



## AHC's Simpson Institute Immigration Symposium

As 32-year old math teacher, Bertine Bahige, approaches his classroom of waiting pupils, he spots a student he knows is on the verge of leaving school. He encourages her to stick it out; it's only a couple more weeks until the school year is over. Bahige might have offered similar encouragement to his past self, a child abducted from his home across the Rwandan border and recruited to fight in ethnic warfare. To hang on and consider a different future was a mantra that kept him from despair, inspiring him to escape and make a multi-day journey to a refugee camp, and finally to the home of a U.S. missionary couple. His story of immigration to the U.S., and to Wyoming, is just one of the many facets of an upcoming symposium examining immigration matters from a state and national viewpoint.

On September 18, 2014, the UW American Heritage Center's Alan K. Simpson Institute for Western Politics and Leadership will sponsor a day-long event at the UW Conference Center in Laramie to discuss where we are now as a state and a nation with the host of issues under the broad umbrella of "immigration."

U.S. Senator Alan Simpson (retired) will begin the event at 9:00 a.m. by squaring off with nationally syndicated columnist Ruben Navarrette, Jr. to set the stage for a wide-ranging series of discussions about immigration issues throughout the day.

At 10:15 a.m., Dr. Lilia Soto of UW Chicano Studies and UW American Studies will moderate a panel of speakers to discuss immigration issues from a Wyoming perspective, with some viewpoints that may surprise you from a non-border state. Lunchtime keynote speaker Jose Antonio Vargas, a Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist, will talk about his struggle as an undocumented immigrant in the United States, a standing that has not changed since he revealed his status in a June 2011 essay in *The New York Times Magazine*. At 2:30 P.M., the conversation becomes a debate as national experts examine federal immigration issues from various angles. The afternoon panel will be moderated by Dr. Ed Muñoz, Director of Ethnic Studies at the University of Utah, and formerly department head of UW Chicano Studies.

The symposium is co-sponsored by the Wyoming Humanities Council and these University of Wyoming departments and programs: Academic Affairs, College of Arts & Sciences, Wyoming Institute for Humanities Research (WIHR), International Programs, and College of Law.



Mark Greene

*Mark Greene*

## FROM the DIRECTOR

My last column, which featured material from our Toppan Rare Books Library relating to sports, recreation, and leisure, promised that this column would continue with the topics as they appear in our massive manuscripts and archives collections. Last edition's column was prompted, in part, by the confluence of several US sports competitions; this one, we can say, is sparked by the Winter Olympics. This column owes a considerable debt to AHC Associate Archivist John Waggener, our subject expert for sports and related activities. He went beyond providing me with specific examples, and embedded those examples in attractive prose. So the many quotation marks you will see throughout this essay reference his words—believe me, they will be a welcome break from my writing!

“Sports, recreation, and leisure are so entwined with life in American and the human experience itself, it should not be surprising that many of the collections held at the American Heritage Center contain at least some information related to these endeavors,” even to activities rather far removed from our particular collecting objectives. “For example, a researcher interested in the Rose Bowl will learn through a keyword search on the Center’s online database that the Daniel Taradash Collection contains information related to the 1939 Rose Bowl that pitted USC against Duke. Taradash...was an academy award winning screenwriter for Columbia Pictures and Universal Pictures. Perhaps fond memories of the game he attended led him to placing his ticket stub and game program in [the] personal files...he donated to the center.”

“Beyond these incidental pieces of information related to sports and recreation, the AHC actively archives material related to several specific topics. Though Sports, Recreation, and Leisure represent one of the center’s smaller collecting areas, the AHC holds about 500 collections that contain significant amounts of material” related to these topics. Our “main areas of focus include mountaineering, rodeo, dude ranching,

national parks recreation, adventure travel and sports writers, and, not surprisingly, University of Wyoming athletics.”

