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The American West in Postage Stamps

by Donald Duke



Postage stamps are so commonplace these days we assume they always existed. I am sure many Westerners collect stamps and today it is the most popular and the largest hobby in the world. People in all walks of life collect stamps and a collector is known as a

philatelist. The name comes from the Greek words *philos* meaning loving, and *atelos* which means free of tax or paid, but for most of us, stamps are a sign that the postage, or tax, has been paid.

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The Branding Iron

THE WESTERNERS
LOS ANGELES CORRAL

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less, dealing with every phase of the Old West. Contri-
butions from members and friends welcomed.

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THE MONTHLY ROUNDUP



Deputy Sheriff Bill Hendricks, Sheriff Donald Duke
and C.M. Dick Cunningham, speaker at the April
meeting.

March

C.M. Richard Cunningham, long a student of graffiti, its ethnological origins and its graphic etymology, presented the March meeting with a 2500 year historical survey of this "man in the street" form of expression. His principal emphasis, however, was on the more recent forms which have graced or assaulted our environment. Several various methods—carving in school desks, scratching in fresh concrete, chalk on sidewalks, along with today's mania for paint spray cans—have been employed to get the message across. From hobo signs of the '30s, WW II's "Kilroy Was Here" (the most widespread and significant single graffiti in history), the peace symbols and slogans of the '60s, to the current gang and drug oriented proliferation, these methods have all been used.

Within the context of his presentation, the speaker occasionally expressed some controversial theses: cattle brands are a form of graffiti, as are roadside advertising signs; surveyors began the spray can craze with

their painting of survey marks, and Chicano gangs cannot stop their compulsion for graffiti as it is a part of their historical heritage from Spain and Aztec Mexico. Obviously, it was at once, both informative and conjectural—creating altogether an interesting evening.

April

W. Michael Mathes presented an unusual point of view as to the origins of the first persons to migrate to Alta California between 1760 and 1800. The records and evidence he has unearthed in his recent research do not seem to support the long-standing concepts of such early California historians as Bolton and Chapman, to name a few, with regard to the Spanish population of Alta California. The rare documents and mission records Michael has been working with—which include over thirty thousand entries—support his thesis that over one-third of the people living in Alta California during the period in question came from Baja California. A native of Los Angeles and graduate of Loyola University here, Dr. Mathes earned his Master's degree from the University of Southern California and his Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico. He is currently a professor of History at the University of San Francisco, a specialist in the history of Spanish California, and author of numerous articles and books published in both Spanish and English dealing with the subject.



Sheriff Donald Duke, W. Michael Mathes and Deputy Sheriff Bill Hendricks.

May

John Reid, eminent professor at the New York University School of Law, presented the equivalent of a "mini-course" in American Indian jurisprudence. His descriptions of Indian laws and legal customs were not only fascinating but downright mindboggling. One wonders how the Indians themselves managed to keep their ordinances and proceedings straight without the aid of attorneys! His talk made the inevitability of legal misunderstanding between white man and Indian obvious indeed. If the white man did not understand his own law clearly—and it appears he frequently did not and often simply ignored it—he didn't have a chance in a million of grasping Indian legal concepts. Currently engaged in research at the Huntington Library under a Guggenheim fellowship, John Reid has recently completed a book about property rights on the Overland Trail to be published shortly. He is also the author of biographies of two American judges, and is particularly expert in the area of Cherokee Indian law.



Corral Chips

The 1980 roster of officers for the Platrix Chapter of E Clampus Vitus is overwhelmingly reminiscent of our own Corral Directory. C.M. Palmer Long is Noble Grand Humbug; Hugh Tolford, Vice Noble Grand Humbug; George Sturtevant, Gold Dust Receiver; C.M. Dick Hoegh, Clamproctor; Don Torguson, Clamp Ritualologist; C.M. Jerry Zorthian, Clampmaster; C.M. Easy Sloman, Gentle Clamp Ogre; Henry Clifford, Royal Sublime Editor; and venerable, cigar-chewing Sid Platford is, appropriately enough, Keeper of the Long Memories.

(Continued on Page Twelve)

THE AMERICAN WEST IN POSTAGE STAMPS...

Many United States postage stamps illustrate the great men of the West, the settlement, means of transportation, and statehood. This short article will concern those stamps which depict this ideal. A short history of stamps as a means of postage is in order to fully comprehend the importance of the subject at hand.

Great Britain issued the first stamps to prepay postage on letters some 140 years ago, or on May 6, 1840 to be exact. The United States did not issue any postage stamps until 1847. Prior to that time the local postmaster would accept a letter and mark it "paid" with pen and ink. A code was also scratched in to show that the sender had not written the "paid" himself. In large metropolitan regions where there was a considerable volume of mail, various markings such as wood block imprints indicated that postage was prepaid. These became known as Postmasters' block stamps.

All early American postage stamps featured a bust or full face of a national figure such as President Washington, Ben Franklin, or a vignette of something like the Goddess of Agriculture. It was in 1893 that the United States issued the world's first commemorative stamps. This issue honored Columbus' discovery of America which had taken place 400 years prior, as well as publicizing the Columbian Exposition held in Chicago that year. Since that time over a thousand commemorative stamps have been issued and a few of these represent an American West subject such as the discovery of new lands, Indians, etc. The stamps used to illustrate this article range from the Trans-Mississippi Exposition of 1898 to current issues and represent a topical breakdown of specific stamps as will be explained later. Strange as it may seem the largest representation on stamps are our National Parks and statehood. Possibly naturalist Enos Mills had the answer when he stated, "The frontier no longer exists, and the days of the wilderness are gone forever. Yet in our National Parks we still have a bit of the primeval world and the spirit of the vigorous frontier."

