

2710 West Camino de las Grutas  
Tucson, AZ 85742  
2-12-03

Dear Art,

I feel that I know you from WWA and your Hominy connections, so we're not strangers. I thank you very much for your saga on Henry Grammer, which I read with consuming interest. It's a contribution to the history of Osage County, the West, and History of the Rodeo. He was one hell of a cowboy, a true westerner, generous and loyal. It took a world of digging and connecting, and you came up with the ball.

He was also plain unlucky. Didn't have a chance against that sheepherder jury in Montana, and the so-called car wreck was an ending waiting to happen. I had more than one source that the steering column on his Cadillac had been sawed on. Hale was the logical fixer. He was good at covering his trail. Set up Ace Kirby, who blew up the Smith house. I agree with your account that Grammer knew too much. The third and final Hale-Ramsey trial in federal court at Pawhuska brought out that ~~he~~ <sup>Hale</sup> had tried to hire someone to get rid of Ramsey.

For me, actually, the story of the so-called Reign of Terror began in Fairfax, early March, 1923, as a small boy with my family visiting relatives. I heard the terrible boom that night when the Bill Smith house was blown up with nitro. Next morning I slipped off to see the wreckage, and afterward was sorry after what I'd seen.

Many years later Tom White, who had directed the investigation of the case for the then U.S. Bureau of Investigation, came to Norman, looking for someone at the University to write his story.


A western history professor friend of mine sent him over to me. I should point out that I had graduated from OU with a B.A. in Journalism in 1937, worked on papers at Cushing, Shawnee and the O.C. Times; by then in Norman I had sold some western short stories and a few western

novels. Believe me, I was excited about meeting Tom White, a tall, gray-eyed Texan. We hit it off. I then spent a week at his home in El Paso. He gave me a lot of background on the case, including the names of the four men who went into the Osage as undercover agents.

Back in Oklahoma, I went to the Oklahoma Historical Society and read on microfilm the daily newspaper reports of the three trials. A lot of action. Well, I wrote the story, but never could find a home for it. I regret that it wasn't published during Mr. White's lifetime. A few years ago I wrote it as a novel, sticking close to the facts, and Five Star took it. FS does thirty-nine westerns and historicals a year. Sorry no DJ in this case.

I've always wanted the story told, and here it is, finally. I am part Osage, through my mother. My father was an early day rancher west of Hominy. I graduated from Hominy High in 1931, and proud of it. We had friendly kids, good teachers and really nice school facilities. By the way, Art, did you guys save the old building?

With best wishes and appreciation,

  
Fred Grove

P.S. I was glad to visit with Ramona Brown on the phone. I sent her a book and a photo, such as it is. She's generously sending me the News-Progress. . . Yes, I've heard of the Whitehair Memorial. I understand that historian Louis Burns and his wife Ruth donated over 6,000 copies of their research library! I heard from Mrs. Burns after she read my Osage book. . . Many thanks again for the saga.

Dear Art:

Yes, I read about the stolen signs. It fills me with disgust and anger. As a boy riding with my family, I well remember stopping at the Marland stations. Thanks for the photo.

The letters from Leavenworth are interesting. I agree that Durrill doesn't sound like a hardened criminal. I didn't know that Green killed him and Curtis. A rather unusual ending.

Here, I've been grounded from driving to the grocery and drug store. I can see signal lights okay and can drive, but my vision doesn't qualify me for a driver's license. What I call jack-leg lawyers are on tv plumb eager to sue somebody. The cataract operation I had last fall didn't help a bit. But that's life and I'm still active and can read copy with a reading glass, and we are fortunate to still have the freedom and comfort of home.

I've just finished reading a biog of Ben Franklin. He had many interest. I didn't know that he had spent so many years in England and France.

Take care. Best wishes.

*Fred*  
Fred Grove

P.S. Franklin was also not much of a husband.

*in the later years*

Tucson  
3-17-03  
-19-

Dear Art,

I'm way late answering your interesting and important mail, but instead of complaining, a guy my age had better be thankful he can still saddle up, so to speak. Thanks very much for plugging the Osage book and sending a review to the Tulsa World. I kinda doubt that Five Star sent review copies around, particularly to any Oklahoma papers. My fault, in a way, but I didn't know this last edition was out until I received some copies.

