

For twenty years I had the great opportunity to ride horseback all over the world with El Zorro (The Fox-My Father) as the International Rough Rider, the El Dorado Kid - The Child of the Promise Land. It was the most fun I ever had in my life and cherished the experiences forever. It also prepared me for my Taoist life being at peace in the wilderness on horseback seeing and experiencing nature up close and personal. I rode on trails in the mountains where no man could walk only a horse could do it viewing the terrain ten feet off the ground on a horse's back. I rode on all six-land continents in over 25 countries and 30 US states. I slept underneath the stars, bathed in the mountain creeks and meditated on the highest peaks. I had believable experiences to relive in my dreams and meditations on my way to discover the Tao.

If any of you have the opportunity and time please read through the gathering of over 50 Rough Rider trips with commentary and how I use them in my pursuit of the Tao through the following 4 pages.

**Your Friend in the Tao,
The Professor (Wei Tzu)
Master of Nothingness
The Myth that takes the Mystery out of Mysticism**

International Rough Riders:

Western Horseman riding over 100 different horses all over the World (New Zealand, Europe, Australia, Egypt, Argentina, Caribbean, Central America, Mexico) with founder El Zorro in 30 states using the cowboy name: The El Dorado Kid (Child of the Promised Land)

(From the Double X Ranch days we started the International Rough Riders (Teddy Roosevelt) as good will ambassadors for Western Horsemen who traveled & rode all over the world spreading cheer & joy to the locals.)

International Rides: 6 Continents - 25 Countries - 30 States from 7/4/1979 - 2/19/2000

North America (1st Continent)

USA: Billings, Montana (Cattle Drive to Cody, Wyoming) TX Ranch (7/2/81-7/10/81)

(This was our 1st trip as IRR - El Zorro (Silver & Black) & El Dorado (Brown & Gold) in full dress which we had no idea what was going on. We were picked up by the owner's wife in a pickup that had no brakes (she down shifted to stop) & slept under a tree with a blanket in the rain the first night. Then for 9 days we herded cattle (smell & dumb) & drove them across the Montana Mountains in Big Sky Country (they are flat so all you see is the big, blue sky). It was really beautiful riding the countryside & sleeping under the stars but rustic & trudging (after a week we bathed in a mud pond with cow manure in it) with brain dead ranch hands who said we were idiots for being IRR. That did not phase as we continued with more trips & better fans.)

Costa Rica: (Beach Ride) (11/5/82-11/15/82)

(I was down there without El Zorro with JW Boone & rode small horses on their hot, tropical beaches.)

Jamaica: 12/29/83-1/10/84 (Plantation Trail) Wrangler: Linton Church

25 Tardona Ave. Buckfield, Ocho Rios, Jamaica 974-2087

(The IRR came down there with Mule Train Mary as this was my parent's winter vacation spot with Linton Church as the cab driver & guide. We rode on this beautiful sugar cane plantation with its hills & valleys in the mountain tropics. It was great fun with my parents & the No Problem-Mun crew. I later with my running buddy, Gilreath had an exertion there while we were doing our running trip to Hedonism I-II.)

USA: San Juan Mountains, Colorado (Continental Divide Trail) (6/28/84-7/12/84)

Wrangler: Dobbin & Caroline Shupe 17754 County Bayfield, CO 81122 (303) 884-2555

(Article In Western Horse Magazine 7/1984 Issue)

(This was the best trip we had as IRR in the states with a 1st Class outfit that carried all the supplies in on mules. Caroline, Owner & Guide was a RR (good looking & in great shape) & she had an eye for me but I just rode my horse & had big laughs with El Zorro as we rode over the Continental Divide passing hikers on the way (I said to them is not this beautiful & they said they could see anything because they were watching their step so the best way to see countryside is on horseback because the horse does all the walking. These were the most beautiful mountains that I have ever since because they were sharply cut & steep. Every turn was a post card shot.)

Mexico: (Beach Ride) Ramon Amaya (5/6/85 & 3/12/86)

Hotel Oceano C. Juanez 247 PO Box 58 **Porte Vallarta, Julisco, Mexico**

(This was a beautiful Pacific Ocean town where I rode a small pony on the beach as a part of my Bastian Brothers Co. trip with Marilyn & the B Boys, John Albiston & Cliff Charleston. I got sick but had great time with them going up into the jungle swimming in river ponds & meeting an American named god who lived on Mexican unleavened bread.)

