

**Opinion from
America's Outback**

TOO WET/TOO COLD/TOO HOT

Love that *RANGE* shows the real life of ranchers, not some phony dream world. On October 28 the thermometer registered five below at 7 a.m. when we rode out to gather our pairs in the snow at our ranch north of Miles City, Mont. We couldn't postpone this



SELFIE © REBECCA COLNAR MOTT

as our buyer was sending trucks for the steers that morning. One blessing is we had minimal wind and the sun shone brightly. Steers were depressingly light; unfortunately, we contracted them earlier in the summer using their usual heavier weight. Frustrating. This summer we had to battle greedy grasshopper infestations which cut back on forage and haying, and although we had summer rain, everyone has been saying grass is “washy”—i.e., not as nutritious as it should have been. There are never completely good across-the-board conditions in ranching. Too wet, too dry, too hot, too cold, too many insects, not enough water, too much water, not enough green grass, too much green grass. Sigh!

REBECCA COLNAR MOTT
CUSTER, MONTANA

Keep up the good work! I am 85 years old and have never thought I would see such a mess happen to this country. Hopefully the work that you do will help open a lot of eyes.

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT SENTMAN, TIFFIN, IOWA

A retired merchant seaman who was a neighbor to my parents had many sea stories to tell when I hung out with him as a teenager. He also taught me many handy things, which were helpful in life. The exception was when one day he took me to the side and said,

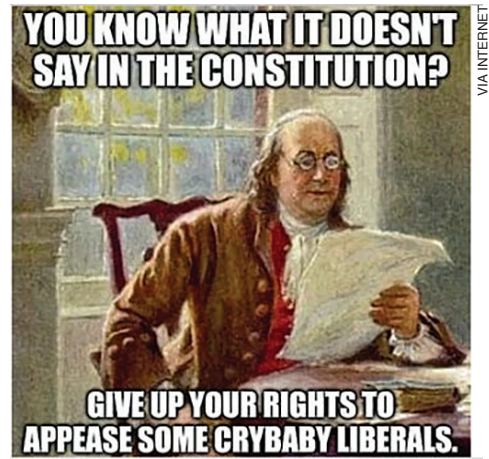
society finds it acceptable for government to search you, spy on you, steal your vote, deprive you of work, close church doors, force experimental gene-therapy drugs into you, tax you without your consent, etc., all in the name of the greater good. People accept this

The despicable government of the modern era, which has torn the Bill of Rights to shreds, has dragged America into the sewer.

nonsense out of ignorance and out of fear.

Before history is rewritten any further, remember that America thrived under a government that secured an individual's unalienable rights. The despicable government of the modern era, which has torn the Bill of Rights to shreds, has dragged America into the sewer.

Imagine a free society. Imagine the people embracing our heritage of freedom



VIA INTERNET

“When going through life, steal what you can.” I was perplexed and had no answer, but after a long pause and he had given it enough time to sink in, he continued, “but only with your eyes and ears.” Always give those credit from whom you “stole” the idea or practice.

PETER JELITO, LEANDER, TEXAS

WHO HAS ME?

RANGE sucks way too much to renew. Big Ag has you by the spine.

[BRAVELY] ANONYMOUS
DENVER, COLORADO

Any detractors of your efforts have never walked your path and most likely are not equipped to do so anyway. As an aside, I espe-

and rejecting the theft of our rights. Freedom requires individual effort. Instead of being searched like a criminal at the airport, a person can retain his Fourth Amendment right by not flying. If enough people stop flying, the searches would cease and society would be a little bit freer.

The cell phone and smart meter that monitors one's electrical use are devices that steal a person's right to privacy. With some effort, a person can discard these devices and regain some right to privacy. Our right to a free press can be advanced by getting rid of the television. If Big Brother is going to control media content, then, with some effort, a person can read a classic instead of watching a program. It takes effort to throw off the yoke of tyranny.

