

Opinion from America's Outback

REST IN PIECES

It was a good thing I was sitting by myself on the porch when I read Lee Pitts' article, "Rest in Pieces" in the Spring 2019 issue. Needed all the tissues in my pocket. People, those after

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my generation, have no conception of the struggles, going without, and the smile at having a plate of tomato soup for dinner

and that prized pair of new shoes just before school started. We have the greatest country in the world...*ever!* What we have now is the result of overcompensation, indulgence, laziness

From the Trenches

RANGE ruminations & developments.
By Todd Macfarlane

In addition to losing her horses, CJ has been nursing Cache, one of her beloved Great Danes, who has been crippled up lately. It's something that she doesn't talk much about, but she spends way more time and personal resources nursing broken bones and spirits of animals and people than many realize. Despite her double-tough outer shell, CJ is kind of a softy, and something of a magnet for hard-luck cases (especially cowboys and sheepherders), which is something many of us have plenty to be thankful for.

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We're pleased to report that our brand new **RANGE**dex is a hit, so we hope you will spread the word about this index. Go to our website, www.rangemagazine.com, click on the link, and find at least 100 back issues to read, download or forward at no charge. A "search" on **RANGE**dex offers a selection by title, author or subject.

Also new, social media boss, Marjorie Haun, fired up our blog, **RANGE**fire, and

ness and the lack of the word *no*. Can I make copies to circulate?

LINDA MEYER, SPEEDWELL, VIRGINIA
Yes, please! Go to rangemagazine.com, click on Spring 2019, then print or forward.—Ed.

Your friend Lee nailed it....sad to say.
JOE ETCHART, GLASGOW, MONTANA

"Rest in Pieces" by Lee Pitts needs to be read and reread. I'll make sure our grandsons read it, even though their heads are already screwed on straight. I laughed all the way through "Slouching Toward Geezerhood" by Bill Jones. I nodded with understanding all the way through "Shorthanded With Plenty of Help" by Jed Hirschi. Your letters section is good to read as well.

BOBI ALLARD, VIA EMAIL

The Lefties really don't like your magazine—*tough*. Keep on printing! I'm a retired environmental engineer, forester, CSM-U.S. Army.

JAMES MACDUFF, OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

Keep doing just what you are doing and don't change the magazine. I salute your individualism, patriotism and entrepreneurship. People like you make me proud to be an American.

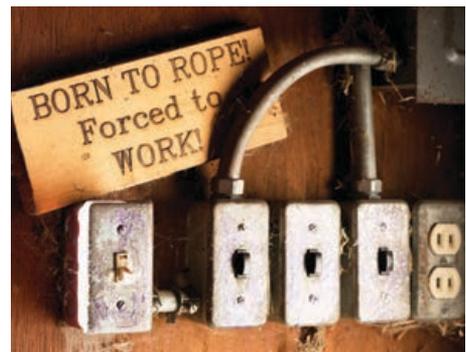
MICHAEL R., VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

converted one of Mike Coffman's archived articles, "Agenda 21: Swallowing America," from Winter 2014 and reposted it. Marjorie mentioned it on the **RANGE Facebook** page, and within a few days it had more than 5,000 shares on the website and well over 37,000 Facebook views. Much more to come. Marjorie also added **RANGE** pages on **Twitter** and **Instagram**.

■ ■ ■

Something else we want to put out for input is the idea of **RANGE Ambassadors**. If you travel a lot and are willing to receive some back issues that you could share with people along your route, we'd like to hear from you. Help us spread the word so that we can develop more **RANGE Agents** (see page 78) and get more current issues in small-town shops and stores across the rural West...and maybe elsewhere. So, if you have a favorite spot or haunt that isn't served by a national magazine distributor and you think would be a good fit for **RANGE**, please send info to promo@rangemagazine.com and we'll see if we can strike up a conversation about that possibility.

Thanks for listening. ■



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"Barn Humor" To make a joke truly funny there has to be some truth to it. Strowbridge Ranch, Mont.

PLENTY OF SAND

Due to your report on Forrest Lucas [Spring 2019], I have changed my fuel additive to Lucas. Because Forrest has the sand to take on trying to do something with thinning of the feral horse problem and maybe influence the logging and thinning of our grossly overgrown forests, I am going to try (not that I am flush, mind you) to donate monthly to Protect the Harvest. It is a safe and worthy cause.

