

LIVING COWBOY ETHICS

The Journal of the PARAGON Foundation, Inc.

The Battle for Piñon Canyon,
Part Two

The Cowboy World of
Photographer Adam Jahiel

The Living Words of
the Constitution
Part 7

Don King:
The Legacy of a Saddle Maker



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SUMMER 2009



Photography by Adam Jahiel



OUR MISSION

The PARAGON Foundation provides for education, research and the exchange of ideas in an effort to promote and support Constitutional principles, individual freedoms, private property rights and the continuation of rural customs and culture – all with the intent of celebrating and continuing our Founding Fathers vision for America.

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LIVING COWBOY ETHICS

SUMMER 2009 VOLUME 5 No. 2

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photo by Adam Jahiel

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Photo by Adam Jahiel



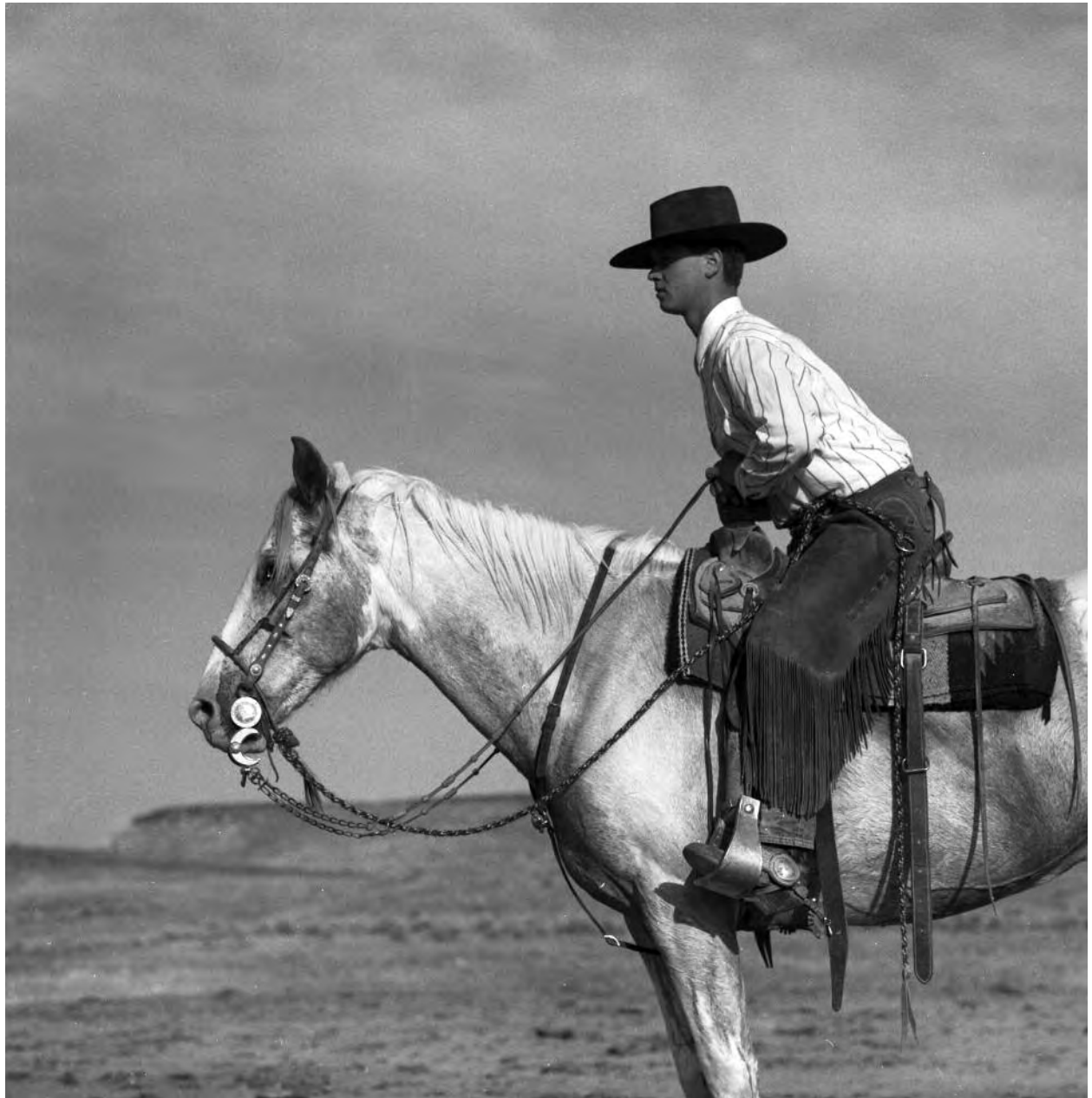


photo by Adam Jabbid

The Wait, YOP Ranch, NV



GB OLIVER

Independence Day

July fourth marks the 233 anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. A document that represented the Articles of Incorporation for what was to become the most powerful nation on the face of this earth, and the document itself considered by historians as one of the most prolific writings in the history of the world.

The document declared self-evident truths; that all men were created equal and blessed by our creator with inalienable rights. Among these rights were Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That government was instituted among Men for the sole purpose of protecting those rights and that they derived their just powers by our consent. And, when government became destructive to these ends, it was the right of the people to alter or abolish it.

The Signers of the Declaration knew full well that by signing the document, they would be making King George's short list, which was the equivalent of our "Terrorist Watch" list. And, if we pay any credence to Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano's recently publicized, inner agency memo, Thomas Jefferson would have clearly made her list as well.

Are we to believe that human nature has drastically changed in the last 233 years, or that the Bill of Rights and the United States Constitution were drafted to protect the citizens from al-Qaeda?

The Framers of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and our Bill of Rights understood that government was a force, and went to great lengths to provide "The People" with the power to control it. A concept that was clear in George Washington's mind when he said, "Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, a troublesome servant and a fearful master. Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action."

The great debate in Washington today is over the replacement of a Supreme Court judge. Sonia Sotomayor is President Obama's choice to fill that position. Her duty would be to define the supreme, fundamental, paramount, permanent law of the land. President Obama says that she is better equipped to do that because she is unmarried, and comes from a poor Hispanic background. She is better equipped because she can provide more "empathy" in her interpretations of the "law of the land."

The consequences of allowing philosophical interpretations into defining our constitutional law are the

destruction of the idea of law itself. Once free of the text, history and structure, an argument could reach any result. Judge Sotomayer has written a forward to a book entitled, *The International Judge: An Introduction to the Men and Women Who Decide the Worlds Cases*. Should Americans feel comfortable freeing a Justice Sotomayor to inject her empathy and philosophical views into our "law of the land?"

Judges do not have the authority, or the competence, to rewrite the Constitution or change its meaning. Allowing them the freedom to venture into the moral underpinnings of our Nation's fabric is a slippery slop. Justice Scalia observed, "On purely moral issues, judges are no more competent or trustworthy than nine people picked at random from a Kansas City phone directory."

No, that power is best kept at home, in our hands. The concept that all men are created equal by virtue of the divinity of their creation and are inalienable puts the controls where they should rightfully be. Governments possess no power, only force. The power resides in the people and, when they exercise their powers, it creates life and energy; the force of government robs its people of energy. Power arises from meaning, driven by motive and principal. Force is incomplete and creates nothing, therefore, it must always move in opposition against something.

So do yourself and your Nation a favor this month, read the Declaration of Independence again, just for old time's sake. Read the last line, the one

where it says, "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor." If the Declaration were drafted today, how many elected officials would clamor to the front of the room, pen in hand, and sign up, or better yet, how many would have a sacred honor to pledge?



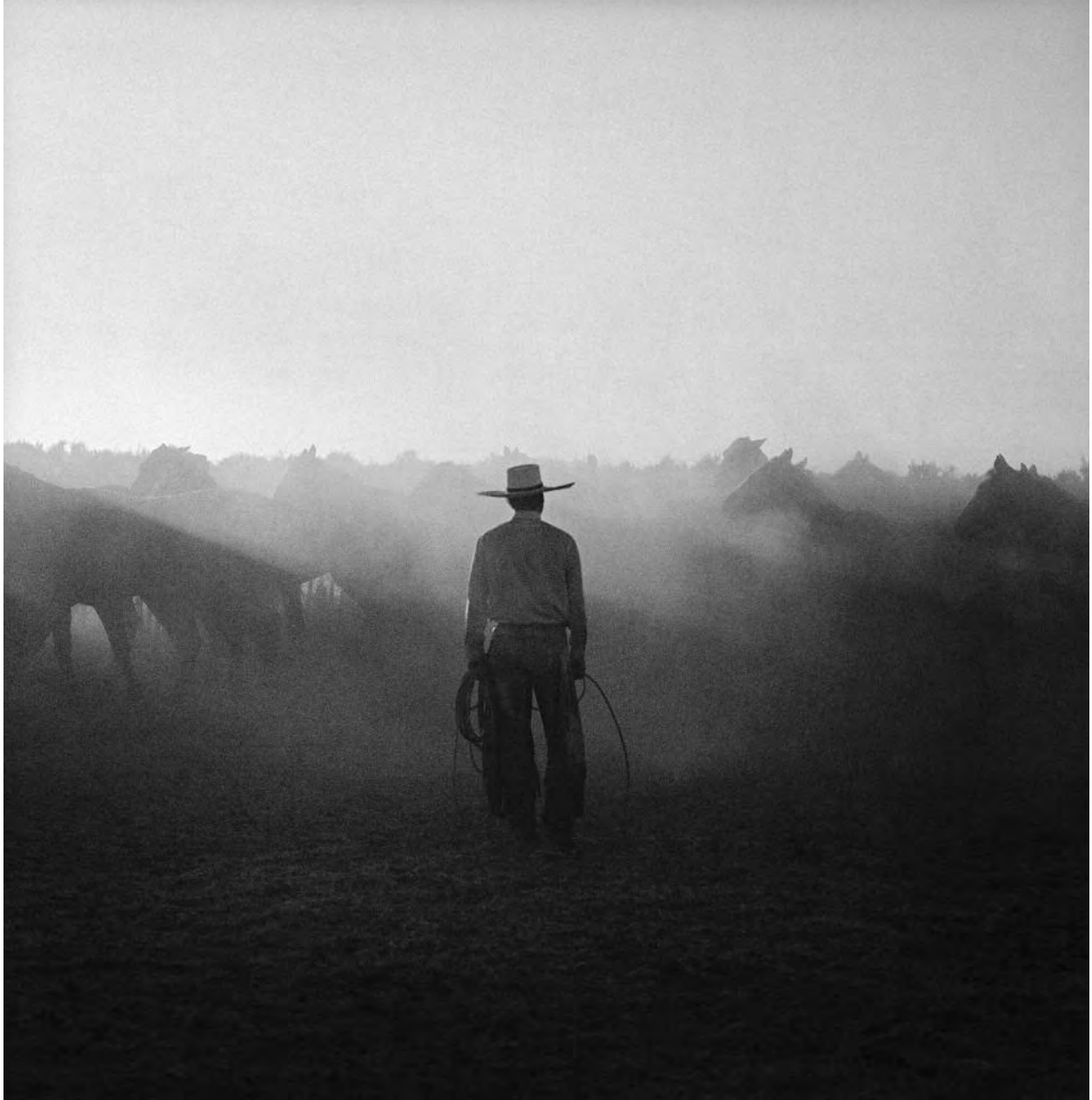


photo by Adam Jabiel

Remuda #5, Spanish Ranch, NV



WILLIAM C. REYNOLDS

Ink, Paper and Time

This issue of *Living Cowboy Ethics* arrives in time for us to celebrate some important aspects of summer. Not the least of which is that holiday-of-holidays – the Fourth of July. This year it seems even more timely that we remember our legacies of liberty and opportunity and how important they are – not only to Americans – but to the rest of the world. We have seen incredibly rapid changes over the last year – from the economic issues we face to a brand new President and administration settling in to the ongoing support and prayers we give to our men and women serving here and overseas for them to come home safely. Historically, the Fourth of July is a day filled with parades and flags and backyard barbeques but, more importantly, it is a day we remember and reaffirm our vigilance in protecting the liberty and freedom of every American, no matter what political belief, background or viewpoint. We are all Americans and liberty is the ultimate team sport. It is this reality that we focus on in this issue. We must always remember that we are the permission givers in this deal between the people and our government. We hold the reins and sometimes we need to take a hold. As Thomas Jefferson so aptly said: “When the people fear the government, there is tyranny, when the government fears the people, there is liberty.”

We have a couple of special treats in this issue. One is a photo feature put together by our own Associate Editor, Nicole Krebs. Nicole’s husband – Technical Sergeant Anthony Krebs – is serving in the Air Force in Kuwait. (Check our Out There page in the back of this issue for a photo of TSgt. Krebs. We figured he is WAY qualified for being Out There.) Nicole has been involved with many organizations that help families and spouses cope with the separation anxieties that accompany the deployment of loved ones for long periods of time and she found a group called “Operation: Love ReUnited” that operates a unique website. We feel they are doing a great job helping families and loved ones through the seeming eternity of deployment and Nicole and her daughter Brittany have crafted a stirring tribute of selected images from OpLove.org.

Since it’s summer, we have a number of offerings

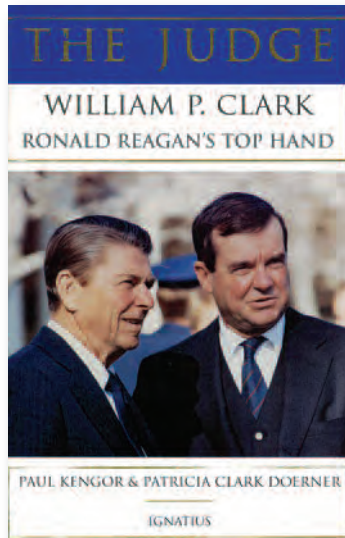
regarding books and music we thought you might enjoy. Hopefully, even in these challenging times, we can all give ourselves a little time for a good read or listen. One book that is truly worthy of your time is William P. Clark’s *The Judge*. Judge Clark, as his friends and associates know him, was Ronald Reagan’s single-most important advisor, serving with distinction in a number of posts from the

Reagan governorship to the 40TH President’s period in the White House. Clark is a man who has lived by Teddy Roosevelt’s credo, “Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground.” His is a story of integrity and, quite simply, of a great westerner.

We have a new feature by writer Thea Marx who gives some ranch stories and recipes from her neck of the woods in Wyoming. Mark Bedor visits with singer/songwriter R.W. Hampton – whose son Cooper is serving in the Marine Corps – at the family’s ranch in Texas and also catches us up with the multi-talented, Tom Russell. Special Features Editor, Marilyn Fisher gives an in depth look at the importance of the Second Amendment and Individual

Sovereignty and the Right to Bear Arms. Our LCE Interview this issue is with another significant American, the legendary Charlie Daniels. Mr. Daniels gives us his take on America and the young people he has visited with during his many trips overseas to entertain our troops. Our featured photographer, Adam Jahiel gives us a watchful eye view of the world of the high desert buckaroo. Guy de Galard takes us back to the life and work of the late Sheridan saddle maker, Don King. Nicole Krebs continues her Constitutional series with an explanation of Article VII. Darrell Arnold gives us the second part of his piece on the battle for Piñon Canyon and Dan Gagliosso rounds out the issue with an interesting look at one of the greatest Westerns ever made, *How the West was Won*.

As always, we thank you for your support of PARAGON’s efforts and hope that you take a little time this summer – to not only enjoy this issue’s “paper and ink” – but some of the suggestions offered.

NOTE

More Made and To Do in the USA

This issue we look once again to all sorts of things being made here, going on around here and stuff you can find here, in and from the USA. Some of the events have already happened, some are coming up – and some may even be next year, but we thought you might like to hear about them early. If you have an event or something made or going on *here* you wish to share, please let us know.

A New Saddle

Waiting for a custom saddle is hard – really hard – but well worth the wait. For those who make their living horseback or who simply spend what they want to be quality time on their horses; it makes sense to have a saddle that not only fits your horse, but also fits you. Seems like an obvious concept but it never ceases to amaze how many people crawl off their horses and are practically crippled after riding saddles that are little more than a sawhorse covered with leather. Another uniquely “Western moment” is watching someone cinch up only to see a bad fitting saddle lift up off the back of their horse, maybe four or five inches. Somebody’s going to feel that in the ride – and it’s going to be you *and* your horse. A bad deal all around.

Today there are more custom saddlers working than you might believe – with much of this growth attributed to the current renaissance of interest in what many call the California or vaquero school of horsemanship. For the last twenty-five years, more and more people, it seems, are choosing to find custom makers to build them comfortable and solid using or performance saddles. Maybe it’s the fact too that the performance horse industry has grown so. Ropers, team ropers, team penners, reiners and cutters all seem to have built followings for many custom saddlers around the country. In the last issue, we profiled multi-talented saddler Don Butler and, later in this issue, we spotlight another great one, the late Don King of Sheridan, Wyoming. His style of surface embellishment would help establish the Sheridan-style of carving in the early fifties that featured very unique and intricate flower patterns. It would become a style that would widely influence makers around the country. One important contemporary saddler, who worked with King at his Sheridan shop, is Montana saddler Chas Weldon. Beyond being one of the finest saddlers working



Saddle by Chas Weldon

Photo courtesy the saddle maker

today, Chas is quite eloquent about why and how he chose saddle making.

“Without saddles and building them, I would probably have stayed in the family business,” he says on a call from his shop in Billings. “My life was formed around ranching that started with our family homesteading in 1916. So, after high school, I got itchy and left to cowboy. During that time in the 1970s, my hometown of Billings, Montana, was holding on to a receding vision of being a cow town. Cowboying was a natural for me. A progression. I spent years in the saddle and, the more I rode, it made sense for me to consider the craft.

“I had an interest in sculpture and found myself in our family’s cabin on Blue Creek, outside of Billings, working on clay models for bronze casting. The shadows of Charlie Russell filled my dreams and I worked further at sculptural forms in the leather things I produced. Headstalls and chaps came first, mostly during the cold, long winters at cow camps. My braided, brow band

headstalls came next, which I took to the Big Loop horse ropings in Oregon's Jordan Valley – cowboys roping horses with 60-foot ropes all at a dead run. It usually rained, but people came and wanted my work. I sold all I had. I got the message. What followed was a variety of what could, at one time, be called apprenticeships. Not today, it would be more like indentured servitude, but it worked for me. I was drawn to the repetitive nature of saddle making. To the natural storytelling it holds. A saddle is really like a painting – each has a beginning, middle and an end. It evolves and helps you move along if you listen to it. I guess you could say there is peace in saddle making.”

Most saddlers today would certainly feel a kinship to Chas' view on the nature of the craft and its repetitive process. Now custom saddlers tend to follow their own timeline, a fact that has caused many customers in the past – and today – to ponder the concept of “Saddle Shop Delay,” a unique time warp that many feel causes time to stop while their saddle is being made. That little problem aside, when the saddle



finally does arrive, the fit and finish are worth waiting for, but the real test always comes on the back of a horse. You can have the nicest looking saddle within a hundred miles, piled on with silver and rawhide – but if the fit is wrong, the whole operation falls flat. Great custom saddlers work as the third leg of a stool – fitting you and fitting your horse. Does it take a while to get one? Yes. In today's immediate, FedEx, right-now world, waiting a couple of years may seem too much to put up with – that saddle shop delay thing. But, in the case of a saddle that really fits and works well, as your mother told you, patience is a virtue as good things take time. If you think a custom saddle is for you, finding a custom saddler is a journey best started with a friend's personal recommendation. Talk to someone you know and trust who has bought a custom saddle. Sit in one and you'll feel the difference. To see some fabulous examples of contemporary

custom saddles, a great place to start is to visit the Traditional Cowboy Arts Association at www.tcowboyarts.org. You can email Chas Weldon at weldonsaddles@msn.com.

Horsedrawn Heaven

The third weekend in April brought some 5,000 farmers and ranchers from all over North America to the small, friendly cow town of Madras, Oregon for the 31ST Annual Small Farmer's Journal Horsedrawn Auction and Swap Meet. Conceived and managed as a reunion, market festival with a full-blown, three-day auction at its core, regular customers have come to expect they can find harnesses for their feed team, a new buggy or old Surrey for the family, perhaps a new logging team and certainly a horsedrawn mower or plow. In addition, they know that they have a market once a year to sell those horsedrawn items they no longer use. One of the largest events of its type anywhere in the world, the auction seems to be THE reunion for those folks who love working animals as well as all things pertaining to families on the land. Next year's event is slated for April 15TH through the 18TH at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Madras, Oregon. For info, please call 800-876-2893 or visit www.smallfarmersjournal.com

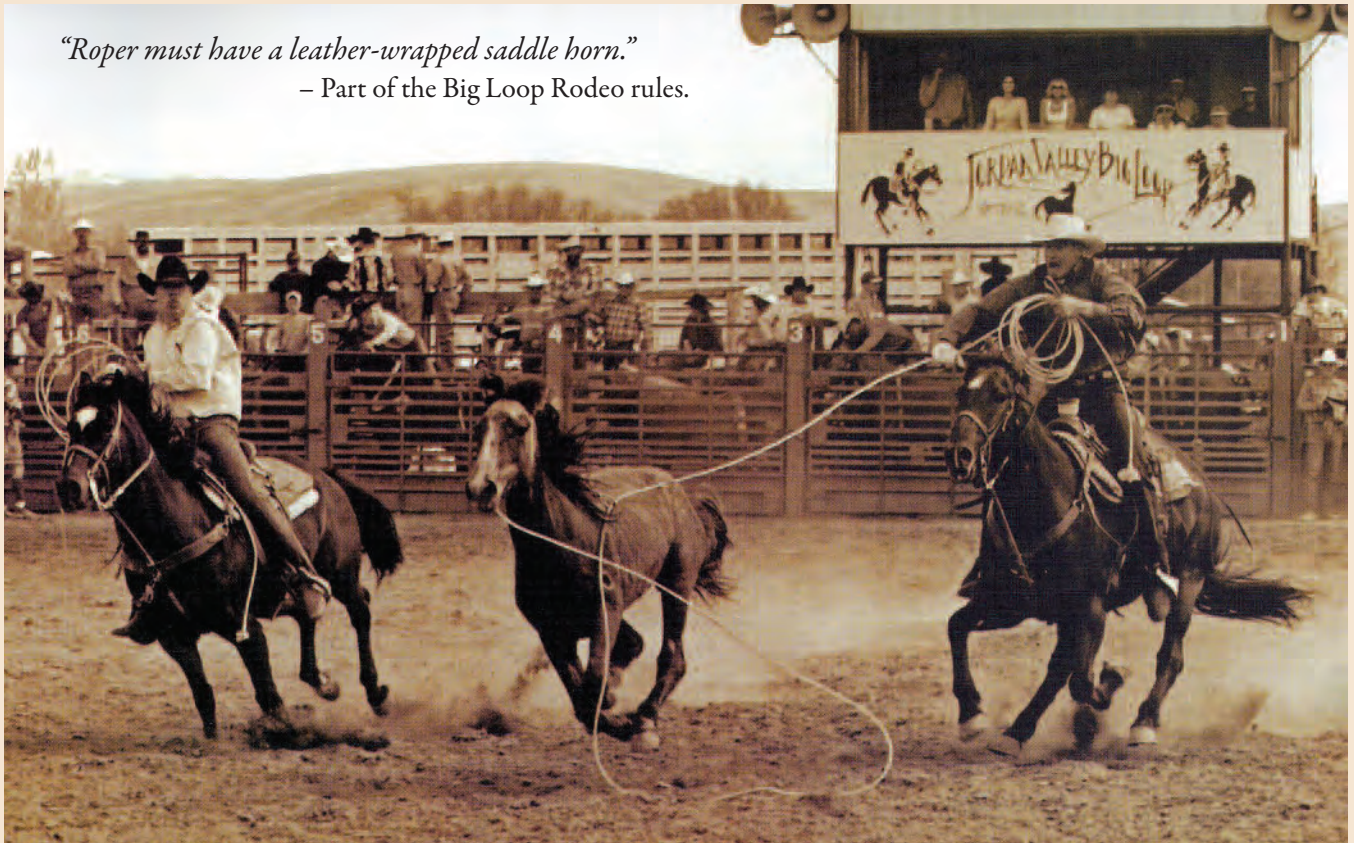


Photos courtesy Lynn Miller

Jordan Valley Big Loop Rodeo and Commemorative Book

“Roper must have a leather-wrapped saddle horn.”

– Part of the Big Loop Rodeo rules.



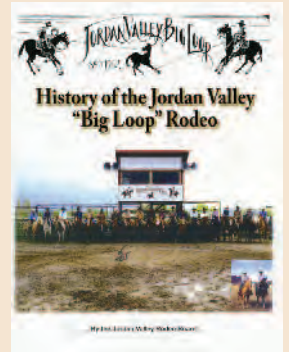
Photos courtesy, Big Loop Rodeo Committee

For fifty-one years, the little town of Jordan Valley, Oregon has been the site of the Big Loop Rodeo – so named because ropers must have... a big loop – measuring at least 20-feet open when roping in the horse roping event. This is pretty much about as western an event as one could find. Superb horsemanship and great stock make for an exciting time there in southeastern Oregon. This event has become the stuff of legends as all who enter are there to win the trophy saddles with the “Big Loop” cantle plates. The rodeo has such a colorful history that the event’s board of directors has seen fit to publish a commemorative book about the history of the rodeo. *History of the Jordan Valley Big-Loop Rodeo* is more than a historic scrapbook of a regional rodeo, it is a look into the soul of a community working together and supporting each other. The rodeo has been an opportunity for the area’s hard-working ranch and farming families to carve out a specific time of the year they can get together and celebrate their lives and



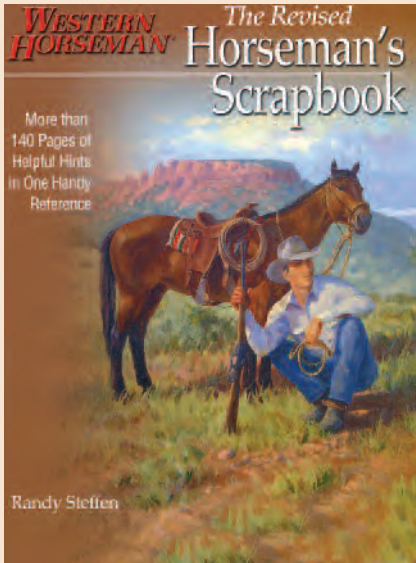
their part of the country. The book is filled with great photos and costs \$20. For anyone who loves rodeo – and big ropin’ – this is your book. You can purchase it at www.biglooprodeo.com.

A good example of just how wonderful this little community is can be found on their website, which gives information about the event:



“If you haven’t had the opportunity of enjoying our rodeo and hospitality, try to plan a trip here. You may want to pitch a tent, bring your RV or stay at one of our establishments. We hope that you will have a good time. Stay afterwards and enjoy our scenic beauty. Take a drive and see all of our unique sites, meet new friends and take wonderful memories back home with you. If you have been here before, THANKS FOR COMING AND COME AGAIN! For more information, please call 541-586-2460 Email: cityofjv@juno.com or go to the City Site <http://cityofjordanvalley.com>.” Pretty much says it all.