And say, congratulations on your award from the Chamber of Commerce. Mighty nice to be honored. I told you Ramona is sending me the paper.

That W.K. Hale letter to G. K. Sutherland is quite revealing, isn't it? It fits with what his nephew, Ernest Burkart, said his uncle Bill told him: "I've got everybody fixed from a road supervisor to the governor." The alleged note showed how he worked.

We lived across the street from the Sutherlands in Hominy, moving when I was five to Stillwater. There were two children, George Raynond and Virginia. I knew George in high school and later, a few times, at OU. Years ago, not long before we left Norman to move to Silver City, N.M. George called me from Oklahoma City. I invited him to come see us. He declined. He was always a kind of lonely guy. I liked him. He was a good person. I wondered what happened to him. Maybe he went to law school. I have a dim recollection that maybe he served as a JP in Hominy. So far as I know Mr. Sutherland was considered an honest lawyer. In Osage County that was something.

I say "alleged" above, because of the way Hale operated. He was still going strong in 1924. Tom White and the undercover agents didn't enter the case until 1925.

FLASH! Just had a great visit today with Ruth Logan Frazier and her husband, Jay, of Oklahoma City. Her father was the late Dr. Cliff Logan, a leading physician in Hominy for many years. She helped bring me up to date.

*Handwritten: "I guess I really should have I"*  
Minnie Canada's files should be of interest. I wrote her a few times over the years: when a former student told me she was in a Houston hospital, and when her Recollections of Early Day Hominy was published. I told her it was a contribution to Hominy's history. All those interviews. . . . Minnie worked hard. Ruth Frazier just told me that Minnie taught elsewhere after Hominy retired her at 65. My senior year she not only coached the junior and senior plays, as usual, but added a sophomore play. In addition, she coached the debate team. What a teacher!

Glad you feel good at 80. I think we older guys should do something; however, I doubt I'll tackle another long project.

Best to you and your family,

*Handwritten: "assigned"*  
P.S. When writing a theme in Minnie's class, I smoked a cigar a friend had given me. In red ink on the margin, she wrote, "Fred, this smells strongly of tobacco." I don't recall the exact

*Handwritten: "Fred"*  
Fred Grove  
*Handwritten: "I guess I should have I"*

Tucson  
6-29-89

Dear Art,

That was quite  
a feat getting the  
Asag chief to  
speak for the  
memorial in  
Honoring. maybe  
this will do it.

You take care,

Fred



Dear art,  
My wishes to you  
and the family for  
a great Xmas and  
happy New Year

I thank you for  
the big story in  
New Progress.  
Oh, my! mighty  
mid!

And love

TUCSM  
2-19-06

Dear Art,

Am a terrible correspondent, but will try to catch up a *bit*. Takes time, for one thing, to correct typing errors on the screen of my old IBM Wheewlwriter, a really grand old machine.

First, about the "female FBI agent" in that Osage film or documentary or what. Not true. Tom White, who directed the FBI probe of the murders, gave me the names of the three undercover agents, all men, who are in "The Years of Fear."

There is a big story in the Osage News, published by the tribe, which tells your story of the Hominy Indians and their exploits. Reprinted from the Tulsa World.. Congratulations. Yes, I agree and hope a memorial will be erected. I had heard about them when I went to Hominy high.,

Finally got you located for sure "up in the Osage." Makes sense living in Texas, but in Hominy? But it's good and colorfull.

About Henry Grammer. Used to hear about him as a kid when I visited relatives in Fairfax. A helluva cowboy, they said.. But I wonder if he was too young to have been a trail driver.. My dad was born in 1872. He rode for the Gamble outfit in Texas and did trail a Gamble herd to the northern pastures one time. Must have been in the '90s.

I'm not writing anymore, Art. But Five Star is bringing out "Trouble Hunter" next fall. I wrote it fifty years ago! I thank you once again for the display in the library and the news story..

Best wishes, like always.

*Joe*

TUESDAY  
5-4-06  
Dear Art:

By golly, glad to hear from you. I often think of you. I'm just not much of a correspondent anymore. I'm pleased that you are back reviewing books again. You know books. Your thoughts mean something.