DALE HOWELL, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA
For info, go to protecttheharvest.com.—Ed.

Thanks for the articles about Mr. Lucas [by Marjorie Haun and Todd Macfarlane]. What a great man he is to help the Hammonds and many more causes in America. And I can't fail to mention thanks for your cause for the Great American West in **RANGE!** God bless.

RICH MEECE, PILOT POINT, TEXAS

OUCH!

My husband was aghast at the mention of the "palomino" in the picture ["Dogs at Work," Spring 2019] when it is obvious that the horse is a buckskin, and especially the error in a cowboy magazine.

ELEANOR BENNER, VIA EMAIL

You've messed up months for February, a whole month away to Mardi Gras and Ash Wednesday in your 2019 calendar. Get it fixed up and changed right, or maybe next year stick with the Catholic calendars.

BRENDA NEGRI, WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA
Mea culpa.—Ed.

Here's a simple question: "If we don't need a southern border wall, how did 11 million illegals get into the United States?"

DAVE WERNER, HAINES, ALASKA



CJ and Forrest.

(Continued)

RANGE is immensely informative and entertaining, and at times heartbreaking to read how certain parts of our government have degenerated to such a point that one wonders if it can ever be rescued. Secondly, an observation: The list of folks in your “*RANGE* Heroes” current issue reveals only three people east of the Mississippi River—Illinois, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Wouldn’t it be nice if more people from “back East” would offer a more vigorous support of *RANGE*?

TIM MURPHY, GRAYLING, MICHIGAN

LUVERLY!

Thanks for all you do for ag. My dad at 102 wants to renew for three years and there’s some extra which I’m sure you can use.

CARL SLAGOWSKI FOR FLOYD, CARLIN, NEVADA

Every new issue of *RANGE* “takes us away.” We love the West, love farm life, farmed in the Northeast for 30-plus years. Also love horses and mules. But age has slowed us down, *RANGE* keeps us close to the land and critters!

DAVID AND MARGIE MAPLES
ROAN MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE



I was happy to see my “Cow & Calf” photo in the Spring 2019 issue. I did allow you to print in good faith at no charge;

however, I was disappointed that my name was wrong under the photo. It’s Merry Muller, not M. Miller. I was also disappointed my website wasn’t mentioned, where the photo can be purchased (www.merrymuller-photos.com). I would appreciate it if this error is corrected.

MERRY MULLER, GARDNERVILLE, NEVADA
Sincere apologies for our mistake and congrats on winning Carson Valley’s Eagles & Ag photo contest with that image!—Ed.

GEEZER WIMP

I sure enjoyed the “Geezerhood” piece by Bill Jones in the current issue [Spring 2019]. Got to be at least 80 to claim bonafide geezerhood status. Also, here are a couple of significant factors that weaken the author’s claim to geezerhood. I agree Smart Phones are a Chinese puzzle, so don’t buy one! Nor should you own and pretend to be able to operate a laptop. And, you sure as hell don’t sign up for Facebook. These admissions by Jones are dead giveaways that his claims to geezerhood are suspicious. Want to stay in touch with your

granddaughters—do like a real geezer and use the electric telephone. Other highly irritating aspects of modern-day life are tattoos, body piercings and those awful rings that some folks train their earlobes to grow around like an aborigine. Did I forget to mention robo-calls?

BILL CALLAWAY, LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA

I appreciate your dedication to truth, justice, liberty and your tireless attempts to properly educate liberal fools and snowflakes. God bless you and God bless America.

TED MILLER, GORHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NOO YAWK TIMES!

Please sign me up for six issues and let’s see if your journalistic integrity can match the standards of unsanctioned papers like the Mexican Islamist-owned *New York Times* and the Jeff Bezos-owned *Washington Post*! After all, Jeff now has a \$50 billion per annum purchasing agreement with all the federal government minus, perhaps, the Pentagon. There could be no conflict of interest there, could there? Of course not! Let’s stay dumb, ignorant and ridiculously naïve, like everyone else!

