

Opinion from America's Outback

BOTTLE IT

You do more individually to protect the American way of life that we all enjoy for everyone, not just rural folks, than you realize. I don't know what drives you but if you bottle it, send a case for me and for distribution!

TERRY SCHURR, CORTEZ, COLORADO



Been a *RANGE* reader for a long time. Saw my first copy at near 10,000 feet on a pack trip. Somebody brought it along. "You

guys ever see this magazine?" So, I became a subscriber. Figured I'd send a wee trinket just to say thanks.

AL PINETREE, BADGER, CALIFORNIA *See page 64. And many thanks.—Ed.*

Great to find a magazine worth reading. Please apply to any cause you'd like. JOEL BLETH, DICKINSON, NORTH DAKOTA

I am an 89-year-old sailor and wannabe cowboy. Been a lot of places and done a lot of things but didn't make it as a cowboy. Your magazine keeps telling me how much I missed! Simply put, *RANGE* is the best magazine (outside of *Playboy* for a year or two) I have ever found. I have given gift subs to most of my friends. Here are two more and the extra \$100 bill is to be used as you see fit. Don't let my subscriptions run out!

WILLIAM K. HERRELL, LCDR, RET, USCG, GREEN VALLEY, ARIZONA Thank vou! And we won't.—Ed.

We live in eastern Washington and read *RANGE* from cover to cover. We really look forward to "The Way I See It" by Lee Pitts and think it is hilarious. We especially liked "The Proper Pronunciation of Rodeo" in Winter 2019. Dad could hardly read it for laughing!

The Stagg family: Adelaide (12), Lindy Jean (10) and Gunnar (9) Prosser, Washington

Thank you for publishing "Quinlan & Jones" and all the important work you do. Can't wait to read it.

ANDREW HEDGES, LUBBOCK, TEXAS *It's out! See page 9.—Ed.*



YIN & YANG

What the hell does the character assassination of George Soros ["Perfect Storm," by Dr. Mike Coffman and Dave Skinner in Fall 2020] have to do with the American beef industry or the ranching lifestyle? Why not stick to the mission of *RANGE* magazine? Carolyn Dufur– rena's Fulstone article is a great example. Keep up the good work as you continue to expose the predatory and relentless bureaucratic oppression suffered by the rural agriculturalists of America in their pursuit of the rural lifestyle. Stick to the grass roots!

RICK, VIA USPS FROM WHO KNOWS WHERE?

Your cover story "Soros the Destroyer" in Fall 2020 is a smash hit and so timely. People need to know and November is coming up fast. As

BEYOND THE BURNING

Even as I write this, the Woodhead Fire still burns in Cambridge, Idaho, and has consumed over 90,000 acres of our forests and rangeland. On the night of Sept. 10, 2020, flames fueled by furious winds came within feet of reaching several homes, and perilously close to the very center of our small town.

Only by the grace of God, and a convergence of courageous volunteers, was any of it saved. While awaiting help from overly extended state and federal firefighting agencies, those men and women fought throughout the night, and for days on after, to save our homes, our livestock, and our livelihoods. Had it not been for



their extraordinary efforts, so much more would have been lost. This was written for all those volunteers to whom our entire community owes a tremendous debt of gratitude.

I am thankful tonight for the smoke-filled skies, because they bring into perfect focus the beauty below.

I wouldn't trade them for calmer winds, or cleaner air, because they blanket a community of unparalleled splendor.

Tragedy can grossly expose what is lacking; so too can it brilliantly reveal what is in abundance.

Beyond the towering flames, the glowing embers, and the forceful winds, were the volunteers.

They came when no one called, and remained when no one asked. Because of them, the fire will leave in its wake destruction, but not complete and utter devastation.

Trees will grow again, grasses will sprout from the black, but communities like these can never be replaced.

Tonight, as the fire continues to rage, boiling from limb to limb, its end not yet seen, I am thankful.

I am thankful because I know those who were spared will lift up those who have lost; ours is a body with a heart that will never cease to beat.

MEGAN WARREN, CAMBRIDGE, IDAHO

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always you punch way above your weight and that's a good thing. Stay healthy and thrive.

JONAS DOVYDENAS, LENOX, MASSACHUSETTS

"Perfect Storm" by Dr. Michael S. Coffman and Dave Skinner got over 500 shares when I posted it on Facebook with a link to our website at www.rangemagazine.com. The comments are apropos: "Soros is the devil."

MARIORIE HAUN, SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR RANGE MAGAZINE

Please cancel my subscription effective immediately. Your thinly veiled anti-Semitism and racism as evidenced in your opinion pieces regarding Mr. Soros were the last straw. While I had hoped that *RANGE* would allow me to enjoy stories of the good ranch and farm life in which I was raised, I am finding that it is a right-wing whacko publication at its heart. Where are the articles celebrating our rural post office carriers while the USPS is being damaged? Where is concern about the wildfires in the West that are threatening our ranch and farm families?