Well, the Latinos marched here. There are a lot of 'em. They hold down a lot of jobs.. I wonder if Arizona could do without them?. Doubt it. No problem <sup>by them</sup> during the parade.. Some little Mexican kids carried American flags. Then <sup>up</sup> some jackass white guy had to burn a Mexican flag. He made such a ruckus he was taken in by police and charged with a misdemeanor. Meanwhile, Congress doesn't know what to do. Myself, I'd like to see them, some way, become citizens eventually.

com ore/

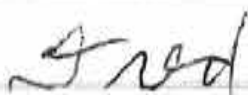


- 2 -

No doubt you have read that the Osages have an election coming up. Four candidates in the field for chief. Incumbent Jim Gray also running for re-election, One of the hopefuls is Dudley Whitehorn of Hominy. I was talking to a fellow in Pawhuska who thinks Dudley is a strong contender.

A lot of changes in the tribe with a constitution. Also gonna elect a congress. One of the problems is voting by absentee ballot.. You have to have a membership card as a tribal member signed after 2002. I am in the process of getting that done now . I wonder if some people just won't vote. Be interesting how matters work out.

AgAin, I am glad to hear from you.  
My best wishes, always.



Fred Grove

ACSON  
6-2-06

Dear Art:

Sure enjoyed The Electric Cowboy. Good story. Unusual. Take a kid to recall all the details and feel the excitement. I didn't know that steer roping had ever been banned in Texas. It is a cruel sport, the way the steers get jerked around, but so is roping cruel. I recall seeing steer roping at the Dewey 4th of July rodeo back in the early twenties with my dad and younger brother. The father of movie star Ben Jonson (or is it Johnson?) roped one time and was billed as the world champion. You had a interesting boyhood growing up in Laredo that enriched your life.

I still haven't been able to get my absentee ballot for the Osage election. Called Pawhuska. Promises made. Maybe they are snowed under with requests. The race for chief will be a hot one. Dudley Whitehorn may run a strong race.

- 2 -

as "dry hands"

Arizona is sending national guard troops to the border. Almost every day illegals are caught either near the border or around Phoenix, in so-called "safe houses" where smugglers have dumped them. It's not unusual to find 100 or more jammed in one small house. You can imagine the deplorable conditions. I'd like to see more smugglers nabbed and jailed.

Glad Hominy had plenty of rain. We are extremely dry here and for a long time. Oh, it'll rain someday. You have to be an optimist.

I

Thanks again for writing. Glad you are writing. You are good at it.

Best wishes, always.

Fred

Fred Grove

P.S. Excuse my letter,  
age does not improve typing

TUESDAY  
aug 30 - 06

Dear Art:

I really like the proposed memorial. Hats off to Tex Bayouth and to you, ol' hoss, for keeping this project alive. I further like seeing the various tribes represented. Very good. As an old Indian would say, "Heap good. Me like,." I recall that Ramona Brown recently paid tribute to Bayouth for his good work. And he is working to get financing. Also, the bronze figure of a player would be terrific.

That is interesting about the John Joseph Mathews novel Sundown. I recall buyingt that at the OU Book Sstore when it came uut. Good book,. Story of a young Osage growing up in wild times. And it was Minnie's book,. A fine teacher. I was told that after teaching 40 years at Hominy, she had to tetire at 65, then taught ten more year a Mound Valley. I think of her often.

I graduated at Hominy in 1931. In the years before that I heard kids talking about what a great player John Levi was. Is the name familiar? Maybe my spelling is wrong. Well,, you and Tex have got things going. Good luck

I appreciate your letter. You never bore me. We are okay here, thanks to our son. Now you take special care, Art. Thank you for my birthday wishes.

All the best,

Fred

T. L. C. on  
6-23-06

Dear Art:

Now how about all that readin' from you! Besides the usual interesting letter, the historical articles. I get pleasant echoes about Fairfax, which I've always liked despite the violence. I recall that Bob Clark was well liked. A friendly man and an honest banker. Suppose the spurs are still in the bank?

You certainly did research the ropers. They were all good ranch hands. Had to be to hold a job and do what had be done. I recall when yearling bulls were roped, dragged in and castrated. The "doc" sewed 'em up, dabbed on some oily-looking stuff and that night we had "mountain oysters." Mighty if you weren't squeamish.

