

RANGE

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RANGE is an award-winning quarterly devoted to the issues that threaten the West, its people, lifestyles, lands and wildlife. No stranger to controversy, RANGE is a leading forum for opposing viewpoints in the search for solutions that will halt the depletion of a national resource—the American cowboy.

RANGE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
Grants to the nonprofit 501(c)(3) RCF to assist with RANGE's mission are appreciated. Mail to RCF, Attn.: Ed Depaoli, P.O.Box 1595, Carson City, NV 89702.

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Up Front

One helluva cause.

By C.J. Hadley



July 4th just disappeared and my Old Glory has been furled and returned to a protected corner indoors until the next heart-thumping, patriotic holiday. But it got me to thinking about what it means to be here now, and the value of friends and supporters.

Many people have helped RANGE.

Wyoming sheep rancher Chet Mercer will never be forgotten because, as many of you know, he paid my salary with his social security check for 15 of the past 20 years. And Harry Bettis also delivered extraordinary help for this magazine. But everyone who buys a subscription is important and appreciated, as are advertisers and folks who buy gift subs and merchandise, because their support helps pay our huge bills.

Western Ranchers Beef is a special outfit that has gone way past kind. This good group grows and sells quality beef, and in its spare time has run a raffle for years to benefit RANGE and students in its WRB Youth Scholarship Program. Over the past 14 years, winners have scored several big and beautiful trucks, a couple of quads, and a bucketful of money, while we have received part of the proceeds—a great deal of cash—to help pay for many, many RANGE days of publishing. For several years, WRB ranchers kept us away from red ink, and their enormous affection for our efforts makes me want to burst into tears or cuddle a dog.

Carolyn Carey is a rancher from Alturas, Calif., boss lady of lots of enterprises and the staunch leader of this mob of givers. She helped found WRB and serves as its chief operating officer. She started the Born & Raised in the U.S.A. beef label, is past 2nd vice president of California Cattlemen's Association, and serves on many boards and commissions, including the Range Conservation Foundation. Her passion for good beef and relentless pursuit of improvement is becoming known from coast to coast. This woman never gives up—which is why she understands RANGE.

Carey is also ramrod for WRB's "Ride for the Range" annual raffle, its major fund-raiser. This year she wants to sell you a ticket. I

hope you want to buy one. For only \$100 each (and with only 400 tickets available), that single ticket could turn into a big, bountiful cash prize of \$20,000 (see ad, page 63). "This is a reverse drawing," she says, "so the first ticket drawn will automatically win \$1,000!"

If you are broke, or tight with your hard-earned cash, and can't or don't want to cough up \$100 for a cause like RANGE and ag students, consider splitting the ticket. Four people could spend only \$25 apiece to come up with \$5,000 each on Jan. 15, 2011—judgment day. And if you have ever bet on a horse at a racetrack, or on a game at a casino, you know these odds are bloody good.

Anyway, I also want to tell you thanks for all your support and let you know it's a perfect treat to deliver this magazine to you and others who care about the West and its real producers. You readers are my heroes, and will be forever and ever, amen.

And—if you buy a raffle ticket—I wish you the best of cowboy luck! ■

WIN \$20,000
Great Odds,
Big Rewards
from WRB!
(See ad, page 63)



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