Trans-Mississippi Exposition Issue

It was this series of stamps that started "The West in Postage Stamps." The first of the series was released June 10, 1898, and the last one issued on the last day of December. The progression of release is only important to an ardent collector. The 1-cent stamp features a painting of Marquette as he explores the Mississippi River with his party as adopted from a painting by Sam Lamprecht. "Farming in the West" is the title of the 2-cent, while the 4-cent features an illustration of an Indian on horseback shooting his arrow into the flanks of a running Buffalo. The 5-cent is of Fremont atop a Rocky Mountain peak waving a flag. A troop of soldiers guarding a wagon train is the 8-cent stamp illustration, and a family aboard a wagon titled "Hardships of Emigration" is the scene of the 10-cent stamp. An old mining prospector with his familiar burros graces the 50-cent stamp. The art for the miner and the troops guarding the wagon train were drawings provided by Frederic Remington. The dollar stamp is a familiar old painting of a herd of cattle caught in a snowstorm. This illustration appears to be a version of the classic painting by J. MacWhirter which hung for years on my grandmother's wall. The last stamp in the series is a two-dollar issue illustrating the Mississippi River Bridge at St. Louis.

National Park Series

The National Park issue of 1934 contains 10 stamps, 8 of which feature a western park. The world's first national park was established at Yellowstone in 1872, and "Old Faithful" is the subject of the 5-cent stamp of the issue. The other parks in the series are the Grand Canyon, Crater Lake, Yosemite, Mesa Verde, Glacier Park, Mount Ranier, and Zion. McKinley Park, with the highest peak in North America is the topic of a 3-cent stamp printed in 1937. Mt. Rushmore is the subject of a 3-cent stamp issued in 1952; however, it is a National Memorial, not a park.

Wyoming's Devil's Tower National Monument is the subject of a 3-cent stamp printed in 1956 to commemorate the 50th anniver-



sary of the nation's first "National Monument." This monument was established by conservationist-minded Theodore Roosevelt.

In 1972 the Post Office Department issued a Yellowstone and a McKinley stamp as part of their National Park Centennial issue. Both of these famous parks had previously been honored on stamps: the Yellowstone stamp in 1934 and the McKinley stamp in 1937. The Yellowstone stamp in the "Centennial" issue carried a denomination of 8 cents, with the McKinley at 15 cents.

The American Indian

The Indian has been shortchanged as far as United States postage stamps are concerned. Only five subjects in 82 years is a pretty poor record. The classic stamp is the portrait of a chief in full head dress on a 14-cent stamp issued in 1923. The picture most closely matches a plains Indian, and the type of view most people think typifies what an Indian chief should look like. The 1898 4-cent stamp of the Indian hunting Buffalo has already been mentioned. The 1934 National Park issue featured a 4-cent

stamp of Mesa Verde showing the Cliff Palace.

"Smoke Signals" is the illustration on a 4-cent stamp issued in 1961 honoring Frederic Remington—Artist of the West. This attractive oil painting hangs in the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art. A 6-cent stamp issued in 1968 honors Chief Joseph. The painting by Cyrenius Hall hangs in the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. In 1832 the five civilized Indian tribes (Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole) were uprooted from their lands in the South and Southeast, and escorted to the designated Indian Territory, now the State of Oklahoma. The survivors of this march, named appropriately "The Trail of Tears," established what was later to become Oklahoma. A 3-cent stamp issued in 1948 commemorates the Centenary of the organization of the Five Civilized Tribes.

Four stamps were issued as a plate block in 1977 honoring Indian Art. Each of the four stamps depicts a special Indian pot, each stamp from a different tribe. Each of the four stamps is 13 cents in denomination. The last stamp depicting an Indian or artifact is a 13-cent stamp released in 1978 illustrating the famous Indian Head Penny.

Exploration of the West

The first land exploration of the West was carried out by the Spanish Conquistadores. One of the most noted expeditions was that of Francisco Vazquez de Coronado, who in 1540 was directed by the Viceroy of Mexico to search for the fabled Seven Cities of Cibola. As most Westerners know, Coronado penetrated east as far as Kansas, north to what is presently Nebraska, and of course large portions of California. Naturally he failed to find Cibola since it did not exist and returned to Mexico in 1542. A painting by Cassidy is featured on the 1946 3-cent stamp which commemorates the 400th anniversary of the expedition.

I have used the Mississippi River as the border line of the American West. This was done to include Jacques Marquette, the great explorer of the Mississippi. He is featured on two stamps, first a 1-center issued in 1898 already mentioned in the Trans-Mississippi



Exploration issue and another released in 1968.

Because Stephen Watts Kearney was an experienced officer, he was placed in charge of the Army of the West at the outbreak of the Mexican War of 1846. Setting out from Fort Leavenworth with a force of 1,600 mounted Missouri volunteers, he had instructions to capture Santa Fe by peaceful means. His expedition involved a trek of 800 miles along the old Santa Fe Trail, plagued by blazing sun, snakes, and gnats. Kearny took Santa Fe without opposition and established an American provisional government over New Mexico. A commemorative 3-cent stamp issued in 1946 shows the entry of Kearny's forces into Santa Fe.

In an attempt to learn something of the vast Louisiana Territory, the first portion of Western lands to come under American ownership, President Thomas Jefferson sent out an expedition headed by Captain Meriwether Lewis and Lt. William Clark. The Lewis and Clark Expedition was to become one of the enduring epics of history, considering the thrills, dangers, and natural wonders found on the three year trip through 8,000 miles of uncharted territory. A 3-cent stamp was issued in 1954 honoring the expedition which stimulated the fur trade and opened the West.

Major John Wesley Powell's exploration of the Colorado River is depicted on a 6-cent stamp issued in 1969. The scene shows his crew shooting the rapids of the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon region.

California

California, often called *The Golden State*, has been distinguished by more commemorative stamps than most states in the Union. The state was sparsely populated until its rich gold fields attracted miners from all around the world which became known as "Forty-niners," during the gold rush of 1849. The nickname *Golden State* also suggests the gold of California sunshine, the yellow sands of our beaches and deserts, the yellow poppy flower which became the official state flower and bloomed in fields and hillsides during the springtime.

