



Opinion from America's Outback

FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

My 10-year-old grandson and I had been distributing *RANGE* magazines to four gun stores and a large horse sale here in northeast Ohio. I wanted as many people as possible to see your great editorial on gun control. ["It's All About Liberty," Spring 2013] On the way home, my grandson asked, "Grandpa, will you go down in the history books like Benjamin Franklin?" "Why?" I responded. He said, "Because you're fighting for freedom."

DALE ADAMS, NORTON, OHIO

Hank Vogler's article, "Enemies of the State," Spring 2013, about Dwight, Susan and Steve Hammond, is another sign of our out-of-control, runaway government. It is appalling to see the feds send men to prison for standing up for what is right. Thank you for news we will never see from national news media.

LARRY MAPLESDEN, JOHN DAY, OREGON

As an "easterner" I look forward to reading about the ranching families, their joys, struggles and accomplishments as they pursue a

LIGHT IN DARK CORNERS

Marvelous...Dave Skinner's definitive essay on Jon Marvel [Winter 2013]. I was present when Dave Foreman, co-founder of EarthFirst! said, "The wilderness movement should be used to restructure society as we now know it." As an Owyhee County, Idaho, rancher, I also had an up-close-and-personal experience with Marvel. He told me, "I'm going to get rid of you and your cows." I asked, "How can I take that?" He responded, "Any way you want to!" A coincidence? Our pickup was sabotaged, fences cut, gates opened, and the BLM notified by Marvel's associates when cattle moved into unauthorized areas. The message is clear, just before Marvel threatened me, I overheard one of his cohorts comment that anybody who challenged them could expect "special treatment."

Special treatment has resulted in agency personnel directing management toward placating Marvel at the expense of permittees and their communities. Management of resources has suffered. Last summer's wildfires, largely caused by buildup of fuel loads due to grazing reductions, blackened over a million acres of sage grouse habitat. The big question? What was and will continue to be the economic and ecological cost? To us they are one and the same.

Back to Foreman's comment. It's not about wilderness and cows, it's something more. Dave Skinner let light into dark corners and who knows what may come crawling out?

MICHAEL F. HANLEY IV, JORDAN VALLEY, OREGON

way of life that many of us envy. I also appreciate you, keeping us informed on the dangers of Agenda 21. Our Tea Party of West Michigan has been active in informing the members of the dangers of this destructive U.N. war on our rights.

TOM KOIENGA, SPARTA, MICHIGAN

You do such important work for the livestock industry, for the West, for America, and ultimately for the world, whose people need to eat and need to be free.

MARY BRANSCOMB, LAMOILLE, NEVADA

We are about to lose our freedom as we know it, here in the U.S.A. America has become a nation of fools and pagans!

CHOYA PENNINGTON, BOWLUS, MINNESOTA

You do a great service informing the public of government involvement in private landholdings. Sounds like Middle-Ages Europe where the kings could do what they wanted with the peasants on the lands.

GEORGE A. BAUMAN, NORWALK, CALIFORNIA

ON THE TEAT, EAT THE BEEF

I'm glad I am on the short end of the stick, I think. My grandchildren are going to live their adult lives in a far different environment than I have. This last election proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that people are more interested in being on the teat, than getting a job and buying the cow.

JANE LAMBERT, VIA EMAIL

Our old ranch family are great admirers of the work you are doing. I grab the magazine first and hold on until it's read cover to cover, then whoever wants it next has my okay.

VIRGINIA AKERS, SANGER, CALIFORNIA

We especially enjoy the red meat survivors as we are in that category ourselves and still enjoy beef about three times a day.

RICHARD P. PEDERSEN, VALLEY VIEW, TEXAS

SHARING THE WEALTH

Be assured that your gift of *RANGE* magazines will be greatly appreciated by Combat Logistics Regiment 2, now deployed in the Helmand Province in Afghanistan. Thank you for supporting the United States Marine Corps in this way. Your generosity will bring welcome articles from home. God bless you.

