

Luckenbach MOON



"People can't believe we have such a big moon for such a small town" —Hondo Crouch

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 11

Dedicated to Peter Cedarstacker

November 2009

Fri., Nov. 6th **8pm**
 Noel Lee Haggard
 Jimmy Lee Jones

Sat., Nov. 14th
Hunters' Ball



Thomas
 Michael
 Riley
plus...

THE DUST DEVILS



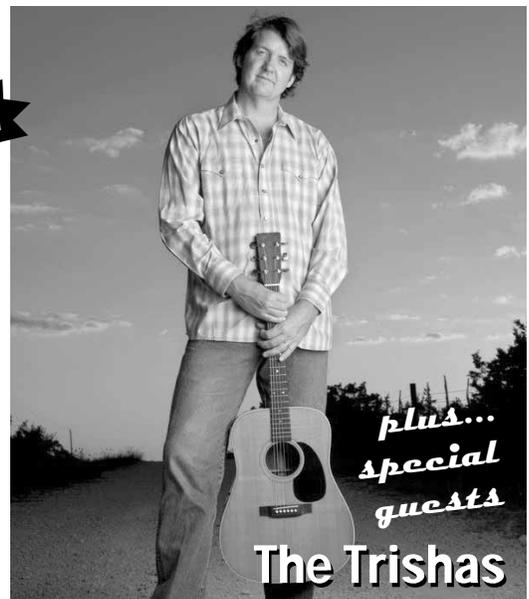
Saturday, November 28th, 9pm
THANKSGIVING DANCE
BRUCE ROBISON

Sat., Nov. 7th
 Deryl Dodd **9pm**
 Sarah Pierce

Sat., Nov. 21st



The **9pm**
GOURDS

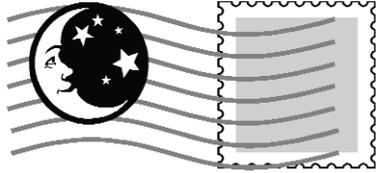


Inside
"THE MOON"

Check website or call for ticket info & details
www.luckenbachtexas.com

Happy Thanksgiving
 from Luckenbach Texas
 Closed - Thursday November 26th

Fandango Photo GalleryPage 2
 Everybody's SomebodyPages 4-5
 Luckenbach Store & MorePage 6
 You Can't Forget MemoriesPage 7
 Luckenbach Upcoming EventsPage 8



PEOPLE SEND LETTERS TO THE MOON

Thanks,
 Here are a few Pictures of the little Luckenbach I built years ago up here in the Boston area after I visited the real Luckenbach and was so touched by how you guys really make us feel like "EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY IN LUCKENBACH " Since the first time we took a trip to your little town we have been back 6-7 times and as you can see in the pictures I even built my own little tribute to Luckenbach up here in Ma. I have researched all I can on Hondo and all things Luckenbach online. I still cry while hearing "LUCKENBACH MOON" and insist it's played at my Funeral!

A few years back I met Hondo's daughter and told her of my plans to build a little Luckenbach up here. She said when I did she would send some stuff to decorate it a little.

Take care and I hope all is well---Mike in Boston



MIKE BLAKELY'S TEXAMERICANA FANDANGO IN NUMERO SIETE!

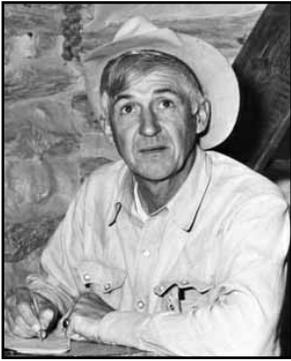
September 11-13, 2009

Luckenbach MOON

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We would like to acknowledge and thank the following "Somebodies" who made this month's MOON possible:
 Peter Cedarstacker aka Hondo Crouch, Becky Crouch Barrales, John Raven, Maggie Montgomery and C. P. Vaughn.





Note: From 1961-1973, Hondo (nom de plume, or alias, or AKA Peter Cedarstacker) wrote a social satire column for the *Comfort News*. The fictional town of Cedar Creek and all of its characters eventually became the real town of Luckenbach and all of its characters (and Luckenbach has some real characters!) The MOON reserves a special corner for Peter Cedarstacker, Writer, as a corner of wit and human insight for us today.