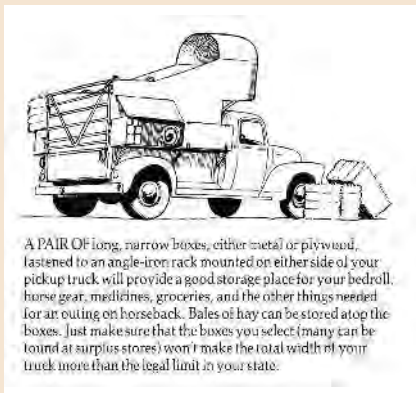
A Horseman's Scrapbook



Since 1936, *Western Horseman* magazine has been the go-to monthly read for westerners, ranchers and those who love the “western stock horse” – as they used to be called. One of the most comforting things about the magazine has been its ability to keep readers entertained and coming back for more even though, after seventy-plus years, it speaks to the same subject – the horse. Its continuing success over the years is a testament to the passionate audience it has and to the style and grace in the way it presents its

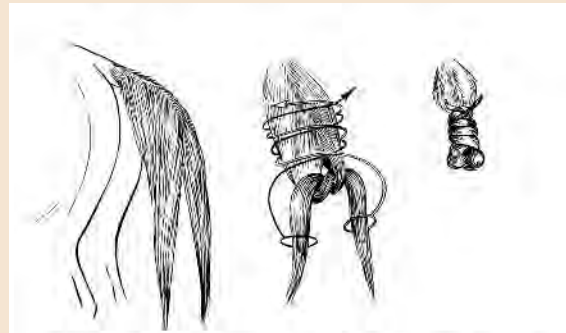
editorial. One of the mainstays of *Western Horseman* was its series of handy hints for horsemen that were spotted throughout the magazine. Most of these were written and drawn by the late Randy Steffen, a prolific, for-hire illustrator – a disappearing breed in today’s digital publishing world – who

for many years created all sorts of original hints and tidbits for working around the ranch as well as interpreting ideas sent in by bushel-loads by readers. Steffen died in 1977 after receiving the American Exemplar Award for his research, writing and artwork contributions in preserving the spirit of the West. Over the years, *Western Horseman* published many of Steffen’s drawings and hints in *Horseman Scrapbooks*.

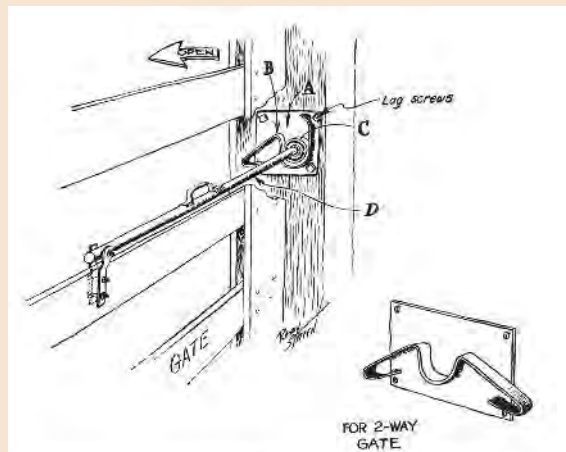


A PAIR OF long, narrow boxes, either metal or plywood, fastened to an angle-iron rack mounted on either side of your pickup truck will provide a good storage place for your bedroll, horse gear, medicines, groceries, and the other things needed for an outing on horseback. Bales of hay can be stored atop the boxes. Just make sure that the boxes you select (many can be found at surplus stores) won't make the total width of your truck more than the legal limit in your state.

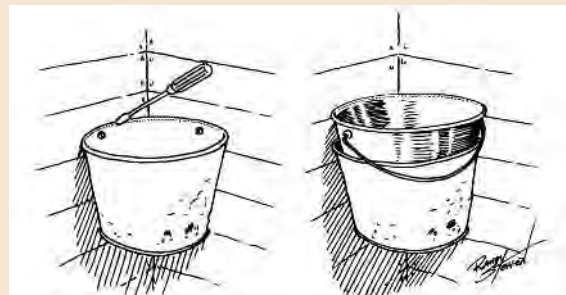
Recently they published a revised edition both as a service to their hundreds of thousands of readers as well as to honor the legacy of Randy Steffen. We highly recommend this book to anyone with a horse, a fence or a bucket. Please visit www.westernhorseman.com



TYING UP A horse's tail so it will stay is a tough job. If it isn't done correctly, the knot will soon slip, letting the tail dangle. This is the way a Sioux Indian friend of mine ties up a tail, and he tells me that this same method was used by his ancestors when they tied up their ponies' tails for war. The tail hair is first divided into halves, and separated at least as far up as the end of the dock, or tail bone. Then, as shown in the center drawing, a simple overhand knot is tied with the two halves, and drawn up snug against the dock. The two remaining ends are wound, in opposite directions, tightly against the remaining hair, as shown by the directional arrows, and another overhand knot tied where the ends meet. The ends of this knot should be tucked under the last wrap, with a length of cloth, or suitable length of leather string, wrapped around the tail at the last knot and tied to keep this one from coming undone. The bulk of the first overhand knot at the bottom of the dock keeps the other wraps from slipping down.



THIS IS a sure-enough good gate latch and the drawing pretty much explains itself. The principal parts are a large ball bearing (an old car transmission bearing works fine), a piece of steel shaft, 1 1/4" in diameter by 30" long, with a hole drilled at one end as a pivot point, some 1/8" sheet iron for the latch plate (8" x 8"), and some stout 1" strap iron for the pivot hangers, and the latch guide (B). The latch guide is welded to the 1/8" iron plate and this assembly is fastened to the gate post with lag screws. The bearing is tack-welded to the end of the shaft, and the pivot point is located after making sure the bearing will fit right against the latch plate. This can be made to work well with either a one-way or a double-swinging gate by using a different design guide strap for each, as shown in my drawing.



DON'T THROW away that old feed bucket with the hole in the bottom. You can make a dandy feeding rig by hanging it securely in the corner of the stall, at just the right height. Fasten it permanently in place with two good, stout wood screws at the two points where it contacts the walls. Now take your new feed bucket and set it in the one fastened to the wall. It's there to stay until you remove it for cleaning and refilling.

A Cowboy's Code

Back when Westerns were still on television – 50s and early 60s – there seemed to be a much greater awareness of what, at the time, was called “personal department” or proper behavior. I say this because so many of our cowboy heroes had codes that they not only lived by – but offered to viewers personal, ethical ways they could follow in their own lives. Given today’s variety of social and business behavior, here’s a little refresher course of some of the best, from some of the best.



All photos courtesy Ritch Rand and William Reynolds collections

Gene Autry's Cowboy Code of Honor

- A cowboy never takes unfair advantage – even of an enemy.
- A cowboy never betrays a trust. He never goes back on his word.
- A cowboy always tells the truth.
- A cowboy is kind and gentle to small children, old folks and animals.
- A cowboy is free from racial and religious intolerances.
- A cowboy is always helpful when someone is in trouble.
- A cowboy respects womanhood, his parents and his nation's laws.
- A cowboy is clean about his person in thought, word and deed.
- A cowboy is a Patriot.



Roy Rogers Riders Club Rules

- Be neat and clean.
- Be courteous and polite.
- Always obey your parents.
- Protect the weak and help them.
- Be brave but never take chances.
- Study hard and learn all you can.
- Be kind to animals and care for them.
- Eat all your food and never waste any.
- Love God and go to Sunday School regularly.
- Always respect our flag and country.



Texas Rangers' "Deputy Ranger" Oath

- Be Alert
- Be Obedient
- Defend the Weak
- Never Desert a Friend
- Never Take Unfair Advantage
- Be Neat
- Be Truthful
- Uphold Justice
- Live Cleanly
- Have Faith in God



The Lone Ranger Creed

- I believe that to have a friend, a man must be one.
- That all men are created equal and that everyone has within himself the power to make this a better world.
- That God put the firewood there, but that every man must gather and light it himself.
- In being prepared physically, mentally and morally to fight when necessary for that which is right.
- That a man should make the most of what equipment he has.
- That "this government, of the people, by the people, and for the people," shall live always.
- That men should live by the rule of what is best for the greatest number.
- That sooner or later...somewhere...somehow...we must settle with the world and make payment for what we have taken.
- That all things change, but the truth, and the truth alone, lives on forever.
- I believe in my Creator, my country, my fellow man.

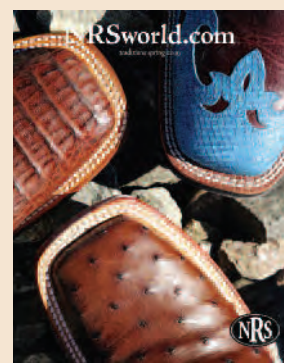
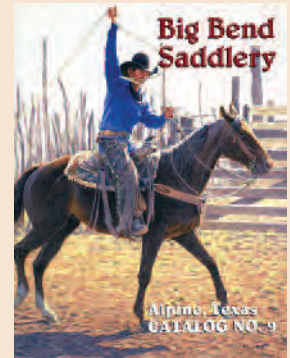


Charles F. Lummis

Of course, there are many other versions of these codes. Today, as over fifty years ago, many choose to simply follow "The Golden Rule" of treating others as you would have them treat you. No matter whose or which code you are inspired by, the point is, a life lived with honor, courage and kindness to others is a life to be valued. One of the best descriptions of a "life well lived" was part of the eulogy for the great Western writer, artist and passionate advocate of the legacy of the West, Charles F. Lummis, founder of the Southwest Museum and rebuilder of the California Missions. Of his life, it was said, "He finished what he started and he fixed what he broke."

Gear Lust: A few catalogs to always have close

People with horses have always seemed to love catalogs. Maybe it's because they need a new bit, some splint boots or a blanket. Maybe a new bedroll, that carved breast collar, some conchos, those bucking rolls! Then, of course, there's the unique horse owner lust factor – that new headstall or that new rope bag or that blingy belt for the little darlin'. Saddlery catalogs have become a mainstay in the West and may be the only category where people horde old catalogs as much as new. For years, J.M. Capriola of Elko, Nevada has published a catalog on an "occasional" basis; the same with Big Bend Saddlery out of Alpine, Texas. National Roper's Supply out of Decatur, Texas has a nice "flip-over" catalog – one side gear, the other clothes and accessories – as well as one of the biggest websites going – sort of the cowboy's version of "The Whole Earth Catalog" of the early 1970s. No matter which you choose – and we bet you have all three – these catalogs offer the must-have urgings that drive any self-respecting horse owner crazy. We will be adding this as a regular "Of Note" feature so if you have a catalog you can't live without, send us a note about it. You can find these catalogs at www.capriolas.com, www.bigbendsaddlery.com and www.nrsworld.com. Incidentally, these copies are ours and you can't have them.



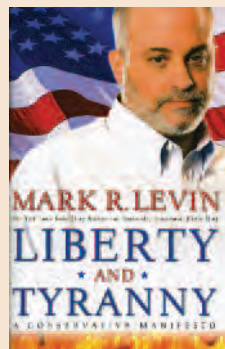
Summer Passages

Liberty and Tyranny: A Conservative Manifesto

By Mark R. Levin, syndicated talk show host and author

Published by Threshold Editions Trademark Simon & Schuster, NY, NY, – 2009

If there had been a New York Times Best Seller list in 1787, this book would have been the pick of the Founding Fathers. A non-apologetic *conservative manifesto* that inspires and empowers, this book effectively rips the tyranny of the statist ("the government knows best") group and celebrates the liberty of *originalism*, the lifeblood of our Constitution. The conservative in America is by nature an *originalist* – someone who understands, as did the Founders, that the Constitution is the same document yesterday, today and tomorrow. This work is as important to this century as Barry Goldwater's *Conscience of a*



Conservative was to the last. If you believe as many do that our constitutional rights are being challenged by government overreach then this handbook is for you. The writing is clear and direct and backed by Levin's own knowledge as a constitutional attorney who served during the Reagan Administration. If you count on your own self-reliance and not Uncle Sam for the answers, read this book and share it with your friends and family. Knowledge leads to empowerment – and liberty for all.

–Marilyn Fisher

"Leave no authority existing not responsible to the people."

– Thomas Jefferson

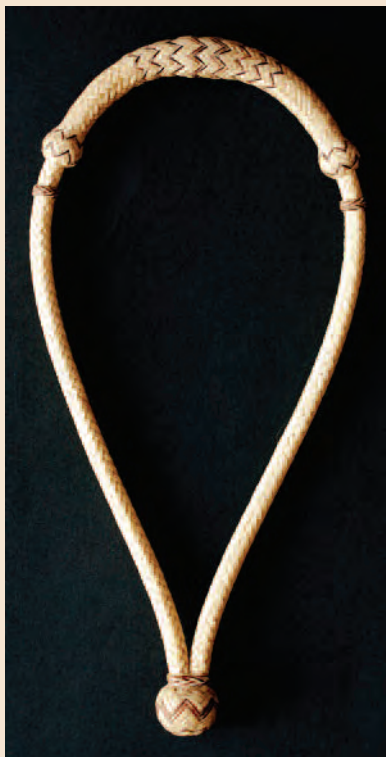
Under Montana Skies

From saddler Chas Weldon, who we spoke of earlier here in “Of Note,” comes the news of an event that should interest anyone who loves the cowboy and indigenous crafts and rural culture of the West – and may be just the place to find that new custom saddle. Make your plans now to come to Butte, Montana July 10-12, 2009 for the 71ST National Folk Festival – traditional music, food, crafts, culture and fun – a Great American Festival set in the Great American West – and admission is free! The National Folk Festival, one of the nation’s largest and most prestigious celebrations of the arts, has taken up residence in Butte, Montana until 2010.

First presented in 1934, the Folk Festival is the oldest multicultural festival in the nation, founded during the WPA (Works Progress Administration) during Roosevelt’s first term to help a struggling citizenry after the 1929 crash – sound familiar? The National Council for the Traditional Arts (NCTA), the organization that has produced the National Folk Festival since its creation, recognized Butte and Montana’s unique natural resources, cultural assets and strong community spirit. The Festival is a large-scale, three-day outdoor event presented free to the public that celebrates the roots, richness and variety of American culture. The

Festival features a jubilant program that includes music and dance performances, participatory dancing, workshops, children’s activities, regional and ethnic foods, storytelling, parades, craft exhibits and demonstrations and much more.

The National Folk Festival kicked off a three-year run in Butte, Montana on July 11, 2008 and was pronounced a huge success with an estimated 75,000 in attendance. The event will continue to be held in Butte until 2010 when it will celebrate its 72ND year. This signature Montana event, and exciting addition to the summer schedule, celebrates the rich, living heritage of Montana and the West. In 2009, where the number of attendees is expected to double, folklife demonstrations, displays, exhibits, performances and narrative presentations will explore the theme of celebrating the Culture of the Horse in Montana and the West. Look for demonstrators of horsehair hitching, rawhide braiding, hat making, saddle making, boot making, blacksmithing, trick roping, quill and beadwork, pack demonstrations and more. Artists in attendance include saddler Chas Weldon, silversmith Arne Esp, braider Nate Wald and a host of others. For information,



visit www.nationalfolkfestival.com

The Rodeo Road

Rodeo is won by beating the clock, and sometimes winning or losing can be just a hundredth of a second faster time than the other guy – or gal. Rodeo is also about waiting, waiting for your turn to go. And, when you’re up, it may last only seconds – but the memories can last a lifetime, especially for those who have spent a lifetime chasing the next ride down the “rodeo road.” Author Lorin Sorensen saw his first rodeo at the War Bonnet Roundup in Idaho Falls as a youngster, an experience among others that would inspire him to one day, he says, to write this book. He was born and raised on a ranch near Rigby, Idaho, which is in Shoshone and Snake River country over by the Grand Tetons and dates back in his family to the 1890s. This legacy and love of the old ways is what Sorensen crafted in his new book, *Old Time Rodeo*. His love affair with rodeo shows through in this thrilling volume, filled with incredible photography of people, horses and rides long gone. From the early days of the last century up through the 1950s, the reader gets a lavish look at rodeo in its early and formative years. A must for anyone interested in the great ones of rodeo past, the book is available directly from the author at www.oldtimerodeo.com



Bob Coronato

New artwork from artist Bob Coronato is always welcome and recently he has done some wonderful rodeo posters that have a real period look. He sent us this one for a rodeo in his hometown of Hulett, Wyoming – a very nice poster for a town of just over 400 people. We asked Bob for a little history of the rodeo. “It’s one of the areas longest running rodeos, and usually the first in the season. It’s as much a social gathering as well as being entertaining. Max Burch, the Rodeo Stock Contractor, is most noted for his horse ‘Blood Brother’ who went on to become a modern legend and was Saddle Bronc of the Year in 2008. The stories are too numerous to mention about all the rodeo careers lost and won on him. Max is from Rozet, Wyoming, just down the road, and has supplied horses and bulls for the rodeo ever since I can remember and I’ve been here 16 years now.

“I wanted to do a poster for the rodeo for many years. This year they finally thought it would be a good year for me to do it. I had been working on the idea for years with pieces and parts being sketched out as I thought of them. The image of the horse is during the ‘Wild Ride.’ It’s the favorite and last event of the two-day rodeo. In the Wild Ride, it’s encouraged to get ‘western’ and fan your horse with a hat or wear wooly chaps, etc. Top six broncs vs. the top six cowboys. It has a real old-time feel to the event and Max usually brings horses never ridden before and it can get dang sure western! I once saw a guy put an empty 12-pack beer box on his head so he bucked out blind, and he ended up winning.

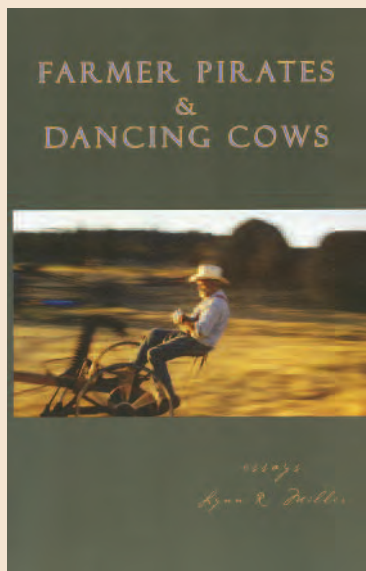
“I did an etching that I used for the image and went from there. A friend of mine, who is a great graphic designer, worked with me on it and we merged our ideas to layout the design and gave it an old time feel, for a contemporary poster. It combines older printing methods, along with some more contemporary effects, that make it a nice blend of old and new. I’ve been doing that in my work for years, but this has to be one of my favorite things that I ever worked on.”

Artist Bob Coronato splits his time between California and Wyoming. You can contact him via email at bcoronato@msn.com



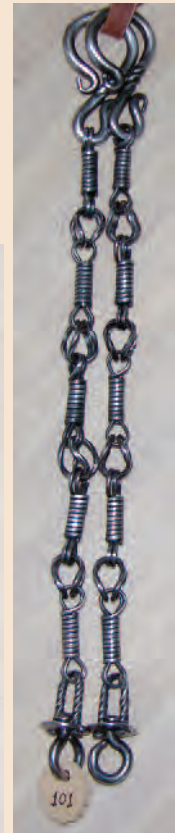
Farmers, Cows and Pirates

Lynn Miller is a true renaissance man. He is the founder, editor and publisher of the international agrarian quarterly *Small Farmer's Journal* – a publication dedicated to non-industrial family farms and farming and working with horses. He is a man of passion, wisdom and capability – being a farmer, parent, artist and publisher – and the author of many books, including *Farmer Pirates & Dancing Cows*. This little book is filled with insightful and humorous stories and essays about a life in farming. From his thorough and colorful look at the serious issues facing our nation's food supply and its safety to magical moments working his farm with horses to a Zen-like discussion of tool sharpening equipment, this book is a fulfilling read. Other books by the author include *Haying with Horses* and *The Work Horse Handbook*. If solution-based, uplifting reading is your taste, please see his offerings at www.smallfarmersjournal.com



Rein Chains

One of the great things about the Internet is you can find things you never thought you could find before it existed. With the huge interest going on in the world of bridle horses currently, it would seem only logical that one could find all the parts necessary to build some nice bridles – silver, braided reins, nice bits and rein chains. Well, you can find rein chains but nothing like the ones made by Fred Payden in Oregon. Rein chains may all seem alike but they can have a rhythm and sound all their own in the quiet of the branding pen and many aficionados seek out the unique ones. All of Fred's chains are bench-crafted and very elegant – especially his connectors and leather rein ends. You can see his chains at www.applecartchainworks.com and purchase them at www.outwestsaddlery.com – very nice folks.



Tom Russell

One of the truly authentic “characters” of the contemporary American West is author/singer/songwriter and now filmmaker, Tom Russell. Russell is considered one of the most important writers and singer/songwriters working today and will soon be releasing his first film – *California Bloodlines*. Our own intrepid stalker of Western moments, Mark Bedor, sat down with Russell late last year in Heber City, Utah to catch us up on how his CD, *The Tom Russell Anthology – Veterans Day* was doing and other Russell tidings.

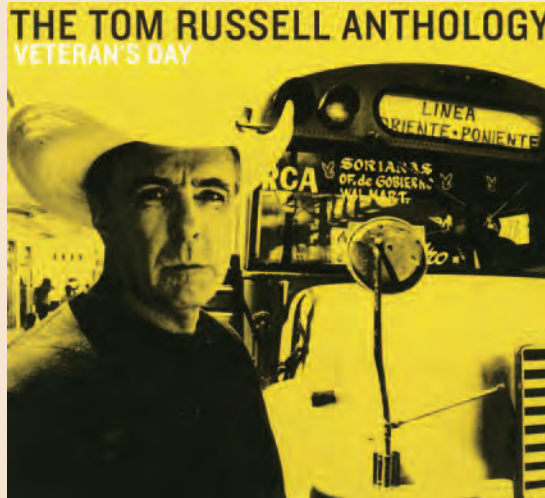
TR: The Anthology? We’re happy it went to number five on the Americana charts... so it’s doing pretty good. There’re two new songs and 35 old ones. I’m putting the new songs on a record that comes out next year (late 2009). I also recently did a Western record with a great writer named Gretchen Peters, a Nashville writer. She wrote a bunch of hits like “Independence Day” for Martina McBride. We cut a record of songs about the West called “One to the Heart, One to the Head.” We just picked out classics. She does Rosalee Sorrells’ song, “The Last Roundup,” Mary McCaslin’s “Prairie in the Sky.” She does “Old Paint,” the new version; she does Bob Dylan’s “Billy the Kid” – just songs that are centered in the West that we like.

MB: So it’s a duet album?

TR: Yeah. Gretchen Peters with Tom Russell.

MB: What do you think about the state of the Western music genre?

TR: You know I grew up in the 50s listening to Tex Ritter and Marty Robbins with my brother Pat, who’s a livestock contractor now in California. I heard a lot of classic stuff. And then, I sort of rediscovered it through Ian Tyson. Ian Tyson’s ten or twelve records really resuscitated the genre. I’ve always thrown a nod to Ramblin’ Jack Elliot for singin’ old cowboy songs on the streets of Paris and London in the 50s. But, the genre needs help; I think we should encourage younger people to write their thoughts about the West. I tried to include some on my next record, like “Guadeloupe,” about Mexico



Songs that give you a chill... I don’t think there’s a lot of those being written right now. That’s why I’m trying to keep my nose to the grindstone. Because... how you gonna out-do Marty Robbins? How you gonna out-do Ian Tyson? ... Unless you work really hard and try to figure out what you have to say about the West.



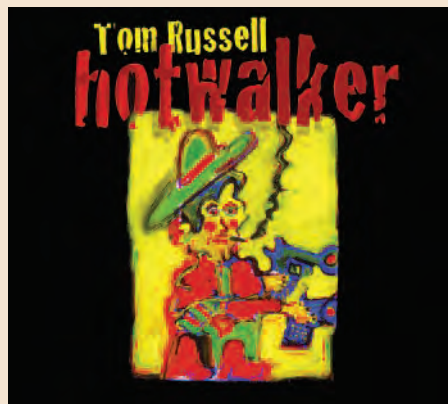
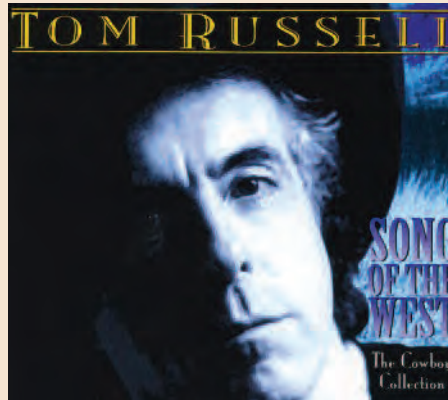
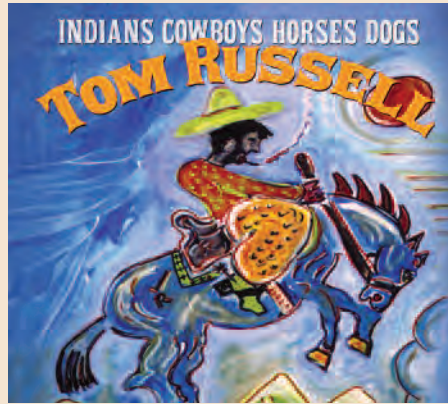
MB: What are you trying to say about the West?

TR: Well, I believe you have to take a strong look at Mexico and then go back to Spain and the Moors if you really want to learn about and understand the West and horsemanship. My favorite new song of mine is “Guadeloupe.” It’s a story song that takes place in the heart of Mexico City. I feel this is the heart of the cowboy culture. The cowboy – the *vaquero* – came out of the Mexican tradition and the Mexican horse tradition came out of Andalusia in Spain, and that came from the Moors. So, I’m trying to get some of that in my writing. Also, I’ve always been into bullfighting. I grew up around it. Of course, that’s a subject a lot of people don’t want to talk about. But, there’s a lot of horsemanship involved in bullfighting. And there’s a lot of great stuff that hearkens back to

the Spanish West and the California Spanish West. And I'm trying to really touch on that. By way of that, I have to tell you about my film. We've been filming a documentary in the San Joaquin Valley about my sister-in-law, Claudia Russell, who's a fifth generation California rancher. She's been ranching alone the last ten years on three-thousand acres. It's about her struggle and the history of her ranch. I want to explain the Spanish traditions of the area and put some Mexican music in the film, and some *chariatas* (Mexican charro rodeos) that I've been filming down near El Paso. It's all a part of the history and that's my interest, as I live on the border in El Paso and yet a lot of my family ranches out West. I'm the narrator and I am writing the soundtrack and the songs. So far, we have several hundred hours of footage. But, we're looking to keep going and develop the characters. My brother Pat's in it and some great California cowboys like Dick Gibford. I want it to speak of the Spanish West, and yet tell the real truthful story of their lives. They run cattle and horses and, to get by, Claudia has to work in town at a burger place. And her son, who helps out, has to do carpentry in town.

MB: So they're struggling.

TR: This may sound funny, even though it's not, but I think it's very difficult making a living ranching these days if you want to make money. You have to diversify. Or you have to open up the ranch to tourism, or you have to do five things at once. My sister came out of a historic land grant ranch situation, the Chimanezas (chim-ah-ney-ahs) Rancho, which The Nature Conservancy got involved with, and there was a lot of trouble. There's a struggle out there. It's about the dialogue, really, between the hard-core rancher and all these agencies, and how to possibly work together. I think if I could get some of that in the film, it would be good. 'Cause I know you deal with that in the magazine, too (*Living Cowboy Ethics*). One of the major problems is the people that they send out from the government and The Nature Conservancy simply can't



talk the same lingo as the rancher or farmer. They're either over-educated, professional schmoozers or they're from Florida or some place. There's no consistency in language. I want to get some of that in the film as well. People need to understand. My brother Pat is a livestock contractor and has experienced that a lot and he speaks about it. Many agencies that he has talked with send people who simply don't understand the reality of ranching today. All they want to talk about is managing grasses and reducing fire issues and he could never get them to listen. It is a growing problem out West and we think the film could really help.

