

RANCH NEWS



_BOO !

THE GHOSTLY ROUND-UP

There are two young, but oh so spooky, ladies who have stepped forward to co-master the 2008 Ranch Round-Up, Yvonne Minard and Mary Anne Obst..

The semi-annual business meeting will be held on November 5, 2008: so the Round-Up will commence on October 29 and end on November 2 with a hitch-up breakfast on November 3.

The Round-Up dates fall on Halloween weekend soooo, this year's theme will be a GHOSTLY ROUND-UP.

While the events are still in the planning stages, some of the events will be new this year and the Trail Bosses are looking at all kinds of activities. This years Round-Up the success like all of the past ones. If you are willing to help, please contact Yvonne or Mary Anne. More details in the next Palaver.

Hip Hip Hooray for these two spooks.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JULY	AUGUST
9 Chris Giffin	9-Frank Lieberman
12 Art Lumb	
15 Dennis Rundall	
15 Bill Smith	
19 Matt Lucas	
20 Neil Brunton	
21 Lou Novy	
25 Barbara Novy	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

JULY	AUGUST
1-Lumb	9-Simmons-Amari
11-Frey (George& Linda)	17-Mager
30-Minard	19-Hoffmeister
	21-Wood
	30-Miller

**WELCOME ABOARD TO OUR NEWEST
RANCH HANDS
Ken and Dottie Shipe - Lot # 66**

**DATES TO REMEMBER
September 1 Next Palaver Deadline
Oct 6 thru 10 Chili Chapter Rally
Oct 30 thru November 3 Round-Up
November 5 Semi Annual Meeting**

**OUR DEEPEST
AND MOST HEARTFELT
SYMPATHIES GO OUT TO
SUMI METCALF AT THE LOSS
OF HER HUSBAND JACK BELOVED
RANCH HAND**

Dear Ranch Hands,

This has been a roller-coaster of a month for us here at the Ranch. We said good-bye to Jack Metcalf on June 14th with a very moving memorial service, with the Marine Honor Guard in full dress in attendance. There was not a dry eye in the room as the honor Guard fired off their salute and played taps just outside the door. Sumi was presented with a flag and a flag case engraved with Jack's name, a gift to Sumi from the Ranch members. Sumi's boys Marty and Scott and Jack's brother Wendell were there with Sumi.

On June 7th the surveyors staked out our property just south of Lago Vista for a new gas well. After two weeks of frantic phone calls back and forth between the oil company and various state agencies, we were told, much to our relief, that the well will be moved farther south, just off our property. So while we can't escape it entirely, we probably will not feel the impact of the drilling near as much as we would have when it was practically in our back yard!

Oh and then there was the fire..... but that was a month or so ago.

We don't lack for entertainment out here in the desert! The tarantula's are out at night right now so we carry BIG flashlights. I understand that they are just guys out looking for a little night life, but we don't want to get in their way to the nightly games at the clubhouse. For such a small group we manage to stay very busy with movies, card games and general mayhem.

Don't forget that Round-Up will be held on Oct30 to Nov 3rd with the semi-annual meeting on Wednesday, Nov 5. We will need lots of volunteers as usual. Start thinking about your costume for the Halloween bash, which will be our Friday night entertainment at Round-Up. I will definitely need some volunteers and ideas for our haunted house! Have a great summer and come back full of enthusiasm and energy.

Debra

Madam President

DID YOU KNOW!



This will be Chapter 2 in the continuing saga of "Everything you wanted to know about The Ranch but were afraid to ask". Hopefully the information will be useful not only to new members but also to leaseholders who have been around for awhile.

RED LIGHTS IN THE Ranch House?

Last month it was mentioned that the red lights above the restroom doors in the Ranch House indicate the restroom is in use. If for any reason the door cannot be opened by the person on the inside, there is an emergency door opener on the sill above each door.

HOPE IT IS NEVER NEEDED BUT...

There is a defibrillator in the closet in the corner of the Ranch House by the mailboxes. Instructions for its use are with it. There is also a first aid kit in that closet.

HELP IS ON THE WAY!

A call to 911 will bring the Atoka Fire Dept. to The Ranch in a matter of minutes. (Be sure your cell phone is programmed to reach the local 911).

NEED A LIFT?

