

Opinion from America's Outback

DON'T RISK IT

Here are two new gifts. I was tired of these two always trying to steal my newest issue!

R.W. HEWETT, HENRIETTA, TEXAS

I sent a copy of *RANGE* to my brother, Bob Hanson, who lives in Goose Creek, S.C., near Charleston. Now he says he can't live without it! I can't risk it, so here's \$\$\$.

DAVE TIDWELL, MERIDIAN, IDAHO

MAKING THEM THINK

To say thank you for a great job at our club's gun rights dinner does not seem to be adequate—but please know that the thank you

comes from the 200-plus people who were there. A Mono County deputy who has been at 15 of our dinners gave you rave reviews. His children, ages 12 and 14, were in awe about you growing up in England during WWII. You're causing people to think.

ALBERT PEGORARE, BRIDGEPORT, CALIF.

I would not give up this magazine for anything. I did not renew my subscription for NRA so I could renew *RANGE*.

WES BELL-MILBY, PAVILLION, WYOMING

NOT LIKE NAT GEO

Some say Lonnie Thompson has spent more time above 18,000 feet than anyone alive—1,099 days at last count. His data show the planet is warming at a historic rate. As a result, the ice is melting. "It's like visiting a patient dying of cancer. You know there is no hope; you can only watch it shrink away." (*National Geographic*, January 2012) For 38 years Thompson has been collecting data, not teaching kids and grading papers. I know I am wasting my time. You have no desire to be as good as *National Geographic*.

O.K. OLSEN, OAKLEY, IDAHO

I'm an 87-year-old retired physician who wants to express my humble gratitude to you for publishing Dr. Singer's "Are Climate Skep-

tics Wrong" [Summer 2013] about the anthropogenic global warming climate fraud that is presently bankrupting Europe and which we seem destined to follow.

JOHN KAYE, REDDING, CALIFORNIA

Enough cannot be said of the great service you do for the West, and indeed for America.

STANLEY ALLEN, OCEAN PARK, WASHINGTON

I enjoyed your magazine cut don't agree with your anti-Obama tirades and let the sub lapse.

NAME WITHHELD, POULSBORO, WASHINGTON

The Summer 2013 article by Stephen Studert, "Rural Irrelevance," informs us that as a part of next year's production budget, ranching families must add another \$20,000 for health insurance. I have seriously considered wearing a button "Adopt a Taxpayer," even if it is homemade.

PHYLLIS O. CROOKSTON
AMERICAN FORK, UTAH

RANGE speaks to my heart and my roots. I just can't get enough of it.

JOY TURNER, ATHENS, TEXAS

KEEP STARTING BRUSH FIRES

Keep starting the brush fires and hopefully others will notice. I also enjoy listening to you on the radio with Beth-Ann on the Common Sense Coalition out of Missouri. You are just perfect with what you are doing.

BILL STEINMEYER, MERRIMAN, NEBRASKA

I grew up on a Nebraska ranch. The last time I was in Carson City I'd just gotten out of the Marine Corps and my 1949 Ford was parked under a window at a motel. We had to leave at about 3 a.m. and in arranging things and putting the baby in the backseat, my wife Nancy sat on the horn ring. I can relate to the Chevrolet Bel Air! [Summer 2013] I will order "the baby-in-the-backseat" a subscription to *RANGE*. She lives in Hamilton, Mont.

MAURICE RENARD, MANTORVILLE, MINN.

ENVIRO LEFT WINGERS

When I first mentioned *RANGE* to Uncle Jimmy he said, "Oh yeah, I have heard of that enviro-left wing magazine." My first thought was, boy! Jim is a whole lot further to the right than I could ever imagine. Well, the good news is he later said, "I was wrong, I was thinking of another magazine." "Phew!" So let's sign Jim up.