USA: High Sierra California (110 Mile Horse Round-Up) (7/1/85-7/14/85)

Herb & Craig London-Rock Creek Packers PO 248 Bishop, CA 93514 (619) 872-8331

(This was a rough, horse around up with El Zorro in the high Rocky Mountain desert. They were real rodeo horsemen who could herd & drive horses from the mountains to the corral. It was exciting, dusty, dry & hot but we felt like real horsemen from the Old West movie.)

USA: Bradshaw Mountains, Arizona (86 All Cowboy Mt Trail) (10/23/86-11/6/86)

Dana & John Burden Adventure Trails PO1494 Wickenburg, AZ 85358 (602) 684-3106

Doc & Curley Arters PO 485 St. David, AZ 85630 (602) 586-4824

Artist: Wes Chapman 4941 East Waltanne Ln Scottsdale, AZ 85254 (602) 482-0066

Duke & Shelly Donnelly 6200 S. Kings Rd Apache Junction, AZ 85220 (602) 982-7822

(This a professional tour group run by two brothers, John & Dana who were more city folk than cowboys. It was every well organized with schedule trips, tents, portal pots, & catered meals. But what amazing was all (86) horses & riders on the trail together & camp together (like a city in the wilderness). The strangest thing I ever saw in my life was stopping on the trail with this large group for a piss break. It was a line as long you could see in the mountains with them relieving themselves. Something I wish I never saw. They had a lot father & son riders where El Zorro was one of the young guys (half of them were over 66 years old with Old Pappy at 85); that made him feel really good. We meet & commissioned a great American Western artist, Wes Chapman to do an oil portrait (\$4,000) of El Zorro & El Dorado riding together blazing a trail through the Old West (he also did a metal sculpture of El Dorado & Budde' (\$8,000).

Dominican Republic: (Sugar Plantation & Polo Rides) (4/29/87; 5/4/88; 5/2/90)

Brigadier Arthur Nugent

Casa de Campo PO 140 San Pedro Demacoris Laromana, DR (809) 682-2111

(This was the most beautiful resort I was ever at with golf courses (Teeth of Dog) on the ocean, plantation accommodations with pool, polo stables & fields. I went there with Gilreath for running & golf & later with Marilyn for polo training (6 horses in a match that lasted 2 hours where you kept exchanging horses-the most sport I ever played because you were going 35 miles an hours, standing up in the bareback saddle hitting a ball with a mallet & the other horses would hockey check you. If you fell you could break your neck & die.)

USA: Monument Valley, Utah (Messa Trail Ride) (9/20/87-10/7/87)

Dana & John Burden Adventure Trails PO1494 Wickenburg, AZ 85358 (602) 684-3106

Western Historian: Marshall Trimble 6401 E. Hummingbird, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Movie Cowboy: Mike Dawson P.O. 25186 Prescott Valley, AZ 86312 (602) 948-4576

El Franco: Benefactor - The Hawk: President

(This was the most beautiful the IRR were ever on because of the monuments (Red Mountains cut out in a Red Desert thousands of years ago). Again we had 1st class accommodations with the Baron & El Zorro sharing a tent because they snored but they could not hear after they took out their aids to sleep. It was big fun hearing the Baron play guitar & sing along with a real professional & author, Marshall Trimble at the camp firers.)

USA: Wyoming (Pony Express Trail Ride) Bayner Fox (El Chico) (9/12/88-9/28/88)

Ray & Pat Focht Bitterroot Ranch 336 Focht Rd. Lander, WY 82520 (800) 458-1915

(This was brutality cold, tough terrain to be on in a tiny tent in the middle of an early winter snowfall but El Zorro & I survived meeting Bayner Fox on the trail for big laughs in the small town bar.)