“By far the most popular sport-related interest is with the [University of Wyoming Intercollegiate Athletics Records](#). Fans, former athletes and their families, sports writers and filmmakers often request copies of game footage especially for memorable games such as the 2007 WNIT Championship where the women’s basketball team knocked off Wisconsin, and the football team’s 1958 victory over Hardin Simmons in the Sun Bowl and their 1968 Sugar Bowl appearance against LSU. The collection contains films dating back to the 1930s.” So let’s not forget the men’s basketball team’s crowning as national champions in 1943!—in fact, recently two independent documentary film teams have visited the AHC for prospective programs on this amazing feat. Indeed, the most popular aspect of UW sports, recently, has been Kenny Sailors, the inventor of the jump shot and member of the 1943 championship team. UW sports material can be found in a variety of contexts. “Milward Simpson’s collection of papers consists of more than 600 boxes of material mostly related to his political career.” However, amidst “all of those political files, is a box containing a small amount of material related to his time as a three-sport athlete at the University of Wyoming.”

“For those patrons who prefer a bit more dirt and mud, the AHC holds numerous prominent [rodeo collections](#) including Abe Morris,” a UW African-American student “who was one of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association’s (PRCA) premier bull riders in the 1980s and 1990s, and the J.S. Palen Collection that contains rodeo history of numerous western rodeos including Cheyenne Frontier Days”—posters, photos, correspondence, scrapbooks, publications, schedules, and much more—from the 1890s to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

“For those who wish for a bit more peace and quiet, the many [dude ranch collections](#) and [national park collections](#) contain material

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Postcard (not dated) of Frontier Park (looking east) showing Cheyenne Frontier Days. J.S. Palen Collection.

to help slow the soul. Dude Ranch holdings range from individual ranches including Eatons' Ranch, often referred to as the nation's first dude ranch, located in the Big Horn Mountains near Sheridan as well as organizational records including the Dude Ranchers Association Collection. National Park collections range from the personal collections of park rangers like Karl Allan who worked in numerous Western parks including Yellowstone and Grand Teton, to park concessioners like Howard Hays who operated camps sites and a stagecoach line in Yellowstone."

"If one wishes to venture beyond the comfort of the dude ranch nestled in the foothills and aspires to reach lofty heights, the AHC holds more than 50 **mountaineering-related collections.**" Some climbing documentation is found in unsuspected places. Charles Coutant was a Cheyenne newspaper editor and author of an 1899 history of Wyoming. His small collection of papers contains five letters by Nathaniel P. Langford to Coutant regarding Langford's exploration of the Teton and Yellowstone areas in 1870, including Langford's ascent of the Grant Teton. Much more prominent "is a collection from Betsy (Cowles) Partridge who was among the earliest women and Americans to attempt Mount Everest in 1950. Her collection includes diaries and photo albums of her many climbing expeditions." In the past few years a biography of her was published,

as well as a few articles.

For those who enjoy learning more about sports and outdoor recreation from reading about it in the comfort of the recliner, the AHC has numerous **collections from writers** including Warren Page who was an editor of *Field & Stream Magazine* as well as a world-class big-game hunter, and Murray Olderman who was a prolific sports writer including writing scripts for ABC Sports Radio. The Center holds numerous travel and adventure writers' paper including Buddy Mays whose writing ranged from whitewater rafting adventures to sight-seeing in the Desert Southwest."

I ended my last column by referring to "hunting with hawks and early **road trips** to barnstorming and sports journalists." I mistakenly referred to hawks when I should have identified **falcons**. We do have the papers of Randy Shaw, who was a falconer in Wyoming, beginning in the 1960s. He was one of the first federally licensed falconers in Wyoming. Early road trips were certainly a form of adventure as well as of recreation, given the wretched condition of even the best highways. Our catalog description has this to say about one relevant collection:

The Martin Evoy and Edward Duffield Lever collection contains black-and-white photographs and negatives of the 1937 cross country automobile trip of Edward Lever and his sister and brother-in-law, Leonore and Martin

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# From Spurs to Screen: Wyoming Boy Makes It Big in Hollywood