MB: I understand you're writing a book of essays.

TR: I've been working on it for three years, and it's going to have different parts. It will have some essays about cowboys that I've known, including my brother and a fellow named Ross Knox, who, for years, packed mules down into the Grand Canyon and has been medi-vaced out two or three times. Very hard-core story about his life and his mules. Poets... I have a long story on Dick Gibford who lives in a lost canyon in Cuyama. There'll be an essay on Ian Tyson, 'cause I've known him for 30 years. One on Paul Zarziski, a very edgy cowboy poet.

And, just for kicks, essays on food – Mexican food. I think I have another year to go on it. But I'm enjoying it a lot.

MB: What's the film's title?

TR: It's called *California Bloodlines*. It's (the title) of a John Stewart song. Stewart was a guy in the Kingston trio. It's the title of the movie, as we're talking about the bloodlines of my sister's family. We also have a little film out on a song workshop I did with Ian Tyson last year at Elko that turned out great! It's called, *Mano a Mano...* Ian Tyson and Tom Russell. And that's available now on DVD. It's about how we write songs and a lot of anecdotes. Ian talks about Bob Dylan in the (Greenwich) Village in the 60s, and how he came out of that. How he turned to writing cowboy songs... We sing a couple of old cowboy songs. It's informal, but it's really neat.

MB: A lot of people in the genre write happy songs, “on the trail” songs. But your songs...

TR: Mine can be pretty dark. I’ve always written what other people would consider dark songs. But even in the movie, my idea of it is it’s not so much dark as reality based. And if it’s well written, it’s not dark to me. Movies, books, songs... if you go into ‘em and listen to ‘em and come out the other side moved, to me, that’s what it’s all about. I just try to write honest songs.

MB: Your stuff is compelling.

TR: I am interested in entertaining people. But I wanna set ‘em up so I can sing a ballad like “Guadeloupe.” You know, that’s my mission. Then I’ll turn around and do a happy song like, “Tonight We Ride.” It’s like boxing; you jab ‘em, then you hit ‘em with the cross, man.

MB: Thanks Tom.

TR: My pleasure.



Concert photos of Tom Russell by Mark Bedor

Tom Russell is doing some of his train concerts in the U.S. and Canada – information can be found at www.rootsontherail.com. Tom’s website is www.tomrussell.com



Things of Summer



All American

A proclamation of the many pastimes and icons we hold dear – from freedom to fun – all on a t-shirt. All American T from Sundance. www.sundancecatalog.com



Fishin' for Compliments

Imagine yourself along a desolate part of the river or on the big trail ride of the year with your compadres... no traffic here. Schaefer's Yampa County Shirt is cut full so it won't interfere with your castin' or ridin', and it won't bind you when loading gear or cargo. You need lightweight comfort and sun protection in the heat, so they've used 100% quick-dry microfiber with a full mesh panel back to keep you cool at all times. Western styled with contrasting quick release pearl snaps featured on the placket, cuffs and western patch pocket front. www.schaeferoutfitter.com

Vested Interest

Schaefer's McClure Vest makes a statement of individuality that you'll be hard-pressed to cover up. Maybe because of the rich herringbone weave and flattering tailored fit due to the elasticized back or maybe it's the feel and drape of the 100% American made merino wool that's unmistakable and goes on smooth with its heavyweight taffeta lining. The vest's 18 oz. weight means you get to wear it as much as you want, and all of the necessities can be stowed away in the four-pocket front and the two inside pockets. The detailed front is finished with lapels and five logo brass buttons complete a vest you'll always be proud to wear. Made in the grand old USA, in Camel Herringbone, Charcoal Herringbone and Chocolate Herringbone. www.schaeferoutfitter.com



A John Wayne Fashion Moment

You've seen all the fashion-forward types recently with their rakish scarves looped around their necks. Think this look is new? Hardly, saddle pal! Take a look at this old press shot of John Wayne from the 1957



release, *Legend of the Lost*. Fashion is a circle, pard.

Professional's Choice

Dal Scott, long-time owner and founder of Professional's Choice Sports Medicine, Inc., get's this issue's "atta-boy" for making a commendable decision to move a substantial portion of his manufacturing business back to Southern California. Production was originally sent to China in an effort to decrease internal costs and pass along savings to the billions of Professional's Choice customers who swear by their Sports Medicine Boots, leg wraps and saddle pads. However, when Scott saw that overseas production was really putting American jobs in jeopardy, he knew changes had to be made. The move allowed Scott to save upwards of 20 American jobs, without increasing retail prices. "We conducted some research within the industry and were surprised to discover advanced computerized equipment that would drastically improve productivity. It was a significant investment, but will actually cut costs in the long run. More importantly, the new equipment makes it possible for us to keep



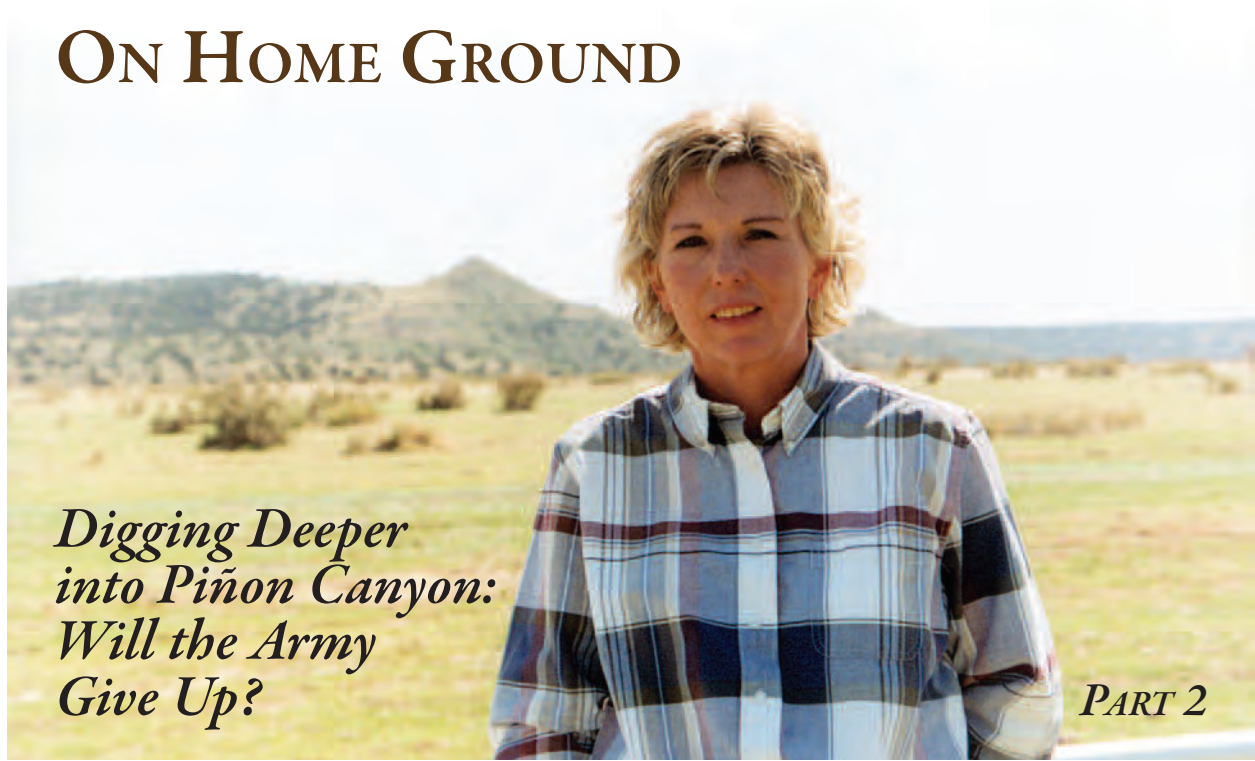
production in the U.S. and avoid layoffs," explained Dal Scott.

Monty Crist, Professional's Choice General Manager, commented on the quality of the Professional's Choice employees, "Their dedication and service to the company is greatly appreciated. We're a big family here and these individuals have

been part of our team for a long time. We have an amazing group of people that work for us and, in these trying times, it felt so good to be the bearer of great news."

Professional's Choice is a pioneer in producing products strictly with the well-being of the horse in mind. As inventor and manufacturer of the original patented Sports Medicine Boot, the SMB Elite™ and the SMx Air Ride™ Saddle Pad, Professional's Choice continually produces high quality products recognized by top trainers, professionals and everyday horsemen all over the world. We salute Dal and Nina Scott for their support of making things here. To locate an authorized Professional's Choice dealer near you, call 800-331-9421 or visit their website at www.profchoice.com.

ON HOME GROUND



Photography by Darrell Arnold

*Digging Deeper
into Piñon Canyon:
Will the Army
Give Up?*

PART 2

Kimmi Lewis' ranch is threatened by Piñon Canyon expansion plans

BY DARRELL ARNOLD

Editor's Note: In our Spring issue, writer Darrell Arnold presented the issues facing the future of the Piñon Canyon region in southeastern Colorado. A classic battle is underway between the U.S. Army, area ranchers and concerned citizens. What's at stake is over 400,000 acres the Army wishes to use to expand its existing maneuvers area. If the Army desires prevail, it could lead to forced condemnation of private lands and damage or destroy historic Santa Fe Trail monuments, ranches and historic and prehistoric archeological sites. In this second part, Darrell looks deeper into the controversy.



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Recent activities in the battle between the U.S. Army and the ranchers of southern Colorado have given the landowners hope that the Army might be forced to give up plans to acquire 100,000-plus additional ranchlands for its Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS).

In the Spring 2009 edition of this magazine, we explained how the United States Army, after establishing the 238,000-acre Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site on former ranching land in southeastern Colorado in 1983, promised they would never perform live-fire maneuvers and they would never expand. Approximately half of those initial ranchland takings were accomplished through legal condemnation. Eleven ranching families were displaced and relocated.

Then, in 2004, the Army came back and told the people things had changed and they would have to perform live-fire training after all. In 2006, the Army suddenly announced that they would need an additional 400,000 acres.

Area ranchers did not want to give up their generations-long way of life, so they formed two action groups, the Piñon Canyon Opposition Coalition and Not 1 More Acre, to oppose further expansion by the Army. By getting area towns, county officials, elected politicians and thousands of Colorado citizens behind them, the ranchland defenders were able to slow down the Army's land grab and disprove an Army falsehood that they had a list of willing sellers ready to turn land over to them.

One of the Army's biggest problems was that it had never explained why it needed the additional acreage, so Colorado's U.S. Representatives John Salazar and Betsy Markey asked the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to investigate whether there was any justification for expansion. That committee requested a full briefing from Assistant Secretary of the Army, Keith Eastin, a briefing that finally occurred April 21ST.

Details of the briefing were not released, but Congressman Salazar indicated that Eastin admitted the Army had no landowners lined up to sell or lease them any property. The big surprise of the meeting, however, was that Eastin announced his eminent retirement. As quoted in *The Pueblo Chieftain* newspaper, Salazar said, "I'm sure the next person appointed will try and start all over, but we intend to get this issue off the table." The Colorado representatives indicated that they would ask the House Armed Services Committee to create legislation this year that will ban any expansion of Piñon Canyon.

In addition, in April, the Colorado House of Representatives and the Colorado Senate sent to the Governor's desk, for his signature, legislation that will prevent the Colorado State Land Board from selling or leasing land to the federal government if that land is to be used for expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site.

By prohibiting the Army from access to those lands, one section in each township, the legislation will seriously jeopardize the Army's ability to consolidate land for expansion.

So, have the ranchers at long last won their battle against the Army? Has the threat of military takeover finally been eliminated? Not necessarily. The Army covets more land, and it is not beyond possibility that they will appoint a new Assistant Secretary who will come back to Colorado with more energy and determination to accomplish what the Army set out to do.

Kimmi Lewis is the owner of the Muddy Valley Ranch between La Junta and Kim, Colorado and is just three sections east of the existing Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. Her ranch, on which she raises high quality, natural beef,

lies well within the area that was proposed for Army expansion. Ms. Lewis has long been in the forefront of the battle to preserve ranching as the predominant lifestyle in southeastern Colorado, and she has taken it upon herself to research government efforts to take control of those ranchlands. While digging for information on what the Army's plans were, Ms. Lewis discovered some shocking and frightening information.

"Back in 1998," says Lewis, "environmental groups wanted to create what was called the Colorado Crown Jewel Legacy Program. The idea was they would use state money to preserve open space, natural areas, river corridors, open urban lands and lands used as working farms and ranches. The area over here that is now called Piñon Canyon and the proposed expansion around it would all have been taken over by the government."

Colorado Senator Ken Salazar (Representative John Salazar's brother) was the state attorney general at the time, and he was in favor of the project. Ms. Lewis had a chance to talk to Salazar about the bill while she was at the state capital testifying on a predator control bill. She says, "I asked him why he was in favor of the state taking control of all this private land. He told me 'It's so beautiful everyone should be able to see it. The public should be allowed to come in and see it.'"

This was my land he was talking about. The state of Colorado wanted to take it and turn it over to their Parks and Recreation Department."

The state of Colorado did not have the money, and the program was never actualized, but that effort, along with the taking the Army had already accomplished, set Ms. Lewis to researching all the efforts the government was making to take control of private lands in southeast Colorado.

One of Ms. Lewis' discoveries was a December 14, 2000, Defense Department Memorandum of Understanding between the United States Department of the Army, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). It emphasized that such a partnership "complements our stewardship efforts and [helps to] integrate environmental sustainability concepts . . . into our projects."



Muddy Valley Ranch beef sign



Muddy Valley Ranch Headquarters

In the 2003 Readiness and Environmental Preservation Initiative, the U.S. Congress gave the Department of Defense (DOD) the authority to form partnerships with “eligible entities,” like The Nature Conservancy, to buy land or conservation easements that surround military installations. The purpose was to create natural buffer zones to protect threatened and endangered species and prevent development from encroaching on military base boundaries.

One TNC document specifically mentions a project near Fort Carson, Colorado (from whence soldiers travel to Piñon Canyon for training). It states in part, “TNC is creating partnerships with the U.S. Department of Defense under the Army Compatible User Buffer (ACUB) program to conserve hundreds of thousands of acres of these important habitats.”

A quote in the document from Brian McPeck, a TNC program manager states, “This project is an important step toward ensuring conservation of a once vast grassland wilderness that shaped the way of life for generations of Americans.”

One of Ms. Lewis’ most interesting discoveries was an Army map, generated in 1997 by Fort Carson, showing an

18-year, phase-by-phase, land-acquisition program that was to start in Future Year 10 (2007). Information on the map indicated a potential land expansion around the PCMS of 2,577,304 acres, virtually the entire southeastern corner of Colorado.

The big shocker came, though, in 2003, when Ms. Lewis attended a private-property rights forum in Reno, Nevada. There, Ms. Lewis was introduced to a map produced for a United Nations Global Biodiversity Assessment. That map, based on the guidelines of the U.S. Wildlands Project of the Convention on Biological Diversity Treaty (1992) shows a “simulated reserve and corridor system to Protect Biodiversity” in the four-state area of Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. The thing that most captured Ms. Lewis’ attention was that the map delineates reserves, corridors and “human buffer zones” that exactly correspond to the shapes of the land acquisitions sought by the United States Army in southeast Colorado.

Ms. Lewis immediately became suspicious that the proposed Army takings were just part of a much larger plan for government, in cooperation with TNC and other environmental organizations, to take control of vast areas of

private land throughout the southwestern states.

The Nature Conservancy, which is a vast, well-funded, worldwide, environmental organization, denies that it has ever been in bed with the Army to take control of rangelands in southeast Colorado.

Matt Moorhead, TNC's southeast Colorado Project Director, says, "One of the things that a lot of folks didn't really ever understand, or want to understand, was that there was no benefit to us in doing so. If we were to buy or control land simply to turn it over to the Army, we don't get any conservation benefit to have the ability to essentially say yes or no to what would happen to the natural resource on the property.

"We have not, are not, and will not be an active partner in the Army's efforts to expand Piñon Canyon."

Moorhead further declares that TNC is neither for nor against Army acquisition or rancher retention of the land. He states, "We come down on the side of the resource. We have an unfounded reputation for displacing local traditional communities. What we actually do is work with them. If there are tools we can bring to the table to benefit the natural resources, we'll do it."

It is the feeling of many of the ranchers in the PCMS expansion area, however, that TNC has much to gain should the Army get control of vast areas of southeastern Colorado. For one thing, TNC, in its efforts to preserve the natural resources of the region, would only have to deal with one entity, the Army, instead of thousands of landowners. It will not be easy for TNC to convince so many ranchers that they all need conservation easements, though those efforts have begun.

In addition, according to the Army's ACUB Proposal Process, "... the cooperating partner (in this case TNC) purchases easements or fee simple property from a willing seller with funds contributed by the Army and other partners. These areas provide a natural buffer between military training lands and residential or commercial activities for perpetuity. The partner, not the Army, receives the deeded interest in the property and provides for long-term habitat management."



Muddy Valley Ranch sign

Kimmi Lewis feels it is in TNC's best interests if it can grow. "The more land they can control, the more money they can get and the more they can expand."

Lewis has collected mountains of additional information that indicate the Army's plans for expansion involve far more than just needing additional training areas. After a cursory perusal of this information, it isn't far fetched to conclude that government agencies, in cooperation with a wide network of environmental groups, are bound and

determined to eventually remove ranchers and other land users from their lands to attain their ultimate goal of preserving nature the way they think it should be preserved.

Landowners like Kimmi Lewis, however, will not go quietly into the night. She says, "We've been here for 60 years. We raise crossbred cattle. We raise the baby calves for feedlots or sell them here. We are

really proud of our USA beef. We have good lean beef, wholesome, no hormones, all-natural. I was raised here. This is my life. I'm not going to quit fighting."

She concludes, "Being good stewards of the land is taking your cattle off your land before it is grubbed down. Putting rocks in the trail so it won't wash, putting in turn-out dykes, keeping it good so it will sustain you and your family for generations. The best wildlife lands are always on private lands. It will always be that way. Government doesn't take good care of the land. It's not their skill set. But, government wants more and more and more of it.

"Even if we beat the Army on this, somebody else will come along. They'll try to get our land some other way. They'll never stop trying to take it."

Lewis is right to be concerned, as we all should be. Today, the U.S. Government is in no position financially or has the needed staffing to take care of any additional lands. It is up to us, the citizens of this country who have given them the power to act, to equally take that power away. Our sovereignty and the legacy of our Founders, demand it. Those interested in registering their opposition to expansion of the PCMS can go to <http://pinoncanyon.com> or www.not1moreacre.net.



Contributors 



Mark Bedor (*R.W. Hampton profile*) writes from his home in Los Angeles. His work has appeared in *Western Horseman*, *Cowboys & Indians*, *Persimmon Hill*, *American Cowboy*, among others.

Since childhood, **Guy de Galard** (*Don King*) has had a passion for horses and the American West. Born in Paris, France, Guy began riding at age 6. Guy first heard about Wyoming while reading *My Friend Flicka*, at age 10. A self-taught photographer, Guy first took up photography while attending business school in Paris. After his move to the United States 23 years ago, Guy started to portray what naturally inspired him the most: horses and cowboys. Guy's writings and images have appeared in *Western Horseman*, *Cowboys & Indians*, *Range*, *The American Quarter Horse Journal*, as well as French and Italian Western lifestyle magazines.



Dan Gagliasso (*How the West Was Won*) is an award winning documentary film director/producer and screenwriter. He recently optioned his true-life adventure script, *Lawyers; Guns & Money*, to New York City based producers, No Ego Production. A past recipient of the Western Writers of America Spur Award, he rode bulls on the amateur rodeo circuit during his college years.

Long time western writer **Darrell Arnold** (*Piñon Canyon, Part 2, Arid Land Adapted Cattle*) published *Cowboy* magazine for fifteen years from his home ranch in La Veta, Colorado. Before that he spent five years as the Associate Editor at *Western Horseman*. Darrell has written several books including *Tales From Cowboy Country* and *Cowboy Kind*.



Photo courtesy Darrell Arnold



Thea Marx (*Ranch Living*) is fifth generation born and ranch raised on the Wind River Indian Reservation near Kinnear, Wyoming. Much of her career, including her book and website, *Contemporary Western Design.com*, has been dedicated to Western

Style, but her heart will always be on the ranch.

Nicole Krebs (*The Living Words of The Constitution, Part 7, Operation: Love Reunited*) is the Associate Editor of *Living Cowboy Ethics* – as well as being the friendly voice whenever anyone calls the PARAGON office. She is married to Anthony Krebs, a sergeant in the United States Air Force, and they have a beautiful daughter, Brittany.

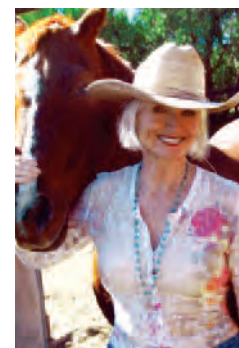


Nicole has a rich history working with non-profits, and her list of awards is without peer. Somehow she also finds time to edit the PARAGON newsletter, *In The Loop*.



Brittany Krebs is a 2009 graduate of Alamogordo High School.

Marilyn Fisher (*Individual Sovereignty, Charlie Daniels interview*) is Curator of Collections for the Reagan Ranch and Reagan Ranch Center in Santa Barbara, California. The Reagan Ranch is owned and preserved by Young America's Foundation, who stepped forward in 1998 to save the ranch retreat of Ronald Reagan, the 40TH President of the United States. Young America's Foundation is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3) that provides student outreach to college students throughout the country. For more information go to YAF.org, or phone 1 (800) USA-1776.



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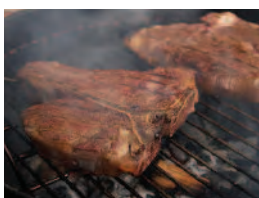
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R-CALF USA



Established in 1998, Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA) represents the U.S. cattle industry in trade and marketing issues to ensure the continued profitability and viability of independent U.S. cattle producers.

R-CALF USA is a national membership-based association that exclusively protects and defends the economic interests and private property rights of U.S. farmers and ranchers who raise and sell cattle and who are the rightful caretakers of our nation's land, air and water. Our thousands of cattle-owning members develop and vote on what changes are needed for our industry and, together, R-CALF USA and its members fight to achieve those changes.



Animal Health/Food Safety:

R-CALF USA works to protect fair trade, not free trade. If a country does not practice the same or higher health standards as the United States, then R-CALF USA has and will continue to do everything possible, including using the U.S. court system, to prevent the importation of higher-risk or unsafe foreign cattle in order to maintain excellent quality and safety of domestically produced beef.



Animal Identification:

A mandatory National Animal Identification System (NAIS) would require you to register your property and electronically tag and report the movement of each of your animals. R-CALF USA prevented NAIS from becoming mandatory in 2006 and continues to lead the fight against this totally unacceptable proposal.



Country-of-Origin Labeling:

R-CALF USA fought an 8-year battle to finally implement country-of-origin labeling. Now, producers and consumers alike are benefiting from a "Product of USA" label on USA beef in grocery stores across the country.



Property Rights:

R-CALF USA works to defend and protect the private property rights of our members by opposing legislation that will infringe on their ability to continue to exercise their constitutional rights and operate and manage their property as independent businesses.

WAYS TO HELP R-CALF USA

Become a member: Memberships are available for both cattle producers and beef consumers. Send \$50 for a one-year membership or \$140 for a three-year membership to the address below and indicate whether or not you own cattle.

Contribute: There are two ways to make a donation. Donate to R-CALF USA and your expense may be tax deductible as a business expense, or donate to R-CALF USA's charitable 501 C3 organization, USA FREE (United Stockgrowers of America Foundation for Research, Education and Endowment). It is important to indicate which organization (R-CALF USA or USA FREE) you are donating to and send to the address below.

Spread the word: Tell your friends and relatives about R-CALF USA and its work on behalf of U.S. cattle producers and U.S. beef consumers and urge them to take an active role by supporting the organization that is fighting every day for their future. For additional information visit our website or call our office.

R-CALF USA is on YouTube.
Take a break and watch one (or all) of
R-CALF USA's videos!

R-CALF USA, PO Box 30715
Billings, MT 59107
www.r-calfusa.com 406-252-2516

What is this R-CALF Outfit?

Bill Bullard, CEO, R-CALF USA

Thanks to the PARAGON Foundation, more and more folks with a strong affinity for the West – and the U.S. cattle industry that helped build it – are being introduced to the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA). This is made possible by the generous offer from PARAGON to share their award-winning *Living Cowboy Ethics* magazine with R-CALF USA. This, we believe, will strengthen our complementary efforts to preserve individual rights and freedoms, as well as an economic environment that supports our nation's individual ranching operations.



Technically speaking, R-CALF USA is a nonprofit trade association that represents people who earn all or part of their living caring for their cattle and our nation's air, land and water. Our members are independent businessmen and businesswomen from across the United States who value their rights and freedoms and who take seriously their responsibility to give to the next generation a forever sustainable environment. We define this sustainable environment both in terms of our biological environment, as it relates to our air, land and water, and in terms of our economic environment, as it relates to the opportunity to profitably operate one's independent ranching business.

Our dedication to, and emphasis for, preserving an economic environment that sustains independent ranching operations broadens our membership base to include main-street businesspeople who support their ranching neighbors. This broader base also includes U.S. beef consumers who realize now more than ever that the underlying goal of R-CALF USA is to preserve and protect our nation's food supply – which can only be accomplished by preserving the family farmers and ranchers who produce our food under the very best of conditions.

In the following pages, you'll meet just some of our thousands of members. What you'll find is that our members are critical thinkers who consider challenges beyond their immediate individual needs and look into the needs of their communities and the next generation. Fortunately, these folks also are grounded firmly in the very values that built this great nation and they possess the will and courage to stand up and change the current direction of what we call the U.S. cattle industry. These changes are necessary because, as you'll read about in our articles, the predominant forces influencing the current direction of the U.S. cattle industry are leading us down an unsustainable path that threatens both our nation's food safety and food security.

The article describing our ongoing efforts to protect our U.S. cattle herd and U.S. consumers from foreign animal diseases that affect our food security will shed some insight on the perseverance and determination within those individuals who proudly support R-CALF USA. I trust you will enjoy this issue of *Living Cowboy Ethics* and I cordially invite you to become a supporting member of both the PARAGON Foundation and R-CALF USA.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Bullard". The signature is stylized and cursive.

NAIS – Next They Want Your Horses

by R.M. Thornsberry, D.V.M. President, R-CALF USA Board of Directors

Everyone knows that many successful cattle operations rely upon the dedicated loyalty of a well-trained cow horse that can anticipate exactly what to do at the appropriate moment to accomplish the task at hand. R-CALF USA, as a trade association for independent U.S. cattle producers, recognizes this fact, and as such, not only do we oppose the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) overall as a violation of each citizen's constitutional rights, but we oppose NAIS because of its invasive requirements to demand the reporting of each and every movement of our horses, whether such movement is across the county line, to another pasture or down the road to a roping, show or rodeo.

Horse owners should know why the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is being forced on their industry. The U.S. signed a World Trade Organization (WTO) treaty and is now submitting to global rules on animal trade established by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The OIE wants the U.S. to accept imports from countries where animal disease problems persist. For example, while the U.S. eradicated Equine Piroplasmiasis – a tick-borne protozoal infection, the OIE wants the U.S. to accept imports from countries that have not eradicated this disease. With NAIS, horse movements could be traced from birth to death, thus eliminating the need to disallow high-risk imports because, according to the OIE, the U.S. could manage contagious diseases within its borders.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is not following its mandate to prevent the introduction of foreign animal diseases. Instead, USDA spent over \$100 million to entice livestock owners to register their property in an NAIS database and obtain a "free" NAIS Premises Identification Number (PIN). Most equine owners and cattle owners have refused to register for this internationally sanctioned encumbrance to their private property. USDA says a PIN is needed to identify all livestock owners' property so it can trace the movement of animals in the event of a disease outbreak.

