



Opinion from America's Outback

LET IT RIDE

Out there somewhere roams the spirit of the West. It can't be broken. Let it ride forever in the hearts of the cowboy and cowgirl! *RANGE* magazine is our horse for those of us who haven't got one. Ride on *RANGE*!

NEIL R. COWLEY, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

We appreciate every issue for being informative, factual and interesting. The Fall 2017 issue has a great article by Dave Skinner ("Treasured State") about the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument and how our farms and ranches in this area of Montana have been affected.

GLADYS WALLING, WINIFRED, MONTANA

RANGE is one of the most important publications in the United States.

VICKIE BEARD, CHAMPION, NEBRASKA

President Trump is not a hero. He does not care about the working readers of your magazine. I love the photos, but too much about

all the things Trump does for America. I joined the Army, volunteered for Vietnam, while Trump lied to stay out—that makes him a loser.

DAVID P. MISSO, TULELAKE, CALIFORNIA

MISSING MIKE

I was deeply saddened to read of the death of Michael Coffman. I spoke with him regarding climate issues several times. He was always gracious and provided me with good info to be able to argue with our university academics.

WOODY PORTER, EL MACERO, CALIFORNIA

Your "Up Front" about Mike Coffman is a perfect tribute. It made me cry. You are a beautiful human too, CJ, and I'm grateful to be in the saddle with you and Suz and to have lived on this earth with Mike and Bert. They are definitely still fighting for the cause of liberty, only now the pace is even quicker. I feel it every day and feel blessed to be surrounded by great people and have good work to do.

KATHY SMITH, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL FEDERAL LANDS CONFERENCE, OGDEN, UTAH



There are not adequate words to describe the loss of Michael Coffman and what it means to *RANGE* and the U.S.A. He was a man who gave up a cushy and well-paid professorship at a major university to write the truth about the global warming/climate change farce. Mike, a true hero, chose to spread the truth about unsavory subjects that so many other media outlets, government officials/entities plus colleges and

universities chose to spread propaganda and mind-warping lies about.

CHARLES & BETTY CUNDY, CORA, WYOMING

Your dedication to Mike Coffman was well done and heartfelt. It brought a tear to my eye. I miss him. I counted on his wise consultations. Can't believe I'll never stand on a stage with him again. My last conversation with him was just about three weeks before he passed. He sounded strong. Was still so involved. He told me he wasn't going anywhere. He was fighting every step of the way. Then, poof, gone.

TOM DEWEESE, AMERICAN POLICY CENTER WASHINGTON, D.C.

MORE FEDERAL OVERREACH

We have leased our fee minerals to an oil company. The oil company has proposed a site to drill an oil well. The direction will be horizontal for two miles, all under privately owned surfaces. Out of the two miles 5/8 are fee minerals, 3/8 are federal minerals. Since some of the minerals are federal, BLM agents state they have total control over the entire project. Therefore, they have their archeologists out looking for everything and anything. They state they have found a "cairn" on a BLM 40-acre area which is at least one mile away from the proposed site. They state a production pad cannot be within "view shed" or line of sight of the cairn (aka pile of rocks probably left as a sheepherder's monument on the top of a hill with excellent view of the surrounding area). There are already production sites within view, many on our neighbors and two on our private surface. It is in line of sight of a huge portion of our privately owned minerals. Therefore, BLM agents seem to think they can prevent any development of our minerals. We call this a Fifth Amendment taking of



Before the Internet, long before Facebook

A poem inspired by Joyce Lee's portrait of Hi Whitlock. By John L. Moore

*People thought about what they said
and didn't own hair-triggered, over-valued opinions
because things were said face-to-face, and if said too often, or rudely,
one's butt would be planted in the dirt, in the gravel, in the cactus-dotted sod
where quick tempers, petty emotions, and tired slogans find no root
but break and scatter, like thistles in a blue norther' wind,
to collect, hang on four barbed wires, to be burned later
before the fences sag.*

private property without due compensation.

WARREN & JUDITH MANNING
DOUGLAS, WYOMING

I can't express the comfort I get when *RANGE* enters my P.O. Box.

Sadly, we rural westerners have lost one of us to the heavens. His name was Bud Wellman. The Wellman family has been grazing cattle in our rugged mountains (government land, San Jacinto Mountains) dating back to approximately 1860: Frank Wellman, grandfather; Jim Wellman, father; and Bud Wellman. Bud passed at 96 peacefully on July 30, 2017. He was a World War II vet and preferred Texas longhorn cattle to all others because of their ability to endure the elements and rough conditions. He always said, "Have a good one!"