There is a wheel chair in the closet mentioned above as well as crutches, walkers, and a cane. These items are available for Ranch Hands to use any time they are needed.

Next month we'll discuss canon fire & ghosts & other tantalizing tidbits.

Shirley Partch

Welcome Committee Chair

OLD PALAVER ARTICLE(Title yet to come)

As we begin this new column, I first want to say to Vern Miller, "THANKS!" He left on loan for all to enjoy in the Ranch House, the Palaver's premier year issues of 1998. While reading parts of these issues, the thought came to me that parts of these issues would entertain us, today's Ranch Hands. Below, you will find when the clothes line arrived. In this column, and the future, there will be tidbits that cause us to chuckle or shake our heads in exasperation as to how much has changed yet much remains the same. History truly does repeat itself. Now Bob and Marilyn Riley will be able to say, "see-e-e, we told you so!"

Cindy Johnson

So here we go:

Volt I N0 2

February 1998

Word from the TRAIL BOSS

Christmas has come and gone, and so has the snow. Sometimes it takes all these "things" to get the ball rolling. The Ranch house windows have been completely tinted. The laundry problems are all solved, we hope, but keep your eyes open. The move from two washers to five did the in the old water softener! Extra tables needed during Round-Up will be picked up late this month.

The outside drying lines requested last summer are under way.

Would you believe shuffleboard tournament could keep The Ranch on tenterhooks? A great time was had by all, players and watchers alike. We hope to have another soon. And Evie's cornbread and beans were out of this world.

Like tees? We are offering tee and sweat shirts, jackets, bags and other items bearing The Original Ranch logo. This is a Ranch Hands fund raiser. Watch for the order form in the next Palaver.

January's beautiful weather made outside projects enjoyable. Ranch hands have hauled rocks, spread gravel, and decorated the common areas. Many Hands, working together, have made....

A Happy Trail Boss,

Cass Davis

GREETINGS Ranch Hands,

This is from your new reporter for "AROUND THE RANCH". Rosemary and I returned from a wonderful motorcycle trip to visit our gracious new neighbors, the Taylor's! While in Angel Fire we experienced some of the most glorious cool mountain climate one could ask for. The scenery and generous culinary delights provided by the Taylor's were memorable.

Upon our return I noticed some new flags flying behind Lago Vista. - What new projects are we now about to undertake? - I soon found out about the gas well about to be dug in our back yard!!! Gather the wagons in a circle. THIS MEANS WAR.

While on my walk the next morning to try to take off some calories consumed on our trip, I noticed John Bell digging trenches. Roger and Barb Heaver have a new shed to ward off the attack. President Debra has ordered all rigs to park on Lago Vista to maintain a battle line against the big bad oil company. The Lucas's traveled all the way from Florida for the battle.

It has also been reported that Bob Abbott is up in the mountains practicing using his new rig as a battering ram if needed.

Upon further investigation, I learned that President Debra has brought out our secret weapon against the oil company. A pre-emptive attack was launched by "Super Lawyer" Laura Melvin, and as we go to press a reliable source says the oil company has been driven from our property.

I was a bit disappointed for I had visions of growing back my giant natural and once again wearing a head band. My plan was to get out my poster paint and get my placards ready for a protest. The next part of the plan was to roll out John Bell's VW bus with a big PEACE sign painted on it. Just imagine 100 Gray Panthers picketing the oil rigs with cameras from Eye Witness News running. With this being an election year this would put our politicians bowels in an uproar. It does not get any better.



Frank Lieberman

Lot #54

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Hey all you folks not going on-line and feeling left out. Here is one committee that is making you a part of what they are doing

LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE
JUNE 18, 2008

Dean Minard, Committee Chairman
Lucy Billings, secretary and pro tem Board Liason

Dean called the meeting to order and read the Committee's Mission Statement:

Identifying projects, areas and tasks for further problems, improvement and repair and prioritizing these actions.

He thanked everyone for filling out the surveys and for attending today's meeting.

