



## About the Tale-spinner

### David Bowles

David Bowles, a native of Austin, Texas, lives in San Antonio with his best friend and constant companion Lulubelle, a yellow Lab.

His love of history was nurtured by his family's story-telling tradition. In the Dedication of his book *Spring House: Book 1 in the Westward Sagas*, Bowles shares his memories of sitting on the front porch of his aunt and uncle's ranch house, cranking the ice cream freezer, eating homemade peach ice cream, and listening to Aunt Izola Bowles' stories. Those stories intrigued him because they really happened — and they happened to people that were connected to him. He wanted to know more about his ancestors and developed an early interest in history, the only subject he ever

excelled in. Growing up in Austin, Texas, he spent much of his time reading about history and touring the many museums, libraries, and state buildings in the city.

After high school and a stint in the US Navy, he went to work for a wine and liquor distributor in San Antonio, Texas, later receiving a promotion that moved him to Dallas. After a 23-year career with the company, he returned to San Antonio in 1990 to establish dabowinc®, a business that processed returned checks for merchants and financial institutions. He later added credit cards and ATM machines to the products and services for brick-and-mortar companies, home-based businesses, and online merchants. By 1994 the company had grown to 20 employees.

He loved to take vacations on his Gold Wing Touring Motorcycle; in July of 1997 David packed a backpack and a sleeping bag and headed north with no itinerary. The trip ended at Lake Louise in British Columbia, and he had many great adventures on the open road—including one with a bear in Rainier National Park.

Along with running his business and touring on his motorcycle, David had been researching his family history for thirty years. He felt his family's story needed to be told. His ancestors weren't rich or famous. They weren't leaders, but they were great followers. They were ordinary people who became heroes because of the extraordinary history they lived through.

In October 1998, a motorcycle accident changed his life. After his close call with death, he wanted to ensure that the family history was passed down to his children and grandchildren. With time on his hands during his three-year recovery from the accident, he replaced his motorcycle-riding hobby with a new avocation: writing

stories of his family. He found more time to write when his daughter, who has been diabetic since childhood, underwent a pancreas transplant. He carried his laptop to the hospital and typed his stories sitting in the lobby waiting through her surgery.

To make these stories as exciting to his readers as the stories told by the previous generations of his family were to him, he created dialogue and scenes to fill in the gaps in history. While remaining faithful to known facts, he began writing fiction to add true life drama to the stories that would become *The Westward Sagas*, tales from colonial days to the settlement of the West. The first two books in the series, *Spring House* and *Adam's Daughters*, are available now, and David is working on *Book 3: Rebeckah*.

He is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the Texas State Historical Association, the Guilford County Genealogical Society, the Jonesborough Genealogical Society, the San Antonio Genealogical Society, the National Genealogical Society, and the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors. He serves as president of the San Antonio chapter of SAR and has participated in many patriotic events.

David enjoys telling stories and sharing what he learned from his research for the books. He speaks to schools, churches, and other organizations on topics relating to the Revolutionary War, the State of Franklin, and early Americana. David also talks about researching and preserving family history. His presentations are both entertaining and educational.

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