



## Opinion from America's Outback

### JUST DESSERT

I'd rather miss dinner than my copy of *RANGE*.

DALE BORGFORD, COLVILLE, WASHINGTON

Any chance CJ would accept a place in Trump's administration as BLM director? We could start an online campaign to get you or some other western-friendly person in there.

PAT HENERY, VIA FACEBOOK

*Thanks, but so much paperwork! We'll settle for a copy of RANGE at Trump's bedside.—Ed.*

### SAUCERED & BLOWED

We've always noticed that westerners in general and cowboys in particular are inherently kind, thoughtful and generous people. My mother told me of an episode that happened to her when she was a young woman (probably in the 1940s). She was traveling by train and somewhere in Wyoming it stopped for water. Mother was tired and really needed a

cup of coffee. She bought one at the depot cafe and was standing on the platform fidgeting and unable to drink it because it was very hot, and the train was fixing to leave. A cow-



boy approached her with a cup of coffee and said, "Here Ma'am, take mine, it's all saucered and blowed." She did and always remembered his thoughtfulness.

Note: The photo is of my mom, Teed, my dad, Gene, and their first son, Billy, taken in the hills near Bone, Idaho, around 1932.

CHARLES R. CLAPP, LAS CRUCES, N.M.

### STICK IT WHERE?

How about this? Why don't you take your racist baloney, wrap it up in your camo underwear, and shove it up your steer's ass? (Not that you or many of your readers actually have steers....)

BRAVELY ANONYMOUS

POSTMARKED DENVER, COLORADO

A good friend was guiding his son-in-law on a sheep-hunting trip near the Grey Bull River. On August 30, they saw 22 grizzly bears on a single slope at the same time. They were eating moths in the boulder fields and were easy to spot since there were no trees. A local game

warden told him they had seen 49 grizzlies from the air on that mountain in August 2016. There are lots of grizzlies in that country. More than they are telling us there are.

FRED HOLDEN, CORA, WYOMING

### COWBOYS & CRITTERS

"Outside the Fences" by Carolyn Dufurrena in your new book, "Cowboys & Critters," is a magnificent piece of literature. It should be the first book of Genesis, "In the Beginning." Frequently I find myself wondering where you get your inspiration. Your photographers get theirs from everything that surrounds them. Your contributing writers must certainly be direct descendants of the great philosophers, Plato, Aristotle, both Plinys, Socrates—the list is quite short if you think about it. They are all tied to you for reasons I suspect are yet to be learned or discovered. We are still learning the "why" of America's Founding Fathers. The importance of your work will someday be truly appreciated.

T.M. MURPHY, MADISON, MISSOURI

*Carolyn has a brilliant new poetry and prose book, "Quiet Except For the Wind." Order from Amazon or RANGE for \$25.—Ed.*

"Cowboys & Critters" is absolutely fabulous!

TOM STACK, CITRUS SPRINGS, FLORIDA

*See page 50. We have more copies.—Ed.*

### OUCH!

It was a pleasure and a surprise to receive a letter from you notifying me that you had a photograph of mine in your fine book "Cowboys & Critters." However, to my dismay, you have attributed to me the work that rightfully belongs to another photographer. It is an unfortunate circumstance which not only causes embarrassment to myself and *RANGE* publications, but also denies proper credit to the rightful owner.

JURIJ STRUTYNSKY, GRASS VALLEY, CALIF.



*Huge apologies! "Love Your Ears" was taken by Sheree Jensen of Fallon, Nev. When we told her the bad news, she was very kind so we sent her the money! —Ed.*

### PARDONS & PRISON TERMS

From the Little Valley "controlled burn" ["Up Front," Winter 2017] to the Bundy fiasco at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, to the idiocy of the BLM and U.S. Forest Service in the entire western United States, please con-

### OPEN LETTER TO BILL JONES

Today is Veterans Day, and in spite of the fact of my paying little attention to holidays, I have been thinking about you, your son, your dad, my dad, my uncles, and even cigar-chomping Winston Churchill spitting tobacco juice in Hitler's eye and how different my life and my sons' lives have been because you and thousands of others went where you were sent and did what you were asked to do.

While I was worrying about hanging on to the rundown little outfit that was my version of the American Dream, you and Rod, Waddie, Joel, and thousands of others were in Vietnam. While my oldest son was worrying about getting his hay up green, my middle son was worrying about keeping track of the family cattle, and my wife and daughter were trying to keep their picture framing shop above water, your son was destroying his body and putting his life on the line in Afghanistan along with thousands of others.

