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Texas Tech University  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79409



Voice of the Foothill Country

# Motley Co. Tribune

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105 YEARS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1996

ISSUE NO. 34

## Welcome Home



One of the first Old Settlers meetings above the Roaring Springs waterfall.

(Tribune file photo)

## 73rd Annual Motley & Dickens Counties Old Settlers Reunion



# Motley County Museum Features Durham Collection



Marisue Potts and Slim Durham as Mr. Durham is presenting saddle to the Motley County Museum.

During the Dickens-Motley Counties Old Settlers Reunion the Motley County Museum will be featuring the collection of Slim Durham of Wister, Oklahoma. Durham has donated a Schweitzer saddle completely rigged out with the equipment needed during work on the year-round wagon roundup of the old Matador Ranch during the 1940's.

The metal saddle stand, crafted by the cowboy, displays bridles and bits, shackles and ropes, horse-shoeing tools, a screw-worm doctoring kit, and chaps for brush protection, as well as padded chaps for protection against biting broncs.

Among the Matador Ranch memorabilia received includes an historic photo collection featuring cowboys and the remuda, oral history tapes about working on the ranch and living at the wagon, and the spurs Durham wore in his horse-back wedding at the 1952 Old Settlers Reunion.

Durham, who worked for the Matadors' during the 1940's, was dubbed "Slim" for the obvious reason: he was six foot tall and had a 29 inch waist. But since there were already a couple of Slims around, they soon began to call him "Junior."

Born to Gracie Bessie Wiggs and A. A. (Al) Durham on January 22, 1922, at Denton, Texas, Durham was named G. B. for his mother's initials. In the army he had quite a hassle explaining the initials didn't stand for anything, they were just initials.

The family moved to near Croton Pasture, Dickens County, in 1931. "I've been around the Matadors all my life, used to slip over to the wagon," he said in a recent telephonic interview. When as "a big old kid," he started looking for work, it seemed natural to start with the noted ranch owned by Scottish stockholders.

Durham hitchhiked to ranch headquarters at Ballard Springs, put in his bid with Mr. M. J. Reilly. Short on cash, he slept on the grass by an all night cafe at Matador before hitchhiking back home to wait for word about an opening. It wasn't long before Mr. Reilly sent a letter saying Durham could go to work at the ranch and he thumbed his way back.

Slim worked for the ranch until Uncle Sam called him into World War II service. Knowing he wanted to come back to the ranch, he left his bedroll with Slim Phelps for the duration. Although he started training as a gunner in the 8th Air Force, it didn't take the army long to figure out he was too tall. So then he trained for ordnance, handling bombs, and, because he had the experience of cooking at home and filling in for the cooks at the wagons, he also cooked some.

Slim and Duffy Johnson's paths were on the same track, as they learned last year at the Matador Cowboy Reunion when they got together for the first time in 50 years. Both left the

ranch about the same time, both were at Shepard Field, Wichita Falls, and they traveled in the same convoy until their trails split. Duffy went to the Philippines and Slim to Wake and later Okinawa, where he remained until the end of the war.

Durham was discharged at Ft. Bliss in El Paso and given \$100 living allowance. At a layover at the bus station at Lubbock, he bought Levi's, a shirt, and a hat. He visited briefly with his father at Spur and the next day was back in Matador, ready to go to work.

Ironically, he and Johnson both arrived home on the same day. Duffy came in on the bus from El Paso in the morning and Slim on a 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Brooks Calloway saw Slim get off the bus and offered him a ride, but first Slim had to go to the saddle shop and tell Schweitzer to get started on his new saddle.

When the Matador Ranch sold to the Rock Island Line, he continued to ride for the brand and worked in Kansas and Montana. Later he returned to this area and worked for D. I. W. Birnie, where he stayed until 1952.

He joined the Matador Quadrille in performing drills on horseback. He and Mary became the lead couple. A romance blossomed and they were married on horseback at Old Settlers, August 29, 1952. Her grandfather, J. M. Hill bought the Echols Ranch and they lived there for a time.

Later Durham went to work in Bristo, Oklahoma, for two women who had inherited a ranch. Then he made the move to Wister, a pretty little valley between two small mountains.

Wearing those padded chaps, he "messed with broncs" as a pickup man at rodeos. Every three or four days, he then helped move the rodeo stock from one town to another.

Slim worked in construction, running cattle on the side in the hilly country created by a valley between Windstair Mountains and Blue Mountain.

"There's a couple of big differences between here and Matador. We have more humidity. And after the first frost hits the grass, I have to hay my cattle. Cows can be belly deep in grass, but hurting. The grass lacks strength after frost," he said.

Durham dreams of slowing down from the haying demands of his 100 cows, maybe cutting down on the numbers, so he isn't tied to the hay baler so much of the year. And dreams of a country he once knew, one that doesn't require so much hay for an old cow to winter.



Old Settlers Board of Directors — Pictured left to right, Chig Gwinn, Wayne Smith, Casey Jones, Mike Jones, Truitt Read, Billy Hale, Don Karr, Bill Smith, and Billy Wayne Denison.



**SPECIAL POST CARD** — Motley County's own Mary Ellen "Dude" Barton will autograph post cards showing her likeness as seen on the Motley County History Mural, painted by Joe Taylor. This mural is located in the Motley County Library. As a fund raiser for the Friends of the Library, Dude will hold this autograph session at the Arts & Crafts Show, Booth #17, across from the Old Settlers grounds on Saturday, August 24, 1996 from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to get a personalized autograph from Dude Barton, Cowgirl Hall of Fame Member. Proceeds will go to the Motley County Library.

photo by Betty Moore

## Roaring Springs Community Volunteers' Arts & Crafts Show Will Display Many Unique Items

Among the twenty-nine vendors at the Arts & Crafts Show August 22-24 in Roaring Springs during the Old Settlers Reunion are several Motley County exhibitors. Zola Renfro of Matador will sell Dolls, Towel Holders, Hot mats, and other hand-crafted items. JoAnn Durham, also of Matador, will show her handmade jewelry, and the Motley County 4-H Club will be selling beautiful Historic Afghans which feature scenes of Motley County. Dickens County vendors include Miller and Jean Marshall of Spur who will have wood furniture for sale. Ike & Elaine Jackson of Afton will sell Western Metal Arts & Crafts. The Roaring Springs Community Volunteers will sell T-shirts, Caps & Cookbooks. The Volunteers will also sell Cow Patty Bingo chances.

Arts & Crafts Show include Candles, Childrens Clothes, Cowboy Stone Images, Sterling Silver Jewelry, Christian Crafts, Denim Patch Clothes, Country & Western Crafts, Purses, Crafts and Toys, Original Paintings, Wood Turning Art, Candy, Quillas (a pillow that unfolds into a quilt), Dolls, Gorgeous Bows, Ladies Hats, Neck Coolers, T-Shirts, and Sand Art.

Food items will include Jackson's Bar-B-Q from Post, Texas. Jackson will also serve breakfast and hamburgers. Walter & Savannah Morris from Lubbock will serve a variety of items, including corn dogs, sausage on a stick, cheese on a stick, curly fries, funnel cakes, cold drinks, and snow cones.

Hours for the Arts and Crafts show will be from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., or later, depending on the wishes of the vendors.

Other items that will be sold at the

**73rd Annual Motley-Dickens Counties Reunion & Rodeo**  
Roaring Springs, Texas

**3 Big Days August 22, 23, 24 1996**

THURSDAY AUGUST 22ND	RODEO EVENTS	RODEO FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS AT 8:00 P.M.																											
<b>PARADE - 10:00 A.M.</b> <b>MEMORIAL SERVICE - 11:00 A.M.</b> <b>BUSINESS MEETING - 1:00 P.M.</b> <b>MOTLEY-DICKENS COUNTY EVENTS 5:00 P.M.</b> Books Open at 4:30 P.M. <b>CUTTING</b> \$40.00 Entry Fee \$20.00 Stock Charge <b>FLAG RACE</b> 4 Years & Under 7 Years to 12 Years <b>OPEN AGE BARREL RACE</b> \$15.00 Entry Fee \$5.00 Office Charge <b>JUNIOR TEAM ROPING</b> 18 Years & Under Entry Fee \$10.00 per Team <b>MOTLEY-DICKENS COUNTY TEAM ROPING</b> Draw Pot Entry Fee \$40.00 - Get Four Partners 3 Hd. - Progressive After 1 Top 12 Back for Short Cut <b>HAND MADE BITS TO WINNERS OF ABOVE EVENTS</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>EVENT</th> <th>ENTRY FEE</th> <th>STOCK CHARGE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>BARREL RACE</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>SADDLE BRONC</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>CALF ROPING</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>BARRREL RACE</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>STEER WRESTLING</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>WOMEN'S BREAKAWAY</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>TEAM ROPING (Enter Twice)</td><td>\$110.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> <tr><td>BULL RIDING</td><td>\$50.00</td><td>\$10.00</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>ABOVE EVENTS ARE OPEN &amp; TCRA APPROVED</p> <p><b>JR. BREAKAWAY</b> \$5.00 \$5.00                      (15 Years &amp; Under)  <b>JR. FLAG RACE</b> \$5.00 \$5.00                      (11 Years &amp; Under)  <b>HANDMADE BITS TO WINNER OF JUNIOR EVENTS ALL SLACK AFTER RODEO - FRIDAY NIGHT</b></p> <p><b>OLD MEN'S CALF ROPING</b>                      SATURDAY, AUGUST 24TH 8:30 A.M.  <b>OLD MEN'S TIE DOWN</b>                      \$50.00 Entry Fee                      \$10.00 Stock Charge                      50 Years &amp; Older - 3 Head                      Handmade Bits to Average Winner</p> <p><b>OLD MEN'S BREAKAWAY</b>                      \$25.00 Entry Fee - \$10.00 Stock Charge                      60 Years &amp; Older - 2 Head                      Handmade Bits to Average Winner</p>	EVENT	ENTRY FEE	STOCK CHARGE	BARREL RACE	\$50.00	\$10.00	SADDLE BRONC	\$50.00	\$10.00	CALF ROPING	\$50.00	\$10.00	BARRREL RACE	\$50.00	\$10.00	STEER WRESTLING	\$50.00	\$10.00	WOMEN'S BREAKAWAY	\$50.00	\$10.00	TEAM ROPING (Enter Twice)	\$110.00	\$10.00	BULL RIDING	\$50.00	\$10.00	<p><b>FREE DANCE EACH AFTERNOON 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.</b></p> <p><b>OLD FOLKS DANCE 8:30 P.M. FRIDAY &amp; SATURDAY</b>                      "Weldon Turpin &amp; The Midnight Cowboys"</p> <p><b>YOUNG FOLKS DANCE 9:00 P.M. FRIDAY &amp; SATURDAY</b>                      "Terry Sneed and Up The Creek"</p>
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BULL RIDING	\$50.00	\$10.00																											
<b>FRIDAY AUGUST 23RD</b> <b>TEAM ROPING</b> Senior's Team Roping Assn. Book's Open at 8:00 a.m. Rope at 8:00 a.m. No. 1 7' - 4 Hd for \$30.00 No. 2 7' - 4 Hd for \$30.00 No. 3 and under steer stopping - 4 Hd for \$15.00 No. 1 1/2 and under steer stopping - 4 Hd for \$15.00 Must be 45 yrs or older to rope in these ropings. Saddle to high money winner For more information call Ned Ward (817)-989-2604	<p>Stock Producer: Terry Walls Rodeo Co. Stephenville, Texas</p> <p>Rodeo Entries Call: 817-968-8946</p> <p>Sunday, August 18th 6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.                      Rough Stock                      7:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M.                      Timed Events</p> <p>Monday, August 19th 6:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M.</p> <p>Rodeo 8:00 P.M. Friday &amp; Saturday Night</p> <p>Free Admission Thursday                      \$5.00 General Admission Saddle Friday &amp; Saturday                      12 &amp; Under - Free Admission 60 &amp; Older - Free Admission</p>	<p><b>COWBOY TEAM SORTING</b>                      Books Open 11:00 A.M.                      Sort at 12:00 Noon                      ENTRY FEE: \$45.00 Per Team                      \$15.00 per Team Stock Charge                      Top 5 Teams Come Back for 2nd Go Saturday Night During Rodeo.                      Money Paid on Average                      2 Minute Progressive on Times  <b>HAND MADE BITS TO 1ST PLACE</b></p> <p><b>CROWNING OF QUEEN</b>                      DRAWING FOR ALVIN DURHAM HANDMADE SADDLE During Saturday Night Rodeo Performance</p> <p>CARNIVAL ALL 3 NIGHTS                      Thursday night unlimited rides for \$5.00</p>																											

**CONCESSIONS ON GROUNDS**

### Museum Donations

The Motley County Historical Museum gratefully acknowledges the gifts sent as a tribute to Sibyl Scaff Barton by:

Mary Ellen Barton  
 Mollie Burleson  
 Viola Stinson

### First Scrimmage

☆☆☆☆  
**Matadors vs. Crowell**  
 here, Friday, 6:15

### Motley County Homecoming

October 18-19

**My daughter wanted to know who handles our auto insurance.**

**Then it hit me ... she gets her drivers license next month!**

**FARM BUREAU INSURANCE**

No problem ... I'll just call my agent at Farm Bureau Insurance. 806-347-2880

If I have a problem, he's always there. And, I can count on him to provide the insurance coverage I need for my family at competitive rates.

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*Give me a BIG home where I don't pay to roam, and can talk and feel free as a bird.....*

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*Well now I'm all smiles since home is 142,000 square miles...  
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Many of you contacted our office asking for a larger home area. Well, we listened to your request and we are pleased to announce our new Home+Area. Effective July 26, 1996, Digital Cellular customers will no longer pay roaming charges in the Home+Area. The dark gray area on the map shows the original home area, while the light gray indicates the new Home+Area.

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Now when you place or receive a call in Lubbock, Midland, Big Spring, Abilene, or Hobbs, (anywhere in the light gray area), you pay only your home air time rate plus long distance charges when applicable.\*

\*Subject to Rate Plan \*Some restrictions do apply \*Your phone must be locked on B-Band

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# School Bells Ring Monday

Motley County school bells will ring at 8:20 a.m. Monday, August 26 for the first day of school for the 1996-97 school year.

Classes will begin at 8:25 a.m. with first period being 8:25 - 9:15 a.m.; 2nd period, 9:19 - 10:09 a.m.; 3rd period, 10:13 - 11:03 a.m.; 4th period, 11:07 - 11:58 a.m.; Lunch, 11:58 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (Jr. High and High School); 5th period, 12:34 - 1:24 p.m.; 6th period, 1:28 - 1:58 p.m.; 7th period, 2:02 - 2:52 p.m.; 8th period, 2:56 - 3:46 p.m.

Pre-K, Kindergarten and First grade will be released at 2:40 p.m. Second grade - 12th grade will be released at 3:46 p.m.

Elementary Lunch Schedule  
 10:40 - 11:10 - Pre-K  
 10:45 - 11:15 - Kindergarten  
 10:50 - 11:20 - First grade  
 10:55 - 11:25 - Second grade  
 11:00 - 11:30 - Third grade

11:15 - 11:45 - Fourth grade  
 11:20 - 11:50 - Fifth grade  
 11:25 - 11:55 - Sixth grade

Breakfast will be served from 8:00 until 8:20 a.m.

## George Blanch Honored by VATAT

Former Motley County ISD Superintendent, George Blanch, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas (VATAT) July 31 at the state organization's annual awards program July 31.

"This award is the highest praise we, as colleagues, can give to George," said Paul Jaure, VATAT president. "He has lived and taught the highest standards of leadership and throughout his career," said Jaure.

With more than 2,000 members, Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas represents agricultural science and technology teachers throughout the state. Its members teach agricultural science programs to more than 100,000 classroom students.

The awards program was part of VATAT's summer conference, July 29 - August 2, jointly sponsored by the Texas Education Agency and centered on professional development and continuing education at the Amarillo Convention Center.