-Becky Crouch Barrales

CEDAR CREEK CLIPPINGS

Zombrano Rausch, no kin to Hubert, was up from Pipe Creek this weekend wanting to contract armadillo meat to feed the hunters this fall. Trans World Airlines is havin' a strike and Arthur Goldberg, kin to Rube, is gonna make 'em take off Monday without no pilots. Lefty and Ann GoForth are the proud parents of a little girl. Her name is Susan and she is in my Sunday school class and she is smart.

That is about all the news (news is plural) here in Cedar Creek. I had another new but I can't get on it rite now.

I have to go write Nikita and Azelea Klappenbach for their nice letter to the nice editor of the *Comfort News*. The Klappenbachs you'll remember are the Luckenbach Klappenbachs, who now live in Possum Hollow and want equal space in the *Comfort News*! Little do they know that we here in Cedar Creek have to pay plenty to get our news in the *Comfort News*.

Lester Flach, no kin to Lefty, wants to know where Cedar Creek is at. Here in Cedar Creek we're all retired Government employees, and we don't know where Cedar Creek is either, and care less. We couldn't find it with both hands, or a pair of deer horns. But I want to thank Lester for his sweet letter; I'll bet he's purty. He lives in Boerne, so "hello dere, Boerne."

Another writer wants to know the most efficient way to remove a skunk from a trap. Being the efficiency expert that I am, I went out last nite and trapped a skunk so I could write about it step by step. I must not have done it rite. You're welcome to have the notes I took if you can read thru a gas mask. You can have my clothes too. I didn't know skunks were so tricky. They play possum. My eyes burn. Kinda mad at the "dear reader" too.

I have come to the conclusion that Mr. Skunk trapper can write to his Congressman for a free bulletin sent in a brown envelope postage free and you'll be fined for

using the envelope, bad. I'm sure the Federal Government has a bulletin on "The Art of Taking A Live Skunk Out of A Steel Trap," because they sent me one on "Abnormal Sex Habits of the Anopheles Mosquitoes."

I wish you "dear readers" would quit askin' so many questions. I have enough problems of my own. I'm beginning to feel like a He Ann Landers.

Gotta go to the Post Office and see if I can pick up a new.

Peter (Seidensticker) Cedarstacker
Writer

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EVERYBODY'S SOMEBODY

by
Becky Crouch
Barrales

Dr. Ferdinand Herff, Pioneer Doctor

Readers familiar with Luckenbach history remember that one of its first residents, Jacob Brodbeck, was a teacher and inventor who invented a "flying machine" in 1865, fifty years before the Wright Brothers. (See *"Reach for the Sky"* by Anita Tatsch, Brodbeck's 98 year old granddaughter, for sale in the general store). Brodbeck's promoter and financial backer for this risky long-suffering project was Dr. Ferdinand Herff.

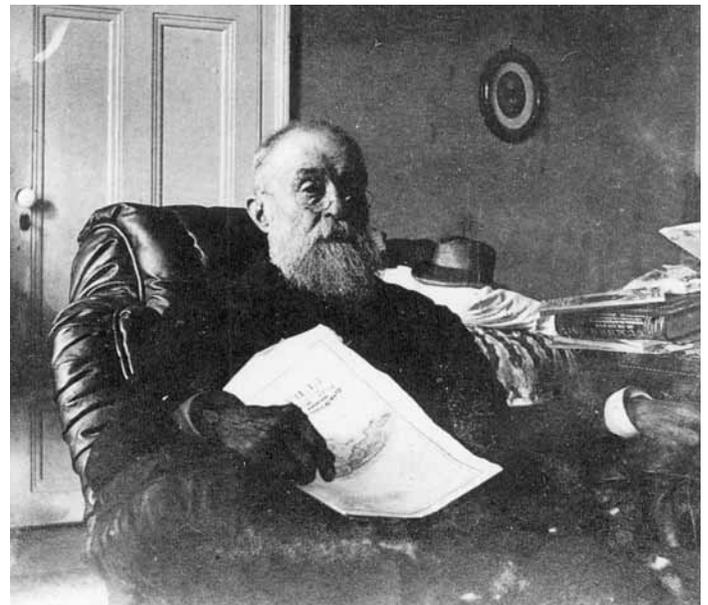
Today, Dr. Herff's great-great granddaughter, 88 year old Juanita Chipman (Mrs. Guy), is celebrating the debut of her book, *"The Passing of Gifts"*, which has taken a lifetime to write. We should never take for granted our personal or regional history. The book includes the remarkable life of this pioneer doctor, his family, and the beginnings of our Hill Country – especially Bettina, Boerne and San Antonio. This German culture still exists here today.

