

The Original Ranch



PALAVAR

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The Original Ranch, Lakewood, NM

May/June 2000

Special points of interest:

- The Ranch at the Escapade
- Lakewood in 1913
- Update on Roundup
- Workshops are popular
- People at The Ranch

Articles for the July/August, 2000 Palaver are due July 1. Send to Lynell Arnott, joy-fulmd@aol.com or 216 Rainbow Drive #11697, Livingston, TX 77399-2016, (303) 601-3188

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Spring Escapade 2000 Report

by Phil & Gene Sharp

Spring Escapade 2000 in Lancaster, California, was very successful! There were approximately 1314 rigs and 2734 Escapees in attendance.

The Sharps and Armstrongs attended the Co-op Meeting on Saturday prior to the opening of the Escapade on Sunday. This was a brainstorming session and updated information from Headquarters. Kay Peterson spoke on CARE. There are two fully stocked trailers at CARE for anyone who might wish to rent them during a convalescent period rather than take their own rig to Livingston. CARE cannot do physical therapy on site, but takes the patient to a health facility in Livingston for this medical procedure.

Over 250 people stopped by our rig on Co-op and Chapter Row for us to greet and tell them about The Ranch — “The Friendliest Park in the System.” Many told us they had visited The Ranch and had a great time, while many others were not aware of our location. We grabbed our maps, showed them and told them to come visit us — we would ring the bell for them!!! We had wonderful response from all who stopped by.

The Ranch donated a door prize of a free stay, which was won by Jean Hanson. We were not able to meet Jean, but we hope to when she comes

to The Ranch. Bob Stephenson and Larry and Cece Neitz also won door prizes.

Some of The Ranch's very own were at The Escapade giving a helping hand. Chuck Cowles was the assistant electrician and Lillian worked hard at registering some of those 2734 people! Chuck and Elena Morris were on the “awesome parking crew” — no easy task in the rain and mud! Later the weather turned beautiful after all were parked. Chuck Morris also was the M.C. at Ham-O-Rama on Wednesday night and did a bang-up good job. We got hugs from others from The Ranch — Faria, Brennan, Stephenson, Elliott, Neitz, Railey, Klick, Bryant and Jerry and Betty Campbell, past managers. For you old timers at The Ranch, you'll remember Bob and Bessie Lider. Well, we did not get to see them because they had a breakdown in Bak-ersfield, but we did get to visit with his brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Cecelia Lider. Everyday Jim talked with Bob in hopes that the parts would come in and Bob and Bessie would get on down to the Escapade, but that did not happen. Still, they send their love to each of you.

Thanks for letting us represent The Ranch.

From the President's Corner:

The Spring Business Meeting has come and gone. The major item covered at the meeting, "The Storage Area," had its funding approved. Lenny Ratzlaff immediately called the contractor and the work was under way. After several very dusty days, the storage area was completed, including the electric fence surrounding it. It is now ready for use.

Beth and I are now in Aransas Pass, TX working on the metal barn that was included with the small property we purchased. Unfortunately, it appears that every property we acquire needs a new roof. So, that's what we are about—putting a new metal roof on the barn. Oh well, it both keeps me out of mischief and my weight down.

We wish you safe and fun travels over the summer and look forward to seeing you this fall.

Dave Norton

From the Desk of the Secretary

by Donna David

The leaseholders are going and there are still a few that are coming in for a few days at a time. The weather has been unusually hot and we have had to turn our air conditioners on for the better part of the days, but it does cool off enough in the evening that we do not necessarily need them.

We do have four members of the Board of Directors in the park at the present time and David Norton, the President, should be back from Texas sometime the first week in May. We do now have in place new Assistant Managers, T. and Ragen Stone. Their contract actually starts on the first of May and they will be here until the last of October. Our Managers, Liz and Rog Kurtz had worked with T. and Ragen in Arizona and were very happy when they called and wanted to apply for the job.. Now we will not need the leaseholders to volunteer on Liz and Rog's days off and that is quite a relief as that probably would not work well during the summer. Welcome, welcome T. and Ragen.

The barbecue was moved from the back of the Ranch House to the front because the drought is upon us and if those trees had caught fire they would literally explode. Lou Novy, the Chairman of the Beautification Committee, is back for a while and is busy getting the entrance way to The Ranch landscaped. The plan at the present time is to move boulders from the new storage area to the entrance way and make a cactus garden on the right hand side as you approach

the Ranch. There are also plans in the works to put a rail fence down the front, just behind the electric fence and also to put a fence around the big propane tank in the front.

The storage area has been completed as far as we could go at the present time. Rog and a crew went out and strung the electric wire around the area to keep the cattle out. We cannot actually move into the storage area until after the roads are finished in September as we need more gravel back there and we will have plenty at that time.

We have had two of our leaseholders pass away in the last few weeks, Art Welsh and Lois Young. Our sympathy goes to both Dorothy and to Harold for their losses. Both people will be sorely missed. Dorothy has left the Ranch and is in California with her daughter and her family, we wish you well Dorothy. We have not as yet heard from Harold but we are hoping that he will come back down to New Mexico

This Secretary and Russell will be leaving The Ranch the middle of May and probably will not be able to correspond until we get back in September. Safe travels to all and we look forward to seeing everyone this fall.

Donna David

Secretary

Board of Directors.