USA: Big Island, Hawaii (Largest USA Ranch)-Paniolo (HI Cowboy) (12/19/89-12/28/89)

Frank Loney (Paniolo) Parker Ranch PO 2417 Kamuela, Big Island HI (808) 885-4288

Mark/Sherri Hannum-Waipio Naalapa Trail PO 992 Honokao, HI 96727 (808) 775-0419

(This was a super trip but expensive (\$4,000 for 2 weeks) that I played golf on PGA courses, helicopter volcano ride, sweat lodge, rode in the tropical jungle & rode on the largest ranch in the US while traveling to all 4 islands by plane. I rode with the paniolos through the sugar cane plantations on the Big Island (the one I like the best because of its open spaces) driving cattle.)

Australia (2nd Continent)

New Zealand: South Island (Cattle & Sheep Ranch) Kiwi (NZ Cowboy) (3/15/83-4/2/83)

Paul & Julie Hateley (Senator-Black Stallion) Cape Poulwind #2 Westport, South Island, NZ

James Rory Atkins (Davie Coster-Kiwi) 96 Stoveday St. Avonhound, Christchurch, NZ

(This was my 1st & only time to NZ where I rent a car for 2 weeks & drove the northern island & took a ferry over to the southern island &

drove through it. On the way I stopped at the Baron's WWII friend's home in Wellington at the southern tip of the northern island & herded sheep (10,000,000 sheep to 3,000, 000 people) with Paul Hateley & his sheep dogs (they did all the work) on his 10,000 acre sheep ranch in southern island outside of Queensland (most beautiful town I ever saw from the mountains with its deep blue lake) & picking up (hitchhiker) a sheep butcher, Davie Coster & spend the weekend with his friends in Christchurch.)

Australia: Snowy River Mountains (Kangaroo Trail) (Brambie-OZ Mustang) (2/6/86-2/21/86)

Gavin & Sue Christy-Yarrabin Property O'Connell, New South Wales 42386-42469

John & Ros Rudd-Reynella Alpine Ranch Adaminaby, New South Wales 2630

(Buckaroos: Jackaroo (Mate-Neville Clarke) Cowboy & Jillaroo (Karen Brown) Cowgirl)

(This was our best IRR Trip put on by the Burden Brothers & meeting the Christies (going to their sheep ranch) while riding on the Aussie grasslands seeing the kangaroos jumping from one horizon to another & riding down the Snow Mountains on a Brambie. El Zorro was in his glory meeting a new Aussie mate, Neville Clarke & seeing the WWII War Memorial in Melbourne pointing out his WWII flyer mate's name on the wall pilot's loss at war. It was great fun as I got my new-formed Aussie cowboy hat & oilskin to complete my El Dorado outfit.)

Australia: Snowy River Mountains (2nd Trip to OZ on the Kangaroo Trail) (2/7/00-2/19/00)

Gavin & Sue Christy-Yarrabin Property O'Connell, New South Wales 42386-42469

John & Ros Rudd-Reynella Alpine Ranch Adaminaby, New South Wales 2630

(Dr. Andrew & Fiona Jan)

(This was our final trip together as IRR (El Zorro & El Dorado) with Dr. Andrew & wife, Fiona (registered nurse) who had to operate on EZ saddle sores (blasters) but he rode like the great IRR he was & always will be.) **(Last IRR Ride)**

Europe (3rd Continent)

West Germany: (Black Forest Riding Club, Strutgrad, Germany) (9/26/83-10/10/83)

Volker Walz & mother, Trudy Walddorfesti 40 Rohrdorf, 7271 WG (49) 74521-3576

(We meet Volker on our Colorado IRR trip & made him an IRR who invited us to his Black Forest Riding Club in Southern West Germany, so we got even & showed up as his guests until he got rid of us. They have huge horse there (Biggest Horse I ever rode) & we went out in a full gallop into the Black Forest (Black because it so dense that you cannot see through it). To this I do not know how we hanged on to those horses while on an English saddle; I guess if we did not we would be dead now. I was amazing how big & fast they were going through that forest with stones flying (one hit me in my eye & I was injured for the rest of the trip). The head rider was so impressed with my riding ability he gave me a golden horseshoe from the club in honor of my riding ability. We toured the area visiting a huge castle where his girlfriend, Catherine told us Volker meaning head of the people was the Big Volker which came out with her pronunciation as the Big Fucker. We started laughing & continued. We could not believe what she said & asked her to repeat it & she did not know what it meant in English coming from her. That was just one of the funny experiences we had in Germany with Volker.)