## Motley County Booster Club Elects New Officers

Motley County Booster Club met Monday, August 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

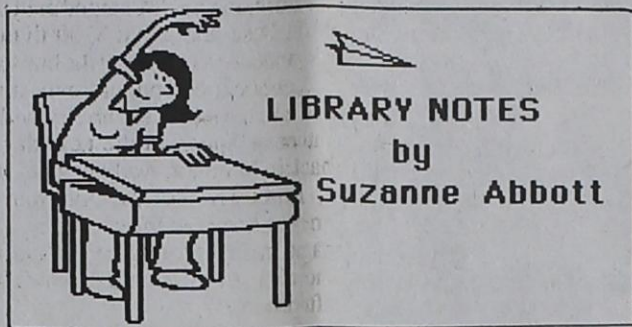
Officers were elected as follows:  
 President, Jan McWilliams  
 Vice-President, Linda Jameson  
 Secretary-Treasurer, Betty Stevens

There was much discussion on fund raising ideas. Plans are underway for

the Fall Spirit Rally, which is scheduled for September 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Football Field. Everyone is invited to attend.

Tee Shirt samples will be shown Monday, August 26.

Please make a point to come to Booster Club meetings on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Come and help support our youth!



Among the Motley County souvenirs that the Friends of the Library have for sale are Round Tuits. We thank Betty and Wayland Moore for providing these unusual souvenirs. The Round Tuits are 25 cents each and would be easy to mail to someone who is forced to live outside of Motley County. Come in the Library and see these and the other souvenirs that the Friends are selling.

A new book in the Texas Collection is The Golden Spread An Illustrated History of Amarillo and the Texas Panhandle by B. Byron Price and Frederick W. Rathjen, featuring the pastels of Frank Reaugh. If you don't, you will enjoy this fascinating book. We thank Keith Patton for making it possible for the Library to have a copy of this Texas classic.

The Friends of the Library organization is extremely important to the well-being of the Library. They keep the Library open on the librarian's day off and when she has to be out for some reason or another. They pay to have the library cleaned and this year the Friends of the Library bought 50 new books, mostly for the children's section of the Library. The Library would not function nearly as well without the Friends.

As noted above, the Friends are currently selling Motley County souvenirs. Also, they will present an opportunity during Old Settlers Reunion and out-of-towners to have a souvenir that is unique. Dude Barton,

Cowgirl Hall of Fame member, has graciously agreed to sign personalized autographs on postcards that show Dude as she is depicted in the Motley County History Mural that is in the Library. Joe D. Taylor, mural artist, has given permission for the Friends to photograph the mural and to sell post cards that show the photographs.

Dude will sign the post cards on Saturday of Old Settlers, from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Arts & Crafts Show across from the Old Settlers Grounds. We hope that everyone will support the Friends in this fund raising project and will take advantage of this opportunity to meet Dude and get her autograph and picture.

Don't forget to come by the Library to see the Old Settlers' display. It includes a Schweitzer saddle and an old hat that belonged to James Bearden. This hat obviously has had an interesting history, with a rip in the crown that has been stitched up and other gashes and some smudges. When questioned,

James said that he wore the hat while working on a ranch up in the Panhandle, along the Canadian River, and he's sure that a mesquite branch reached out and grabbed his hat and tore it. Since his wages at that time were not sufficient for him to buy a new hat, he had to sew the crown together to keep the sun and rain out. This and other items make for an interesting display in the Library as we celebrate Dickens and Motley Counties Old Settlers Reunion.

The bird of paradise alights only on the hand that does not grasp.  
 —John Berry

## Thackers Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Joe M. (Buzz) Thacker were honored with a 50th Anniversary Reception Saturday, August 10 in the fellowship hall of the Assembly of God Church in Roaring Springs, and afterwards a trip to Ruidoso, N.M.

The Reception and trip were given by their children and grandchildren, Joe and Ann Thacker, Amanda and Isaiah; John and Jana Thacker, Melanie and Amy; Jeff and Pam Thacker, Brad and Blair. The family spent the weekend in Ruidoso with the exception of Amy and Melanie, who were unable to go.

Out of town guests included LaVoe's mother and niece, Cora Mitchell and Lori Kinnear of Amarillo; Patsy

and Rick Mitchell, Burneyville, Okla.; James and Frances Moss, Carl and Earlene Sayles, Johnnie and Juana Williams, Bennett and Darlene Reaves, and Max Thacker, all of Lubbock; Don and Michelle and Chad Smith, Carrollton; Gary and Cathey Weaks, Silvertown; Algie and Rita Groves, Quanah; Dick and Lynn Trimble, Plainview; Mr. and Mrs. John Moss, David and Dorothy Campbell, Dr. Charles Craig of Floydada.

Many local friends and relatives also attended with over 100 registering.

Buzz and LaVoe were married August 25, 1946 in Roaring Springs, Texas.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Aylor of Baytown and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Peacock of Knoxville, Tennessee.

Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bill Peacock of Roaring Springs.

## Look Who's New



Paige MacKenzie Peacock

Mr. and Mrs. John Peacock of Baytown would like to announce the arrival of their daughter, Paige MacKenzie. Paige was born July 31, 1996. She weighed 7 pounds 3 ounces.

She has a sister, Ashley, and a brother, Futon.

## ANNUAL PREDICTA STUDY CLUB BAR-B-QUE

Thursday, August 22, 1996  
 11:30 a.m.  
 \$5.00 per plate  
 Includes entree, drink, and dessert

ROARING SPRINGS DEPOT  
 Roaring Springs

## Welcome to Old Settlers



Billie Dean's Restaurant

## Welcome home Old Settlers



Vickie's Floral & Country Crafts  
 downtown Roaring Springs

## Old Settlers Days

### Welcome Home

We offer a salute to our Motley and Dickens Counties Pioneers and say welcome as the 73rd Annual Old Settlers Reunion is celebrated.



## FIRST STATE BANK

Matador, Texas

## Start With Yourself



The following words were written on the tomb of an Anglican Bishop (1100 A.D.) in the Crypts of Westminster Abbey:

When I was young and free and my imagination had no limits, I dreamed of changing the world. As I grew older and wiser, I discovered the world would not change, so I shortened my sights somewhat and decided to change only my country.

But it, too, seemed immovable.

As I grew into my twilight years, in one last desperate attempt, I settled for changing only my family, those closest to me, but alas, they would have none of it.

And now as I lie on my deathbed, I suddenly realize: If I had only changed myself first, then by example I would have changed my family.

From their inspiration and encouragement, I would then have been able to better my country and, who knows, I may have even changed the world.

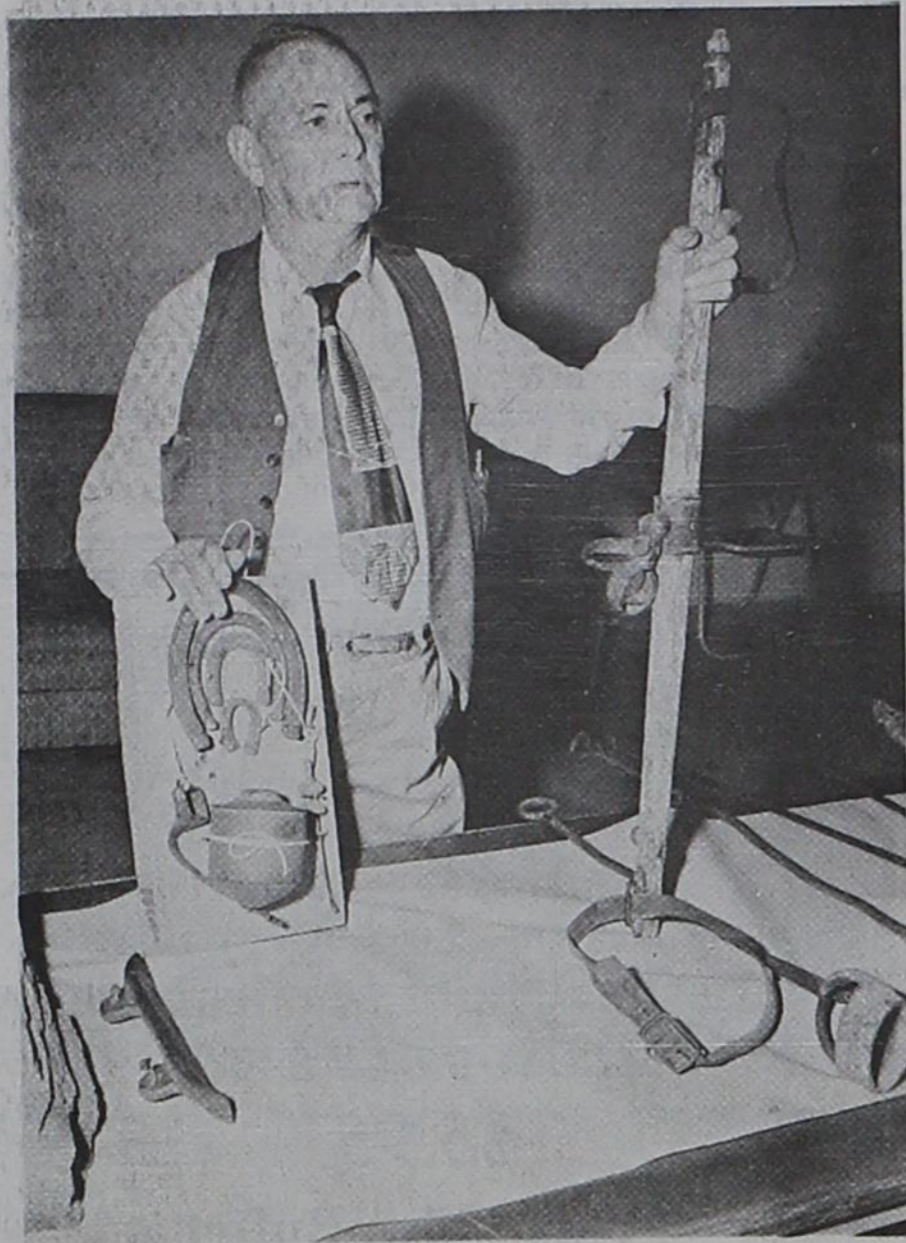
Anonymous

Roaring Springs Church of Christ  
 Michael G. Crowley, Sr.

Bible Study - 10:00 a.m. Worship - 9:00 a.m.

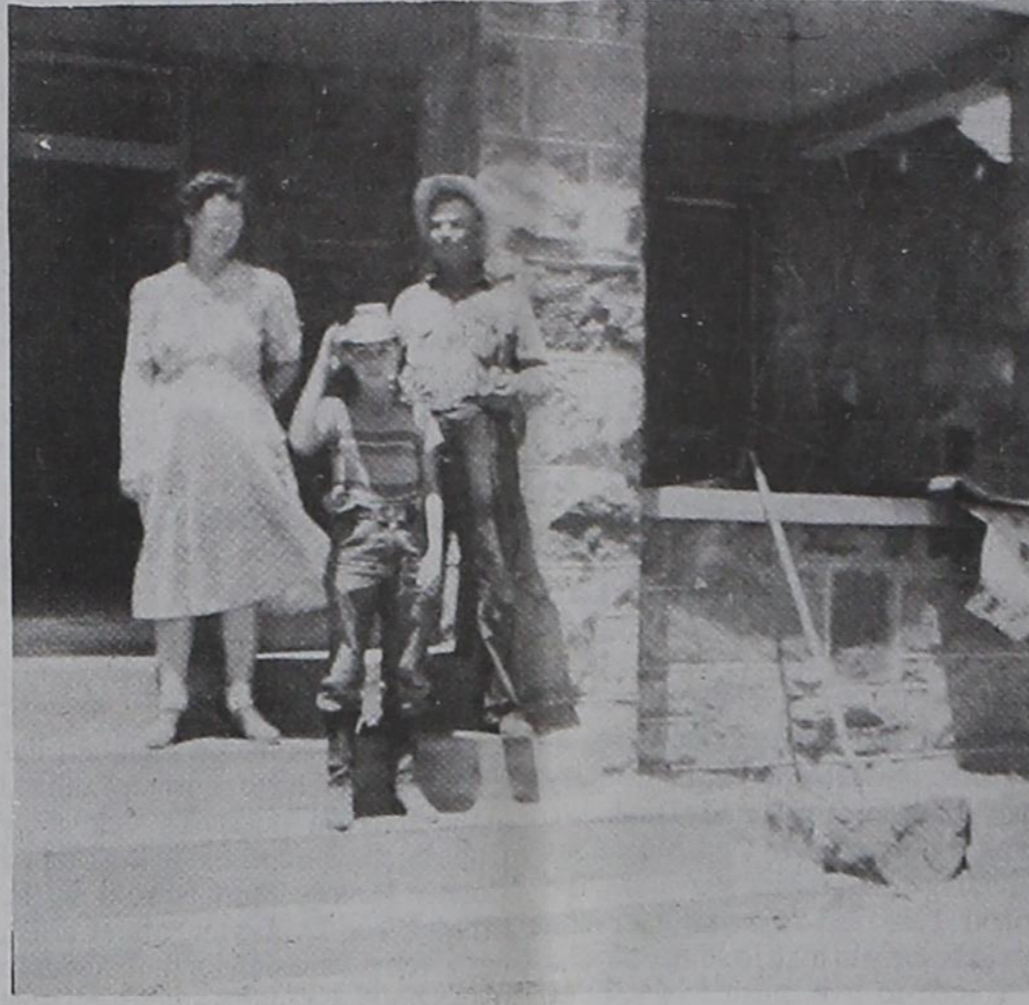


# Scouring the Bottoms for Matador Mavericks



Ed D. Smith, Sr.

(Motley County Tribune files)



Ed D., Kathleen, and little Ed D. Smith Jr. at Dutchman Camp, July 1954.

(Slim Durham col., Motley County Museum)

by Marisue Potts

President of the third annual Matador Cowboy Reunion, Ed D. Smith, invites "any cowboy who ever untracked on the Matador range" to a gathering on Saturday, August 24, around 11 a.m., on the south bank of the Dutchman Creek, at Jerry Green's place in Roaring Springs.

The chuckwagon of Jim Bo Humphreys will dish out the grub to Matador hands and their immediate family. Sourdough biscuits, beef of an unknown brand, cowboy potatoes, camp coffee, and dutchoven cobbler will be served around noon. Donations will be accepted.

"When we started this reunion three years ago, our main purpose was to provide the old time Matador cowboys with a time to get together and visit with each other," Smith said. In addition Smith will emcee the entertainment, a short business meeting and awards.

Three Moore Maker knives, manufactured in Matador, will be awarded to the winner of a lucky ticket, the Matador cowboy traveling the longest distance, and the one working for the ranch the earliest.

"According to a story being told around, the Moore Maker blade holds its sharpness so well that 176 calves

were cut before sharpening was necessary," said Smith. A natural born storyteller like his dad, Smith recently shared this story.

Ed D. Smith, Sr., was a camp man. Camp men were generally older, married men, maybe banged up or stove-up, who lived at one of the twenty-five camps around the ranch. They took care of things around the camp, lived there during the winter feeding grain or bundles to the horses and a small amount of range cubes to the old cows pulled down by age or the rigors of winter.

The first camp man at Ballard, by 1935 Smith was batching at McDonald Camp. There he brought his son, Kathleen in 1938. And there a son, Ed D., Jr., was born on February 1, 1942, during a snowstorm. Like the other isolated camps of the Matadors, there was no electricity, no running water. The Scotchmen didn't believe in spoiling their employees.

As a youngster Ed D. remembers looking forward to the ritual of going to town and seeing the movies on Saturday night. His mother was anticipating a chance to buy a few groceries, and maybe visit with other women coming in from the distant farms and ranches. So she was getting ready, taking a bath in the long tin tub filled

by buckets of water hauled from the outside trough of the windmill and heated on the woodburning stove.

His dad was taking care of chores and had gone to the corral to feed the night horse. When the camp man picked up a bundle to throw to the horse, he felt a prick on his finger. Fearing a rattlesnake bite, he rushed back to the house and roused Kathleen from her leisurely Saturday afternoon bath to tie a string around his finger, a tourniquet of sorts. He sucked out what poison he could and then soaked the finger in coal oil, a common remedy among cowboys. Then back to the lot he went to look on the ground through the loose bundle of shocked feed for the elusive snake. Seeing nothing, he gathered up the feed and tossed it over the fence to the waiting horse.

The elder Smith drove himself into Matador to Dr. Stanley's for treatment. While waiting for attention, he went to sleep with his fingers crossed on his chest. When he awakened the finger had swelled so much he couldn't unlock his fingers.

Meantime, back at home, the disappointed boy waited to his mom, "Does this mean we have to miss the movie?"

