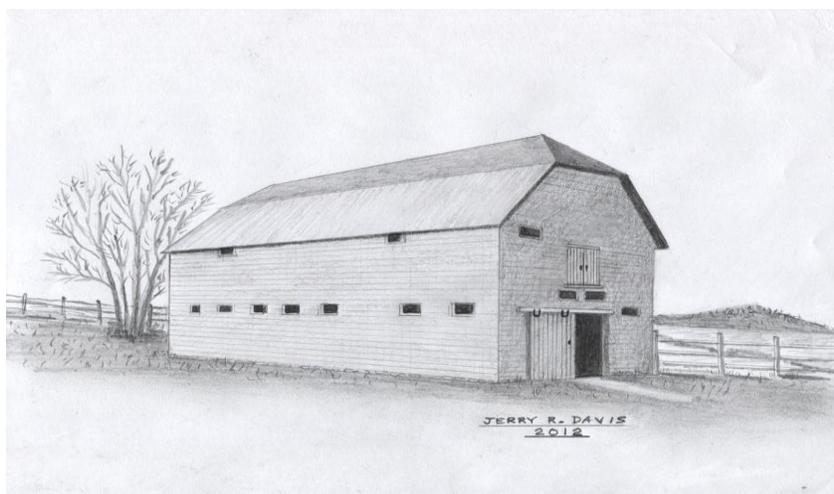




NEWSLETTER

for the
EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Second Quarter 2013



Built around 1900 as a dairy barn, the structure shown above is on U.S. 60 south of Moriarty, and also has a granary and stalls for horses. Davis says, "In all of my searching I found no other barn even faintly similar to this one. It is clad with vertical wood siding and sports an unusual type of gambrel roof . . . called a "Snug Dutch roof" or a "Snub-nosed roof." The barn is owned by Jon and Joan Shively, who Davis says have kept it in "immaculate" condition. (Illustration courtesy Jerry R. Davis)

Historic Barns

Time is running out to reserve your seat for this Sunday's talk about historic barns.

At 2 p.m. (April 7) author/illustrator Jerry Davis will share illustrations of historic barns in New Mexico – including barns in the East Mountains – and talk about their histories in a free event sponsored by the East Mountain Historical Society.

We'll hold the talk in an East Mountain barn near Frost Road and North NM 14. To ensure proper seating, please call or email program director Becky Schnelker with the number in your party and she will provide directions to the barn. Call Becky at 281-8791 or email programs@eastmountainhistory.org.

Barns From the Land of Enchantment, Davis' most recent book, includes 50 renderings of New Mexico barns as they would have looked in their prime (not necessarily how they look today). Each includes a vignette on the barn's history and how Davis found it. Copies of Davis' book and print reproductions of his illustrations will be available for purchase at the presentation.

Cowboys Real and Imagined



Story information and photo provided by the New Mexico History Museum

Using artifacts and photographs from its own collections, with loans from more than 100 people and other museums, The New Mexico History Museum will hold a grand opening of its *Cowboys Real and Imagined* April 14 with refreshments and, at 2 p.m., a special presentation in the auditorium. Admission is free to New Mexico residents as it's a Sunday.

Cowboys Real and Imagined “blends a chronological history of Southwestern cowboys with the rise of a manufactured mystique as at home on city streets as it is in a stockyard.”

Augmented by archival footage, oral histories, musical performances, and a series that includes showings of Western movies filmed in New Mexico (*including Lonely Are the Brave on July 19!*), the exhibition anchors the cowboy story in the Land of Enchantment, which helped give birth to the real thing and, due to geographical and economical factors, held onto it longer than most other states.

“One of the reasons the cowboy myth has been so pervasive and long-lasting is because anybody could become a cowboy of sorts,” said guest curator by B. Byron Price, director of the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West at the University of Oklahoma and of the University of Oklahoma Press. “It isn’t always what you wear, who you are, or what your attitude is. The exhibit asks: Who is a real cowboy?”

In its search for an answer, Price said, the exhibit discovers that cowboy “is a verb, an adjective, a noun, an adverb.”

Despite a career devoted to the story of the cowboy, Price said he was amazed at what he found in the museum’s Palace of the Governors Photo Archives, including a small cache of glass-plate negatives. Made by Ella Wormser, the wife of a Jewish merchant, they may be the only visual evidence of trail drives making the transition toward rail transport.

“I went crazy when I found (those),” he said. “She was the wife of a mercantile owner who came to Deming in 1895 and developed an interest in photography. Most significantly, she shot a series of images that followed a roundup near Deming and driven to a railhead through a process of chutes. You cannot imagine how rare this series is. . . . In one of them, you can see her skirt in shadow, along with the tripod and camera.