The first stamp was dedicated to the founding of San Francisco Bay. Strangely enough, explorers sailed along California's coastline for two centuries without daring to enter the Golden Gate. Actually the bay was discovered from the landward side and a 10-cent stamp depicts the discovery on November 2, 1769 by a Spanish expedition under José Ortega. Release date for this stamp was 1913. Another stamp was printed that year called "Golden Gate" and released as a 5-cent stamp. General John C. Fremont is generally credited with the naming of the Golden Gate in 1846 when he witnessed a sunset.

Twenty-one years later Yosemite National Park was the subject of a 1-cent stamp issued in 1934 illustrating "El Capitan," that fantastic mass of granite that towers 3,600 feet above the valley floor. This issue is part of a special National Parks series.

San Diego became California's capital in 1825 under Mexican rule. It was here that the American flag was first raised when California revolted in 1846. San Diego's California Pacific International Exposition, set out in Balboa Park, and opened in 1935, was the subject of a 3-cent stamp showing the exposition grounds. The Golden Gate International Exposition of 1939 is the subject of a 3-cent stamp issued to honor the completion of the Golden Gate Bridge and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. However, the stamp illustrates "The Tower of the Sun" at the exposition grounds.

Johann Augustus Sutter became the richest man in California by virtue of a land grant from Mexico. On January 4, 1848, he suffered a misfortune that eventually turned him into a pauper: gold was discovered on his land. A 3-cent stamp was issued in 1948 to honor California's Gold Centennial and Sutter's Mill.

The famous bells in the Carmel Mission belfry commemorate the 200th anniversary of the settlement of California. Between 1769 and 1823 Spanish padres, principally Father

Junipero Serra and Gaspar de Portola, established 21 missions along the coast of California. A 6-cent stamp honors this event known as "El Camino Real."

The California Condor, a large vulture-like bird found in the high mountain country of California's coast range, is the topic of an 8-cent stamp issued in 1971 as part of a four-block set in honor of Wildlife Conservation. The Condor faces the possibility of extinction as less than 100 are left of this bird.

That same year, a San Francisco Cable Car graced an 8-cent stamp as part of a plate block commemorating Historic Preservation. The cable car was one of the early modes of public transportation which was able to navigate the steep grades of San Francisco's many hills. The cable car lines are San Francisco's major tourist attraction and are undergoing complete rehabilitation.

The Bear Flag, flowing during the revolt against Mexico and accepted as the State of California official flag in 1913, is one of 49 state flags on a stamp sheet issued in 1976 published as part of the Nation's Bicentennial.

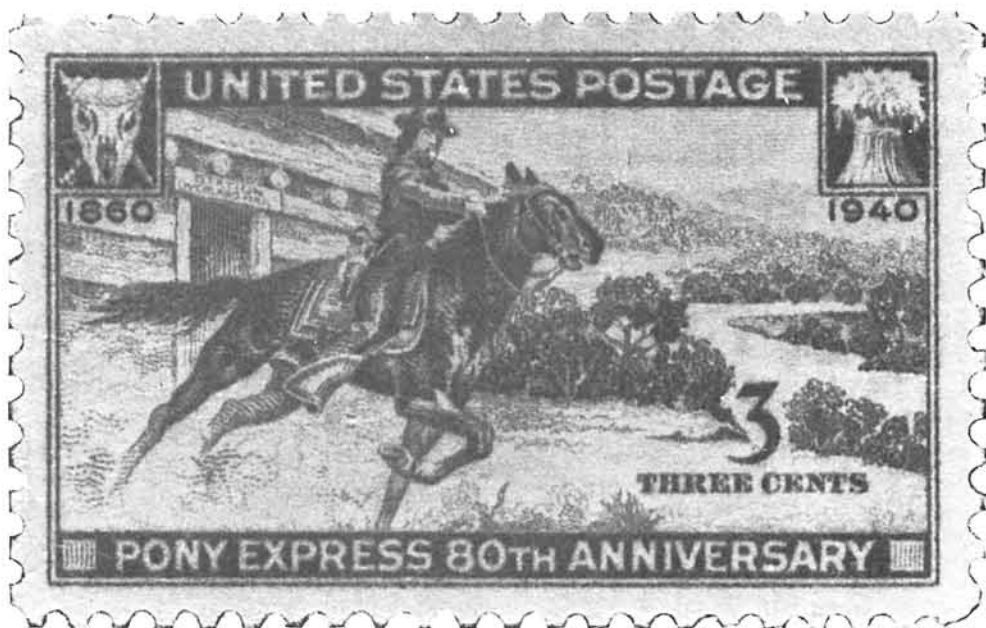
A typical Western farmhouse is the last stamp honoring a California topic. It was issued in 1977 in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the first civil settlement in Alta California in 1777. The stamp carries 13-cents postage.

Transportation

Western settlement required better transportation and communication if trade and the movement of the population was to be accomplished. In 1858 the Butterfield Overland Stage Line initiated regular mail and passenger service between Tipton, Missouri, and San Francisco via the southern route. The back-breaking journey took nearly three weeks in travel time. A 4-cent stamp honoring the service was issued in 1958. Stage service was vital to the development of the West until the coming of the railroad.

"Wanted—young, skinny, wiry fellows, not over 18. Must be expert rider, willing to risk death daily. Orphans preferred," read the ad in search of Pony Express riders. The freight-forwarding firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell conceived the idea for carrying





mail between St. Joseph, Missouri, and Sacramento. Eighty horsemen were to carry the mail between these points in 10 days, changing mounts every 15 miles or at express stations. The Pony Express started on April 3, 1860, but lasted only 19 months. With the extension of telegraphic lines to the coast in 1861, there was no need for these adventure-some lads. A 3-cent stamp was issued in 1940 with a rider in the semi-weekly mail service. A rider and a map of the route was presented on the 4-cent stamp in 1960 in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the service.

