

THE LONG TOM

NORTH TEXAS DISTRICT

JUNE

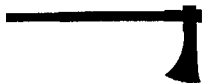
1992

GREETINGS FROM THE ROADRUNNER

We had another rainy campout at the Brush Poppin. The faithful members who were there didn't get rained out, just rained on. Longhorn and I had the opportunity to visit the Quapaw (Arkansas) Trace in March. At least it did not rain. It had rained before we got there and we could not get through the mud holes to where we were supposed to go. We retreated to a modern campsite called Dragover Camp. It was interesting to see another Chapter in operation and get some new ideas.

I hope a lot more of you are planning to go to the Rendezvous than we received applications on, especially the Young Bucks. We have nearly 3 times more Old Timers going than Young Bucks. I can say, "Taint missed a Rondy-Voo since I've been an FCF'er", so the Lord willing and the creeks don't rise (*like they been doin lately!*) I plan to be there.

Keep your powder dry.



In His service,
Sherman McDaniel





UPCOMING EVENTS

**NATIONAL
RENDEZVOUS**

June 23-27

at

Eagle Rock, Missouri

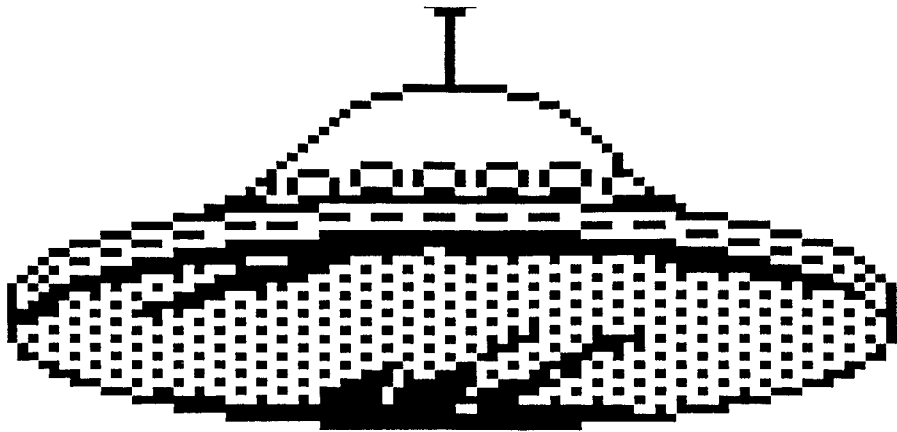
North Texas District

POW-WOW

June 12-14

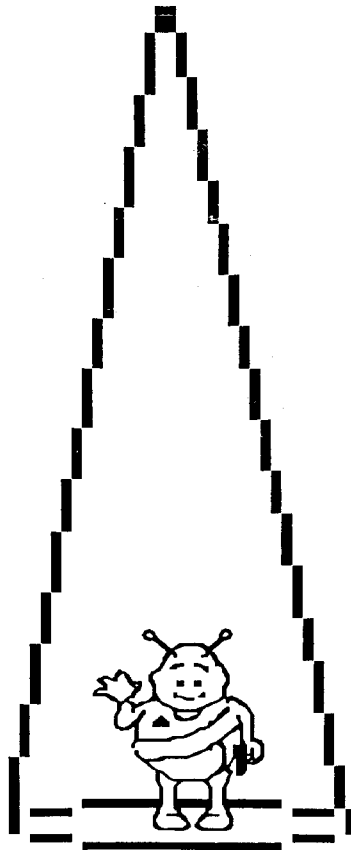
at

Lakeview Camp



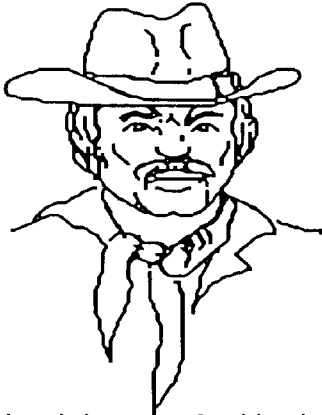
"Beam me
up,
Scottie"

"Not any
interesting
articles
here!"



HOW WE GOT HERE DOESN'T MATTER! WHERE ARE WE GOING?

by J. Taylor



Seems there was a cowpoke named Jake, who was a real determined bronc buster. And there was Ol' Thunderclap, the horse who just wouldn't be rode. Jake's turn came to give it a try. Well, neighbor, neither one of those two were any harder of head than the other, and both were willing to go the whole distance. Around and around, up and down, crowfooted jumps and twist after twist, Jake just wouldn't let go and the horse wouldn't give up. Thunderclap rammed against the sides of the corral. He stiff-legged all around the corral. He turned to bite Jake, but his chaps and stirrups protected his legs. He bellowed, yelled, snored, and tried all his tricks. For 20 minutes or so they fought it out, and finally Thunderclap was just wore out.