Klaus Munstermann & Monika, Lange Str. 37 Pfalzgrafenweiler, 7293 WG (49) 7445-6611

(This was Volker best friend, Klaus (German Dentist) who turn out to be a better guy than Volker, who a bit of egg head (Chemical Engineer) having a connection with El Zorro as a father figure (his father died when he was young). Klaus & his girlfriend, Monika took us on his big sailboat on the Bowden Sea (big lake surrounded by Germany, Austria & Switzerland) where we were in a sailing race & we won (El Zorro was drinking with the German all the way). Later, on the trip he & Volker took us in Klaus's Mercedes Benz (240 mph) to Munich for the real Octoberfest. There were 12 Hugh Beer Halls facing each other with 2-pint glass beer mugs, German party music, bosom barmaids, pretzels, & knockwurst. We could not believe it & all the people in the Halls (10,000 in each Hall) so El Zorro had one mug at each Hall & they could not stop laugh as they called El Zorro – El Pickled; he could not stand up straight & we had to carry him back to the car.)

England: (Scotland Hills Ride) (4/29/84-5/12/84)

(We visit Arrow Plastic secretary's relatives & rode a couple of ponies in Edinborough as El Zorro sampled the Scot Whisky. Before we got there we visited El Zorro WWII Airbase in Lincoln, England. To our surprise they still had a Lancaster Bomber Plane there just like the one he flew 40 years before. We got inside the plane & I could not believe it there was nothing there just a wooden stool for the pilot. I ask El Zorro it was empty & he said that was for the 1 TNT Boom they carried to drop on Germany. I said wait a minute you flew this plane 6 hours freezing with no heat drop it & fly back. Yes, if we made it as he pointed to where his 3 gunners, radioman & navigator were positioned. He said when they drop the bomb at 20,000 feet the plane jumped 10,000 feet up because of the weight of the bomb. Oddly enough we found out that the 40-year reunion of his squadron was 2 weeks before & he missed it but he lost connect with them after the war. We also went to his old drinking bar in Piccadilly Square London; it was still there (down on dark ally & a flight of stairs but he had remembered) though it was closed. Sorry to say but El Zorro did not enjoy the experience traveling back in time because everything had changed especially the people who were not connected by war which clouded the good memories he had during a difficult time during his life.)

Spain: Pyrenees Mountains (Benasque Valley & Paderna Forest) (5/24/87-6/1/87)

Carlos Rolan (6/12/56) Cerler Sin Anciles, Huesca 974-551126

Maite Jaurretxe/Antonio Laton Pirinos Sin Fronteras Apt 15 Benasque, 22440 Huesca

(Ganadero-SP Cowboy; Caballo-SP Horse; Paella-Torilla-SP Dishes.)

(This was a great trip to the snowy Pyrenees Mountains in northern Spain just south of France. El Zorro drank Spanish red wine with Carlos, the ganadero & we rode their beautiful white horses, the caballos. I was rough, cold trip up the mountains but the caballos were great fun & very friendly & supportive.)

Germany: Black Forest (Big Volker-Swabian Cowboy)

(6/2/88-6/9/88)

Volker & Christine Walz Walddorfstr. 40 Rohrdorf, 7271 WG (49) 7452-2020

El Bertdorado/Sabine Fortenbacher Nagolder Str. 42 Oberjettingen 7047 WG (49) 74521-75332

(Volker visited El Zorro up north riding Budde' & going to bars there as spend about 5 days with him in between his business trip. We came back to Germany a 2nd time but it was not the same because Volker had married another girlfriend, Christine & he was very busy working at his company behind his old home. His mother, Trudy was still there trying to help Volker & his new wife. He did not have much time for us & no longer riding at his club plus Klaus was out of town & he had not scene him to often because of his work so we left after a week or so. He called again years later but we never saw him again.)

Spain: Andalusia Mountains & Southern Spanish Beaches

(5/24/91-6/1/91)

Walter & Jutta Kellenberger

(Ganadero-SP Cowboy; Caballo-SP Horse; Paella-Torilla-SP Dishes.)

