

# Onion Tops

Number 2

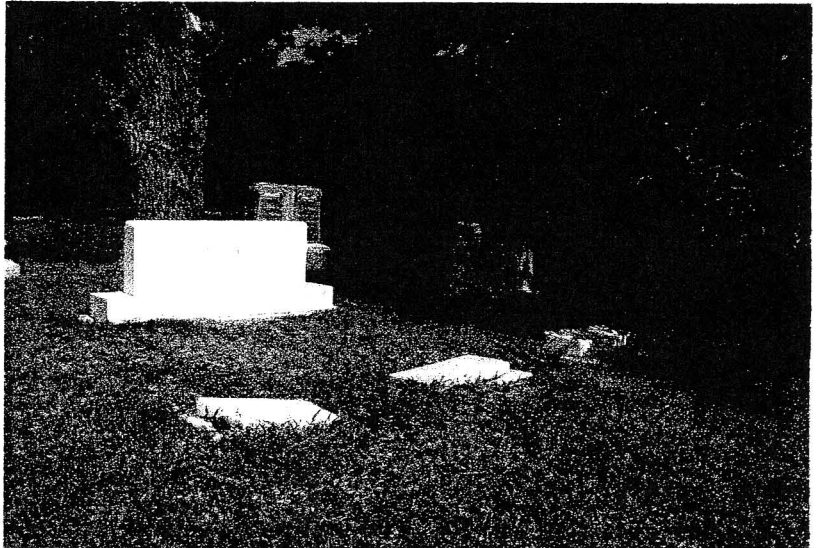
February, 2005



## Down the Road

Just down the road from Robert E. Howard's final resting place is his friend, Tevis Clyde Smith (See the map on page 4). Anyone who has read *Report on a Writing Man* or *Selected Letters* knows about the relationship between these two interesting men, so I won't go into now. After missing Howard Days last year, I decided to take a trip with my dad to Cross Plains and see the sites by myself, without other Howard-heads to guide me. We stayed at the Brownwood Best Western. Greenleaf was our first stop.

We walked into the main office and had a chat with the secretary, Sandy Clark. She pointed us toward REH's grave and gave us each a map and a pamphlet that showed the locations of other historic graves. Tevis Clyde Smith was not listed (See pamphlet on pages 2 - 3). I asked Mrs. Clark about this. She was very helpful. She went into the closet and pulled out a few boxes of files. While she was looking, I explained to her my reasons for wanting to visit Smith's grave. She got a little excited and told me that a Mrs. Smith had given her music lessons in



the 30s. When I got home, I asked the Innercircle about this, and Rusty Burke verified that Clyde's mother had been a music instructor. Mrs. Clark located the Smith's plot and away we went. If you visit Cross Plains before Brownwood, pick up Rusty's *Robert E. Howard in Cross Plains*, it will save you a lot of time.

ABOVE LEFT: Entrance to Greenleaf.  
ABOVE: The Smith family plot. TCS's grave is at the lower left.

LEFT: Close-up of Tevis Clyde Smith's grave.

## GREENLEAF CEMETERY HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. **LEWIS EARL JOBE**  
A scholarship fund, the "Lewis Earl Jobe Memorial Fund" was established by the ex-students of Texas A & M University. Jobe was killed in Korea.
2. **GREGORIA PEREZ**  
He and his family were one of the first Mexican families to settle in Brownwood.
3. **WILLIE PULLAIN**  
The oldest known grave of a black man in Greenleaf.
4. **EMILY ANN HARRIS**  
One of the first black women to settle in Brown County. The mother of the first black baby, Wig Harris.
- \* 5. **RUFUS F. HARDIN**  
Born a slave and became one of the first teachers to his people. A Brownwood school was named for him.
- \* 6. **DAVE HARRIS**  
The grandfather of Wig Harris, and the first black man to come to Brown County.
7. **B. T. CLEMENTS**  
A member of the Sells-Flota Circus, died in a Brownwood hospital following an accident. The Circus members marched to Greenleaf Cemetery to place a wreath on his grave.
8. **GEORGE I. GOODWIN**  
Served with the Confederacy in the Civil War, served in the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 14<sup>th</sup> sessions of the Texas legislature, authored the bill creating Texas A & M University.
- \* 9. **THOMAS CALDWELL YANTIS**  
The first to earn the highest degree in Brownwood Masonic Lodge.
- \* 10. **JOHN D. ROBNETT**  
Founder of, and second president of Howard Payne University.
- \* 11. **GREENLEAF FISK**  
Donated the land for Greenleaf Cemetery, and a large portion of downtown Brownwood.
12. **DR. A. E. BATEN**  
Appointed the leader of the forces to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages in Brownwood.
13. **ALICE SMITH RAMEY**  
The first woman to serve on the Board of Trustees of Howard Payne University