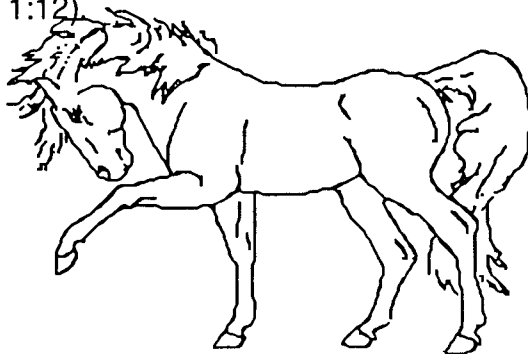
He fell right over on his side with a cloud of dust and a loud thump. And he lay there, kicking and foaming and gasping for air. He couldn't get up, and Jake couldn't get his leg out. A dozen cowboys came running up to help. One shouted as he ran, "Hang on, Jake, we're coming to help you!" Jake, still determined to win, yelled back, "Never mind ME, I'm still in the saddle: ya'll help the horse up!" When they got him up, the horse was defeated. All the cowboys crowded around Jake and congratulated him. He just said, "Aw, it weren't much: I couldn't have done it without this fine saddle."

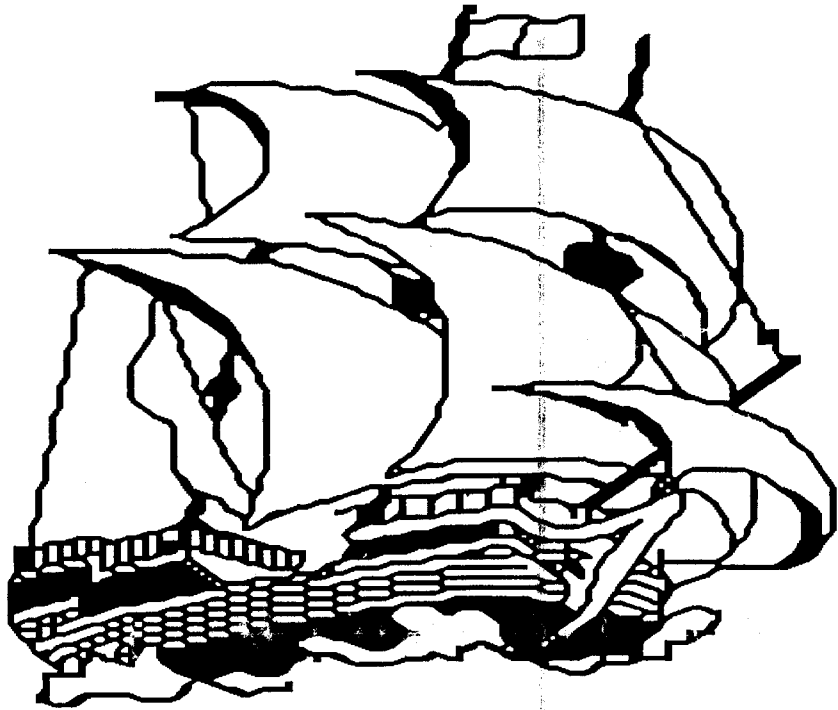
Now, let's talk about FCF. Is our determination as strong as Jake's? Are we really as committed to the program as we seem to imply, or are we ready to dismount? Remember the 5 logs of the FCF emblem? What do they mean in the church of the 1990's? How do we make them part of our lives--or does that really matter to us? I think it's time that we all took a good look at ourselves and made sure we're on the right track. If we're off, well, let's get back on. It really doesn't matter, you see, whether we missed the boat at any particular point or what our reasons are for being late at the station. What matters is that we have work to do, and less time now than when we started. If we believe these are the last days, then let's start acting like it.

) The principle that Jake was showing us is this: he had a real single minded focus (James 1:8). His job was just to ride the horse. It wasn't to analyze the background of the horse's ancestry, count the fence boards, show off for the cowboys, make a display of his great riding ability, or anything else--just ride the horse with all his might and until the job was done (Galatians 6:9,10). He had a good grasp of what was real and what was nonessential. If he'd taken his eyes off the task at hand even for a moment, he'd have been thrown and stomped just like all the others who'd tried before. And for what it's worth, there's a real parallel here to our own walk. If we are as fixed minded as we need to be, then what the world says or thinks won't keep our Ministry down (James 2:24). We won't wait around for somebody else to do out work for us. We won't worry about how many have failed before; we won't even ask (Phillipians 3:13,14). The only thing that will be on our minds is getting the job done in spite of obstacles and difficulties. Never mind what others are doing, just do what you're supposed to do (John 21:22).