Dr. Ferdinand Herff came from Darmstadt, Germany, with the second wave of immigrants in 1846, with the Adlesverein Society. He brought 33 people, known as "The Forty", to found a very liberal and experimental colony, Bettina (named after the German philosopher Goethe's girlfriend) near New Braunfels. The attempt to have a utopian communist society failed and went broke because some worked, some didn't. Most were nobles and intellectuals, and knew nothing of agriculture, a necessary survival skill. Lawyers, musical instrument makers, and hotel keepers weren't useful and knew nothing else. There was no discipline, no leadership; just a lot of brotherly love, drinking, joking, loafing, smoking, and reading. (Present households take note of this situation!) Dr. Herff never saw any return on his money on the Bettina investment adventure or Brodbeck's airplane.

But his ingenuity as a doctor was more valuable than a politician. His forte in Europe was plastic surgery on faces, where he had plenty of experience on

soldiers from the Austrian war. In Bettina, their one long barracks was surrounded by thousands of Indians, Comanche and Apache, who grew to trust and respect Herff, and trade remedies.

It took a lot of bravery to perform double cataract surgery on a blind Indian out in the open on a bed of gravel. Herff had dozens of his comrades stand around with palm leaf fans to keep away insects. He performed the surgery on a calm day, in broad daylight, so he wouldn't have to use kerosene lamps or candles around the flammable ether. So happy was the Indian upon his complete recovery he rewarded Herff with a squaw, a teenaged Mexican girl. She did good: joined Herff's "Forty" and later married Herman Spies, who succeeded Meusebach as commissioner of Adlesverein.



Dr. Herff learned from the Indians in return. If they had proud flesh from a healing wound, they stuck their finger, or whatever part, in the river and the fish ate off the scab so new tissue could grow. They also showed him how they'd apply algae from the water onto wounds. Maybe it contained some sort of penicillin, it was surmised years later.

Herff limited his practice to medical problems and epidemic diseases. Today, in our efforts to keep the flu at bay, we might be interested to see how the Indians handled a small pox epidemic. They isolated the sick in a series of round brush corrals. Water, jerky, blankets were conveniently located nearby. An immune pockmarked survivor approached the corrals daily, from the windward direction, to check on things.

If buzzards circled overhead, he crawled through the brush walls, snared the dead corpses with a rope and burned them. Those who survived that first critical stage advanced to the next corral, and the vacated one was burned. In another week recovered patients were dismissed from the corrals of isolation after they burned their clothes. This quarantine method proved to be efficient when no vaccinations existed. There were very few pockmarked Indians.

Dr. Herff and Mathilde moved to San Antonio from Boerne where he'd have more patients. He start-

ed the Medical Society and the Santa Rosa Hospital. There were five generations of Herff doctors to follow.

There is a sad account of the time he took his granddaughter to see the great Chief Geronimo imprisoned at Fort Sam Houston. He had attended to this chief in the past, and here Geronimo was, dirty, smelly, not allowed to bathe, in a cage! The soldiers freaked out when the girl put her hand through the bars to shake his hand and greet him. It's all she had to offer.



Food 7 Days a Week!

