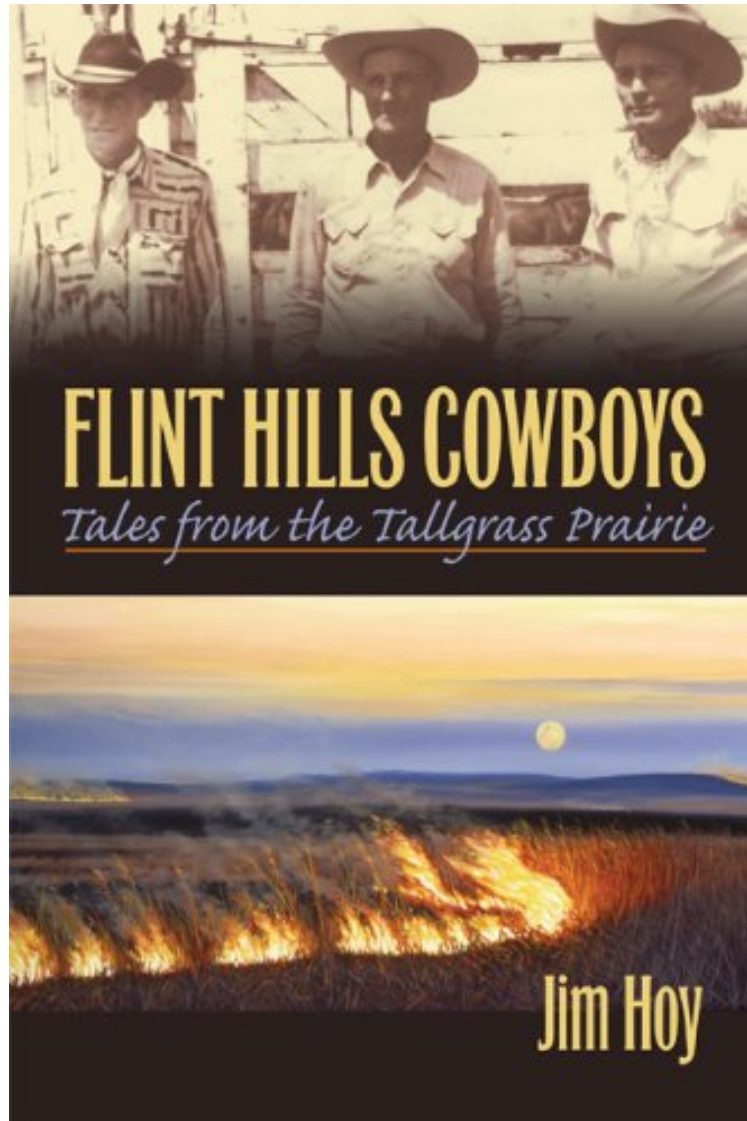


(Ebook free) Flint Hills Cowboys: Tales from the Tallgrass Prairie

## Flint Hills Cowboys: Tales from the Tallgrass Prairie

*Jim Hoy*

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**Jim Hoy : Flint Hills Cowboys: Tales from the Tallgrass Prairie** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Flint Hills Cowboys: Tales from the Tallgrass Prairie:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Flint Hills Cowboys, told by a guy who knows.By Curtis EvansGreat local history written by a true cowboy scholar. His father and uncles were Flint Hills cowboys from whom he derived several of the tales. He did his research at the local court house, on line, visiting with the old timers, and from walking and riding the fence line. He walks the walk. Clearly written prose punctuated with local vernacular. He talks the talk.Not only that, this is a fun book for the explorer in all of us. It will stir a "git up and go" in your britches.

You can sit in the comfort of your truck while you cruise the back roads in search of the "Chapman posts" or you can hop on a horse for the cattle drive at his son's 7000 acre ranch, the Flying W. It's all good. Five Stars. Avid reader, Curtis Evans 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Flint Hills History By Smith I loved this book! I am a big fan of the Flint Hills. Not only was the book entertaining, but I learned a lot of history about the places I have visited. 6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Truly Authentic Writing By Christopher B. Flint Hills Cowboys by James F. Hoy places you on the saddle of a horse loping through the historic Flint Hills of Kansas. Mr. Hoy himself grew up in the Hills and was raised working cattle alongside some of the best cowboys the region has reared. Chock-full of authentic and personal stories, the reader continually feels like one of the cowboys living the exciting, and difficult, life of a Flint Hills Cowboy. The book both informs and delights. Mr. Hoy lacks pretentiousness and his writing is accessible. After completing the book, it was obvious to me that he desires only one thing: to share his love and passion for the Flint Hills of Kansas and all the colorful and honorable people who dwell there.

The Flint Hills are America's last tallgrass prairie, a green enclave set in the midst of the farmland of eastern Kansas. Known as the home of the Big Beef Steer, these rugged hills have produced exemplary cowboys—both the ranch and rodeo varieties—whose hard work has given them plenty of material for equally good stories. Jim Hoy grew up in the Flint Hills on a ranch at Cassoday that's been in his family for five generations and boasts roots "as deep as those of bluestem grass in black-soil bottomland." He now draws on this area's rich cowboy lore—as well as on his own experience working cattle, breaking horses, and rodeoing—to write a folk history of the Flint Hills spanning a century and a half. Hoy blends history, folklore, and memoir to conjure for readers the tallgrass prairies of his boyhood in a book that richly recalls the ranching life and the people who lived it. Here are cowboys and outlaws, rodeo stars and runaway horses, ordinary folks and the stuff of legends. Hoy introduces readers to the likes of Lou Hart, a top hand with the Crocker Brothers from 1906 to 1910, whose poetic paean to ranch life circulated orally for fifty years before seeing print. And he tracks down the legend of Bud Gillette, considered by his neighbors the world's fastest man until he fell in with an unscrupulous promoter. He even unravels the mystery of a lone grave supposed to be that of the first cowboy in the Flint Hills. Hoy also explains why a good horse makes up for having to work with exasperating cattle—and why not all horses are created (or trained) equal. And he traces Flint Hills cattle culture from the days of the trail drive through the railroad years to today's trucking era, with most railroad stockyards torn down and only one section house left standing. Writes Hoy, "I feed on the stories of the Hills and the characters who tell them as the cattle feed on the grasses." His love of the land shines throughout a book so real that readers will swear they hear the click of horseshoes on flint rock with every turn of the page.

"There are only a few cowboy-scholars of the Great Plains who manage to wear the Stetson and the mortar board with equal grace. E. E. Dale comes to mind, and now, thanks to Flint Hills Cowboys, so does Jim Hoy. Writing from roots. Grounded. Real." From the Back Cover "There are only a few cowboy-scholars of the Great Plains who manage to wear the Stetson and the mortar board with equal grace. E.E. Dale comes to mind, and now, thanks to Flint Hills Cowboys, so does Jim Hoy. Writing from roots. Grounded. Real." --Thomas D. Isern, coauthor of Plains Folk and Kansas Land About the Author Jim Hoy is the author of numerous other books about cowboy life, including The Cattle Guard: Its History and Lore and, most recently, Vaqueros, Cowboys, and Buckaroos, coauthored with Lawrence Clayton and Jerald Underwood. He is professor of English and director of the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State University.