Let us return to the beginning: America with a government whose sole purpose is to secure our unalienable rights.

ROGER WHITTEN
DEER PARK, WASHINGTON

OPPOSING GROUPTHINK

According to the Declaration of Independence, the purpose of government is to secure our unalienable rights. Frederick Douglass states that a person in possession of his rights is free while a person who has had his rights stolen is a slave. Our rights are what matter.

Today's American wants government to save the planet, provide an income, control our schools, protect us from viruses, engage in social engineering and wage wars against self-created threats. The concept that we have rights, and therefore are not to be treated as criminals or slaves, has become a vague mystery of enlightenment that most so-called Americans never contemplate for fear of stepping outside of the herd and being branded by our handlers as “right-wing extremists.”

It is far easier to accept slavery than to be ostracized for rejecting groupthink. Society in general accepts the groupthink that Big Brother has imposed upon us. For example,



RANDY SHIPMAN

cially like the letters signed anonymous. I had anonymous deface one of my pickups this fall because of my tailgate.

RANDY SHIPMAN, ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

I am an old sheepherder, cowboy, and ranch worker. Wish I could do it still.

JACK GRAHAM, FORT BRIDGER, WYOMING

STAY CIVILIZED

Your photo contest winners are really a joy to the eye. Have you ever considered putting together a special collection for sale? I'd buy some and send them to my friends who have trouble understanding that milk comes from cows. Keep the home fires burning and always remember...when in doubt, shoot first and ask questions later.... Please stick with paper. It's civilized and predictable. And I can hold it in my hand.

DENNIS BARK, PORTOLA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
Send a request noting photo/page/issue date of image you like and I will forward it to the photographer who owns the copyright. I planned to offer posters from one image per issue decades ago...but haven't quite pulled that off.—Ed.

I value my printed copies, but the digital age is here. Most of us over 50 would still prefer the printed version on our coffee table, camp, or latrine. The younger generation, including ranchers, are tuned into the digital era. The cost of any enterprise is determined by "how to control expenses" in order to survive. For *RANGE*, as [for] other publications, print versus digital?

DICK BRUGA, DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
Digital might be good for gadget users and people in foreign countries because they can pay by major credit card and receive via email for \$9.95 per year. Postage alone from Nevada to London is \$12 per issue now. And thanks to our current anti-American leaders our expenses are out of control so I had to raise prices for the first time since 1992.—Ed.

I've been laughing out loud alone in my room. ["Up Front," Winter 2023/2024] I hope your new hire turns out to be exactly what you needed.

DONNA ANDRESS, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
Brandi is most welcome and adds to the talents of Angie and Deborah.—Ed.

I read *RANGE* voraciously when it comes. It's always a treat and I wish it came more often but then maybe the quality would wain and there is nary a story that I don't read and re-read many times over. Your last issue touched on Modoc country which we vacationed at in our youth. We have long lost relatives there and our paternal grandfather was a little bit of a horse trader, so my father was familiar with the area.

We get your magazine through my mom's subscription, and I'll take it up when she passes but she just turned 95 and is in good health so it could be a while.

JAMES JENKINS
 SOMEWHERE IN CALIFORNIA

COMMON SENSE & SANITY

We are ordering a gift for some hardworking cattle people who have lived some pretty incredible times themselves. Bless you there at *RANGE* for your dedication, common sense, and sanity.

SCOTT & TANYA HARDGROVE
 HYSHAM, MONTANA

It was wonderful to see our Mount Shasta as your centerfold and Larry Turner's article "The Long View" about Modoc County in



