



H. A. (BILLY) CLEMMER LEATHERWORK

H. A. Clemmer, better known as Bill or Billy to her friends, has had an interest in art from a very early age. Some of her first forays into art were tiny beeswax horses made on her commute to first grade. Art and creative projects have always been a preferred way to spend time when not working on farms and ranches.

The leatherwork started when Bill got a chance to ride in a custom built saddle at a friend's ranch. She realized how nice they are and, not having the money to commission one, she scraped together enough to afford the materials to build her own saddle. Five more saddles followed, and then her interest in animal husbandry took her away to New Zealand. Six years were spent learning about the sheep and beef industry and how to train and work sheep dogs, as well as working in the New Zealand harness racing industry.

In July 2018, Bill returned to the States with more drive than ever to create artwork. Animals and wildlife are favorite subjects, and much thought goes into the creating of each piece. Thinking about what the animal has just been doing or is about to do, as well as its temperament and attitude to its surroundings, helps to give the artwork more depth. Spending time to observe animals in their natural habitat (in, say, the Chiricahua Mountains) is also key.

Bill is a wandering artist and has, as yet, not found a permanent address. With any luck she will get to spend more time in the Southwest. For now she is exploring the West in general and gathering ideas and inspiration for her next works of art.