Smith was treated for his snake bite and the next morning drove himself back home. When he went to feed his horse, he found the horse's head swelled enormously from a rattlesnake bite. Evidently, the snake had been in the bundle of feed all the time.

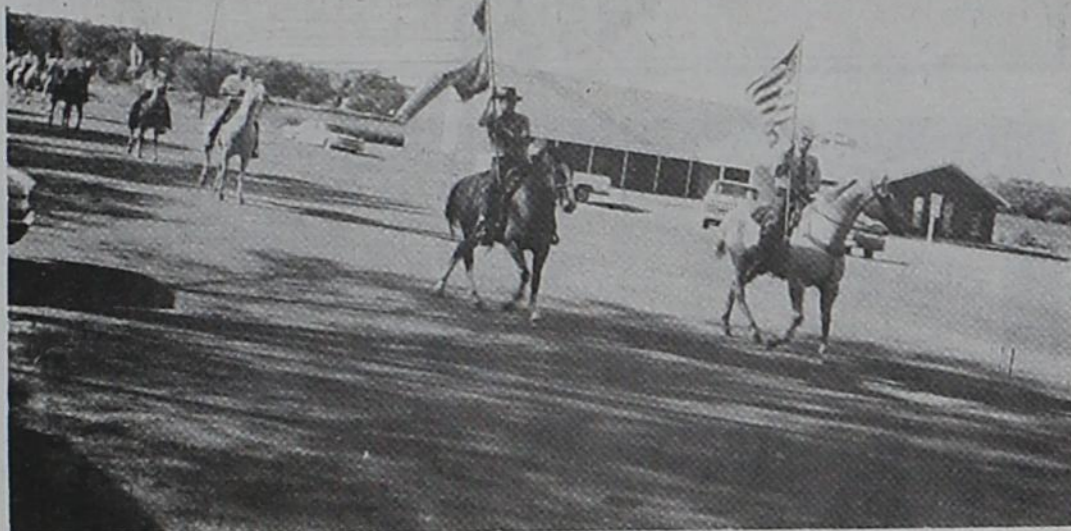
Another family story is told of an older step-brother, Edward Smith, his father's son from a previous marriage, who worked with the wagon. When Edward married, immediately after the ceremony he headed back to the wagon

to work. After almost a month, the ranch manager, Mr. Reilly, took pity on the young bridegroom, and told him to take time off "to go spend some time with your daddy." It was the first opportunity after the wedding that Edward had to see his bride.

In 1952 the Smith family finally got running water and electricity at McDonald Camp. But the luxuries weren't to be enjoyed for long, because in 1954, they were moved to Dutchman Camp, no electricity. The house, a two story rockhouse with a cool, dugout-like lower floor anchored in cement and red sandstone, was built near a small river in a park-like setting of cottonwood trees and green grass. Nearby were rocky cliffs to play on and an abundance of rattlesnakes to avoid. One time the boy was hunting the nest of an old laying hen. When he came across a sluggish snake which was packed full of eggs it had swallowed, he went running to the house in terror. Bill Slover, the champion snake charmer of the county, once pulled thirty or forty snakes from the crevices where Ed D., Jr., had played.

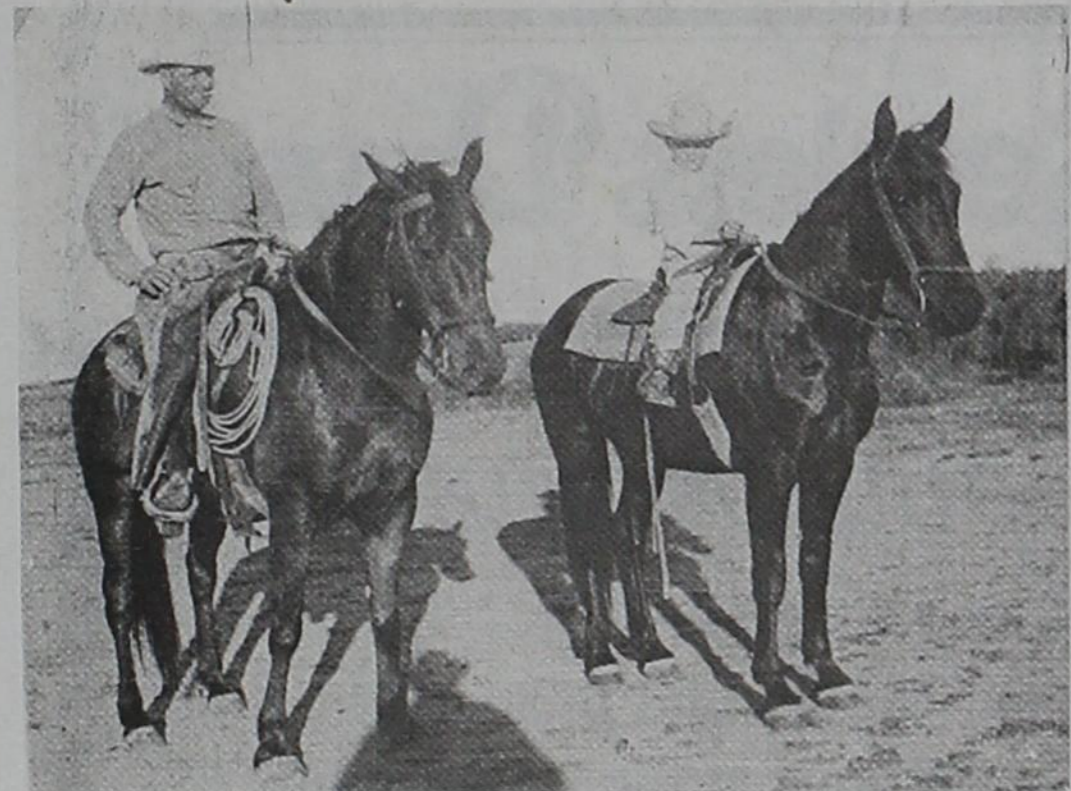
The growing boy helped his dad, feeding the cattle in a horse-drawn wagon, fixing water gaps, and doctoring screw worms. In those days, kids helped without expectation of pay, no civil rights for children yet. They listened, learned, and absorbed the experiences of a lifetime.

At the Matador Cowboy Reunion, you can bet Ed D. Smith will be doing just that, listening, learning, absorbing. "The pleasure for me is to sit back and listen to these guys, who may not have seen each other for forty or fifty years. The Matadors were bigger than life, they were authentic."



Old Settlers Parade, beginning near First Baptist Church in Roaring Springs, in late 60's.

(Motley County Tribune files)



Matador Ranch Ballard camp man, Yance O. Whatley, (left), and Garland Rattan (age 5) enroute to visit the wagon camped in number Z pasture, 1938. Kellis N. Whatley gave his Dad's spurs and lariat rope to Garland Rattan.

(Garland Rattan collection)

\*\*\*  
There is nothing good in this world which time does not improve.  
—Alexander Smith

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# Croton Pasture, A Wild Corner of Dickens County



Tud Author (only leg is showing), Red Payne, Symon Hall, cook, and Big Thornton at Croton in 1941.

(Slim Durham col., Motley County Museum)



Slim Durham, Booger Love, pointing to big steers. 1942.

(Slim Durham col., Motley County Museum)



Don Dobie and Red Payne, 1941, at Croton.

(Slim Durham col., Motley County Museum)

By Slim Durham as told to Marisue Potts

A lot of wild cattle ran in the Croton Pasture. In fact about all of them were wild, a lot of moss-backed, long-horned, trophy steers and bull mavericks. They didn't move very fast, until they headed down canyon in a long lope. Then it took a pretty good horse to catch up with them.

Croton Pasture was located south of the Matador Ranch and south of the highway that runs between Dickens and Guthrie. It was marked by soft red dirt, gyp rock, gyp water and rough steer canyons. The Croton River comes in the northwest corner, winds down through the middle and goes out to the southeast corner. Little Croton River comes in the east side pathway and runs into big Croton below Croton camp.

On the southeast corner is Bar AG Corner and back up river two miles is Get Away Canyon. To the east is Bird Pour off. In the early forties when I was working on the wagon for the Matador Ranch, we camped there a lot as we worked around the south edge of it. We used the small trap, mostly in the winter time, to keep our horses in.

We would make several drives through Croton: John Bell on the south side, Bar AG, Dark Canyon with its cedars, and back to John Bell. We generally made a good run on the south side, but invariably would lose part of the herd across the river. If they hit the river, they'd beat you every time since we didn't have enough help to cut them off.

One time a flash flood came up the river where John Bell hits Croton, just above the water gap. I'd been coming around on the outside of the drive, the last one. All the other cowboys were already on the northside holding up the cattle. When I got there the river was up. I'd been raised on Croton, and though I can hardly swim, I didn't think too much about going off into the water. I loosened the cinches on my horse Muddy Water, and pointed his head upstream. We came out on the other side below the water gate. We had to backtrack and come back up. The boys tried to turn the cattle and bring 'em back out, but the river spilled 'em all that time.

Dark Canyon runs straight down from the red hills around Spur and Girard.

Coming off at Bird Pour off, just up river 100 feet, is a big bend in the river which makes an S shape at mouth of Dark Canyon. Cattle come on around to the salt cedar thickets, and beat you down. If you get a lot of cattle on a fast running drive, long but not too wide, it makes a good race.

One time our back-up help was coming down the ridge when seven steers started to break out. The boys roped and tied up the steers that came out but we lost the hold-up cattle.

Situated north to south, Salt Creek was another hard drive because of the angle and bend of the river, the mesquite brush, and cedars on the west side. The washed-out trails stopped in the air or cut down to V shape. At the main crossing, 8 or 10 trails merged where cattle made new ones. The slope, the soft dirt, meant a horse had to slide off the banks. George Fulgham, "Sister", we called him, couldn't get down so he had to jump his horse off five or six feet to get back.

In the winter time on the north side, it was bad not to thaw out. You could easily fall under the trees where the ground was froze. The cattle tend to brush up there. It was a pretty good race to head them where you wanted to go. Running a bunch of cattle through

the little draws that lead off into a ditch ten feet deep means you just take to the air and jump that big wide ditch.

More than anything the boys were interested in roping bull mavericks or big steers Red Canyon and Twin Canyons, where the river mouths were just a short distance apart. Even if you had a good drive, the cattle would try to beat you across the river to the splitting-up ground. Then you had to depend on your drive leaders to get back on time. That's when a good drive horse paid off. You'd try to stop 'em at river and hold 'em up at the thickets. In dry times we'd take a scaper to get water in Jay 2 Canyon. Then we'd go north to Devil's Playground, where a set of corrals was located and make the T41 Drive and Little Croton Drive to the Pitchfork Corner.

We'd make regular drives, then go back when the calves were weaned or the cows were easier to pick up and bring bundle feed in to hold the gentle cows. We'd leave men to hold the cows and let 'em scatter up and feed, then bunch 'em up the next day. Using holdup cattle, we'd take one canyon at a time. When we'd come to the river, several boys, maybe a good older hand and a kid or two, were left at the river. The best chance to catch anything that didn't get pushed into the hold-up was at the river.

Often we spent the day tying wild stuff to trees, some with shackles, one foot tied to back foot, or tied together in pairs so they couldn't run off. If they were too wild, we'd leave 'em tied up until the next day when we could lead them into a trap. The next morning we'd put them into the corral where they would be loaded and hauled out in trucks or four-wheeled drive pickups with trailers. The hold-up cattle were held over in a trap until the next drive when we'd work another canyon.

We learned a lot of good tricks down there. One evening we were pulling back to the wagon, scattering out and drifting in toward night when we jumped a four or five year old bull. We roped him and tied him up on top of the ridge. An old bull maverick might try to hook when you'd take him away from a tree where he was tied up.

The next morning I was riding Batchelor, a big sorrel horse, and tried to get Shorty Klebo or Don Dobie to lead the bull. It wasn't half a mile down to west side of the trap at Croton Camp.

"No", they agreed, "this is a good time to teach old Batchelor to lead."

I tied the rope on tight, using the full length of rope. With Batchelor running fast, I threw the rope high figuring it'd drag down and keep a going. That old bull broke my rope and got down in the thicket where he sulked off. A few days later, I tied another one up. I was on the same horse which couldn't lead, and decided this time I was going to teach him to lead. We made a lunge, the banana horn got hung up on my chaps' back side. Needless to say, I was afoot for a little bit.

John Stotts, Ray Sims, Jewel Leslie, and George Fulgham were good hands to lead stock quiet-like. If the stock got hot, it could kill them. When a bull maverick sulked up, a good whack with a stick across the horn would help him to go. If he wanted to lead the wrong way, one of the boys might shake a jacket to get him to charge while another man, using his rope, would let him get as close as possible. I have seen the rope break and cause a wreck.

A good horse knows to stay behind the horns to keep from getting hurt. But sometimes we'd take a saw, clip the ends off them horns, so the mavericks couldn't hurt the horses.

With wild cattle, we'd pick out a tree pretty straight, without limbs or snags, then drag steer right up to the tree, wrap the rope around the tree and then tie into the rope around the steer's neck, that way he couldn't choke. He could go round and round the tree.

Next day one or two would go back to get the steer, ride right up tree, take a lariat or short rope and slip it on and lead him. You put whatever you were going to put on him before you left the tree. If another boy was with you generally you wanted to put the steer up close to you, so he couldn't get under your horse and turn him up in the air. So you put him where you foot set, reached down to the tree and cut the rope or had the helper cut it. Then the race and fight was on.

When some steers got away from the tree, they might settle down and lead without trouble. Others would fight all the way.

When two were snubbed to trees close together, you could tie together their necks, or a foot or two, or sometimes their tails. That way they spent their time arguing with each other while you shoved and pushed them where you wanted. Or you could side-line a steer or bull by tying a rope around his horns and then to his front foot, that way handle him with the hold-up herd. After he settled down and became docile in the bunch, you rode up beside him and cut the rope.

In 1941-42 it was raining so much it was boggy anywhere we went. The Croton River was a big sand bed, with holes of gyp salt water, curves and turns that were boggy. When it was time to move the wagons across the river, we'd tromp it down, running the horses back and forth until the footing got solid. The secret was, "Don't stop, keep it moving."

When they were crossing the wagons over the Little Croton at the Dickens Pens, cook Simon Hall and Tightwad Leslie got too much liquid encouragement before they got to the river. The wagon tongue broke and stuck straight into ground.

We were waiting on the wagon, but it never did come. So we went back and found the mules tied up the wrecked wagon, the two drivers happy as they could be. No dinner. No tongue in wagon. So Don Dobie elected me to drive the wagon without a tongue. I tore down extra trees along the way. While these two recuperated in the shade, I cooked dinner, and then we got back on track again.

Virgil Leonard figured out to leave the trails open along the steer canyons when we weren't working. Coming down the canyons for several miles, you always wondered what you had trapped. Virgil built a wild cow trap with trigger gates on T41.

Croton Camp set on banks of canyon, high hill on east and behind, sun late getting up and early going down. Camp men had lots of water gaps to deal with on horseback, river water gaps to the south and north. Campmen that stayed at Croton were Virgil Leonard, Tut Arthur, Britt McDaniels, Charlie McMennam, and Tom Austin. Sound carried in the canyons and Red Payne always cautioned us to try and be quiet circling the drive and moving cattle out. If they heard a noise the old cows would move back on the drive you already made, run on the next ridge, or brush up.

With wild rye in winter, protection from weather amidst the canyons, cedars breaks, and mesquite thickets, cattle always wintered well in Croton.

When I first went to work for the Matadors, the only corrals were at Pole Canyon, then one at Devil's Playground, then one at Pitchfork Corner. We trailed the cattle up to Red Lake, where we always lost some steers on the way to Russellville, with cuts to ship on the railroad. Later there was more roads to haul them out.

Booger Love who worked for the Matadors and later the Forks, knew the country. It was always a treat for Booger to come over and work through. Once he gathered a bull maverick, a four or five year old dark red bull with blackish nose. The maverick headed for the tank, swam around with noth-



PARADE IN ROARING SPRINGS, AUGUST 1939

(Photo from Tribune files)



Pioneer Families gathered at Roaring Springs Falls.

ing but his nose sticking out. Jewel Lewley had lots of fun trying to get that bull out.