DUNCAN HARKLEROAD, ANZA, CALIFORNIA

LOG IT, GRAZE IT, OR WATCH IT BURN

On behalf of the Tuolumne County Farm Bureau, I would like to share a sampling of our "log it, graze it, or watch it burn" items. Like many areas of the West, our county and surrounding counties have been victim to several devastating wildfires in recent years in our grazing and forestlands with irreparable damage.



We have suffered great losses of timber and cattle, not to mention the economic loss to public lands and private properties and the immense cost of fire

suppression. We are trying to spread the benefits of grazing on public lands and the importance of sound forest management. It is a constant battle as most *RANGE* readers know. We have hats, T-shirts and stickers in all colors. Check us out on Facebook @tcfarmbureau or call 209-533-8386.

TERRI ARINGTON, SONORA, CALIFORNIA

We have every day a radio talk show mostly on conservative politics. A lot of farmers, ranchers and businessmen listen to this station. I have used your magazine for a lot of facts, especially on this global-warming crap. Since I quoted your magazine, a lot of people call to see where to get it.

DONALD STEPHENS, BILLINGS, MONTANA
Please call 1-800-RANGE-4-U.—Ed.

I read *RANGE* cover to cover. It keeps me informed and happy to see that we still have people with common sense who don't hesitate to share the truth!

MARTIN ETCHAMENDY
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

NICE CHANGE

Nice to have a president who understands water and resource issues. Big change!

JOHN A. ROSHOLT, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO

In the Fall 2017 issue, Scott Baxter has a short story about Sam Luce. A book, "Maverick Doc" by Ann Leonard, tells the story of his remarkable life. A cowboy at first, a man who went to medical school without a high school diploma, a man of many adventures. Usually, a horse and mule were involved. If you can find a copy it's worth the read.

DON McCLOY, ENNIS, MONTANA

Great magazine!

RICHARD G. COX, DUNLAP, ILLINOIS

I just finished Lee Pitts' series. It brings back a lot of 79-year-old memories. I enjoyed Terry Sullivan's "Cowboy Hat Etiquette" in Summer 2017. It reminded me of many hunting trips to Ely in the '70s. My friend and neighbor Vernon Read was from Ely and, when there, the first stop was to his mother Effie Oxborrow Read's home. Effie was from Lund. We would go out to dinner often joined by her lifelong friend Beattie Halstead from Duckwater. On one occasion I must have looked unhappy at the number of men in the restaurant who had not removed their hats in the presence of ladies. Beattie asked me what was wrong. I mentioned the hat situation. Beattie told me, "A man is known by the hat he wears; a gentleman is known by where he wears it." Beattie also taught me what a "ditch" was—bourbon and water.

BOB ARMANASCO, GARDNERVILLE, NEVADA

Congrats on 100 issues! Keep up the great work.

JIM MADSEN, RUSSELL, KANSAS

TURN 'EM LOOSE

It's a travesty that the Hammonds are still in prison. In the meantime drug dealers, murderers and traitors have been given an open door. I believe there are two reasons a pardon hasn't come the Hammonds' way: first, it's no secret that the government wants their ranch as an extension to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge; and second, incarceration serves as a warning to other dissatisfied public land users. Go along to get along, or else. We've gotten the message. Turn the Hammonds loose!

MICHAEL HANLEY IV
JORDAN VALLEY, OREGON

NOTE FROM PAHRUMP

Thank you so much for getting the truth out there. Since this whole nightmare began, we have been portrayed in every negative fashion known to man. And sadly enough "the truth" is

a rare commodity these days. God bless you and the many others who have come forward to show support in our fight against tyranny and in the defense of justice, liberty and the U.S. Constitution. Cliven, Dave and Mel Bundy and Todd Engel are all here with me and feel the same. Thanks for the good work!

JOE O'SHAUGHNESSY, PAHRUMP, NEVADA
See Joe's "Aftermath" on next page.—Ed.

Keep up your good work on the Bundys. They are being held prisoner by a very crooked government and the victim of a real sleazebag former senator that if his lips are moving he is most likely lying. I am reading "Justice Denied: The United States vs. the People." It is written by Howell Woltz who, like the Bundys, got caught up in "the system" without a real day in court. He served seven years in jails across the United States, never keeping him in one jail where he could get a real trial. I hope everyone reads his book.

JACK WEAVER, RURAL RETREAT, VIRGINIA

HELP THE BUNDYS

Oct. 2, 2017: In nine days my husband and two sons go on trial. They have been imprisoned for over 600 days, political prisoners, whose only offense is to have spoken out against an out-of-control government. The reality is, they spoke out for all of us. We are assembling a powerful legal team, but unlike the government, we don't have unlimited funds and I need your help. You have already given so much, but I would ask that you give again, to help us with our legal and related expenses and most importantly to make sure that government gets the message that the Constitution and personal liberty still matter.

