on Yahoo  
SHARE PHOTOS AND STAY INFORMED!  
SIGN UP NOW!**

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Texasjackassociation/>

## **Introducing....Our Guest Editor** by Larry Tyree

This issue of the Texas Jack Scout has been edited by Laura Greene of Jupiter, Florida. As a High School student with experience in Journalism, Laura brings newly developed skills to the organization. Several other natural editors were also involved in the guise of hurricanes that impacted this issue by delaying the output by many weeks. This is not to diminish the toll on human life and property that has been so devastating throughout the Gulf states, but only recognize the timing of it all. To Laura: we owe you our gratitude!

Laura Greene currently attends Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, FL. She is a senior majoring in communications and is planning to attend a Florida University next year majoring in broadcast journalism. Laura is a certified Red Cross Volunteer and recently spent 4 days volunteering in a local shelter during Hurricane Francis. Her favorite activity is riding and training her Paso Fino horse, Lita.



*Laura Greene*



*Laura and her horse, Lita*

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