



Opinion from America's Outback

ENCOURAGED BY HONESTY

Congrats on the 20 awards from Nevada Press Association's annual contest for excellence in magazines in 2013. *RANGE* deserved every one of them. You've got braggin' rights! Furthermore, I'm encouraged by the honesty of the judges. That helps me overcome my cynical attitude and I needed that. Keep up the good work. This nation desperately needs *RANGE*.

CLAIRE GOLDRICK, BAYFIELD, COLORADO

Well-deserved awards! Hard work, determination, truth and integrity pay off.

JANE DAUGHERTY, VIA FACEBOOK

RANGE is the "rolling stone" for ranchers. Keep on rockin', CJ.

ALLEN CLYDE, CLYDE PACK OUTFIT & CATTLE COMPANY, CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA

See page 52.—Ed.

SNIVELING FANTASY

I had the misfortune to pick up your magazine today. As I perused the pages I started to feel as if I should be playing a violin, as whining seems to be the hallmark of your publication. Holy cow! Whatever happened to rolling up your sleeves and just getting on with it? Self-sufficient people shouldn't waste time feeling sorry for themselves because no one else feels sorry for you, so suck it up and get back to work. And where in the heck do you dig up your contributors? The John Birch Society? No wonder the general public just writes off rural issues! Simplistic paranoia only serves to turn our lives into a joke, while not informing the general public about anything new. Your magazine could do a lot more to educate people about rural life in the West without resorting to sniveling fantasy. Bottom line: I have never seen even one United Nations' truck in my neighborhood and

yes that is a black man in the White House—so get use [sic] to it. Not the same Republican BS that you are use [sic] to peddling I know—but in my America people aren't lapdogs to conservative think tanks as independent thought still prevails.

MIKE BENEFIELD, TERREBONNE, OREGON
I am a registered Democrat and delighted you read RANGE, but I am not surprised that you were unable to cite a single example of error, falsification of facts or, heaven forbid, outright lies. Do you scrutinize the liberal press to the same extent?—Ed.

NOT FOUND ELSEWHERE

I have just read Winter 2014 issue from cover to cover. This was a new and refreshing discovery of credible, in-depth journalistic writing on issues that are current and pertinent to all Americans. I am an East Coast transplant to rural Arizona of 20 years. The articles tied together politics, finance, international and wilderness topics that show much thought and work to present truth not found elsewhere. Thank you for the good work you do.

SYLVIA KURAS, GLOBE, ARIZONA

Every issue of *RANGE* is a cornucopia of thought and facts that bring traditional American excellence into focus. And with the forces of European-style socialism (and worse) lined up against us in schools and government, we need every tool we can acquire to fight back. I promote *RANGE* as often as possible to spread your messages out from our heartland to a wider audience.

Also, a note to Mr. Story of Tucson who says you need a shrink.... In my life, I have

known great leaders and thinkers and they all had in common boundless energy and some unusual traits. These things were necessary to enable their greatness. They drew around them people who could interpret this energy and those traits into action. From a tiny operation in Nevada, *RANGE* is restoring America one issue at a time. God bless.

STEVE BAYRD, WHITEWATER, CALIFORNIA

TRUCKERS FOR RANGE

I am one truck driver who loves *RANGE*.

ED DEUSENBERRY, VIA FACEBOOK



This sign is located on highway 204 between Elgin and Weston, Ore., on the south side of the road west of Blue Mountain Camp. I don't know who put it up. It is not an official range sign so

someone has a great sense of humor.

ROBERT READING, JOSEPH, OREGON

SWALLOWING AMERICA

Loved "Agenda 21: Swallowing America," Winter 2014, by Dr. Michael S. Coffman.

JOHN KEYES, SPRINGVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Enjoyed the article by Michael S. Coffman, Ph.D., in Winter 2012/2013 ("Climate Fraud and the Decline of America"). Being a commercially rated pilot, farmer and licensed contractor, I too wondered why "Glacier Girl" wasn't found on a rock instead of covered by

(Continued on page 14)

WILLING TO BET

I object to the picture and caption on page 37 about the guard dog pups ["Humble Pride," by Alan Hart, Fall 2013]. I can't tell from the picture if they are Akbash or Pyrenees but I would be willing to bet that they didn't kill the lamb they are eating. They may have gotten into the "dead pile" or have found a dead lamb that should have been removed. Puppies are not normally around the lambing ewes. The caption, "When those who are entrusted to guard the flock go bad. Starkly reminiscent of what can happen in any social structure when the disparity between the strong and the weak is this great," gives the bad guys an opening to criticize the whole industry and sounds like an overimaginative author.