Yet, in Missouri, and I am sure in most states, a 9-1-1 call will bring emergency officials to your doorstep in minutes. At USDA offices, you can obtain your farm description, including an aerial photograph. On Google Earth you can obtain a satellite photograph of sufficient detail to count the horses in your pasture – and USDA says it cannot find your farm following a disease outbreak?

The reason USDA wants you to register under NAIS has nothing to do with its ability to find your farm. Instead, when asked why USDA was pushing so hard for NAIS, former USDA Under Secretary Bruce Knight, in September 2007, told a large group of bovine practitioners at our annual meeting in Vancouver, Canada: "It is quite simple. We want to be in compliance with OIE regulations by 2010."

USDA told Congress that NAIS would have to be electronic to function properly. This means brands, tattoos or individual color markings or descriptions would be unsuitable. The only acceptable means of electronically identifying equines is a surgically implanted, glass enclosed electronic microchip. This process is not as simple as

some believe. When implanting a chip into a horse, I clip or shave the area, scrub it with surgical preparation soap and spray it with surgical site disinfectant. I then inject the area over the implant site with lidocaine to numb the skin and underlying tissues. To maintain sterility of the chips, I surgically scrub my hands and don surgical gloves. Only after this preparation do I implant the chip in the nuchal ligament of the mid-neck area of my equine patient.

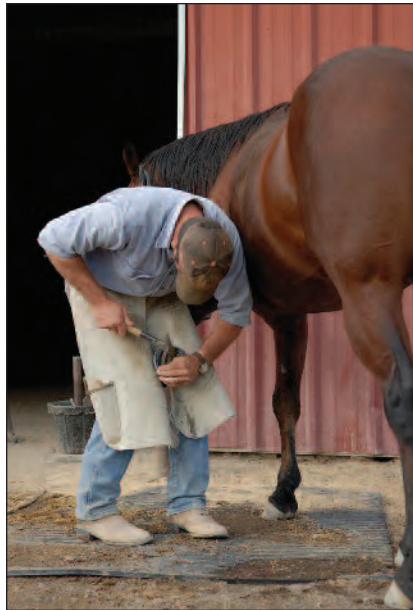
The glass-enclosed chips do not always stay put. Like a splinter in your finger, the body often mounts a response to a foreign object, even one as innocuous as a piece of sterile glass. The response may include the formation of a sterile abscess around the chip, or it may remain painful and generate a negative response when the horse turns its neck. Chips are known to migrate within the body, and finding a chip in some animals becomes a major undertaking. A small percentage of veterinary patients have developed a cancerous growth at the site of implantation. While the incidence is low in animals with short lives, an equine patient has more time to develop a cancerous growth around the implanted chip.

I don't know about all equine owners, but most cattle producers do not appreciate an international agency telling us what we can and cannot do with our livestock in the United States. The U.S. has spent untold millions of dollars to eradicate many serious contagious animal diseases. Why would we now expose our privately owned animals to contagious animal diseases just to give away access to our marketplace to animals and meat from countries that chose not to invest in resources to control and eradicate diseases within their country?

We live in the United States, not the WTO. We have a Constitution that directs our legal system, not the OIE. We have a government by the people, for the people and of the people. It is time for the people to stand up and say, "Enough with this one world government!"

Unless equine owners join with other livestock producers to oppose this nonsense, NAIS will become mandatory in the United States. It will cost equine owners in excess of \$50/head to implant the electronic microchip. You will then be required to report any movement of your horses when they leave your property for any reason. A study released by USDA the last week of April 2009 and completed by Kansas State University shows that the annual cost of identifying horses individually with microchips is \$75.51 per horse. You can see my estimate of \$50+/head is considerably lower than what this recent study shows.

Imagine the bureaucratic nightmare and paperwork requirements of reporting to your government every time you go on a trail ride, go to a show or event or trailer your mare to a stud. There would have to be an NAIS office in every county seat to process all this data, keep track of your information and report any violations to USDA. Just imagine the fines and enforcement actions that equine and other livestock owners would be subject to right here in the United States of America.



Do Not Let It Happen in America!



USDA agents in protective gear could
be staging dawn raids on small
farms to confiscate your horse,
cow, ducks, sheep, trout or chickens!

Say NO to NAIS

www.stopanimalid.org

We are R-CALF USA: Bill Bledsoe



Bill Bledsoe



James Bledsoe

In eastern Colorado, Bill Bledsoe, his wife Hilary and their two sons, William IV and James, carry on the ranching legacy bestowed upon them through three generations of Bledsoes. All of the Bledsoes – including Helyna, Bill and Hilary’s daughter, who now works at a law firm in San Francisco – have been R-CALF USA members for many years.

Bill joined the organization almost 11 years ago when other industry groups were saying there were too many livestock producers, during a time when the U.S. was importing cattle and beef products in increasing numbers. He said R-CALF USA was the only organization that testified on behalf of cattle producers in the historic Pickett case brought against the packer giant IBP, now known as Tyson Foods, for illegally manipulating prices that resulted in a loss to U.S. cattle producers of more than \$1 billion dollars. And although a judge overturned the jury’s guilty verdict against IBP/Tyson, Bledsoe explained R-CALF USA supports improvements to the Packers and Stockyards Act that would stop such deceptive practices from happening again.

“This country needs to protect our USA food sources, USA industries and USA citizens,” Bill said. “R-CALF is trying to get our concerns heard and addressed. They have had success, but the list of problems keeps growing.

“Future generations will need open, viable markets,” he pointed out. “They will need *more*, not fewer packers, more food retailers and fewer Wal-Marts and similar monopolies, as well as fair policies that don’t burden our industry and trade that doesn’t unfairly hurt our markets.”

In accordance with his own belief that ranchers should use sustainable practices along with good management, Bill uses solar power from high-tech solar/wind units and has developed his skills in financial management, veterinary science, as well as wetlands and rangeland management and conservation.

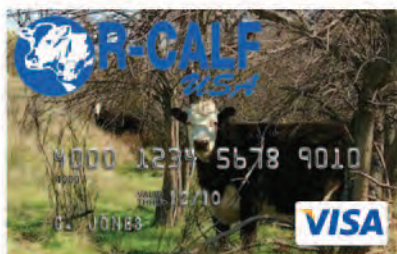
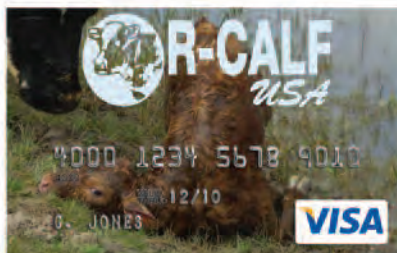
“Most of the ranches in the West utilize range, and this rangeland is best served by grazing animals,” Bill explained. “We manage our rangeland in an ecologically friendly manner. We do not use commercial fertilizer, and our ranch is sustainable. It would be hard to get a better food than that raised under the best husbandry practices.”



William Bledsoe IV

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Colliding National Interests Affect Our Food Security

By Bill Bullard, CEO, R-CALF USA

In our diverse nation, we expect that a goal to achieve one particular national interest will, from time-to-time, conflict with a separate goal to achieve some other particular national interest. In 2003, a competition between two national interests emerged, and today the jury is still out as to which national interest will become one of our nation's highest priorities. Americans value competition and we view competition as healthy.



Photos courtesy of Jim Keen's Great Ranches of the West.

But what if the competing national interests center on health itself? Should Americans sit back and allow a winner-take-all competition to settle the outcome? Or, should we the people set clear standards to resolve such conflicts? You decide.

For decades our nation pursued free trade, advancing free trade as a means to encourage cheaper imports and to expand exports. Based on our mounting trade deficit and persistent outsourcing of domestic manufacturing and production-based industries, this goal of free trade obviously is fortified with strong ideological beliefs capable of overriding conflicting objectives.

Also for decades, our nation protected U.S. citizens and our U.S. livestock from the introduction of livestock diseases, in particular those that can cross over from livestock to humans. In a winner-take-all battle that started in Canada back in 2003, these two goals collided: 1) the pursuit of free trade; and, 2) protection against disease introduction. Six years later, one of these goals is clearly the victor, but many U.S. ranchers and consumers believe the win was tossed to the second-rate competitor.

Beginning in the late '80s, the livestock industry in the United Kingdom was devastated by a newly emerging disease called bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE, or mad cow disease). Soon this disease traveled the ocean and landed in another one of Queen Elizabeth II's Commonwealth nations – Canada – in 1993. As a Commonwealth nation, Canada maintains historical constitutional links to the United Kingdom and has a very close trading

relationship with this intergovernmental partner.

But news about Canada's 1993 introduction of BSE generated little fanfare because scientists had not yet linked BSE in cattle to the human form of the disease – *variant Creutzfeldt - Jakob disease* (vCJD). This scientific linkage was unknown until 1996. Time passed, and so did the long incubation period for BSE in Canadian cattle, which ranges from two to eight years. The disease, confirmed only by testing and invariably fatal, went undetected until May 2003 when Canada announced its first confirmed case of BSE in a Canadian-born beef cow.

Immediately, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), driven by its duty to protect the American people and U.S. livestock from the introduction of BSE, closed the U.S.-Canadian border to imports of Canadian cattle and beef. This response is what we expect from our government: decisive action to protect our food security and food supply from a known source of a deadly disease. But what followed was a black comedy of double-speak when USDA's action of protecting the U.S. against disease introduction collided with the powerful ideology of free trade. Something had to give. And it did.

Within days, the powerful U.S. agribusiness lobby executed a full-court press against USDA, pressuring it to reestablish Canadian trade in cattle and beef before the end of July 2003 – just two months following the disease outbreak. Leaders of this agribusiness lobby included the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), the American Meat Institute (AMI) and the National Meat Association (NMA), which jointly encouraged USDA to develop an animal identification system to address BSE. Their solution to the collision of competing national interests was to change the goal of *preventing* disease introduction to that of *managing* Canada's new disease within U.S. borders.

With the agribusiness lobby's marching orders in hand, USDA acted quickly. In August 2003, justifying its actions on the basis that no other BSE-infected cow had been detected in Canada during the two months since May 2003, USDA began to issue case-by-case permits so the U.S. could resume imports of certain Canadian beef products. These permits were used by USDA to circumvent its own regulations that strictly prohibited the importation of cattle and beef from any country where BSE was known to exist – regulations that had been strictly enforced since 1989. Even so, the agribusiness lobby remained dissatisfied with the limited scope of allowable imports. It soon convinced USDA to allow Canadian beef into the U.S. that did not meet its import permit requirements. In response, R-CALF USA filed and won a lawsuit blocking the importation of any live cattle or any additional beef products unless USDA first changed its longstanding BSE regulations through its public rulemaking process.

Immediately, a rulemaking was initiated to weaken the United States' longstanding BSE regulatory protections. USDA justified this rulemaking on the basis that Canada's disease prevalence was very

low, as only one BSE case was detected in its herd of 5.5 million adult cattle. In addition, USDA concluded that because BSE was not detected in Canadian cattle born after 1997 – when Canada implemented its feed ban to break the BSE transmission cycle caused by feeding cow parts to cows – scientific evidence clearly showed that Canada’s feed ban had effectively stopped any further disease spread and the risk of introducing BSE from Canada was very low.

But, in December 2003 and before the public comment period for the rulemaking ended, another Canadian-born cow was detected with BSE, this time after it had been exported to the United States.

This new BSE case did not dissuade USDA. The agency dismissed the significance of this second case on the basis that only two positive cattle in Canada’s 5.5 million adult cattle population was still a very low prevalence, and, because this second cow also was born before the 1997 feed ban, scientific evidence still showed that Canada’s feed ban had halted the spread of BSE in any cattle born after 1997.

Within days of the Jan. 4, 2005, publication of USDA’s final rule to weaken longstanding BSE protections, Canada announced on Jan. 2, 2005, its third case of BSE, and then its fourth case on Jan. 11, 2005. Nevertheless, USDA stood firm in its plan to resume imports of Canadian cattle and beef by March 2005. R-CALF USA, with the support of seven state attorneys general, filed a second lawsuit to protect its members’ cattle and U.S. consumers from BSE. The judge in the case ruled in R-CALF USA’s favor by issuing an injunction that blocked USDA’s rule. The judge stated:

The USDA has evidenced a preconceived intention, based upon inappropriate considerations, to rush to reopen the border regardless of uncertainties in the agency’s knowledge of the possible impacts on human and animal health. Deference cannot be given to an agency that has made the decision to open the border before completing the necessary scientific analysis of risks to human health. The USDA cannot favor trade with Canada over human and animal health within the U.S. It is contrary to the direction of the Animal Health Protection Act to protect the health and welfare of the people of the United States.

This favorable ruling shook the timbers under the agribusiness lobby, and they immediately sought an appeal. This powerful lobby also recruited more soldiers, including the American Farm Bureau Federation and 18 of its state affiliates, as well as 29 of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association’s state affiliates to help overturn R-CALF USA’s victory. The battle lines were clearly drawn, with ranchers and consumers on one side and the institutionalized agribusiness lobby on the other. It was David versus Goliath – disease protection versus free trade. And the winner was...(insert drum roll here)...*free trade* when the appellate court ruled that federal agencies like USDA are entitled to great deference when writing their federal rules.

Soon after R-CALF USA’s injunction was overturned, Canadian cattle and beef began reentering the United States. And shortly thereafter, Canada announce yet its fifth case of BSE (in January 2006), this time in a cow born in 2000, years *after* the 1997 Canadian feed ban. USDA’s claim that scientific evidence showed the feed ban had prevented further spread of BSE was now called into question. Then, in rapid succession in 2006, Canada detected its sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth cases of BSE, with the eighth in a cow born in 2002 that was less than five years of age. USDA scrambled to dismiss the significance of Canada’s multiple cases of

BSE born after its 1997 feed ban – which now numbered three – and did so by making the scientific pronouncement that no feed ban is expected to be 100 percent effective. That was USDA’s so-called scientific justification for taking no action to protect the U.S. from this completely unanticipated and increased risk of BSE introduction.

Inigorated by the resumption of imports but still unsatisfied with import volumes, the agribusiness lobby continued to pressure USDA to take the next step. This lobby wanted USDA to remove the age restriction that limited Canadian imports to only younger cattle and beef from younger cattle – which are considered of lower-risk for BSE.

In response, USDA worked posthaste to accomplish a second major weakening of the United States’ longstanding BSE regulations. This time it proposed a rule to allow Canadian cattle and beef considered higher-risk for BSE into the United States – older cattle and beef from those older cattle. Soon after publishing its proposed rule, known as the over-30-month (OTM) Rule, Canada announced its 10th and 11th BSE cases, both in cattle born, yet again, *years* after Canada’s 1997 feed ban. These discoveries revealed that despite USDA’s assurance that Canada’s 1997 feed ban was preventing the spread of BSE, five of Canada’s 11 cases were already known to have contracted BSE *after* the feed ban.

USDA stuck to its new story that no feed ban should be considered 100 percent effective and soon, in November 2008, the agency issued its final OTM Rule that allowed the importation of OTM cattle and beef from Canada. R-CALF USA, five major consumer groups, the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association, and several individual ranchers filed a third lawsuit to block USDA’s actions. Before the court could hold its hearing, Canada announced its 12th and 13th cases of BSE. And before the court could issue its initial decision, Canada announced its 14th case of BSE, this time in an animal born in 2003 – six years after the 1997 feed ban.

In July 2008, the court found that USDA did not follow proper rulemaking procedures and ordered USDA to reopen its OTM Rule to public comment and to “revise any provisions of the OTM rule it deems necessary.” On the very day the new public comment period closed – Nov. 17, 2008 – Canada announced its 16th case of BSE.

USDA has long forgotten its science-based assertion – which it rigorously defended to support its initial weakening of U.S. border restrictions – that BSE-positive cattle born after Canada’s feed ban would indicate the BSE agent was still circulating in Canada, resulting in an increased risk of introducing BSE into the United States. Meanwhile, Canada announced its 17th BSE case on May 15, 2009, which increased the total number of cases born after Canada’s feed ban to 11.

USDA’s dismissal of the significance of Canada’s ongoing outbreaks of BSE represents an unconscionable disregard for its responsibility to protect U.S. livestock and U.S. consumers from the introduction of BSE. USDA has not yet issued a final decision on its OTM Rule and the new Secretary of Agriculture now has the opportunity to decide the ultimate outcome of this momentous competition between disease protection and free trade. For six years, the goal of free trade has trumped scientific evidence that unequivocally demonstrates the U.S. is importing Canadian cattle and beef from Canadian cattle that were born during the period when BSE was known to be circulating in Canada’s feed system and cattle herd.

R-CALF USA continues to contact USDA and Congress to urge that the OTM Rule immediately be overturned, thereby reestablishing the protection against the introduction of disease as USDA’s most important responsibility. We hope others will do the same.

INDIVIDUAL SOVEREIGNTY

AND THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS



BY MARILYN FISHER

*“Now they’re tryin’ to take my guns away,
And that would be just fine,
If you take ‘em away from the criminals first,
I’ll gladly give ya mine...”*

Charlie Daniels, musician and patriot

The Liberty Tree thrives in the fertile soil of American individualism and the sovereign right of each individual. This doesn't mean the "common good" or the "collective" consensus, and especially not the power of the federal government, but the right of the individual citizen unburdened by government regulation. As we Americans have come to find out, the government just cannot regulate enough. And, with the Second Amendment right to own and bear firearms "under fire," our individual sovereignty is in jeopardy.

Looking around at the rest of the world, it's clear to see the importance of protecting our constitutional rights at all costs. Our Liberty was planted from seed and gathered in through the brilliance of the Framers of the Constitution. Many of our leaders have not been diligent in defending our constitutional rights and today our freedoms are under threat from the government – the same force that is supposed to be protecting our Constitution. Our American freedom is unique to the world and our leaders have forgotten the fundamental principle that was essential to the Founding Fathers – that government derives its powers from the *consent* of the governed, and not the other way around. Law-abiding citizens keep firearms knowing that they are protected by the Second Amendment against federal government overreach into their private lives. Many Americans forget that the government has no powers – any powers it exercises must be granted to the government by the people. There is no Staples "Easy Button" for protecting our constitutional rights. When our leaders fail to protect our constitutional rights, then it's left to us individually to hold them accountable.

Lately our leaders have been making noises that we should follow the world order and give up our individual rights for the "common good." If we go there, then as past world history has shown, our guns and other rights will slowly be taken from us. The government is trimming the Liberty Tree branch by branch – the same tree that was planted with the blood of patriots – aware that, by denying us our rights, it can gradually weaken the will of the individual.

At the birth of this great nation, it took some hard-scrabble patriots who craved freedom from oppressive British rule to literally risk all and sign proof of their break with Britain – the Declaration of Independence. It was a solemn act requiring firm patriotism in those who had the courage to sign it. The fact is – it was outright treason against the home government of Great Britain *but* it represented perfect allegiance to what was *right*. They knew there'd be a fight. But, among those early patriots, there was plenty of conviction – not one of those men who periled life, fortune and honor in the cause of freedom ever paused long enough to rethink their actions, paving the way for the ratification of the U.S. Constitution in 1788.

When the argument came up whether to have an armed citizen militia or a standing army of professional troops there was a stalemate. Some were naturally wary of the idea of having standing armies during peacetime since it posed a threat to their individual freedoms and right to privacy. Framer James Madison pointed out that the difference between the European government and the newly formed American government was that American citizens were armed and would be almost impossible to subdue through government military force. It's still an advantage we Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation. Madison also noted that, "In those military establishments in the several kingdoms of Europe, which are carried as far as the public resources will bear, the governments are afraid to trust **the people** with arms." The Framers knew from experience that central governments like those in Europe are likely to use armies to oppress their people so they decided to permit the government to keep a paid professional army to fight *foreign* threats. Full-time forces would be needed for national protection but the problem was that it could easily lead to federal tyranny. How did the Framers strike a balance between public protection and private liberty? Through compromise, the Constitutional Convention of 1787 decided to *presume* that a militia would exist and gave Congress the authority to regulate the state militia, while the new federal government was given control of the army and navy for national defense.

In this modern political climate, many people are wondering what the government will do next to regulate us. There's a big difference in how the present administration is interpreting our constitutional rights compared to just a few decades ago when President Reagan remarked at an annual meeting of the National Rifle Association, "Our constitutional liberties are just as important today as 200 years ago. And, by the way, the Constitution does not say Government shall decree the right to keep and bear arms. The Constitution says, 'the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.'" A firearms owner himself and a longtime supporter of the National Rifle Association, he respected this basic right and it led him to sign the Firearms Owner's Protection Act in 1986.

Today we're faced with leaders who hold different views towards our Second Amendment rights. With renewed efforts from federal and state government to regulate firearms, we could be headed for a European style of government where firearms ownership is non-existent. With the appointment of Eric Holder as Attorney General, it's a sure sign that our gun rights are squarely "in the sights" of federal government regulation. In contrast, Holder is a very different Attorney General than, say, President Reagan's Attorney General Meese, who is clearly a constitutional originalist. General Holder seeks to reinstate the assault weapons ban that expired in 2004 despite the distorted



media definition of what an assault weapon is. This sort of hysteria could easily turn public opinion against firearms ownership and lead to a ban against semi-automatic rifles. To clarify where Holder stands on the Second Amendment, look at the statement he issued at the beginning of *District of Columbia v. Heller* in 2008 where he argued that the Second Amendment protects not the individual right to keep and bear arms but instead it protects the “collective” right. Wait a minute – can this man be trusted to protect our constitutional rights?

A recent U.S. Supreme Court case decision supported gun owners nationwide and sent a constitutional shockwave through the courts. In *District of Columbia v. Dick Anthony Heller*, the Court ruled to protect the right of the individual to possess a firearm for private use. It re-ignited the gun control issue of whether the right to keep firearms is the right of the individual or only a collective right of the state regulated militias. In short, the Court ruled that District of Columbia’s handgun ban requiring owners in the D.C. area to secure their handguns with trigger locks, or keep them unloaded and disassembled within the home, was unconstitutional since it restricted the right to self-defense – the main purpose of the Second Amendment. Constitutional justice prevailed and the Court majority ruled by a narrow margin in favor of the constitutional right of self-defense, directing the District to allow Heller to register his handgun and issue him a license to carry.

In the narrow 5-4 decision, Justices Roberts, Scalia, Thomas, Alito and Kennedy found in favor of Heller and halted the District government’s attempt to restrict Second Amendment rights to state regulated militias only. Chief Justice Roberts posed the question, “If it is limited to the State militias, why would they say ‘the right of **the people**?’ Why wouldn’t they say, ‘State militias have the right to keep arms?’”

Justice Scalia, who clearly understands the original intent of the Constitution, wrote the majority opinion for the case saying that the Individual right to bear arms as written in the Second Amendment is naturally bound up with the right to self-defense. The “individual” has this right and it is not reserved only to the collective state militia. He held that the Constitution was written to be understood by the voters without any confusing technical or secret meanings about what a “militia” means. By original meaning, it is any citizen of a state who has a firearm at home and can bring it along to defend the homeland.

The dissenting Justices Breyer, Ginsburg, Souter and

Stevens delivered the argument that the Second Amendment applies only to those who serve in regulated state militias. In his opinion Justice Breyer argued the public safety aspect of gun control by adding that “guns were responsible for 69 deaths in this country each day ... there simply is no ... constitutional right guaranteed by the Second Amendment to keep loaded handguns in the house in crime-ridden urban areas.” The reality check here is if the gun rights of lawful citizens are heavily restricted, only criminals will have guns, and crime rates will soar. Those urban crime areas are where the right to self-defense is most critical. What good is it to keep firearms for self-defense if they aren’t readily accessible?

Justice Stevens added, “The Court would have us believe that over 200 years ago, the Framers made a choice to limit the tools available to elected officials wishing to regulate civilian use of weapons... I could not possibly conclude that the Framers made such a choice.” Notice the reference to regulating civilian use of weapons. The Framers would be up in arms over that statement.

After the *Heller* ruling, GB Oliver, Executive Vice President of the Paragon Foundation, commented on the dissenting opinion of Supreme Court Justice Stevens by saying, “... let’s see if we’ve got this right, **the people** can create a more perfect union, **the people** can elect their own leaders, **the people** can be secure in their persons ... and the Constitution could not be construed to deny or disparage any of the rights of **the people**, but the people don’t have a right to keep and bear arms.” Oliver went on to say, “Thankfully the majority of the Court found that the people DO have the right to keep and bear arms, while the four dissenting Justices believe that only those in the military have a right to carry arms. Hitler would certainly have appreciated Justices Stevens, Ginsburg, Souter and Breyer’s interpretation of the Second Amendment.”

Court cases that find in favor of gun owner rights are triumphs of the original intent. Our nation was founded as a republic and, in a republican form of government, the power rests with the people who exercise their individual rights by voting for representatives who will protect their rights. Since government derives its powers from the consent of the people then without arms there is no means by which the consent of the people can be withdrawn. It is our duty to defend our individual sovereignty. And it’s the job of the judiciary to remind the executive and legislative branches when they get “out of sync” with the original intent of our Constitution.



Writer Marilyn Fisher –
at home on the shooting range.

Freedom is never free.

How does state sovereignty come into play regarding our constitutional rights? It is important for the states to be sovereign nations to counterbalance the tyrannical tendencies of the federal government, or as Framers James Madison wrote in 1788, “The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite.”

The State of Montana understands its sovereign nature when it comes to supporting the rights of their constituent gun owners. Earlier this year, the news of a shortage of used military brass casings for sale to private ammunition manufacturers sent a drum beat through the sector of those citizens who purchase the brass for reloading purposes. The Department of Defense had planned to destroy its cartridge brass. This would have impacted an already stressed ammunition market by removing brass available to the manufacturers for public purchase. Senators Jon Tester and Max Baucus penned a letter to the DoD arguing that prohibiting the sale of fired military brass casings would reduce the supply of ammunition and prevent individual gun owners from fully exercising their Second Amendment rights. The action of these senators who paid attention to their constituents got results. Soon thereafter, the Defense Logistics Agency reviewed the situation and decided that it would release the spent brass for sale after all.

Each state as a sovereign nation is unique in gun owner issues. Between anti-gun and pro-gun legislation there's a lot going on. No doubt as you read this, there are new court cases in the works that will impact the Second Amendment freedoms of our fellow Americans.

The passion of the early patriots was to defend liberty at all costs. Honor them and defend yourselves – never give up your individual sovereignty for that of popular opinion, or the “common good” – and never give in. Hold your elected official's feet to the fire on this and other constitutional issues such as individual property rights and remind them that they work for you. The enemy to our freedoms is the elected leader who does not listen to the will of the people.

One last thought. An unregulated militia of sovereign individuals *cannot* be ordered by the government to lay down their arms – or to retreat – and they can never be ordered to *surrender*. Make it clear that you don't want the oppression of the European model of firearms restriction, but instead the liberty to exercise your constitutional rights. Contact your representatives and tell them you want less firearms regulation, because less regulation means more freedom. This is America where the ballot box can be as powerful as the cartridge box when it comes to preserving our rights, especially those that secure the blessings of freedom to us, our homes and our families. Let our forefathers' passion for liberty burn on in your hearts and your actions in defense of these precious freedoms.