NOLA RIZZARDO

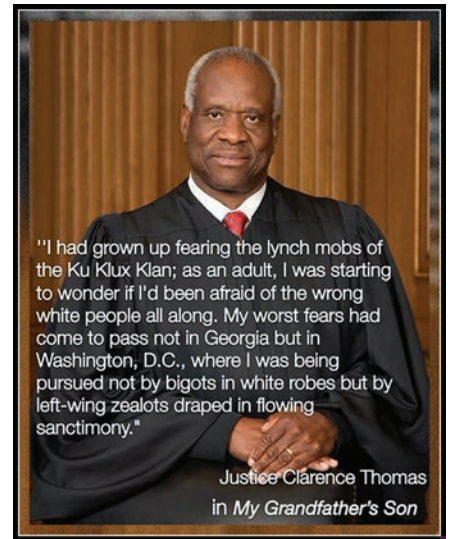
Winter 2023/2024. We are the real Northern California. Every view is spectacular. This is what we see from our home. Whoever is viewing the mountain feels that they have the prettiest view. We read your magazine from cover to cover, then share it with family. Keep up the great work you do; we must hold on to

what made this such a great country. God bless the U.S.A.

NOLA RIZZARDO
 MONTAGUE, CALIFORNIA

Having spent a good deal of my boyhood on my grandfather's cattle ranch, many of the photos in your 2024 cowboy calendar brought tears to my eyes. And the new *RANGE* is just spectacular, as usual. I wish I had your gifts.

JIM PETERSEN, DALTON GARDENS, IDAHO
Thanks, but you and Evergreen Foundation have outclassed RANGE for years.—Ed.



VIA INTERNET

THOSE WERE THE DAYS...

It was a surprise and great pleasure to read Steve Wilmeth's "Piggly Wiggly to the Potrillos" in Winter 2023/2024 about my Cal Poly classmate and friend, Dudley Williams.

Neither one of us will divulge a thing that happened in our time at San Luis Obispo or the subsequent year adventures other than our wonderful experiences largely centered around horses. Ranching is dear to both of us. My small herd has helped me stay young and appreciate what larger ranchers have to endure to make a living and what it takes to keep fighting the battle that seems to come from all sides, especially the government and its bureaucrats. Thank you so much for this reminder of our way of life and what our California heritage was. It was a grand place.

TIM DIRKES, DESCANSO, CALIFORNIA

Re "Piggly Wiggly to the Potrillos" in Winter 2023/2024. I am the granddaughter of the writer and I've had the distinct pleasure of lis-

tening to stories from these two remarkable men: one with whom I share family blood [rancher Steve Wilmeth on right], and another with whom I share a rich family her-



COURTESY STEPHEN L. WILMETH

itage [Dudley Williams on left]. I have witnessed the extraordinary friendship between these two individuals, who meet weekly at Cattle Baron in Las Cruces, N.M. Their choice of venue is not just because it serves beef, which they both enjoy, but also because it provides a quiet enough environment for their conversations.

I first encountered this article while attending Texas Tech University. As a member of the Greek community, I found humor in the references to “Phelt-a-Thi.” Let’s be honest: if that were a real fraternity, we would all be in for quite the experience, regardless of how many years have passed. The shenanigans described are timeless and easily imaginable even in today’s context.

Thank you for publishing this exceptional story. Additionally, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my grandfather for spicing our lives with the presence and tales of Mr. Dudley.

EMMA KATHERINE MORALES
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

For more of Steve’s stories go to rangedex.com and search for “Wilmeth.”—Ed.

Thank you for your amazing magazine—how I wish I could make a generous donation to further your work, but things are a little tight financially—just want you to know that we truly appreciate all your hard work.

SABINE HAWKINS (30 YEARS IN WYOMING,
BORN IN GERMANY), LA BARGE, WYOMING

SPECIOUS RHETORIC

The “Land of (Dis)Enchantment” in Winter 2023/2024 by Jonathan Lesser rings especially true, progressives truly do not care. Globalists—socialistic communists—run progressives. Your article “Wind Power Cannot Be

Justified” by David Wojick also claims veracity. Again, the same entities rest solidly behind it. To combat supposed warming trends—climate change is always happening—plant trees and hold in the hot air of specious rhetoric. Still enjoying the Winter 2023/2024 issue. Keep at it. I have been resisting the commie-globalists for more than five decades.