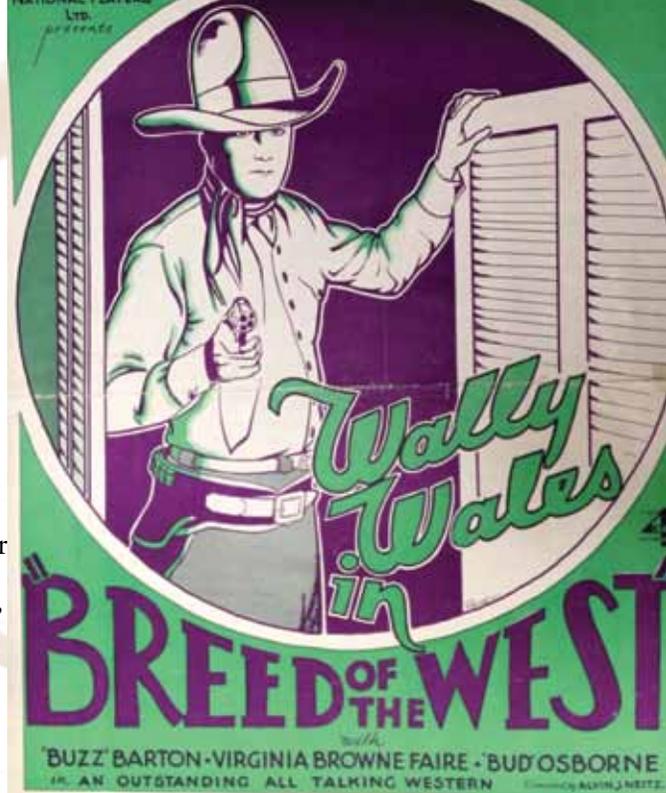
Sometimes those “film cowboys” featured in Westerns in the 1920s-1950s were actually *real* cowboys. One such authentic cowboy-turned-Hollywood star is Wally Wales (also known as Hal Taliaferro). Wally Wales was born Floyd Taliaferro Alderson in 1895 in Sheridan, Wyoming. His first job was working on a ranch owned by the Wyoming governor and senator, John B. Kendrick, where he slept under a blanket of stars and sang cowboy songs around a campfire. He later moved to Montana with his two younger brothers. Known as “Bones,” “Big Bones,” and “Little Bones,” the three brothers operated a ranch called “Bones Brothers Ranch” near Birney, Montana (now on the National Register of Historic Places). The site was immortalized by a short story in “Nomad’s Land” by Mary Roberts Rinehart, written after she had visited the ranch.

While his brothers continued to run the ranch, in 1915 Wales set off for different pastures. He worked briefly as a stage driver in



Still from the silent *Western Tearin' Loose* (1925), starring Wally Wales and Jean Arthur. Wally Wales papers, UW American Heritage Center.

He also enjoyed drawing and sketching. He took great pride in his cowboy roots, and although his Hollywood career began by watching and laughing at the “film cowboys,” he feared he was losing his authentic cowboy credibility. After “making it big,” he recalls a conversation he had with an old, “true” cowboy. After proclaiming that he was a former cowboy himself, the old cowboy looked at him and replied that he was “no cowboy... just one of them dude movie cowboys.” Wales said that he would have felt better if the cowboy had punched him in the nose. Wales died in 1980, in Sheridan.



Publicity book for *Breed of the West* (1930). Wally Wales papers, UW American Heritage Center.

Yellowstone National Park. He then went to Billings, where he saw a Western being filmed. Highly amused by the film cowboys, Wales decided to head to Hollywood to try his luck at the silver screen. He first worked on the Universal Studios ranch, carrying water to horses. He got a few bit parts, then left for a stint in the Army. He came back to Hollywood, but continued with minimal luck. After years of trying to make it big, he finally moved to Arizona where he got a job as an oil worker. Right at this time, producer Lester F. Scott, Jr. decided he'd like Wales to star in his Westerns. He had to go down to Arizona in person to convince Wales to return to Hollywood. Wales agreed, and ended up making over thirty Westerns for Scott over a three year period. In fact, it was Scott who gave him the stage name Wally Wales – because Wales resembled both the silent film star Wally Reid and the then Prince of Wales (Edward VIII).

Wales ended up appearing in 220 films between 1921 and 1964, successfully transitioning from silent films to sound motion pictures. Around 1936, Wales changed his stage name to Hal Taliaferro.

Wales never lived the true celebrity lifestyle, preferring to stay at home, practice his stunts, and train for his films.