Lots of wild cattle came out of Croton. You couldn't see the country; there was no level ground. The river winds through breaks and canyons. Salt cedars and slim cedars grow real thick, 10 to 12 feet tall making a good hide out. You can't get a horse in there to get the moss-headed cattle out. Well, we got "smart" and one or two boys would get in the salt cedars afoot. I've run out of those salt cedars pretty fast, and I've seen a lot of those other boys hoofin' it, a maverick right behind em.

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# Matador Cowboys Profiled



MOUNTED TO WORK CATTLE - Ralph Deese, Ellis Key, and Bill Hemphill. This picture was taken in 1946.

(Ellis Key photo)

by Stephanie Husky

NOTE: Stephanie Husky is a Texas Tech University student who wrote articles for the Motley County Tribune through a grant provided by the Reader's Digest Foundation.

The following story is a profile of some of the men who were Matador cowboys.

## Banty Brandon

On a farm a few miles outside of Roaring Springs is where Banty Brandon was born and raised.

He was used to milking cows, picking and chopping cotton, plus pulling corn on their farm. However, he did not know anything about cowboying.

In October of 1940, at the age of 16, he went to work for the Matador Ranch, where he soon learned all about being a cowboy and the type of work they do.

Brandon's first chore at the Matador was feeding the yearling calves at Russellville Camp. "Wild Horse" was his boss at the camp. Brandon said the hours were long. They began every morning at the same time, and the work day after day followed almost the same routine.

"Horses were fed, and we ate afterwards at 5 a.m.," Brandon said.

After eating they would feed the cattle in several different pastures twice a day. It was an all-day event for them. Brandon said their other chores included shoeing the horses, loading the feed wagon, and some other chores they had to be done by lantern in the morning and evening.

At Russellville Camp, Christmas Day was just another day to feed, and they didn't get a day off for anything.

Brandon fed for two winters; and then the next spring, he went to work on the wagon. On the wagon his boss was "Don Dobie" and his range boss was "Red Payne."

Brandon said that the work was different. They would drive the cattle to a certain area where everyone would meet up, and they would work and brand cattle. Brandon flanked calves and was in charge of the vaccinating needles.

"We stayed in rag tents which were connected to the chuck wagon," Brandon said. "They kept their clothes and new ropes rolled up in their bedrolls."

In the winter of 1941 and 1942, it rained a lot, causing ice to form on the coats and hats of the cowboys Brandon said.

Brandon said that they did get some time off on the wagon. Two of the times they got off were at Christmas and 4th of July.

Every year outfits would head up to

Stamford for a cowboy reunion which took place on the 4th of July. Brandon said he was only able to go once.

The cowboys would take their favorite roping horse, because there were roping events. The reunion had a little bit of everything, like a rodeo.

"They were not as professional as rodeos nowadays," Brandon said. "It was also a more interesting show back then."

In 1942 Brandon left the Matador Ranch for the Army. He was a military police officer first, and he later trained to be an aerial gunner.

In 1953, he headed back to the Matador Ranch for only a short time. It was during the drought that they drove cattle from Turtle Hole to Russellville and put them on a train. "Red Payne" was leader of the drive.

Brandon said, "it was great at the time, but not something I would want to spend my life doing."

Brandon and wife, Sybol, have a few cattle of their own, and a couple of old farms which are in CRP. He basically raises Hereford cattle along with some mixed breed cattle and limousin bulls.

Brandon has five children, 10 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

"There are no similarities in ranches today as they used to be," Brandon said.

## Ellis Key

Working with cattle, riding horses, and being called a cowboy is a way of life for Ellis Key.

Key was born in Lubbock County, but he grew up and attended school in California while his dad worked at the Green Cattle Company. Key quit high school and headed for New Mexico to work on ranches around there and then moved on the Cheyenne, WY.

While working in Wyoming he was drafted into the Army. After World War II, Key came to Motley County and went to work for the Matador Ranch in 1946. He worked there for five years.

"We worked seven days a week," Key said.

Key and the other cowboys would ride seven miles out in different directions and bring cattle back to the main camp ground where the chuck wagon was located.

In the spring and summer they branded calves. In the fall the cattle were gathered again, and the bigger calves were cut out to be shipped to a feedlot. These calves were fed there until they were sold at the age of two in Channing, TX.

The first three years Key worked at the Matador, he stayed out year round on the roundups. The cowboys were

given only the holidays off.

Key said every cowboy had 14 horses plus their own mount. There was an average of 150-170 horses in a remuda on a cattle drive. The horses were kept in a rope corral and were roped out of the bunch as they were needed. The cowboys needed a lot of horses because of the hard riding.

When Key started at the Matador, his wife's uncle was running the chuck wagon.

"At the camps they killed their own beef and hung it under the tarp near the chuck wagon, but later on the beef was sent off to be butchered and kept in coolers," Key said.

The cowboys slept in teepee tents. "I liked to hang a lantern from the middle to keep the frost and ice off," Key explained.

On a drive there was wagon boss, two drive leaders, 12-15 cowboys, and a "holdem" boy, whose job was to help cook and gather wood for the cook, Key said.

The land looked different in the snow or fog," Key said. "One winter two boys came down from the plains and got lost on a drive in a snow storm for a few days."

After Key left the Matador Ranch, he worked at the Pitchfork and 6666 Ranch.

"Both were run about the same way as the Matador," Key said.

The range was Key's home for a lot of years. It was better to be single when working the ranches, but Key has continued to do ranch work all of his married life.

You have to like ranch life. It is not for everyone," Key said.

In 1951 a reunion was held in Channing, TX after it was sold. At the reunion in August, 1983 and 1984, Key won two saddles in calf roping. There is also a reunion at Roaring Springs at the Old Settlers' Day for the cowboys who had worked on the Matador Ranch, Key said.

## Q.D. Williams

In 1943, at the age of 17, Q.D. Williams went to work for the Matador Ranch. At that time, M.J. Riley was the manager, Red Payne was the range boss, and Don Dobbie was the wagon boss.

Williams worked on the wagon rounding up cattle and with the branding crew. There were 15-20 cowboys with the wagon and each cowboy had 11 horses.

"We did a lot of riding," Williams said.

In the summer, they were up by 4 a.m. and headed toward where ever they needed to be before the sun rose, Williams said.

Matador had cowboys who were

the bronc riders. They stayed at the headquarters and would saddle break the horses. After a few saddlings, they were brought out to the cowboys.

We always had to work in a hurry to get all areas covered. There was somewhere around 12,000 head of cattle, Williams said.

Williams said that once a month, they would be brought into town to get a haircut and all fixed up. While they were in town, they would stay at the old hotel.

On the Matador Ranch, the cowboys slept in a two-room bunk house. It was always crowded, and several times Williams had to sleep outside in the yard.

Williams said that the bunk house is now at the Ranching Heritage Center at Texas Tech and looks better than when he slept in it.

In the winter, it was tough. In January before Williams left, snow was all over the ground. The cowboys had a tent to sleep in, but the young cowboys would stay out till dark and there was no room for them to sleep but outside, Williams said.

"I did sleep outside a lot," Williams said.

The cowboys who were working on the ranch in 1943 were either too old to go to the war or not 18, yet and they could not be drafted. In January 1944, when Williams was 18, he and five other cowboys left the Matador Ranch to go to work for Uncle Sam.

Williams said before he left, the Matador Ranch was the second largest ranch in Texas; and he made \$50 a month.

"It was lots of fun but hard work," Williams said.

Williams went into the Marines, but he returned home in 1945; because he was wounded three times. Since he was on crutches, he was unable to ride, and decided to learn to fly an airplane.

"These times caused the biggest changes in a cowboy's life," Williams said.

From 1946 til 1953, he went to work for JY Ranch, owned by Master-son. While he was there, he started using airplanes to spot cattle. Williams had radio communication with the cowboys that were horseback to inform them where the cattle were, and which way they headed.

Williams said there were big change being made in just those few years. First, it was going from horseback to the use of planes to help spot cows. Next the use of helicopters was coming. Helicopters could be used to spot and round up cattle, unlike a plane, and could cover the ground quickly with more speed and ease than a horse.

He just stayed behind the cattle and worked the sides of the herd and made certain he didn't head them off or cause them to turn back, Williams said.

Williams has moved and worked cattle on horseback, airplane, and in a helicopter.

"I was fortunate enough to do all three," Williams said.

The helicopter is faster and easier to use looking for cattle, but the operation of a helicopter costs a lot.

"One guy could do more with a helicopter than a whole herd of cowboys," Williams said.

A helicopter can bring the cattle into the pens without the use of cowboys on horseback unlike a plane.

"I never felt comfortable in a helicopter, but I did in a plane," Williams said.

Williams said that times have gotten better, because cowboys can haul horses from place to place. This saves on the time they use to spend riding to and from pastures getting ready.

In the fall of 1953, Williams went to work for Mrs. W.W. Johnson. Her father, Thomas Montgomery, had settled their ranch in 1884 in Floyd County. Montgomery was also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Floydada.

Williams was the foreman of the ranch and ran around 500 head of cattle. J.V. Danniell, president of the bank, was the ranch manager.

Johnson sold the ranch to J.S. Hale, Danniell and Williams.

Williams still has his portion of the



Still friends after all these years — Banty Brandon (left) and "Wild Horse" Warren before the Old Settlers Parade in the late 80's. (Banty Brandon photo)

ranch. He raises mixed cattle along with some Angus. It is just a family herd.

Williams' wife, Joyce is still teaching school. They have two sons and one daughter. Their daughter, Nancy, is a teacher in Borger. The oldest son, James, is the probation officer for 110th district. The youngest, Monte, is the executive vice president of the First National Bank of Floydada.

"Johnson wanted us to name our youngest son after her father, so we did," Williams said.

They have six grandchildren of which four are girls. The girls are my cowboys -- "cowgirls" -- and he enjoys them.

His wife is from a ranching family in Dumas. Their ranch was settled by

her grandfather sometime in the 1890's, and they still have it. Her father was born in the dugout on the ranch, and they still keep it maintained, Williams said.

Williams said he looks back and sees how things are better now, because more cattle can be worked and they are easier ways.

"Glad I worked for the Matador Ranch, but I would not want to do it again," Williams said. "But partly, it is because young kids are not going into the ranch work unlike it used to be."

Williams said that the ranch life has changed for the better and now one cowboy can do more than a bunch could have done on the range. His life has been good, and he has enjoyed it, he said.



Resting after branding, 4 miles south of Afton on the J.M. Jackson ranch. J.M. Jackson is in back (right). Also pictured are Ed Slough, Robert Collier who was about 12 years old at the time of this picture, Big John Southworth, W.J. Collier, A.B. Echols, Mr. Slough, Shorty Cogburn, Rang Thornton, Snakes Griffin, and the young boy is Fay Slough. The three men kneeling in picture are counting how many had been branded. This picture was taken in 1921.

(Robert Collier collection)

## Robert Collier

Although Robert Collier never drew a pay check from the Matadors, he has always been connected with them in one way or another.

Robert was born in 1909 at Benjamin, Texas. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Collier, and two sisters, came to farm east of Matador in 1916, then on to south Afton the next year to farm for Mr. J.M. Jackson.

Growing up he remembers visiting the Matador wagon when it was in the Afton area, at the Red Lake and Patton Springs pastures.

After World War I Mr. Jackson gave him his son, Albert's bed roll so he could camp out at the wagon with the cowboys. Albert died during World War I. Mr. Jackson was always good to young people, Collier recalled.

"During the summers, Gordon Jackson, Hugh Luckett and Jewell 'Jitney' Ford would come to Mr. and Mrs. Jacksons. I always heard it was to keep them out of trouble", Collier said.

Christmas was always fun. The Jacksons would take the Colliers to the Matador Ranch headquarters to enjoy all the festivities. He remembered getting a watch for Christmas one year and he showed it to Lois Jackson and she dropped it and that ended his fun for that Christmas.

Collier remembered being in Matador in the 30's when an airplane flew in and landed north of town. The pilot would give rides for \$1.00 so he and a friend rode. The pilot made the statement, "I sure hope I don't get in those highline wires." This sorta made Collier and his friend a little nervous but didn't stop them from taking their trip.

Robert Collier married Bonnie Cox while he worked in Matador at the Texas Highway Department. He had purchased a farm near Idalou in the 30's so in 1942 he and Bonnie moved to Idalou where he farmed and they raised their son, W.R.

In 1952 his dad purchased part of the Matadors' land, the Dickens camp. Robert and W.R. still ranch that land.

Collier still enjoys riding either his horse or his pickup checking on the cattle and enjoying the land.

Collier has always enjoyed attending the Old Settlers Reunion. He has been a flag bearer in the Parade for several years and always enjoys seeing old friends as well as keeping part of the history alive for his three grandsons.

He is again looking forward to attending Old Settlers and his three grandsons plan to enter in the team sorting events in the Rodeo.

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Be like the sun and the meadow, which are not in the least concerned about the coming winter.

—George Bernard Shaw

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.  
John 14:1

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## Cowboying started at early age for Keith boys



Gilbert Keith in front of Matador school.

(Gilbert Keith col., Motley County Museum)

by Stephanie Husky

The Matador Ranch could be a lonely place for a single cowboy like D.C. Keith. Keith had worked six to 10 years before he ever married. One of his friends gave him the address of a school "marm" in Tennessee, said granddaughter, Mary Helen Keith Knox. Keith began writing Ella Cribbs. They corresponded for five years before ever meeting.

On Christmas Day in 1890, they finally met person to person. Within a year, they were one of the first white couples to be married in Motley County.

"They honeymooned in their homestead, a half dugout," Knox said.

Keith had three sons and three daughters. Knox's father was the oldest of the boys.

"The homestead was in Motley County, bordering the Matador Ranch so they thought. But years later, after a survey of the land, it was found to be on the Matador Ranch instead of being along side," Knox said.

Keith left the homestead and moved to where they were off the Matador Ranch. The dugout later became a line camp for the cowboys, Knox said.

Keith worked most of his life for the Matador Ranch. He was in charge of the remuda of horses. His wife was given a comforter by some ladies one year which was made of silk scarves with the cowboy's names embroidered on each one.

"It was so unique, but I believe it is

now at the Texas Tech museum," Knox said.

Keith's son, Gilbert, grew up across the highway from the Matador Ranch. At the age of 14 he was breaking wild horses and working with the chuck wagon by helping with the cooking. He did this until he was 16, Knox said.

He left to go to work for the Double O Ranch in Arizona until he was drafted into the Army two years later. He was sent to France to cook for the officers' mess. After the war, returned to the Matador Ranch as the bookkeeper and later left for Pep in Hockley County to farm, Knox said.

Later, young Keith met a school "marm" at Morton and was married. Knox was born at home in Pep. When Knox was three, many things took place. First, young Keith moved his family to Whiteface on a farm, and Knox's Grandma Keith died.

"I can remember the tiny lady, with the long hair which she could sit on when it was brushed out," Knox said.

When she was eight years old, her Grandpa Keith died while she still lived at Whiteface. Knox remained there until she married.

"I thought it was so neat that my grandfather and father both worked on the Matador Ranch," Knox said.

The books her father did the book-keeping in for the Matador Ranch are on display at the Texas Tech Museum, Knox said. Also, there are other items of her grandparents given to the museum which help to keep the memories alive and are special to her.

by Mary Meason

NOTE: Some information was taken from "Of Such As These" by Eleanor Traweck.

Again it is time to write stories of Old Settlers and I'm fast "using up all those whom I knew." But this year I am writing about three men that I remember so well from childhood.

Charlie Morris knew how to rope and ride when he was still just a boy. He loved that way of life. When his father died, things at their home in Bexar County changed. His older brother took over as head of the family, and Charlie didn't take to being bossed by someone so near his own age.

Hurt and angry, Charlie packed his few belongings, ran away from home and never went back there to live.

Arizona at that time was a very unsettled country and Indian raids were ordinary events.

Charlie thought life in Arizona would be exciting so he went to the territory and got work on a ranch in Texas Canyon. He narrowly escaped capture by the Indians several times and finally decided he had rather keep his scalp than have the adventures.

Bob Haley, a relative, was at that time wagon boss for the Matador Ranch and he recognized possibilities in young Charlie and encouraged him to come to Motley County and Charlie accepted Mr. Haley's invitation.

Several years after Mr. Morris came to Motley County a young woman came from Erath County to help her sister, Daisy Bird, with her two young children. Gertrude Blair had only planned to stay for a while, but after she met Charlie Morris, she decided she liked the county well enough to stay.