Shortly after the railroad was introduced in the United States in 1830, farsighted men proposed a rail line to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific. Decades of proposals and surveys were made on behalf of the government. The actual construction of the first transcontinental railroad did not begin until near the end of the Civil War. The Union Pacific worked its way west from Omaha, while the Central Pacific had the task of conquering the mighty Sierra Nevada. The two railroads met at Promontory, Utah, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad was commemorated with the driving of the "Golden Spike" on May 10, 1869. This event was remembered on its 75th anniversary with the issuance of a 3-cent stamp depicting the spike driving scene as adopted from a painting by John McQuarrie.

Famous Westerners

The American West has provided nourishment for many statesmen, military men, artists, humorists and authors. Men of note appear on several stamps depicting an event in statehood, or a special anniversary. However, only a few Westerners have been honored with their own commemorative stamp.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain) is the only man of letters from the West so honored. He grew up along the shore of the Mississippi River and his boyhood adventures were later subject matter for his works. He later moved to Nevada, and it was during his years as a miner, and later with Virginia City's *Territorial Enterprise*, that he began to write his famous works under the pen name Mark Twain. This name is a river term that indicates safe water or enough clearance for steamboats. His descriptions of the river frontier in *Life on the Mississippi* added to his popularity as a writer and a Westerner. A 10-cent stamp was issued in his honor in 1940.

Will Rogers, that 20th-century Westerner who was part Cherokee, was honored in 1948 with a 3-cent stamp. Rogers was born on a ranch in old Indian Territory. He left school to become a cowboy shortly after his mother died. He joined the circus and shortly was billed as a champion trick rider and lasso

thrower. He later became an outstanding artist on the stage and on the silver screen. He was revered once again in 1979 with a 15-cent commemorative celebrating the 100th anniversary of his birth. This was part of a Performing Arts issue.

Sam Houston was a man of pioneer stock. He came from a poor background and left home when he was 15, but later proved to be a natural leader. He went to Texas in 1832 to negotiate with Indian tribes and remained there. In the War of Texas Independence he was Commander-in-Chief of the Texas Army. After the defeat of Santa Anna he achieved independence for the Republic of Texas and became its first president. When Texas was admitted to the Union, Houston was elected a Senator. He was Governor of Texas at the outbreak of the Civil War. A 5-cent stamp was published in his honor in 1964.

John Muir and the Redwood forest was honored the same year with a 5-cent stamp. Muir is well known as a naturalist and conservationist. He was born in Scotland in 1838, but spent most of his life in California. A major part of his fame is due to his successful crusade to save California's redwood trees.

Two artists of the West have been honored on stamps. Frederic Remington and Charles M. Russell both conveyed the spirit of the West through their art. Frederic Remington had little formal art training, yet he was a keen observer and portrayed Indians, pioneers, trappers, miners, bandits, and gamblers with realism. He produced close to

3,000 paintings, drawings, and sketches during his short career. Two of his drawings appear on commemoratives printed in 1898. A 10-cent stamp bearing his portrait was released in 1940. In 1961 a 4-cent stamp was printed with his famous "Smoke Signals" painting of two Indians sending signals and lettered "Frederick Remington—Artist of the West." This painting hangs in the Amon Carter Museum.

Charles M. Russell was saluted in 1964 with a 5-cent stamp depicting his famous painting "Jerked Down" which shows a cowboy throwing a lasso around the head of a steer. This painting is in the collection of the famous Gilcrease Institute. Russell is famous as an artist of the American Cowboy. His painting "Trail Boss" is depicted on a 1961 4-cent stamp honoring Range Conversation.

During the course of 82 years, approximately 139 commemorative United States Postage Stamps have been printed which depict a scene, special event or a famous Westerner. In a short article it is impossible to describe each and every stamp, although many of them are most interesting. I have prepared a list of those stamps which I feel are Western in nature. I have listed the date of issuance, the denomination, the subject and the color of the completed stamp. As you will see, many of the early stamps were either red, blue or purple. During the early 1960's the Bureau of Printing and Engraving began to experiment with four-color process or gravure stamps. By 1969 color had com-



pletely replaced the single color stamps.

Since we list stamps on the West from 1898 to current date I have included Alaska and Hawaii as part of the scene. While these locations were not part of what a historian thinks of the real American West, these states are part of the West today. Obviously a philatelist will find a stamp or two not included in this listing of the American West in Postage Stamps. There were several issues that I considered marginal.