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CHARLIE DANIELS



The Devil may have gone down to Georgia but country music legend, Charlie Daniels, continues to stand up for America's servicemen and women with his regular visits and shows in Iraq, Kuwait and wherever he is needed. PARAGON is pleased and honored to have had the chance to sit down for a visit with this Grammy Award winning musician and fine American.



LCE: *Charlie, we are so pleased to be visiting with you. As you know, this publication reaches out to rural America in an effort to promote constitutional principles and individual freedoms, property rights and rural customs.*

CD: That's right down my line.

LCE: *I'd like to ask you how you see our constitutional rights being challenged today. You travel a lot and talk with a cross-*

section of Americans wherever you go. What are you hearing from folks about what's going on in our country?

CD: Well, everybody's concerned about the economy, naturally. They're a little confused by it. They don't really understand what's going on. The numbers that Washington is throwing around are almost incomprehensible because of the size. I mean, I don't know how many zeros go on a trillion. But I think people, hopefully,

are starting to wake up to what is going on here - that we are putting our great-great-grandchildren in terrible debt, and the thing is, if it would work, it would be wonderful. But, it's not working.



Charlie and Hazel Daniels relax at home in Tennessee.

LCE: *The government seems to think it can pull this off.*

CD: It's not going to work because this has been tried and tried. The government cannot even run the Post Office. The government cannot run Medicare. The government cannot run Social Security. They are broke. They're in horrible shape, and yet, day after day, they keep coming up with these billion dollar spending programs. Now, they're wanting to take over healthcare. If you have anybody that you know in Canada or England and you want to find out how socialized medicine works, you should call them and talk to them because it is horrible. It is not healthcare. It's just medicine administered to whoever the bureaucrats decide get it, not by the doctor.

LCE: *What do you predict will happen next?*

CD: I predict this will be the straw that breaks the proverbial camel's back. If this thing goes through, it will break our economy and it will break our healthcare system, and it's going to take decades to fix it. People are going to do without healthcare. People who need an operation are

not going to get it – unless it's just an absolute total emergency and you go to the emergency room and even then, you're probably going to have a Sears & Roebuck catalog size amount of paper to fill out. It sounds so great.

This is not about healthcare. This is about control.

LCE: *Where else do you see government out of control?*

CD: The global warming issue is about control. There's no such thing. It's a very arrogant man to think that he can control the climate. This earth has been here for, I know 6,000 years, I'm sure a lot longer than that. I don't know about that. But, I know by the Bible, it's been here 6,000 years and man has never controlled the climate and man will never control the climate. The climate is controlled by God Almighty and global warming is an arrogant assumption. That is junk. And yet these politicians get up and talk about global warming as if it was fact. It is not true. It is another attempt to control people. They want us to enter into these stupid agreements like the Kyoto Agreement that will leave us vulnerable – it's ridiculous. I mean, we would have to spend so much to produce energy—to produce anything - we could not possibly be competitive with the rest of the world.

You want to see some pollution, go to Korea, go to China. I've seen it with my own eyes. They burn coal in China, but another thing that they're doing, the rest of the world is doing it, we're not, is they're building nuclear power plants. Oh, no, we can't do that in this country. We can't do anything in this country. We can't drill. We can't build nuclear power plants. That is a liberal mindset. We know we've got problems, but no, we can't do anything about it because we may destroy a snail darter or some microscopic thing.

LCE: *The government wants to tell us how to live. They want to tell us how to manage our personal property, our money –our firearms. It says in the Constitution that we're sovereign individuals with God-given freedoms. What do you think?*

CD: I think you're absolutely right. I think that's what this healthcare thing is about. That's what this global warming thing is about. They're going to come after your guns, but I'm going to tell you what, when they get to my part of the country, when they get to Tennessee and Alabama and Georgia and North and South Carolina and Kentucky,

they're going to hear a buzz saw. I mean, people in my part of the country know what the whole thing is. If I thought that giving up my guns, and I've got a bunch of them, if I thought giving up my guns would actually stop the



Horses and cattle are at the center of Charlie's Twin Pines Ranch in Lebanon, TN.

violence in this country, I would gladly give up every one of them. But, the point being is this: The people who are on the streets now making problems with guns have guns that I can't buy – AKs and Uzis. I can't go buy those guns. Where the hell do they get them? They buy them illegally. People who are not supposed to have guns, have guns anyway.

LCE: *The courts want to challenge our Second Amendment right to bear arms.*

CD: I am not giving up my guns. I ain't going to do it. I'll take them and saw them up and bury them somewhere before I let the government take them. And, I have a right, a constitutional right to have arms. That's the point that we are faced with right now and one of the biggest dangers to this country is appointing these judges, not just the Supreme Court judges, but the ones that are between the Supreme Court and the people, because once they can get something passed, when these liberal people can get something passed through the Supreme Court, they don't

have to worry about the legislative. They can just get somebody to bring up a case in court. The Supreme Court says, "Yeah, you can do this, you can do that, it's done. It's law." So, I mean, it's a very dangerous thing. This is what upsets me about Barack Obama being able to appoint a Supreme Court judge. Souter could have retired when Bush was in, but no, he didn't want to do that. So, you've got to watch these people. They're very tricky and they are trying to take our rights away from us.

LCE: *We hear a lot of stories from ranchers and farmers about their problems with federal government trying to control their property rights and telling them that they want to take this and that for the "collective good." That's not constitutional. Do you have a solution for protecting our rights?*

CD: Well, there again, it's going to come down to the judicial. I mean, everything that we are doing now can be construed as having to go through the judicial branch at one time or another because what you're talking about doing is protecting people's rights. What court does it go to? It goes to federal court. We are inundated with judges of the mindset that, you know, the same as these people we're talking about. It's going to be really hard in the next several years to do anything, I mean to get anything actually done that makes any sense. Everything that's done is symbolic. That's what liberalism is, it's symbolism over substance. It's like there's nothing there, but we feel good about it. Look at the idiots in Hollywood. I saw some of these guys get up back during one of the wars over there, said, "Peace in the Middle East." I thought, that's great; that's wonderful. The Bible says my people perished for lack of knowledge. And that is so true today. They're perishing for lack of knowledge.

You've got people voting that don't know anything about the candidate. They don't know what they stand for. I've



A dedicated horseman, Daniels puts as much into his horse operation as he does his music - 200%.

Some thoughts from Charlie Daniels Blog:

“I heard a joke one time about two guys who were buying watermelons from a farmer for a dollar, hauling them to market and selling them for a dollar. It didn’t take long for them to realize they were losing money. When they discussed what to do about their dilemma, they decided they should get a bigger truck. I can’t think of a better analogy to what the President and Congress are doing to America. They keep pouring money into car companies that don’t have a chance of surviving because they refuse to acknowledge the real problems, which are the entitlements they’re saddled with, and people just don’t want to buy their products.”



“The only government program that has been managed successfully by the federal government is the military and it only works when the politicians stay out of it and let the military professionals run the show. When politicians get involved, things like Korea, Viet Nam, and Somalia happen.”



“For the first time in the history of America, an American President fired the head of a private American company, and replaced him with someone he and his administration hand picked. This is a harbinger of bigger messes to come.”



“Before the United States government takes over private business and healthcare, they need to learn how to run the Post Office, stop the catastrophic corruption in Medicare and keep their dirty, grubby hands off the Social Security taxes the citizens pay into the program. They have stolen billions of dollars from Social Security to fund their silly little socialistic programs that have failed anyway.”



“Do you want a bureaucrat telling you when you can have a gall bladder operation or inform you that you don’t qualify for a life saving process for some technical reason or another.”

been writing about it for years. They are building a voting block that can be led around by the nose like sheep. You give them entitlements, they vote your way. And, they’re going to be very, very hard to defeat and the only way it’s going to happen, I’m afraid, is when finally, at last the gravy train runs into a complete wall and there’s nothing else to give these people, and they start screaming because they don’t understand why. Why aren’t we getting our check every month? Why aren’t we getting this? Why don’t we have that? Because, we don’t have it to give to you. The reason is because you took so much of what the productive people in this country did, so much of the results of their labor that they don’t want to do it anymore. So, there’s no money for you.

LCE: *What are your hopes for the future?*

CD: I always have hope for the future. This country – you know what, what would happen in this country if we have a real, sure enough, heartfelt revival and people realized it because the Bible says it, “If my people called by my name” – well, you know the verse. “I will hear from heaven and heal their land.”

LCE: *And our Founding Fathers had an abiding faith in the Lord and that’s how they were able to write this incredible Constitution that most Americans want to see preserved.*

CD: That’s what we need to happen is this country needs to turn back to God. We’ve got too many secular things. We’ve just flaunted things in God’s face in this country. Oh, we’ve got Ten Commandments sitting in Alabama. We’ve got to get it out of public places. Somebody might see it and see where it says don’t kill nobody. And this is wrong. This country was founded on belief in God. It was founded by Christians and they brought with them Judeo-Christian values. Old Testament, New Testament, and that is how this country was set up to run. When it’s not run that way, it don’t work.



Charlie Daniels is dedicated to giving back to those who serve this nation – wherever they are.

LCE: *About your travel to Kuwait and Iraq—we know you've taken your band over there. Tell us why you go.*

CD: Well, to support the troops over there. I can't carry a gun, I can't go fight, but I can go over and hopefully entertain them for a while. The main thing is going over and saying, "Hey, we care about you guys. We care enough to come over here. I don't care if some of those idiots in the Congress and the Senate say – you know, it don't make no difference what the *New York Times* says or CNN says or all of these Hollywood idiots and these people that are always belittling what you do over here.

I don't care if Harry Reid said the war was lost. It don't make any difference. We don't believe none of that BS. We came over here because we believe in you and we want to support what you're doing and we believe in what you're doing. So we're with you."

LCE: *What message do our troops over there most want to send back to us here in the States?*

CD: I asked a kid that on our second trip. Before I came back, I said, "What can I tell America for you?" He said, "Just tell them we're winning." And, they are. There's a difference between the other two times we've been over and this time. It's not as hot as it was. Definitely, things have cooled down. Some of the bases haven't been attacked for almost two years. They've done a great job and if you'd take the politics and the media out of this thing, it would have been over in about two or three years. We could have got it done. It's like you can't blame them because they know what's going on. They live this day in and day out. They've got those guns on. They've got those flak vests on. They're going out of the wire outside the base and they're fighting Al Qaeda and all these people every day and they know what they're doing. They know what they're accomplishing and every good thing that they're doing is ignored by the major media and every bad thing they do is magnified all out of whack. It's presented to the American public as if everybody in the military was some kind of a monster. And while there's one or two bad eggs that go and do the wrong things, there's 10,000 others that do not, that are honorable and carry the fight to the enemy day in and day out, and are winning this fight and are not given the respect that they deserve by so many of these people who are so blinded by their ideology of how the world should be.



Charlie Daniels and others in the music industry have joined in raising funds and drawing attention to the Wounded Warrior Project which assists our military heroes who have been seriously wounded in combat.

LCE: *When you go to play for these troops, you really take them home through your music and renew pride in their country. When will you be going back over there?*

CD: Well, I don't really know. I'm hoping there won't be any need to go back over there, you know. I really don't know. There's a possibility next year. We've got a lot of National Guard troops from Tennessee that are going back for deployment. That's a possibility, but I really don't know.

LCE: *Now about your band— do you have any new CDs coming out? What can we look forward to?*

CD: Well, we're still doing the same thing we've been doing. We're playing shows and cutting records. I'm working on a Christmas Bluegrass album right now, trying to get finished up. It's not really just the band. It's a project I took on for a record company and it features a whole bunch of different people. I'm trying to get it finished up to release this year. I don't have a project per se right now with the band that I'm going to do, but it won't be long. We'll come up with something.

LCE: *I did enjoy your project, the Preachin' and Prayin' and Singin' DVD you did from Nashville. Do you think you'll do any more?*

CD: We might. We just kind of take projects as they come. Of course, we're an independent record company, so we don't have a board in New York looking over our shoulder. I can do pretty much anything I want to. Depends on what the next idea is and how good it is.

LCE: *Charlie Daniels, thank you for taking the time to visit with us.*

CD: My pleasure, you folks keep doin' what your doin'.



WHAT IS GOVERNMENT PROPERTY?

BY DANIEL MARTINEZ

One of the most interesting yet confusing conversations is when one tries to define “Government Property.” The fact behind that description may surprise you and be cause for some additional research.

Title 40 of the United States Code, which is *Public Buildings, Property and Works Section 103 Definitions*, defines **Property** as “The term ‘property’ means any interest in property except:

- (A)
- (i) the public domain;
 - (ii) land reserved or dedicated for national forest or national park purposes;
 - (iii) minerals in land or portions of land withdrawn or reserved from the public domain which the Secretary of the Interior determines are suitable for disposition under the public land mining and mineral leasing laws; and
 - (iv) land withdrawn or reserved from the public domain except land or portions of land so withdrawn or reserved which the Secretary, with the concurrence of the Administrator, determines are not suitable for return to the public domain for disposition under the general public land laws because the lands are substantially changed in character by improvements or otherwise;
- (B) naval vessels that are battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers, destroyers, or submarines; and
- (C) records of the Government.”

This seems to be in conflict with what we have been taught throughout our lives, especially in the western states of the union. This can be easily explained by going to the Constitution of the United States, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17, where it specifically says:

“To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of the particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards and other needful Buildings”

As can be clearly seen, the Constitution has not authorized the federal Government authority within the boundaries of the States unless it has something to do with the eight enumerated powers, such as coining money or regulating commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States and with the Indian Tribes. In order for the federal government to function within the boundaries of the States, the States have to cede jurisdiction and the federal Government has to except, BUT only “for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards and other needful Buildings” such as post offices and courthouses.

This is confirmed by the following decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States:

“The exclusive jurisdiction which the United States have in forts and dock-yards ceded to them, is derived from the express assent of the states by whom the cessions are made. It could be derived in no other manner; because without it, the authority of the state would be supreme and exclusive therein,” 3 *Wheat.*, at 350, 351.

U.S. v. Bevans, 16 U.S. 336 (1818), reaff: 19 U.S.C.A., section 1401(h).]

“The idea prevails with some—indeed, it found expression in arguments at the bar—that we have in this country substantially or practically two national governments; one, to be maintained under the Constitution, with all its restrictions; the other to be maintained by Congress outside and independently of that instrument, by exercising such powers as other nations of the earth are accustomed to exercise.”

Downes v. Bidwell, 182 U.S. 244 (1901), *supra*.

“The Government of the United States is one of delegated powers alone. Its authority is defined and limited by the Constitution. All powers not granted to it by that instrument are reserved to the States or the people.” [*United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542 (1875)]

In 1789, the Confederate Congress (13 Confederate sovereign States) passed the Northwest Ordinance to dispose of the lands acquired after the Declaration of Independence. These lands were open for settlement and disposal and, once the population reached a point, the people could petition for statehood with all the sovereignty of the original 13 confederate states of the union. This is known as the “Equal Footing Doctrine.”

The Constitution of the United States of 1791 at Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 granted the United States federal government (agent for the states united) plenary powers to dispose of the Territories or other property belonging to the United States. These powers vanished the moment the Territory became a State of the union. This is confirmed by the following Supreme Court Cases:

“There was no territory within the United States that was claimed in any other right than that of some one of the confederated states; therefore, there could be no acquisition of territory made by the United states distinct from, or

YOUR RIGHTS

independent of some one of the states. Each declaring itself sovereign and independent, according to the limits of its territory. The soil and sovereignty within their acknowledged limits were as much theirs, at the Declaration of Independence, as they are at this very hour.” **Harcourt v. Gaillard**, 25 U.S. (7 Wheat.) 523 (1827)

“It was thought by Chief Justice Taney in the *Dred Scott Case*, 19 How. 393, 436, 15 L. ed. 691, 713, that the sole object of the territorial clause was ‘to transfer to the new government the property then held in common by the states, and to give to that government power to apply it to the objects for which it had been destined by mutual agreement among the states before their league was dissolved;’ **that the power ‘to make needful rules and regulations’ was not intended to give the powers of sovereignty** [emphasis added], or to authorize the establishment of territorial governments, - in short, that these words were used in a proprietary, and not in a political, sense.” **Downes v. Bidwell**, 182 U.S. 244 (1901).

“**But no power is given to acquire a Territory to be held and governed permanently in that character.**” [emphasis added] And when the Territory becomes a part of the United States, the Federal Government enters into possession in the character impressed upon it by those who created it. **It enters upon it with its powers over the citizens strictly defined, and limited by the Constitution, from which it derives its own existence, and by virtue of which alone it continues to exist and act as a Government and sovereignty. It has no power of any kind beyond it, and it cannot, when it enters a Territory of the United States, put off its character, and assume discretionary or despotic powers which the Constitution has denied to it.** [emphasis added] It cannot create for itself a new character separated from the citizens of the United States, and the duties it owes them under the provisions of the Constitution. **The powers over person and property of which we speak are not only not granted to Congress, but are in express terms denied, and are forbidden to exercise them.** [emphasis added] And if Congress itself cannot do this if it is beyond the powers conferred on the Federal Government it will be admitted, we presume that it could not authorize a Territorial Government to exercise them. It could confer no power on any local Government, established by its authority, to violate the provisions of the Constitution.” **Dred Scott v. Sandford**, 60 U.S. (19 How.) 393 (1856)

“All powers which properly appertain to **sovereignty**, which have not been delegated to the federal government, belong to the states and the people.

It is enough for this court in deciding the matter before them, to say, that in their opinion, **neither the fee of the land in controversy, nor the right to regulate the use, is vested in the federal government**, and, consequently, that the decree of the district court must be reversed, and the cause remanded with directions to dismiss the bill.” (emphasis added) **New Orleans v. The United States** 35 U.S. 662 (1836)

“The *United States* possess no power or rights but such as have been delegated by the several states; and the states retain all the rights and attributes of sovereignty not expressly ceded to the *United States*. ‘The power of exclusive legislation, (which is jurisdiction,)’ says Chief Justice Marshall, (**United States v. Bevans**, 3 Wheat. 336, 388) ‘is united with cession of territory, which is to be the free act of the states.’” **People v. Godfrey**, 17 Johnson 225, NY (1819)

“It is true it has been referred to in some decisions as granting political and legislative control over the Territories as distinguished from the States of the Union ... But clearly **it does not grant to Congress any legislative control over the States**, [emphasis added] and must, so far as they are concerned, be limited to authority over the property belonging to the United States within their limits ... But the proposition that there are legislative powers affecting the Nation as a whole which belong to although not expressed in the grant of powers, is in **direct conflict with the doctrine that this is a government of enumerated powers** ... This natural construction of the original body of the Constitution is made absolutely certain **by the Tenth Amendment** ... **With equal determination the framers intended that no such assumption should ever find justification in the organic act**, and that if in the future further powers seemed necessary they should be granted by the people in the manner they had provided by **amending that act** ... **Its principal purpose was not the distribution of power between the United States and the States, but a reservation to the people of all powers not granted...**” [emphasis added] **Kansas v. Colorado**, 206 U.S. 46 (1906)

All our rights lie within the States, if we live within the boundaries of one of the states united, we fall under the laws of the state.

The 1956 Interdepartmental Committee for the Study of Jurisdiction over Federal Areas within the States submitted a comprehensive report to the Attorney General and transmitted it to the President, the report is identified as “**Jurisdiction over Federal Areas within the States: Report of the Interdepartmental Committee for the Study of Jurisdiction Over Federal Areas Within the States, Vol. 1 and Vol. 2** and that there are no federal areas within the States unless there has been a cession from the state and only for those enumerated powers. The following Senate report makes this clear, also: **108 Congress 2ND Session Document 108-17 “THE CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION” Under Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17, AUTHORITY OVER PLACES PURCHASED**, “places”...**does not cover lands acquired for forests, parks, ranges, wild life sanctuaries or flood control.** **Collins v. Yosemite Park Co.**, 304 U.S. 518, 530 (1938), **James v. Dravo Contracting Co.**, 302 U.S. 134, 143 (1937).



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: *Arid Land Adapted Cattle in the Southwest*

BY DARRELL ARNOLD



Criollo cattle on the Jornada Experimental Range near Las Cruces.

It is abundantly clear that cattle markets are changing and producers are going to have to adapt if they are to survive. That has always been the case, but with energy costs destined to rise to new heights, and with the planet's ecology shifting as a result of global weather changes, it is incumbent on the cattle raiser to find an animal that will help him meet these looming challenges. This is especially critical in the arid southwestern United States where cattlemen are forced to measure the stocking rate on their ranches in acres per cow instead of cows per acre.

In Las Cruces, New Mexico, located just south of the notoriously dry desert known as *Jornada del Muerto*, New Mexico State University Senior Research Scientist Dr. Ed Fredrickson has stocked a portion of the 300-square mile Jornada Experimental Range with two kinds of cattle – Black Angus crosses and Criollo. Criollo cattle (more commonly known as Corrientes) are the direct descendants of the cattle the Spanish introduced to the New World, starting with Columbus' second voyage in 1493. Criollo cattle have existed in the arid southwest and in dry portions of Mexico for more than 400 years, and Dr. Fredrickson is examining whether these naturally adapted cattle might prove to be more efficient range-raised beef animals than are the English breeds in such marginal rangelands.

Says Dr. Fredrickson, "These Criollos were pretty much the local animal until the British investors arrived in the 1880s and brought in their animals. The pictures I have of

the Jornada cattle in 1912 to 1917 look pretty much like the Criollo cattle. They were called Chihuahuas at that time. They had some British blood in them because the ranchers were bringing in Hereford bulls and putting them on top of those Criollo cows." Dr. Fredrickson points out that Americans were very efficient at replacing Criollos with British cattle and, by the mid 1900s, there were very few of the "native" cattle left. He says, "People would argue that the Longhorn would have been the dominant cattle. They certainly have Criollo blood in them, but whether they are pure Criollo is an arguable point. The geneticists I work with in Mexico say they are not, but others say they are. We've done genetic analysis on our animals, and when you look at all of them, you find a degree of separation between the continental cattle, the Longhorns and the Criollos. There are significant differences between our animals and the Longhorns."

When Dr. Fredrickson began his "Arid Land Adapted Cattle" study in 2001, he ventured into old Mexico and selected cattle from an area in the bottom of the gigantic Copper Canyon, specifically from a region known as Chinipas. "Our cattle have a little more frame on them. One thing we liked about them is they looked a little beefier (beefier than the more frequently imported Corriente cattle that are used as roping cattle). We also selected arid land adapted animals, animals that spent the longest period of time in the most arid regions of the Canyon."

Fredrickson's cattle graze the mountain slopes and the desert flats, and he is grazing it lightly because the country has been in a 12-year drought. Currently he has 150 mama cows on the Jornada experimental range. He says, "In animal science, with an animal that has a long gestation period, you've got to look 10, 12, 20 years down the road and make some prediction about what the beef cattle industry is going to look like. Things just don't change that fast. You have to look ahead and then figure out – what can I do? That was part of the reason this study originated.

"Our prediction was that because fuel was becoming more expensive, and water will become harder to come by in the southwest, pastures and forages and types of water intensive alfalfa and those things will be harder to come by. The other thing is grains. The supplements are one of the greatest costs to raising a calf in this country. If I don't supplement my Angus crossbred herd, I just lose them. They just won't make it. So what happens? Let's just consider when supplements become so expensive I can't use them? What kind of animal will I be able to use in arid areas under those circumstances to produce beef? The Criollo cattle don't even know what supplements are."

The Jornada Experimental Range is involved in agriculture. Another part is involved in trying to look at why this desert grassland and these rangelands have

changed so much. Fredrickson says, "In 1858, in the old land surveys, this was mostly grass. Right now, it is mostly shrubs. We're looking at mostly creosote and tarbush, and farther into the Jornada we'll see mostly mesquite. We don't know why it has changed."

Cattle have been there for more than 400 years. Fredrickson wants to understand what their roll was in that change. "If we would have made our models and predictions based on British breeds, we would have been completely wrong. [One study] examining how they move in the landscape indicates that Criollo cattle move farther, spend less time at water than the British breeds do. These Criollo cattle allow us to have an understanding of what the impact of cattle was after Don Juan de Onate arrived with them in 1598."

The University is also examining the quality of meat in the Criollo cattle. "If Corriente are used for sport," explains Fredrickson, "and the meat from those animals is different than beef animals, then we want to make a distinction between them. We have a group of animals that have been roped, we have our Chinipas animals and then we have some Angus crosses. What we will be doing is sending meat to the lab at the University of Arizona where they will analyze the carcasses for us. We'll also take some steaks off of those animals and send them to Texas A&M University, where they will do palatability studies." He continues, "We are now



New Mexico Corriente breeder Ginny Cates is interested in Senior Research Scientist Dr. Ed Fredrickson's studies and how her roping cattle may become desirable meat animals after their sports career.

marketing the meat in Las Cruces. People who have sampled them tell us they taste very favorable. I think we have a market for these animals. We just have to change our production system so we can get animals to local retailers year around. That has some issues. We need to figure out how to produce X amount of animals each month throughout the year, especially at peak times when demand is higher.”

Other early findings indicate that there are significant differences in feed-to-gain efficiency between the Criollo cattle and the Angus crosses. “We want smaller animals that mature earlier,” says Fredrickson. “If we are going to depend on grass, then we want them to be able to grow and finish on grass. They have to do it in a shorter period of time because we don’t have grass year around. Early maturing is something we hope we have. It is something we can capitalize on.”

To a cattle producer, whose margins are so narrow, biological efficiency is one of the most important things he can do. “In one study,” says Fredrickson, “we looked at dates to puberty. What we found was that the age to maturity was younger for the Criollo heifers. In that study, we had heifers in the Angus group that never did come in during the study, but all of our Criollo cattle cycled. We concluded that our Criollo heifers matured earlier.” Fredrickson has also noted other differences between the breeds of cattle he is studying. “Our early data indicates that these Criollo cattle might be better beef producers in this arid landscape, but they also may be more dangerous to the landscape. If we go into a

drought, they won’t die out. They’ll persist and so they may potentially cause more damage to the already stressed rangeland. On the positive side, I’m fairly certain that they will be better as far as their foraging ability in these tough environments as they are willing to travel farther to get forage, and use a larger variety of the forages. It looks like, from what we’ve seen so far, they may use riparian areas better as they don’t appear to spend a lot of time on them.”

So what are Fredrickson’s plans for future studies? He says, “We intend to look at this breed another couple years so we have strong data that will give livestock producers information about whether this is a breed that might work for them or not.” Fredrickson feels that breeding animals in the manner now common with Angus and Herefords and other continental breeds, you lose a certain resistance to disease and other desirable characteristics that still exist in more naturally raised breeds, like the varieties of Criollo cattle.

“These Criollo cattle may provide a source of genetics that one can always use to bring in qualities that would help the cattle populations we really depend on. That’s one reason why it’s good to conserve some of these rarer breeds that have adapted to extreme environments. We need at least, to learn more about them and figure out a way to maintain some of the genetics. Sooner or later, considering the water situation in these arid parts of the country, at some point in time, we will probably need them.”