Cowboys also roped and doctored cattle for screw worms. In that brushy country west of Hominy towrd the Arkansas River flies got into scrathes. I recall our hands carried a bottle of medicine on the saddle.

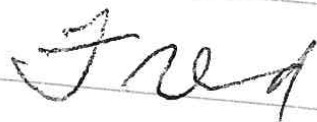
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-2-

As you have told, Henry Grammer was one of the very best. Also, your story of the Dewey Roundud and paying winners in gold is mighty interesting. All top reading. I'd like to see your entire lineup of western articles in a collection. Sure would.

Many thanks again. Art. Best wishes, always.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred".

Fred Grove

T403 n

12-4-08

Dear Art:

That was one heck of a spread in The News-Progress, and I am wondering if you've had any response? If not, I am surprised.

It strikes me that since the Hominy Indians were also about Hominy, the city itself should lend a hand. The manager's office could serve ~~as~~ as the place for contributions to be sent for an edifice.

Well, suggestions are cheap and here you are doing all the work.

Best wishes, always

*Fred*

Fred Grove

Tueson - Aug 1-07

Dear art,

Thank you for  
interesting letter.  
Glad "years" is  
rolling and you  
wrote a book for  
you H & book.

Excuse per  
letter. Better next  
Time.

Sincerely  
Fred Jones

P.S. art - my good  
friend - take care self.

✓  
Tuesday  
2-26-09

Dear Art:

The main news here is that it snowed in downtown Tucson. Natives very excited. But we didn't get any here, northwest of town.

Of course, the almost continuous news is what's going on along the border. Clipping enclosed. It seems that most of the pot is raised in Mexico., which does nothing to discourage it. I guess it's a national product.

I watch a lot of sports on tv and read the Tucson Star, established 130 years ago s a frontier paper.

Best wishes as always. Now  
take care of yourself.

*Fred*

Fred Grove

## LAW & ORDER

# Border Patrol, BLM agents seize trucks carrying two tons of pot

By Brady McCombs

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

U.S. Border Patrol agents assisting a Bureau of Land Management ranger Sunday found more than two tons of marijuana inside a pair of camouflaged trucks that the ranger had been pursuing Sunday northwest of Tucson.

At approximately 6:45 a.m. Sunday, Border Patrol agents went to an area near the town of Stanfield to provide assistance to the ranger, who was pursuing two trucks covered in camouflage tarps on Stanfield Road near Interstate 8, said Rob Daniels, Border Patrol Tucson Sector spokesman.

The ranger began the pursuit after seeing one truck suspiciously towing the other, Daniels said. When the ranger approached the trucks, one of them rammed the ranger's vehicle.

The drivers of the camouflaged trucks tried to get away and eventually bailed out, escaping into the desert, Daniels

said. The ranger wasn't injured, he said.

Agents found 253 bundles of marijuana weighing 4,660 pounds and a loaded .45-caliber pistol inside the abandoned trucks, he said. The first truck, a 2006 GMC reported stolen out of San Diego, was turned over to the Department of Public Safety. The second truck, a 2004 Chevy, is being processed for forfeiture by the Border Patrol.

The marijuana, which has an estimated value of \$4.6 million according to figures from the National Drug Intelligence Center, was turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration. Agents turned the pistol over to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Agents didn't make any arrests in connection with the case.

The use of camouflage tarps to conceal the loads is something agents are seeing more in the Tucson Sector, Daniels said.

"You can definitely tell that

they are built for whatever vehicle they are being used on," Daniels said. "There is some effort there."

Through Jan. 31, the latest figures the agency releases, marijuana seizures were up 31 percent in the Tucson Sector for fiscal year 2007. Seizures in fiscal year 2006 broke all previous records.

"It clearly has not slowed down, and we really don't expect any kind of a slow down whatsoever," Daniels said. "We're definitely still being tested."

In another Border Patrol-related incident, agents apprehended a group of 82 illegal entrants on Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument southwest of Tucson, about a half mile north of Camino del Diablo Road. They were arrested and voluntarily returned to Mexico, Daniels said.