1898		
1¢	Jacques Marquette on the Mississippi	Dark Green
2¢	Farming in the West	Copper Red
4¢	Indian hunting Buffalo	Orange
5¢	John C. Fremont on the Rocky Mountains	Dark Blue
8¢	Military Troops guarding a train	Dark Lilac
10¢	Hardship of Emigration	Slate
50¢	Western mining prospector	Olive
\$1	Cattle in a storm	Black/White
\$2	Mississippi River bridge	Light Brown
1904		
10¢	Map of the Louisiana Purchase	Brown
1909		
2¢	William H. Seward and Alaska-Yukon Territory	Red
1913		
10¢	Discovery of San Francisco Bay by Ortega	Orange
5¢	Golden Gate of San Francisco Harbor	Blue
1923		
14¢	American Indian	Indigo
30¢	Buffalo	Sepia
1928		
5¢	(AIR MAIL) Airplane beacon on Sherman Hill, Wyoming	Red/Blue
1934		
1¢	El Capitan—Yosemite National Park	Green
2¢	Grand Canyon National Park	Red
3¢	Mt. Rainier and Mirror Lake National Park	Purple
4¢	Cliff Palace—Mesa Verde National Park	Brown
5¢	Old Faithful—Yellowstone National Park	Blue
6¢	Crater Lake National Park	Blue
8¢	Great White Throne—Zion National Park	Grey/Green
9¢	Glacier National Park	Pink
1935		
3¢	California Pacific International Exposition—San Diego	Purple
3¢	Boulder Dam	Purple
1936		
3¢	Map of Oregon Territory	Purple
3¢	Texas Centennial—The Alamo	Purple
1937		
3¢	Mt. McKinley, Alaska	Purple
3¢	State of King Kamehameha of Hawaii	Purple
1939		
3¢	North Dakota—South Dakota—Montana—Washington —50th Anniversary Statehood	Purple
3¢	Golden Gate International Exposition	Purple
1940		
3¢	Coronado and his Captains	Purple
3¢	80th Anniversary of the Pony Express	Brown
3¢	State of Wyoming—50th Anniversary of Statehood	Violet
3¢	State of Idaho—50th Anniversary of Statehood	Purple
10¢	Samuel L. Clemens—Western Author	Brown
10¢	Frederic Remington—Western Artist	Brown
1944		
3¢	75th Anniversary of the driving of the "Golden Spike" honoring completion of the Transcontinental Railroad	Purple
1945		
3¢	Texas Statehood	Blue
1946		
3¢	Stephen Watts Kearney Expedition and capture of Santa Fe	Maroon
1947		
3¢	Utah Centennial	Purple
1948		
3¢	Map of Indian Territory—Indian Centennial	Brown
3¢	Fort Kearney, Nebraska "Guarding the Pioneer"	Purple
3¢	Fort Bliss Centennial, El Paso, Texas	Brown
3¢	Statue of Captain O'Neill—First Regiment of U.S. Cavalry Volunteers	Brown
3¢	Oregon Territory Centennial	Brown
3¢	Palomar Mountain Observatory	Blue
3¢	Will Rogers	Purple
3¢	California Gold Rush Centennial	Purple
1950		
3¢	Kansas City Centennial	Purple
3¢	California Centennial of Statehood	Yellow
1951		
3¢	Nevada first settlement Centennial	Green
3¢	Colorado Anniversary of Statehood	Blue

1952		
3¢	Reclamation—Grand Coulee Dam	Green
3¢	Mt. Rushmore National Memorial	Green
80¢	(AIR MAIL) Diamond Head, Hawaii	Red
1953		
3¢	Louisiana Purchase Sesqui-Centennial	Purple
3¢	Map of Gadsden Purchase	Brown
3¢	Washington State Centennial	Green
1954		
3¢	Lewis and Clark Expedition	Dark Brown
3¢	Kansas Territorial Centennial	Orange
3¢	Nebraska Territorial Centennial	Purple
1956		
3¢	50th Anniversary of Devils Tower National Monument	Purple
3¢	Pronghorn Antelope—Wildlife Conservation	Lavender
3¢	King Salmon—Wildlife Conservation	Green
9¢	Alama—San Antonio, Texas	Red
1957		
3¢	Oklahoma Statehood—50th Anniversary	Blue
1958		
4¢	Forest Conservation	Color
4¢	Overland Mail	Red
1959		
4¢	Silver Centennial—Henry Comstock	Grey/Silver
4¢	Oregon Statehood	Green
7¢	Alaska Statehood	Blue
7¢	Hawaii Statehood	Red
1960		
1¼¢	Palace of the Governor and Santa Fe, New Mexico	Turquoise
4¢	Pony Express Rider and Map of Route	Lavender
1961		
4¢	Horace Greely	Violet
4¢	The Trail Boss—Range Conservation	Blk/Orange/Bl
4¢	The Smoke Signal—American Indians	Color
4¢	Kansas Statehood	Yellow/Red/Brn
1962		
4¢	The Homestead Act	Grey
4¢	New Mexico Statehood	Color
4¢	Colonization of Arizona	Color
4¢	Seattle World's Fair	Color
1964		
5¢	C.M. Russell—American Artist	Color
5¢	Sam Houston	Grey
5¢	John Muir and Redwood Forest	Color
5¢	Nevada Statehood	Color
1967		
5¢	Nebraska Statehood	Brown/Yellow
8¢	Tlinget Totem of South Alaska	Brown
1968		
6¢	Jacques Marquette the Explorer	Color
6¢	Chief Joseph—American Indian	Color
6¢	Racing for the homesteads in the Cherokee Strip	Brown

1969		
6¢	John Wesley Powell—Exploring the Colorado	Color
6¢	Carmel Mission Belfry at Carmel	Color
1970		
6¢	American Buffalo	Brown
1971		
8¢	San Xavier de Bac Mission	Brown/Yellow
8¢	San Francisco Cable Car—Historic Preservation	Brown/Yellow
21¢	Almadeo P. Giannini	Color
6¢	Fort Snelling—Great Northwest	Color
6¢	American Wool—450th Anniv.	Color
8¢	Missouri—150th Anniversary	Color
8¢	Trout—Wildlife Conservation	Color
8¢	California Condor—Wildlife Conservation	Color
1972		
8¢	Yellowstone—National Park Centennial	Color
15¢	Mt. McKinley—National Park Centennial	Color
8¢	Bighorn Sheep—Wildlife Conservation	Color
8¢	Tom Sawyer	Color
1973		
8¢	Angus and Longhorn Cattle—Rural America	Color
10¢	Wheat Country—Rural America	Color
1974		
10¢	Petrified Wood—Mineral Heritage	Color
1975		
10¢	D.W. Griffith	Color
1976 American Bicentennial		
13¢	Alaska State Flag	Color
13¢	Arizona State Flag	Color
13¢	California State Flag	Color
13¢	Colorado State Flag	Color
13¢	Hawaii State Flag	Color
13¢	Idaho State Flag	Color
13¢	Kansas State Flag	Color
13¢	Nebraska State Flag	Color
13¢	Nevada State Flag	Color
13¢	New Mexico State Flag	Color
13¢	Oklahoma State Flag	Color
13¢	Oregon State Flag	Color
13¢	Utah State Flag	Color
13¢	Washington State Flag	Color
13¢	Wyoming State Flag	Color
1977		
13¢	Zia Pot—Indian Art	Color
13¢	San Ildefonso Pot—Indian Art	Color
13¢	Hope Pot—Indian Art	Color
13¢	Acoma Pot—Indian Art	Color
13¢	Farm House—First Settlement in Alta California	Color
13¢	Columbine and Rocky Mountains	Color
13¢	50th Anniversary of Talking Pictures	Color
1978		
13¢	Captain James Cook	Color
13¢	Indian Head Penny	Color
15¢	Giant Sequoia—American Trees	Color
15¢	White Pine—American Trees	Color
1979		
15¢	Will Rogers—Performing Arts	Color

Corral Chips...

