Cliff Trafzer
Distinguished Professor of History
Rupert COSTO Chair in Native American Affairs

The Story of Willie Boy is a tale of one of the most famous (or infamous) Native Americans ever to live in the Inland Empire. Many are familiar with the legend depicted in the 1969 movie, “Tell Them Willie Boy is Here,” starring Robert Redford, Katherine Ross, and Robert Blake. The movie was based upon a book by Harry Lawton, longtime Riverside and UCR faculty member.

Cliff Trafzer’s latest book, “A Chemehuevi Song,” is the first in depth examination of the history of the 29 Palms Band of Mission Indians, some of whom are descendants of Willie Boy. Over the past twenty years, the tribe granted Trafzer with unprecedented access including oral histories, interviews, historical documents, maps, books, articles and photographs to write this book. Trafzer learned that the legend of Willie Boy was quite different than the real story. But as he will share with the CUC November 18, the real story, also filled with love, murder, scandal, and escape, can be just as compelling!

Professor Cliff Trafzer is the Rupert COSTO Chair in Native American Affairs. On the UCR faculty since 1991, he earned a B.A. and M.A. in history at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. He earned a Ph.D. in American History with a specialty in American Indian History from Oklahoma State. Trafzer has taught American Indian History at Navajo Community College, Washington State University and San Diego State. In 2012, he co-edited “The Indian School on Magnolia Avenue,” a history of Sherman Indian School in Riverside.

With an Update From:
Milagros Pena
New Dean of the
UCR College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences

$18.00/$22.00 - Includes a Deluxe Breakfast Buffet & Free Parking in the Bannockburn lot
Space is Limited! Please R.S.V.P. by November 12th.

Using the enclosed envelope, please return your breakfast reservation payable to: REGENTS UC
University of California, Governmental & Community Relations – 101, Riverside, CA 92521-0153

Questions: Please call (951) 827-5184 or email robin.clark@ucr.edu RSVP’s not cancelled by November 17th will be billed.

(Please Print) Dr. Mr. Miss Ms. Mrs.

Address ________________________________ City ________________________________

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Checks Payable to: REGENTS UC

Member(s) ($18.00) Subtotal for members $ ___________
Non-member(s) ($22.00) pp Subtotal for nonmembers $ ___________

CUC membership fees: Single: $25, Couple: $40, Corporate: $100 $ ___________

Total Enclosed $ ___________

Guest Name(s): ________________________________

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