It does not seem quite enough to say, "Gee, folks, thanks for your service." How about we make the same degree of commitment you made for us? How about we make damn sure we keep the promises made to you? How about we allow anyone who served access to the best medical care available anywhere in the world and have the bill sent to the U.S. Treasury to be paid promptly before any politician gets a salary? How about we allow the administrator of the Veteran's Administration to fire anyone not doing his/her job and serving veterans in an exemplary way?

In the meantime, "Gee, folks, thanks for your service."

VESS QUINLAN, FLORENCE, COLORADO

tinue the good work of exposing the truth. I do believe that Mr. Trump will support the cause. Somehow, if not done already, get *RANGE* in front of him and his adult children. Also, in my opinion, if he were to have any exposure of the Hammond situation there might be a pardon available.

JAMES O. HAWLEY, GRAND FORKS, N.D.

Correct me if I am wrong but weren't the Hammonds jailed/sentenced to prison for burning up public land? So is the same thing going to happen to the allegedly intelligent folks who started the Little Valley fire and burned public and private land along with numerous private structures?

TOM HAAS, VIA EMAIL

The Hammonds burned 140 acres of government scrub brush attempting to save their pasture and got five years for "conspiracy." Two months ago members of the Ochoco National Forest in central Oregon burned 80 acres of private range when their controlled burn got out of hand. Who goes to jail?

RICHARD HOFFMANN, BEND, OREGON

The sincere and unwavering support that *RANGE* has shown for the Bundy family and all those fighting for our God-given rights to graze this beautiful land—needs recognition and praise. Thank you for being the voice of so many unheard and overlooked ranchers here in the West. Your crew has taken a bold and righteous stand on the side of justice. Thank you, friends. And never forget LaVoy Finicum and his L-V brand.

JR 4M LIVESTOCK, RIRIE, IDAHO

## LETTER FROM CAROL

We, the Bundy family, would like to say to President Obama that we are saddened, but not surprised, by your decision to make our ranch and home a national monument. If any of this were really about protecting the land, you would come here, work with the local people who love this land, those who have a vested interest in this land, and take the time to learn what this land really needs. This is about control, pure and simple. The problems we have had with federal land management have never been about cows, tortoises, or fees. It has always been about the constitutional limits on the federal government's authority. While you enjoy a vacation in Hawaii we are here caring for this land and resisting federal overreach. Shame on you for undoing with your pen the good work we have done with our sweat for generations.

CAROL BUNDY, BUNKERVILLE, NEVADA

Just read "Too One Sided" by Andy Dunbar [Letters, Winter 2017]. It came out in the Ammon Bundy Malheur trial [see page 46] that he and his son were paid informants for the FBI. For \$2,000 each, they allowed the FBI to squat on their land to spy on the refuge and were frequent refuge visitors in order to pass on information to the feds. This information had not yet come out by the time I sent you "Rancher Injustice" for the same issue.

JUDY BOYLE, MIDVALE, IDAHO

SHARI DOVALE © REDOUBT NEWS LLC



*A message flashed to Ammon Bundy in court by Harney County rancher, Duane Schrock during the trial in Portland, Ore. See p. 46.*

"Rancher Injustice" [by Judy Boyle in Winter 2017] states that the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge manager and the Burns BLM manager are married. The Malheur manager is Chad Karges and the BLM head is Brendan Cain, who just replaced Kenny McDaniels. In Burns, I doubt they are married.

JIM DEANE, ILWACO, WASHINGTON  
*Chad Karges is married to Rhonda Karges who is the Steens field manager and specifically deals with all the BLM issues relating to the area in and around Hammonds' property, "grazing denial, etc." Her husband just happens to be in charge of all the issues, "water rights, access, etc." that the refuge would have with the Hammonds.—Ed.*

## PERFECT TIMING

I just wanted to thank you for the great article, "Becoming Great," written by [Marine Corps Lt. Col.] Jake Cummins, who has obviously lived long enough to have seen it all and put things in perspective. This article could not have come out at a more appropriate time, seeing how the country is ready for a change. Although it is disappointing that the liberal media portrays a very different picture of our younger generation as protesters rioting in the streets, the true protest was by the younger generation who went to the voting booths and voted for a change to make this country great again.