He also announced there would be no discussion of fiduciary consideration,

Each item on the survey was discussed at length and it was decided to prioritize the items as the following:

1. Upgrading the electricity throughout the Ranch. John Bell will be checking on the best way to do this.
2. The laundry needs to be replaced and relocated to another place.
3. The office expansion was discussed and 9 voted for it to stay where it is and 3 voted to move it.
4. Ranch House's Roof was a main concern. Lucy B. will contact the Ranch's insurance claim agent asking him to inspect the roof for hail damage. Then we will know whether the roof needs replacing or not. If it does, it will be moved to first priority. A new composite roof seems to be the best option for the Ranch.
5. Pole Barn to be built out in the storage area for machinery, storage, and maintenance on members' vehicles. A suggestion was made that after the pole barn is built, that the old tractor shed could be adapted for the a new laundry.
6. Access road to Boondock area for visitors to boondock so they can pull parallel into boondock. It will be discuss with the manager about the feasibility of this road.

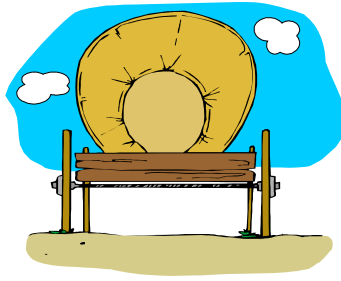
It was voted to remove the Ranch House Fireplace and the fire pit in the common area from the list.

Dean closed the meeting with the announcement that there would be another meeting on July 16th, 10:00 am in the Ranch House.

Respectively Submitted
Lucy Billings

The committee is looking for feedback, drawings, plans, and your ideas as to what you would like to see happen and how to do it. Any and all input greatly appreciated. HELP! HELP !HELP!

MEANWHILE



RANCH HANDS

Lot 92ers Report In

Carl and I left the Ranch a couple of days after Cinco de Mayo/Water Celebrations. Deisel in Farmington was 4.14 while 4.25 everywhere else. We tried mutton stew at some little Arizona Navajo pow wow. (Mutton? It was great in the stew, otherwise, no thank you to mutton!).

We highly recommend Blanding, Utah's Visitor Center. Gosh, their goodie bag is awesome. Ladies, how about Green & Black's 75% dark chocolate candy bar? Yes, plus there was a new style Schick 4-blade razor, 'evening enhancer lotion, deodorants for men and women, dental floss, gum, other lotions... Ya gotta love Blanding.

Our first 'real' campground stay was at Devil's Canyon Campground in Manti-La Sal National Forest, 9 miles north of Blanding. It was dry camping but pine forested with lots of green grass and paved sites. We were thrilled to find we had great Verizon signal and TV too. Our site looked up at mountain peaks with trails of snow.

Read this tale. Our bike tank holds about 2 gals and gets 40-50 mpg, right? Wife wanted to get to Natural Bridges N.P., south and west of Blanding. Husband obliged. They leisurely enjoyed the intro video at the Visitor Center, browsed thru the museum and went out to ride the 8 mile bridge loop. NOT. That's when husband cautiously broke the news as to the trifle fuel left to get back to Blanding. There had been none of the gas stations they had hoped for between Blanding and the Park... Preferring not to run out of gas, wife amazingly had no tantrum. Will someone please tell her what she missed on the Bridges Loop?

Between Blanding and Monticello UT is the road to Needles overlook. Laura M. had told us not to miss going there. She is right. We found a BLM campground, Windwhistle, on the road to Needles Overlook. Windwhistle was of another type of beauty different from Devil's Canyon. It is desert on a knoll, with some trees and red/tan swirly cliffs to gaze at (no Verizon service here). There are easy scenic drives/sights from Windwhistle c.g. to do – Newspaper Rock (lots & lots of petroglyphs) and Canyonland (southern region) were another day of exploring.

RAMBLINGS

Next we moved all the way to Moab, a grand 30 mile day. It actually took us almost 9 years to get our first trip to Moab. Kurt and Cleone were camp hosting at Big Bend BLM campground on the Colorado River. We had a great 10 days with them and a surprise when the Walthers joined us. Many of you have already been there so we'll only say it is an area to spend a lot of time in and to return to for more exploring. If you can dry camp for a few days or a week, there are many economical BLM/National Forest campgrounds to stay in – and so much better on the eyes & soul than the private parks.

Of course, with the Golden Age (folks this is now the Senior) Pass it costs just \$5-6 a night for camping. Many of the Moab RV Parks and the RV service Center offer dump and water for just \$5.00.