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# Spurs to Screen

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The American Heritage Center has the papers of Wally Wales. The collection contains mainly stills, advertising, and publicity materials for films in which Wales appeared. It also contains photographs of the Rocky Mountain West, including Yellowstone National Park, Thermopolis, and the Bones' Brothers Ranch in Montana; a diary and sketchbook from a trip he took to the Bahamas; and a make-up kit complete with a mustache drawer. Also included in the collection is a neat series of cabinet card photographs featuring late 19th century stage stars.

The collection is full of fascinating photographs, clippings, and other interesting items documenting the life of this Wyoming native-turned-Western film star.

—Emily Christopherson, Processing Archivist



Wally Wales's make-up kit, complete with mustache drawer. Wally Wales papers, UW American Heritage Center.

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Evoy. On September 18, 1937 they set out from Abington, Pennsylvania for the West coast. During the **trip**, Edward Lever took photographs and Martin Evoy shot 16mm film. Some of the photographs are labeled and dated and most are from the Western states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. There are a number of photographs from Yellowstone National Park, including two of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in an open touring car, dated September 26, 1937. An interest in shepherding is reflected in shots of herders and their flocks and dogs in Wyoming.

Another notable road trip was one journalist Grace Robinson took across the country with her sister, in 1928.

**Barnstorming?** We have at least half a dozen collections documenting this sport, including the papers of Roscoe Turner, who liked to perform stunts with his pet lion (yes, lion) accompanying him in the plane. We also have the collection of Roger Williams, now essentially unknown, but a pilot in both world wars. Roger Quincy Williams (1894-1976) became a barnstormer and stunt flyer during the 1920s. In 1929 he became the second flyer to cross the Atlantic, flying

from New York to Rome. So let me close with reference to our materials relating to sports journalists, from both print and broadcast venues. Take, for instance, Barbara J. Brown who was a journalist who covered the American **rodeo** circuit. She had articles in such periodicals as *World of Rodeo*, *Pro Rodeo Sports News*, *Rodeo Times*, *Western Sportsman*, *Hoof and Horn*, and *Western Horseman*. Or take Henry E. Bradshaw (d. 1981), an **outdoor journalist** who, throughout his long career, contributed to *Field & Stream*, *Outdoor Life*, and *Sports Afield* among other publications. Bradshaw, along with his wife, Vera Foss Bradshaw, wrote more than 3,000 outdoor and travel articles. We also hold the papers of legendary sports television **broadcaster** Heywood Hale Broun, as well as collections by radio sports commentators and even illustrators.

**Let me give the last words to John Waggener, "When it comes to the history of sports, recreation, and leisure, the American Heritage Center holds something for everybody."**

# Dr. Julia Stetler

The AHC recently hired Dr. Julia Stetler in a newly created position funded by the UW Foundation. In the coming year, she will study the history of the university and create exhibits for the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center. The Gateway Center will provide office and meeting spaces for the UW Foundation, the UW Alumni Association, and UW's Center for Advising and Career Services.

Julia, along with assistance from staff and faculty from the AHC and the Foundation, will curate exhibits for the Gateway Center's McMurry Foundation Legacy Hall, particularly a 30-foot timeline divided by decades of the university's history which will include both static and interactive elements. There will be two video screens on tracks that can be moved from decade to decade exploring in greater depth the history of the university.

Across from the timeline will be exhibits highlighting UW leaders, alumni, and philanthropists. Other video screens will feature students, faculty, academics, and athletics. In the McMurry Grand Atrium will be an interactive exhibit examining the history of Wyoming's energy industry. According to the UW Foundation, "This will have both static and flexible video elements along with a touch-screen system that will allow visitors to find out more information about the energy industry's impact on UW and how the university has influenced the advancement of Wyoming's energy industry."

The Gateway Center will be completed this coming fall.

Julia is a native of Germany. She received her Master's degree in history and English from the University of Oldenburg in 2005. She then came to Laramie as an international exchange student and returned to the community in 2009 after having completed her coursework for a doctorate in American History and Public History at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her dissertation examined the European reception of Buffalo Bill's Wild West show and was completed in 2012. Julia also serves as an associate editor for the Papers of William F. Cody at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West.