BILL JACKSON, OAKDALE, CALIFORNIA

## CRYING FOR JUSTICE

I often ignore *RANGE* when it comes in the

mail, not because I don't like to read it, but because it has so many provocative articles that get my blood boiling, and in this highly charged political year my blood already runs pretty hot. So I picked up a sheaf of old mail and there was that beckoning cover. I opened it and couldn't put it down. Folks, this publication presents the political dilemma and hypocrisy of our times and cries for justice. God bless *RANGE*.

WARD THOMPSON, REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA

Your *RANGE* magazine is one that the more you read it the more you appreciate it. I consider it right up there with *Leatherneck* magazine. Thank you for your work. Semper Fi.

D. JEFFREY SHELDON, GRASS VALLEY, CALIF.

Thank you for producing an always eagerly anticipated publication every quarter. I was right in the middle of Dr. Michael Coffman's latest exposé in Winter 2017 of the "climate change" gestapo, "Climate Racketeering," when I decided I couldn't wait any longer to thank you for telling it like it is.

LINDSEY SMITH, PINETOP, ARIZONA

I haven't been able to find your magazine around here in a while. I'm sure it's just a coincidence that the last issue I got at Walmart was Winter 2017 with Dave Skinner's "Monumental Megabucks," naming the Walton family slush fun....uh, I mean foundation...as one being used to finance the alphabet-soup environmental groups.

SCOT COON, BARTLEY, NEBRASKA

A good laugh was needed and found with Bill Jones' "Spoil the Rod, Save the Calf" [Fall 2016]. I'm looking forward to the poem he promised!

HEIDI NELSON, VIA FACEBOOK

## PASS THE SHOVEL

What a shocker it was to many pundits that Americans are exceptional and not deplorable and are indeed redeemable. Our past election was akin to the 1860 contest between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas. The results of both ushered in rebellion. The first, the Civil War, and the current, a civil response to setting America right. I sum up the situation: Lincoln freed the slaves. Obama enslaved us to the federal government. Nixon lied to Congress, and Secretary Clinton lied to all of us. Candidate Clinton stood for the status quo, while candidate Trump pledged to drain the swamp. In 2016, America voted for the shovel.

MICHAEL F. HANLEY IV

JORDAN VALLEY, OREGON



I'm an old stove-up ex-cowboy, but I still ride every Saturday. I worked on ranches in Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado.

LYNN SPECK, SPRINGTOWN, TEXAS

Look forward to each new issue. I am a retired forester, logger, now raising registered Angus cattle. Have to keep busy.

BUCKY FRANKLIN, CHOUTEAU, OKLAHOMA



To Pam White: I made a terrible mistake and three proofreaders missed it. We neglected to credit your photo of Jay 2 in the Winter issue that brightens the Letters column. I am sorry.

C.J. HADLEY, EDITOR

I was glad to hear Trump won! Now the federal turkey buzzards can go harass someone else besides Bundys, Hammonds and other citizens who don't happen to agree with them.

BOB HAMANN, SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

## BRAVO FOR BRUSHSTROKES

On behalf of the students and staff at Ione Junior High School, I would like to thank you and the Range Conservation Foundation for the generous donation of the beautiful copy of "Brushstrokes & Balladeers." I personally found the book especially wonderful as I was raised on a 30,000-acre cattle ranch and must admit that the book went home with me first before finding its place in our library!

JENNY NEELY, IONE, CALIFORNIA

Love *RANGE* but sad you buy the Trump lie. Clinton is just as bad and millions of us are voting third party. Yes, Trump/Clinton win, and the people lose.

BRAVELY ANONYMOUS, RENO, NEVADA

## RACHEL CARSON REVISITED

"The Suicide of the West" by Alston Chase [Winter 2017] is an outstandingly brilliant example of how almost every reasonable and well-meaning endeavor has been hijacked. The resultant self-perpetuating alliance between activist groups and government [has] successfully utilized fearmongering, diversionary tactics and the persuasive power of the "blindly obedient left" to lower the quality of life for virtually all mankind—excepting, of course, themselves.

ALAN HART, TROUTDALE, VIRGINIA

I have long realized that DDT was not the evil that the liturgy of the green religion would have us believe, so I am very grateful that



CJ, I thought you would enjoy this picture of my European Dane, Cole. He was raised with his Australian shepherd sister Oz and thought he was a cow dog. We live on a small ranch in Idaho, seven miles north of Salmon. Cole was mistaken for a calf several times and would have gates shut on him or people jump in front of him to stop him from escaping.—Eleen Wiley, Carmen, Idaho

*RANGE* published the well-written article by Alston Chase. His detailed research and documentation would in any rational world expose the fiction that Rachel Carson used to promote her populist and unscientific nonsense about a pesticide that if used properly was an enormous boon to the world. I have no doubt that a great many left-wing ideologues posing as academics will crawl out of their comfortably tenured dung hills to attack Alston Chase for daring to defrock one of the high priestesses of green hyperbole. I hope that Alston Chase is strong because their arguments will all be personal attacks as facts are not an option available to them. There is light on the horizon. May the New Year give *RANGE* and your brave and excellent writers the courage to continue the pursuit of truth.