RICHARD STADDEN, TIPTON, CALIFORNIA

This is in response to "Babies & Critical

(Continued on page 13)

NO SENSE OF SOCIAL HIERARCHY



Jack Algeo was an animal scientist and beef nutritionist—the first person in the United States to use a computer to do least-cost ration balancing for feedlots. At the peak of his career, he supervised the care of millions of feedlot cattle. At 91, he was still bright, alert, and working as a nutrition consultant for a few clients, including Snyder Livestock in Yerington. He died from a tragic accident, not from any health issues.

His deep affection for horses began in his grandfather's livery stable that was operated for the Butterfield Stage in San Diego. For the past few years, he helped John Harris at the Harris Ranch with his racehorse nutrition program and flew his own plane to Coalinga to work with the horses. He also had a passion for the Rancheros Visitadores ride in California. For 42 years, Jack lived for the weeklong cowboy campout, exercising his horse for weeks before the event so that he could compete in team pennings and other contests.

Jack taught at Cal Poly from 1947 to 1954. My father, Eddie Snyder, who is now 87, was his student. Jack returned to Cal Poly in 1985 as head of the Animal Science Department.

Jack was a storyteller. His mottos were: "Never lose the common touch" and "Always make a friend." The family recalls a pheasant-hunting trip to the Dakotas. At dinnertime Jack was missing and they found him out with a hired woman, cleaning the pheasants they had shot, laughing and talking. He had no sense of rank or social hierarchy and met everyone with the same enthusiastic curiosity and friendly warmth.

LUCY SNYDER RECHEL, SNYDER LIVESTOCK CO., YERINGTON, NEVADA

A memorial fund has been established to help kids who wish to attend events, to lobby in Sacramento, learn about California Cattlemen Assn., or do anything that gives them experience in the ranching business. Contributions to the Jack and Catherine Algeo Memorial Fund can be sent to the Animal Sciences Dept., Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0250.

Thinking” by Barry Perryman, Ph.D., in the Winter 2012 issue. My father told me this story too when I was about eight or so. I’m now 86. Did the good doctor’s tale happen? I seriously doubt it—but my dad and Perryman must have read Wister.

JAMES STERLING, MOUNTAIN HOME, IDAHO

I wish *RANGE* would come more often. Perhaps one day it can.

DAVIS BURRUS, MEMPHIS, MISSISSIPPI

RANGE inspires me. (Also it causes a certain amount of trepidation!)

GORDON & MARIE FRAZIER

JAMESTOWN, CALIFORNIA

Hank Vogler has a lifelong association with horses and the range heads of America. His comments reflect common sense. I support what that sheepherder has to say.

JAMES LEE, WHITNEY, NEBRASKA

Thank you for supporting our ranchers and farmers and for exposing the left-wing frauds who are trying to destroy America.

DOUG HEINFORTH, BOISE, IDAHO

I absolutely loved Doug Keister’s centerspread photo of the Black Rock Desert. Beautiful.

LINDA DUFURRENA, DENIO, NEVADA

Hang on to your wallet...the next few years are going to be interesting.

PATRICK TRACY, GLENROCK, WYOMING

NO HELP FROM GOV'T

I read Janet Thompson’s article, “Dancing With the Devil” [Summer 2013], and I could not have been more pleased to hear her comments about how our industry is trying to work with the very people who want to destroy us. My grandfather started our hog and cattle operations in 1921 in Hayward, Calif., and around 1965 the city tried to take our ranch land to develop an industrial park. My father and uncle took them to court and took the city to the cleaners. We relocated to an island in the San Joaquin Delta. My father, brother and I then bought a ranch in Byron around 1978 and started hog and cattle feedlots. We did well for years: long hours, hard work, solving problems as they presented themselves, not looking for help from any government agencies.