My family could not stay in business without their guard dogs. These wonderful animals literally give their lives to protect their sheep and this kind of statement demeans these loyal dogs.

DOROTHY STOUT, DILLON, MONTANA

The facts are that the mother to these pups had turned feral and "gone bad" and had just been dispatched. True, the pups were not the culprits, and the photo was not an indictment of them or the breed, but a simple statement of one of the colder, harder realities of life. She had been killing lambs for herself and the pups. Pride Arrington and his neighbors were losing several lambs per day/night. The hammer was dropped on several others over a period of weeks before it finally stopped, so this was NOT an isolated incident last spring. To insist that within any specific breed the potential for ugly does not exist is to simply deny the truth.

ALAN HART, TROUTDALE, VIRGINIA

268 feet of ice and snow. How do we get the Robot idiots to read and comprehend this information? We here in California are battling so-called nitrogen intrusion of groundwater from irrigation. My groundwater is falling faster than any surface water can catch it. It's about fines and control. Not science.

BILL HOFFRAGE, MADERA, CALIFORNIA

250 PERCENT BIASED

Red Steagall's Cowboy Gathering in Fort Worth, Texas, last October included a poetry contest for children. My 10-year-old granddaughter won the junior division (see below). Even though I am 250 percent biased, it is short, to the point, original, and leaves you wanting more. See what you think.

KEITH FISHER, VIA EMAIL

Teachers Are Better Than Cows

By Libby Tseng

*A cowboy's life is not for me.
That's something I can plainly see.
Herding cattle in the blazing sun.
Is not my idea of having fun.*

*But if I were the one with the 10-gallon hat
I might have a different view at that.
Sitting with kids and books inside
Would make me long for a cattle drive.*

*Chuck wagon lunch lines,
Home rooms, branding time,
Each night sleeping beneath the stars.
Each spring taking a test called the STAAR.*

*These lives are as different as can be.
Which one is better depends on who's me.
Since I'm only 10 right now
It makes sense I prefer my teacher to a cow.*

HEADING WEST

The photo is of our son, Landry Anderson, taken on our family vacation last summer at



Inspiration Peak in Clitherall, Minn. Landry loves to be outside and points out all the big green tractors, as we have plenty here in Indiana.

This was his first adventure to climb a large hill and enjoy the view from the peak. We plan to head out West in a few years and this was a good way to break him in from the flat farmland that surrounds home.

BEN ANDERSON, HUNTINGTON, INDIANA

Thank you for helping me contact Lee Pitts. In response to my letter to him about my association with his grandparents, he wrote, "Your recent letter made my day because it was about the two most important people in

my life." His grandfather and grandmother were my chaparones in 1940 to the California Outdoor Girl Contest in Salinas.

Very best for the New Year and for greater appreciation for those who care and protect our national heritage.

TANSY SMITH, INDEPENDENCE, CALIFORNIA
P.S. I turned 90 last December 18.

TELL US APART

I have just finished reading the latest issue of *RANGE* and another frightening tale of abuses associated with the use of conservation easements. I don't question this or your previous articles on these abuses. The problem that I have is that they portray conservation easements as inherently evil rather than as being abused by some land trusts and government agencies. Meanwhile, there are land trusts in the West affiliated with strong agricultural organizations that are effectively using easements to maintain family ranching. They were started by ranchers, are governed by ranchers, and serve only the ranching community. One of these is the Wyoming Stock Growers Land Trust which I was instrumental in establishing 11 years ago and which is the ninth largest regional land trust in the nation today. At this time there are seven such trusts. They collaborate through the Partnership of Rangeland Trusts (PORT).

Please consider running a future article that provides an opportunity to tell their story and to distinguish them from those which abuse conservation easements and threaten property rights.

JIM MAGAGNA, WYOMING STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION, CHEYENNE, WYOMING
See page 46 for several views on CEs. Also check "Forever and Ever, Amen" by Tim Findley at www.rangemagazine.com/Winter 2004.—Ed.

