



## The Reel west newsletter

I made it downtown to Rio Bravo to rent my cowboy equipment. I did get a little worried when Randy was 1 ½ hours late, but we got it done and I got back to the hotel lobby with time to spare.

Mastermind Steve, and his lovely wife Marcie arrived, we had a short meeting then caravanned to Chama for our first day of shooting.



Santa Fe is in the Sangre De Cristo Mountains, with three peaks over 14,000' high. Santa Fe itself is 7,198' above sea level.

Day 9  
Saturday  
April 9th  
On Location  
in  
Chama, NM

Stats

Weather

High Temp: 63  
Low Temp: TBD  
Conditions: Beautiful

All that's left of Red's,  
a famed hamburger  
joint on Route 66 in  
Springfield, MO

Mountains, the road, and our caravan, which numbers 12.



As mentioned above, we drove about 2 ½ hours north to Chama. I won't say too much about Chama since I plan to visit here after the WRAP! party.

I will say that Chama is home to the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, which incidentally, is out destination.

Below is the authentic train depot.





This is not the boxcar we used for filming, but it is similar. A wooden Denver & Rio Grande Western boxcar, probably built in the 1920's.

This is our main bad guy, J.T. Ripper, chained and outfitted like the condemned criminal he is, sitting under guard in one of the boxcars. The first scene is about to be filmed.

As in most movies, we are not filming in sequence. This means we shoot the scenes we need wherever we happen to be. Although this IS the actual first scene, we filmed all of the scenes today that we needed the boxcar and train station for, no matter where they appear in the film.





Above is a view of the train yard. There are a lot of train cars here. The place is actually closed until May, but we have permission to be on the premises.

It is true that much of an actor's time on set is spent standing around, waiting for their chance in front of the camera.

Below is part of our group "waiting for their close-up".

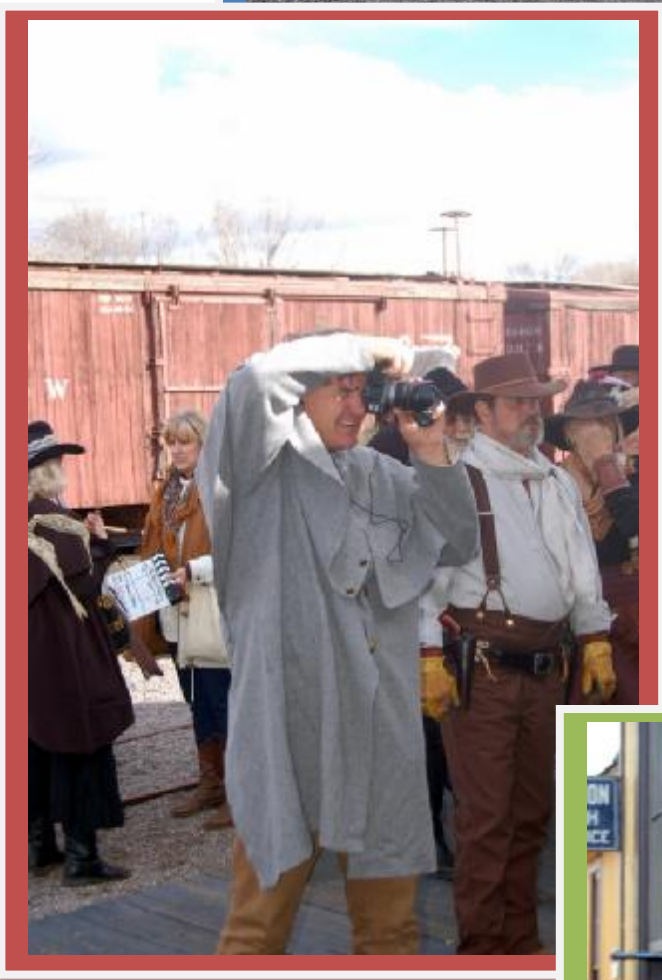




Above: We have just finished shooting the boardwalk scene and are done for the day. Everyone is just kind of milling around.

To the left is our director and cameraman, Aaron. I can tell you he is from Australia and just recently became a new father. I will find out more and let you know in a few days.

Everyone is going to get to hate the guy below. His character is Buck Tanner. He actually is a professional cowboy, in Florida. I won't tell you why you will come to hate him right now, you will have to wait until the movie comes out.





Aaron is taking a close-up of Buck Tanner.

We all loaded into our vehicles and headed back to Santa Fe for dinner. Tomorrow we get on our horses for the first time. I will be riding for the next 6 days. Aaron will be filming. The rest of us will be (what we call) acting. The horses will be... well, horses.

Stay tuned, and let us hope I don't get bucked off my horse (almost did last time).

I leave you with a stunning view of the snowcapped Sangre De Cristo Mountains.



