

## Opinion from America's Outback

### SAVE THE REPUBLIC

You are a guard dog in a world full of wolves!

MIKE A. EDWARDS, USK, WASHINGTON

We thoroughly enjoy *RANGE*, although it is not very good bedtime reading—one of the few (including *National Review* and *World Magazine*) read cover to cover shortly after arrival. The writing and command of the English language are superlative and the topics and philosophy are so timely and spot on. It is enough to give one hope that the Republic may survive.

ANDY SMITH, ELKTON, OREGON

There are still some mighty fine folks tending the land and tilling the soil our forefathers bled and died for. Unfortunately, the parasites have also flourished in the shadow of that sacrifice and are now enabled by the prostitu-

tion, complacency and compromise of our elected officials.

ALAN HART, TROUTDALE, VIRGINIA

I'm 95 and as I read *RANGE* and see what the government is doing to the ranchers, it makes me mad and sad. I was a combat infantryman in Europe in WWII and, as bad as the war was, I think our country was a better place then.

About 35 years ago, I drew cartoons for the *CORVA News* and it was a continual battle with the BLM and Forest Service as they tried to ban us from using our land. It looks like time hasn't changed anything. I live in the mountains and there is a valley nearby with a dirt road running through it with smaller side roads. My wife and I used to take picnics there and enjoy it. The Forest Service has now barricaded all these little side roads with boulders two and three feet in diameter and are ruining the forest.

CLARENCE R. LINDSEY

BIG BEAR LAKE, CALIFORNIA

Your publication speaks truth. We are praying for the Hammonds, Bundys and all ranchers threatened by the government, enviros, etc.

TODD & KELLY COOPER, DAYVILLE, OREGON

### STAY TRUE

It's not open range in Tennessee but it's country range! A good ol' boy from Montana turned me on to *RANGE* and I enjoy it.

Thank goodness for another side of the

story, whatever the story might be. Stay true.

NEAL VICKERS, MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE

I am a 79-year-old Red Meat Survivor, too old to go out and punch them in the nose.

KAREN MEYER, SOLEN, NORTH DAKOTA

The great interview Jim Steele did for David Crowe on "Infectious Myth" was stimulated by his equally fine article for *RANGE*. ["Wildfires," Winter 2018] Thanks to both of you for getting a few honest facts out. Jim is not only a superb naturalist, but he knows a lot of climate physics, even more than many scientists in the climate establishment.

WILLIAM HAPPER, PH.D., PROFESSOR

EMERITUS, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

### GARBAGE, OR NOT

I got your magazine as a gift years ago. Now I won't pay for your garbage. You used to print the truth. Now it's all fake crap!

LEONARD ATENCIO, PLACITAS, NEW MEXICO

I really love the political view in the magazine.

MARION DEROZA, SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

Thank you for sticking up for America. I try every year to send a friend a one-year sub.

VAL E. BOSARGE, MERIDIAN, MISSOURI

You're a "voice in the wilderness" and of enormous value to this country!

PAM WESSELL, LAVINA, MONTANA

### I'M FROM THE GOVERNMENT

"Dancing on the Dark Side" by Carolyn Dufurrena [Winter 2018] is a sad tale. In the early years of the Point Reyes National Seashore, the National Park Service came to those ranchers telling them how it admired their land ethics and how it wanted to cooperate to create a more productive landscape "... and by 1975 the Seashore had purchased all of the rest of the ranches..."

Before they signed the deeds, those ranchers were landowners, fee simple, absolute. When they cashed the checks they were tenants. Do landlords ever abuse tenants? Every few years the Point Reyes management, both people and policies, change. The only mystery is that the ranches were able to stay above water so long in "cooperation" with NPS.

The moral of this story is that when a sedan with federal plates stops in front of your home and a fellow wearing shiny loafers steps up to the porch saying, "Hello, I'm from the government and I am here to help," remember that this is the first of the three great lies.

Learn from these ex-ranchers. Don't let happy talk tempt you. Don't sign the deed.

JEFF THOMPSON, BISHOP, CALIFORNIA



GINO AND KATHY LUCCHESI © CAROLYN DUFURRENA

Your generosity and support are overwhelming. We distributed the magazines from the barbershop in Point Reyes to the state of Washington. Carolyn Dufurrena was so great to talk to—very personable! Her article was spot on! She captured the *whole* story. Thank you for your concern and support.

THE McDONALDS AND LUCCHESI

POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE RANCHERS

PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA



FROM LEFT: Patriotic cowboy at a Texas rodeo. “Bring up a boy in the way he should grow up and when he is older he will not depart from it.” ➤ A good thought. ➤ Message from Grandma.

I let *RANGE* expire because every issue made me so mad. Now that the administration in Washington has turned around the destruction of our country I want to read western news again. Plus your great people stories.