THEY LIKE IT!

Anyone who's interested in farming or ranching or has horses and any pets should try to get the Winter 2014 issue. I'm listing some articles that give a great overview of current/future plans from your "friends" in D.C. and wacko enviro world. Be the first to know the real truths and feel free to pass them on! If you want to get a copy, go to www.rangemagazine.com or call 1-800-RANGE-4-U. You will not find information like this anywhere else:

"Patterns on the Landscape"; "Destroying Lives to Perpetuate Failure"; "Get Back To Me"; "Baxter Black" (on horse populations); "Agenda 21: Swallowing America" and "Implementation by Stealth"—what the United Nations has in store for you; "Urge to Rule

(You)"—the Green Mafia at work; "The Real Wolf"—not the Disney type; "Knowledge & Courage"—the truth about how *your* public lands are mismanaged; "Kowboy Kumbaya"—the wacko eco-radicals at play; "Diapers on Cows"—yes, you read that right!

Let me know what you think and I'll either commend or condemn you!

RON RATCLIFFE, REDMOND, OREGON

The Winter 2014 issue is a must read if you care about your future.

SHEILA ROWLAND, VIA FACEBOOK
Check www.rangemagazine.com/Winter 2014 for some stories or call 1-800-RANGE-4-U for a copy of the issue for \$5.—Ed.

UNPREPARED

I found *RANGE* in the mag section at Walmart and honestly was not prepared for what lay between the covers. The front cover with a "working cowboy" suggested a cool review of the rugged life of all those who "fork" a horse and tour the range daily eking out a life. Boy was I surprised and thoroughly impressed. So much so that I went back to buy all the remaining copies to mail off to "like-minded" friends and my daughter nestled in L.A.

I was shopping for new material that celebrates what I do daily. *RIDE*. With 100,000 acres of open (don't know for how long) range I have plenty to keep me, friends and family entertained for years, I hope. Likewise, I hope that *RANGE* has many informative years to come. I am now a proud subscriber and sell people on this magazine, not for the "cowboy," but for "thoughtful and informative" people who can best help make a change in the political landscape of the wonderful United States of America!

JOHN SIMMERMAN, HURRICANE, UTAH

STROKES FOR B&B

"Brushstrokes & Balladeers" is a stunningly beautiful book. I am honored to be in it.

JOHN L. MOORE, MILES CITY, MONTANA

Just received my copy of "B&B" and I am blown away! It is a brilliant concept flawlessly executed. It has to be one of the best poetry books I have seen in a very long time.

CHARLES WILLIAMS, ROWLETTE, TEXAS

What an eclectic "masterpiece"! I am humbled and honored to be a part of it. Thank you so much, you have made my day less dry.

JOHN DOFFLEMYER, LEMON COVE, CALIF.

Your books always entertain and articulate so wonderfully. I have a favorite poem, "Smart

Dogs” by E.J. Kirchoff. My favorite painting is “Old Faithful” by Ann Hanson. This book is a wonderful and treasured addition to my personal library.

MARTY LEE, VP, PRODUCTION
GIBBS SMITH PUBLISHING, LAYTON, UTAH

Received my copy of “Brushstrokes & Balladeers” yesterday. Opened after lunch and finished it after dinner. It made me laugh, cry and laugh until I cried. A must-have for anyone who lives or loves the western way of life!

STEVE POMETTA, GUSTINE, CALIFORNIA

“Brushstrokes & Balladeers” is a precious and amazing book that stands out from the crowd. It was like you went back in time, earlier in Elko’s Cowboy Poetry Gathering, and used poems by so many of my longtime friends. It touched me deeply to read all the poetry again, but especially from the poets who have passed on. Pairing that with such classic paintings and depictions of authentic cowboy life makes the book really shine. Thank you for including two of my poems that have been overlooked for 20 years and never been published.

VIRGINIA BENNETT, GOLDENDALE, WASH.
Tom Browning’s cover painting (this issue) is also in “B&B” with more of his work. Call 1-800-RANGE-4-U to order a copy.—Ed.

Swoon. What a fabulous feast for the eyes, in all ways. I also loved “30 Years Gathering” in *RANGE*, Winter 2014. What precious images.