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THE COWBOY WORLD OF ADAM JAHIEL



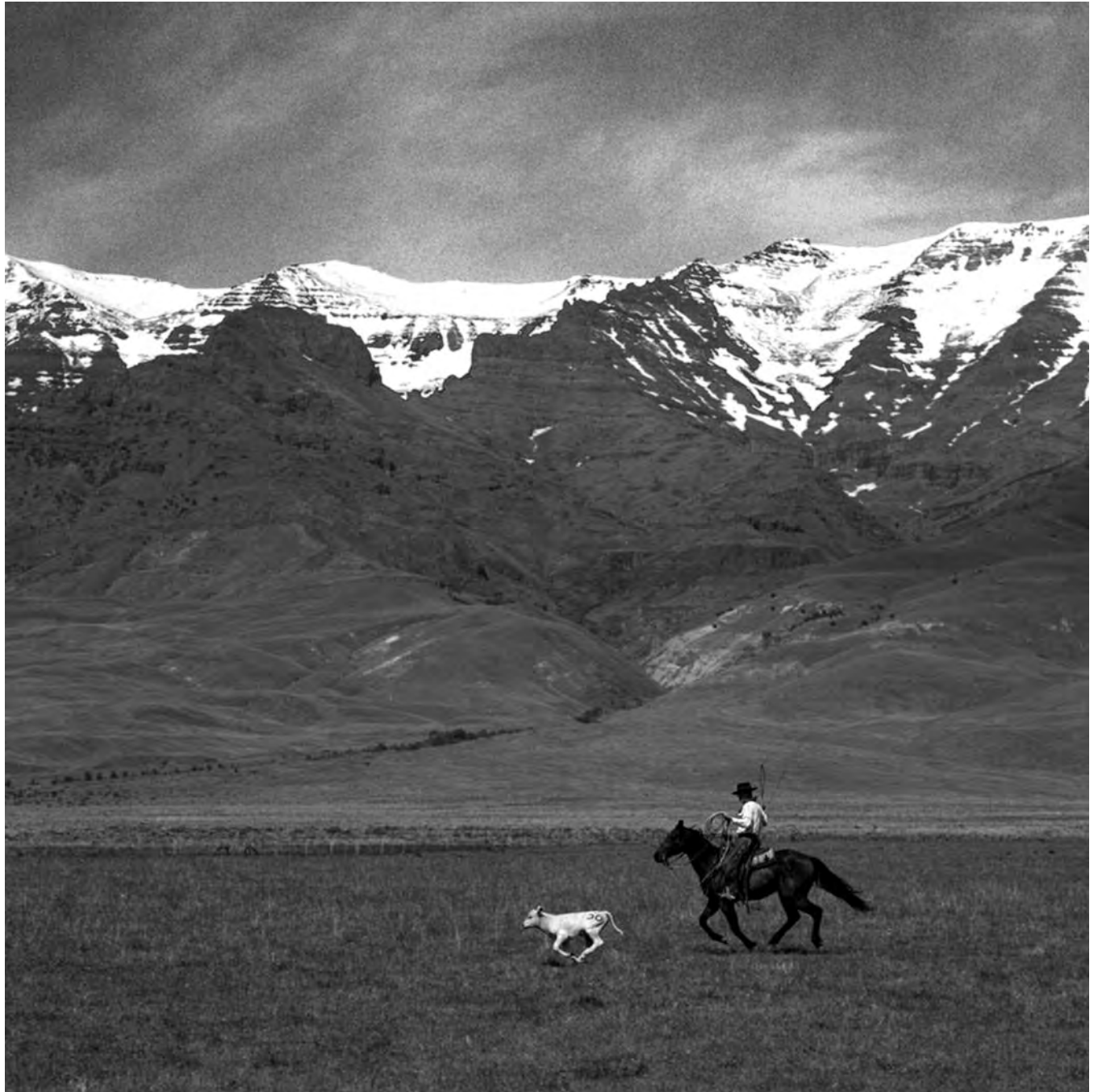
Boot and Spur, Red House Ranch, NV



A Fresh Horse, NV



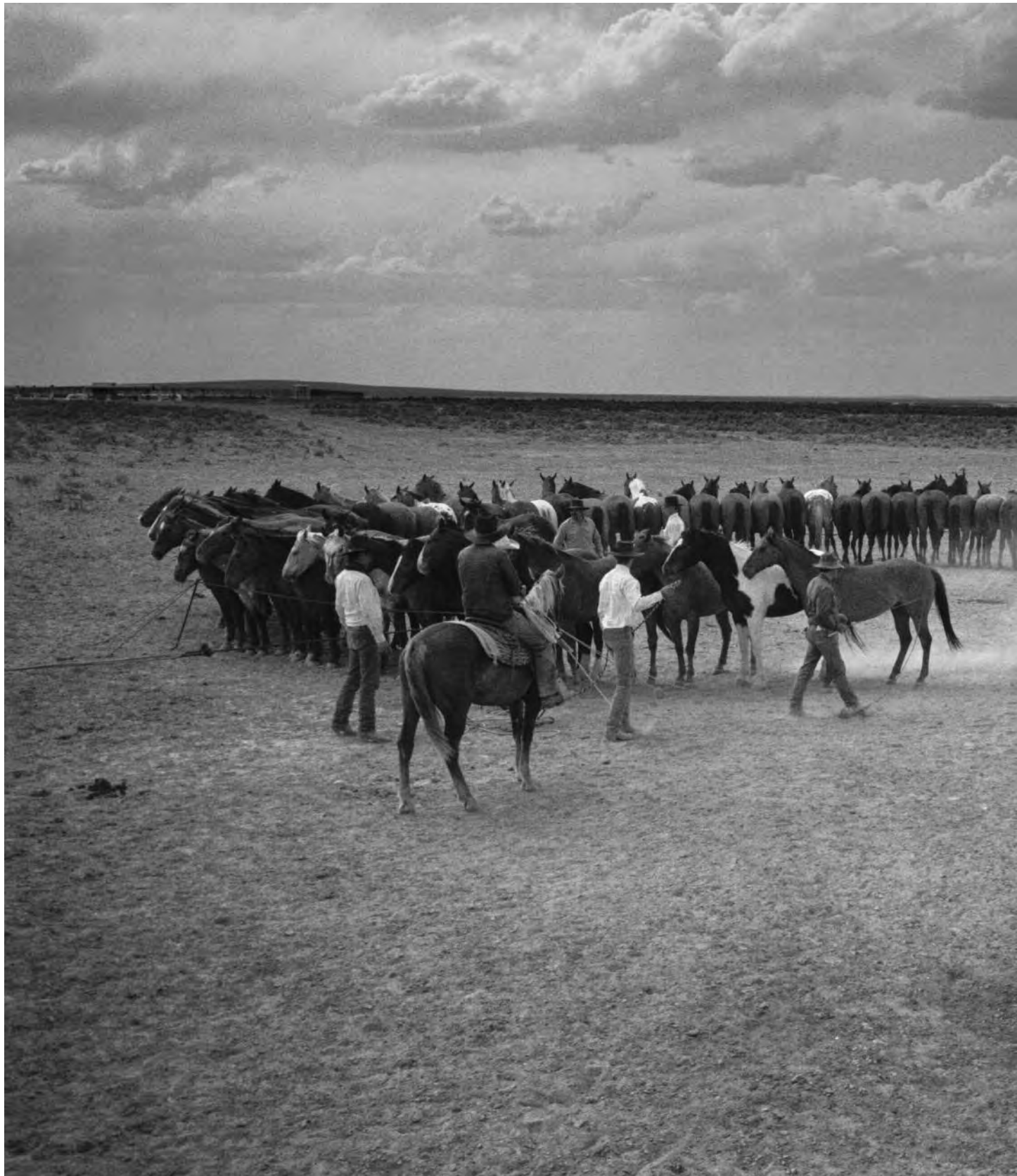
Building a Loop, TS Ranch, NV



Chase , OR



The Horse Wranglers, Spanish Ranch, NV







Roping a Cloud, IL Ranch, NV

ADAM JAHIEL, PHOTOGRAPHER

Adam Jahiel, has had a varied professional career. He has worked extensively for the motion picture industry, working on projects as varied as *Out of Africa* to HBO comedy specials. But, Jahiel is also drawn to adventure projects, most notably as the photographer for the landmark French-American 1987 Titanic expedition. His work has appeared in most major U.S. publications, including *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times*, *National Geographic Society* and others. Jahiel's work also has appeared in literally dozens of books, including the acclaimed *The Day in a Life of* series.

The “Last Cowboy” Project

For years, Jahiel has been photographing the cowboys of the Great Basin, perhaps one of the most inhospitable regions of the already rugged West. These people represent one of the last authentic American subcultures, one that is disappearing at a rapid rate. Cowboying as an art form is almost obsolete; still, the cowboys hang on, with a ferocious tenacity. Respect there doesn't come from the trappings of modern life. Talent, knowledge and skill are valued above all else. And the cowboy tradition has its roots in the oldest of human conflicts: man against nature and man against himself.

Jahiel tries to reflect those sentiments in these photographs. These cowboys aren't “remade” into a Hollywood image. Instead, they are “found” images, in keeping with the spirit of authenticity that permeates the best keepers of this tradition.

www.adamjahiel.com



Photo by Heather Ha



THE LIVING WORDS of the CONSTITUTION

PART 7

NICOLE KREBS

ARTICLE VII

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.” (*The Constitution of the United States*)

“The last and shortest of the Constitution’s articles was the key to the legal and political process that replaced the Articles of Confederation with the Constitution of the United States. In one stroke, Article VII expressed the Constitution’s view of the Union and echoed the Declaration of Independence’s view of the relation between positive and natural law. Seldom has so much political import been conveyed in so few words.” (*The Heritage Guide to the Constitution*, Edwin Meese III)

This was a daring new ratification process. The Founding Fathers felt that it was needed because they “felt it was a mistake to follow the requirements of the Articles of Confederation which prevented any changes in government without unanimous consent.” (*The Making of America*, W. Cleon Skousen) “To save the Revolution and its principles, and to vindicate the Declaration of Independence, it was necessary to set aside the Articles of Confederation. The implication was that the Congress and the state legislatures were middlemen, intended to transmit the plan to the real authorities, the popular conventions.” (Meese)

This ratification process was a “departure from the republican standard in respect of its own ratification. In many states, the Articles [of Confederation] had been ratified by the legislature only; the people themselves had not been consulted ... To repeat the mistake by asking the state legislatures to ratify the proposed Constitution would vitiate the new government before it had begun.” (Meese)

The Anti-Federalists felt that the Articles of Confederation did not need complete popular ratification because they were specifically not a constitution. They felt that the Articles were “more like a treaty among sovereign powers.” The Federalists saw this as the Confederation’s “imbecility.” James Madison said, “The difference between

a system founded on the Legislatures only, and one founded on the people, [is] the true difference between a *league or treaty*, and a *Constitution*.”

Why did the Founders decide that nine states would be needed to ratify the Constitution? Edmund Randolph suggested the number nine because, as he said, it was a “respectable majority of the whole” and that it had an advantage of being similar to the “constitution of the existing Congress,” which needed nine votes in order to approve any important question. “The Constitution’s ratification by conventions in at least nine states would establish the new government only ‘between the states so ratifying the Same... The people of the United States could not compel constitutional change on the states choosing to be disunited. In this respect, as in others, the Constitution recognized and granted to the states considerable sovereignty or jurisdiction in their own spheres.” (Meese)

Just two days before the end of the Constitutional Convention, right before the final vote, Edmund Randolph and George Mason of Virginia and Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts expressed objections to the new Constitution. Randolph did not believe that the Constitution was “significantly republican” and moved that they should have another convention to “address amendments to be proposed by the states.” Mason seconded the motion stating, “Without significant changes the new government would end in either monarchy or a tyrannical aristocracy.” Gerry felt that the powers of Congress were too broad. He too wanted a second general convention. The Convention put the two questions to a vote and the eleven states present all voted against a second convention and voted to approve the final text of the Constitution. Randolph, Mason and Gerry did not sign the Constitution.

The noted historian, John Fiske, stated, “Thus after four months of anxious toil, through the whole of a scorching Philadelphia summer, after earnest but sometimes bitter discussion, in which more than once the meeting had seemed on the point of breaking up, a colossal work had at





last been accomplished, the results of which were powerfully to affect the whole future career of the human race.”

New Hampshire became the ninth state to ratify the new Constitution with Virginia and New York following. Congress passed a resolution in September 1788 authorizing the appointment of presidential electors in the ratifying states by January 1789. They wanted the first presidential vote by the electors in February and the “commencement of proceedings under the new Constitution on March 4, 1789.” North Carolina originally rejected the Constitution but later reversed its decision in November 1789. Rhode Island did not participate in the Convention and refused to call a convention until May 1790.

“Done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the Seventeenth Day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Twelfth In witness whereof We have hereunto subscribed our Names,” (*The Constitution of the United*

States) The language used in this phrase is momentous and deliberate. “These dates serve to place the document in the context of the religious traditions of Western civilization and, at the same time, to link it to the regime principles proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution having been written in the twelfth year after July 1776.” (Meese)

“Only thirty-nine people signed the finished product of the Constitutional Convention. In all, seventy-four people were selected to attend the Convention, but only fifty-five actually attended. Some of these left before the Convention was complete, some for personal reasons, some to protest the Constitution. Others remained at the Convention until the end, but then refused to sign.” (www.usconstitution.net)

“Unlike the old Congress, essentially the meeting place of a league based on states’ rights, the new Congress was a creature of the Constitution, based on what Madison called ‘the supreme authority of the people themselves.’ That is the ultimate significance of Article VII.” (Meese)



RANCH LIVING

WITH THEA MARX

Editor's Note: In each issue, writer Thea Marx shares with us a story of a ranch family somewhere in the West who has made a place and worked it. Her stories show the result of the commitment and the work that goes into holding on to an outfit. We asked Thea to take us inside the ranch house this issue and see if we could start something a little new. In this new section, we call "Ranch Living," Thea takes a look at people, products and recipes that she thinks we all might enjoy. During the rest of her time in Wyoming, besides taking care of her daughter Aspen and all their animals, Thea runs her website, www.contemporarywesterndesign.com. She will also, on occasion, profile interesting artists and craftsmen and women who help make the West such an unusual place.

"Shallow rivers and shallow minds, freeze first."

Charles M. Russell

Range horses are dangerous at both ends.

Teddy Blue Abbott

FROM THEA'S KITCHEN

In each issue, we will share some recipes from friends that are favorites with their families. A good recipe is like a solid horse – loyal in the clinches. I hope you will enjoy this one and share it with those you love.

Grandma Nona's Favorite Ranch Recipe

My grandmother is 92, going on a spunky 93, and when asked what her favorite branding lunch recipe was she never hesitated: Rhubarb Pudding. It is the dish she always took to brandings and it still makes her mouth water.

Rhubarb Pudding

5 cups of rhubarb cut into squares placed in 9"x 9" pan

Mix together and spread over fruit

¾ cup sugar

3 Tablespoons Shortening

1 teaspoon baking powder

½ cup milk

Dash of salt

1 cup flour

Mix and spread over fruit mixture

1 cup sugar

1 Tablespoon corn starch

Pour 1 cup boiling water over all.

Bake 45 to 60 minutes at 350 degrees.



Grandma Nona at nearly 92, still horseback.

SADDLE MAKING IN HER SOUL

Clair Mullins, a young Oregon saddle maker, continues Western tradition

With a love of horses and artwork in her soul and ranching a part of her family for generations, Clair Mullins made a decision in high school; she was going to be a saddle maker. Growing up on a family cattle operation near John Day, Oregon, saddles were second nature, in fact, horseback was her preferred mode of transport. The decision was easy.

After witnessing her father question her older brother about his ambitions and plans for the future, Clair knew she would have an answer when it was her turn. A part of the family operation in a place where the closest movie theatre was 70 miles away, her love of horses was nurtured and the very nature of her life allowed her imagination to fly free. An inborn fondness for ranch life combined with her penchant for art helped lead her to the decision to be a saddle maker. She went through the two-year program at Spokane Falls Community College where she studied under the late Verlaine Desgrange, who was an extraordinary leather carver and saddle maker. Under Verlaine, she learned to draw intricate flowing patterns. Then she worked with Randy Severe at Severe Brothers Saddlery in Pendleton who taught her to draw directly on the leather.

“My work is individual, I never duplicate a pattern,” says Clair. Most importantly, she says, she studied with Dale Harwood where she learned good mechanics. “Mechanics make the saddle, and he is a master.”

Today, she has been creating saddles for eight years and owned her own shop for the last five. Everyday, she builds saddles for the working cowboy. They are for hard days on colts and working cows in the vastness of Grant County, Oregon. On Quality Manufacturing trees, she creates her signature saddle with a



Clair in her saddle shop in John Day, Oregon.

slick fork tree and bucking rolls. She uses a lot of rough outs because as she says, “You stick to it better.” Her style reflects the influences from generations of ranching in the Great Basin and the Old Buckaroo, including the small Cheyenne roll and the mule-hide wrapped horn. Working saddles don’t allow her to use her incredible carving skills as much as she would like so, she makes gorgeous, deeply carved, stylish handbags, messenger bags and furniture that allow

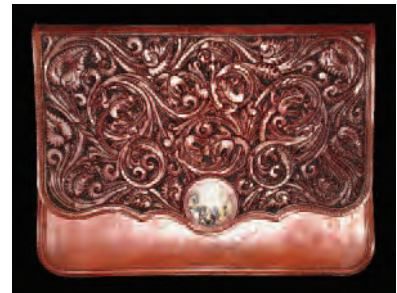
her to integrate the flowing lines and the sleek curvy styling that is apparent, but not overt, in her saddles. “Someday,” she says, “I will create my dream saddle with everything on it I’ve ever wanted to do.” But, until then, she is looking forward to starting a new life with her fiancé, Jason, on a ranch near her family. They will raise Black Angus and keep the tradition of ranching and the traditional cowboy arts alive. Learn more about Clair at www.clairsaddleshop.com or call her to get your own “haute” handbag at 541-620-1634.



This Wade saddle is Clair’s favorite. In fact, she made two matching ones for mother and daughter for Christmas. It has a 15” seat, bucking rolls, 7/8 double plate rigging, small round skirts and a small Cheyenne roll. Both horn and roll are bound with rawhide. The stirrups are bound with stainless steel. To give this functional saddle a blush of femininity, she scalloped the fenders and incorporated floral carving and a basket stamp combo into the mix.



Clair’s artist side shows up in everything she does, especially her streamlined handbags, such as this one, full of color and beautiful craftsmanship.



Perfect for files and papers, the Gentleman’s Messenger Bag is ornately carved with leaves.

NEW THINGS FOR RANCH LIVING

For going to work:

Carhartt Traditional-Fit Boot-Cut Jean. Ladies, these jeans are made to work in and still look good! With triple-stitched seams, they are durable but they have fit, too! They have a lower, mid-rise fit and a contoured waistband for no gapping! And they come in long lengths!! You can truly go from work to town without looking like you are wearing your husband's jeans. Visit www.carhartt.com for more information.



For going to town:

The "It" Sandals from Denice Langley are a perfect way to express your Western side without succumbing to the summer heat. This Colorado



cowgirl will build a pair of sandals just for you, custom fit. Made with toffee leather along with tooled leather trim, they have a navy accent stripe with light colored cream leather under the spots and brindle hair on hide. These sandals will be a conversation piece for sure. They are both pretty and comfortable. The fit guaranteed with a heat-molded cork foot bed. Don't worry, you don't have to be in the same zip code, just send her a pair of your shoes and she'll get your "IT" sandal on the workbench. To learn more visit: www.denicelangley.com or call 970-564-5184.



ARIAT'S NEW RODEOBABY – THE NEXT BIG THING

The folks at Ariat International are continuing to add to their line of hugely popular "Fatbaby" boot collection with the arrival this fall of the newest women's performance boot, the Rodeobaby.

"We've retained the personality of the original Fatbaby in the new Rodeobaby, but we're making performance our primary focus going forward," said Shane Johnston, Western product manager for Ariat. "Not only does the Rodeobaby give women a sleek and feminine look for in the arena, but it also features the exciting new Evolution sole and other added benefits."

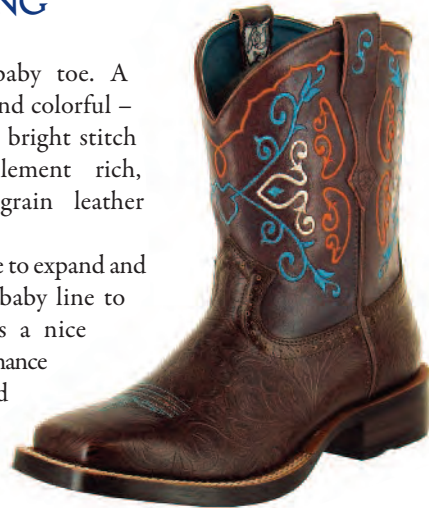
The new Rodeobaby will be available in two toe profiles, a wide square toe and the

traditional Fatbaby toe. A comfortable – and colorful – suede shaft and bright stitch patterns complement rich, premium, full-grain leather uppers.

"We continue to expand and develop the Fatbaby line to offer consumers a nice balance of performance and fashion," said Johnston.

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SWEETBIRD STUDIO: "WEARABLE SHRINES"

Nancy Anderson, by her own admission, is what in the vernacular of collecting is called a picker. A picker is one who seeks among the shiny and forgotten; something she feels would be of value to her work down the road. One could call her an assemblage artist, a found object jeweler or a junkyard creator, but, whatever the title, she proudly embraces her craft.



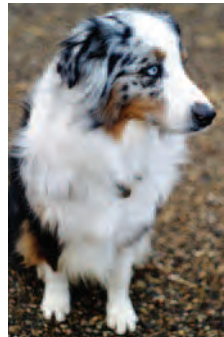
She describes her approach to jewelry and life: "Somewhere out in the forgotten fields, lies my muse. I am a modern day hunter-gatherer. I am in love with other people's trash. No, not the fresh hefty sack stuff, but the time and sun-aged discards from another era. I have a barn full of rust. I treasure the stuff. I prefer alleys, salvage yards and fields to storefronts. In that search, I am often touched and amazed by the people I meet in those 'chance' meetings along the way. It's really a two-for-one... the joy in meeting the most salt-of-the-earth people combined with finding treasure... well, it's the stuff that makes my heart skip a beat and ignites my soul. That is the epitome of a good day!"

"My art and my collecting are directly intertwined. The same thing I seek in my collecting, I strive for in my work – a sense of nostalgia, whimsy, irony and, most of all, a sense of soul. Although I have been a full-time jeweler and artist for over twenty years, using jewelry as a vehicle for change truly began about three years ago. It was a chapter in my life

that read like a great country and western song – heartbreak, betrayal, career, finances, home and basically, a trampled soul. About the only thing missing to that country song was that my dog didn't die, thank God!"

The first time I saw Nancy's work several years ago, she had amongst her buckles and pins, some sterling silver charms for dogs – sort of canine Saint Christopher medals. Always a sucker for my dog Jack, I purchased one – and, of course, more for all our other dogs – and, along with my items, was handed a business card. I folded it up and didn't look at it for several days. When I finally fished it out of my vest pocket and read the front, I realized I was in the presence of someone with a plan. On the front was a phrase, cut out like a ransom note that read, "Well behaved women rarely make history." This, along with a photo of a gal on a lawn chair with a garden hose, worked for me. And, the more I looked into Nancy's work, the more apparent it became that was not your usual Western jewelry deal. Along with buckles and pins, bracelets and rings and what could be called alters to life, the whimsy and craft of

Nancy's playful use of silver, found objects and words have been welcomed by her customers worldwide. If Western whimsy and celebration of life is on your list, you can learn more about Nancy and her Sweetbird Studio at www.sweetbirdstudio.com. Oh, and Jack? Jack has worn his medal for years now and told me only yesterday he has no plans of taking it off. —BR



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Eight months. I can do that. In the grand scheme of things, eight months doesn't sound like a long time. But then I stop and think of all the things that will happen in those particular eight months. Our only child will go to her senior prom, graduate from high school, turn 18 and head off to college. A new life. And I will simply wait. For eight months. And my husband and our daughter's father will miss all of it. He is a member of the U.S. Air Force and has been deployed since January.

My daughter and I are always looking for ways to feel closer to Anthony and for him to feel closer to us, for ways to make him feel like he isn't missing as much as he is. With today's technology, it is much easier than it used to be but there is nothing like being there in person, holding your child, each other, in your arms.

Being a military family brings with it many challenges, deployments being one of the toughest. Currently, according to Military.com, the United States has about 139,000 troops in Iraq and 52,000 in Afghanistan. Fortunately, for all of us, we have many organizations that help with the trying times. While searching for ways to help not only my own family but also other families with deployed members, I found a great organization called Operation: Love ReUnited. Founder Tonee Lawrence wanted to do something that would make it so families had images of this very special time in their life – being reunited with someone they love very much, after giving so much in service for their country and not asking for anything in return, but just to come home. And so began Operation: Love ReUnited. This group allows photographers to lend their creative energies to raising the morale of our men and women in uniform. These photographers offer, free of charge, to be there for our troops – for the tender moments as they are leaving on a deployment, a session with the military member's family while they are gone or the elation of their return.

These are a few of the photographs that have been taken for families across the nation. I hope you enjoy them. For more information, please go to www.oplove.org

Nicole Krebs

www.oplove.org

Growing up a military child is, to say the least, tough. I have had many exciting opportunities though. I have lived and visited places that most people my age can only imagine, but with the good comes the bad.

My dad deployed during Kosovo when I was eight-years-old. We found out early one Saturday morning that he was to leave the next day to an undisclosed location for an undisclosed amount of time. For a young child, you just wonder where Daddy is and when he will be home. This time, we had more notice that he was leaving and we knew where he was going. It's difficult to say which is harder, knowing how long and counting down the minutes or not knowing and hoping every minute is the last you will be apart. Now that I'm older, and I understand what is going on, I'm extremely proud of my father for serving our country and fighting for our freedoms and I miss him more than words can describe. There is no way to express how very grateful I am for the little things such as the roses my dad sent with a short note on graduation or pictures that show the things he is doing and that he is alright. At times like these, small things mean the world.

There are many new and exciting events in a child or teenagers life that a deployed parent may miss. It may be a first step, a fifth birthday, the first date... And, while many of them a child may not remember, there are many that we do. These moments during a deployment are hard not only for the deployed parent but also for the parent that is home.

While my dad has been deployed, I have seen how tough it is for my mom, which is hard to witness but she has been doing things that were meant for both parents. She has helped me prepare for my senior prom, which included getting our webcam set up so my dad could "approve" my dress. She has helped me through the toughest part of my high school career. She has prepared everything for both sides of our family to come to our town and watch me graduate. Soon to come will be my eighteenth birthday, my hunt for an apartment and my first day of college.

My dad will be back to us soon. That's what's important. An OPLOVE photographer has offered to be at the airport when he returns to help us capture that meaningful event.

Brittany Krebs





Photos courtesy Tonee Lawrence, Founder, and Gina Geigley, Vice President of OPLOVE.





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Photo by Mark Bedor

Singer/Songwriter R.W. Hampton at the gate of his Clearview Ranch near Cimarron, New Mexico

R.W. HAMPTON

A VISIT WITH A SON OF NEW MEXICO AND A PROUD MARINE FATHER



BY MARK BEDOR

Cimarron, New Mexico. Here, where the Rockies meet the plains, you can still see the ruts of the homestretch of the Santa Fe Trail. Apache and Ute warriors once roamed the area, as did the legendary Kit Carson. Later, a quieter hero made perhaps even more of an impact when Oklahoma oilman, Waite Phillips, donated the land that would become the 137,000-acre Philmont Scout Ranch for the Boy Scouts of America.

Phillips had one condition – that the land would always remain a working cattle ranch so that Scouts from around

the world would not only learn about horses, cattle and cowboys, but a lucky few would actually get to work here as cowboys. And, that’s how Western singer/songwriter, and longtime working cowboy, R.W. Hampton got his start. More than 30 years later, Hampton’s trail has come full circle. Today, he has his own ranch just a few miles from Philmont. The Clearview Ranch he shares with his family offers a spectacular view of the magnificent Sangre de Cristo Mountains. It’s a land that still produces heroes, like the one symbolized by the U.S. Marine Corps flag

flying at the end of Hampton's long, gravel driveway in honor of his son, Cooper.