LIZ SHUCHA, SAYNER, WISCONSIN

**TIME TO HIT BACK**

For many years now, environmentalist organizations have been calling ranchers who graze on federal land “welfare ranchers.” They get away with this because the grazing fees on federal and state lands are lower than the cost to lease private lands. They conveniently leave out that the quality of federal land is also lower and the ability to turn a profit due to regulatory and public visitor burdens is much worse than it is on private lands.

Instead, we should be talking about “welfare environmentalists.” These are those who make their living on sue and settle. Heck, it could even include the government agents who collude with environmentalists on sue and settle because their entire paycheck comes from the government.

B. HUNT, CEDAR CITY, UTAH

I so appreciate all your work and dedication of the Range Conservation Foundation to “get the word out.” We have to wake up a certain sector of America to the importance of ranching, farming and timber in this country. It is the very backbone of our survival.

TERRI ARINGTON, COLUMBIA, CALIFORNIA

“Johnnie T” came up out of the deep. He was an equipment painter. But once or twice a month, he was a cowboy. On those weekends, he would saddle up his horse and camper gear, then head out to someplace in northern Washoe County, gather up a couple of “wild” horses and sell them to Reno Rendering. Did

anyone care? Never heard a word of protest. I believe they should be harvested just like other animals.

Thank you for the Bundy and Hammond updates. And Sgt. Bergdahl walks! Unbelievable to us veterans. Another travesty!

MARVIN REED, PALOMINO VALLEY, NEVADA

I was born and raised in Chicago during the Great Depression and joined the USMC shortly after the Korean War started. Served with the 11th Marines (artillery) and performed other duties, from truck driving to backup to the 5th Marine Regiment. They were frontline grunts. Served 13 months with the real America at its best. The 1st Marine Division made me a better man.

This donation is to help your cause, way of life, and honestly written articles.

BOB CELLI, LAKE ZURICH, ILLINOIS

Thank you for a fantastic publication.

PHIL SHANE, ACCIDENT, MARYLAND

**CHRISTMAS FOR BUNDY**

The news report on the Bundy mistrial was posted on *RANGE* Facebook on Dec. 20, 2017. By Christmas Eve morning, the post had reached 29,073 people. Incredible. The negative feedback reported: 21 people hid the post so it wouldn’t appear on their Facebook, three people hid *all* posts, and no one reported it as spam or “unlike” the page. Here are a few comments: “Find Dan Love and put him in jail” (Wes Lydon); “There should be no trial whatsoever since the government has proven that it isn’t going to play fair and obey the law” (R.A. Dennis); “Free the Hammonds” (Bob & Diane Elder); “Disband the BLM and give properties back to the owners or the states” (Hank Ortega); “Feds killed a man and they walk. These honest ranchers are being railroaded and for what? Hope they get paid for the cattle the feds murdered and

left. Such a travesty of justice” (Linda Otto); “The wheels are falling off the government bus” (Shauna Beeman); and “Now to go after those responsible for the assassination of LaVoy Finicum” (Todd Quinn).

ANN HENDERSON, RANGE FACEBOOK BOSS, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

**LOSING FRIENDS**

I had a friend who is a senior biologist with California Fish & Wildlife. I asked him one day what he could tell me about Agenda 21...just out of curiosity. He looked at me like I had stepped on an elderberry beetle, said nothing, and walked away. Since then, he refuses to answer my calls or emails. It’s been a year now; you’d think he would have found an answer by now. Thanks for continued higher education.

JAMES RICHARDS, CHICO, CALIFORNIA

You have a circle of great friends but your quality in production and realism stands tall. I am always proud when I tell those close that I met you in John Day back in the beginning. You have done well and keep standing tall for this country. Good people in your office also. Always nice to feel someone cares—just like in “the good ole days.”

NORM KRALMAN, KRALMAN STEEL MILTON FREEWATER, OREGON

Thanks for all that you do to make this world better. The 2-for-\$20 is a great gift from you.

ART ROANE, CHRISTOVAL, TEXAS

**ANOMALY**

Patty Vaughn Miller mentioned in “Confessions of Red Meat Survivors,” Fall 2017, the Unawep Canyon in Colorado as “the only known canyon in the world that has water flowing in two directions.” Here’s another in western Montana: The Bull River Valley runs

(Continued)

north and south between the Clark Fork River on the south and the Kootenai River on the north for a distance of 35 miles. Montana State Highway 56 travels the distance. The Bull River flows into the valley from the Cabinet Mountains on the east side of the valley about 16 miles from the Clark Fork River. Lake Creek flows from Bull Lake north about 13 miles into the Kootenai River. I have often wondered if this feature occurred elsewhere in the world. Now I know it does.

HERB CARGILL, ROY, MONTANA



I absolutely *love* the cover image by Cynthia Baldauf in your Winter 2017/2018 issue!