C.M. *Bill Snider*, who has the awesome title and job as Director of Negotiations and Personnel Advisory Services for the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, organizes a Personnel Management Workshop for school district administrators held at the new Industry Hills Exhibit-Conference Center in the City of Industry. Bill also is the knowledgeable speaker at one of the afternoon workshop sessions.

"Southern California: The True and the Untrue" is the title of C.M. *Larry Burgess'* talk for the Sherman Library. Larry continues to hold forth as Archivist and Head of Special Collections for the A.K. Smiley Public Library in Redlands.

The Collegium of Western Art, *Cornell Norby* president, prepares an exhibit of great interest to Western Art buffs. Titled "Gene Kloss, Impressions of the American Southwest," the show will be held at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center in Fullerton from June 15th to August 24th. Mark your calendars for this important event.

Associate member *Charles Heiskell* and C.M. *George Houle* are members of the Council of the Book Collectors Club of Los Angeles. *Dwight Cushman* is program chairman.

C.M. *Ed Crigler*, one of the founders of the John G. Neihardt Corral of Westerners in Columbia, Missouri, reports that the corral is active in the movement to encourage issuance of a special commemorative United States stamp in honor of the literary, philosophical, and humanistic achievements of John G. Neihardt, poet laureate of Nebraska and epic poet of the West, for whom the Columbia Corral is named.

After speaking to the members and guests of the San Marino Historical Society on the subject "The Multi-faceted Henry Wagner," C.M. *Ed Carpenter* is given a warm, surprise tribute for his "graciousness to his friends" and his "dedication to history." Well-deserved, Ed.

C.M. *Jake Zeitlin* announces that he is now the exclusive agent for the Estate of Paul Landacre, one of America's foremost wood-engravers and book illustrators. Ex-Sheriff *Tony Lehman*, incidentally, has been

at work lately researching Landacre's life and career for a forthcoming biographical study of this notable and talented Los Angeles artist.

At the Los Angeles School Coordinators Kick-Off Meeting held at California State University of Los Angeles, C.M.'s *Joe Northrop* and *Maurice (Bob) Hattem* man a display for the Los Angeles City Historical Society featuring photos and documents relating to the 1781 *pobladores* descendants and the pueblo's original 1781 four corners. Our city limits have grown slightly since then.

C.M. *Jim Valtos* starts his second term as president of the San Fernando Valley Historical Society by enlightening his fellow members with a keen presentation and display of historic knives and swords.

"The Last Great Bonanza" is the title of *Hugh Tolford's* fine talk for the San Francisco Corral of The Westerners. Hugh, along with our dedicated bay area C.M. *Al Shumate*, authors one of the 1979 Keepsakes for the Book Club of California.

C.M. *Arda Haenszel*, representing the San Bernardino County Museum Association, conducts a bus tour of Mormon-related historical sites in San Bernardino City and Valley for the Daughters of Utah Pioneers from Salt Lake City during their visit to Southern California. Miss Haenszel has worked as a volunteer for the Museum Association for many years and serves as Curator of Historical Research.

Los Angeles Corral artists *Andy Dagosta*, *Easy Cheyno*, *Juan Martinez*, and *Buddy Reyes* are among the outstanding exhibitors at the Fourth Annual American Indian and Cowboy Artists show in San Dimas. *Iron Eyes Cody* opens the festivities accompanying the exhibit while *Carl Dentzel*, *Tony Kroll*, *Allen Willett*, and C.M. *Charles Dallum* serve as judges.

Walt Wheelock and Deputy Sheriff *Bill Hendricks* are on the committee to choose the La Siesta Press La Frontera Award talks presented at the afternoon session of the San Diego Historical Society's Twelfth Annual Institute of History.

Iron Eyes Cody is honored with the unveiling of his portrait in oil by Roy Hampton at a meeting of the Los Angeles Press Club. The

oil is a part of the collection that will be hung in the proposed San Dimas Western Art Museum.

Associate Member *Ben Abril* has his new art show at the Biltmore Gallery. On hand for the preview reception are Sheriff *Donald Duke*, *Earl Adams*, *Andy Dagosta*, *Bob Stevens*; Associate *Bill Lorenz*; C.M.'s *Max Barnett* and *Jim Bugher*. Everyone enjoyed Ben's outstanding oil paintings, and the refreshments weren't bad either!

C.M. *Dick Yale* receives the Ben Dixon Award from the San Diego Congress of History for his dedicated work in preserving the history of San Diego.

C.M. *Midge Sherwood*, author of *San Marino from Ranch to City*, has produced Vol. I, No. 1 of *The Iron Horse Express*, the sprightly four-page bulletin of the new Huntington Corral, founded in San Marino last July. The new folio will feature material on the activities and projects of the Corral.

C.M. *Harriet E. Weaver's Frosty—a Racoon to Remember*, a true life account out of her many years on California State Redwood Park's ranger crews, is tabbed a "best seller" on Pocket Books back list. Last fall early, it was well past the half-million mark and growing strong toward three-quarters of a million.

Attending the 14th Annual History Conference of the Council on Abandoned Military Posts (CAMP) held in New Orleans April 23-26, was *Dutch Holland*, who chaired a session in which C.M. *Father Barry Hagen* presented a paper on the "Wagon Box Fight" that took place in 1867 near Fort Phil Kearny, Wyoming.