MRS. KEN THISLAN, FORT COLLINS, COLO. Fire stories are on pages 38 and 46. (P.S.: I'm a registered Democrat.)-Ed.

BLAZING INFERNOS

Barbara and I ran an 83-head permit on the American Hill allotment in the Tahoe National Forest between the North Fork of the Yuba River and the Middle Fork of the Yuba River. In early 2000 we went through a fire on a spot called Bell Point, nowhere close to what the Daleys have gone through. What saved us was the ground belonged to Sierra Pacific and had been logged not too long ago, which minimized the burn. The feeling of going through a fire is unbearable. Our hearts go out to all who live through wildfire.

DAVID GALLINO, GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Next to the Bible, RANGE is the best thing I've ever read!

LORETTA TUCKER, GALLATIN, TENNESSEE

Picked up a Fall 2020 copy from WinCo and enjoyed it enough to subscribe. I only wish you had a monthly. Bill Jones' "Geezerhood Blues" (Spring 2020) and "Shepherd's Lament II" (Fall 2020) were my favorites.

RICH NICKELSON, LEWISTON, IDAHO

The Kern County Cattlemen's Association is proud and honored to renew 19 gift subscriptions at \$20 each. Thank you so much for your continued great efforts!

SUSIE SNEDD, MARICOPA, CALIFORNIA Dear friends, please clone yourselves!—Ed.

This magazine is like blood and water. JOE JENNINGS, FOX, OKLAHOMA

TRUMP? NAH!

You traitors need to move to Russia. My dad fought fascists in Europe. Now you support one. Disgraceful—never again. Everything Trump touches dies. Now take the ride.

DAVID LISTON, OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

I enjoy RANGE magazine's artwork and the stories. I do not enjoy the total hate shown toward any who disagree with Trump or the no longer Grand Old Party Trump line. This Vietnam veteran who enlisted in 1969 to serve while Trump's daddy paid a doctor to keep him out of the military calls Trump a traitor. You said you are busy working to save the U.S.A. but the Chinese-made MAGA hats and flags prove to me that RANGE is run by anti-Americans. My check is enclosed for four more issues. Peace, not hate!

DAVID PORTER MISSO TULELAKE, CALIFORNIA Thanks for your service and hangin' in.-Ed.

Keep the extra. Want you around forever! RICHARD HOFFMANN, BEND, OREGON

I hope that most of your days are peachy. Sometimes it seems too much like the north end of a south-bound bull.

STEVE AWALT, BELLEVILLE, KANSAS Enjoyed "What Are the Odds" by Jed Hirschi in Fall 2020. In the late '90s we had a wellbred black quarter horse mare that was six years old. She was bred to a grulla. At 11 months and 11 days she threw twin, linedback buckskin colts. The second one born came about two hours after the first was foaled. He was a little smaller and had to be bottle-fed for about a week before he figured out where dinner came from, "What About Them Odds?"

TED EVANS, MERIDIAN, IDAHO

KING GEORGE & BILL

Regarding Jim Steele's article "What's Natural?" in Summer 2020: New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio wants to ban processed meats "for the good of the planet." That's almost word for word what King George III said about the need to station British regulars in the American colonies. "I'm doing it for their own good." If memory serves, George wound up going insane. It sounds like maybe Bill is

already about halfway there. TED MORROW, BLUE HILL, NEBRASKA

Here is a photo of Joshua in bloom taken along the Extraterrestrial Highway in south/central Nevada. Rachel and I had never seen one quite like it before.



MARTIN BONETTI, FALLON, NEVADA

RANGE ON POINT

We are in a war, social and civil, and you are on point. Hold your ground. Never retreat. Keep the change. It's not much but hope it helps in the fight.

MICHAEL CHRISTENSEN, JOHN DAY, OREGON It will. Thanks, every bit helps!-Ed.

I am hooked on RANGE. My problem is I want to sit and read it through in one sitting. Not wise or possible. I desire to read back copies and get college students in natural resources to read it. They do not have an inkling of how public domain use by grazers affects small isolated communities of the West. We must educate.

ANDY PARKER, LAKEVIEW, OREGON If you can help distribute back issues, please call 1-800-RANGE-4-U. Ask for "promo."-Ed.

NEW STYLE, OLD STYLE

The photo of Nevada Steadman by Skye Clark on the inside cover of Summer 2019 is adorable. She looks like she's already making a

hand and her horse, Reata, has obviously been one for a long time. That said, the way she is mounting her horse is beyond dangerous. It may be okay for one little girl and one special horse, but for the inexperienced, it's a



wreck waiting to happen. Nevada is climbing aboard by sticking her right boot in the hobble that attaches the front cinch to the back cinch. A bad idea. She could easily stick the horse in the belly with her toe or lose her momentum and end up on the ground between the horse's legs. I know your readership is savvy, but if my letter causes anyone to think twice, it will have served its purpose.

