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Another Cuelho / Historical Keys

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Opal Hartsell Brown

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Another Cuelho — by Leroy Thomas

Another of Artie Cuelho's books has been published: Blackjack No. 12 from Southern Appalachia Mountains — STEP AROUND THE MOUNTAIN. Cuelho's dedication reads: "To these Southern Appalachia Mountain contributors who made me feel at home in their region and who gave me a part of their personal heritage and pride."

There's no substitute for reading the book, but the Table of Contents reveals a great deal: I. Hill-And-Holler Portraits II. Mountain Humor III. From Darkness They Come IV. And He Walked with Me V. Home Place.

In STEP AROUND THE MOUNTAIN, we find universal experiences that are thus applicable to a theme like Western Oklahoma Pride. We see here a range of character in both people and landscape. We observe how family ties bind people together in a variety of ways. We find familiar sights, sounds, attitudes, and the beauty of nature.

The book is available for $4.35 from Seven Buffaloes Press — P.O. Box 249; Big Timber, Montana 59011.

Historical Keys — by Opal Hartsell Brown

SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA KEYS by Willie (Hardin) Bivins, Polly (Lewis) Murphy, and Jewell (Rone) Tankersley for Southwest Oklahoma Genealogical Society. Printer, Metro Press, Oklahoma City. A Diamond Jubilee Project of 551 pages with hard cover.

From royalty to slaves, they came in waves to Southwest Oklahoma. It was 1889 and the 1890's and land was at the end of the journeys. These frontiersmen, their ancestors, and descendants compose the 7,400 individuals listed alphabetically in the Pedigree Section of this book.

The birthplace of these people includes about every state, with Oklahoma and Texas leading the list. Of the numerous foreign countries, England leads the list.

Other countries of birth include France, Germany, Japan, Guam, Denmark, Russia, Norway, Canada, Lebanon, Austria, Mexico, Sweden, Barbados, Ireland, Romania, Scotland, "Holy Land," Czechoslovakia, Puerto Rico, Italy, even Afghanistan, and probably others.

Places of burial include one "shipwrecked near Wales."

The Album Section of 127 pages introduces many of these people, some of their homes, and their professions: farmers, soldiers, merchants. Street scenes tell of early days, and goats point to fun times. Some pictures go back as far as photography. The birth of one individual was 1814.

The Biographical Section, some of which includes pictures, dips stories from the hold of a ship, the court of a king, the battlefield of the world. It tells of adventure, hardships, pleasures.

There is a brief history of Southwest Oklahoma's twenty-three counties, some of which have their background in Indian Territory. There are also places to find records and other pertinent information on genealogy and family histories.

In addition to all that, there are an alphabetized index and three pages for records.

The editors have done a superb job on a colossal undertaking. Besides recording important information, they and the contributors have made the reader say: "Who would want fiction, when detailed history is so exciting?"

These books may be purchased from Jewell R. Tankersley, 1212 Smith Avenue, Lawton, Ok. 73501 for $37.50, which includes postage.