They were married on Dec. 13, 1897 and began their married life by living on a Matador ranch line camp. They spent nine years at Red Lake in Dickens County, then at Mott Camp and finally lived at Larque place west of Matador. Mr. Morris followed John Smith as Wagon Boss for the Matadors from 1898 to 1899, then went back to Dickens County as a line camp rider.

In 1915 after working for the Matador for 26 years Mr. Morris bought a piece of farm land a mile or so east of Matador. Mr. Morris, like many other cowboys could never like farming. He will always be remembered as an all around old time cowboy and a fine man.

After Mr. Morris died in 1942, Mrs. Morris continued to make her home in Matador. She became blind in later years but in spite of this adversity she was sweet natured and uncomplaining. She died in 1969. Mr. and Mrs. Morris had one daughter, Audrey (Mrs. Grover Price). Mr. and Mrs. Morris had three grandchildren, Charles, James (Pup), and Carolyn Price Sowell and seven grandchildren.

J.E. Russell (Ed) was the sheriff of Motley County for 12 years and was known as the best sheriff the county ever had and among the best known law officers in the State.

Mr. Russell was 6 feet 3 inches tall and was one eighth Indian. When he first came to Matador with his family from Hill County in 1891 he went to work for the Matador Ranch as cook on John Smith's chuckwagon.

One day he had the chuckwagon pulled up to a tank. As it happened some of the boys were cleaning out the tank the morning that Mr. Russell had cooked a big pot of soup for dinner. The boys caught some mud turtles and just for fun they dropped one little

## Memories Shared Of Early Day Motley County Residents

turtle in the soup pot. From that day on Mr. Russell was called "Mud Turtle" by all the men around the chuckwagon. His friend Dud Beauchamp, called Mr. Russell "Mud" for the rest of his life.

At the time that Mr. Russell was cook at the chuckwagon, there was a rule that the men who went out with the wagon were fired when they married.

In December 1895, the year of his marriage to Paralee Cornett, Mr. Russell quit his job. But since so many of the cowboys were getting married that year the ranch rescinded that rule and rehired Mr. Russell immediately. He worked for the Matadors until about 1901.

In 1910 Mr. Russell took office as sheriff of Motley County.

It was said that Mr. Russell could smell a poker or dice game the minute he stepped out of the courthouse.

One time Mr. Russell caught some black boys in a crap game, took about a bushel basket of "East Dallas Special" and razors off of them and took them all to jail.

The next morning one of the men asked Mr. Russell if he was kin to "Mr. Bud Russell who was the transfer agent for the penitentiary at Huntsville. The sheriff took his time about answering but finally said, "Yes, sort of, he is my brother."

The black boy replied, "Lawzer, Mr. Ed! If I had knowned that, I never would have crossed this county line." That penitentiary wagon scared the black people so badly, that they would walk an extra half mile to keep from having to pass by it.

Mr. Russell was dead on rustlers. After he was associated with the Cattle Raisers Association he was well known for his work in recovering stolen cattle and catching rustlers.

My father and Mr. Russell were close friends and one day my Dad asked Mr. Russell why he was so efficient in catching rustlers and other criminals. His reply was, "I start thinking that if I was one of those guys, just what I would do. I sit down and figure out just what I would do under the same circumstances, then I go after them."

When he was associated with the Cattle Raisers Association his daughter, Correne, and I were roommates in college at Fort Worth. That was when there was a big stockyard, (very evil smelling), and Armour packing plant in north Fort Worth.

When Mr. Russell had to come to the stockyard looking for stolen cattle he would always take Correne and me out to dinner and a show. That was always fun, but Correne and I always felt kind of special, because Mr. Russell always wore a gun and we loved to see the look on the other girls' faces when he came to the dormitory to get us.

After Mr. Russell became brand inspector with the Cattle Raisers Association he worked with Texas Ranger Lone Wolf Gonzales in capturing a whiskey still in Motley County. That still was one of the largest ones in operation in this part of the country. Hogs and chickens around the place ate the mash and Mr. Russell said that most of them hadn't drawn a sober breath in their lives!

In the 61 years he lived in Motley County, Mr. Russell did much for its advancement. He was a capable man in every respect, but his principal contribution to Motley County was making it free from lawlessness as possible.

Mr. Russell died in February 1952. Mrs. Russell died the following December. They were the parents of three daughters, Corda (Mrs. James Neblett)

Correne (Mrs. Dud Drace) and Dorene (Mrs. Jack Bradshear), and four sons, John, J.E. Jr., A.G. who was named for Mr. Lingerwood, an early day manager of the Matador Ranch.

One of my fondest memories as a child was the peddler who came through the County with a big pack on his back. That pack held so many beautiful things, piece goods, bedspreads, table clothes, lace and different scarves for the dresser or tables.

I still have a bedspread and a scarf that my mother bought from that peddler years and years ago.

That peddler was Joe Schaded (Malouf). Joe came to America in 1913. He was the son of Mona and Schaded Malouf of Beirut, Lebanon. The Schaded (Malouf) family were Lebanese and were of Phoenician descent.

Only people who are as old or older than I am will remember Joe. Joe's father established a piece goods factory for his six sons in Brazil, and educated them in the American University in Beirut as doctors and merchants. But Joe, a scholar who finished high school at the age of 14 in an American school, refused to go to South America. He had studied about America and loved what he had learned about its opportunities and freedom. His father gave him the fare to America and enough financial aid to keep him for a year.

Joe first came to a relative in Canadian, Texas after landing in Boston. He didn't like what he saw in Boston.

It seemed to Joe that everyone was peddling something so he also filled his cases, and went from town to town or from ranch to ranch selling his beautiful merchandise. His merchandise was only available in big cities. One time he walked twenty miles, carrying that pack to save train fare.

Joe was always welcome in Motley County. The women loved him. He

was always friendly, and so very handsome! The men all respected him for his business acumen. Everyone liked Joe!

His wife said that his fondest memories were his first trips to Matador and Motley County. The ranch company was full of quail and wild turkeys, and since he loved to hunt, he decided to make his headquarters in Matador for awhile. People were friendly to him and he felt that he belonged. When World War I came, he volunteered when he received his first citizenship papers.

Since he had no one to visit or to visit him, he put up a stand and sold souvenirs. After the war Joe had saved \$4,000 and borrowed \$15,000 from the bank with only his good name and his new Model T Ford. In 1992 Joe opened the Fair Department Store in Paducah. Later he enlarged his store to a modern fifty foot front store.

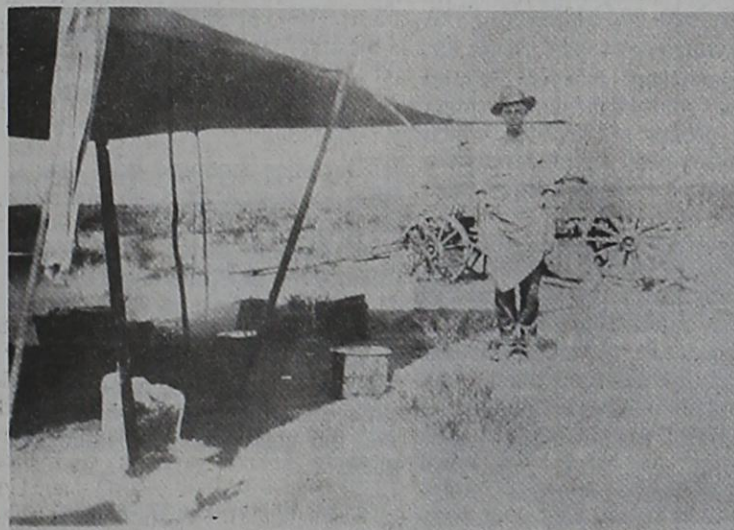
Later Joe went back to Lebanon to visit his ailing father. His father died 17 days after Joe landed in Lebanon. His mother had died during World War I, and Joe promised his father before he died he would marry before he returned to America.

With the help of his brothers he finally met beautiful Olivia Kefoury. At first she was not at all interested in Joe but finally he convinced her to marry him.

Joe and Olivia were married October 13, 1929. They had two sons, Maurice and Don.

When I was a child there were three people I was always ready and looked forward to their visits. They were Santa Claus, with all his toys and gifts, the Watkins man, who sold all those good smelling spices in pretty tin cans and boxes, and Joe with all the beautiful offerings he had in that big pack!

Joe drowned in 1952 while on a fishing trip at Lake Texhoma.



Gilbert Keith standing near the Matador Ranch cook tent.

(Helen Keith Patton col., Motley County Museum)

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17

Thank you for reading the Motley County Tribune

### Old Settlers Days



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# Longtime Cowboy Remembers



Rosie Deaton on his old bronc, which he never gave a name.

(Rosie Deaton col.)

by Stephanie Husky

The life of a cowboy is the way Wilburn "Rosie" Deaton made a living. Deaton grew up at the Pitchfork Ranch with his three older sisters and two younger brothers.

"My dad was windmill man for about 30 years," Deaton said. Deaton received the nickname of Rosie when he was just a kid around the age of 12 or 13. Deaton went out to bring the horses into the pens and had to chase them. It was around lunch time when he finally got them penned. His face was as red as a beet. One cowboy at the Pitchfork Ranch said something about "here comes 'Rosie'" and the name stayed with him, Deaton said.

Deaton started cowboying around 1928 during the summer and between school terms. He started school at Dumont. Later, he moved to the Dickens' school district, where he received his diploma in the 11th grade.

He went to work at the Matador Ranch full time in 1937 after graduating from high school. Between 1937 and 1952, Deaton traveled between ranches almost every year. A few of the ranches he worked at were the Triangle, Pitchfork and 6666. He always returned to the Matador Ranch, Deaton explained.

The ranch had an average of 15-18 cowboys working at the time. There

was no real vacation, but they did have a week off during 4th of July and a week off for Christmas. The rest of the time they worked every day doing wagon work, Deaton said.

If you wanted a vacation, the only way you could get one was to quit and go to another ranch to work, Deaton said.

Deaton's favorite job was breaking horses when he was younger. As he got older he enjoyed calving out the heifers.

"I like calving heifers the best, because I was off by myself and no one was around to tell me what to do. I did just what I wanted to do," Deaton said.

For two or three years, he tended to the purebred hereford cattle. At branding time, sometimes he was able to rope and drag the calves to the fire. The last few years he worked as a cowboy, he got to do more of it, Deaton said.

"I was too old to hold the calves down," Deaton said.

"We stayed out with the wagon year around; there were only a few months that were spent at headquarters. The cowboys would leave out at 4:30 a.m. and not get back into headquarters till after dark. When we were on the wagon, we were out for months at a time and kept about the same hours," Deaton said.

Deaton would wrangle horses or cook. If the cook left he would take over for him. This is the reason he was

kept, he says.

When he first started, cowboys made \$30 a month, but if you stayed around and were a good hand, you would get a \$5 raise. In the 1940's the wages went up fast. In 1942 when Deaton went to the Army, he was making \$40 a month. At the same job when he returned from the Army, he made \$75 a month. Breaking horses was a better job. It payed more money than regular cowboying. Before the war, Deaton made \$50 a month breaking horses, which was \$15 more than regular cowboys. After the war, the last two or three years he broke horses, he made \$150 a month, Deaton explained.

One winter Deaton remembered a boy who came out to help work the cattle.

"Sometimes, it got pretty cold," Deaton said. "The boy didn't have a coat or any gloves. He only brought a light brush jacket with him. It was so cold that one of the cowboys loaned him a coat and a cap, and another one loaned him a pair of gloves. One morning they started to pull out to work cattle, and a cowboy rode up to the chuck wagon and asked the cook if he would keep his wallet for him. He had \$40 and was afraid he might lose it on the drive. After that, the new guy rode up and asked the cook if he would hold on to his wallet, too. He said he had \$400 and would hate to lose it. The cook looked as if he had been

slapped. The cook said, here everyone has loaned this guy clothes, and he has more money than the whole outfit put together," Deaton explained.

Deaton married Valta Deaton in 1967. She had moved next door in 1963. He had helped her unload in a sandstorm. Deaton hired her to take care of his mother.

When Deaton married, he was working on another ranch, but three years later, he returned to the Matador Ranch.

Deaton moved into the house he lives in now in 1953 with his parents. His father died in 1956 at the age of 79. In 1967 an addition was made to the house when he married and his wife moved in. Mr. Deaton's mother died in 1970 at the age of 91.

Rosie and Valta have a set of twins - a daughter and a son, and six grandsons. The family loves the lifestyle they live, Deaton said.

In 1952 Deaton came back to the Matador and worked there even after it sold out to Koch Industry. Even after the ranch was sold, it was still referred to as the Matador Ranch. Deaton was there for seven or eight years, left to spend 18 years on another ranch, and then returned to the Matador for 13 more years.

Basically, all ranches were run the same. It was just the cattle that were a little different. Nowadays, motorcycles and helicopters are used on many large ranches. In the 1930's and 40's, the cowboys ate out of a chuck wagon. But looking back, he can't see how anyone could stand it, Deaton said.

Deaton began working as a cowboy when he was 14 years old and had to quit when he was 70 because of an accident. At 70, Deaton was bucked off and his neck was broken. He had to quit, so he retired in 1981, Deaton said.

Deaton said he regrets not working as a cowboy anymore, because he no longer gets to eat meat three times a day with biscuits. On the Matador, they killed their own beef when out on the wagon.

Deaton was the oldest Matador cowboy at the reunion at the Old Settler's Day last August.

Deaton saw William Felts, a cowboy that he had not seen since the first or second year after the end of World War II. Felts broke horses with Deaton at the Matador and worked together for two years.

"It was close to 50 years since we had last seen each other," Deaton said.

While catching up with old memories, one horse they broke came to mind. It was a small horse Felts was going to break. He had been riding the young horse all of the time and working with it. One day it started bucking and threw him. Felts was bruised up and couldn't ride for a few days. Deaton finally got on the horse and was trotting, loping, and turning the young horse around. The horse was working just fine until Deaton stopped the horse with its back to the fence where Felts was sitting.

"All of a sudden, the horse started bucking and spun around and stopped in about the same spot. The horse did it one more time, then Deaton looked over his shoulder to catch Felts waving his hat to try to get him bucked off," Deaton said.

"At the reunion we had a good laugh about the whole incident," Deaton said.

\*\*\*  
It takes a long time to become young.  
—Pablo Picasso



Family poses - Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Day pose with their children for a family portrait, June 5, 1904. Standing are Bertha, Lucian, Hugh, and Steve. Seated are "Pa" Day, Riley 10, Ollie 6, "Mother" Day and Cecile 2. Lilla had married Mun Garrison and is not in the group.

(Reprinted from Matador Tribune, submitted by E.A. Day)

## E.A. Day Among Early Pioneers Here When County Was Organized

Clovis, N.M.  
June 1, 1934

NOTE: This article was submitted by E.A. Day of Matador. It was printed in an early day edition of the *Matador Tribune*.

Among the early settlers who came to this area before the county was organized, was E.A. (Elbert) Day, who later became "Pa" Day to his family.

Coming here in 1890, Mr. Day engaged in the ranching business and later operated both farm and ranch. He became one of the county's most prominent citizens and for a time was president of the Farmers & Merchants bank before that institution was absorbed by the former First National Bank.

He was born December 4, 1860 in Walker County, Texas, where he grew to manhood. He was married to Miss Martha Dixon Hall, March 31, 1881, and they were the parents of nine children. Mrs. Day died April 1, 1913.

When they came to Motley County, Mr. and Mrs. Day and their four children, Lilla (Mrs. Mun Garrison), Bertha (Mrs. C.D. Garrison), Lucian, and Hugh settled at Whiteflat. Four later children, Steve, Riley, Ollie and Cecile were born in the county. Mrs. C.D. Garrison, only surviving member of this family, still resides in Matador.

He married Mrs. Minnie Ella Richards, Nov. 3, 1914, and to this union were born twin daughters, Helen (Mrs. Bob Spencer) and Hazel (Mrs. Andy King), both of whom still live in Clovis.

Mr. Day sold many of his interests in Motley County and moved to Curry County, New Mexico in 1920. He died at Clovis, N.M. on October 11, 1940.