**GREENLEAF CEMETERY**  
**P. O. Box 455**  
**Brownwood, TX 76801**  
**325 646-6919**

**Sandy Clark, Secretary**

- **C. M. WEBB**  
A Texas Ranger killed by the outlaw, John Wesley Hardin
- **EMMA ADAMS**  
The first recorded grave in the cemetery
- **JOE C. WEAKLEY**  
Following his discharge from the Union army, he returned to Indiana and made tin canteens for the Federal army. Later making his way to Brownwood to become the first tinsmith
- **HENRY FORD**  
In 1886, Mr. Ford borrowed \$10,000.00 from a bank in Fort Worth to loan to farmers during a drought. The farmers made good and he was repaid all but \$2.50
- \* 18. **THE COGGIN BROTHERS**  
Samuel R. and Mody J., partners with Henry Ford in Coggin, Ford & Company Bank, owned the largest cattle operation in this area
- \* 19. **MATTIE COGGIN**  
Wife of Samuel R. bequeathed \$5,000.00 to Greenleaf Cemetery, the beginning of the Perpetual Care Fund
- 20. **BETTIE LOUISE TABOR**  
All day sewing parties were held in her home. She had the only sewing machine in the community
- \* 21. **IRENE ADAMS TRAPP**  
One of the eight members of the first graduating class of Daniel Baker College in 1895. Later becoming the president of the college
- \* 22. **BROOKE SMITH**  
Banker, store owner, instigator of the railroad, oil and gas productions. The angel that stands on his lot is the exact size of his daughter, buried at the angel's feet
- 23. **WILLIAM H. MARTIN**  
Published the first newspaper in Brown County
- 24. **CHARLES BELL**  
Sheriff of Brown County from 1892 to 1898, killed making an arrest in Brownwood
- 25. **T. C. SOWELL**  
The first meeting of a Brownwood Church of Christ was held in his home
- 26. **SOL TANNER**  
The first mayor of Brownwood in 1877
- 27. **EDWARD THOMAS**  
The first caretaker of Greenleaf Cemetery

- 42. **DR. MOLLIE ARMSTRONG**  
The first woman optometrist in the United States.
- 43. **JOHN ALLEN WALKER**  
He gave the first endowment to Howard Payne College in the 1920's.
- 44. **WALTER V. EARLY**  
The city of Early was named after him.
- 45. **C. M. GRADY**  
A Texas Ranger, stationed at Old Camp Colorado, about 4 or 5 miles southwest of Santa Anna Mountain.
- \* 46. **CAPTAIN WESTON LAFAYETTE WILLIAMS**  
Served with the Confederacy in the Civil War, and was a son-in-law of General Sam Houston.
- \* 47. **GEORGE DUNN**  
Longtime television and movie personality, USO entertainer during World War I. He was born in Brownwood in 1914.
- 48. **INNES WOOD**  
Oldest sergeant-at-arms in Texas. In 1941-'42, as a civilian, went to Pearl Harbor after attack, helping to repair/prepare ships to return to battle, by refitting turrets, lining up guns, etc.

The Greenleaf Cemetery was established in 1868. Greenleaf Fisk gave five acres to the town for a burial place, and two and one half acres each to the Masonic Lodge and the IOOF Lodge, making a total of ten acres for burial purposes. The cemetery was named Round Mountain and later renamed Greenleaf. The Greenleaf Cemetery is a non-profit perpetual care cemetery. Its governing body consists of five board members elected by members of the Greenleaf Cemetery Association.

