

## OUT ON THE RANGE

# Waiting for a Plane

*The blessed disadvantage of Big Hole Valley, Montana. Words & photos by Cynthia Baldauf.*

One day a local merchant in Wisdom, Mont., got a call from a potential visitor who had been looking at our Big Hole Valley tourism website. The traveler needed help finding information about our local airport. That night at the Antler Saloon one thing led to another and we decided we needed to include information about our airport.

I found some stinky old suitcases at the dump and after a little dumpster diving we got some residents involved for the photo shoot. Lacking funds, I was elected the photographer.

The cast of characters for this shoot were able and willing... but refuse to leave Wisdom. ■



*Andy Baldauf sits on his suitcase and waits with Dan Coon for departure on the next flight. They are beside the outhouse/ticket office/lounge. Contemplating taking the dog. Not worried about the weapon.*





*John Wilke drives the “doctor’s buggy” he recently restored. During the photo shoot it was determined he had never driven a carriage horse. He was a young man the last time he held the lines, but that was operating a horse-drawn buckrake during haying. Mikal Reese is our beautiful shuttle attendant and (below right) disappointed traveler who missed her plane. Standing behind the wagon are Kay Jacobson, elegant owner of the Silver Mine, Rick Land, a Wisdom visitor not wanting to go home, and Judy Everett, Wisdom resident and organizer of the town’s biggest annual fund-raiser for the upkeep of the Wisdom Community Building.*



*Cynthia Baldauf got her start at Shooting the West (see page 62) and specializes in ranch and agricultural photography—sometimes with a quirky viewpoint. Along with husband, Andy, she logs thousands of miles each year roaming the West. Contact her at [cgbaldauf@tds.net](mailto:cgbaldauf@tds.net) or [www.cynthiabaldaufimages.com](http://www.cynthiabaldaufimages.com).*