Around 1999, the state water department started demanding reports on how water runoff from our land carrying fecal matter might be affecting the Delta water system. A number of letters and demands continued to arrive in our mailbox and then they wanted us to pay \$25,000 to file a study on our water runoff. All major slaughterhouses had left



“Time for a drink,” *Joses Ranch, Calaveras County, Calif.* Photo © Carolyn Fox

California and the added cost for transportation to out-of-state slaughterhouses had cut into our profit margin so much we started to lose money. We closed the business in 2000.

Each and every day I think about the way ranch life gave me the freedom to do what needed to be done and not needing anyone else or agency to tell me what I should do. Our American dream is fading fast, while we allow federal and state government agencies to dictate how we should do business. God help us keep our freedoms intact!

LOU SANTUCCI, SAN RAMON, CALIFORNIA

Janet Thompson’s “Are You Sustainable?” [Summer 2013] was most interesting. The article details all the abilities that her father possessed and accomplished without formal training, procedures manuals, or licenses. She then goes on to say that her dad “was not sustainable” by today’s definition of sustainability. Well, may I respectfully submit that he, indeed, is sustainable. Anyone who is a problem solver and doer, capable of providing a living for himself and his family, and more than likely of notable help to his friends and neighbors, who does not look to government for help or solutions, will be far better off in a crunch than the vast majority of us who rely on a paycheck. Today’s definition of sustainability, as Janet well knows, is a purely political term and concept used to control rather than produce or provide.

RAY SCHNEIDER, NOVATO, CALIFORNIA

FAKE COWBOY GLITZ

I was prompted to subscribe to *RANGE* by several things: First, I found a few copies several years ago and was impressed then but

time and business distracted me, and second, a friend had kindly given me a gift subscription to a “western” magazine (*Cowboys & Indians*) thinking it would be an adjunct to my western “prairie” inclinations. The fake cowboy glitz and Hollywood liberalism were awful. I’m an old cowboy buff and raised on American exceptionalism. Most other western publications serve to distract us while the hidden agenda of big government destroys the foundations of our country.

Your “It’s All About Liberty” [Spring 2013] had me cheering for a freedom-loving U.K. transplant who sees the potential horrors ahead if we do not restore our Constitution as the law of the land. The Second Amendment is the only thing ensuring all the other freedoms enshrined by our founding documents. As so often happens, those who have lived through socialism are the best voices of support for what America was and must be again if we are to have liberty. As a retired deputy sheriff (and many other things), I applaud you! Thank you for a publication the West can be proud of!

STEVE BAYRD, WHITEWATER, CALIFORNIA

WORRIED IN WYOMING

I saw *RANGE* the first time in a resident’s room in our nursing facility. I read it and really enjoyed it. I ordered the magazine for two years and then finally it was here—*RANGE*’s Spring 2013 edition! My excitement died after reading “It’s All About Liberty.”

Born and raised in Germany, I now live in Wyoming where a lot of people have guns. Have had a lot of conversations about the use and abuse of guns over the years. Your article made me really mad, because it just shows

one side on the gun topic. I thought about you again on Thursday when a five-year-old boy killed his sister with a gun. Wonder how you would sell that to readers. Guns are great?

All these killings with guns every year and there is nothing we can do to stop it? I just wish that articles like yours wouldn't be published! And let me tell you something: a man like Hitler would have found a way to take the guns away from Germans before he killed the Jews. He outsmarted the people in all different ways. I never worried about being shot or killed while I was living in Germany, but there were a few times in Wyoming where I had to worry about my life because of crazy neighbors with guns.

PINA ALBRECHT, UPTON, WYOMING

Thank you for your insight on the Second Amendment [Up Front, Spring 2013]. You are quite correct that many people do not understand why "anyone would need a gun." First of all, Americans have been "dumbed down" by our Public Fool System, the lap-dog media, and the government. We are now probably the dumbest animals on the planet. As one of the quotes on page 14 says, "Get all the fools on your side and you can be elected to anything." I don't see this ending well. It is apparent that the government wants a confrontation, revolution, or whatever, as an excuse to impose Martial Law and begin the systematic murder of Americans. Even our two Idaho senators voted in favor of the National Defense Authorization Act, further stripping the right of due process from the people. Perhaps Americans will wake up when they see photos similar to the one of Hitler's soldiers executing people at the edge of a pit, only this time it will be Aunt Sally, Sister Sue, and Grandpa going into the pit with bullets in their heads. I hope your readers will take seriously what you have written.