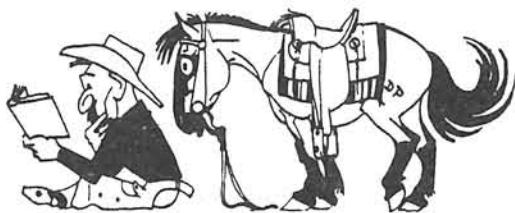
Ray Wood and *Bill Burkhart* attended the Jedediah Smith Society breakfast at University of the Pacific, Stockton, April 12, as part of the 33rd Annual California History Institute sponsored by the Holt-Atherton Pacific Center for Western Studies at UOP.

Finally, a somewhat abridged version of *Ray Wood's* award-winning talk on Ina Coolbrith is featured in the Winter 1980 issue of the Westerners International *Buckskin Bulletin*.



Corresponding Members Welcomed by Corral

The Los Angeles Corral of the Westerners extends a hearty welcome to the following new Corresponding Members: Ormly Gumfudgin, La Crescenta; Robert Wilkerson, Pasadena; Conrad D. Sherman, Pasadena; Paul E. Weaver, Carlsbad; Don Miles, Pasadena; Mary H. Montgomery, Portuguese Bend; Norman Neverburg, Los Angeles; California State University—Dominguez Hills, Carson; Raymond F. Zeman, Long Beach; Paul de Fonville, Los Angeles; Walter Sartain, Pasadena; Roswell D. Schenck, Studio City.



DOWN THE WESTERN BOOK TRAIL ...

The Plains Across: The Overland Emigrants and the Trans-Mississippi West, 1840 - 1860 by John D. Unruh Jr., 565 pages, University of Oklahoma Press, \$22.50.

From its opening pages it is quite evident that this book is a remarkable work of original research and exemplary writing by John D. Unruh Jr.

The westward movement to California and Oregon has long been shrouded in myth and stereotype, fueled by motion picture and pulp-novel visions of lonely prairie schooners chased by feathered and painted Indians. In this massive and meticulous study, Unruh gets hold of the elusive historical truth while puncturing many an illusion in the process.

As Professor Unruh convincingly explains, westward travel along the Oregon-California Trail was seldom as isolated or dangerous as popularly believed. To be sure, there were

risks involved, but the pioneers never moved alone, and the wagon roads were overcrowded in most years. As for the Indian threat, the emigrants had more to fear from disease and traffic accidents.

Indeed, "the less than 400 emigrants killed by Indians during the antebellum era represents a mere 4 percent of the estimated 10,000 or more emigrant deaths." More often, the apprehensive pioneers were assisted by the Indians they met. Only in the latter years of migration, when intolerable misuse of the Indians' land and animals occurred, did the overlanders have much use for the military protection they demanded.

Unruh also shows how the emigrants' cooperative interaction and goodwill was a means of mutual support. There are countless anecdotes of generosity and kindness. If an unfortunate emigrant lost his family or possessions, others in the caravan were certain to help him continue the journey.

And along the trail, there were federally funded reststops, Mormon stores and services, private enterprises geared to overland travel and greeting parties from California and Oregon. Unruh further contends there was no typical westering experience, conditions changed from year to year, often depending upon the elements of weather.

Not often does a book come along that might be called an adventure in reading, but Unruh's superb history will suffice. Without doubt, *The Plains Across* is a classic contribution to the literature of the American West.

—Jeff Nathan



Women and Men on the Overland Trail by John Mack Faragher, 281 pages, Yale University Press, \$17.50.

This is a worthwhile supplement to Unruh's book. The author's emphasis on the division of labor between the sexes is a refreshing topic, aided by an exhaustive use of pioneer journals and diaries.

Again, a few legends are exploded. The notion of women huddling in the backs of

wagons with their children while the men "fended off hostile Indians" is familiar. But as Faragher illustrates, "the women were more likely to be walking behind the wagons collecting buffalo dung for fuel." Isn't that what revisionist history is all about.

—Jeff Nathan



Beale's Road through Arizona, by Eldon G. Bowman and Jack Smith, photos and bibliography, Flagstaff Corral, Westerners, Rt. 4, Box 739, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001, 27 pp. \$10.00

The *Flagstaff Corral* of the *Westerners* is pleased to announce the publication of *Beale's Road through Arizona*, the first in a limited edition series on Arizona and western history.

Beale's Road through Arizona is an account of the exploration and use of the first federally-funded wagon road in the Southwest. The route was marked in 1857-58 from Fort Smith, Arkansas to the Colorado River by the colorful Lieutenant Edward F. Beale. It was in Arizona on this expedition that he successfully conducted the Army's famous experiment in using Arabian camels. Emigrant wagon trains followed the road in 1858 only to be repulsed by Indians; Fort Mojave was established on the river to protect travelers. Gold was discovered at Lynx Creek (near Prescott) and Beale's Road drew gold-seekers from the coast as well as from the mid-west. Large cattle and sheep drives soon followed with increased emigrant traffic until the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad (Santa Fe) followed in Beale's tracks in 1883. Today Highway 66 and Interstate 40 follow much of Beale's Road to Southern California.

Beale's Road through Arizona is composed in Linotype Caledonia with hand-set foundry Century Schoolbook display type, and is printed on Warren's Olde Style paper; it is folded and sewn by hand. This fine volume is in a limited edition of 275 copies, signed by the authors.

—Foreman

More Burs under the Saddle: Books and Histories of the West, by Ramon F. Adams, University of Oklahoma Press, 1005 Asp Ave., Norman, Oklahoma 73019, 182 pp., 1979, \$14.95

In 1964 Ramon F. Adams published *Burs Under the Saddle: A Second Look at the Books and Histories of the West*. Here he exposed the inadequate research and poor story telling of western outlaw and gunman volumes. This guide presented his feelings of the efforts of various authors alphabetically.