TOM STACK

TOM STACK & ASSOC.

CITRUS SPRINGS, FLORIDA

## GOOD, BAD, BOVINE

“The Good, the Bad & the Bovine” turned out so well. The stories and images are perfect. You have such a keen eye for truth and beauty both. Most people only have one or the other. Then to top it off with my photo on the cover of *RANGE*. My heart is full.

CINDY BALDAUF, WISDOM, MONTANA

Getting in one of your books in my eyes is the equivalent of *Rolling Stone* or *TIME* magazine. Thanks.

HANK VOGLER, ELY, NEVADA

“The Good, the Bad & the Bovine” is about genuine heartwarming sincere people who work from sunup till sundown and still smile. It is about the heart-wrenching reality of ranching life. It is authentic and real and helps hold us together as one big family.

DIANE McALLISTER, RENO, NEVADA

See page 28.—Ed.

## DON'T WEAKEN

The gift subscription I ordered will be appreciated by a dear cousin of mine from Durango, Colo., who personally knows J. Paul Brown [“A Quiet Man” by Marjorie Haun, Winter 2018]. I enjoyed this article as well as “First in Time, First in Right” by Judy Boyle. Excellent! Also, “Omnipotence” by Stephen M. Studdert held particular importance for me. As an advisor to three presidents, he has a unique understanding of the Deep State. This well-written explanation of Washington culture and his optimism that President Trump

might actually be successful in reducing it, was a breath of fresh air. Don't weaken!

JOHN FAIRHEAD, MERRIMAN, NEBRASKA



© JENNY TAYLOR

This is Jax and Jhett Taylor from Cody, Wyo., sons of Josh and Jenny, in their “Redneck Swimming Pool.”

RICK GARZOLI, NOVATO, CALIFORNIA

## WOLF LOVERS

I'm always amazed at how the most fanatic wolf lovers seem to reside in areas that don't have them. I regularly see letters to the editor in Wisconsin's two major newspapers (Milwaukee and Madison) claiming wolves are natural to the state and need continued protection. Funny how wolves used to be native to the entire state but there are none in Milwaukee or Madison. The wolf lovers have found a federal judge who agrees with them and has banned hunting for them, even though our own Department of Natural Resources said there are now so many that they need to be managed.

These wolf lovers have not had one run next to a mother who was walking her kindergartner to the school bus. They've never had their dog attacked by a wolf in their suburban backyard. They've never had a wolf and her pup appear out of a city park, three blocks from downtown. They've never had a pack of wolves trail them as they drag a legally killed deer down a logging trail to their vehicle. Neither has that federal judge. But we have had all of the above in Tomahawk, Wis., and surrounding area.

And the wolf lovers are never satisfied. They originally agreed that 350 wolves would be a sustainable number for our state. We're now at 1,250 according to DNR—most who live in wolf territory say that's about half the actual number—but that's still not enough to end protection.

It doesn't matter to these people that humans have a right to safety, too. It doesn't matter that wolves *are not* endangered. I own property in Montana and am well aware of

the problems wolves (and grizzlies) are causing for people in the West. Maybe it's time we live trap a few and turn them loose in former wolf territory...now metro...and see how long it takes to educate the critter lovers.

LARRY M. TOBIN, TOMAHAWK, WISCONSIN

*RANGE* is the only magazine I intend to read for life. Great job!

JOHN FORT, HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

## RELEVANCE BEYOND YOUR LANDSCAPE

I just renewed my first subscription to *RANGE*. I recall being intrigued by the headlines, sparking a curiosity that doesn't arise for most magazines. I realized that it struck a chord, revealing important insight into the challenges of land management in America's West, a landscape that has fascinated and delighted me from a very young age, handed down from an equally fascinated father who made sure that we explored seemingly every road and state possible.

As an adult, I became a regulatory resource development lawyer and bureaucrat in Canada's north. I became familiar and intimate with land management issues of our final frontier, including the role of intensive, although largely unsatisfying environmental assessments and processes that miss the mark on having any semblance of substantiation or rational basis for decision making. At first I concluded this was the case because this was a territory catching up to the rest of the civilized world but I have since realized the magnitude of the policy and political shortcomings of government to address land use management, nationally and internationally.

Coming across *RANGE* not only sparked my interest in the American West, it neatly connected to my life's work and validated my concerns from yet another perspective. I have since migrated away from the north and have chosen to homestead a small ranch at the base of the British Columbia Rockies in the midst of cattle grazing. I'm back in my western neck of the woods where the issues you raise will no doubt continue their significance. Hats off to *RANGE*! You bring a much needed voice to the issues that are relevant well beyond your landscape.

I look forward to another year of



CARLA CONKIN WITH OLD RANCH CHEVY

thought-provoking articles and to be touched by the depth of your care in protecting the American West.