HAROLD CALL, MACKAY, IDAHO

ODE TO PRECIOUS

I was delighted to read about your interest in classic autos in Summer 2013 ["Precious & Impending Walkabout."] Last August, I purchased a 1950 Chevy "five-window" pickup



and I'm having a ball driving it around and fixing it up. It's provided me with hours of fun

and enjoyment. Good luck with your project. Be patient, it will all come together and you'll enjoy folks giving you a thumbs up in traffic. Everybody has a story about "your" vehicle.

BILL MCCALLIE, COWBOY JUBILEE RADIO SHOW
WWW.WSMC.ORG, WEATHERFORD, TEXAS

Good luck with the new old car. If things get rough you can hang some curtains and move in.

BOB BROWN, PORTLAND, OREGON

HORSES WE'VE LOVED

I just read "Horses We've Loved" by John L. Moore [Summer 2013] and it made me think



of my youngest granddaughter, who is horse crazy. Here's a picture of Ava and her horse Chiquita. It's one that tugs at your heart-strings! Keep up with the good work. They might get us down, but we'll always get up!

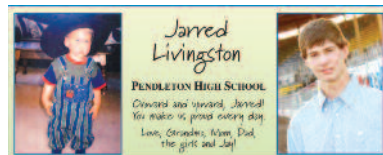
SANDY WHITLEY, SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

In our many visits to an eye specialist in Ashland—probably the most liberal town in Oregon and hosting SOSOC, a very liberal college—I could never find anything to read that didn't have something to do with saving something, be it spotted owls, whales, some damn mouse or other, and so on. I started gathering up my old RANGE mags and would leave a couple in the rack at each visit. They would be gone when we went back in a month or so. I hope someone is taking them home and that they are not just being thrown out by some ##!&*+*+!!!

By the way, I sure enjoyed John L. Moore's article, "Horses We've Loved." Brought a tear to an old man's eye.

JOHN LARSEN, CHILOQUIN, OREGON

My dear "Chubby" grew up too fast and is graduating from high school. He's a tie-down roper just like his grandfather, my late husband Fred. I shed a few tears when I saw the



roes, and Cowboys are Kings" by Wylie Gustafson. I love my horses. Homer comes to the deck, talks to me, and I go out and feed him alfalfa pellets.

SHARON LIVINGSTON, LONG CREEK, ORE.
I want to thank you for your rapid turnaround of a gift subscription for my dad down in Albuquerque. He's from Buffalo, S.D., and received the Spring 2013 issue in time for his birthday. I thought he might enjoy Carrie Stadheim's "Strong Suit" article, and I was pleasantly surprised to hear that as a child he knew what is now the Dolls' ranch, and he was really pleased to see Ms. Stadheim mention Bill Vroman, a childhood friend.

RALPH R. SACRISON, ELKO, NEVADA

NOT JEFFERSON?

Being familiar with more than a few of Thomas Jefferson's writings, the first quotation in "Amazing Facts & Quotes" caught my eye. (The quote was, "Peace is that brief glorious moment in history when everybody stands around reloading.") It didn't sound to me like Jefferson, from any point in his long life. So, I went to what may be the most authoritative reference and verification source for Jefferson quotes and writings: Monticello.org. I checked many sources and this quotation has not been found in the writings of Thomas Jefferson. The language is somewhat uncharacteristic of his style. "Stand around" in the sense used here is not an expression that can be found in Jefferson's letters. He almost always wrote "every body" instead of "everybody." And there are no instances of the word "reload" (or variations thereof) referring to firearms in Jefferson's writings.