Modern-day shooters represented in the exhibit include Barbara Van Cleve, Lee Marmon, Donald Woodman, and Herbert A. Lotz. Other artifacts include cowboy clothing from the 1700s through contemporary times; the chuck wagon that fed cattle-driving cowboys of northeastern New Mexico’s famed Bell Ranch; ephemera from the dude ranches; and the ads that banked on cowboys to sell products. People who pop up through the exhibit include legendary Lea County cowgirl and rancher Fern Sawyer; singer Louise Massey; actor and film producer Tom Mix; Buck Taylor, “The King of the Cowboys”; Billy the Kid; artist Frederic Remington; Gila River cowboy, trapper and guide Quentin Hulse; and the anonymous Rough Riders, cowboys, and vaqueros whose real-life acts still occupy a wide-open space of the American dream.

As part of the exhibit, the Palace Press is preparing a fine-press version of Jack Thorp’s classic *Songs of the Cowboys*, first published in 1908 in Estancia, New Mexico, on a press now used at the History Museum. Thorp’s was a pioneering compilation of songs he heard hummed and strummed around campfires in New Mexico, including tunes from African American cowboys.

Special presentations coming up in the next month or two include:

Friday, April 26, 6pm—Cowboy movie night: “Tom Mix and *Ranch Life in the Great Southwest*,” with journalist and film critic Jon Bowman. Besides the 1910 *Ranch Life*, see a showing of the 1915 short, *Local Color*, filmed in New Mexico. Free.

Sunday, May 5, 2pm—“I See By Your Outfit: Historic Cowboy Clothing,” a presentation by Emmy award-winning costume designer Cathy Smith. Smith’s lecture is an accurate and humorous look at the historical evolution of the American cowboy through photos of his costume, equipment and horses. Free with admission (Sundays free to NM residents).

Friday, May 17, 6pm—Cowboy movie night: “An Introduction to *The Hi-Lo County*,” with Max Evans. Jim Harris, director of the Lea County Museum, talks with Evans about his storied career, including the making of movies from his works, with a showing *The Hi Lo Country* (1998). Free. The exhibit and special events run until March of next year.

But of special interest to East Mountain Historical Society members and friends is the event scheduled for **July 19, when at 6 p.m.** the museum will hold a “Cowboy Movie Night” with a showing of *Lonely Are the Brave*, which was filmed in the Sandia Mountains.

Oral historian Jack Loeffler will discuss his friendship with author Edward Abbey and the transformation of Abbey’s novel *The Brave Cowboy* into this 1962 icon of Western movies. Admission is free.

1895 Photos from Golden, N.M. – a Treasure

By Denise Tessier, EMHS President

In August, a retired professional photographer from Los Alamos donated to the East Mountain Historical Society nine photographs that were taken in Golden, N.M. in 1895.

Our graphics director Kathy Rich has digitized the prints so we can put some of them out for public view. We're hoping someone can tell us stories about what they depict, because the photographer, Lou Erne, also presented us with a mystery.

Erne said he thought long and hard about where to donate these photos before he brought them to us. He said he didn't know who originally took the pictures; they had been inherited by a couple who lived somewhere in the Midwest. Intrigued by the photographs of Golden, this couple decided 20 years ago to take a trip out West to see Golden for themselves.

On that trip, they stayed with friends in Albuquerque, who at the time were neighbors of Erne. Erne no longer remembers the names of the neighbors, nor does he know the identity of the couple from the Midwest.

He has these historic photos because during that visit 20 years ago, his neighbors asked him to make copies. He made negatives from the historic photos, and then made prints for his neighbors, and for himself and his own family.



GOLDEN NEW MEXICO - SCHOOL
FR. Row 3 FR RT ETHEL DEAN, HAROLD DEAN ON HORSE

This photograph is captioned Golden, NM – School. It says Ethel Dean is third from the right in the front row and Harold Dean is on the horse.

He still has the negatives and is passing on nine of the prints to us. The originals went back to the Midwest with that unknown couple 20 years ago. If you can tell us anything about these photos, please contact me at president@eastmountainhistory.org.

Golden, New Mexico 1895

The photo at right says:
“Michael Harold standing in front
of home.”



GOLDEN NEW MEXICO ABOUT 1895
MICHAEL HAROLD STANDING IN FRONT OF HOME.



Photo at left says:
Oil well drilled by M. Harold.

GOLDEN NEW MEXICO - ABOUT 1895
OIL WELL DRILLED BY M. HAROLD

Photo at right says:
Hotel (right) operated by the
Clark Family. Mother lived here.
Harold Dean on burro.



GOLDEN NEW MEXICO - ABOUT 1895
HOTEL - RT - OPERATED BY THE CLARK FAMILY
→ MOTHER LIVED HERE
HAROLD DEAN ON BURRO

Welcome New Members!

Welcome to our new members: Kay Schoenfeld, Marcia Escobosa and Stephanie & Robert Long.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the East Mountain Historical Society is to identify, preserve and present to the public the history and culture of the East Mountain area. EMHS will assist in protecting historical buildings and landscapes, artifacts, records, or any item considered to be of historical significance. EMHS will also identify, collect and archive historical material of significance to the area.

Denise Tessier, Editor, East Mountain Historical Society Copyright 2013©