J.E. CORBINE, FORT BENTON, MONTANA

SAY IT AIN’T SO!

Trump can never hold office!

DAVID MISSO, TULELAKE, CALIFORNIA
David, please cuddle a dog. It will help.—Ed.

This country is better off for folks like yourself coming here alone and making your own way, while adding to our rich history that has served to make this such a great country in such a short time. If I were 50 years younger and stroke free, I’d send you my original resume to help with the resistance to autocratic male and group think!

KENT PEARCE, GALT, CALIFORNIA

Sorry, C.J., Biden’s America is kicking my a -- and this country is going to snot in a handbasket as we speak. By and large too many Americans are just uninformed and dumb.

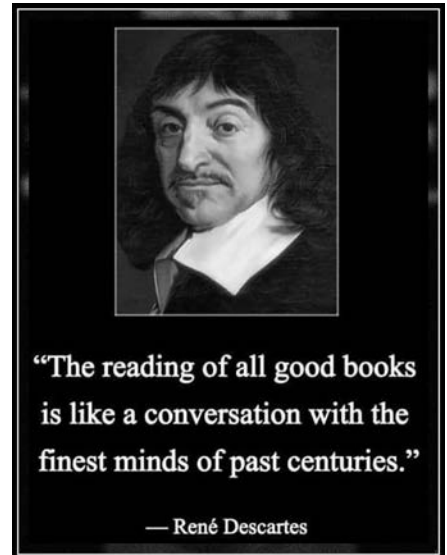
HAROLD ROSENBACH, ELMA, WASHINGTON



VIA INTERNET

TOO MANY LAWYERS

Here’s my response to Chuck Decker’s letter on page 35 of your recent Winter issue about lawyers. Growing up and still living on my generational family remote Badlands ranch, lawyers were and still are a quiet profession amongst us. If you needed one on rare occasions you knew where to find one. Now our TV ads are full of them begging for clientele. That blatantly tells me that our elite universi-



VIA INTERNET

ties are simply turning out far too many pettifoggers who give that “two percent” of decent ones a bad name and bad jokes. My dad explained it best, saying: “A lawyer came into this little old cow town but was near starvation until another lawyer moved in and hung up a shingle across the street. Amazingly they both flourished. The West didn’t need lawyers until a lawyer showed up.”

BILL LOWMAN
SENTINEL BUTTE, NORTHEAST DAKOTA

I have enjoyed *RANGE* for well over 20 years. Looking back always got a lot out of articles written by Dave Skinner. An article by Theodora Johnson in the Fall 2019 issue called “Inconvenient Truths”—about a little common sense on Klamath Dam removal would go a long way—is something we can apply to life in general. Seems common sense has gone out the window. *RANGE* brings things back in focus.

DONNA DELP, BALLANTINE, MONTANA

I discovered your magazine quite by accident—at the Red Pill Expo in Iowa last August—but I absolutely love your magazine and would like to send along some support. Please extend my subscription and add a new one for my family. And whatever remains after taxes and all that, please use it in whatever areas you need.

LINDA DEBOLT, RENO, NEVADA

HOLD THE LINE

Here is my two-year renewal for a wonderful magazine that is full to the brim with truth and love of our great country...despite the evil

that has infiltrated Washington, D.C., and our major cities. God bless you and your great writers and continue to hold the line and inspire your readers with your spirit! Here's a little extra too for your efforts.

PAUL & MAUREEN LENNON
EAGLE, IDAHO

Thank you for keeping the presses rolling! I look forward to each issue and go through the old ones when I need my RANGE "fix."

DAVID SCHULER, NORTH FORK, IDAHO

DON'T BITE THE HAND...

We are losing the battle against wolves bad here in Wisconsin. [Government agents] are increasing the number of wolves they want in

the state because the Indian tribes want more wolves everywhere. They don't care about the farmers, ranchers, or their livestock. I guess Colorado will find out what we are dealing with. It's hard to believe people can be that naive and have not learned the golden rule yet. Don't bite the hand that feeds you!