SEAN R. SWEENEY, ABINGDON, MARYLAND

Love Hank Vogler's "Remember The Bastille" (Summer 2013). About three decades ago, we sold our house in the Big West Coast City and moved. Some time later the folks who bought the place asked us, "What's with all that bottled water under the house?" We told them. (We didn't leave the nitrogen-packed cans of food.) I had told my wife that the stores had about three days of food. Hank is being generous at five days. Resupply? What if the roads go out, or the trucks can't run?

On another subject: The fed government has indebted us to the tune of over \$16 trillion. But wait! Sometimes a little grade school arithmetic will show the way out. I thought maybe at long last the feds would sell off all that western land they have been hoarding all these years to pay off the national debt. Let's see: 650 million acres divided into \$16 trillion equals \$25,000 per acre! Whoops, we are in trouble. But wait; at the rate the Fed is print-

ing money, the land will soon be worth \$25,000 per acre, if paid for in U.S. dollars. So there is hope. (Wanna buy a \$400,000 pickup?) Many thanks to the ranchers and farmers who each now can feed about 300 of us critters who live up in the mountains.

PHIL CAMMACK, SIERRA CITY, CALIFORNIA



Four-year-old Andrew Boucher of Hinsdale, Mont., with his mother Renae after a long hard day at the Christensen

Ranch branding. Not quite nap time but a nice dish of ice cream would be real nice.

VIRGIL VAUPEL, VIA EMAIL

As always, Lee, Hank, Suzanne, and Doc were at the top of their game in the Summer issue, but the greatest surprise was the “Red Meat” article on George Parman. I had the good fortune to meet and spend most of a day with George last summer. He was kind enough to



haul an old hillbilly across half the state of Nevada just so I could photograph wild mus-

tangs. He is a genuine cowboy and a gentleman. The former is quite scarce here in the East, and the latter is now on the “endangered species” list.

God bless you all and my thanks for giving a voice to the “backbone of America.”

ALAN HART, TROUTDALE, VIRGINIA

THE WORD’S OUT

We were at the mule and horse sale in Salmon, Idaho, last week. Montana Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife had a booth there to promote wolf awareness. I told them the best magazine out there, reporting honestly on the front lines of the environmental war is...

RANGE magazine, but before I could get RANGE out of my mouth...they finished the sentence. The word is getting around.

CATHY KAECH, MIDVALE, IDAHO

I have nieces and nephews who attend universities in Washington, D.C., Chicago and California. What I notice on their friend’s Facebook posts is how ignorant most are about the reality of the value of our country’s farmers and ranchers. These kids will spend their free time helping nonprofits. Is there a possibility a program could be started that kids work on ranches and farms free for 6-12 weeks. So many are family owned or run. Tar-

get the East Coast schools. Pay their airfare, etc. Just an idea.

SARA SCHROEDER VOTAVA, VIA FACEBOOK



First calf born to a replacement heifer in early March at Smith & Smith Ranch, Spenceville, Calif. Very small, but healthy as can be. Her name is Tiny.

GAYLENE & KEVIN COLLINS
ROUGH & READY, CALIFORNIA

Thank you for the decades of honest, high-quality journalism documenting the plight of those on the front lines saving our food, fiber and means of survival and self-sufficiency for future generations.

CINDY COPING, TUCSON, ARIZONA

DEER STAND OR CHURCH?

I scouted the area all summer. I searched out the best location for my tree stand. I set it all up a month ahead of time. I trailed the herd. I picked out a trophy buck. Two days before opening day I rechecked every aspect of the hunt. Everything was in place. Sunday morning, I woke up at 2 a.m., put on my camo, loaded my pack, and set out for my stand. This was destined to be an epic hunt. As I approached my deer stand I changed my mind. I decided to go to church instead.

VIA TED LYSTER, BEND, OREGON
FOUND ON THE INTERNET