CAROL BUNDY, BUNKERVILLE, NEVADA
To help, go to <https://www.paypal.me/carolbundy> or mail a check to Carol Bundy, P.O. Box 7175, Bunkerville, NV 89007.—Ed.

I almost decided not to renew, but I enjoy the pictures and most of the articles. However, I can do without the promotion of illegal activities of extremists with machine guns and other weapons used to make their point. You guys are terrific and always have been.

NAME WITHHELD, SPARKS, NEVADA

STRENGTH FOR LAVOY

Thank you for sharing our story of LaVoy and for the beautiful book from the Red Pill Expo. I am still fighting to get my ability to graze my cows back—we'll see—I'm stronger than they know. God bless you in all you do.

JEANETTE FINICUM
COLORADO CITY, ARIZONA

Thank you for your courage, honesty, beauty and love.

MERIKAE PORTER, MONTROSE, COLORADO

KINDNESS

RANGE is the only thing worth the time it takes to read it. But then my blood pressure goes sky high. There is good and kindness in this world but you have to look so hard to find it.

True story: A friend made a quick trip up to the forest for a small load of wood after work. He loaded it, left saw, gas, extra chain, etc., by the side of the road in his haste to get home. Local rancher found it, reported to the sheriff's office, and he got his saw back. You never hear about those stories. Our valley is full of good people and some real bad apples!

JANE & KEN YECNY, SHERIDAN, MONTANA

RANGE is right on—always!

FRANK MCCLURE, DOLORES, COLORADO

I graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Calif., in 1976. My major was soil science. Unfortunately I took over my family's business that had little to do with agriculture. I learned back then to appreciate the dedication and hard work of our ranchers and farmers.

LEE EDWARDS, LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA

Since the love of my life, Sherry, went home to Jesus, *RANGE* is one of the few things I look forward to reading anymore. Sherry loved your magazine and her horses and dogs. God bless.

CHARLES KRAUEL (WITH BROKEN HEART)
ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA

HIGH ROLLERS

I was back in New York for a reunion, visiting a Wellesley friend in Westchester County, and



RANGE was right there on her coffee table next to *Harvard Magazine* and *The New Yorker*.

CAROLYN DUFURRENA, DENIO, NEVADA

I am an amateur writer who caught your eye many years ago as a possible writer for *Nevada Magazine*. Recently, I was shocked and amazed when I picked up *RANGE* in a local doctor's office, opened it to a random article, and quickly realized I had read this writing style before. Then I found the author. It was *you!*

CJ, I never thanked you for your encouragement when I started writing. I do so now. As I now push age 86 from behind, I ended up with over seven articles published in a variety of publications including *Nevada Magazine*. All of this is good for an aging ego. Thank you!

HARRY CHALEKIAN, CARSON CITY, NEVADA

It's a great magazine. Thank you.

DEAN SAMPSON, CASTALIA, IOWA

BLM HIT MAN GONE

According to the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, controversial BLM agent Dan Love no longer is employed by the BLM. Of course, what is not said is the important stuff: (1) Was he fired? (2) Was he promoted and transferred? (3) Was he permitted early retirement with a full pension? and (4) Was he granted immunity? What I find impossible to believe is that he operated for many years as a BLM "hit man" and none of his superiors have been exposed and/or reprimanded. What I believe to be the truth: He will never be forced to testify or reveal the internal corruption that exists in the BLM.

CURTIS CLARK, BOULDER CITY, NEVADA

[Dan] Love is the toothpick holding up the teetering [Bundy] federal prosecution. I'm hoping his firing draws enough attention to force them to drop *all* charges against the defendants.

MARJORIE HAUN, *freerangereport.com*
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

Our *Arizona Republic* carried an AP story about Dan Love ["BLM Hit Man," Fall 2017]. Given enough rope he has hung himself and Marjorie Haun's research strongly contributed to his demise. Keep on his ass. *RANGE* is great. He truly is a scum-sucking gob of spit.

JOHN O. DRYER, TONTO BASIN, ARIZONA
Marjorie Haun's story and Vin Suprynowicz's "The Constitution? Not Allowed," can be found at www.rangemagazine.com.—Ed.

A small donation for the Range Conservation Foundation. I enjoy reading about the West, its people, its high points in life and, unfortunately, the low points also.

JACQUE CARDUCCI, NAPERVILLE, ILLINOIS

OPINIONS DIFFER

Thanks for being the voice of all us old ranchers who can't express ourselves like you do. Use the

little extra money where it will do more good.

BOB PARKE, MALTA, IDAHO

I will *not* be renewing my subscription!

DOUGLAS VOUGHT, TUCSON, ARIZONA

I got a kick out of your "Attitude on Tilt" in the Spring 2015 issue. I appreciate you more because you have come from that New York Democrat point of view. I used to be a peacenik and still am in my way. I am fed up with Quakers and pacifists though! They make you feel guilty for even being angry and hold up Gandhi as the standard for everyone. I'd like to point out though that Gandhi said, "Go ahead and use force if that's all you got!"