Following is a copy of a letter Mr. Day wrote his son, Riley A. Day, on the latter's 40th birthday, describing the big drought of 1892-93, which caused many early settlers to return to former homes in East Texas, or more on farther west.

Don't forget the

Arts & Crafts Show!

Roaring Springs Community Center

R.A. Day  
Matador, Texas

My Dear Son:

This day 40 years ago, 1894 about 1:00 o'clock you saw your first light, or was born. One of the heaviest rains fell "all day" that day I ever saw fall - I will not forget it as long as I live.

I went for my horses about 10 o'clock in rain, water half leg to knee deep everywhere and just pouring down. The horses were standing humped up just where the N.W. cor<sup>r</sup> of your farm is now. Also Stephe's N.E. cor<sup>r</sup> and the Jameson S.E. cor<sup>r</sup> I caught old Bill as we all called him - was a black horse - he was never known to be caught before on the range, but I guess rain was falling so hard he did not want to move, so I walked right up to him, got on him bare backed drove over 4 head to pen or lot - caught Red and Kit put to wagon went 4 mi<sup>l</sup> after Mrs. Cole and Bro. Newman in that heavy rain.

Cole lived N.E. of where Whiteflat is now about 1 1/4 mi. Newman lived about the center of the sec<sup>r</sup> Whiteflat stands on.

We had had but very little rain for 2 1/2 years. That was the braking of that drouth.

That year, 1894, I made one of the best crops I ever grew on Whiteflat - consisted of maize, K.C. Soghrum - pie melons, 2A<sup>r</sup> watermelons, 1A<sup>r</sup> sweet potatoes. I lost all the sweets to wet when dug.

Our rains continued from June 1, 1894 for several years and proved to all people that Motley County was a good farming county. Ask Mrssrs Whitworth or Echols about this rain if you don't believe it. They can tell you all about it. Was no grass on the face of the earth and people did not think grass would ever come back on ground as it once was. But before frost that fall grass was good again and cattle fat.

I just wanted you to no what had happened in your county once and thought I'd write you about it. Mrs. Burleson, Ruff Moore, H. Williams, Echols, Whitworth and many other round Matador will remember this drouth I'm speaking of.

Your father,  
E.A. Day

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WELCOME TO ROARING SPRINGS Old Settlers



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RODEO TIME!

Welcome to the 73rd Annual Old Settlers Reunion



Tip's Pkg. Store  
Dickens & Estelline



# The Shannon Davidson Pony Express Race

by Stephanie Husky

NOTE: The article from 1981 is reprinted from earlier newspapers in 1939, 41, and 47 from the Matador Tribune.

In April of 1860 a route was established to carry mail on horseback over a total of 2,000 miles. This type of mail service was known as the Pony Express.

The cost of a letter to be sent across the prairie on horseback was \$5.

The program was controlled by Alexander Majors of Kentucky, who had 180 riders under his supervision. The rides had a weight limit of 135 pounds, and they carried two mail pouches of 20 pounds each.

"Only once in a while a rider was killed by Indians," Matador Tribune stated on Aug. 28, 1941.

In 1939, the town of Nocona came up with the idea of reliving the old Pony Express. The plan was headed by Miss Enid Justin, chairwoman of the publicity committee and donor.

At 9 a.m. on March 1 in Nocona, the great Pony Express Race of 1939 would begin. The race would be a long run across the western plains from Nocona to Oakland, CA.

The rider would leave out of Nocona for Wichita Falls.

"From there he would ride on to Abilene, El Paso Phoenix, Los Angeles, and then to San Francisco, across the Golden Gate Bridge to the finish line where a grand prize of \$750 went to the winner," Matador Tribune printed April 16, 1981.

The riders were expected to travel 40 miles per day. By the end of the two-week race, they covered 2,000 miles.

The 18 riders had two horses each, so that they could be relayed every 25 miles, with the extra carried in a trailer on ahead.

Shannon Davidson of Flomot was number five of the 18 riders. He was sponsored by Willie Meyers.

"Willie Meyers drove the truck carrying Davidson's second horse, Elwood Bird of Snyder cooked," Matador Tribune stated on April 16, 1981.

He then lost the lead near Odessa and regained it before he reached El Paso. Davidson rode from 4 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, averaging seven miles per hour. His horses lost between 150 and 200 pounds, but they were in good shape. His horses received the best care he could give.

"I worried more about my horses than myself," Davidson (Matador Tribune June 5, 1947).

"The 22-year-old Matador cowboy, burned by exposure of the southwestern sun, paused in Phoenix long enough to change mounts and be greeted at the state capitol by Governor Bob Jones," said Matador Tribune March 16, 1939.

By the time Davidson reached Salinas, CA he was 100 miles in the lead.

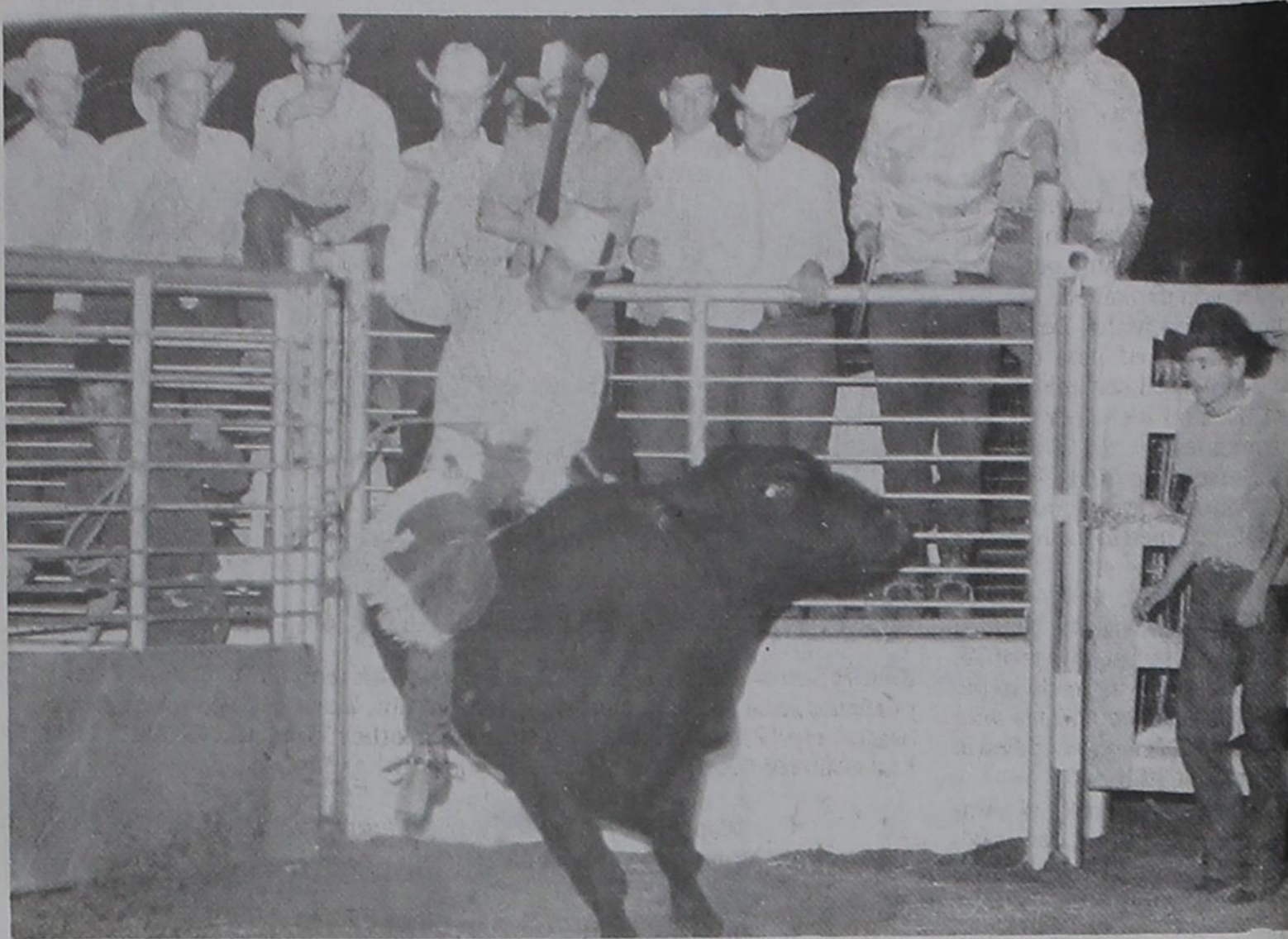
AT 11:50 a.m. on March 24, 1939, the winner of the \$750 Cross Country Pony Express Race was Davidson.

Along the way, Pony Express stamps were sold. Hundreds of letters with the "Pony Express stamps" were carried to California in the mail pouches. They were later sent back to all parts of the nation. The riders had received 50 percent of the sales to help with the expenses of the trip.

"It was one of the most unique races ever to be staged in this section of the country," Matador Tribune March 2, 1939 printed.

Davidson was born in Tucumcari, New Mexico May 25, 1915. He had one brother and three sisters. He won national fame in 23 days in 1939. After the Pony Express Race, he remained in California to make screen tests. Davidson later appeared in several westerns and motion pictures. The race was his step to fame.

The Matador Lions sponsored "Shannon Davidson Day" May 8, 1939, to honor the winner. There was a mile-long parade which was led by Motley County youth and Justin, the donor of the prize money. At the age of 32, Davidson was in a freak accident and suffered from severe burns from a stove explosion. He later died in Perryton Hospital on June 1, 1942 and is buried in Flomot Cemetery.



Ros Bearden won the Bull Riding in 1966 at the Roaring Springs Old Settlers Rodeo, at the age of 22. Ros rode bulls in rodeos for 12 years. This picture was taken at the Old Settlers Rodeo in 1971.



Glen and Gus Bird watch as the QA&P Railroad is being laid in 1912 through Russellville, about 6 miles north of their home, the Bird Ranch. The railroad connected Quanah and Roaring Springs. The first train ran to Roaring Springs on June 19, 1913 bringing hope to this county.

(Gus Bird collection)



Visiting and enjoying the picnic in the early days before the Old Settlers Reunion moved into Roaring Springs. This picture was taken in the mid-20's.

(Gus Bird collection)

Come by the Roaring Springs Arts & Crafts Show and have your Blood Pressure tested NURSES ON DUTY!

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- ☆ Food Concessions
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- ☆☆ Rides memorializing Shannon Davidson's famous Pony Express Race of 1939 from Nocona, Texas to San Francisco, California!
- ☆ 60-mile sanctioned\* ride through the communities of Roaring Springs, Matador, Whiteflat and Flomot!
- ☆ 25-mile novice ride through Roaring Springs and Matador!

When? Thursday, Friday, Saturday,  
June 29-31, 1997!

- ☆ Riders check in at Old Settlers Arena on Friday, June 29, 1997
- ☆ Dancing Friday & Saturday evenings, June 29 & 30, 1997
- ☆ Races begin at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 30, 1997

Where? Throughout ALL of Motley County!

- ☆ Rides begin and end at Buzz Field in Roaring Springs

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Contact Charles Keith, General Chairman, at 347-2283 if you want a booth, or Jerry Green, Ride Chairman, at 348-7953 if you want to participate in the rides.

\* = Sanctioned by The American Endurance Ride Conference, pending.



# Visitors to the Matador Wagon



VISITORS TO THE WAGON — Mrs. D.C. Keith and other women got all dressed up and visited the chuckwagon.

(Motley County Museum photo)

by Slim Durham as told to Marisue Potts

When the Matador Ranch wagon stayed out year round, we'd take a lot of visiting, some from kinfolks or just people from Matador or Paducah. They'd keep track of where the wagon was camped by asking at the saddle shop or the barber shop. It was a big thrill to bring guests from other parts of the state to see the wagon.

Folks would come out to see the branding and stay on for supper. We sometimes had up to 75 visitors on a Sunday. It really gave the cook a work out. If he was expecting company, he'd put on a lot to cook.

Henry Pipkin used to come a lot and bring people out. He liked to barbeque a whole quarter of beef. The cooks rarely messed with barbeque, but Henry would dig a pit and cook it outside, not mess up the stove the cook cooked on, but a place outside the tent. Henry'd cook up a big mess of barbeque.

These people that came out to the wagon didn't come as free loaders. Lots of times they'd bring extras we weren't used too, like fried chicken, pies, and cakes, ice, or iced tea, and good cold water. They would bring far more than they'd eat. For a special treat bringing the makings for ice cream and freeze it there. Whatever they brought tasted pretty good to cowboys not used to getting it.

We always had a lot of calf fries, sometimes a wash tub full. Some of the ladies who came out would keep eating them, then after while they would ask what they were eating. Somebody would tell them; some would quit, but it sure was fine eating and most would go back for more.

The cook always made County Attorney Stew, used entrails, marrow gut, liver, heart, kidneys. It was a good stew and you could hardly back off once you started eating it.

A lot of cooks specialized in sourdough. They used big old pans, 48-50

we'd work way off too far, they'd send lunch with the hoodlum wagon, which had the water and branding equipment.

We had one cook, Hugh Vinson, that would take ground meat and make some of the best meat and peach cobbler you ever did eat. In spring, the boys would go by a plum patch; two or three hatfuls would make a good plum cobbler.

With 23 men a working on the wagon, it didn't take long to eat a good sized beef. In summer time they'd butcher small calves, not as big as a yearling. They always butchered heifers, never steers. They gave a lot away. If camp men or people came by when the meat might spoil, the cook would give them a quarter.

When I went to work for the wagon we made \$30 a month, brought our own beds, slept on the ground. But we got board, our meals, We had all you

wanted to eat, a lot of good bread, sourdough biscuits and beans. We had bread and gravy for breakfast, didn't have eggs for a long time. We'd have a little canned milk along, sometimes a little bacon to put in the beans for seasoning. The cook would make rice puddings or raisin puddings for a treat. Sometimes the cooks would bring out the tinned goods, spinach, tomatoes, and canned corn, but they didn't get heavy on that stuff. I remember the first time they brought out peanut butter, jelly and stuff like that. We were kinda shocked they added that. Further on down they bought canned fruit, and the cooks had more to cook with.

\*\*\*

You can do anything with children if you only play with them.

—Prince Otto von Bismarck



Early day Matador cowboys at work.

(Slim Durham col., Motley County Museum)



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# Old Timers Attend Birthday Celebration

Mrs. I.E. Martin is Guest of Honor at Pioneer Dinner

NOTE: This article was taken from a 1939 issue of the *Matador Tribune*. It was submitted by Elwanda Martin McCaghren of Petersburg

On the second day of January of this year, 16 pioneer Motley County friends of Mrs. I.E. Martin were guests at a celebration in honor of her 79th birthday.

There was laughter and a twinkle in the old eyes reflecting the courage of their hearts, although each knew that memories were well-lived.

### Old Residents Here

All the guests were long-time residents of Motley County, headed by Mrs. A.D. Burleson, 80, who has lived here for 58 years. In the following list, the first figure indicates the present age and the second figure the number of years spent in the county: A.B. Echols, 80, 49; Mrs. J.E. Russell, 66, 47; Mrs. Charlie Morris, 63, 30; Charlie Morriss, 69, 47; Mrs. D.C. Keith, 74, 47; Mrs. J.L. Moore, 76, 49; Mrs. C.D. Pipkin, 60, 45; Rev. C.D. Pipkin, 67, 42; Mrs. J.H. Sample, 63, 20; J.H. Sample, 74, 20; Mrs. S. Daffern, 76, 49; S. Daffern, 79, 49; Mrs. A.L. Barton, 63, 40; and the guest of honor, Mrs. I.E. (Van) Martin, 79, who has been a resident of Motley County for 48 years. A total of 1,140 years was represented in the combined ages of the 16 guests.

### Born in Hill County

Mrs. Martin, who was born in Hill County, Texas, moved to Motley County during the year of 1891 with her husband, the late I.E. (Van) Martin who died in 1920.

Seven of her nine children were born here. Following are the names of Mrs. Martin's 5 daughters and 4 sons: Mrs. G.K. Blackshear, Flomot; Mrs. J.H. Hines, Flomot; Mrs. J. C. Burleson, Whiteflat; Mrs. C.B. Barton, Whiteflat; Mrs. Katie James, Matador; Claud Martin, Flomot; Bob Martin, Whiteflat; Curtis Martin, Matador; and Ned Martin, Dickens.