—MARGO METEGRANO, COWBOYPOETRY.COM,
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

COLD AND LONESOME

I read your magazine from cover to cover in one day, and wait beside the mailbox for three months. It gets very cold, lonesome and boring in the winter.

EVEN R. GARNANT, BANTRY, NORTH DAKOTA

Thanks so much for your balanced thinking and presentation, humor and great photos.

KELLY DAVIS, GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Found *RANGE* in the doctor’s office and he let me have it. My niece and her husband were here from Seattle and they are going to subscribe to it, too.

PHYLLIS OSBORN, MOSES LAKE, WASH.

I picked up your magazine in a grocery store because it caught my eye with Agenda 21 on the cover. One of the most in-depth informative magazines I have ever read. Please count me in as one of your subscribers.

CLINT DERR, CHARIO, MONTANA

You are still improving on great work.

GEORGE GOMES, CARMICHAEL, CALIFORNIA

[Expletive] the cowminders.

ANONYMOUS, VIA U.S.P.S.

LOW ON THE HOG

Thanks for bringing attention to the nationwide feral-hog problem [“Hogs Pig Out” by Lee Allen, Fall 2013]. Savvy hog hunters encountering a family will always shoot the sow first. A breeding female might pop out 100 babies in her lifetime. A universal bounty system (federal or 50-state at one set price) on females of any age, dead or alive and delivered for slaughter, would be a great economic incentive. This might be a “pork barrel” situation where Congress could truly help by providing a universal bounty.

ROBERT G. WHEATON
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

RANGE is a needed voice of the West. Too bad more anti-farm/anti-ranch people don’t read it. They could learn a lot and maybe start to think about the issues in a new light.

ROBERT HARRIS, PALO CEDRO, CALIFORNIA
Many of our good subscribers send gift subs to people who need to know more.—Ed.

DANGEROUS TIMES

The two features on Agenda 21 are particularly noteworthy in your last issue, not only for the quality of the information, but because they reveal the evil and vile in Agenda 21. [“Swallowing America” and “Implementation by Force” by Dr. Michael S. Coffman]

That said, I would like to know if it would be a violation of your copyright or that of the author if I scanned these two articles and sent them to about a hundred friends and associates? I would also include a scanned copy of your subscription application to hopefully stimulate further subscribers.

THOMAS L. REYNOLDS
TROUT LAKE, WASHINGTON

Thanks! Go to www.rangemagazine.com, Winter 2014, download it and pass it on.—Ed.

MAD ABOUT WOLVES

We get so mad about the wolves that I thought I would let my mind rest until I came to the article in *RANGE* [Winter 2014, “The Real Wolf” by Earl Stahl]. We see wolf tracks around our mine/cabin often but do not hear them—which really scares! Lloyd never goes out to cut wood without his .357 and I do not sit and wait on a stump alone for him anymore. That also makes us mad—I loved sitting alone in the woods. Last time I found a

walking stick and walked along thinking how I could ram it down a wolf’s throat if one attacked me from the front. Wasn’t pleasant. God Bless America—again.

CHERYL JONES, SALMON, IDAHO

Recently I read “The Real Wolf” in *RANGE* and “Fans of wolves clash with livestock ranchers” in the *Sacramento Bee*, after which—as the author of “The Costs of Being Green Before Green was Cool”—I felt compelled to rejoin the battle. First off, when it comes to predators, fish and wildlife agencies and the liberal media will use every unscrupulous tactic including global warming to defeat those who oppose their agendas.

T.J. ELSBURY, WILLISTON, NORTH DAKOTA

The cover of the Winter issue is powerful and impressive. Great crop and color balance.

TOM STACK, TOM STACK & ASSOCIATES
TAVERNIER, FLORIDA

Thanks for Joe McDonald’s great photo!—Ed.

GLANCE AT THE PAST

I enjoy *RANGE* and found “Enemies of the State” by Hank Vogler in Spring 2013. This current government is one of the most corrupt since this country was founded. The enviros have caused more destruction of our resources than any ranchers, farmers or loggers. Also of interest was the location—Diamond, Ore.—which was founded by my great-grandfather and his partner Mace McCoy and named for the cattle brand they had. The Diamond Ranch was a 43,600-acre spread in 1878 when it was being sold to the French Glen cattle empire. My family history in the Pacific Northwest goes back to 1829.