There's no hesitation when you ask R.W. and his wife, Lisa, how they feel about their young Marine. "Proud!" she beams. Cooper's not the only young Leatherneck from this rural ranching county of eastern New Mexico. There were only seven kids in Cooper's high school graduating class. Three of them joined the Marines. "I think they feel like it's a high calling," reflects R.W. "It's an honor."

By definition, no member of the Few and the Proud is ordinary but Cooper is no ordinary Marine. He was selected during basic training for the Marines' "Special Services," the unit that guards the President of the United States. That meant advanced training, top-secret security clearance and duties he can't talk about. And yet, at first, Cooper was disappointed with his selection. "He was bummed," tells Lisa, "because he wanted to be a grunt. He was like, 'I know this is an honor but I wanna get in the action! I wanna do something that counts!'"

Cooper ended up getting his wish. After serving 18 months with the Presidential detail, he volunteered for a machine gun unit and became its squad leader. He recently returned to the U.S. after serving in Ramadi, Iraq, confident that America is making a difference. "I'm really likin' what I'm doing," Cooper told his dad.

The Hamptons admit they have the same concerns of any parent with a child serving in a war zone. "But you know what?" reflects R.W. "I was just sad I couldn't go with him." Lisa is equally supportive, and both believe in the mission – fight the terrorists there so we don't have to fight them here. "I don't think we ever had a problem at all with Cooper going over there," she says. "It's what Cooper wanted to do. He loves his country. He loves being a Marine." So much so, that young Sergeant Hampton has just re-upped for another four years.

R.W.'s music reflects his support for both his son and the entire U.S. military. His song, *For the Freedom*, is a regular part of his Western music concerts. "I just wanted to give voice to the young men and women," explains the songwriter. "(Talking to them) I was hearing different stories than what I was hearing on the news. I was just hearing that what they were doing was worthwhile."

Cooper's well aware not everyone agrees with that. "He once told his father, 'I have sworn to protect ... even to the death, the sorriest there is,'" revealed R.W., who added, "There's an old Marine saying that goes 'We are the unwanted, doing the unforgivable, for the unappreciative.' And I thought, 'That's pretty accurate.'"

It's comparable to another hero R.W. sings about – the American Cowboy. "I heard a guy say one time that the cowboy is the most highly skilled, underpaid occupation in the world," recalls Hampton. "You gotta know a lot about a lot of things to be a good hand – cattle, horses, a little mechanics, weather... You gotta know a lot."

R.W. should know. The one time Eagle Scout spent his last three summers of high school cowboyin' on the Philmont Scout Ranch, then the next 13 years working on cattle ranches throughout the West. And, whether it was Texas, eastern Oregon, Wyoming or Arizona, he only took what he calls, "a riding job."

"There's some parts of the country that just the nature of the terrain requires you to be horseback every day," he explains. But, it wasn't always sunny and warm. "In Wyoming, we were horseback every day, and there were days when it was 30 below zero. And just the way the ranch was set up, there was no other way you could have done it."

Whether it was breaking horses, riding fence or checking on pregnant mamma cows, R.W. was living the life he'd dreamed of and raising a family – cowboy style "When he was a little bitty guy, I would take Cooper and put him in the saddle in front of me and just go for miles just checkin' cattle, and he would fall asleep on me," R.W. recounts. "So, I would turn him around and face him toward me. I would have a piggin' string and I would tie it up under his arms and around my waist. He'd flop around and sleep for hours like that!"

Wherever the ranch, R.W. always had the guitar out in the evening, singing to his wife or "just to the walls." His



Photo courtesy R.W. Hampton

No ordinary Marine, R.W.'s son, Sgt. Cooper Hampton

Photo courtesy R.W. Hampton



Lisa & R.W. Hampton with their Wrangler Award for *Oklahoma, Where the West Remains*

music found a much bigger audience when R.W. performed in the 1979 documentary, *Kenny Rogers and the American Cowboy*. Years later, Rogers tracked down R.W. to sing again in his 1985 TV movie, *Wild Horses*. Rogers and Pam Dawber were billed as the stars but, to Hampton, the real stars of that show were Western icons Richard Farnsworth, Ben Johnson and Buck Taylor. “Oh, it was a huge thrill!” he smiles.

It was also quite an education in show business. The producer asked the new performer if he had an agent. “He said, ‘You need one, you’re good and you’ve got a big future in this. When you get home, call me,’” Hampton tells. “I called him but he didn’t remember who I was. It was not something that stopped me.”

More than 20 years later, R.W. has recorded a dozen albums, appeared in 13 movies and performed in Australia, Brazil, at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. and Nashville’s Grand Ole Opry. His music and song writing has been honored many times by the Western Music Association and Academy of Western Artists. He also co-wrote and performs the innovative one-man stage play, *The Last Cowboy*. The accompanying album is one of two Hampton recordings that have won the prestigious Wrangler Award, presented during the Western Heritage Awards at Oklahoma City’s National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

His personal life is thriving as well. He and his wife, Lisa,



Photo by Mark Bador



R.W. shares some quality time with youngest son, Ethan, at home in New Mexico

have two young sons of their own, in a family of six remarkable kids. They include 21-year-old Colter, attending West Texas State University on a rodeo scholarship. "I get a kick out of people saying, 'R.W. Hampton? Are you related to that roper Colter Hampton?' I say, 'Yeah, I am!'" laughs the proud father.

Colter is following dad's musical footsteps as well. He wrote *Austin to Boston*, the title track about rodeo life that is one of the many highlights of R.W.'s new CD, slated for a fall release. He calls it, "The album I've always wanted to do. I wanted to do something with a little more production to it. I wanted to do some songs that required a little more of me, both vocally and emotionally." The songs, the arrangements and R.W.'s vocals give this record a catchy, radio-friendly, two-steppin' flavor. "We're hoping to broaden our fan base to include a younger audience. And, I think we'll breathe some new life into this music," he says hopefully.

A growing number of R.W. listeners are in the United Kingdom. Thanks to the work of his Nashville-based personal manager Brian Ferriman, R.W. has scored two recent top ten hits on the U.K. country charts off his *Oklahoma* CD. There's talk of an overseas tour as well. "Brian said something one time that really was very simple. He said, 'I just don't think we've caught



R.W. with son, Calvin, in the backyard at Clearview Ranch, his New Mexico home



Sharing a laugh in the ranch music office with friend and assistant, Alan Kirkpatrick

all the R.W. fans that there are in the world so let's go find some more."

R.W.'s wife is also a key partner in his career. Lisa's name is engraved as a co-producer on one of his Wrangler awards. And, with a background in real estate and a talent for business, "She took it to the next level because she believed in me," he shares, remembering, "I used to go (to a concert) with a grocery sack full of CDs, and she'd say, 'You know, honey, you could sell these things.'"

From the looks of their beautiful home on 300 acres in New Mexico, it appears that they've sold a few. However, this Christian couple is quick to credit God for their blessings and share them with others. R.W. often speaks about his faith when he performs. "Basically what I've said is, 'This is something that's important to me and I want to share it with you,'" he confides. "In the space of 90 minutes, if I do *How Great Thou Art* or *It is No Secret*, that's just one song. People can listen to it or they can turn it off or whatever. I think if you're real, if you're authentic, most people say, 'Well that's not my deal but I sure respect him for it.'"

Along with the movies, records, concerts, awards and travel, R.W. is also doing a growing number of commercials, including serving as the TV and radio spokesman for the Atwood's Home and Ranch chain of stores. At 51, it's already been quite a life. He was reminded of that by a wealthy banker he met at a concert, who told him, "Man, you have lived the life that I can only dream about." "It helped me realize that I was truly blessed."

The best may be yet to come. "It's funny," he reflects. "I'm at an age where a lot of people, if they're not slowin' down, they're kinda thinkin' about it. And I'm just kinda getting' cranked up."

Photo by Mark Beador



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The PARAGON Foundation offers a heartfelt thank you to all of our sponsors who have supported our efforts over the past year and into 2009. We came upon this old postcard from the late 1920s. Its message about a place where the handclasp is a little stronger. Out where the West begins. Its words carry our appreciation.

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Heading West

Great getaways at dude ranches endorsed by The Dude Ranchers' Association

BY WILLIAM REYNOLDS

Editor's Note: The PARAGON Foundation is pleased to feature member ranches of the Dude Ranchers' Association. Here's a great way to enjoy the fun and ways of the West at ranches around the country that are endorsed by this fine association.



Maybe you would like to take an over-night pack trip to the ranch's high mountain camp at Beaver Lakes. Whatever you choose, each activity is designed to give you an experience you'll never forget. Spear-O is an all-inclusive destination: meals, activities, horses – all for one low price - giving you the freedom to design your own vacation. Campfires, line dancing lessons, cozy cabins, cook-outs, BYOB. A true western ranch in the heart of cowboy country, right in Sheridan, Wyoming - your gateway to

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Heading West

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riding, cattle penning, fly-fishing and many non-riding, family-oriented activities such as hiking, birding, orienteering and nature walks with the ranch's staff naturalist.

At the end of the day, the Burleighs and their friendly staff will fill your nights with dancing, country & western music, stargazing and great conversation. Their small size allows them to provide you with a big dose of western hospitality - fresh baked desserts, homemade cookies in every room and a chance to relax and make friends. Retire to your historic lodge room or riverside log cabin accommodations. For over forty years, The Laramie River Dude Ranch operated as the UT Bar Dude Ranch. Folks from across the country and around the world discovered the timeless beauty of this little slice of the

Rocky Mountains. Many of the ranch's guests from years ago are bringing their kids and grandkids to experience the American West and create their own family tradition. Some of the ranch structures date back to the 1890s but have all been newly remodeled to provide guests with modern amenities, making the Laramie River Dude Ranch Colorado's newest old dude ranch.

For those interested in working on their horsemanship, the Ranch offers two natural horsemanship clinics during the summer season. Bring your horse or let the instructor find a horse that suits your ability from the ranch's herd. You'll take home a world of new information. The Laramie River Ranch offers everyone the chance to experience his or her ultimate vacation out West.



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Don King pioneered a saddle making style and carving pattern that will be carried on for many generations to come.

SHERIDAN STYLE

For 60 years, Don King's innovative craftsmanship revolutionized the saddle making business, leaving in his wake a rich legacy.

GUY DE GALARD

Don King was born on August 26, 1923 in Douglas, Wyoming. At a very young age, while traveling with his father, who was a working cowboy following seasonal ranch work, Don became interested in leather tooling. "It was an interesting life," he recalled. "I was raised in bunkhouses and worked full-time every summer. I was treated well but I grew up in a hurry." When Don was 15 and working for an Arizona riding stable, he began spending his off hours at Porters, a legendary Phoenix saddle company. Fascinated by fine leatherwork, he'd watch the saddle makers and stamper, asking them to teach him how to stamp and work leather. But, in those days, very few were willing to share their knowledge. One of them, Cliff Ketchum, however, finally gave Don a piece of scrap leather so that he could practice. Don went home and, using some homemade tools crafted from nails, started tooling his first flower carved belts.

Over the next several years, Don, who was essentially a horseman, earned a living exercising polo ponies in California or wrangling horses in Montana. In 1941, while





Photo by Guy de Galarand

The museum is home to a collection of over 500 saddles and an outstanding collection of Indian artifacts and cowboy memorabilia.

working as a wrangler at Eatons’ Ranch outside of Sheridan, Wyoming, he met Dorothy, a young college girl from North Dakota, who would become his wife two years later. Discharged in 1946, after serving in the Armed Forces during World War II, Don returned to his native Wyoming and settled in Sheridan with his wife and child. He found work as an apprentice to veteran saddle maker, Rudy Mudra, who had been the top carver and saddle maker at Miles City Saddlery. A year later, Don opened his own saddle shop. He operated the shop for two years before turning to ranching and breaking colts on a small spread he had bought just outside of Sheridan. During the next few years, Don’s focus was divided between his growing family, which included sons Bill, Bruce, Bobby and John, his saddle work and starting colts for the public. Eventually, realizing that breaking colts was becoming a little tougher on him, Don went back to full-time saddle making and leather tooling for Mudra, where he worked with another top craftsman, Lloyd Davis. By 1957, Don’s work became so admired that he won contracts to make trophy saddles for the Rocky Mountain Quarter Horse Association and the Rodeo Cowboys Association (now the PRCA). Don was commissioned to build the trophy saddles for the RCA for ten years in a row. Some of King’s trophy saddles are displayed in the Pro

Rodeo Hall of Fame in Colorado Springs, as well as in the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

In 1963, Don opened King’s Saddlery on Sheridan’s Main Street but when the demand for Don’s wares outgrew the room in his shop, he moved his business to its present location at 184 North Main. Today, the small barn-shaped storefront has become a landmark on Sheridan’s Main Street and is probably the most visited building in town.

Although Don’s early work still reflected the influence of Rudy Mudra, Lloyd Davis and Otto Ernst, he would soon start making subtle changes to his floral carving. Eventually, Don’s observations and ideas contributed to developing his own distinct style and helped shape what is known today as the Sheridan Style. It is defined by small floral patterns (most often wild roses) with small stems arranged in complex patterns of interlocking circles intricately carved into the leather. “The Sheridan Style may be the most popular style of western floral carving today,” said California saddle maker, Jeremiah Watt, who was influenced by King’s work.

Don’s impeccable craftsmanship would also influence saddle makers Bill Gardner and Chester Hape, who also integrated intricately carved leather into their saddle designs. Bill Gardner’s distinctive design and arrangement

of floral patterns has earned him the reputation as the foremost leather carver alive today. Chester Hape is known for his flower leaf and scroll pattern drawn freehand and executed in two tones. “Bill Gardner worked with Don through much of his career. At one point in time, it was almost impossible to tell their work apart,” says long-time leather carver, Jim Jackson, who has been carving leather at King’s since 1971.

John King, Don’s late son, was also a master saddle maker for the family-run King’s Saddlery. John was influenced not only by his father but also by his apprenticeships with Bill Gardner and Chester Hape.

Don Butler (see LCE Spring 2009 issue), sometimes known for combining features from the late 1800s with his Sheridan carved saddles such as high cantles and sheepskin saddlebags, has deep respect for Don King. “He put out a really well crafted and esthetically pleasing product. That’s the type of work I wanted to do and if Don King saw it, I wouldn’t be embarrassed. He set a standard that the rest of us had to try to live up to. He’s had a huge impact on the leather industry.”

When Alberta saddle maker Chuck Stormes met Don King in 1968, he was a young aspiring craftsman. Stormes was first impressed at how welcome Don made him feel. “When Don was approached by a young saddle maker asking for his critique, he would always say something positive and encouraging, no matter how good or bad his

work was,” recalls Stormes. “Don always treated craftsmen as equals, regardless of their experience or talent.” Don’s innovative ideas and forward thinking were reflected in his enthusiasm for his involvement in the Traditional Cowboy Artists Association (TCAA), of which Don was a founding member. “His reputation and wisdom were very beneficial to the TCAA,” comments Stormes.

Today, King’s Saddlery is one of the better-known tack and gear stores in the West and houses a large saddle and rope facility. The air is filled with the comforting scent of leather. The walls dangle with spurs, bits, belt buckles, cinches and bridles, along with western style gifts, hats and boots. Today, son Bruce, who manages the store, makes sure the saddlery caters to its customers’ needs. “We’re primarily a tack store, a true saddlery. We’re geared toward the rodeo cowboy or the rancher,” comments Bruce. The store maintains a relaxed atmosphere and cowboys from miles around come to King’s to buy the tools of the trade.

Although Don King had built a reputation as one of the nation’s premier saddle makers, he was probably equally known for his ropes. The back shop is a convivial place where cowboys come to casually test ropes on a dummy steer or be fitted for leather chaps, and neighbors come to chat over a cup of coffee. Don loved rodeo and grew up knowing the feel of a good rope. He knew how to stretch a rope and how to tie a hondo that stayed straight. He was the first to develop and twist a rope for left-handed



The comforting scent of leather fills the air at King’s Saddlery.



Photo by Guy de Galard

King's Saddlery's small barn-shaped storefront has become a landmark on Sheridan's Main Street.

ropers and to provide "ready to go" ropes that were already tied up and conditioned, a service that no one else offered at the time. He always concentrated on serving the audience he knew best: cowboys. Word got around, and within a few years, cowhands and rodeo ropers from all over the U.S. and Canada were buying King ropes. His business blossomed to producing 40,000 ropes a year, of 400 different kinds, catering to ranchers and professional rodeo cowboys, as well as overseas markets including Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

The newest addition to King's, however, is the museum. It is informative as well as attractive and is truly a unique and incredible place. Opened in 1989, it is home to a collection of over 500 saddles, one of the largest private collections of saddles in the world. It also holds an outstanding collection of Indian artifacts and cowboy memorabilia. Wandering through the rows of antique saddles and admiring the collection of chaps, guns and horse tack that adorn the antique pine walls is a memorable experience for anyone with an interest in the history, culture or arts of the American West.

Few western events can rival Don King Days for variety and entertainment. This event truly recaptures the spirit and traditions of northern Wyoming, and the open-air, unconfined and unhurried atmosphere of the old rodeos. It all started in 1989 when members of the Wyoming Steer Roping Association, ranchers, ropers and friends of Don King organized the first Don King Days to honor the man who had contributed so much to the cowboy community. Held on Labor Day weekend and featuring a polo game, steer roping and bronc riding, this equestrian event is one of the last open-field rodeos in the West and celebrates the diversity of equestrian activities in the Sheridan area.

Don King passed away two years ago. His innovative mind inspired a renaissance in the old art of saddle making and his constant desire to learn and "push the envelope" made him a mentor for many. His extensive knowledge has influenced the cowboy world in many ways but his saddles will always remain the best testament to his extraordinary talent. Despite the flood of recognition he received, he always stayed humble, as a true gentleman would. Today, the next generation of talented saddle makers and carvers such as Jim Jackson, Chas Weldon, Don Butler and Bill Gardner carry on the tradition, never losing sight of Don's high standards.

To learn more, visit www.kingsaddlery.com



Photo by Guy de Galard

This traditional Mother Hubbard-style saddle is one of the last saddles Don King built. It was created for the Traditional Cowboy Arts Association's annual exhibit.



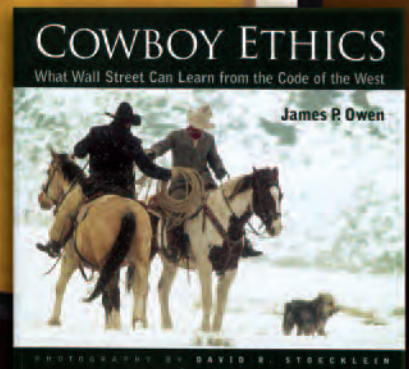
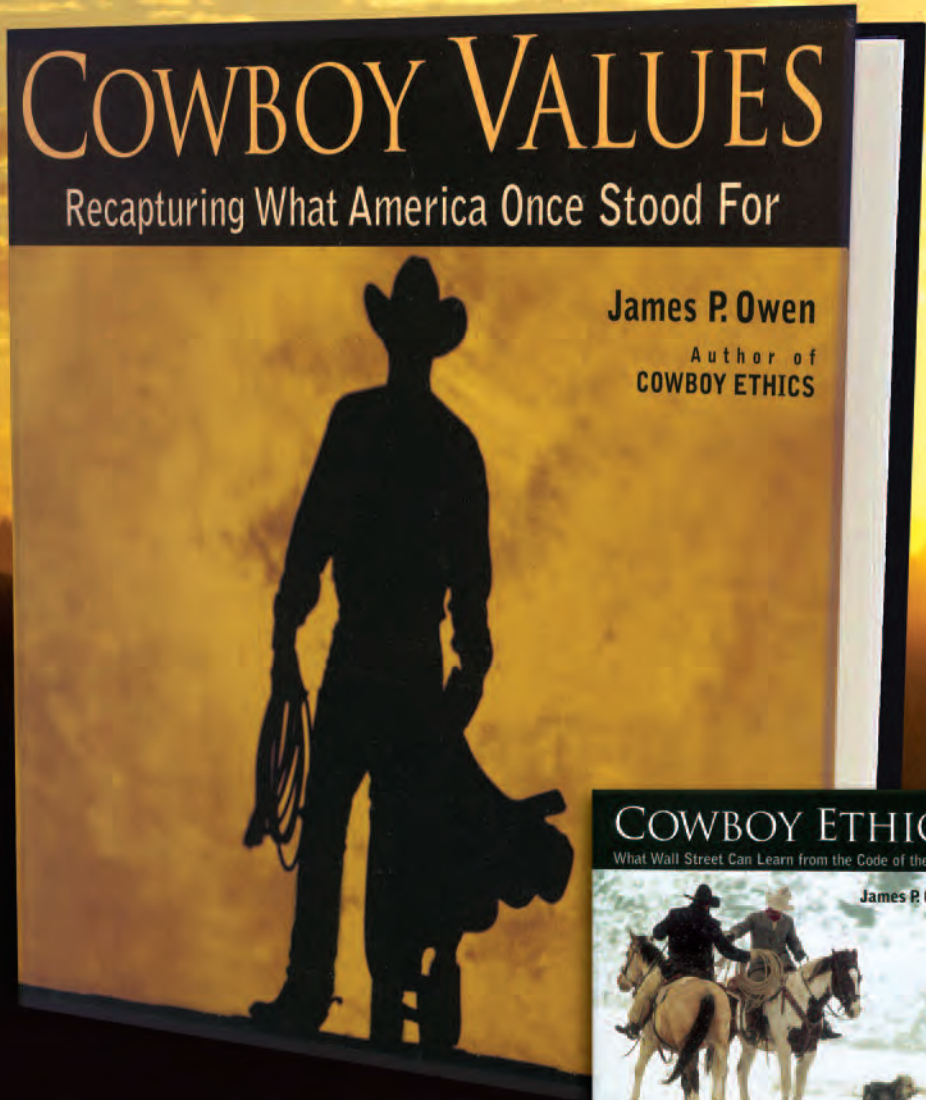
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All photos courtesy the author's collection

John Wayne as General Tecumseh Sherman and Harry Morgan as Gen. Ulysses S. Grant confer in a scene.

HOW THE WEST WAS WON

THE MAKING OF AN ENDURING AND EPIC WESTERN



BY DAN GAGLIASSO

*“This land has a name today, and is marked on maps.
But, the names and the marks and the maps all had to be won,
won from nature and from primitive man.
Five generations ago, a mere 125 years back...
this land was known only as the West...”*

Spencer Tracy’s narration from the opening of *How the West Was Won*

I've driven across a good deal of the West and the high plains ever since my rodeo days – from the Dakotas to western Montana, through Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. So I've seen an awful lot of what old timers call “the High Lonesome.” I drive to music, with “passengers” like Red Steagall, Ian Tyson, R.W. Hampton and the late Chris LeDoux, sometimes modern country and even some classic rock. But, my favorite music to drive to is Western movie soundtracks, great classics like *The Alamo*, *True Grit*, *The Searchers* and *Lonesome Dove*.

One particular day in Montana stands out most in my mind. I was driving along side the Yellowstone River, the high bluffs dotted with scrub pines, a wide, grassy meadow edging the rolling waters and still snowcapped mountains far off to the north, though it was already early summer. The CD player changed disks and suddenly it all came together, the big throaty notes of brass, percussion and singing strings from Alfred Newman's magnificent film score jumped right out and blended in with the incredible western landscape I was driving through. I recall thinking, “I'm driving through country that Lewis and Clark were the first white men to see, that the Lakota Sioux, Northern Cheyenne, Crow and Shoshones fought each other for hard and fast until the whites came. Wide-open land that pioneer cattleman Nelson Story drove an 1866 herd of longhorns 1500 miles from Texas to, before anyone else had the guts to even try. All while I'm listening to maybe the greatest Western film score of all time, *How the West Was Won*” – it doesn't get much better than that.

How the West Was Won is one of those Westerns – sprawling, yet human, hugely entertaining and epic beyond imagination. Back in 1963, it was released on that marvelous, giant and curved three-screen Cinerama format and yet even on the TV screen today, it still captures the width and breath of the settling of the American West.

It's a movie that you could use the phrase “high, wide and handsome” to describe and really mean it. At a budget of \$15 million, it had a cast of 25 major stars and a supporting cast in the thousands. It also boasted three of the industry's top directors, John Ford, George Marshall and Henry Hathaway. Film production being what it is, the same film today would cost in excess of \$300 million to produce.

Its unique five-part story line centering on the fictional Prescott family from the 1830s to the 1890s attracted many of Hollywood's then biggest stars. John Wayne, Henry Fonda, Jimmy Stewart, Debbie Reynolds, Gregory Peck, Carroll Baker, Richard Widmark, Robert Preston, Walter Brennan and many others all signed on for the sprawling epic. Everyone cut their normal asking price per film dramatically just to be a part of the biggest American story ever filmed. Wayne, the top movie star in the world

at the time, was getting \$500,000 a film but agreed to play a major cameo as General William Tecumseh Sherman for \$25,000. Hollywood legend Spencer Tracy loaned his authoritative voice to the evocative narration that still after almost fifty years seems as appropriate and inspiring as it did back in 1963.

Released in the U.S. only eight months before the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas on November 22, 1963, *How the West Was Won* captured how we then felt about ourselves as a nation of dreamers and doers. The frontier and the West had always offered new beginnings, new opportunities, not without risk or even failure, but always with the promise to be able to pick yourself up, dust yourself off and start all over again over the next horizon.

Upon its initial theatrical release, the sprawling epic grossed over \$45 million in the U.S. alone, the equivalent of almost \$350 million today. The film was also hugely popular in most of the rest of the free world, especially Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. In London alone, which hosted the film's world premiere four months before its U.S. opening, *How the West Was Won* played to packed theaters in Piccadilly Square, incredibly for over a full year.

How the West Was Won started simply enough as a seven-part series chronicling the settling of the American West that ran in *Life* magazine in 1959. Heavily illustrated with period art from the likes of Bierstadt, Russell and Remington, the series was an instant success that was read by over 25 million Americans. Singer Bing Crosby soon bought the rights to base a musical tribute to the songs of the pioneer era on.

There was just something special about the title *How the West Was Won* that had captured Americans then collective appreciation of their Western heritage. Urban city dwellers, recent immigrants and minority groups like American Indians and Hispanics, who had certainly suffered historical injustices, still shared a common history as yet untainted by political correctness, one that was then avidly taught in schools and celebrated publicly across the country. As Spencer Tracy's introductions states, “But the land had to be won, won from nature and primitive man.” There was no editorializing, just statement of fact with the implied conclusion that in the end we all finally came together to become Americans.

In the early 1960s, the studios hoped that big films on big screens would lure audiences away from the small black and white television sets in their living rooms. Big stories set against epic historical backdrops like *The Alamo* (1960), *Ben Hur* (1959), *El Cid* (1961), *The Longest Day* (1962) and *Spartacus* (1960) all ushered in the era of the road show engagement that promised wide screen scope and entertainment, with advance ticket sales that sometimes played from three months to over a year at the same theater.

The massive Cinerama process that *How the West Was Won* was eventually filmed in, first debuted in 1952. These early spectacular Cinerama travelogs gave the audiences an optimum film viewing experience that was forty-feet high and covered the full spectrum of a viewer's peripheral vision with two curved side screens that blended into the huge main screen. A much different viewing concept than today's giant IMAX films that seem to just overpower the viewer through their sheer size.