## TimeSmart

### Tips

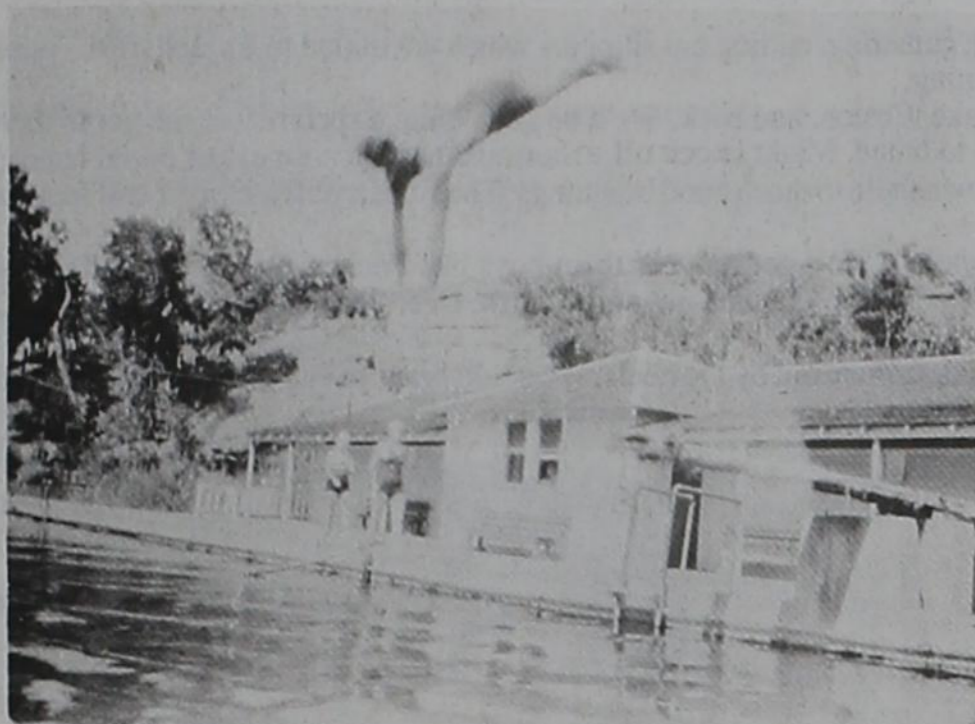
#### Making do with substitutes

How many times have you started preparing a recipe only to discover you were out of an ingredient? Sometimes you can still save the day and the dish by simply substituting a comparable item, says Whirlpool home economist Carolyn West. For instance:

- If a recipe calls for 2 tablespoons of flour for thickening, you can replace it with 1 tablespoon of cornstarch.
- 1 cup of honey can be replaced with 1 1/4 cups sugar and 1/4 cup of whatever liquid is used in the recipe.
- 1 cup of granulated sugar is an adequate substitute for 1 cup of packed brown sugar.
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder can be used in place of a clove of garlic.
- 1 cup of tomato juice can be replaced with 1/2 cup tomato sauce plus 1 cup water.
- 1 tablespoon prepared mustard is equal to 1 teaspoon of dry mustard.
- 1 cup of beef or chicken broth can be replaced with 1 cup boiling water plus one bouillon cube or one envelope instant broth granules.
- 1 cup fine, dry bread crumbs can substitute for 1/4 cup fine cracker crumbs.
- Raisins can be replaced with an equal amount of currants, chopped prunes or dates.



Dick and Mary Higgins Davis, about 1928, standing above the Springs falls. (Gus Bird col.)



Enjoying a cool dip in the Roaring Springs pool in the summer of 1929. (Gus Bird collection)



Bob Meador helped organize Motley County in 1891. He is Rusty Birchfield's grandfather. This photo was taken about 1925 in Arizona. (James Meador photo)



CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY — Meeting to celebrate the birthday of Mrs. I.E. Martin were (l-r) A.B. Echols, unidentified man, unidentified lady, Mrs. W.G. Higgins, Mrs. J.E. Russell, unidentified man, J.E. Russell, unknown, Mrs. J.H. Sample, Dud Beauchamp, Douglas Meador, J.H. Sample; standing in front of Mr. Sample are daughters, Mrs. J.C. (Onie) Burleson, Mrs. George (Avay) Blackshear; and Mrs. Katie James. Sitting in front on the left is Mrs. I.E. (Van Martin) and on the right is Mrs. A.D. Burleson. Katie James is the only living person in the picture. She now resides in the Crosbyton Care Center. On her birthday in October she will be 94.

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WELCOME OLD SETTLERS



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**WAGONBOSS**—Jeff Davis Boone was a wagon boss on the Matador Ranch in the 1890's. When he married Ollie Drace on February 23, 1891, at Della Plains he became unemployed, since the company, for the most part, preferred cowboys without the encumbrance of wives and families. Near Boone's Mountain, southwest of Whiteflat, the couple became squatters, living in dugout. Though hired guns tried to intimidate the cowboy-turned-nester into leaving, he disarmed two thugs and sent them away on foot.

A running argument between Boone and the newly elected sheriff Joe Beckham resulted in a courthouse scuffle with a gun. Boone made a play to disarm the sheriff. Shots rang out. Boone was winged in the arm. Beckham was only slightly wounded, though bleeding.

Boone may have thought his wound trivial and refused to see a doctor. Two days later he sold his cattle and his interest in the Dew Drop Saloon. Meanwhile Boone's wound festered and gangrene set in. On June 23, 1892, just four months after the shooting, the thirty-one year old cowboy and his bride took the train to his family home in Bell County. Before reaching there he died of blood poisoning. On September 21, 1892, Joe Beckham was indicted for assault to commit murder on Jeff Boone, setting off events that would put the sheriff on the outlaw trail and impose martial law upon Matador.

(Taken from "War at the County Seat," *Motley County Motley Roundup, Over One Hundred Years of Gathering*, by Marisue Potts)

(Motley County Museum photo)

**Russellville, Railroad Shipping Pens**



by Slim Durham as told to Marisue Potts

Because it took a while to work over the whole ranch, we were always branding, gathering, cutting out shippers which we trailed to Russellville. There we used the pens to sort the cattle, and ship loads to Oklahoma City or calves to Channing.

Lot of big brandings were held at Russellville. We'd work down through Red Lake, Croton, and back. We'd be gone quite a spell before we got in there to work the cattle again. Might get in there and have a couple or three thousand head to brand. Might knock off a thousand head at a time. Lot of old hands, like John Stotts, Ray Simms, and Houston Schweitzer, looked forward to sneaking off down there to those good brandings. They'd carry off a sack of calf fries, have a good dinner and get in a lot of visiting.

The older hands would do the vaccinating, castrating, marking ears, and the branding. We'd get some of them boys like Pockets Crawford, Ed D. Smith's sons, extras, young boys to do all the flanking, Russellville had some of the best flankers that ever came out of the outfit: G.T. Bird, Duffy Johnson, W.O. Cox, Pockets Crawford, Bill Hemphill, George Fulgham.

Shorty Klebo, Ray Sims, and John Stotts would rope every calf by the neck, didn't drag them out by the heels. We could brand seven or eight hundred heifers

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**The  
Windmill**

downtown Matador



Sam J. and Mary Etta Blair, grandparents of James 'Tootie' Meador, were married January 1, 1888 at Humansville, Mo. The couple worked for the 6666 Ranch for years beginning in 1908. Both are buried in St Johns, Arizona.

(James Meador photo)

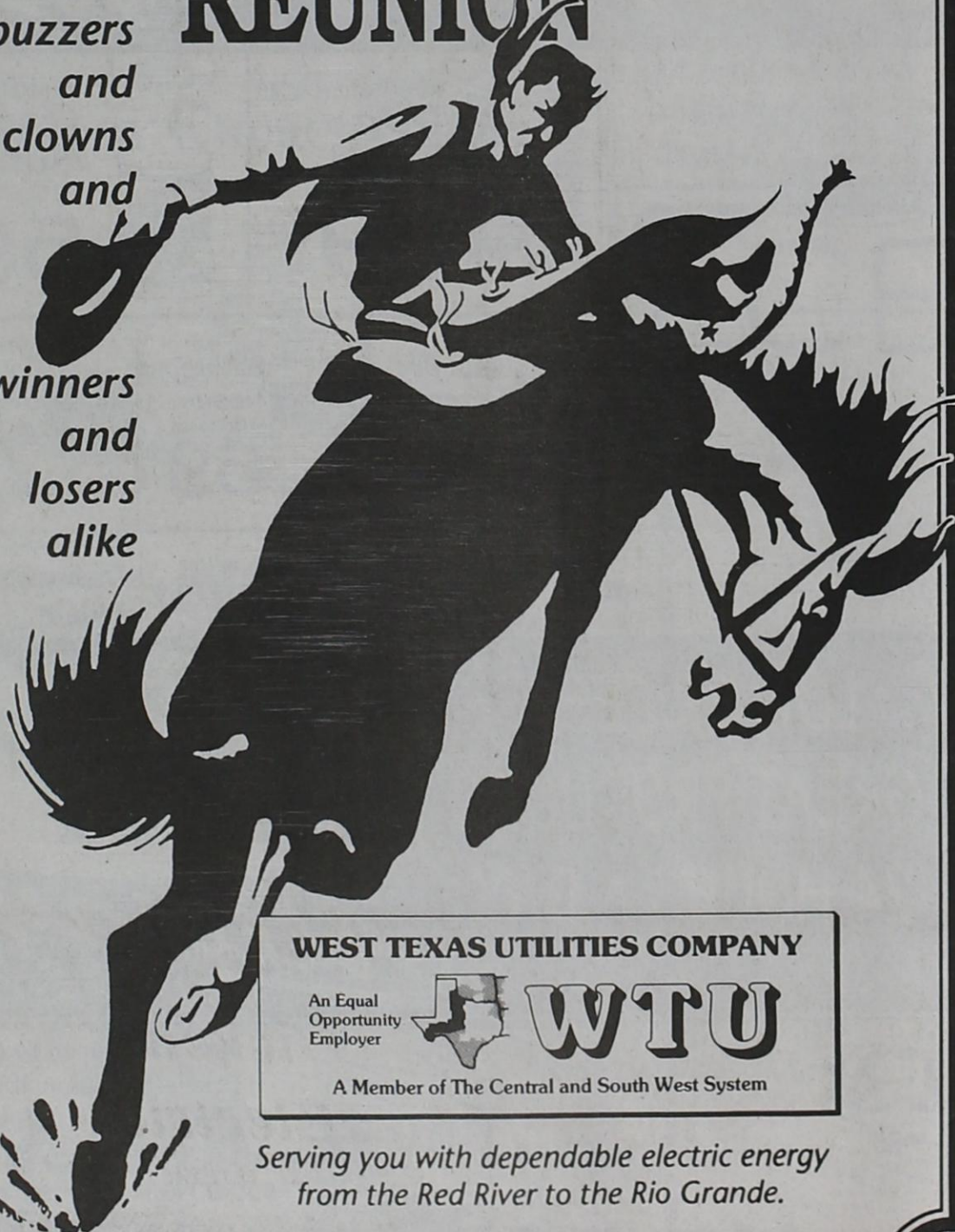


Doug and Chloe Meador. This picture was taken in the 40's.  
(James Meador photo)

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FROM  
THE  
SOWER**

Michael A. Guido  
Metter, Georgia

One night, when our German Shepherd was a puppy, he heard thunder for the first time.

He ran from room to room, barking for all he was worth, seeking to destroy the unseen intruder who dared to defy him.

At first I laughed, but then I thought of man. He goes about barking at God, trying to outwit Him, seeking to break His bands of restraint.

But God in heaven merely laughs, and then He deals with man in His displeasure.

Whatever you do, don't have God against you. Believe in Him. Then if God be for you, what matters who's against you?

Oh, the joys of those who put their trust in Him.

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Matador

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# News Around Motley County

## Roaring Springs News

by Odessa Mullins & Roxie Lewis

Mr. and Mrs. Billie Joe Dillard were here at his home on the Dougherty Highway this weekend. Dr. Dillard is practicing with Dr. Jack Jordan in Hale Center. They visited Mrs. Roxie Lewis on Saturday. She is delighted to have them for weekend neighbors.

Miss Lula Swim drove to Lubbock, where she joined Mr. and Mrs. Sam Swim and drove to Hobbs, N.M. to attend the 50th Wedding Anniversary for Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Trice. The Trices were active in community, school, and church while Mr. Trice was school principal during the early 1950's.

Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Swim and Miss Lula Swim attended the 80th birthday celebration at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Lubbock, for Mr. Johnny Williams. Johnny and Jouana, his wife, grew up and attended school in Roaring Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hand accompanied by their daughter, Mrs. Kim Alexander and her daughter, Hannah, enjoyed the Dumont Homecoming Sunday. Pauline and Billy both grew up in Dumont.

This week was Daphne Meredith's last week as visiting nurse with her patients. Best Wishes in her new job!

Friends of Bob Lewis, of Chapna, North Carolina regret that he will be unable to attend Old Settlers this year, as usual.

Mr. and Mrs. Buzz Thacker have returned from their trip to Ruidoso, N.M. Miss Lula Swim and Mrs. Juanita Cooper visited Mr. and Mrs. Dean McInroe in Ruidoso, N.M. recently.

Mrs. Dorothy Lee chauffeured Mr. Buck Marshall to Spur, Tuesday of last week. Amy Easter fell out of a tree house last week and broke her arm.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goodnight of Floydada, Daisey Smith of Matador, Dorothy Lee and Odessa Mullins drove to Rotan Thursday having lunch at the Rotan Senior Citizens and visited the afternoon with Lillie Herron in the Rotan Care Center. She is a sister of Daisey and Dorothy. They also visited with a cousin, Bobbie, Mrs. Herron's daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Mullins, Brandy, Michael, Christopher and Nikki spent Saturday night and Sunday with his grandmother, Odessa Mullins.

Visiting last week with Mrs. Vera Mitchell was W.D. Mitchell and wife, Bennie Mae, Paducah; Wanda Goss, Littlefield; her son Curtis Goss, his wife and daughter from College Station, Missouri; Lee Otis Smith and his sister, Wordna, her husband and two of their special friends from Las Vegas, NV.

## Flomot News

by Earlyne Jameson

### GRANDDAUGHTER RECEIVES CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEGREE

Lori Martin was awarded her degree in Criminal Justice from Tarleton State University at the graduation ceremony, August 17, 1996. She was listed as a distinguished student.

She completed an internship with the District Attorney's office in Stephenville and will apply for an internship with the FBI lab in Virginia. She has been employed the past three years at Texas A&M Ag. Experiment Station in Stephenville.

Lori is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Martin of Flomot and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Martin of Quitaque.

### AWARDED TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY DEGREE

Rick Rhodes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rhodes of Southlake, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter and nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter of Flomot, graduated August 17, 1996 from Texas A&M University with a degree in Bio-Medical Engineering.

Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Shorter enplaned from Lubbock Airport, Thursday and visited the Rhodes family and attended his graduation. Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter, who drove to Bryan, Thursday enjoyed tourist attractions en route to his graduation ceremony. The families returned home Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Norris Cloyd of Tyler visited from Saturday until Monday with Mrs. Annie B. Cloyd. They also visited Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Matt Hathaway of Portales, N.M. visited from Sunday until Friday with her grandmother, Mrs. Edith Washington.

J.D. Nance of Silverton and Mrs. Nova Dell Turner of Matador were luncheon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Martin, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Royce Gilmore of Floydada and Mr. and Mrs. Junior Payne, local residents visited Mr. and Mrs. Virgil

George, Sunday. Visiting Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Starkey were Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Reid of Amarillo.

Mrs. James May of Quitaque and Kayla Johnson of Floydada were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Johnson, Sunday. Mrs. May who had recent surgery is reported to be doing fine.

David Hunter and son, Ross of Midland, H.G. Hunter of Quitaque and Mrs. Melva Jo Shelton of Flomot were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Hunter, Sunday. The Hunters and Mrs. Shelton were in Floydada and Plainview during the week for medical appointments.

L.T. Starkey of Ralls visited Thursday with Mrs. C.W. Starkey and her houseguest, daughter, Lola Jewel Starkey of Abilene.

Cindy Shorter visited from Sunday until Wednesday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clois Shorter.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn Martin visited in Floydada, Monday with their aunt, Mrs. Bessie Martin, who suffered bruises, but escaped broken bones when she became entangled in her garden hose.