Hours:

*Mon-Thurs - 11am-7pm
Weekends - 11am 'til close!*



Aug. 8th, 2009 – Asleep At The Wheel

The mens' room on a busy evening is always a good place to strike up a conversation. No different on the eve of the "Asleep At The Wheel" concert. Met an Ole Boy from Nor Dakota, Gabe Dahl, who is an athletic director, not a physical ed coach he reminded me, in Grand Forks. The Dahl family, and there was a slough of um', were on a travel quest. They were in search of Texas B.B.Q and the root source of the song, "Luckenbach Texas." They fell in love with Luckenbach, especially since "ATTW" was playing. Gabe's dad, Mr. Dahl lawyers for a granite company in Cold Springs Minnesota. He



has been to Marble Falls at the granite digs there on business and decided he needed to bring his family down for the Texas experience. Since there is no B.B.Q in Nor Dakota, the culinary trips to Coopers in Llano, Salt Lick & Iron Works provided them what they were looking for in their Texas Taste Trip. It's great fun to run into people who live what our great State has to offer!

Keep Chuggin,
Terry, Luckenbach Cub Reporter

P.S. Thanks for the dance Stacey (Gabe's Wife & Lawyer)

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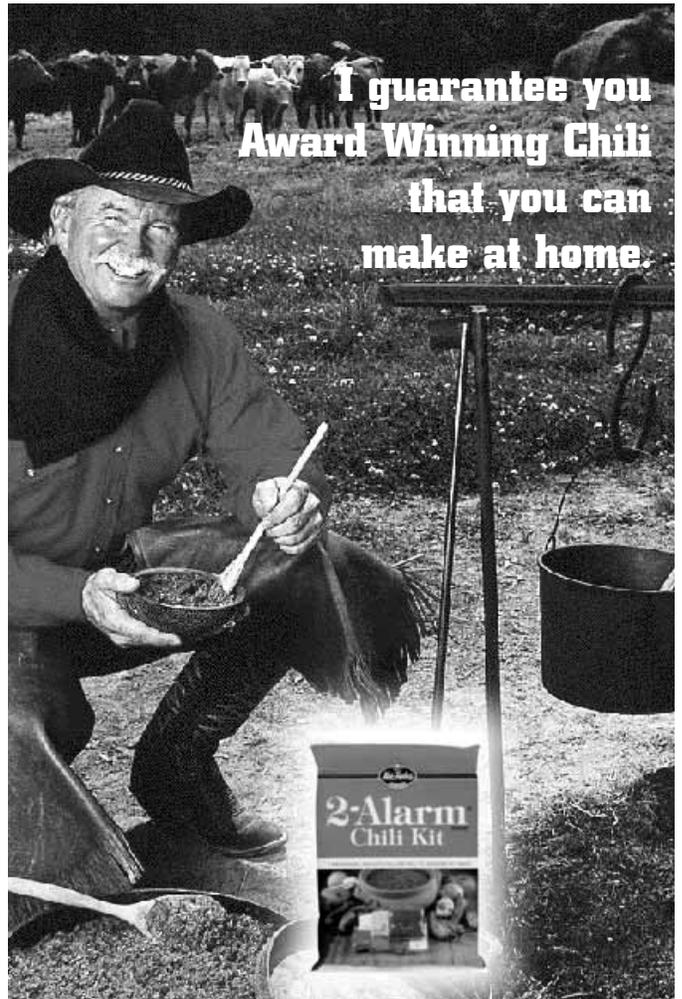
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You can't forget Memories

November 2009
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It is time to come clean.

A long, long time ago, about 2800 BC, someone in Babylon came to the conclusion that if a person removed dirt from his or her body, chances were he/she would do a better job of attracting a mate or just having a fling.

Immersing one's self in water that did not contain alligators was the most popular method. Then someone found that a mix of alkali and oil would make soap which added greatly to the cleaning process. The formula and process was refined until the scientist came up with a prize winner that was known as "Grandma's Lye Soap".

Grandma's Lye Soap is what kept Grandpa and the kids clean and relatively free of body and head lice, bed bugs and mites. It helped their aroma also.

The folks who settled in and around Luckenbach, Texas in the mid 1800's had lye soap which they manufactured in the privacy of their backyards. Tide or Dove had not been invented yet.

Soap as we know it results from the saponification of alkali and fat. Before lye became commercially available you could make your own by filtering water through wood ashes until it absorbed enough potash to work. The fat came from the hogs. At hog killing time, usually in the fall of the year, the fat was all put in a big kettle and cooked until the clear fat was rendered out. The debris was strained out and called "Cracklings" which were a nice snack and are now sold for high prices as "Fried pig skins".