GRAEME CAMPBELL

KALGOORLIE, WEST AUSTRALIA

## RESPECTFUL DISAGREEMENT

I have trouble accepting or respecting the scientific acumen or critique of an author who "In a Dark Wood: The Fight Over Forests and the Rising Tyranny of Ecology" (Houghton Mifflin, 1996) identifies, as alleged endangered species, the gnatcatcher and the salamander, when neither of them are species, and claims that "all seven species of woodpecker that live in the Northwest excavate holes only in deadwood." As a lifelong resident of the Northwest and alleged bird-watcher, Mr. Chase should know that while some of those species do prefer to nest in deadwood, others nest in live trees. In the same work he also calls gopher snakes "small mammals" and categorizes amphibians as "invertebrates."

I'm not saying that "Silent Spring" doesn't

deserve critical review or reconsideration, or that Rachel Carson was the right author for it. But you can do better than Alston Chase, who in a few short sentences embarrassed every academic institution (Harvard, Princeton and Oxford) that has given him a degree.

MARK DOWIE, POINT REYES STATION, CALIF.  
I am complimented that despite his obvious desire to find fault with my work, Mr. Dowie apparently can find nothing to criticize in my essay on Ms. Carson. That's the only reason I can think to explain why Mr. Dowie has had to reach back 22 years searching for flaws, to eventually claim to find them in my 1995 book. Even so, he badly misses his mark. For starters, I'm not "a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest," having lived there just between 1947 and '49. Second, Mr. Dowie's critique overlooks quotation marks that make clear that it is not I but the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service which uses the word "species" where it doesn't belong. As I note in my book, this is a semantic trick by the Service done to please environmentalists—i.e., by applying the word "species" to ever-widening numbers and varieties of creatures, the Service vastly increases an illusionary pool of those subsumable under the Endangered Species Act. By the way, a 1999 Random House readers' poll voted "In a Dark Wood" one of the 100 most important nonfiction books of the 20th century.—Alston Chase

"The Suicide of the West" is an expose in non-inflammatory words. There have been comments on talk radio over the years about the harm done by the book with the ban on DDT. However, Alston Chase's article adds so much more to the story: Carson's agenda, the fact that she was a journalist and not a practicing

scientist, and actual facts. Do you think she was the mother of the “name calling instead of discussion” movement in America?

DIANNE BOONS, HONOLULU, HAWAII

### IGNORANT OR LYING?

Fifty years ago, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was studying salt cedar eradication upstream from Presidio, Texas. The Sierra Club opposed the program on the grounds that it would destroy nesting habitat of the white-wing dove. Just one problem, apparently unknown to the USACE: White-wing doves don't nest in salt cedar which has dense foliage; they nest where they can see out. I've no idea whether the Sierra Club protesters were ignorant or were lying for some unknown save-the-environment reason.

ART EATMAN, THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA

Most folks look forward to their *Field & Stream* or *Cosmopolitan*. We look forward to *RANGE*. I save them, reference back, and reread the articles. They never get old.

KAREN BECHTEL SHEPHERD, ELKO, NEVADA

### HALLELUJAH!

By golly, some folks in Nevada seem to get it. Ballot Question 1—the so-called “common-sense gun-safety law” requiring universal background checks—only passed by a tiny margin (50.45 to 49.55 percent) in spite of an enormously expensive campaign mounted by Hiz Honor Mayor Bloomberg's anti-gun Everytown [sic] for Gun Safety. So almost half of Nevadans were smart enough not to be taken in by distortions, exaggerations, and outright lies. The NRA opposed the proposed law on the grounds that it would be “unenforceable” and guess what? Unlike Bloomberg's mob, the NRA told the truth. Both the FBI's National Instant Criminal Background Checks System and Nevada's attorney general have ruled the law (drum roll, please) unenforceable. So perhaps next time, the 9,899 voters (according to Dave Workman of Liberty Park Press) who believed Hiz Honor will trust the NRA instead.