CARLA CONKIN, FORT STEELE  
BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

## GROWING UP TRUMP

Being the same age as DJT, and growing up nearby, I know at least 100 guys who grew up acting like him. The arrogance, flippancy, and tendency to engage in instant retribution is the result of a local belief system in which being “street smart” is a requirement for survival.

“The different persona” is another characteristic. The rule is: Be unpredictable; and if the enemy thinks that you’re crazy, that’s a good thing. As long as the Donald keeps honoring the Constitution (like appointing, thus far, about a dozen judges who subscribe to it), I’m good.

ROB WELLS, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

CJ, you are a diamond in the rough!

JONATHAN LESSER, SANDIA PARK, N.M.

*Rough? Hell, yes. It can be ugly out there!—CJ*

## DEAD HORSE AFTERMATH

The two Forest Service horses and one mule that were killed in Arizona through dereliction of duty and subsequent dehydration received no legal justice. [See “Death & Destruction,” *RANGE*, Spring 2017] Two of the alleged perpetrators were summoned to state court to face nine charges of animal cruelty each, but the cases were dismissed to federal court by a patently false request from a prominent Tucson attorney. The combined felonies of impersonating a federal law enforcement officer and falsifying court documents were apparently committed to avoid the multiple misdemeanor charges of animal abuse. The charges were then waylaid by the same attorney before they got into the federal court system and vanished into legal limbo. The FBI, the Arizona attorney general, the Arizona State Bar, the secretary of Agriculture, and local and Forest Service law enforcement all were apprised of the crimes but did nothing. This complete lack of accountability leaves the door open for similar misdeeds in the future. “Draining the swamp” doesn’t just apply to Washington, D.C.

DEXTER K. OLIVER, DUNCAN, ARIZONA  
*Researched and documented details of the whole case may be found in “Whipping Dead Horses: An Honest Opinion” by Dexter K. Oliver. Available from Bandit Press, P.O. Box 716, Duncan, AZ 85534 for \$12 plus \$5 s&h.*

I just reread Ray Hunkins’ story of Henry Poling [“Henry’s Indomitable Spirit,” Summer 2017] and am still amazed and inspired by this young man. As always, you are spot on with issues and most definitely human interest stories. You deserve the “Academy Award for Publications.”

RICH MEECE, PILOT POINT, TEXAS

Whatever his shortcomings, and I am not aware of any in particular, President Trump knows he is correct in rejecting Paris and the whole CAGW fairy tale. If ever there was a good example of the emperor having no clothes, this is it. Hail to the chief!

PATRICK MOORE

[EX-PRESIDENT, GREENPEACE CANADA]

COMOX, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

*RANGE* is too precious to describe. And everybody it represents.

LARRY HYDER, CAMINO, CALIFORNIA



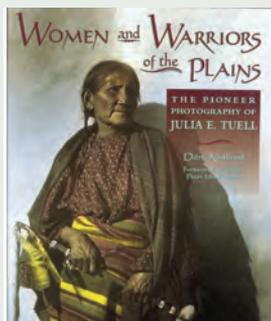
© BILL WITMER

“Partners” Two mountain goats climb a late-June snowbank on 13,000-foot Mt. Evans, Colo.

## Women and Warriors

Dear Editor,

While delighted to see well-deserved recognition for the photography of Julia E. Tuell in your Winter 2018 issue, I was surprised at Brian D’Ambrosio’s failure to give credit to the primary source of information on Tuell—my



book, “Women and Warriors of the Plains: The Pioneer Photography of Julia E. Tuell.” Some photo captions as well as some portions of the text are direct quotations.

I was the teacher honored to become a close friend of Julia’s youngest son, Varble. Out of that friendship grew an appreciation for Julia’s unique and powerful work and subsequently a book contract with Howell-Macmillan. More recently the work has been handled by Mountain Press. It’s now between printings, but many copies are

available, and well-stocked libraries have it. Father Peter J. Powell, Episcopal and Sun Dance priest, a renowned scholar on Cheyenne tradition and religion, furnished the foreword.

Without proper credit, Julia Tuell’s work has been reproduced on postcards and in the paintings of at least one well-known western artist. That trend furnished some of the motivation for Varble’s determination to see his mother’s work properly recognized. I was honored to be able to assist and to get the photos under renewed copyright with the publication of “Women and Warriors.”

Sincerely,

DAN AADLAND, PH.D.  
ABSAROKEE, MONTANA

*Dr. Aadland is the preeminent authority on Tuell. As opposed to Morris, who has several living descendants and provided his own interviews [see page 48], Tuell is completely unknown and all of the details of her life have been pieced together by Dan. I loved reading his book on Tuell and, as I mentioned to Dan, there were several places where I should have acknowledged, referenced and attributed his fine work.—Brian D’Ambrosio*