The soap making process involved heating the hog lard in a large kettle and then adding the lye which was dissolved in water and stirring the mix until it thickened. When the soap cooled it was cut into chunks and used for washing everything from the kid's necks to the wooden floors to Grandpa's long underwear and

Grandma's girdle.

The quality of the soap produced depended on the properties of the fat in the recipe. Hogs on different diets produced different kinds of fat. I'm sure someone somewhere knows what to feed your hog to get Tide but that knowledge is really not necessary here.

The old myth that lye soap was so strong it would take the paint off your Chevrolet is mostly just that, a myth. The soap was mild enough to wash your hair with and not come out bald.

Everyone made their own soap until the early twentieth century when it became profitable to manufacture soap. The Lever Brothers were among the first soap czars. They were from England and moved operations to the States in the 1880's. Their products included "Lifebuoy", "Lux", and "Vim" soaps.

About 1940 "Detergents" were invented. They were/are not soaps but mixes containing ionic and anionic surfactants. There is a lot of chemistry involved but all we need to know is that the surfactants cause dirt to stop clinging to material.

Lye soap was sold at Luckenbach until a few years ago. (It may still be available in the store, I ain't checked).

When I was growing up my family never made soap that I remember. I do remember the neighbor Mrs. Mikeska making soap in a big, black washpot in the yard. I would imagine some of the living history places still have demonstrations of how to make lye soap.

This again harks back to the good old days when you could spend an afternoon stirring a pot of soap over an open fire. Some day these will be the good old days.



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

This schedule may change... Call or check online for info on TICKETED events 888-311-8990

Sun	1st	T & C Miller	1pm
Mon	2nd	Hayden Whittington & Walt Perryman	5pm
Tue	3rd	Levi Darr-Pickers Circle	5pm
Wed	4th	Scooter Pearce-Pickers Circle	5pm
Thu	5th	Nelson Broyal-Pickers Circle	5pm
Fri	6th	Dale Mayfield-Pickers Circle NOEL HAGGARD • JIMMY LEE JONES	3pm 8pm
Sat	7th	Adam Carroll • Owen Temple DERYL DODD • SARAH PIERCE	1pm 9pm
Sun	8th	Tina Wilkins • Jamie Wilson	1pm
Mon	9th	T & C Miller-Pickers Circle	5pm
Tue	10th	Levi Darr-Pickers Circle	5pm
Wed	11th	Ben Beckendorf-Pickers Circle	5pm
Thu	12th	Sol Patch-Pickers Circle	5pm
Fri	13th	Bill Lewis-Pickers Circle Josh Peek - Dance	3pm 8pm
Sat	14th	Kevin Deal Hunters' Ball-Thomas Michael Riley The Dust Devils	1pm 8pm
Sun	15th	George Devore	1pm
Mon	16th	Hayden Whittington • Walt Perryman	5pm
Tue	17th	Levi Darr-Pickers Circle	5pm
Wed	18th	Bill Lewis-Pickers Circle	5pm
Thu	19th	Kent Finlay-Pickers Circle	5pm
Fri	20th	Dale Mayfield-Pickers Circle Rodney Hayden - Dance	3pm 8pm
Sat	21st	Matt Powell & Friends THE GOURDS • MATT POWELL	1pm 9pm
Sun	22nd	Thomas Michael Riley & Mike Blakely	1pm
Mon	23rd	T & C Miller-Pickers Circle	5pm
Tue	24th	Levi Darr-Pickers Circle	5pm
Wed	25th	Dale Mayfield - Pickers Circle	5pm
Thur	26th	Closed	
Fri	27th	Bo Porter The Drugstore Cowboys - Dance	3pm 8pm
Sat	28th	The McKay Brothers THANKSGIVING DANCE - BRUCE ROBISON THE TRISHAS	1pm 9pm
Sun	29th	Sol Patch • ShAnnie	1pm
Mon	30th	Hayden Whittington & Walt Perryman	5pm

Monday-Friday - Jimmy Lee Jones 1pm
Most Sundays - Cowboy Doug Davis-Pickers Circle 5pm



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MOON



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