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► Contact reporter Brady McCombs at 573-4213 or [bmccombs@azstarnet.com](mailto:bmccombs@azstarnet.com).



740507  
3-20-09

Dear Art:

Good to hear from you. I appreciate it as always. I'm okay here. Just slow and don't see the screen on my old IBM as well as I'd like. But a reading glass helps. I won't complain. I am thankful I can read.

And say now. How about getting a handwritten letter from you. Very good. I can read it. I recall in grade school when the Palmer Method was taught. We made a lot of os. Did you have that? ~~D~~Don't think it helped me.

Glad you made the trip. Mighty fine. I also recall you spoke of a grandson. Know you play the elder role well. It's all right to spoil kids a little--shows you love 'em.

e I wrote Ramona and renewed the paper for a year. Those girls do a good job.

Best wishes, always.

Fred

P.S. Yes, Ann Kelter is  
a fine writer. Know  
his T40.

1  
TUCSM  
5-4-07

Dear Art:

Thanks for a great letter. You sound good. And your typing is perfect. Mine is ragged but with the screen on my old IBM and a reading glass I can operate.

Old friends from Silver City and elsewhere were in and out last week or I would have written sooner. We seldom have <sup>company</sup> and we know few people here. I quit driving three years ago. Why did we leave Silver City? Getting older and our only son lives here. No grandchildren.

Thanks for telling me about Ramona Brown. I'll write her. Tough luck.

Glad the Association is back in the depot. I remember it so well. Used to catch a train to Oklahoma City to see my mom. A guy on board selling things. "Hey, kid. Wanta see ~~a~~ dirty magazine?"

.Sorry you missed on the Hominy Indians grant. Keep trying.

Best wishes. Take care of yourself. I've lost a lot of weight and have been told to eat more. *Feel okay.*

*Fred*

7255M  
5-30-07

Dear Art.

No, I haven't forgotten you. I wrote and my letter got mangled at the PO, which sent me the scrap of the envelope with apologies. Fortunately, my address was still on the envelope, else I'd never known.

Your letter is a treasure with the Henry Grammer poem and your report on the old once-roaring oil boom towns. We played Shidler in basketball when I was in high school..

I looked for an extra copy of YEARS so you could send ~~kit~~ to your rancher friend, but am down to one copy. Sorry. I would like to see your Grammer book reprinted. I don't have a copy, but easier said than done.

All the best,

*re 7/2/01*

Fred Grove

P.S. Glad Ramona  
is doing well.

TUESDAY

June 19 - 07

Dear Art:

Many, many thanks for the special copy of THE ROAD TO MARBLE HALLS. Very interesting. I keep going back and rereading parts of it. You did very well merging all the bits and pieces into an unusual story. I think Mayo ought to have served time. He got by with much.

And thank you for finding a copy of THE YEARS OF FEAR for your rancher friend.

Best regards to you. Take care of yourself.

Fred

P.S. I wish YEARS could have come out when Tom White, the FBI man who directed the probe and made Hays, was living. He was a fine man.

Tues m  
sat 19-07

REMARK:

you come to my  
mind every day. Here,

I marked my 94th  
I went to a hospital and

had a tumor removed.  
Feeling ok.

Mr. Payne has  
called twice. He  
thinks highly of  
you

(m)



→ 2 -

Before long will send  
you two short story  
collections in paperback.

Best Wishes, always.  
Now you take care  
of yourself.

Sincerely,

Paul Gray

P.S. Too lazy to use  
a typewriter.

Tucson - Oct 11-07

Dear Art:

Plumb good news to hear from you.  
Glad you can stand up and pee. Holton Payne  
called and told me you were going or had  
gone to Tulsa. I have a leakage problem  
that goes back to prostate cancer years ago.  
But I feel okay and am thankful

Glad you had interesting compay. I agree  
about Mexio. No government much. Almost  
every day the border patrol stops drugs.

I sent the paperbacks on impulse. Hope  
you find some interest.

More best wishes.

Fred

Fred Grove

P.S. My typewriter is rusty.  
Sorry

✓ Tucson - Dec 3 - 09  
Dear art,

Great letter very  
interesting. Hope you and  
Hilton - that high - center  
cowboy - get John  
Marvin honored.

