



First RV Trip - Fall 2018



Our location for breakfast this week. They also pack our lunches.

Hello to Family & Friends

Today starts out on sort of downer but was pretty cool.

On the movie ride I carpooled with Doc Crabbe and Omaha. We rode drag and I remember stating in these newsletters how hilarious it was to drive with them. I even took a video which I may still have. Anyways, Doc Crabbe was also on the Durango/Silverton ride last September. A week after he returned home from Durango he had a heart attack and passed away.

Doc was a veteran of about 8-10 rides with GAA. Doc never met a stranger. Everyone instantly fell in love with Doc and he always kept his cooler in the back of his pickup stocked with beer for anyone who wanted one at the end of the day. The tailgate of his pickup was a popular gathering spot.

Dead Eye Jake, after only joining Doc on the movie ride, felt impelled to put his image of Doc Crabbe on canvas in oils. The result is seen below.

On this day Doc's widow, daughter and granddaughter were present for breakfast and presented with the oil painting.

Day 22

Wednesday

October 17th

*Great American
Adventures
Wyatt Earp
Vendetta Ride
Tombstone, AZ*

Weather

*70's
Sunny
Perfect*

As a tribute to Doc, Troy led a horse with an empty saddle and Doc's boots placed backwards in the stirrups, according to tradition, up and down Allen Street. The Vendetta ride was one of Doc's favorites. We all followed behind in silence as Tombstone and the Vendetta Riders honored the passing of one of their own.

I will miss you Doc



Artist, Dead Eye Jake and Doc's widow. Dead Eye is a barber in Los Angeles



Bruce Boxleitner and Rob Word ride with us this morning.



Mounted and leaving the parking area. The tower of the Courthouse I toured last week is upper left.



Troy, turning onto Allen Street and leading the riderless horse with the Doc's boots in the stirrups



The Vendetta Riders follow in a column 4 abreast

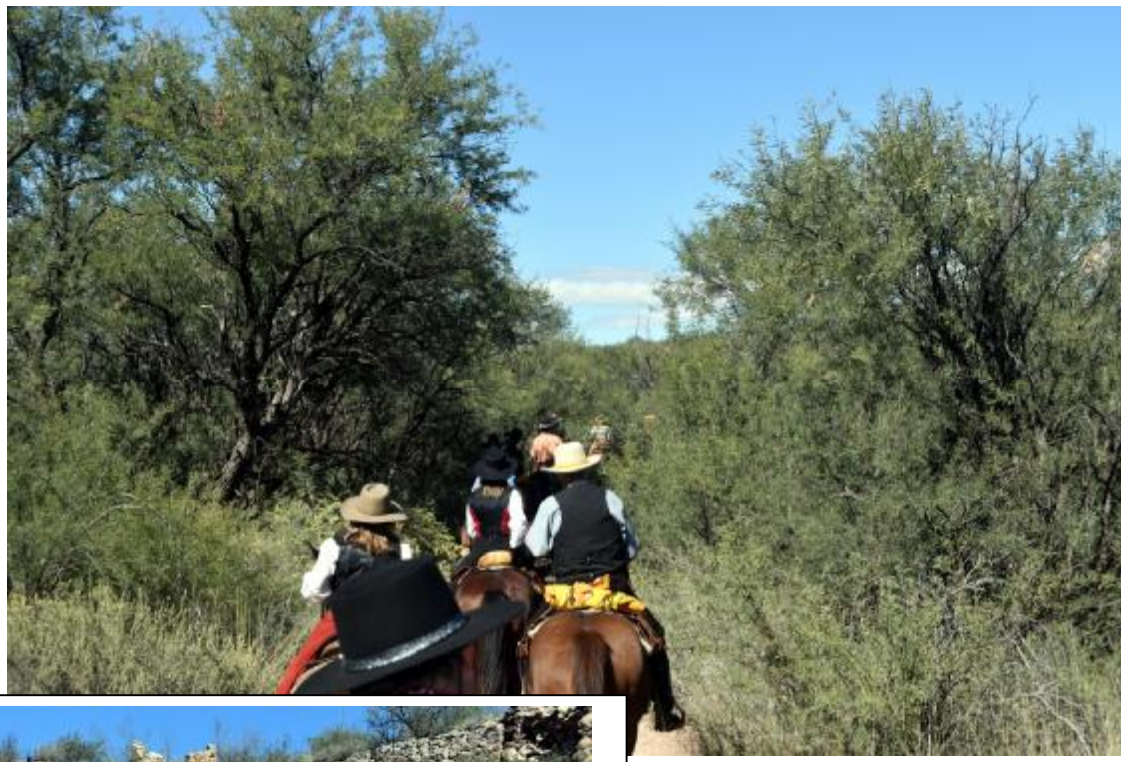


At this point, because I forgot to download yesterday's photos from my camera, the card was full. But we made two trips up Allen Street to the Bird Cage Theatre and back to the parking area.



Today's second ride started out with high expectations as we were riding to a real ghost town. This town was populated up until only 15-20 years ago.





These are ruins from a mill or mine, not sure which. Quigley would not stop and let me take a photo of the sign.