BENJAMIN MCFARLAND
STERLING, NORTH DAKOTA

My mother, Sophie, passed away at Thanksgiving. A 91-year-old Red Meat Survivor, she believed the original and greatest superfood was rack of lamb. She was an admirer and considered you a friend. I believe this check to *RANGE* is the last she signed. Please change the subscription address to me.



Would you please put this picture in the magazine? A very enthusiastic cowgirl, Christina Valenzuela, at Rose Tree Ranch, Elgin, Ariz. Her dad, Miguel, is manager and the owner is Bill Brake.

DAVID ECHEVERRIA, WICKENBURG, ARIZONA

SNAP OUT OF IT

I share a lot of values with *RANGE* but your position on climate change is not only ignorant, it is blind, and ignores what is going on around us. Snap out of it! It doesn’t make you a communist to learn some actual science.

LAURENCE DeVITA, VIA FACEBOOK

Climate change crisis is all a bunch of crap. Globalists worldwide want cap and trade as a

means to tax people and business purely for financial gain.

MARGE BARNETT, VIA FACEBOOK

DISCRIMINATION

As a cow person, I am offended by the current bovine discrimination. Every animal probably passes gas (farts). Some more than others. How do elephants, rhinoceroses, gorillas, etc., compare to the cow in the gas (fart) race? How about whales? No one really knows because the subject has not been adequately studied. Do lizards and canaries contribute to the gas pool? These are all unanswered questions that liberals ignore. They would rather single out the cow because it implies that cow people are responsible. Liberals are silent about their own release of gas.

ED DEPAOLI, FALLON, NEVADA

WORRIED ABOUT COW FARTS?

IN THE EARLY 1800'S THERE WERE ROUGHLY 60 MILLION BUFFALO RESIDING IN AMERICA
THERE ARE CURRENTLY 9.4 MILLION DAIRY AND 31.7 MILLION BEEF COWS IN AMERICA



**LEFTISTS EITHER HAVE TO PROVE COW FARTS ARE MORE DESTRUCTIVE TO THE ENVIRONMENT THAN BUFFALO FARTS...
...OR ADMIT THAT COW FARTS REALLY AREN'T SOMETHING WE SHOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT**



INTERNET

As far as climate change goes it has been changing since the beginning of time. A few thousand years ago we had an ice glacier near us, but thankfully due to climate change it has melted and is now gone.

You print a great magazine. It is hard to believe that there are so many ignorant people out there who think they know so much.

RON WEHR, WHITLASH, MONTANA

BOOTS OR DIAMONDS?

I met *RANGE* contributor Alan Hart at Cabela’s one afternoon looking at guns. He’s a down-to-earth lovely man and he gave me a couple of your magazines. I fell in love with them. I married a man from Oklahoma and he turned me from a city girl into a country woman. I’d rather have a new pair of boots than a diamond any day!

AMBER CULVER
PINEY CREEK, NORTH CAROLINA

(Continued)



BILL FAULK, SARATOGA, WYOMING

The Heideterrier puppy shown in “Cowboys & Cowgirl,” Spring 2019, is actually a decoy dog for coyote hunting. I will however be getting a border collie cow dog pup from Randal Walker of Satus Stockdogs.

The Spring issues arrived yesterday, and we took them to Mother this morning [including “Building a Legacy,” by MagDalene Bryngelson.] In this photo, Maggie is on the left and Evea is on the right. Mother loved the article about her dad. Thanks for doing this for her.



GUS BRYNGELSON, RUPERT, IDAHO
Fanny Bryngelson died on March 26. She was a beauty: heart, soul and spirit.—CJ

I was around five years old when Mom bought a young bay gelding for 50 dollars. One day they took the horse to a soft place by the barn. Dad helped put a saddle on, then stepped back. Well the horse blew up, the cinch broke and Mom did a 360 over the horse’s head, lit 10 feet in front of the horse with both feet still in the stirrups on the ground. The next day we went to a saddle store in Auburn. Mom asked if they had a cinch about that long. The owner asked what happened. Mom said, “A horse blew up and I lit on the ground.” The owner went to a six-foot ladder to get a new cinch. He had a cast on one leg. Mom asked what happened. He said, “I fell off this ladder and broke my leg.”