HEIDI BECK, CEDARVILLE, CALIFORNIA

Great magazine! We like Skye Clark photos.

JOE BUFALO, VICHY, MISSOURI

I am an advocate of the American West and the sheep- and cowmen who make their living there. I commend your efforts on behalf of them and their way of life. I wish you worked for me, but your clients and constituents are fortunate in having such a skillful and dedicated champion.

J. KENT MCCORKLE, PARKER, COLORADO

TROTSKYITE

Your publication brilliantly exposes the unholy trinity of megacorporate tyranny, government micromanagement, and media-manufactured cosmopolitan values along with their accompanying misanthropy. I was raised as a Rush Limbaugh baby (I am 36 now), then went off to college and in my idealistic naiveté ended up becoming a Marxist, specifically joining a Trotskyist party ("Revolutionary Trotskyism" is one of the lower forms of life within the degenerate spectrum of organized socialism.), and later becoming a Union Local president. While I still support labor unions in principle, in practice they are little more than "yes men" to the global progressivist project as advanced in the U.S.

It breaks my heart to see the continued "centrally planned" dissolution of traditional rural life in the western states. However, as a longtime student and admirer of the West, its lifestyles as well as landscapes, it is truly a joy to have encountered your journal.

RYAN CHEGWIN, ARDEN HILLS, MINNESOTA

We live in Nebraska and *RANGE* has information that we don't hear otherwise. We once lived for a time in the People's Republic of Oregon, on the west side. How many of your readers realize that under the Communist system there is no private ownership of land? Does that sound something like what we see throughout the West, where the government already

“owns” the land? Along with this of course, there has to be a dictatorship with unlimited overreach authority at its discretion. Those are two major concepts of Marxism.

LEROY BECKER, ELGIN, NEBRASKA



PANIC IN PORTLAND

I am convinced that D.J. Trump is well down the road to clinical dementia. Or even schizophrenia. The different personae he presents on a daily or even semidaily basis is outright scary. Combined with his vindictiveness at slights, real or perceived, I am sincerely worried for the future of this country.

BOB BROWN, PORTLAND, OREGON

I love your letters, Boss. You taught me a lot so keep writing. Maybe I'll wake up!—Ed.

I began reading *Car & Driver* while in college (1964-68) and remember Steve Smith as its editor. The magazine was delightfully irreverent and entertaining whereas *Road & Track* was formulaic and *Motor Trend* was staid. In “Letters,” Fall 2017, Smith said he was “troubled by your strident alt-right political views.” Traditional patriotic conservatism has become the “alt-right”? How so? The “alt-left” is pulling the political spectrum ever leftward. President Kennedy’s policies, considered center-left in his day, would be considered center-right on today’s political scale. The political center of the ’40s, ’50s and ’60s is what *RANGE* now calls us back (up) to. The left now pejoratively labels our traditions the alt-right. May *RANGE* stay true to those traditions and may God save us!

REG LEQUIEU, MT. VERNON, OREGON

I worked for Brown and Smith at C&D in the ’60s and ’70s. They were generous and talented.—Ed.

A STORYBOOK LIFE

My brother, Chuck Wiggins, cowboied for years in the ’70s-’90s on some ranches. I stayed domesticated in Kansas, but always admired and envied Chuck’s “storybook” life on the range. He’s through riding for pay but still rides

and tells great stories. He introduced me to *RANGE* and it’s such a real, colorful, informative treasure that I so appreciate.

JUDY (WIGGINS) POTTER

MCPHERSON, KANSAS

Longtime reader of your fabulous publication! I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed Steve Rich’s article “How It Should Be” [Winter 2016/2017]. With great clarity he lays out for all to see just how wrong a lot of the land management is today by pointing out what is right and how it is being successfully implemented. Sure would be great to see Steve take his wisdom to Washington, D.C., if he could stand it.

Love *RANGE* and all it does to expose the insanity across our West.

HAL PARTENHEIMER, DALLAS, TEXAS

Picked up my first issue of *RANGE* the other day at Shopko in Freeport, Illinois. I have smiled and I have cried...thank you for publishing such a magazine. Thank you for the history and the truth. I will subscribe.

SUSAN COOMBER, LENA, ILLINOIS

HELLO TWO-STEP!

CJ, I’ve been a widower for a while now. Spend time talking to the dog and the mule. If you are in the mood for some dinner and dancing, I’m your Huckleberry.

GENE E. HAMMERLUN

GARDNERVILLE, NEVADA

Doc Holiday from “Tombstone”—you were always the best two-stepper at Sharkey’s in Gardnerville. I need a break. Tomorrow?—Ed.