So what are we going to do? We can be the cowboys on the fence, some of whom may have tried to ride the horse and some who were afraid to, or we can be more like Jake. Just get to work and trust that the job can be done. Get help from the Lord: He never has worked up a sweat doing a job. He just gets it done--and usually using soft-bodied normal people who are willing to stick it out. "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him" (James 1:12)

Well, in case you haven't figured it out, the horse is the devil, and the rider is us. The Lord is the saddle that makes all the parts of the task possible. Time to saddle up, brothers, there's plenty of horses, and not many willing riders. Put on your Ephesians 6 chaps and get to the corral.



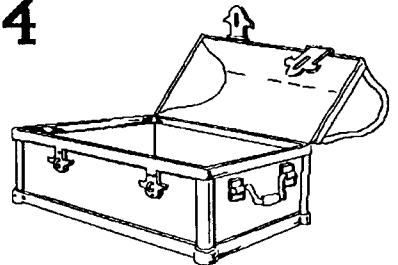
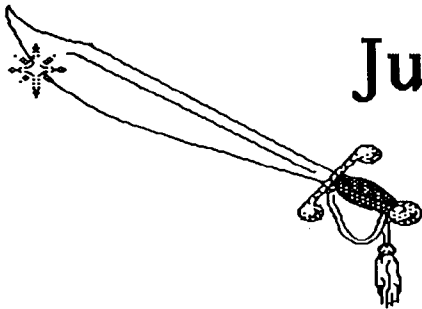


Hey you Landlubbers!

Make sure you make it to this years Pow-Wow.

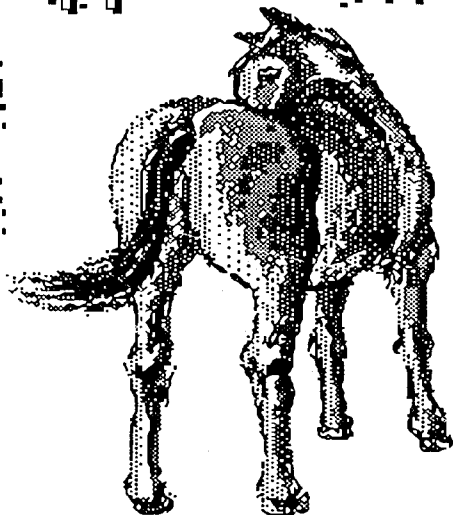
You might uncover your buried treasure...

June 12-14



HORSEBACK

CAMPOUT



at

Ol' Cactus Jack's

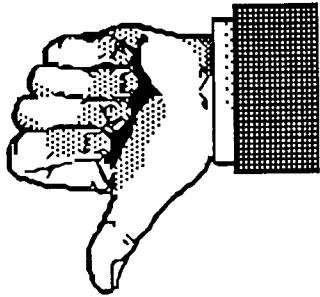
Dude Ranch

Oct 2-4

October 2-4, 1992, the Austin Section is planning a horseback camp-out. We'll be staying at Ol' Cactus Jack's Dude Ranch a few miles west of Austin. All of you who want to attend are invited. Don't bring a

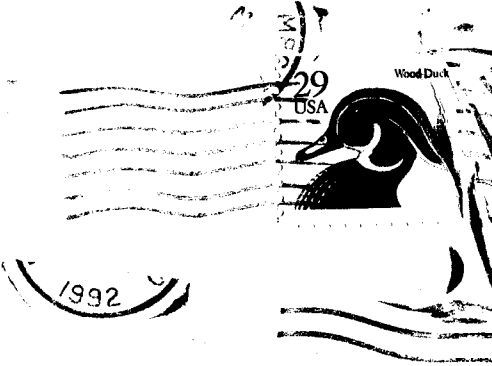
horse; we'll be using theirs, and they'll take them back to the stable at dark, so we don't have to brush, feed or even unsaddle them. The ranch is located on a creek, and we can have some access to water if the weather permits, not recommended for drinking, but OK for splashing. We will set up tents prior to the trail ride (about 1 1/2 hours) and will either be able to ride horses out at the end, or if we prefer ride out on a haywagon. Some of us "dudes" just might be saddle sore after the ride in. We've got some good events and some trophies and other prizes in the works, so be sure to come on down if you want to camp FCF and have a good time with us. Camp is limited to 30 (for lack of horses) but if we should get more folks, they say they'll get more horses. We'll be camping out in the open at the base of a hill, on its north side. Could get cold, so bring a blanket or two, some trade goods, your smokepole and throwing tools, bedroll and any other gear you want to have along. We won't have to carry everything on our horses, it's a short drive to the parking area. Cost for both nights (Fri & Sat) and Sunday day is \$40. We will need a \$10 deposit if you want to attend. This gives us a reservation at the ranch and a little cash to buy grub and trophies. Contact either J. Taylor Rt. 2 Box 75-H Manor, TX 78653 or Cooper Rt 3 Box 400-H Bastrop, TX 78602. We'll be looking forward to hearing from you. If you are a young buck take \$3 off the price.





Not might for right,
but right for might...
King Arthur

Gary Bierschwale
FCF Scribe
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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