BILL SHAFER, CHILCOOT, CALIFORNIA

Reading Spring issue about importance of grazing to suppress wildfires. I saw on TV that a community in California had started a Go Fund Me to buy sheep and goats to graze the areas around their town for fire control. Might be interesting.

SANDRA SALISBURY, KILLEEN, TEXAS

See *Dan Dagget’s story on page 52.—Ed.*

SHARE WITH STUDENTS

I teach water policy courses at UC Santa Cruz. As part of those courses, I have an online essay on how Los Angeles acquires its water. I would like to create a link to Carolyn Dufurrena’s “Give Me a Stone,” specifically the section called “Legacy of Lies and Betrayal,” Winter 2018-2019. It will show the students that the heirs of the people who lost water to Los Angeles a century ago are still around and remember the incident. So, I am asking for permission to use the article.

BRENT M. HADDAD, MBA, PH.D.,
PROFESSOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

Yes, you can share “Give Me a Stone” with your students, giving credit to Carolyn Dufurrena and to RANGE. Go to rangemagazine.com and click on Back Issues, Winter 2019.—Ed.

One of my English teachers uttered the phrase that in order to write well, you have to read good writing and be well-read. The 2019 edition of RANGE is filled with exceptional writing and intriguing and informative stories, poetry, and humorous pieces regarding various aspects of life on the range and includes topics such as environmentalism and the make of a good stock dog as well as the work of legendary photographers.

JADE CURRID CREATIVE LLC, VIA INSTAGRAM

DEADLINE RIDGE

This photo was taken last summer near the old Forest Service lookout on Deadline Ridge.



PENETRATING DOGMA

I recently had a long conversation with a very bright and highly educated young journalist who responded to my observation that one could no longer safely accept cliff notes on scientific consensus without reading and understanding the hypotheses, the theory, the evidence, and the proof. The young fellow patiently explained to me that the peer review process used by scientific journals was pretty much foolproof and that I could trust the process to deliver reliable information. He was so firm in his opinion that I decided not to point out how many peer-reviewed articles stating “scientific fact” that had to be revised or abandoned in the 40 years since I was his age.

The list is much too long to mention here, but the story of Ansel Keyes slandering meat and eggs was a major scientific error and has resulted in many people suffering weight and health problems. When I suggested following the money or investigating the purpose of research projects, he reacted like I had kicked his dog. How dare I imply that publish-or-perish professors in major universities might have less-than-pure motives when conducting research?

I concluded that his extensive education and ingrained political beliefs had become dogma and continuing the discussion was pointless. I would become heretic unworthy of his respect if it continued. I think we parted friends, but only because we changed the subject.

VESS QUINLAN, FLORENCE, COLORADO

If sheep or shepherders crossed it, they both died. It is west of La Barge, Wyo. The area was burned in 2012 by the Fontenelle Fire, which was started by lightning south of La Barge Creek in the distance and jumped the creek before running a very long way to the northeast. There are a large number of regenerating clearcuts within the burn, but for the most part, none of the clearcuts burned—as seen in the attached image, aspen also did not burn. The photo is viewed southwest.

CHARLES E. KAY, PH.D., WILDLIFE ECOLOGY
PROVIDENCE, UTAH

“The Destruction of Nature” by Marjorie Haun reporting on wolves by Valerius Geist describes the wolf problem very well. We have those same problems here in north Idaho. However, the Foundation for Wildlife has been paying wolf trappers \$750 per wolf for legally trapped or shot wolves. They have to have each wolf verified as legal by IDF&G. I believe they have raised the payment in backcountry areas to \$1,000 per wolf. These trappers go to great expense buying snowmobiles to get into the backcountry, fuel and traps, which don’t even account for all the hard work it takes to be successful trapping wolves.

FRED SCOTT, WALLACE, IDAHO

UNPREDICTABLE PREDATORS

As your readers are aware, predators are unpredictable and prey has regular habits. As the current POTUS, Trump is also aware. The ridiculous condition of our southern bor-



der is a national emergency, given the increasingly attractive economy here. But the Donald will leave a door open for libs, if they regain control, to declare “climate change” is also one if he pulls that trigger. Let’s watch what the predator does and not try to predict him.