MARSHA BETTINELLI, ST. HELENA, CALIFORNIA

Use this gift any way you choose. Buy dog food or a sweater for the cold. The people of the West are fortunate you have chosen to adopt us. You also point out a lot of things we tend to lose sight of or just don't think about as we are just trying to get the work done.

PATRICK & SHIRLEY LEE, SUSANVILLE, CALIF.

Love "Bad Days at Big Dry" by John L. Moore in your Spring 2013 issue—a much-needed look at just what our cowboys feel for their livestock and for our country.

DARBY SNELL VIA FACEBOOK

I want to express my appreciation for the interesting, informative and well-written articles. I read the magazine and display it in my home for others to read and enjoy, never fearing the inappropriate language that too often is printed in some books and magazines.

MARY PRICE HOFFMAN, TROUTDALE, VIRGINIA

DISGUSTING

RANGE is disgusting, biased and over the line [Spring 2013]. Every page was blasting Obama and even Michelle. Other people read this magazine besides Republicans.

ANONYMOUS, MOSES LAKE, WASHINGTON
I have been a registered Democrat for 41 years. I vote for good candidates, not for party.—Ed.

As a Korean vet trained in infantry basic, at 83 I predict Obama will go down in history as the most ego-borne and inept man ever to grace the president's chair. It could have been different if he had the three most important ingredients: common sense, sound reasoning, and good judgment. Unfortunately for him, he's never demonstrated he's ever had any abundance of the above.

BOB HAMANN, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

When do the union thugs fall out in the streets and begin attacking the gun owners?

ANDREW M. MARTIN, SUNNYSIDE, WASH.

(Continued on page 26)

LETTERS

(Continued)



LIKE NO OTHER PLACE

Arizona isn't like most other places. Our newspaper delivery box is miles from our home. Someone took a paper, but left a buck.

AL TOPPING, TUBAC, ARIZONA

I wish more people would read *RANGE*. Every once in a while I see someone in it who I knew from the old days.

GLEN DUNCAN, KEARNEY, NEBRASKA

We grieve the loss of freedom in our land. However, freedom is cemented to faith and personal responsibility. When we the people collectively reject God, we choose deception, immorality, corruption, slavery and poverty over truth, uprightness, integrity, freedom and blessing. Only a return to God will save us.

RAY & LORNA LINDSETH, DUPUYER, MONT.



Thought you might like this picture of my grandson Juanito Bancarte at Willcox Livestock in Willcox, Ariz., in December.

J.R. SWAPP, VIRDEN, NEW MEXICO

ALL THE RIGHT THINGS

Your excellent work/magazine is well received here in southeast Washington, and you continue to cover all the right things.

WILLIAM R. "RICK" BRIGHAM
CLARKSTON, WASHINGTON

I liked "Up Front" in Spring 2013. I must add that it is not only the 2nd Amendment that is at risk, but the whole Bill of Rights. If the 2nd goes, then the whole concept of God-given rights and "Congress shall pass no law" goes right out the window, and the government for, by, and of the people will be no more. The tattered remnants of our Constitution will serve only to organize the government, leaving out the people's input. Our elections will then resemble the old Soviet Union's.

One thing I like about *RANGE* is that it contains informed opinion rather than dogma. It actually reports. The main problem with our nation is not the politicians, but the press. If the mainstream media actually reported the truth, the politicians would be more in line with reality. If we had a real watchdog press (like *RANGE*), our nation would have fewer problems.

PAUL ETZLER, EUREKA, NEVADA

What with all the emotional hysteria about guns and random shootings by loonies along with endless threats by the left for the abusing of our 2nd Amendment rights to bear arms, should you not consider an occasional article on the uses and the need for firearms on farms and ranches? After all, the NRA does what it can to protect the agriculture community. Shouldn't you join them in protecting our constitutional rights?

HUGO VON PLATEN LUDER
HOLUALOA, HAWAII

NEW RED MEAT

Darlene and I were shopping recently and I noticed in the meat display packages of "bison meat." That made me recall that I had seen restaurants advertising that they served bison steak, so it occurred to me, if it's okay for me to eat bison, why can't my pets and I eat horses? Hmmm.