TRACY H. SEIDMAN, WAGON MOUND, N.M. Good thing nobody took pictures of my parents

or my siblings and I getting on. The good ol' days are over. Everyone wants to wear a helmet and bubble wrap because life is too dangerous. I'll keep living without the helmet.—Skye Clark, photographer

I grew up in sheep country in northern Nevada at a camp called Spanish Ranch in the 1940s. This is the best magazine I've ever seen.

CLINT KUYKENDALL, RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA

WOLVES & WIMPS

I tried to get people in Craig interested in *RANGE*, but I don't think very many people around here can read. I made copies of "Special Report: Are Wolves Really the Problem?" by Chance Gowan in Summer 2019 and the article about hydatid disease, "The Destruction of Nature," by Marjorie Haun in Spring 2019, but the way it looks, we're getting wolves in western Colorado anyway.

PAUL B. EVANS, CRAIG, COLORADO

We are in black times and my husband and I are thankful you are fighting with us!

SHELLEY BLACKMORE, BAGDAD, ARIZONA

We have been readers and subscribers for many years and have been amazed at the caliber of contributing writers as well as the editor's ability to put together subject matter with real authentic and reliable content. Each issue is truly astonishing! We hope that you will always continue to articulate in words what most of us can't and keep us informed and educated about the political skullduggery in the local, national and global arenas that never takes a breath.

STAN & MARIA SLUTZ, SPARKS, NEVADA *Thank you and bless you.—Ed.*

PLEASE SAY IT ISN'T SO!

I have subscribed to your magazine for many years and bought gifts. One of my friends is a former horse trainer who worked on ranches from Texas to Montana and really loves the West. Recently, he told me to cancel his subscription because as much as he loved some of the articles and photographs, he no longer wanted to read the far-right conspiracy and hatred tone of parts of your magazine. I forgot to do that cancellation and your latest issue is even worse. Please cancel the three enclosed subscriptions. I'm done too.

STEVE CLARK, HAVANA, KANSAS Thirty years of blood and tears is hate?—Ed.

America needs you perhaps now more than ever. We are grateful for the common sense,

the clarity and the truth in every issue. PAM WESSEL, LAVINA, MONTANA

Here is \$25 for Bill Jones' book, "The Body Burning Detail," about his service in Vietnam. Here is a little note that popped into my mind while reading *RANGE*. "If you want to be a vegan, go ahead, but you better not bother me while I'm eating my steak! I'll have a steak knife handy." *RANGE* is much appreciated.

LLOYD H. HILL, YERINGTON, NEVADA

I can only add one more argument to George Thompson's comment in Fall 2020, page 75, and that is this: Remember that the island of Manhattan in New York state was once covered with several hundred feet of ice. If it were not for global warming—i.e., "climate change"—we would probably not be here to discuss the issue. Also, there were no automobiles and power plants then so how come the ice melted millions of years ago? Is this not a case of déjà vu?

PETER JELITO, LEANDER, TEXAS

Amidst all the stuff being generated about COVID-19 and the origins of "who got it from where" and "how it got here," I will sometimes fact-check these articles/claims. As a matter of fact, I just did that and saw the origin of the "fact-checker." It came from a syndicated news source. I started to share my discovery with the sender of an email and suddenly it dawned on me that I didn't trust the syndicated news source. Further, the only "news source" I trust nowadays is *RANGE* magazine. Just thought you-all would like to know that only your publication has the trust of many readers.

Rickee Eddleman (Loyal Subscriber) Edmond, Oklahoma

GOOD VS. AVERAGE

Mr. Fred Guthrie: I am contacting you regarding your great picture in Spring 2020, entitled "The Office." I was recently hired on as the barn manager for the equine unit at Mt. San Antonio College in Southern

California. The school maintains a herd of 20 quarter horses that are used for our ranch management, horse training, registered vet technician, hoof care, and other related





animal classes. I have been attempting to re-train my student crew in many areas (raise the bar), including the proper care of tack. Just because tack is old is no reason to neglect it. Your picture personifies that attitude and displays it in a relevant, realistic way that speaks volumes to the viewer. I would like your permission to produce a small poster of your picture and put it up in our barn's tack room. It will be seen by staff, students, and faculty alike.

I thank you for your time and consideration and I thank you for capturing a part of the ranch that most overlook, yet speaks to the overall operation of a good outfit versus an average one.