JAMESON PARKER, TEHACHAPI, CALIFORNIA

### FISH & WILDLIFE HORSES

I used to haul wild horses. I took 29,000 head to Tennessee for the BLM. I hauled the last loads of mustangs off the Sheldon Refuge (in northwestern Nevada) for U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. If FWS had charge of the mustangs, there would be no wild horse problem.

RANDALL CARR, MIDDLETON, TENNESSEE

### FINALLY THIS WEEK

This is the transcript of the actual radio conversation between the British and the Irish, off the coast of Kerry, Oct 98. Radio conversation released by the Chief of Naval Operations 10-10-98:

**IRISH:** Please divert your course 15 degrees to the South, to avoid a collision.

**BRITISH:** Recommend you divert your course 15 degrees to the North, to avoid a collision.

**IRISH:** Negative. You will have to divert your course 15 degrees to the South to avoid a collision.

**BRITISH:** This is the Captain of a British navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

**IRISH:** Negative. I say again, You will have to divert YOUR course.

**BRITISH:** This is the aircraft carrier HMS *Britannia* the second largest ship in the British Atlantic fleet. We are accompanied by three destroyers, three cruisers, and numerous support vessels. I demand that you change your course 15 degrees north, I say again, that is 15 degrees North, or counter-measures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of this ship.

**IRISH:** We are a lighthouse. Your call.

Just read Hank Vogler's great article, “Buckaroo Stew,” in Fall 2016. Very good. Spot on.

LARRY CHAMBERLAIN, VIA FACEBOOK

### GIVE US RELIEF

Can Trump successfully roll back the regulatory apparatus of the federal government? Yes, he can. If he will, or rather if those he puts in office around him will, and if the structure of his White House executive department is made up of men and women who know how to reverse the regulatory process, he can do it. Now we sit and watch, and I hope and pray that this administration will get the clue planted by the outpouring of rural voters: get us some relief from regulations that are killing small businesses, ranchers, farmers, loggers, miners and virtually every other industry familiar in rural America. Reagan got it and acted on it.

LINDA MEYER, VIA FACEBOOK

Your efforts are appreciated, even as far away as the Great Lakes area!

BRIAN RIDGWAY, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

When it comes to environmentalism, my experience, backed up by before-and-after photos [see page 52], has shown that the cure (protection) appears to be worse than the disease it is supposed to remedy (the effects of human use of the environment). For that reason I believe all “Protect the Environment” pitches soliciting contributions should be required to include disclaimers as is the case with prescription drugs; i.e., Environmental protection may cause desertification, severe erosion, ecosystem simplification, species extinction, invasion by nonnatives, global warming, etc.

DAN DAGGETT, SEDONA, ARIZONA

### A DESTRUCTIVE FORCE

I read with interest Andy Dunbar's conspiratorial letter regarding the “Malheur refuge takeover” in the Winter 2017 issue. Mr. Dunbar seems to suggest that egregious acts were occurring at the protest without, of course, offering any specifics. Were the protesters defecating on police cars and raping people as at Occupy Wall Street, or destroying businesses and other property as in Ferguson and Baltimore, or dragging people from their cars and beating them as in Portland? What exactly were they doing that justified their being waylaid and ambushed on a deserted section of road, and in the case of Mr. Finicum, given the death penalty?

It would appear that under Mr. Obama's administration one's constitutional right to protest the government is dependent on where on the spectrum one's political beliefs fall. If you disagree with the administration, the destructive force of the (In)Justice Department will likely be brought down upon you. It is somewhat reminiscent of Ruby Ridge and Waco. I notice no similar behavior on the part of the feds in the case of the pipeline protests in North Dakota. How curious. So much for equal justice under the Obama administration.

LORNA NELSON, WEED, NEW MEXICO

### LOVE & HATE

I love and hate this magazine. The hate is from the stories that our government treats our ranchers and farmers so terribly. I have lived on a ranch most of my life and wouldn't live anywhere else. I'm 84, was raised in Nebraska, and my parents raised cattle, hogs, turkeys and chickens, had a big garden and sold vegetables. I'm the fourth of nine children and we all worked in the garden. We never went hungry. We did our work, played and never quarreled. I know it sounds like you can't believe me, but it was true. We had a great life.

DORIS JEAN DALE, MIDVALE, IDAHO

You just told me you're going to take a brain supplement that Stephen Hawking has recommended. Please, please spare us!

DENYSE PELLETTIERI WHITE, *RANGE*  
PROOFREADER, VINELAND, NEW JERSEY