In 1960, a concept like *How the West Was Won* seemed tailor made for Cinerama. The Cinerama Corporation and MGM soon partnered up and bought the rights from Crosby for what would be the first of only two produced dramatic Cinerama films, the other being *The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm*. The varied landscapes of the western United States would be film's star as much as the well-known actors. Every department on the MGM studio lot was soon engrossed enthusiastically in preparing for the making of this very special epic – from wardrobe and casting to props, locations, transportation and music.

Head producer Bernard Smith had only produced one film, the Academy Award winning *Elmer Gantry* (1960), just the year before. But, he had been heavily involved in the film industry as a top executive at several studios for a number of years with a previous background in publishing that was strong on Western American history. Smith quickly tapped top screenwriter James R. Webb for the

task of creating a credible and exciting group of interconnecting storylines that would also feature visually spectacular scenes that would show off Cinerama's best film qualities, without taking the viewer away from the human story. Webb was uniquely equipped for such a challenge, a Colorado native, he had penned the scripts for some of the industry's top Westerns and war films including *The Big Country* (1958), *Pork Chop Hill* (1959) and *Vera Cruz* (1954).

By late May 1961, all of the massive preparations were in place, 107 covered wagons had been constructed as well as major parts of a breakaway railroad train. Thousands of period costumes were also made with hard to find authentic fabrics from India and Pakistan. Accurate buckskin mountain man and frontiersmen outfits were custom made and properly aged and 1500 pairs of Plains Indian moccasins were bought up from western reservations. The 800-pound Cinerama cameras picked up minute details that normally would pass scrutiny on other film processes, so machine stitching was deemed unacceptable.

The locations would prove to be not only spectacular, but often challenging to film. One of the three directors, Henry Hathaway, who directed three of the five segments, told an interviewer back in 1983 that, "Except for the interiors, which were all filmed at MGM, we were on wilderness locations almost all of the time."

Paducah, Kentucky and a number of other Ohio Valley



Thousands of head of cattle and buffalo were used in the film.



James Stewart as principal character Linus Rawlings

spots like Battery Rock were filmed for parts of the early River scenes, as well as the Civil War-era Prescott family farm that took place in essentially a similar area. Oregon's wild and rugged Rogue River was utilized for the tragic but exciting river raft down the rapids scenes. The wagon train sequences and first rousing Indian attack were shot in the Uncompahgre National Forest in south central Colorado employing hundreds of local Ute tribal members.

Custer State Park in South Dakota was the background for the railroad sequence that would feature perhaps the most visually exciting scene in the whole film – a 1,000 buffalo stampede that wrecks an entire Union Pacific construction camp. Monument Valley served as the location for the final Outlaws scenes with its spectacular train wreck filmed in Arizona's Tonto National Forest. For reasons that have never been fully explained, much of John Ford's Civil War scenes were filmed on a large soundstage back at MGM in Culver City, California. The scene between John Wayne's General Sherman and Ulysses Grant takes place at night and you can't really tell it's on a stage.

Robert Preston, who played the no nonsense wagon

master opposite Debbie Reynolds, remembered that the location filming with the huge Cinerama camera that could catch every detail could be grueling. "Every time you moved the camera ten feet you had to dress another 200 acres." Almost 900 head of livestock, including 600 horses and 150 mules, were gathered for the production, not including the 1,000 buffalo that it took two months to gather up in Custer State Park. It took over 200 cowboy wranglers to keep everyone mounted and safe and 350 Indians from various western tribes were recruited for two major battle scenes.

The thousand buffalo stampede that leveled the film's railroad camp still stands as the largest buffalo scene ever filmed for any film. The three screen Cinerama cameras made the scenes thunder across the screen with an impact that even today could not be equaled with all of the state of the art computerized gimmickry now available to filmmakers. The spectacular train wreck that climaxed the film's action tragically cost one stuntman a leg. Stunt veteran Bob Morgan, the husband of the late actress Yvonne DeCarlo, was partially crushed when a group of

logs unexpectedly broke free during the final pile up of railroad cars. In true stuntman fashion, Morgan eventually recovered and started a new career as a character actor, and continued riding horseback as if he still had both legs.

When all was said and done, the gathering of top filmmakers, stars and crewmembers had more than accomplished what they set out to do; chronicle the epic story of this nation's westward movement through the eyes and emotions of one family and their children. Between the *Life* magazine series, the number of top stars involved and a large number of news items on the unusual filming of *How the West Was Won*, there was a high degree of anticipation for the film's release.

When the curtains pulled back on the huge Cinerama screens that early spring of 1963, audiences and critics alike weren't disappointed. The opening film score alone by five-time Academy Award winner Alfred Newman almost took the viewers breath away with its combination of "blood and thunder" period melodies. At both the beginning and the end of the film, the chorus booms proudly along with the spectacular orchestration. "*Bound for land, across the Plains their wagons rolled. Hell bent for leather, that's how the west was won!*"

Screenwriter Webb's storyline had been so well thought out, cast and filmed that the actors were every bit as much a match for the magnificent landscapes they were inhabiting on the giant Cinerama screen. James Stewart brought

brawling mountain man Linus Rawlings to vivid life, even through Carroll Baker's Eve Prescott eventual successful attempt to domesticate the friendly, but raucous fur trapper. Seeing Stewart actually handle a canoe on the extra wide film screen made the scenes look like something right out of an Alfred Jacob Miller painting of such real mountain man scenes done in the 1830s.

Baker and the ever-sprightly Debbie Reynolds were perfectly cast as the two opposites of sisters with Reynolds yearning to escape the life of a farmer's wife for the lights of the big city. Yet Reynolds' lively Lilith is the one character that manages to bridge the generations and experience more of the film's westward movement – the Rivers, Gold Rush and the Outlaws – than any other character. Late in the film, as she watches her and her late husband's fabulous possessions be auctioned off in their foreclosed mansion in San Francisco, she proudly proclaims, "We made and spent three fortunes together, and if he had lived we'd have made and spent a fourth." And what does she do, a now destitute widow in her eighties? She goes off to live with her nephew Zeb Rawling's family, played by George Peppard, on the last frontier of the time in Arizona Territory of 1890.

Peppard's Zeb, Union veteran, Indian wars cavalry officer and finally Arizona lawman, also bridges three story lines, though through fewer years. One of my personal favorite scenes in the film is when, in the aftermath of the Civil War, Peppard explains to his brother why he feels the need to move West, just like their father before him. He then does a wonderful imitation of Jimmy Stewart to explain his own wanderlust, just the way a son might indeed mimic his beloved father. "*I just wanted to go somewhere and a bear happened to be there first.*" I guess I just want to go somewhere, too."

How the West Was Won was nominated for eight Academy Awards including Best Picture, Best Screenplay, Best Cinematography and Best Music Score. It won three Oscars including Best Screenplay. Yet its importance and endurance go far beyond mere awards. A few years ago, it was chosen for preservation by the American Film Institute, something that only happens to a select small group of films every year.

Two years ago, Warner Brothers, who now own the film, pumped well over a \$1,000,000 into a newly refurbished and digitally remastered print that virtually eliminates the screen joints, or lines where the film for the three screens met. George Feltenstein, Warner's Senior VP in charge of such things, said that, "The film has always been extraordinarily successful and popular, with the cast being what it is and the story being so inspiring." Kevin Costner, no slouch when it comes to Western films, has said publicly that *How the West Was Won* was one of the most influential films in inspiring him to go into the film business.



Henry Fonda as mountain man Jethro Stuart and George Peppard as Zeb Rawlings, son of Stewart's character Linus Rawlings.



Pioneers and the Prescott family in the 1962 film *How the West Was Won*. Actor Karl Malden (foreground) as Zebulon Prescott, Debbie Reynolds (fourth from left) as Lily Prescott, Agnes Moorehead as Rebecca Prescott, Brian Russell as Zeke Prescott, Kim Charney as Sam Prescott and Carroll Baker as Eve Prescott, among other actors.

The epic film's popularity still bodes well even when compared with the modern TV remake of four years ago, TNT's *Into the West*. One of the new production's biggest problems was that the mainly young writers, producers and directors, let alone the modern actors, had to all play catch up. They didn't know the West, they didn't love the West, it was just a job. *Into the West* displays none of the wonder, adventure or human sorrow and pride that *How the West Was Won* still serves up to audiences today almost effortlessly. The newer film is all political correctness with clumsy attempts at balance. *How the West Was Won* still recognized the plight of the American Indian without condescension and showed the courage of the common pioneers without overly adulation. When the new Blu-ray version of *How the West Was Won* came out last year, the *New York Times* entertainment section stated, "The best reason for buying a Blu-ray player right now is Warner Home Video's new high-definition version of *How the West Was Won*."

Today, it appears popular culture seems to have chosen different paths than seeking film depictions of the quality and spirit of pioneering Americans. Ranching

and rural America seems to have a distinct advantage of raising their families on western lands that often go back generations, still with a recognition of the kind of values and courage that *How the West Was Won* so admirably told put on screen.

As Spencer Tracy's powerful ending narration states:

"The West that was won by its pioneers, settlers and adventurers is gone now. Yet it is theirs forever. For they left tracks that will never be eroded by wind nor rain, never plowed under by tractors, never buried by the compost of events. For out of the hard simplicity of their lives, out of their vitality, their hopes and sorrows grew legends of courage and pride to inspire and encourage their children and their children's children ... all the heritage of a people free to dream, free to act, free to mold their own destiny."

We live in challenging times where a number of America's new political leaders seem intent upon taking away much of our self-determination and freedom under the guise of protecting us from ourselves. Maybe its time for another history lesson, the kind of straight forward, yet still entertaining one that *How the West Was Won* provided for several whole generations not that many years ago.



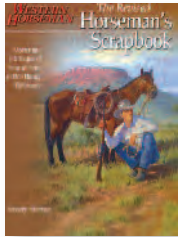
RECOMMENDED READING

Here are some great reads to add to your nightstand.
Some of the books are brand new; some are older releases but are worth a look.

The Revised Horseman's Scrapbook

Randy Steffen

www.westernhorseman.com

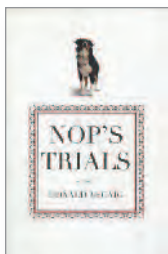


I have been reading *Western Horseman* magazine since I learned to read. The seventy-three year old publication has survived by progressing over the years to a new and evolving reader. But, some things are forever, things like learning to tie an alamar knot with your mecate or fixing up a new saddle stand. The late artist, writer and renaissance Westerner, Randy Steffen, created a series of booklets for *Western Horseman* in the late 1950s and 60s that were filled with common sense wisdom that were supported by wonderful line drawings. In their wisdom, *Western Horseman* editors have re-published all of Mr. Steffen's work-for-hire suggestions in this new book. Best 15 bucks you'll ever spend. (See more of this book in our "Of Note" section in this issue.)

Nop's Trials

Donald McCaig

www.lyonspress.com



This book has been around for quite some time – since 1984 – but continues to captivate readers who, like me, are suckers for great dog stories. It's Christmas Day when we meet Lewis Burkholder, a West Virginia livestock farmer and sheepdog trainer, and his talented young Border Collie, Nop. The usually happy holiday is shattered when Nop is stolen from his owner. *Nop's Trials* is the

story of Nop's fate, the abuse and brutality he suffers and his incredible resiliency. It's a touching tale of a Border Collie's undying desire to do his job and serve his master, and it explores the depth of love and devotion that a dog and a human can feel toward each other. This poignant novel of courage and love is a modern classic.

Vaqueros, Cowboys and Buckaroos

Lawrence Clayton, Jim Hoy and Jerald Underwood

www.utexas.edu/utpress

In this essential volume for any student of the horseback West, three long-time students of the American West describe the history, working practices and folk culture of vaqueros, cowboys and buckaroos. They draw on historical records, contemporary interviews and numerous photographs to demonstrate what makes each group of mounted herders distinctive in terms of working methods, gear, dress, customs and speech. This comparative work brings the mythical image of the American cowboy into focus and detail and honors the regional and national variations. It will be a fundamental resource for anyone who would know or portray the cowboy – readers, writers, songwriters and artists among them.

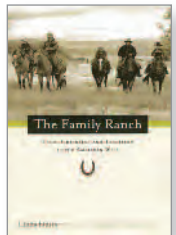


The Family Ranch

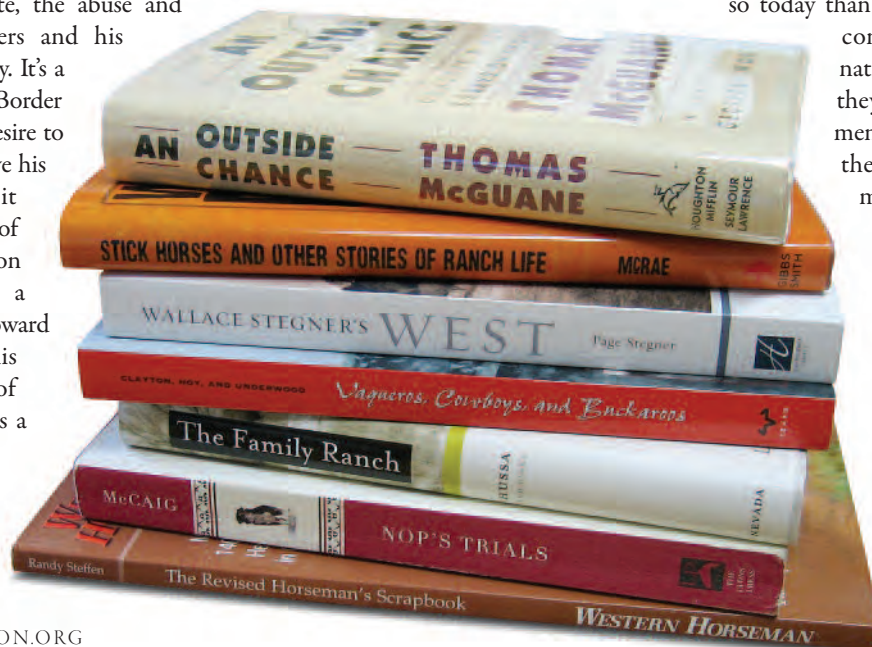
Linda Husa

www.unpress.nevada.edu/books

Author Linda Husa brings us this delightful, in-depth book about ranch families and wonderfully successful parenting styles in the rural West today, using six families as the foundation. The reader is immersed in the story from the very beginning. As a stabilizing force in the American West, ranch families play a critical role in our country, perhaps more



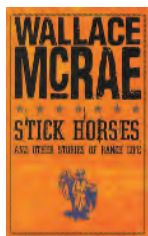
so today than ever before. They contribute to our nation with the food they raise, the environments they protect and the resources they manage – and they preserve our Western heritage while doing so. This is an important book, especially during these challenging times.



Stick Horses and Other Stories of Ranch Life

Wallace McRae

www.gibbs-smith.com



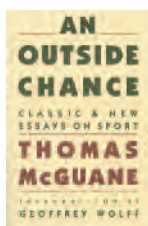
The world-at-large got their first glimpse of Wally McRae as he stood on stage in Elko during the “early” poetry gatherings of the 1980s. And, after they heard his signature poem, “Reincarnation,” their concept of poetry changed forever. Part Montana rancher and part cowboy philosopher, Wally McRae has given us true-life stories about cowboys, Indians, ranch hands, sheriffs and the

milieu of characters that populated the legendary American West. McRae tells about his heroes as well as hometown vagabonds who came and went through the landscape while he was growing up as a ranch kid and his adult life as a third-generation Montana rancher.

An Outside Chance

Thomas McGuane

www.amazon.com



This book was originally published in 1980 and contains some of Tom McGuane’s most enduring short, non-fiction works on horses, fishing and hunting – all McGuane passions. This edition of McGuane’s 1980 collection of the same title contains five new pieces. In classic McGuane form, he takes the reader by the hand, into the cab of the pick-up as we join him on his journeys “outside.”

Many of the selections have been printed in journals and magazines but this collection is a wonder, giving the McGuane junkies of the world their own collection of writings by one of America’s most significant writers working today.

Wallace Stegner’s WEST

Edited by Page Stegner

www.heydaybooks.com



Stegner – winner of a Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award – devoted his career to writing about the West. As the director and founder of Stanford University’s creative writing program, he helped influence the likes of Wendell Berry, Edward Abbey, Larry McMurtry and Barry Lopez. He fought not only for recognition of a Western cultural base, but also for the protection

of the region’s delicate environment. The West was not simply a source of inspiration to Stegner, but a state of mind – a revelatory concept to many people at the time. His writing, however, remains the centerpiece of his legacy. A brilliant observer and a master of language, few writers have come close to capturing the essence of Western life as well as Wallace Stegner.



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Some cowboy poems that have come our way.

RATTLESNAKES AND TOURISTS

We have a mountain pasture
With a clear and sparkling stream.
It's pretty as a picture,
Like many artist's dream.

We pasture purebred cattle there.
It makes our summer range.
But there are a couple problems
That I'd really like to change.

This pasture has two varmints
That make our cattle flee.
And every time I ride the range,
I know these two I'll see.

The first one is the rattlers.
The snake dens do abound.
I really have to watch my step
When riding through 'Snake Town.'

Our cattle know to run away
Or leave the snakes alone.
But yet, they have to graze the fields
For that's their summer home.

The second critter is the worst,
As far as cows, I know.
'Sides keeping cattle off the grass
They guard the H2-O.

Trespassers, snoopers, tourists...
They're all a common breed.
They alight upon the creek banks
And trample lots of feed.

The snoopers and the rattlers
Are much the same I find
For neither one knows how to read
A posted "KEEP OUT" sign.

But of the two I know which one
I'd rather have to take:
The one that doesn't litter
Is the good old rattlesnake.

© Copyright Terry Henderson

THE TENDERFOOT

His pickup truck was bright and clean.
He had sharp creases in his jeans.
The belt he wore was tooled and had his name.
His boots were shined and weren't no shame.
A drugstore cowboy, as all could see –
He even looked that way to me.

The boss said for me to put him to work,
Even thought he looked like a tenderfoot jerk.
So we caught up two half-broken mares.
I knew this would catch him unawares.
As I pushed him into the saddle tight,
I breathed a prayer that he would be all right.

The third jump of the flying steed,
The tenderfoot looked like he had peed.
He hung onto the saddle horn.
The right arm of his shirt had torn.
On the fifth or sixth bucking jump,
The tenderfoot was lying on his rump.

When it looked as though he had run the course,
I caught up his old bucking horse.
By then the boy was brushing off the dirt.
I checked him over! He wasn't even hurt.
So we rode out of the big ranch yard,
Me and my new drugstore pard.

As we pushed the cattle out of the draw,
He proved to be the worst I ever saw.
Along about noontime we took a break,
Building a fire, we each cooked a steak.

Wasn't long afterwards I felt nature call,
So out in the sagebrush I gave it my all.
As I walked back to the place we called camp,
I could see in a heartbeat my pard in a cramp.
Looking over at him I had a big grin,
Was he a-hurting or thinking of sin.
So I started to question the new cowhand
Soon it was apparent he had no plan.
To clean up if he went out to the sage,
No paper had he, not a catalog page.

"What do you use when you go out there?
When you came back you had no care."

"Well, look! Cowboy," I said to him,
"If no hanky or pine tree limb,
I have even been known to use a leaf.
Sometimes I know it's a bit of grief.
When emergency calls me over the hill,
No paper around, I use a dollar bill."

So off to the weeds the cowpoke ran.
I do believe he had to use the can.

When he came back it was plain he had to go,
The Tenderfoot was covered from head to toe.

Looking at him I really had a tickle,
This boy from the East was in a pickle.
Instead of a bill he used THREE QUARTERS,
TWO DIMES AND A NICKEL.

Dr. Will May



Leslie's Saddle - Fred's Saddle
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PARAGON FOUNDATION MEMORIALS

In Memory of Kenneth C. Shahan of Lovington, New Mexico
From Eddy & Rebecca Coleman of Cloudcroft, NM
From Beverly Rich of Pasadena, TX

In Memory of Bern & Ann Lessentine of Lakeside, Ohio
From Richard & Kim Lessentine of Tularosa, NM

**In Memory of Ben Cain of Truth or Consequences,
New Mexico**
From Stella Montoya of La Plata, NM

In Memory of Phil Harvey, Sr. of Roswell, New Mexico
From Stella Montoya of La Plata, NM

In Memory of Alice King
From Stella Montoya of La Plata, NM

In Memory of Harley May of Deming, New Mexico
From Harvery & Florence Gipple of Downey, CA

In Memory of Oscar & Velma Huber of Seguin, Texas
From Dennis & Ellen Huber of McQueeney, TX

In Memory of Byron & Kathy Carlson of La Villa, Texas
From Dennis & Ellen Huber of McQueeney, TX

In Memory of Claudia Fay Harris of La Plata, New Mexico
From Robert & Dorothy Jennings of La Plata, NM

In Memory of Lanell Baird of Aztec, New Mexico
From Robert & Dorothy Jennings of La Plata, NM

In Memory of John Robert Jones of Ozona, Texas
From Robert & Dorothy Jennings of La Plata, NM

In Memory of Eunice Dean Nunn
From Carl & Barbara Johnson of Tatum, NM
From V. Brownfield and Family of El Paso, TX
From the Lee Family of Alamogordo, NM
From Jeff & Lora Nell Glenn of Silver City, NM

In Memory of Darla Jackson of Kim, Colorado
From Southern Colorado Livestock Association of Kim, CO

In Memory of Lon Jackson of Kim, Colorado
From Southern Colorado Livestock Association of Kim, CO

In Memory of Maxine Albertson of Hoehne, Colorado
From Southern Colorado Livestock Association of Kim, CO

In Memory of Richard Loudon of Branson, Colorado
From Southern Colorado Livestock Association of Kim, CO

In Memory of Lucille Lewis Schueltz
From Jane and Jonna Lou Schafer of Dell City, TX

In Memory of Andy Lewis
From Jane and Jonna Lou Schafer of Dell City, TX

In Memory of Patty Jennings
From Jane and Jonna Lou Schafer of Dell City, TX

In Memory of Charles Fielding Cleve
From Robert E. & Evelyn McKee Foundation of El Paso, TX

In Memory of Richard & Florene Parker of Beaver, Oklahoma
From Steve & Linda Parker of Beaver, OK

In Memory of Don Taylor of Alamogordo, New Mexico
From Bill, Linda & Ellie Taylor of Pinon, NM

In Memory of Rusty Tinuin
From J. I. Williams of Panhandle, TX

In Honor of Smokey Nunn
From Carl & Barbara Johnson of Tatum, NM

**In Honor of Theron & Jean McGarry of McGarry Ranches in
Rexburg, Idaho**
From Sue Foxwell of Cambridge, MD

In Memory of Kenneth C. Shahan of Lovington, New Mexico
From Eddy & Rebecca Coleman of Cloudcroft, NM
From Beverly Rich of Pasadena, TX

In Memory of Bern & Ann Lessentine of Lakeside, Ohio
From Richard & Kim Lessentine of Tularosa, NM

**In Memory of Ben Cain of Truth or Consequences,
New Mexico**
From Stella Montoya of La Plata, NM

In Memory of Phil Harvey, Sr. of Roswell, New Mexico
From Stella Montoya of La Plata, NM

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**In Honor of Theron & Jean McGarry of McGarry Ranches in
Rexburg, Idaho**
From Sue Foxwell of Cambridge, MD



OUT THERE



Photo by TSgt. Krebs

This Fourth of July we ask that everyone take a minute from the parades and barbeques to remember all of our courageous men and women – who are “out there” – helping to keep us safe. One in particular is thought about in the PARAGON office on a rather constant basis. Nicole’s husband and Brittany’s dad – Air Force Technical Sergeant Anthony Krebs.



On the last page of each issue, we will leave you somewhere in America where work is going on, lives are being lived and families are doing their best. Send us your photo from OUT THERE. If we publish it you’ll receive a pair of PARAGON mugs. See our website for details. www.paragonfoundation.org

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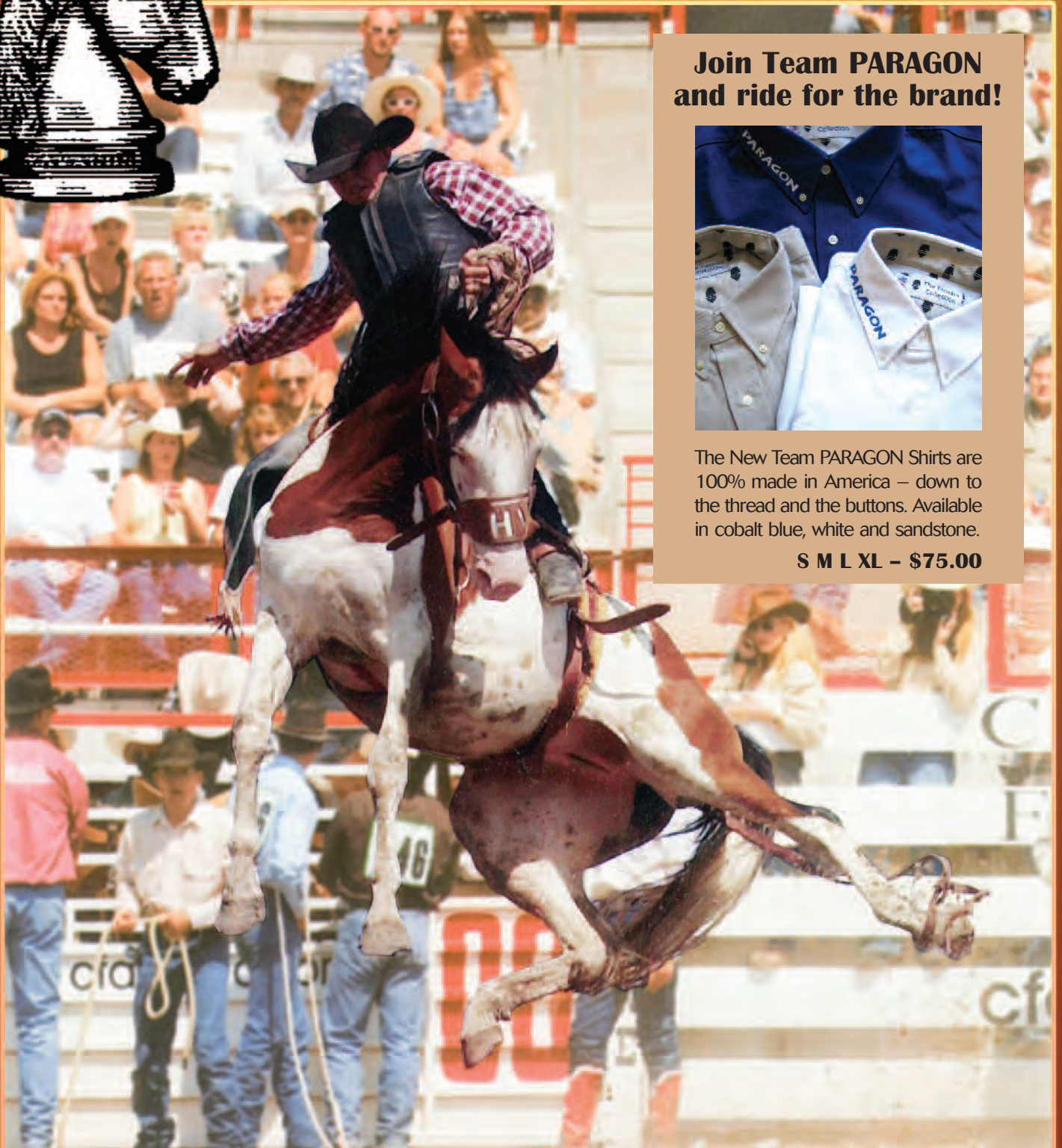


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