BRUCE SMITH, WALNUT, CALIFORNIA

My husband's photo "The Office" now graces the wall of Mt. San Antonio Community College's tack room thanks to barn manager Bruce Smith's vision. Attached is a picture of the college's Equine Unit crew. Mr. Smith's (blue shirt, white hat) appreciation of the proper care of tack made me think of Calvin Coolidge's quote during WWI: "Eat it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without." My husband is so proud, as am I.

REGINA GUTHRIE, MOODY, TEXAS

HELP FROM THOMAS SOWELL

Regarding "Up Front," Fall 2020 on discussions with relatives: In my experience with the lefties in my life, I've found this Thomas Sowell quote to be true: "It is usually futile to talk facts and analysis to people who are enjoying a sense of moral superiority in their ignorance." As always, I enjoy every page of your magazine.

JOHN EMERY, DVM, GREEN VALLEY, ARIZ.

You are a national treasure and a wonder. How did you know George Soros would be our biggest threat by either taking advantage of, or actually creating, the perfect storm? People say, "from your mouth to God's ears," but in this case I think it's the other way around. You're inspired and I'm grateful for you. I devoured half the magazine as soon as I opened the box. KATHY SMITH, OGDEN, UTAH

A big thank you for telling it like it is and for renewing the memories of the way it was, warts and all. Please don't ever stop making us aware of the way politicians will grab our land, our water and our way of life.

MARY HAMILTON, TRINITY CENTER, CALIF.

COWGIRL DRESS UP

We truly enjoy your magazine because it's great to see a publication that doesn't bow to the liberal agenda. I am attaching a couple of photos my husband took of our four-year-old granddaughter. You may have



seen them on Facebook, as the original picture, as well as the meme that her daddy came up with, have gone viral.

This was not staged. Lila wears that dress every chance she can and when the guys were headed out to move a little group of cows, there was no way she wasn't going to help. I think it gained so much popularity because it just shows pure innocence when the world has gone crazy. It has even been shared in Australia.

TERRY STEPHENS, HOT SPRINGS, MONTANA

I have enjoyed the recent issue as much as always. Regarding "Greetings from the Four Corners" by Stephen Studdert in Fall 2019. However, the Navajo Nation does have medical facilities on the reservation with hospitals in Chinle, Crownpoint, Shiprock, Gallup and Kayenta.

JOHN R. PENCE, VIA EMAIL Those are clinics, not hospitals.—S.S.



"Ours may become the first civilization destroyed, not by the power of our enemies, but by the ignorance of our teachers and the dangerous nonsense

they are teaching our children. In an age of artificial intelligence, they are creating artificial stupidity." THOMAS SOWELL (b. 1930)



I enjoyed the article, "Buzzards," by Jonne Goeller in Fall 2019. I did notice, however, that all the photos were of red-headed turkey buzzards. Here in the East we have a black-head buzzard that is hard on newborn calves. If a calf is exposed these birds will attempt to kill the calf by pecking out its eyes and navel. New mothers in their fright to run off the black-heads will often trample their calves while trying to protect them. So not all buzzards eat just roadkill. Our cows usually calf in heavy brush and park their newborns in thick cover to protect them.

SAM PARSONS, FOREST, VIRGINIA Thanks, Sam. I found your comments very informative and did not run into those facts when I did my research.—Jonne M. Goeller



Wake up America! This meme was inspired by a tweet by Jeff Altman of Chalmers, Indiana, who said, "Welp just ran skunk through the combine. That will be the gift that keeps on giving!"

MARJORIE HAUN, LA SAL, UTAH

I wish I could send you \$500. Ani Perkins, Caliente, Nevada

Again, great mag. There's more truth that's researched and proven in your quarterly issue than comes out of the mouths of most members of Congress in a year.

WILLIAM J. SOUZA, COLUMBIA, KENTUCKY

Has my favorite magazine gone PC? [Fall 2020, p. 74] I've always known white shirts and Levi's to be Basque tuxedos. What's with Winnemucca tuxedos?

Tongue in cheek...

Lu WEAVER, SMITH, NEVADA In Winnemucca all ranch attire is white shirt and Levi's. Even American Indians adhere to this dress code.—Hank Vogler

I captured this picture early this morning by our house. The doe to the left is with her twins. The doe in front has one baby. The doe to the right is close to her triplets. The does bed their fawns down close to our



house every day. The does with the twins and triplets are twins themselves. They were born two years ago about 30 yards from where they are in this picture and raised around our house. The two twin mommas are unbelievably gentle and apparently like to show off their babies to us.

MIKE DAVIS, MCDADE, TEXAS

My family has subscribed to *RANGE* for years. We own Shuffield Ranch, established in 1958 on the north end of Summer Lake, Ore. Recently my three-year-old, Beau, a fourthgeneration rancher, decided he was ready to work. Boots, hat,



backpack and diaper was all he thought a cowboy would need.

AMBER SHUFFIELD, SUMMER LAKE, OREGON