KEITH ALFT JR., TIGERTON, WISCONSIN

I got the book "Face to Face" a week ago and love it. Please keep telling everyone what is going on. This country is in trouble and needs everyone's help.

PAUL EBNER, LANSING, IOWA
"Face to Face" won a Will Rogers Gold Medallion in Fort Worth in 2023 and honored with "Best Special Project" by Nevada Press Assn.—Ed.



VIA INTERNET

Hang tough. Don't let the uneducated and envi whackos get you down. We need you and your staff.

VERN KAYS, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

BLA, BLAH, BLATHER

November 11, 2023

Here on my small farm we synchronized heat on three cows in order to artificially inseminate them last Monday. I sell beef and a few really good replacement heifers.

My friend Russ does my AI'ing. With his 250 cows he is very busy, but finds time to help me. I always have the cows in the pen ready to run through the chute when he gets here. This day he was swamped.

He came at 7 a.m. I woke up at 3 a.m. with the old Dairyman alarm clock ringing in my head. After 35 years my internal clock has not reset.

I got a cup of coffee and turned on Fox news. The talking heads, paid millions in salaries to tell us what is wrong, were putting out the same old crap. No solutions, just he said this or she did that, war times two, gay versus straight, killing babies or God, president falling up the stairs, graft corruption, homelessness and crime, he's lying, she's lying, Blah, Blah, Blather.

I ambled out at dawn, which is 6:15 a.m. these days. I got the cows ready to run through the chute as Russ drove in the

yard. What are we looking for in a bull? Tender beef, heifer friendly, sexed semen moderate to bring the size of the cows down? I chose tenderness and calving ease EPD's with this crew. Bingo Bango Bongo, 45 minutes later we had the semen planted and talked seed sales. I gave him ideas and prices. He had to meet a bull customer. I had to eat breakfast and head out to deliver some grass seed.

When I came in the house I turned on

the news to see the weather. The million-dollar talking heads changed their names, genders, hair styles and skin color, but the same Blah, Blah, Blather. In contrast, Russ and I bred cows and planned plantings to enhance our world and feed people. I realized how overpaid, useless and destructive the media's Blah, Blah, Blather really is.

How or why is it we empower these folks and pay them millions to Blah, Blah, Blather?

Feeding folks, conservation, and raising families seems a lot more important than blather.

BILL THURSTON
GINGERSNAP FARM AND SEED
NORTH IDAHO, EASTERN WASHINGTON



ABOVE: Me. BELOW: Norman and Izzy.



Thank you for the wonderful book, "Face to Face." I read it as soon as I unwrapped it. I just turned 90 years old in August 2022 and in the Bible, it tells how God didn't use people until in their 100s, 90s, 80s. Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Caleb, Daniel, and others were in our age bracket before they had enough experience to do the work God had called them to do. You are doing His work by exposing the corruption in our nation and I am getting ready for something good to happen with my art and writing. So, you see, we are in great company. I feel like I just got my second wind. God's blessings.

BEVERLY WALTER, SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA
See p.23 to order "Face to Face" and p.81 to order our newest, "Cowboys, Dogs & Horses."—Ed.

AWAKENING!

I really appreciate how you are sticking up for the ranching families! All men and women of goodwill are connected by lines of light. Light being love. And we will prevail. We just must do the best we can in our local areas and help the effort where we can. This is the year of the awakening!

SUSANNA LEWIS FERRY, WESTCLIFFE, COLO.

I am 95 years old and roped till I was 90 against 40-year-olds. They ask how in hell did I do it. I raised rodeo cattle for 50 years. I still raise red meat. The best to you from me.

BILL PAETSCH, LEBANON, OREGON

You folks produce a beautifully illustrated and expertly edited magazine, which we read from cover to cover. More importantly, there are so

many of us who are grateful for your courage in printing the truth, for searching out and publishing articles from people who can provide needed information and analysis, and for being that voice in the wilderness. Keep up the good work you're doing. Our beloved country needs more patriots like you.