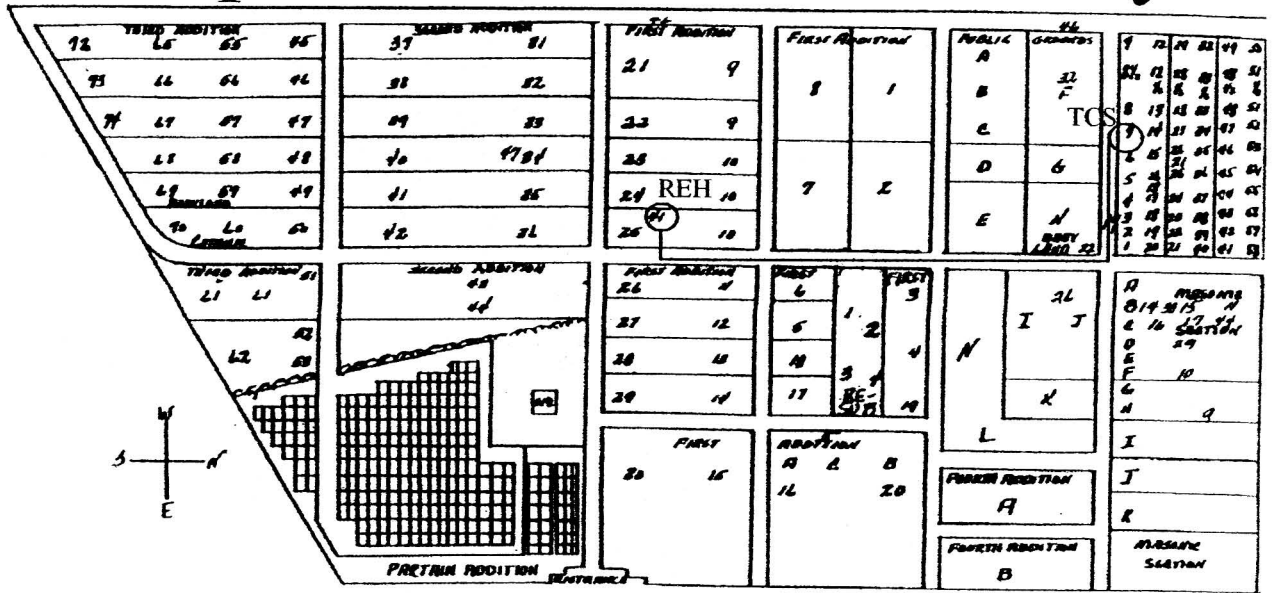
The present Board of Directors members are:

Ronnie Lappe, President  
Jerry Spain, Vice-President  
Wendell Morris  
Felix Salazar  
Nancy Lee

Pat Clark, Secretary, Treasurer  
Sandy Clark, Secretary

- 28. **NANNIE LUCINDA TALBOT**  
Organized the first Brownwood unit of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.
- \*29. **WILL E. MAYES**  
Lt. Governor of Texas, 1913-1914. Founder and dean of the School of Journalism of the University of Texas for twelve years.
- \*30. **NOAH T. BYARS**  
A Baptist minister, aiding in organizing several Baptist churches in Brown County. It was in his crude blacksmith shop on Washington-on-the-Brazos that the Texas Declaration of Independence was signed.
- 31. **MARTIN MEICHINGER**  
Dug the first known oil well in Brown County, located where the Sid Richardson Hall stands.
- \*32. **BRAINART T. McCLELLAND**  
First president of Daniel Baker College, a Presbyterian school, opening its doors in 1889
- 33. **MAYSIE E. MALONE**  
First Brown County Home Demonstration Agent. Her parents had the first church wedding in Brownwood
- 34. **BARTOLO TORRES**  
The oldest known Mexican grave in the Cemetery
- 35. **THOMAS H. HART**  
One of the first graduates of Daniel Baker College. His wife and son were killed in the Zephyr cyclone in 1909
- 36. **DR. A. ANDERSON**  
Member of the first Exemption Board (draft board) in World War I
- 37. **E. B. HENLEY**  
Established one of the first insurance businesses. The Henley family has given time, money and land to the cemetery
- 38. **JOHN POWER**  
The rector of the St. John's Episcopal Church in the 1930's and was the first scoutmaster in Brownwood
- 39. **WILLIAM CLARENCE FUSTON**  
A Brownwood policeman killed while making an arrest
- 40. **MAUDE NEGUS**  
Organized the first Parent-Teacher Association in Brownwood
- \*41. **ROBERT E. HOWARD**  
Famous author in the early 1930's. Creator of Conan the Barbarian and other writings

