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ROUGH DRAFTS

Rough Drafts 2/15

Written by [Stuart Rosebrook](#) Published January 13, 2015

Winter is a wonderful time to plan a trip to the West—and take along a reading list to match:

Dream West

If Western art inspires you, Montana's **Charlie Russell: Art in the Collection of the Montana Historical Society** (Montana Historical Society Press, 2014) is guaranteed to send you trekking in search of Russell's West.

Get Your Kicks

If your Western road trip starts on the Mother Road, Route 66, then Jim Hinckley's **The Illustrated Route 66 Historical Atlas** (Voyageur Press, 2014) is a must to own, and will look great next to another 2014 Voyageur Press imprint, Bob Boze Bell's **The 66 Kid**.

Where a War Ends, the West Begins

Empire and Liberty: The Civil War and the West, edited by Virginia Scharff (University of California Press, March 2015), will inspire a Western visit in search of the Civil War and the beginning of the post-war West. Sounds like a road trip to me!

Ode to Easy Rider

James Whiteside's **Old Blue's Road: A Historian's Motorcycle Journeys in the American West** (University of Colorado Press, Feb. 2015) celebrates six years in search of the soul of the West. Is that "Born to be Wild" playing in the background?

—Stuart Rosebrook



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WHAT HISTORY TAUGHT ME

Cord McCoy

Riding a bull requires practice, practice practice! Hard to hit a 90 mph fast bal...



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INVESTIGATING HISTORY

Death in the Mississippi

The end of wars does not always mean the end of death and destruction. The *Sultan*...



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OLD WEST SAVIORS

One Man's Dream

When she was a seventh grader, Lori White knew Kenneth "Dobby" Lee as her school...



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ASK THE MARSHALL

Who was the first white woman to scale Pikes Peak?

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Did Wild Bill Hickok really have the Dead Man's Hand of aces and eights when he was killed?

What did outlaws like Frank and Jesse James do with all the loot they stole?

The book True Grit states Rooster Cogburn died from "night hoss." What does that mean?

CLASSIC GUNFIGHTS

Jar Head!

July 25, 1853

Saddling up at 2 a.m. Harry Love and his fellow California Rangers...



MORE:

Kit Carson's Horseback Duel
Cooke's Canyon Ambush
Wild Bill's Last Fight

HISTORY FEATURES

The Moonshiner Who Got Away with Murder

"My daddy, he made whiskey And my granddaddy did too And we ain't paid no whiskey ...



MORE:

The Severed Heads Campaign
Buffalo Bill's Deadly Acts
The Ball that Killed Wild Bill

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RENEGADE ROADS

Exploring the Old Oregon Country

David Thompson was fourteen when he began his life in North America as a clerk's ...



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The Valiant and Brave
The Toughest Man West of the Pecos
Trail of Tragedy

TRAVEL FEATURES

17 Places to Hang Your Hat in the West

The grandeur and awe-inspiring beauty of the rugged, wide-open spaces of the Ame...



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Gateway to the Cascades

Faith. Hope. Charity.

Over time, the original names of the three prominent mounta...



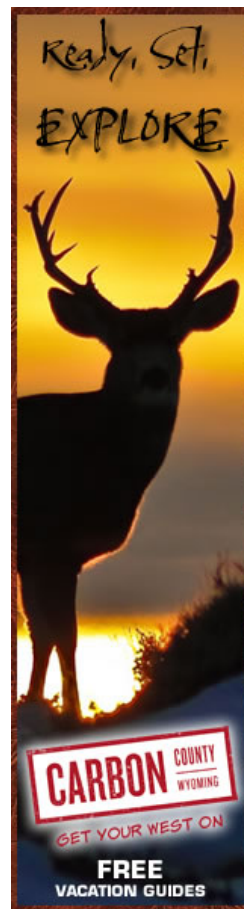
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Ragtown to Riches
Billy the Kid's Legendary La Placita

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Western movie fans, re-enactors, history buffs and road warriors, we got your history covered: outlaw, cowboy, Indian, lawman, gunfighter, fur trapper, miner, prospector, gambler, soldier, entertainer and pioneer. Check out these True Westerners now!

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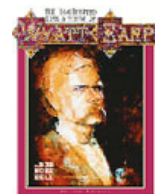
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PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

The Illustrated Life and Times of Wyatt Earp

"Your book is fascinating, coupling your powerful illustrations [and] tracking...from birth to Tombstone to the legend [Wyatt] had become;...even Wyatt would approve." --By Hugh O'Brian, of the TV series The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp



"Hands down the definitive books on Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday." --By Allen Barra, New York Newsday