Dr. Jerry Gilbert of Jacksonville, Alabama visited from Wednesday until Monday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D.M. "Kie" Gilbert.

Art Green visited in Plainview, Sunday with his daughter and family, Mrs. Alta Mae Rice.

Guests in the home of Mrs. Leona Degan, Saturday for a family luncheon were Mr. and Mrs. Morris Degan of Medicine Mound, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Degan of Kalgary and Dr. Jerry Gilbert of Jacksonville, Ala.

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rogers this week are Mrs. Alma Carter of Malakoff, Mrs. Edna Foote of Fort Worth, Mrs. Merle Nall of Amarillo and Mrs. Stella Denton of Quanah.

Donnie Rogers accompanied his daughters, Natalie and Brooke Rogers to Lubbock Airport, Monday for their return trip home to Chesapeake, Virginia after visiting the summer here.

## Whiteflat News

by Earlyne Jameson

### OVERHEARD

A friend is someone who makes you feel totally acceptable.

Out of town houseguests this week of Wilson Barton and attending the graveside services of his wife, Sibyl Barton were Loretta and Harry Race of Dover, Arkansas; Mrs. Milda Morrison of San Diego,

California; Alfred Seay of Truth or Consequences, N.M.; Mrs. Barbara Campbell of Portland, Oregon and Mrs. Katherine King of Matador.

Mrs. Tim Jennings of Haskell, Mrs. Burke Brack, Mitch and Connor of Tyler visited Sunday and Monday with Mr. and Mrs. T.W. Jennings.

Mrs. Jim Stockton accompanied her mother-in-law, Mrs. Olivia Stockton of Quitaque to Plainview during the week for medical treatment.

Visitors from Wednesday until Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Arneel, Michael, Alyssa and new baby daughter, Aubrie were his mother, Mrs. Lupe Barry and Mrs. Carlotta Arneel and Chelsea of Arlington.

Art Green of Flomot and Mrs. Kathryn Martin met Mrs. Carol Gilbreth of Sundown, Tuesday in Lubbock for Mrs. Martin a medical appointment. Mrs. Martin, her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Newman of Spur visited in Roaring Springs, Sunday with their mother, Mrs. Josie Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Turner helped their daughter, Heather move to Lubbock this weekend where she will be a sophomore student at Texas Tech.

Mrs. Juanita Cooper visited from Friday until Monday in Amarillo with Mr. and Mrs. Ken Dunnam and Kourtney. They attended the musical concert of LeAnn Rimes and soccer games in which Kourtney competed, Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

## Matador News

Keith and Christena Lewis and daughters, Lauren, Morgan, and Hannah moved this week to Gainesville, Texas after making their home in Matador this past year. Keith works for CSR PolyPipe and is being transferred. Their new address will be 1809 Floral Dr., Gainesville, TX 76240.

Mrs. Frank Pohl spent last week in Snyder visiting in the home of her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Howard (Carolyn Pohl) Limmer. While there she accompanied them to Denton for the graduation ceremony of their son and her grandson, Jayson Frank Limmer, from the University of North Texas. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Radio, Television, and Film. They were joined in Denton by their other son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Limmer and Griffin of Colorado City.

On Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Limmer, Griffin Limmer and Mrs. Pohl

attended the 125th Year Anniversary performance of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey circus, in Reunion Arena in Dallas.

While in Snyder, she also accompanied her daughter to Levelland to visit Mrs. Ronald McCulloch, the former Karmen Jenkins and her mother, Mrs. Donnie Jenkins, former residents of Matador.

Visiting in the home of Jack and Decima Green last week were Gordon and Elwanda Simmons of Big Spring, Texas. They brought a birthday lunch, including cake and gifts and cards for Decima's birthday. Also visiting was Robert Pritchett and Jason Calhoun of Flint, Texas, Will Pritchett of Woodland, Calif. Jack and Decima were in Lubbock Thursday for a doctor's appointment and spent the night with their daughter, Cris Davis. They all met Jimmie Don Green at the Golden Corral for lunch.

Thank you for reading the MOTLEY COUNTY TRIBUNE

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## Obituaries

### Nell M. Calk

Graveside rites for Nell M. Calk, 79, of Matador, were held at 10:00 a.m. Friday at East Mound Cemetery in Matador. Officiating were Rev. Ronald W. Kelley, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Matador. Interment was under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Calk was a member of the Baptist Church and had been employed as a department store clerk and later in real estate sales. She is survived by one son, Eddie Offield of Knox City; one brother, O.M. Smith of Houston; two sisters Vera Watts of Dallas and Sue Miller of Odessa; three grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

### Sibyl Barton

Graveside rites for Sibyl Barton, of Flomot were held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 17, at East Mound Cemetery at Matador. Officiating was Rev. Ronald W. Kelley, pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Matador. Interment was under the direction of Seigler Funeral Home of Matador.

Mrs. Barton died at 10:15 a.m. Thursday, August 15, at Lockney Care Center in Lockney, following a lengthy illness.

The former Sibyl Scaff, was born March 18, 1917, at Clarksville, Texas. She came to Motley County in 1918, and was married to Wilson Barton on

### Madge Groves Taylor Dooley

Graveside rites were held Friday, June 7, 1996 at Dunn, Texas for Madge Groves Dooley, Mrs. Dooley died June 3 in Jackson, Clarke County, Alabama. She would have been 90 years of age June 23. She was the daughter of the late Elbert Bass "AB" Groves and Myrtle Virginia Taylor Groves. She was born in Haskell County, Texas, and came to Motley County in 1916 with her parents where she lived until her marriage to Grandson Reeves Taylor in 1924. After Mr. Taylor's death, she married Scott Dooley. Mr. Dooley died in California in 1973.

Mrs. Dooley's survivors at the time of her death were four sons, W.H., Tilman, Curtis Reeves, and Ned Taylor. She is also survived by three daughters, Mrs. Carl Duncan (Kewpie) of Aspermont, Mrs. John Becton (Alyne) of Grove Hill, AL, and Mrs. Thomas Uhlmeier (Laura Ernestine) of Porterville, CA besides many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

### Curtis Reeves Taylor

Since Mrs. Dooley's death, word has been received of the death of Curtis Reeves Taylor, whose mother was Effie Renfro Taylor, daughter of former Matador residents Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Renfro. His health had not been good for some time. He died following a short illness. He was buried in the El Paso veteran's cemetery with full military and Masonic rites. His wife, the former Marcella Crelia died in 1978.

### Ronny L. Lawrence

In loving memory of Ronny Lawrence, age 56, who departed this life on Saturday, August 17, 1996. He was born in Matador, Texas to Rhea and E.D. Lawrence on September 26, 1939. He served a short time in the U.S. Navy and began working with Central Freight Lines soon afterward, to which he gave 32 years of his life. He will be dearly missed by his devoted wife, Helen Caldwell Lawrence; son, Ronny Edd Lawrence; both of Richardson; daughter JaRhea Lawrence Byargeon, Arlington; stepdaughters, JoAnn

## Matador Senior Citizens News

by Cora Hall

The Matador Senior Citizens met Tuesday, August 13 for their regular second Tuesday meeting and luncheon. There were nineteen present. Happy Birthday was sung to Grant Carlson. Jean Cooper gave the meeting report. Mrs. Blevins gave the blessing for the meal. We are all so thankful for the two nurses that come and take our blood pressures and sugar tests.

Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted. Matthew 5:4

**RODEO**

Welcome Home Old Settlers

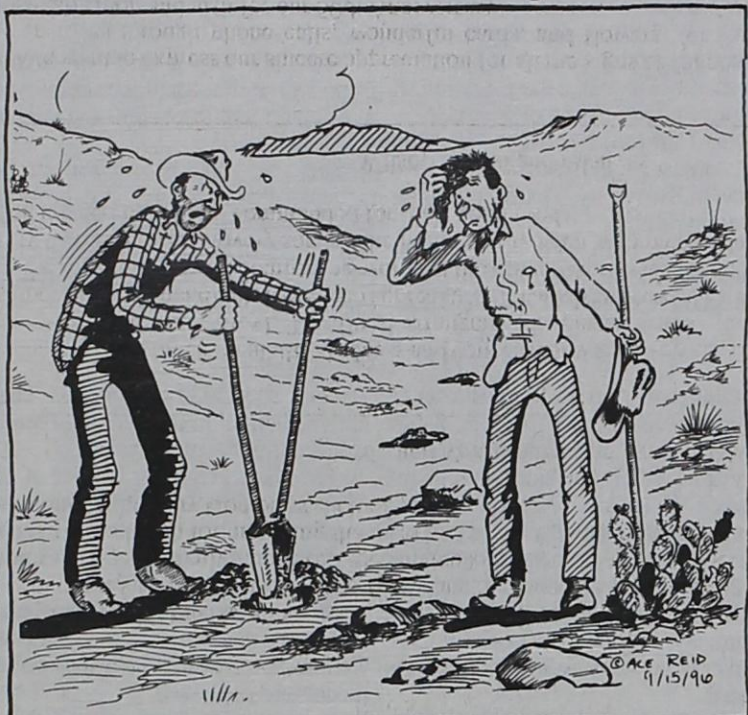
**Dickens Electric**  
SPUR, TEXAS



# THE CLASSIFIEDS

## COW POKES

By Ace Reid



"I hope the boss realizes he's about to discourage this cowboy's great future in ranchin'."

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## Motley County Tribune

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Lindsay Williams, School Reporter, Proofreading, Composition,  
Mary Renfro, Photo Developing

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P.O. Box 490 806-347-2400 Matador, TX 79244

## MOTLEY COUNTY SHERIFF

Office - 806-347-2234

After hours: 806-347-2246 or Mobile 806-347-2728

DEPUTY

806-348-7945

## THANK YOU

We want to thank everyone in Motley County and especially our neighbors in Matador, the school teachers and administration that made us feel welcome and at home this past year. We will never lose our memories made here.

Keith, Christena, Lauren, Morgan and Hannah Lewis

I want to give my heartfelt thanks to all of you, my friends, who have been so supportive during my stay in the hospital. I appreciate every card, phone call, visit and flowers. Your words of encouragement and prayers meant a lot to me.

Sincerely,  
Greta Smallwood

Thank you to the EMT's and everyone for helping out when I had my accident. I appreciate all your care and concern.

Roy Sheppard

Thanks to all of those for the food, cards, flowers, and prayers during the loss of our loved one, Nell Calk. We appreciate our friends who have helped us through this difficult time. Extra special thanks to the minister and also the ladies of the church for preparing the meal and to the funeral director for the wonderful help. May God bless each of you.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Offield and children

Thank you so much for all the kindness and concern shown to me at the loss of my beloved wife, Sibyl. The floral arrangements, plants, cards, visits, memorials, and phone calls have been appreciated. I thank Rev. Ronald Kelley for the inspirational and comforting words at the graveside services and also Billy Denison for the lovely songs. The Methodist women who prepared the food are certainly to be commended for their good food.

Wilson Barton and relatives

We want to express our sincere appreciation for all the signs of friendship given to us through phone calls, wonderful cards, and flowers, for Ray's hospitalization and also for our 50th Anniversary.

Ray & Grace Zabielski

Thanks to everyone that helped us celebrate our 50th anniversary! The cards, calls, flowers, and especially the presence of all of you! A special thanks to our family for all the planning and preparations, and for a great weekend! We love you!

Buzz & LaVoc Thacker

## Wanted

WANTED: Rocks (such as on rock houses), for landscaping. Call 347-2246 after 6 p.m.

"CASH"

WANTED!! Used Mobile Home. Must be in fair to good condition. Call (800) 416-3731. Leave a message.

4tc-34

\* ATTN: MATADOR \*

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## NOTICE

NOTICE

BUDGET HEARING  
Motley County L.S.D. will hold their Budget Hearing, August 27, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Office.

## Farmers & Ranchers

FOR SALE: Concrete Stock Tubs, 2 sizes 7x7 (500 gal.) or 7 x 3 1/3 300 gal. Also concrete water shut-off boxes, \$30.00. Call Bill after 8 p.m., 806-347-2424.

## PETS

FREE KITTENS - Cute and lovable. 3 gray and one black. Need good homes. Call after 5 p.m., Jackie, 347-2870.

## For Sale

FOR SALE: Used Maytag Washers and Dryers, rebuilt and guaranteed. THACKER SUPPLY, 348-7216.

ctfn

RCA DSS 18" DIGITAL SATELLITE SYSTEMS: THACKER SUPPLY CO., INC. Roaring Springs, Texas, 1-800-481-2828.

FOR SALE: Portable Sewing Machine. Priced to Sell! Antique striking wall clock, works good, beveled glass windows. Priced to sell! Call Barbara, 347-2400 day or 347-2424 evening.

FOR SALE: Ultra Mag Rims, 10x16, with Radial TA. Nice. Call or see Jason Jameson, 347-2746.

ctfn

FOR SALE: Ski/Walking Exerciser. Call Barbara, 347-2400 or 347-2424.

FOR SALE: 800 Ceramic Molds, Cheap! The Mud House Ceramics, Childress. 817-937-3801.

3tc-36

FOR SALE: Large Frigidaire Frost Free Refrigerator. Sears Kenmore 4 burner cookstove, center grill-propane. Call Bud Barton, 983-2727 after 8 p.m.

2tc-35

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RETIRING BUT NOT QUITTING — Desire carpenter work in Matador and Roaring Springs areas. 40 years experience - can do all types of repairs and remodeling. Also painting, plumbing, and electrical. R.E. Hunter, P.O. Box 203, Roaring Springs, phone 348-7212.

ctfn

## SHAKLEE PRODUCTS

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983-5246 or 800/536-5246

## Bid Notice

BID NOTICE

Motley County L.S.D. is currently taking bids on a 1984 Chevrolet Fleetside Pickup. The pickup has a 5.0 liter V8 gas engine with 4 speed automatic transmission with overdrive. The pickup may be seen at the Motley County L.S.D. bus barn or contact Rick Copp, Superintendent for more information.

Bids must be received by 4:00 p.m. on September 9, 1996 at which time they will be submitted to the Motley County L.S.D. School Board to accept or reject any bid.

2tc-35

## Real Estate

FOR SALE: Craven House, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage with 2 acres. Rachael Harrison, 806/637-6578.

FOR SALE OR RENT: 2800 sq. feet home on 2 acres. If interested call Ron Richards, 512/847-2763 or Gerald Pipkin, 806/347-2747.

ctfn

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

160 acres, west of Roaring Springs. 132 CRP 1 year remaining. \$35,000.00.

CALL  
HARRY HAMILTON  
ASSOCIATE REALTORS  
806-793-3366

HOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE: Motor home for sale. Call or see Joe Smith, 347-2310.

1tc-34

FOR SALE: 2 bedroom, 1 bath house in Matador. Marion Burt home. Call 348-7235 for information.

2tc-35

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, storage house. Close to school Contact Jo Ann Durham, 347-2427.

## Announcements

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCRIMMAGE HERE FRIDAY  
Motley County High School Matadors will scrimmage Crowell, here, Friday, August 23 at 6:15 p.m.  
They will scrimmage Lorenzo, August 29, there at 6:00 p.m.

JR. HIGH FOOTBALL BOYS MAY PICK UP EQUIPMENT  
All Jr. High Football boys who have taken their physicals may pick up equipment at the field house between 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. on Friday, August 23.

DUDE BARTON WILL AUTOGRAPH post cards showing her picture, Saturday, August 24, 3:00-4:00 p.m. at the Arts and Crafts Show across from Old Settlers. Fund raiser for Motley County Library.

1tc-34

## BOOSTER CLUB NEEDS YOU!

The Motley County Booster Club needs you!  
Booster Club meets Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. in the School Cafeteria. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend these meetings!

## First Assembly of God Church

Rev. Rickey Lawrence Roaring Springs, Texas

"Jesus said unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."  
Mark 9:23

Church, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Night, 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
Missionettes for Girls — Roy Rangers for Boys

## Payne HEALTH MART Pharmacy

200 S. Main — Floydada, Texas 79235

Ph: 983-5111 or 1-800-345-7961

Denise Payne, R.Ph.

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Sat. - 8:30 - 4:00

We will be happy to mail your prescription!

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## WORD of GOD

Prophecy (Old Testament)

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Psalms 16:10

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