

TRUTH AND TALES

# REGA TERRITORIAL

A JOURNAL OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE, ROMANCE, AMUSEMENT, &c.

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DRY BONES, APRIL, 1800

Three Dollars Per Year.  
Two Cents Five Dollars.

No. 1

## Opening a New Frontier

Welcome to the first edition of the "RGA Territorial". Hopefully you'll see this as fine as cream gravy. Some of may seem bosh, but we hope to present an ace-high piece of work for you on as nigh a quarterly timing as we can.

Now, to git it started, we'd like to thank all ya'll folk from several states and areas who did a bang-up job of putting together a brand spankin' new organization. Lots of letters were delivered by pony express (no computers then) to these pardners and pardnerettes to permit them to stand the gaff through lots of blood, scowts, sweat and just plain played out hours. This organiation owes them soft solder. (Now see if you greenhorns can cipher this articulation.) Bully for all of you,,,writers and readers.

## Writing the West....the role of the newspaper in the early days.

Author David A Hendrick

It is said that American Newspaper frequently seems to thrive in proportion to the general activity surrounding it; indeed, to this day, the finest papers operate in the largest, most bustling cities. The newspapers of the old west, then were no exception to this rule, as the relatively high level of commotion on the untamed frontier only served to the heighten the desire for the stability and assurance that the institution of the press seemed to promise. Further, while the frontier newspaper often came into existence to satisfy the wants of an information starved populace, other times the printer struck out on his own and attempted to beckon people to the town he wished to promote. So, the western newspaper supports a number of contradictory impulses, as the western printer and his paper could both denote stability and promote mobility.

In his 1831 tour of the United States, Alexis De Tocqueville noted that In America there is scarcely a hamlet that has not its newspaper. Indeed, this is especially true of frontier America, as among the most notable aspect of the 19th century frontier newspaper was the sheer number of daily and weekly papers in existence. In the 1820s Cincinnati had seven weeklies and two dailies.(Lyon, 5) The frosty frontier burg of St. Paul, Minnesota, population 10,000, was able to support four dailies and 3 weeklies.(Boorstein, 125)Meanwhile Tucson, Arizona kept six papers in business. (Lyon, 5).

Aside from the declaration of their ubiquity, it can be difficult to make sweeping generalizations regarding 19th century Western newspapers. Indeed, the tracts could take all manner of form, from the meticulous work of a devoted local citizen, eager to spread the news about town, to the bulletin of an unscrupulous huckster, one who took the citizenry s money for little in return. The content of the paper, too varied wildly. From single issue political periodicals to religious papers on a mission to save

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souls, the frontier paper frequently did more than simply report the news. As diverse as the land they purported to cover, the western newspaper is not an easily explained entity; suffice to say the paper filled a need for the denizens of the western states in the 19th century

# Future Plans for the "RGA Territorial"

## Do You Know....?

I'd like to start out by getting to know more of the groups that are members of this new organization. Many of us know each other, but it's always nice to put names with groups and faces. I'd like to start a "feature article on a member of two in the newsletter. My plans are to get a list of RGA teams, select one or two individuals, contact them and ask for a photo and bio. It's fun to see who and "what" we are in real life. So, wait for a call to be a "Territorial Focus".

## Great Action/Character Shots (Photos..not bullets)

I attend quite a few competitions and "shoot" my camera. I have literally hundreds of pretty good action shots of members. Members/groups like to see their actions in print if they don't have someone who's already taking photos. If you have some super shots you'd like to submit for inclusion in the newsletter, by all means, e-mail them to me. I can use all the help I can get.

## Competition Standings

*Even though these may be reflected on the actual website, it never hurts to keep us all informed of your efforts in these events. You deserve pats on the backs, even though they may be dusty from what I've seen... You guys and gals are incredibly talented and entertaining.*



## SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

### What Else Would You Like to See in the "Territorial"?

I want this newsletter to be entertaining and informative for you members. If you have ideas for things that you would like to see in this publication, please feel free to e-mail me with your thoughts. For instance, I'm extremely interested in period clothing for ladies, excuse me for my character being "exposed", but especially in the area of the saloon or soiled dove characterization. So put on those thinking caps and give me feedback on inclusions. Hey, I'm new at this, so help me out!



### Hey Greenhorns!

Want the definition of the words in the first paragraph? I know some of you characters already know but humor me.....

- \* *fine as cream gravy - very good; top notch*
- \* *bosh - nonsense*
- \* *ace-high - first class, respected*
- \* *bang-up - first rate*
- \* *to stand the gaff - take punishment in good spirits*
- \* *played out - exhausted*
- \* *soft solder - flattery*

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aka: Miss Jenna

A Texan by birth; an Arkansan by choice, and kinfolk in Oklahoma and California...so as not to be biased.

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By the way, my spamblocker works really well, so in the subject line put "RGA Territorial" so I'll be sure and get your comments.