We had summer 2008 Pacific Northwest travel dreams. Yet, different from that we are into a new adventure this summer, camp hosting. Listening to Kurt and Cleone talk about how good it has been for them, and seeing with our own eyes how it worked, Carl went to surfing the government volunteer sites. Wednesday after Memorial Day, we settled in to Clear Creek National Forest campground host site. We are loving it. We enjoy gabbing with visitors (plenty on weekends and almost none on weekdays); the surroundings give us the feeling we are in our own cabin in our own alpine forest at 8400 feet. We hope to get to Chaco Canyon Culture Center, Los Alamos, Bandolier Nat'l Monument and oodles of forest roads. This is the cache we've collected so far from our visitors. 5 good size trout, 6 pk of Sam Adams, brownies and two courtesy parking places to go visit and stay in newfound friends driveways – Phoenix West and Durango Forests. Best of all, family has arrived for a spell – Ede & Bob Trochels came up from Albuquerque. There is nothing sweeter. Come on up to Cuba, NM. Go east on Highway 126 for 12 miles and you've found us at Clear Creek Campground in Santa Fe National Forest. Happy summer days to all, Cindy & Carl 92 Windmill Vista

ON THE ROAD

Soren and I left The Ranch and headed for Cochiti Lakes where we enjoyed Mother's Day dinner with the Singley's, Culpeppers, and Teegartens. Trish cooks a mean turkey breast! We enjoyed our time there with our beautiful view across the lake.

From there we went to Navajo Lake State Park. For a while. We stayed some extra days waiting for the Tenisons to return from doctor's appointments. Had a few fun packed days with them before starting north again.

Next stop was Moab where we found Kurt and Cleone as well as the Johnson's. They tried to get us all together for at least one happy hour but between our "sight seeing" and Carl getting sick, we never did manage to get together. We left on Tuesday after Memorial Day. Kurt and Cleone to Durango area and Johnson's to begin their new job.

As I write this we are in Idaho Falls, and I'm sure that somewhere along the way the summer just missed us. It has been cold and windy all but one day since we got here. Soren helped pick up broken branches yesterday, but today we have wind again and more branches are breaking. We are parked very close to several large trees. Nice for shade but...

We saw my son-in-law, Bryan, last night. The last news he had from daughter, Chris, is that Grandson John is getting back some movement. Getting speech back has been a huge advance, but it certainly has its down side. He can really yell when he gets frustrated! Part of the process with brain injury seems to be pretty common. They use 4 letter words - A LOT! The hospital has moved his room to the very end of the hall. This is probably why.

When we leave here next weekend, we hope to go to Yellowstone to see the Haase's and some other old friends also working there. The last word from Chuck and Nettie was 2-3 inches of snow and still coming down.

Next is Worland WY to visit my oldest brother before going to Gillette for Elk Pre-rally and SKP Days. We have 117 registered for the pre-rally. Gonna be a busy time.

Hugs to all

Barbara & Soren Walthers

Lot # 10

Hello Everyone:

Thanks everyone for the sympathy card regarding my brother. Unfortunately we did not make it back in time to see him before he passed away. It was quick and he did not suffer much so we are grateful for that. We stayed a week in Michigan for the funeral and to help his wife.

Moved down to Elkhart IN for a couple of weeks to relax. Had a good time as we like that area. If you ever find yourself in that area and visit Ship Shewanna stop at Hudson Auto Museum there. It is a private collection and the fellow has collected Hudson's from 1908 on. I have never seen such a collection of cars and they are all restored, just beautiful.

After Elkhart, we made the short drive to our son's area and will stay here in northwest Indiana until mid July. Gas here is around 4.10 although I find it at less than \$4.00 every so often. Deisel is around 4.50. When we leave here we will head west, probably stop in Branson for a week or two as we like it there. Then on to CA maybe stopping at The Ranch on the way.

We are enjoying the grandchildren. Bev is happy and doing well and I feel fine also.

Hope everyone is doing OK. Hope to see you all soon.