ROB WELLS, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK,
AND THE SAN DIEGO WILDERNESS

PROVOCATEUR

While I agree with nearly zero in your magazine, I think it is important to read other points of view and maybe learn something new. I actually love the magazine for its quality. But I’ve got to say after reading your Facebook pages, I’m flabbergasted at the bold face calls for violence against so-called liberals, immigrants, and those with different beliefs. It’s downright unAmerican and frightening. I hope this doesn’t actually reflect the magazine’s values.

BILL GREGERSEN-MORASH
EAST WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

Bill: RANGE is a light in a miasma of journalistic superficiality. On our social media platforms we post news from many sources, funny and often pointed memes, and occasionally provocative commentary. We never encourage untoward acts against Homo sapiens, although wolves and other “introduced” predators which decimate livestock and wildlife may not be so fortunate. As an open and dynamic platform, our Facebook page is a community bulletin board for all sorts of comments, from the inane to the profound, both from those who agree with nearly zero of what we do, and loyal fans. If there are comments by followers you find offensive, you’re welcome to debate them, or direct message us to alert us of their presence if they get past our moderators.—Marjorie Haun, RANGE social media boss

Love the magazine and especially the range-management articles. It should be required reading by politicians and bureaucrats everywhere. Happy trails.

JAY MACDONALD, MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA

NOTHING CAN GO WRONG

According to KATU Free Internet Radio out of Portland, Ore., Washington state may pursue nonlethal ways to control wolves.

Question: How can you control wolves without culling any? Their numbers will go up from about 10 percent to 30 percent each year. Answer: You can’t, but that is immaterial; as long as the general public believes your lie, nothing else matters. Think: “Millions of unvetted and unvaccinated illegal aliens are good for the country,” or “hundreds of thousands of unvettable Middle Eastern ‘refugees’ from populations that hate us placed in enclaves around the country are valuable testimonials

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to our ‘values,’” and “Yes, I have a U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service permit to import these Asian carp to keep our catfish farms cleaner...”

People shouldn’t worry though, nothing could go wrong!

JIM BEERS, EAGAN, MINNESOTA

See page 32 for “Special Report: Wolves.”—Ed.

TREASURES

Stay anchored and strong! We are dependent on you. The articles, stories, regular contributors and letters keep us informed and on positive footing. I treasure the exceptional photos as well, including those wonderful old snapshots of the “Red Meat Survivors.” RANGE is a needed port in the current political storm! We are keeping the faith. Stay the course.

CLAIRE GOLDRICK HUGHES, SAFFORD, ARIZONA

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM DWIGHT HAMMOND, HAMMOND RANCHES

February 2019

To the very near and dear RANGE magazine, including readers, staff and writers, friends, and particularly C.J. Hadley:

I have been so overwhelmed as to how I can respond to all the mental, physical and monetary supporters of myself and our family. Although the ranch will be having our historic cattle grazing rights returned, it isn’t because “Big Brother” has recognized its overreach. It is because of Protect the Harvest, Lucas Oil, Oregon Farm Bureau, county, state and national cattlemen’s associations, Public Lands Council, Steens Mountain Landowner Group, Shasta Livestock Auction, Western Video Market, political representatives, friends and neighbors—all with a positive focus toward our nation’s agriculture industry. I apologize for inadvertent omissions; however, if I know or could remember all who helped us, CJ wouldn’t have enough paper to list or acknowledge the many groups and organizations, let alone the thousands of individuals.

I would be remiss to not recognize the transformational events within our lives and industry, including the unnoticed burden on ranching families, industry representatives, politicians and court systems that are stressed beyond belief when a situation like this develops. To say nothing of the newly created stress regarding change of traditional land uses, excess wild horses and reintroduction of wolves. However, by far the most important is the erosion of our Constitution by removing or trying to remove God from our country’s foundation and what is being taught or not taught in our schools. If we stuck with our Founding Fathers, situations like ours would be unique instead of commonplace.

I wish I could better express my appreciation for the content and quality of RANGE and its contributors. I am humbled and embarrassed at my attempts to say thank you and God bless you all.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT HAMMOND, BURNS, OREGON

Dwight and son Steven were sent to federal prison for five years minimum for accidentally burning 140 acres of federal brush. They were pardoned by President Trump. For more info, go to www.rangemagazine.com and click on “Enemies of the State.”