I saw all your  
letters. I appreciate 'em -  
you take care,

my best  
Fred.

Jackson  
1-17-05

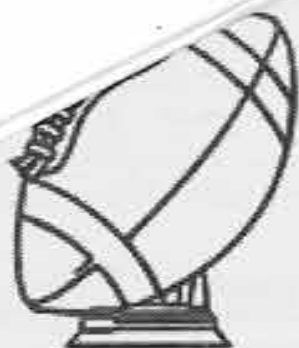
Dear Art —

Thank you for the  
thoughtful Xmas card  
and interesting letter  
and for your efforts  
with "eyes".

The enclosed slip  
is from the Orange News,  
the tribune paper. maybe  
it will help

My best, always

P.S. Truly, kindestly. My  
eyes not so good, but then  
how I can see.



## The Osage Nation Seeks Hominy Indians Football Team Memorabilia

---Family, friends & fans, the Osage Nation is currently in the developing stages of designing a memorial for the Hominy Indians Football Team and we need your help!! If you have any original items, i.e. footballs, uniforms, helmets, programs, athletic shoes, etc... that you would be willing to donate please call (918)948-5860.

Watch the website <http://www.osagetribe.com/tourism> for the most current information and development on the Hominy Indians Memorial.





TUESDAY  
Feb 2 - 08

Dear art, :

Thank you for letter.  
I do a pour job I think  
the World is wrong to cut  
local reviews. always  
more interesting to  
read local people.

about the memorial:  
Would it ~~help~~ help if you  
had an estimate? Have  
Richard A. write the chief?  
at least the tourism  
Wenar knows about you  
hope.

(Mey)

— 2 —  
No, cooing income  
shall not go to headright  
owners, & shed not. I  
think it should go for  
education & health  
programs. They must be  
making money.

Keep Writing. Best  
wishes, always & again  
my poor handwriting.

Jim

P.S. Take care of Noel

Tucson  
2-26-68

Dear Art -

Thank you very much  
for good letter again, and  
the photos. I remember  
the station very well.

Like a photo in my mind,  
and I did not leave  
Heming until '31 graduation.

I also recall one in  
Okla. City years later.

Why shouldn't you  
keep talking about the  
Heming Indians! That is  
good the city wants  
archaeological grants.

(now)

and then I think of the  
little blue man I used to  
ride west of Henry. He  
never missed a step in  
the rocky hills. Our  
place was on the right  
side of the road after  
you climbed the hill  
after crossing the creek.

I used to ride to  
Tom, the night man in  
a vacuum lot, go to the  
corner drug for a coke  
then ride home.

(over)

- 3 -

Hope you can read  
this. Take care of yourself

I appreciate your  
friendship,

all sincerely,

Jack

P.S. yes, you have

had a rough winter.

✓ Tuesday  
4-18-05

Dear art -

I thank you for the  
long & interesting letter.

Glad you could fly

to be with daughter and

family. Oklahoma weather

has been hot on the

national news almost

every day.

Sudrene must have

a lot of money to pay

two million for the

(more)



23 -

for the 101 artists  
you will have to give  
at your export age.

Here lots of action  
on the border. I'd say -  
many from places other  
than Mexico. Smuggler  
charge then ~~that~~ at least  
\$2,500 to bring 'em  
over - a lot of wrecks  
of overloaded vans  
& trucks.

Cover /

4-3-

A word of warning:

Stay off the Collier Hill  
at dawn.

I appreciate your  
usual good ~~letter~~ letter  
& apologize for mine.

Now tell me  
of yourself. My best,  
always  
Fred

— Dear Art, 9-8

Many thank for  
article & me and  
it at least that  
time. very  
interesting.

Best Wishes  
You take care.

Just  
and thank  
you again

may 20-07  
Dear art,

Thanks for very interesting  
letter. Here, I've got  
health problems I won't  
bother you with. My  
is being able to walk  
to the mail box.

Yes, I'd like to read  
your article on Jose.

The Mexican border is  
hell now. Smugglers, drugs  
& debt, have the police in  
Mexico on the run.

Best wishes, Van  
you take care.

Art

Fred died 9-11-08.  
He enjoyed your letters.

Lucile and Bill Grove