

WATCHED ANY GREAT OLD FILMS LATELY?

How about the original Smoky film 1933!

Director: Eugene J. Forde
Cast: Victor Jory, Irene Bentley,
Frank Campeau, Hank Mann
and LeRoy Mason
Release Year: 1933
Run Time: 70 minutes



Plot:

The 1933 Fox production Smoky was the first of three films adaptations of the classic Will James novel. James himself served as off-screen narrator for this story of bronco buster Clint's (Victor Jory) undying devotion to his horse, and vice versa. Separated early on from Clint, Smoky is sold to a notions dealer, undergoing the humiliation of hauling junk wagon until he grows too old for this sort of work. Slated for the glue factory, Smoky is rescued in the nick of time by Clint, who has never given up hope of someday reclaiming his beloved steed. Though not as effectively cast as

Fred MacMurray in the first of the remakes, Victor Jory is quite convincing in his offbeat (for him) role. Check out ebay for your copy.

Or how about a collectible CD

The Man They Call Will James

Narrated by Richard Farnsworth

Produced by Gwendolyn Clancy (Longtime member of the Will James Society).

Great documentary that chronicles the life and times of Will James. Run time 44:30. includes a special 16 minute tribute.

You can purchase it by going to our Will James Society General Store page in this issue.

We have a limited amount, so get yours as soon as you can.



NORTHEASTERN NEVADA MUSEUM

Elko, Nevada

Features Will James art and books

RC & MARY ELLIS GALLERY

This gallery contains the Will James collection donated by Don Frazier of Phoenix, Arizona. Will James (1892-1942) was a legendary western artist, author, and cowboy of the American West. We are home to the second largest Will James collection in the world, which includes drawings, watercolors, sketches, and first edition signed books.

The permanent art collection contains ten etchings and watercolors by western artist Edward Borein (1872-1945) donated by Jack Rice of Reno. Borein has been called one of the most authentic of all the early cowboy artists by virtue of his familiarity with the lifestyle.

The Will James Society gifts brand new Will James books to the Northeastern Museum Gift Shop in Elko Nevada to help support the Will James exhibit which was donated by one of its founding members Don Frazier.

Northeastern Nevada Museum
Located at 1514 Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801
775-738-3418

Tuesday through Saturday 9-5 • Closed on Monday.

YELLOWSTONE ART MUSEUM UPDATE

The Will James Eternal Cowboy Exhibition

Earl E. Snook Family Gallery

Exhibition November 15, 2024 - November 16, 2025

Will James: The Eternal Cowboy explores the archetypal cowboy figure as presented through the work of Montana artist and author Will James (1892 - 1942). Will James began working on ranches at the young age of 15 and continued working in the cow country throughout his life. James' artistic portfolio is centered around the cowboy figure, and his famous cowboy novels, such as Smoky (1929) and Uncle Bill (1932), tell of an exhilarating life in the American West. In James' final novel, The American Cowboy (1942), the book culminates with the declaration: "The cowboy will never die." Will James: The Eternal Cowboy examines James' archetypal cowboy figure through a selection of drawings, writings, and various archival materials from the YAM's Virginia Snook Collection, and explores the artist's contemplation of this role within a rapidly changing landscape.

Yellowstone Art Museum
401 North 27th Street
Billings, MT 59101
406.256.6804
Admission is FREE!
Museum hours

Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Special hours every first Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.



RENO WILL JAMES EVENT

February 25th, 2025 Washoe County Parks Dept.

and Bartley Ranch, 6000 Bartley Ranch Road, Reno, NV co-sponsored by the Will James Society, will present a celebration of the life of Will James, featuring several original drawings by Will James.

A children's drawing contest, Will James books and live music.

This is a tentative, still in the works event.

Watch for more information and details to come.

Chris Smyczek 775-828-6612 Sharon 775-265-7137

GENOA WESTERN HERITAGE DAYS 2025

May 2nd - 4th, 2025

Nevada's Oldest Town celebrates its western heritage with 3 days packed with music, history, art, food, and fun.

Saturday, May 3rd, Town Hall afternoon performance co-sponsored by the Will James Society. The Will and Alice Chautauqa featuring Kim Harris as Alice James and Mike Olson as Will James.

For more information contact Sharon @ 775-265-7137 or Dan Ainsworth @ 714-474-1362.