DON SMITH, SMITH, NEVADA

Teresa Jordan's story, "The Green-Bean Testament," in *RANGE*'s Spring 2013 issue is a real gift, beautifully written. I totally believe it. It seems to me that if everyone chose to live life as Einstein famously said, "as though everything is a miracle," then the world would definitely be a better, more peaceful place. I choose that option.

DENYSE PELLETIERI WHITE
VINELAND, NEW JERSEY

HELLO?

Got the spring edition of the left-leaning, liberal, tree-huggin', government-aligned copy of *RANGE* today and was noticing you included my letter. With the vast resources you have available from the Department of the Interior, including, but not limited to, unlimited personnel and money, why can't you produce a rag that is incapable of stating anything factual concerning the West?

Did that get your attention or what? I can just picture you screwing yourself out of the ceiling right now and getting ready to go ballistic with an email response! But maybe, perhaps, you're taking a few days off after

shipping your latest edition 'cause you and your extensive staff of 527 government employees are so overworked. Don't you think all the government-sponsored holidays are enough time off plus weekends? Now, maybe, 'cause you are missing from work due to your leisurely work environment, you won't even get this email until you return from your much needed vaca. May you enjoy your time off with Mr. Obama in the Bahamas planning your future strategy.

CHUCK & BETTY CUNDY, CORA, WYOMING
P.S. Looking forward to getting together next summer to wet a line.

GOOD MOMMAS

Many areas of northern Australia have just experienced record rains and floods (again).



Look at this picture, taken at a cattle property outside of Bundaberg, Queensland. With nowhere to go, these mother cows sure did not give up taking care of their calves!

CHRIS DAVISON, VIA EMAIL FROM OZ

Most honest and forthwith magazine about the truths of the West that exists! A must read for my Sky View FFA students. *RANGE* magazine creates a depth of thinking that inspires our agriculture youth to defend that which we have stewardship of. Thank you!

DAVE ERICKSON, SKY VIEW FFA ADVISOR
SMITHFIELD, UTAH

I really can't believe that pro-fracking article got published by *RANGE* in Spring 2013. Money for destruction, we don't agree. So, Dr. whoever, go back East and keep your opinions to yourself 'cause you prob'ly got a pretty penny to voice such nonsense.

TOPHER DALRYMPLE VIA FACEBOOK

I am not sure why you are so upset. I know many unbiased scientists who have done big studies on fracking and found it safe. However, studies that show alleged pollution by fracking have all been proven incorrect, some of them using gross pseudoscience.—Michael S. Coffman, Ph.D., Bangor, Maine

I read "Go West" cover to cover and had to congratulate you on another great book! Am amazed, with your workload and lack of help,

LETTERS

(Continued)

how you keep putting out amazing publications. Not sure where you found Rod Miller but very impressed with his writing.

DENNIS GOLDEN, RENO, NEVADA

I couldn't put your book, "Go West," down until the last page. It will be a best seller.

BECKY TERRY, EL PASO, TEXAS

Keep 'em flying, CJ.

RICKEE D. EDDLEMAN, EDMOND, OKLAHOMA

ODE TO HAGE

Ms. Morrison:

I just finished reading your article, "Eye of the Storm," in the Winter 2013 issue of *RANGE*. What a great story and congratulations to your family and your father's estate. With all things that are happening with the government and how it thinks it knows "what is best for its citizens," I applaud your family's tenacity to stand up to the government and applaud the decision. I also commend the judge for seeing what is right for the rancher. You have a fan here in Utah.

JIM AYERS, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

It is sad how the government, local and federal, doesn't see agriculture for what it is. Dave Tidwell's "The Way I See It: You Want Me to Give What?" (Winter 2013) proves that. I find it hard to believe a bike path would be less disruptive than grazing cattle. I grew up in Golden, Colo., and prime ranch land now has multimillion-dollar houses on it instead of cattle because the BLM kept buying or taking easement chunks of it to "protect" the "fragile area." Now there are huge homes with perfect lawns and flowerbeds that are not native species—the one thing they were supposed to be protecting. Where is our food supply to come from when the ranchers' and farmers' average age keeps getting older and land is taken for recreation? America needs to wake up and realize we can't rely on other countries for our food! It just doesn't appear at the store from some plant popping out packaged food. I'm afraid America is headed for an economic fall that could make us equal to a Third World country and the huge, corporate-owned farms will control our food supply. Thank the dear Lord I was taught to raise my own food and to hunt. Hank Williams Jr. has it right in his song, "A Country Boy Can Survive." Keep up the fight!