Hugs

Bill and Bev

STAYING PUT

Just a quickee to let you all know that we are staying close to the NWR in Guys Mills PA until the end of August. We will be going to Pittsburgh for the 4th of July weekend for an International Convention and heading into NY for Tom's family reunion at the end of July. Then back to NY for the last weekend in August for Roxy's family reunion and then heading back to the Ranch with a stop in OK to visit Tom's brother, we hope. If anyone is in the area of Northwest PA give us a call. Not on our cell since there is no reception but call 814-789-3585 on Monday thru Thursday from 9am to 3 PM and Roxy will probably answer the phone.

Luvya all

Roxy/Tom -- Lot #1

Dulcich Update

To update everyone on our progress.

We are in British Columbia at the Thousand Trail Park at Cultus Lake. We will leave here on Wed or Thur and head north toward Alaska. So far all has gone pretty well except for a small hiccup with a coolant leak on the motor home that was covered by warranty and was fixed in Mt. Vernon Washington by Freightliner.

To this point the most we have paid for diesel has been \$4.87, with most time below \$4.80. Here in Canada it looks like \$5.05 to \$5.40 will be more likely.

Needra's physical therapy is progressing well and she is Transitioning from the walker for most things to either the cane or our exerstrider walking sticks. Progress is still slow but steady.

Our communication with folks in the states will be somewhat sporadic for the next month as we will, for the most part, be away from both cell phones and internet points as we travel. We will check both as much as possible and get back to everyone as we can.

For all at The "Ranch", the weather up here is cool and most of the time so far bordering on rain. We feel sorry for those enduring that hot spring at the Ranch.

We are following all the activity and updates from other Ranchhands who are posting and include you and yours in our prayers as all have done for us. It sounds like, for the most part, healing is taking place for most on the sick or disabled list.

There will be a number of family and friends who read this that won't fully understand some of the references made to the Ranch Family but rest assured it is a very important part of our lives.

Happy Trails
Cliff & Needra

RAILEYS ARE TRAVELING

We left The Ranch on May 11, and have SLOWLLY made our way east. A stop in McKinney TX where we visited friends before a few days at Lake of the Pines in

east TX. We took a steam-powered paddle boat ride on Caddo Lake. Took us 7 days to get out of Texas.

On to Natchez MS and tours of Civil War battlefields. The 3 day drive on the Natchez Trace was as we remembered, so peaceful. We were very impressed with Nashville TN,, the replica of the Parthenon was wonderful, and the tour of The Heritage was so interesting. We toured Franklin TN where a fearsome battle was waged during the Civil War.

A 9 day stay at Dale Hollow TN COE park was so relaxing. We waxed and polished the rig! Did some productive geneology in the area. Another week in Franklin KY where we saw horse farms everywhere. The Kentucky Horse Park was a winner.

More productive geneology in Versailles KY.

A 4 day stay in Charlottesville VA to tour Monticello and the University of Virginia, both products of Thomas Jefferson (Bob's cousin 4 generations back). We leave June 21 for a Haymarket VA campground which is near Bob's brother and family. We will be there for 2-3 weeks touring the area,DC, and visiting. On June 26 we will have a special showing of a 200 year old quilt from the Railey family that is in the Smithsonian collection.

What a great trip. We are trying to do it all.
Hugs,
Bob and Marilyn

Hello All,
Well, we left NM on 5/12 and got as far as Sante Fe before deciding the coach wasn't running up to par and back tracked to Albuquerque for a few days at the Cummins dealer. They steam cleaned the radiator and did some other minor work and we visited with another SKP couple in for repairs before starting out again. Spent a day at Great Sand Dunes and ran into Greg and Lynell there. Spent time in CO touring a gold mine in the Cripple Creek district, Florissant Fossil Beds, took the Cog Railway to the top of Pike's Peak, and went to the Garden of the Gods.

(con't on next page)

ESCAPEES REGISTRATION FORMS



CHILI CHAPTER # 23 FALL RALLY 2008

NAME(s) _____

SKP # _____

ADDRESS _____

TOTAL ATTENDING _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Registration fee of \$ 8.00 per person covers cost of coffee items, breakfast fixings, badges, rental of ramada and supplies. If everyone brings one door prize, everyone will go home with one.

Return registrations to : Roxy Colomb
P.O. Box 157
Lakewood, NM 88254-0157

*The 'Original' Ranch
Palaver
P.O. Box 109
Lakewood, N.M. 88254*