# Map of Greenleaf Cemetery



From *Robert E. Howard in Cross Plains* by Rusty Burke: "To visit the grave of Howard's close friend Tevis Clyde Smith, you will probably want to use your car to drive to the back of the cemetery." Come on! It's not *that* far. My 65 year old father and I walked it in about ten minutes. And, if you drive you'll miss out on other historic and/or interesting grave markers.

For example, Sol Tanner, "the first mayor of

Brownwood in 1877." And Brooke Smith, "banker, store owner, instigator of the railroad, oil and gas productions. The angel that stands on his lot is the exact size of his daughter, buried at the angel's feet." Shoot, Henry Ford is even buried here. He "borrowed \$10, 000.00 from a bank in Fort Worth to loan to farmers during a drought." My dad was quite confused until Mrs. Clark told him that it wasn't *that* Henry Ford.

Cross Plains Corner:

## REH News from Callahan County

While in Cross Plains this August, I stopped at the office of *The Cross Plains Review* and purchased a subscription, about \$30 for an entire year! It takes a little more than a week for each issue to arrive at my Lancaster, California home, so my Cross Plains Corner is hardly current. Anyway, here's all the REH related headlines from the week of August 26:

**HOWARD HOUSE DRAWS VISITORS FROM HOLLAND.** Klaas de Jong and Co Walinga from Uithoorn, Holland visited the Howard House in August. The house also had visitors from several Texas cities, as well as Lake Wells, Florida; Lancaster, California (me and my dad); Springfield, Missouri; and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

**HOWARD PAYNE SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR**

**CALLAHAN COUNTY STUDENTS ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY OF JACK SCOTT.** If you're from Callahan County and have at least a 2.5 grade point average, you could be eligible for the Jack Scott Scholarship. In 1930 Jack became the editor of the *Cross Plains Review*, and by 1940 he owned it. He was involved in the oil and cattle booms, was a school teacher, and even served as mayor before his death in 2003.

Nestled between various churches' announcements is an advertisement for Viagra and diet pills.

**Next time - high school football scores!**

*Onion Tops* is brought to you by Rob Roehm:

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# "Listen, you crumb . . ."

REH to Tevis Clyde Smith, ca. January 1928

Mailing comments for REHupa 190

## APathy #4

Thanks for the heads-up. I like reading REH inspired/influenced fiction. I recently picked up Shadows Bend, but have yet to read it. Any thoughts, anyone?

## The Fighting Tribes of Cimmeria #31 & 32

Hmm, sounds like Schaeffer might have read his Milton a time or two as well as the Aurthurian legends, or am I the only one who sees some Paradise Lost in that plot summary? I don't know what you are planning to do with this essay, but you might want to tie Atlantis to Arthur at the beginning of the second paragraph instead of at the end of the third. I wasn't sure where the King Arthur stuff was coming from after reading the Atlantean opening. Nice pic of Subby.

REH a Romance novelist? Who'd have thunk. I spent four years teaching high school sophomores about Arthurian Romances and I never would have thought to place an REH story in that tradition. I wish I would have paid more attention in my Critical Theory class. There are probably many theories that can be applied to REH. Now I'm going to have to dust off those old books. Your paper reminded me of being in college, ah, the good old days. Good stuff.

## Wolraven No. 12

Missed it by that much. I had to buy my copy of the book, and I agree, it is "an excellent collection of artwork." Thanks for including the photocopy.

## Isaacson's Legacy No. 12

Thanks for the magazine, I knew that becoming a member would pay off. I am curious about your Golden Skull. How big is it? What materials did you use to create it?

## Cold Steel 112

I've been having trouble keeping up with all the REH related material as well. I love that I'm able to get most of this stuff in hardback, my paperbacks are crumbling!