(We rode Andalusia horse (big, board, strong, white horses) from the mountains down to the beach. El Zorro was drinking Spanish Red Wine with the Caballos again & did really well galloping on the beach, which surprised me because of his age. Later we rode on the Mediterranean beaches when we visit Walter & Jutta in 2000 as I ended my touring Master Chia.

Africa (4th Continent)

Egypt: Sierra Desert Giza, Egypt (Pyramid Trail Ride)

(4/6/88-4/21/88)

Sayed (Sam) Samad PO Pyramids Foient Hotel Mena House Giza, Egypt 856841-535203

Gert & Beate (Tigers) Kullmer-Hauptstrate 108 Sinsheim, 6920 Germany (49) 7261-2255

(Kaial-Egyptian Horseman; Galabia-Coat; Bolga-Shoe; Scarab-Beetle; Misr-Egypt)

(This was a wild trip as I landed in Cairo, Egypt at 3:00am & to the hotel in the dark. I woke up & there was a bright light behind the window curtain; it was the sun & a hugh pyramid – I could not believe its size. It was the toughest trip I was ever on as we mounted up an desert Arabian white horses (they looked like hugh, greyhound dogs-very narrow withers) & rode right out into the Sierra Desert 125 miles (50 in a full gallop) & back. There was nothing there in the desert; on all 4 sides just sand, stones, & wind like we were on the moon. When we stopped for break we had a human fence post to hold the horses, which I never saw them, water in 9 days. It was a big race trace that the Germans loved to race & one time in a full gallop my horse stumbled (pot holes in the sand) & started to go down. I pulled with all my strength his head & saved my life because he would have went down I would have broken my neck (very dangerous). We froze at night in small tents because there was nothing to hold the heat in the desert (140 degrees during the day). Then the sand storm came & if you did not cover your head the sand would get everywhere so we stopped & tried to cover up. One night a belly dancer came to dance in the big tent & I danced with her, but usually I tried to rest at night for riding the next day. We went to Nile River & it was the most polluted river on the planet but I put my boot in it.)

South America (5th Continent)

Argentina: Andes Mountains (Polo, Ranch & Mountain Rides)

(03/24/90-04/04/90)

Eduardo M. Mattenet Trekking SA Empresa De Viajes Paraguay 542 Buenos Aires 1057 AG

Manuel Lainez-El Alamo Polo Center 6023 San Miguel Del Pica, Buenos Aires 1054 AG

Andres (Pancho) & Ellen Calderon El Ranch 25 De Mayo 3153-Entre Rios, AG 436-21091

Carol Jones 8401 Nahuel Huapi Ranch, Neuquen, AG 944-23286 Andes Mountians

(Bombilla-Straw; Yerba Mate'-Herb Tea; Gaucho-Cowboy; Bombachas-Chaps; Recado-Saddle)

(This was a big trip as I went to Rio de Janeiro first to teach (just covered my expenses with 50 students because they did not charge enough) then I went the polo fields (they have polo fields there like we have basketball courts in the states) north of Buenos Aires & played Manuel Lainez who played with Prince Charles in England. I about kill myself playing polo with those young boys as I trained with Manuel after about 3 days & went up to the Andes Mountains to ride with the gauchos & Carol Jones (descendent of Butch Cassidy). The gauchos would watch the cattle graze in the mountains for the summer & take them down from the mountains to auction. They are the best cowboys I ever saw riding effortless through the mountains & ranges shooting big jack rabbits from their horse in a full gallop for their meal. They would sit around the campfire drinking mate' (diuretic herb tea), smoking rolled cigars & telling stories. Then I went to a cattle ranch where prepare the cattle for auction with the breeding & branding; it was like going back into the old west.)

Asia (6th Continent)

China: Hohot- Inner Mongolia (Grasslands) Cits (Henry-Guide)

(10/2/90-10/4/90)

(Zhong Guo-Middle Kingdom (China); Zhong Guorer-Chinese Cowboy; Mei Gio-America)

(I flew to Beijing & found my guide to Hohot in Inner Mongolia. I lived in a yurt & rode the Mongolian horses (small ponies) herding the other horses with the cassocks on the grasslands. It was the beginning of my China tour for 2 weeks (9 Chinese cities) visiting the Taoist Mountains.)