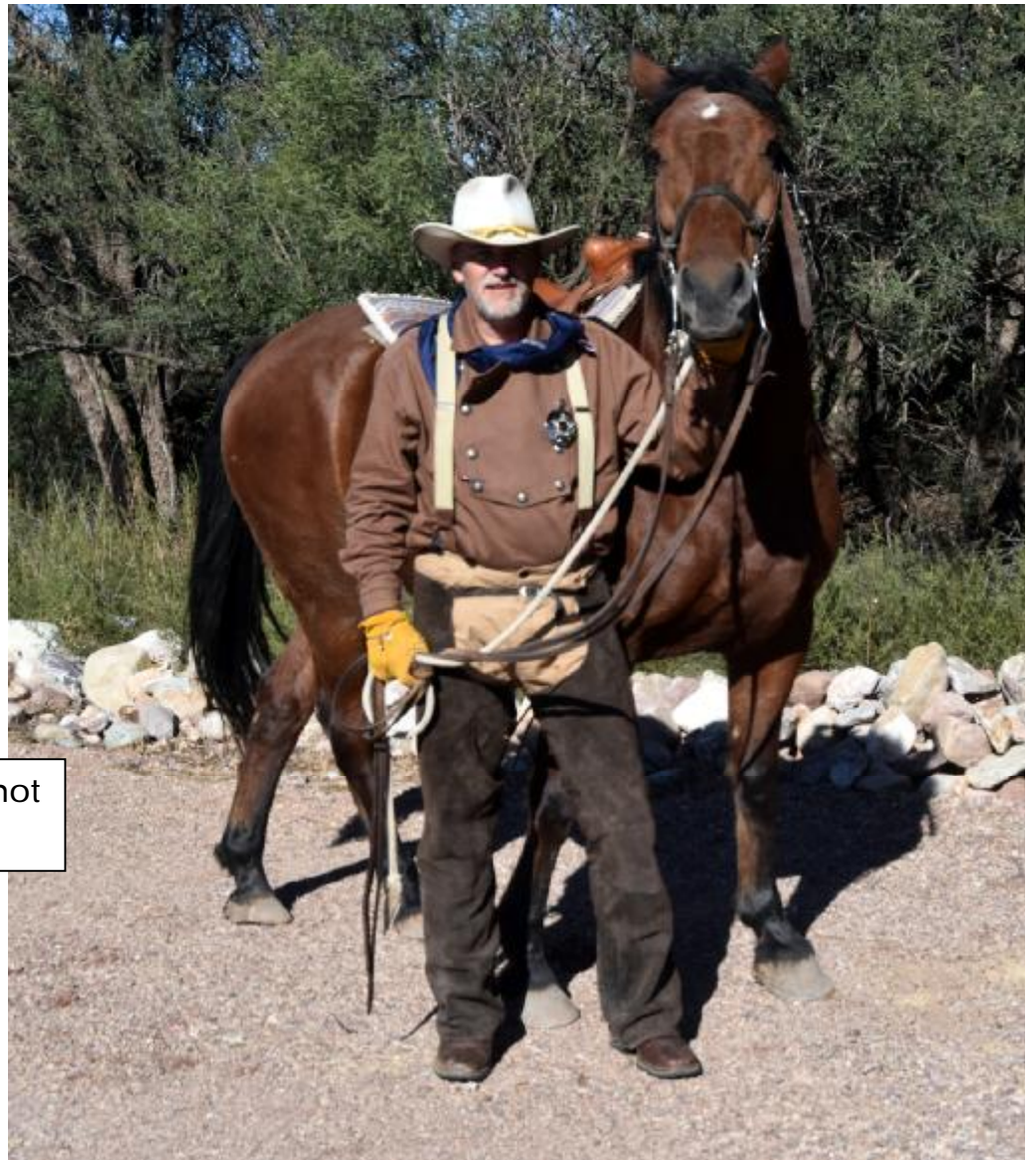




This is my view most of the time. Quigley is a grazer, which means he eats every chance he gets. I have to watch him constantly and when he starts to move right or left and his head starts down, I know he is heading for the nearest patch of tempting greenery. Then, YANK. A slight pull on the reins gets his head back up and his eyes on the trail, or tail as the case may be. This happens about every 30 seconds. It's a wonder I get to take any pics at all.



This is the second disappointing ghost town on this trip. Again, expecting wooden buildings with boardwalks and hitching posts, the buildings were adobe and metal. Hmmmm... did Fairbanks become a ghost town because the people moved out? Or did the people move out because the state wanted to make Fairbanks a ghost town?



Probably the best shot of the day.



We all met at the corner of 6th and Allen Street at 6:30 for a new project of Steve's. We were kind of milling around when Steve unfurled this banner and we started to duplicate an actual event that occurred right here. In 1881 while the Earp's were on trial, citizens of Tombstone, basically friends of the Cow-Boys, also marched down Allen Street with an identical sign.



Suddenly, we were met by Wyatt Earp himself. He told us it was 1929 and he was on his deathbed, but he was going to tell us how it REALLY was on the streets of Tombstone for the Earp's.

It was very cool and very interesting. Made you think about what the Earp's had to deal with.

Being dark, these were the only photos that turned out good.



After dinner there was a costume contest. From left to right: A saloon girl; Virgil Earp, with cane; Big Nose Kate (saloon owner); Doc Holliday (a real dentist); a couple more saloon girls; not sure who; Curly Bill; and Ike Clanton. There was another Doc Holliday and Wyatt Earp not in the photo.



The Winners!!! Big Nose Kate and Ike Clanton.

As you can see, Steve and Marcie put together much more than just riding horses. We learn about the land, the characters, the history. We dress and become part of that history, if even for just a little while.

It was a good day to honor the fallen.

This one's for you Doc