During the intervening years the author has gathered many more entries, and this volume takes off where the 1964 book left off. Adams dissolves the great absurdities, and the errors tied to the old legends.

The jacket flap tells us the author has passed on to boot hill. We are not sure if it was another bur in the saddle that done him in or some disgruntled author who found Adams' opinions not to his liking.

—Art Brush



A Companion to California, by James D. Hart, Oxford University Press, N.Y., 1978, \$25.00

After almost a year of literary flagellation I have finally completed a publication reviewed by the L.A. Times in the spring of '79. Accorded a courteous salute worthy of almost any Oxford University Press effort, James D. Hart's 1978 *A Companion to California* can further claim title as one of the more unusual reference works of the 20th century.

Fittingly its 504 pages of Golden State, "shoes and ships and sealing wax and cabbages and kings" are prefaced by a series of sectional maps of the state, the first of which delineates that area between Petaluma and San Jose.

I use the term fittingly because it is obvious as one reads along that Chronicler Hart has rarely traveled much further south than Mt. Diablo, ventured east beyond Martinez and accepts Palo Alto, where as a Berkeley rooter he attends football games at the farm, as being our Western frontier.

A claim to four years in preparation sug-

gests there should have been an additional two years devoted to editing to avoid such hilarious entries as:

"NORTHROP, John K." in which we learn Jack founded the "Northrop Corp. (1932), later a part of Douglas Aircraft" which by virtue of Northrop's profitability should provide a shot in the arm to McDonnell-Douglas stock.

On the subject of Douglas Aircraft, the man from Berkeley says, "His firm, Douglas Aircraft, was famous for its Flying Fortress (B17) of World War II" which suggests our good fortune that the book does not embrace the entire West Coast or he would have had Boeing building PBY, Catalinas.

A cursory glance at the entry on San Pedro suggests the harbor was developed in the 1850's *before Dana's arrival*, but careful rereading simply reveals a bad choice of language.

The eight line report on Santa Ana devotes two of those precious lines to the most insignificant bit of trivia relating to the City, the Bowers Museum, while shareholders of Southern California Edison stock are advised their San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station is the property of Pacific Gas and Electric, PG&E.

Under shipbuilding he has four Russian vessels built at Fort Ross (for the Sitka run) being sold to the Spanish and the topsail Schooner Guadalupe as being built at San Pedro ignoring the fact it was built at the Mission San Gabriel, knocked down and hauled to its final assembly site at water's edge.

As if that sort of thing were not enough he also stoops to the sophomoric obvious sin of omission in ignoring one of his then living contemporaries at "Zig Zag Tech," U.C. historian Robert Heizer, yet was able to find space for that giant of Californiana, living rock music impresario, Bill Graham.

Too expensive, \$25.00, and really not heavy enough to be used as a door stop, it does have one redeeming quality. I suggest assembling a group of history buffs, opening some brandy, passing around cigars, then reading aloud, awarding a prize to the listener identifying the largest number of errors in a specified time.

Authorship by a member of the insular peninsular community whose universe centers on the Alcatraz Light at 37°-49.6'N and 122°-25.3'W is understandable, but Oxfords being a party to the exercise casts some doubt on their ongoing credibility. The work richly deserves the Admiral Hyman G. Rickover 50% award. Rickover said, "Throwing around half truths is like throwing half bricks."

—Richard Cunningham



Saloons of the Old West, by Richard Erdoes. Hard cover, illustrated with 160 photographs and line drawings, notes, bibliography and index. Alfred A. Knopf, Publisher, New York, N.Y., 277 pp., 1979. \$13.95

In this volume Richard Erdoes "tells it like it was." Soon after the pilgrims landed, the American saloon was born. Many settlers soon engaged in making spirits, due to the availability of all sorts of fruits, nuts, corn and anything else that would ferment. As the settlers moved south and west, the saloon also moved and was usually the first building erected. The saloon served as thirst quencher, town hall, sheriff's office, courtroom, gambling hall and meeting place as well as for other sundry activities. Some people were born and many others died in the saloons. The western saloon flourished because it filled a basic need. The saloon was the place to rest, drink, seek refuge and meet your fellow man, cowpoke, farmer, nester, gambler, miner, gunman, preacher or any other person that found their way through those swinging doors.

Erdoes gives an excellent account of the saloon's early beginnings, the people that operated them, the patrons and those that serviced them. This volume covers that span of American life from the colonies through the prohibition era of the 1920's.

Early saloons often started with only a board atop two barrels or from a wagon tailgate. As transportation improved, saloons also improved. The saloon soon became ornate with carved walnut and oak bars. Mixologists, mirrors, fancy lights and ladies were all a

part of the life that centered around the saloon.

—Byron C. Smith



Steamboats on the Colorado River 1852-1906, by Richard E. Lingenfelter, University of Arizona Press, P.O. Box 3398, Tucson, Arizona 85722, 194 pp., 1979. \$9.50 (Paper)

For nearly 50 years after the California gold rush of 1849, paddle-wheel steamers provided river transportation in the American West. During this period of time the Colorado, Columbia, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin rivers were water thoroughfares into the interior and each of these arteries supported steamer traffic.

The history of steam navigation on the Columbia and Sacramento-San Joaquin has been well documented, and *Steamboats on the Colorado River* completes the river transport story. Lingenfelter tells about opening the river to transport with the *Explorer*, the increase in river traffic due to discovery of the rich silver lodes along the river, the operation of the vessels, and the people who ran them. The various landings and the coming of the railroad is also told.

Colorado River steamers were mostly flat bottomed craft and ship buffs will be interested in the origin and descriptions of the various craft. Steamboats brought in material for the construction of the Atlantic & Pacific and the Southern Pacific, and such traffic also sped their demise. River transport finally closed in 1909 with the completion of Laguna Dam some 15 miles above Yuma.

This album size volume is loaded with over a hundred photographs, drawings and maps. Transportation buffs are sure to be pleased with the publication of this nicely produced production.

—Art Brush