LIAM HENNING, MILLERSBURG, OHIO

I was glad to read "Edge of the Black Rock"

on homeschooling by Katie Marvel DeLong. These days more and more parents are choosing that option. Katie comes from a long line of achievers who can do just about anything they put their minds to. Such as delivering a baby at home. I was happy to read Mary Branscomb's article about Katie's grandparents delivering their new great-grandson.

DARLENE WOODCOCK

SAINT ANTHONY, IDAHO

SPREADING THE WORD

Dr. Coffman: Your article in the Winter 2013 issue, "Climate Fraud & the Decline of America," is shocking and the information it revealed is depressing. A 1985 graduate of the Sacramento, Calif., public school system, I felt my education was a much higher standard (in 3 Rs) compared to my son's in Glendive, Mont. (2011). I, now 46, brought books home to my parents like "50 Ways to Save the Planet" and those pushing meat-free diets and "light footprints," while my son, now 20 and part of the "Just Say No to Drugs" campaign, didn't see the importance of recycling a can. I still consider myself a conservationist (use only what you need), but turned 180 degrees from my early days of uninformed empathy for many liberal causes and many of those perpetuating our entitlement programs. My son is now a lance corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps deployed in the Pacific when he had many other opportunities given his school record and his parents' support to pursue an education/career elsewhere.

I would like your permission to photocopy or scan your article (in color) and distribute it at will to my family, friends, and acquaintances as necessary to educate them on the truth relative to "global warming," or have your permission to distribute the facts otherwise in a very simple format. Please consider this and let me know your thoughts at your earliest convenience. I look forward to hearing from you.

THERESE IWANIAK, GLENDIVE, MONTANA

Sounds like you are a true conservationist! There aren't that many left. Yes, you have my permission to copy the article and pass it to as many people as you want, with proper credit. Also note that many RANGE articles can be downloaded from www.rangemagazine.com, including mine.—Michael Coffman, Ph.D.

I buy extra copies of *RANGE* to hand out. We are surrounded by farmers, ranches, U.N. Agenda 21, forest, wilderness, and government takeover. I would like to make copies to try to wake up the ignorant, uninformed sheep around here. What would it take?

CHARLIE MOORE, POWELL, WYOMING

If you want large quantities, you need permission from the copyright holders. Email specifics to cj@rangemagazine.com.—Ed.

Thanks for fighting our battles [this time Drakes Bay Oyster Co.] for many years.

LOIS HERBST, SHOSHONI, WYOMING

NO ONE LEFT TO GIVE

From our perspective, the Hage family and *RANGE* are outstanding examples of heroic Americans doing their utmost to save what's left of the moral integrity that made America the nation the world envied.

Wonder what will happen when all of us who have finally made a few dollars are legislated out of business? Where will the government giveaway money come from? The thought of having another country come in and rule us lurks on the horizon.

GEORGE & LIZ VANLEEUWEN

HALSEY, OREGON

SMALL DETERMINED GROUP

As I reflect on the fact that we have known each other for so many years, have been fighting the same battle for liberty on separate fronts during that time, and now, at this time that we are launching a new effort to eliminate progressivism and socialism from our land-use policies, I am so honored to be working with somebody as rare as you. The Revolution was not won with a majority of the people's support, but with a small, determined group of men and women who had a clear vision for this nation.

All of us have been through the crucible of trials and time and I hope those experiences will prepare us to effectively and positively affect a restoration of constitutional principles. You have set the stage for things to change by your relentless coverage of the stories. Thank you for everything you have done.

RAMONA HAGE MORRISON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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