I do enjoy reading Mr. Herron's rants on the Black River list. There's usually a point in there somewhere. I also like what I perceive to be the good-natured ribbing of REHupa and The Dark Man that shows up in the pages of The Cimmerian, but I worry about what a newcomer might think. As far as publishing goes, Onion Tops #1 originally had a very small Howard History section included. I contacted Leo about a piece that showed up in TC and he asked me to write an article. Long story short, I managed to meet MINAC and get paid; Thanks Leo! Those who wish to reach a broader audience have several venues in which to do so, those who don't, have REHupa. It's a win - win situation. Mr. Herron's words only affect those who let them.

Howard Days is a go, my school has changed its schedule and I'll be able to make '06, maybe even '05. I'm more than happy to help with any preparation for any and all things Howardian. I'm a better proofreader than writer, seven years of reading BAD student essays, and would love to help out in getting REH material published. It will be nice to meet the people whose names I've been seeing for years.



Beltric Writes 98

Many thanks for the listing of Adventure writers. I downloaded, printed, and had bound The Robert E. Howard Bookshelf last year and have been working on acquiring the titles. Any chance you can e-mail part one to me? Do you, or anyone else, know of a good anthology for any of these stories?

Crowinghorse #3

Nice article. I realize that you're in college, but I wish a few of my high school journalism students could write something like that. I'm not much interested in the action figures myself, but I'm glad that they are available and spreading the name of Conan to a new generation.\

You need to get Waterfront Fists from Wildside Press. It's now available in paperback. I wasn't a fan of the boxing stories until I read this. Now I love them.

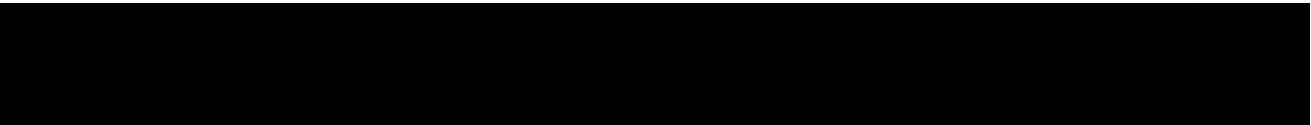
Eidolons of El Cerrito Vol. 4, No. 6

I've been toying with the Penguin edition of the Icelandic Sagas. What's your recommendation? Have you read Twain's Adam and Eve stories? Hilarious. And thanks for the CAS poem.

Iron Legions Vol. 3, No. 3

I can't wait to get my paws on the restored "Iron Men." I have the copy in Ace's The Iron Man with the Incredible Adventures of Dennis Dorgan, and it's one of my favorite boxing tales. Thanks for "The Man with the Mystery Mitts," will it be included in Boxing Stories? It's nice that I didn't have to take Fantasy Crossroads 4/5 out of its bag to reread it.

The Burkburnett Papers



Thanks for the book reviews. I've only been a REHupan for one mailing and I've already got a pile of books to read.

Seanchai 108

It's always nice to read a little Cross Plains history, thanks for the photos as well. The Greg Manchess art looks great, although I'll have to wait for Del Rey to see the rest of it. And thanks for doing what you're doing, I can't wait to read those books.

Forgotten Ages #72

More REH Bookshelf info! I'm in hog heaven. I wonder if my wife will increase my allowance?

The Cross Plainsman

I think this is a great idea. My only comment is that perhaps you have included too many awards. I think I can guess who will win in almost every category.

The Road to Velitrium #54

Have you done any REH related books besides The Fantastic Worlds of Robert E. Howard? I enjoyed most of that and would buy other titles.

Red Ruin #21

Great cover! Sorry to hear about your dad. LOVE the Two-Gun Bob strips.

Busted Ribs and Broken English Vol. 8, Issue 3

Thanks for the bio. I've been flirting with Satan's Daughter and Other Tales from the Pulps available from Wildside. I only want it for the REH Bookshelf material it might contain. Anyone know the TOC?

God's Right Hand #18

Now you tell me.

Aquila Nidus

Thanks for the review. I'm a bit of an Arthurian scholar myself, but I didn't want to see this film with all the kids. So, naturally, I waited too long and it was gone. I found the Pict/Sword in stone connection intriguing and wouldn't mind hearing more.

The Highwayman

Very entertaining.

