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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Cowboy Publishes Book with Graphic Communication Institute at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO — Gary L. Williams of San Miguel, Calif., is a modern cowboy with an adventurous story penned in his recently released book, "Lessons from the Range — Adventures of a Working Cowboy," published by the Graphic Communication Institute at Cal Poly (GrCI).

"Lessons from the Range" recounts Williams' love of horses and dogs and his life adventures living out his dream of being a cowboy. The book chronicles his journeys throughout the Western U.S. and the many lessons he learned in an occupation many think to be defunct.

Williams' passion and longing to be a cowboy began at an early age, inspired like many in his generation by Roy Rogers, Dale Evans and Gene Autry. Williams received his first horse by age 12, and by 16 he was training horses for many neighboring ranches. He spent the first 30 years of his career as a ranch cowboy, braving the elements and rugged terrain to catch wild cattle.

"I go a giant step beyond the ranch cowboy," Williams said. "Not many cowboys know how to rope a wild bull weighing in around a ton. I know how to get him on the ground and tie him so he cannot get up; all the while the bull is trying to kill my horse and me. Most cowboys don't want to try. There are only a handful of cowboys who do what I have been doing."

These harrowing situations required animals with exceptional training — cattle dogs that can stop renegade cattle and horses experienced with rough terrain. Williams' reputation as a horse and cattle dog trainer grew rapidly, transitioning into a second career.

"I started managing ranches in order to feed and support my growing family," Williams said. "As my knowledge and ability grew, my reputation with my trained cattle dogs grew. I was selling cattle dogs all over the U.S. and Canada. I began my business, Contract Cowboy, at age 42."

"Lessons from the Range" is a true account of adventure, passion and the bond between humans and animals that transports readers to the "real" Wild West, beyond that of the movies.

"I never knew that such cowboys still exist or that such services are still needed," said Harvey Levenson, director of the GrCI. "The story took me back to what I used to think of as the 'wild, wild west,' with all of the intrigue and relationships that went with it."

Williams' memoir is published by the Graphic Communication Institute at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, Calif. Dawn M. Janke, director of Cal Poly's Writing & Rhetoric Center, is the editor.

To purchase "Lessons from the Range — Adventures of a Working Cowboy," visit http://www.cowboydogtrainer.com/cowboydogtrainer_files/lessons_from_the_range.htm,

or contact Gary Williams at 805-610-1362 or gary@cowboydogtrainer.com.

Links

- Gary L. Williams – Contract Cowboy: <http://www.cowboydogtrainer.com/>
- Graphic Communication Institute: <http://gci.calpoly.edu/>

About the Graphic Communication Institute at Cal Poly

The Graphic Communication Institute at Cal Poly (GrCI) is an outreach effort of the university's Graphic Communication Department, created to provide industry professionals with access to Cal Poly's state-of-the-art resources via workshops, conferences and seminars, custom training programs, consulting, laboratory testing, and research initiatives. GrCI educational programs involve the participation of Cal Poly faculty, leading industry experts, and advanced students from the graphic communication program. Classes make use of the dedicated training lab as well as Cal Poly's extensive, state-of-the-art prepress imaging and press room production facilities.

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