## C. J. Box at the AHC

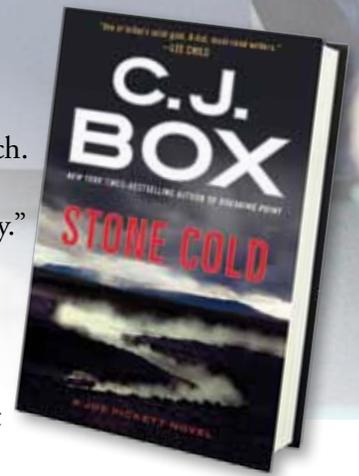
More than 150 fans of C.J. Box attended his presentation and book signing for his new Joe Pickett novel *Stone Cold* at the American Heritage Center on March 11. As he has in the past few years, Box began his publicity tour for his new book featuring the now famous game warden in the Wyoming Stock Growers Room at the AHC.

*Stone Cold* is the 14th book featuring Pickett by Box. In this book, Wyoming's governor sends Pickett to investigate a large, remote ranch in Wyoming's Black Hills where no one ever visits. The rumor is the lone inhabitant of the ranch has made his considerable fortune by murder. What Joe finds at the ranch is "a lot more than he's bargained for. There are two other men living up at that ranch. One is a stone-cold killer who takes an instant dislike to Joe. The other is new—but Joe knows him too well. The first man doesn't frighten Joe. The second is another story entirely."

*Stone Cold* has received many positive reviews. *Publishers Weekly* called it "Exhilarating." The *Arizona Republic* said "Box weaves vivid descriptions of Wyoming's landscape and the personal drama of Pickett's family into a blistering page-turner."

Besides the Joe Pickett novels, there is now discussion about a Joe Pickett television series. Robert Redford is the executive producer. The show has not been picked up yet, but the producers have started to take the idea to various networks.

C.J. Box donated his papers to the AHC several years ago.



## AHC Digital Collections

The AHC continues to add to our digital collections page on our website more digitized films of Wyoming events. A grant from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund provided the funding to digitize more than 500 films.

From the Walter Nicholas Baker Collection we digitized a 1945 silent movie co-produced by Baker titled *Explorers of the Purple Sage*. The film documented a wild horse roundup in the Red Desert. If you want to see films about the University of Wyoming, look at those digitized from the University of Wyoming, University Relations/Media Services Collection. The collection contains films of UW from 1937 to 1965. The collection also contains photographs, posters, and scrapbooks of UW buildings. Laramie businessman Elmer Lovejoy filmed UW homecoming parades from 1929 and 1930 and a 1939 Laramie pet parade. George Bain, owner of the LU Sheep Ranch in Wyoming, filmed parades and rodeos in Thermopolis in the 1930s and 1940s along with operations of his ranch. Finally, if you want to view some films documenting Cheyenne Frontier Days in the 1950s check out the Clarice Whittenburg Collection. She was a professor of elementary education at UW from 1930 to 1964.

All of these films are online on our digital page as are many more films and many photographs, letters, maps, and many other materials. The AHC website can be found at [www.uwyo.edu/ahc](http://www.uwyo.edu/ahc). On this page click on the quick link Digital Collections (Luna) and enjoy viewing many interesting items documenting the history of Wyoming.

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The Lone Ranger (Breck Beemer, the radio voice of the Lone Ranger from 1941 to 1954) visited Cheyenne Frontier Days in July 1948 to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of The Lone Ranger radio program. The western hero rode in the Frontier Days parade and he also broadcast a special show from the steps of the Capitol as well as a regular broadcast of the show at radio station KFBC. Cheyenne's mayor Ben Nelson issued a proclamation declaring Cheyenne "Lone Ranger Frontier Town" for the day with the Lone Ranger as its mayor. Additionally, the radio program sponsored a nationwide contest with Cheyenne as the answer. Kenneth Friedley of Cleveland, Ohio, was called during a broadcast and asked "What city or town in the United States, in celebration of the Lone Ranger's 15th anniversary, is changing its name to the Lone Ranger Frontier Town?" Friedley answered correctly and received a free trip to Cheyenne Frontier Days, a complete western outfit from Western Ranchman Outfitters, and a chance to meet the masked man. Photo courtesy American Heritage Center Photo Collection.