PAM WESSEL, LAVINA, MONTANA

ARMING THE LAMBS

I recently heard a quote on a cable channel: "A democracy is a lamb and two wolves voting on what's for dinner. A republic is a well-armed lamb disrupting the vote." You are arming the lambs.

ANTHONY MILLER, KUNA, IDAHO

I am a retired rancher and miss the way of life. So great! Thanks for helping keep it alive.

JOANNA HENTON, IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

Keep educating those who will listen and learn. I miss my days on the farm, skidding logs with Belgian horses, sleigh rides on moonlit nights and having meat that we raised and greens in the garden. "Those were the



VIA INTERNET

TRUTH & SENSE

Keep *RANGE* in print if you can. We have marginal Internet access and read our issue cover to cover, side-ways, and upside down. Then pass it along to neighbors and family unless we keep it for a special article. I'm sure it is hard to keep printing state-side with rising costs and overseas competition, but we sure encourage you to try your best. We'd even take a newsprint version and sacrifice the beautiful photos. We appreciate you and your voice of truth and common sense.

GENNA GRANADA
FRAZER, MONTANA

days, my friend...we thought they'd never end." I thought I would have that life forever.

MARLENE MEYERS, BEND, OREGON

RANGE will never be surpassed. Love and compassion for the common man. I was given one many years ago and I was hooked. CJ is the "Rush Limbaugh" of magazines!

RICH MEECE, VIA FACEBOOK

God Bless *RANGE*, keep the change and never stop kicking the greenie globalists in the brussels sprouts. Sack up, Billy!

H.D. CARTER
ERIE, COLORADO

Don't miss sharing this fabulous coffee-table book!

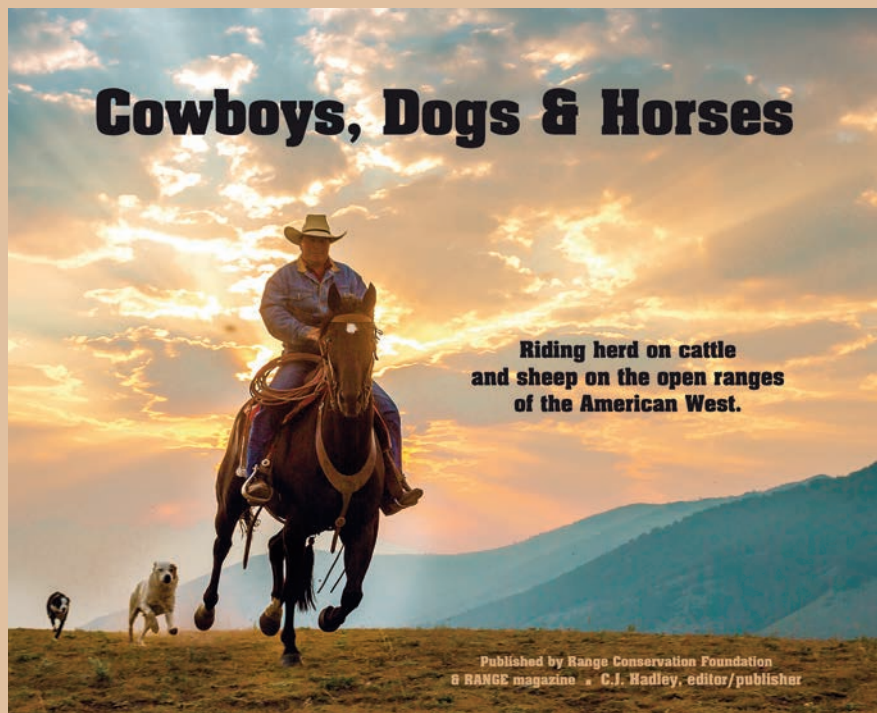
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