GLEN A. JONES, PORTLAND, OREGON

Really appreciate your efforts. Yeah, I get riled when I read what is going on but the photos are great and I like to be informed. So hope, financially, that you can keep it up.

CONNIE A. MAY, RESERVE, NEW MEXICO

G’day, CJ. There is no doubt that the people who run the Greens are communists, but a lot of the people who support them are affluent old women of all ages and both sexes.

GRAEME CAMPBELL
KALGOORLIE, WEST AUSTRALIA

I hope someday the greenies will give up.

BRYCE PURKEY, MEEKER, COLORADO

Sending some love from the Arizona Strip. Thanks for not being phony.

MITCH KESTER, FREDONIA, ARIZONA

RIOTOUS

Among other vocations, I have been a writer/author/photographer/researcher and investigator, internationally published for over 35 years. I know top-drawer quality when I see it. Your magazine is absolutely superb in every detail. I feel truly honored every time I pick up an issue. Lee Pitts' "Half-Made Men" [Spring 2013], while depressingly truthful, is absolutely riotous! Thank you.

KARL BOSSELMANN, FORESTVILLE, CALIF.

COULDN'T STOP

Thank you for all the hard work you put in to produce the beautiful and informative magazine I read cover to cover, pass on to my daughter, but selfishly ask her to return after she is finished reading it. I like to keep them for further reference. *RANGE* and *Western Ag Reporter* offer the BEST and most interestingly written information on the destruction being wreaked on our beloved West by the so-called environmental and animal activists.

I am 90 years old, raised in Powder River County, Mont. My mother went from Roscoe, Texas, as soon as I became 21 and homesteaded in Montana. My dad came from Cullman, Ala., and also homesteaded. So I was raised in an era when we had freedom from government interference. I am grateful that I was blessed to know freedom. I remember when Roosevelt was elected the first time my dad said, "This is the beginning of the end of the United States." How right he was! I could get on a horse and go for miles, did not bother anybody and no one bothered me. What a marvelous and fun way to grow up! My mother and dad were Ed and Nona Taack. Dad died in 1935 and Mom died in 1996 at the age of 98. They were wonderful people and great parents to five of us.

The bear attack on the Virginia woman the other day has created a little attention to the fact that some people want to give the wild animals rights over humans. That's just the opposite of what the Bible says. While I feel it is a shame for an innocent to be injured, maybe some incidents of this kind will get rid of some of the foolishness now in place. The overprotection of wolves, bears, buffalo, cougars and every other predator the geniuses in Washington can think of to clear people off the land in the West is destroying the most beautiful place in the United States and is disastrous to the farmers and ranchers who've spent their lives taking care of the land

LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE DONE

"Brushstrokes & Balladeers" has a good variety of poems to suit everyone. The contemporary ones I don't understand but there are quite a few cowboy type that I like. Irene understands the art better than I.

At ages 94 and 88, we are getting along well and thankful for what we can do. We have four-wheelers parked at the door where we can go for the mail 1.5 miles, to check the ranch and cattle, to the tractor to improve on the irrigation, and haul soil or gravel for roads and washes. Irene can operate the tractor to load our dump truck so I can haul it to whatever the need.

The other day Irene fell down outside the door. I did not have the strength to lift her up so I took the four-wheeler to get the tractor loader and put the bucket down next to her. She rolled in and I lifted her to chair height where she got on her feet again.

You have done wonderfully for the rural way of life. *RANGE* is the best and almost only publication that explains our lives and problems to an urban population and to ourselves as well. We need more information on the Allan Savory slant that makes cattle and sheep the "Heroes" as a way to stop desertification and improve the habitat and sequester carbon in the soil.

I was on the tour at the Barnes Ranch in Jiggs back in 1989 when you were preparing the first issue of *RANGE*. I understood then that it was to be a one-time publication. Look what you have made it into!

Here's a donation to help with your expenses. Wish we could do more. We love you.

JACK WALTHER LAMOILLE, NEVADA

© JESSICA LIFLAND



Jack Walther out on his desert range in northeastern Nevada.

and making a living and a wonderful way of life.

Sorry, I did not set out to write a book, but just couldn't stop.

RUTH MACY, SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

RANGE continues to shed truth and light to all. Bless you.

KENN & MARION BOND
BONDS BARN, ACAMPO, CALIFORNIA