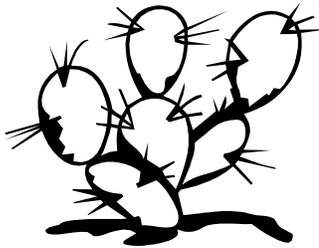
A Glimpse of Lakewood in 1913

Bob Railey has been catching up on his reading and passed this on to the *Palaver* from the *Lakewood Progress*, Friday, January 31, 1913:

Time To Rejoice will arrive when you hold a deed to some of our Irrigated Farm Lands in a delightful section of desirable country. The healthiest place to live in the whole Irrigated West, and rapidly filling up with the highest type of thrifty citizens.

A modest sum will buy some of our finest Farm Lands. The Title is perfect. The terms are made to suit you. For further details consult, Bank Block, Lakewood, New Mexico.

I'm sure we would all agree that this is a healthy place to live and of course we at the Ranch are some of those "highest type of thrifty citizens" the ad mentioned. Only, where is that Bank Block? I guess it is over by the Lakewood Mall.



ROUNDUP

2000 UPDATE

by Nettie Haase

Spring is definitely here. People are making their summer plans if they don't already have them. Several have already left the Ranch in pursuit of their next adventure just around the bend.

We feel we have made real progress in the planning of the Roundup in November. We are still open to suggestions and we are definitely adding to our list of events. It sounds like a really good Health fair is in the works as well as a couple of other exciting things that we are trying to put together.

One thing I would like everyone to be thinking of, is the raffle. We need lots of goodies. So as you travel this summer I ask you to think of what you might be able to make or donate. Please, no cast offs. We need them to be items that everyone would like to own and be willing to buy raffle tickets for. Last year we had lots of lovely things. I drool when I think of those beautiful things that of course I didn't win, but I am planning to try to win something this year. Surely my luck will improve with practice.

Please let our office know when you will be on your lot for Roundup. It helps with placing our guests and visitors. Get those western duds ready. See you this fall - November 2 - 6 - YEE HAW!!!

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

By Lou Novy

The "Adopt A Common Area" sign-up sheet has been posted in the Ranch house and several people have already signed up. If you haven't been to the Ranch lately, please be sure to sign up when you return even if you only stay at the Ranch for a short time. We would prefer to have several people sign up on each common area so that it will have a better chance to be maintained throughout the year.

At our April 27 committee meeting our project list was reviewed and we decided to concentrate our efforts on the Ranch entrance this year. This would include the area around the cattle guard, the propane tank, and the main roadway on our property. We are looking at things like a cactus garden, solid fencing in front of the propane tanks, rail fencing on each side of the cattle guard, improving the signs coming in, displays, etc. This summer we will concentrate on design (too hot to work anyway) and start implementation this fall.

Numerous boulders were discovered along the perimeter of our new storage area, which were transferred to the park entrance for landscaping.

Up to this point no funds have been spent.

Welcome aboard to Debra Simmonds-Amari. We now have a total of seven members plus our BOD liaison Donna David. I'm fortunate to have a great group of people on my committee. I especially want to thank Nettie Haase for filling in for me whenever I'm on the road.

And remember, we are always open to suggestions and comments from the membership.

History of the Ranch Through Flo and Paul's Eyes

by Flo Schmalzl

(ed. note: There are so many new leaseholders here at the Ranch, including myself, that may not know the history of how it came to be, that I asked Flo and Paul to share what they know. They have been here virtually from the start. This is the first of several recollections that we will read from them. Thanks Flo and Paul. Lynell)

While Casa Grande was well under construction, we read in the September 1982 newsletter that another co-op would be built in Lakewood. At that time we were working in Kearny, AZ, one overnight from Lakewood. So in early October, we journeyed to see what that area might hold for us.

Lakewood looked similar then as today. but there in a field near a transformer pole, and where once an old house had stood, was an airstream belonging to Roni and Tom Foster. We were the second SKPs to visit this chaparral, grassy cattle range. We learned then that Joe Peterson had been reared in

this country with many friends both in Artesia to the north and Carlsbad to the south. His boyhood friend, Wayne Gregory, offered Joe 15 acres of land of his choice. After viewing the range from above, Joe took the section with the most trees, cottonwoods along an arroyo, two huge mulberry trees, and a grove of "junk" trees (name unknown.)

Not only was the price very reasonable, but Wayne helped in many ways by allowing the co-op to dig the calcite from a nearby hill, and also in obtaining pipes, etc. at a good price.

After we quit our job in May of 1983 we traveled to the new Co-op arriving May 25th. Already volunteers were roughing out roads and marking the boundaries of the lots. Ditches had been started for the utilities. The place was abuzz with volunteers and prospective lot owners.

Then on May 29th in the shade of the huge mulberry tree, called the meeting tree, the lot drawing took

place. Luckily we were 14th which gave us the lot of our first choice, number 77, a corner lot. When all lots were drawn, we celebrated under the awnings of Paul and Darlene Ogilvie with wine, cheese, crackers and whatever. Those owners who were here moved onto their lots around June 1, as the hookups were completed.

Meanwhile, ditches were dug, pipes and wires laid, ditches filled in, calcite spread on the roads. Everyone came to 4 p.m. Happy Hour under the meeting tree where snacks were passed around, progress was reported and ideas exchanged.

At the end of June when we and many others departed for the summer's travels, the work was continued by a skeleton crew headed by Wayne Sharp. Joe Peterson and others decided that ideas for the clubhouse should be submitted in the fall. *To be continued.*

Palaver Committee Report

Well, as you can see, the *Palaver* is getting published! And that is thanks to the committee who have written, recruited articles, copied, printed, etc. These last two issues, while CT has been unable to, Greg Vederoff has ably done the layout and design of the paper. Other committee members have contributed articles, witness Nettie Haase, Flo Schmalzl, Ginny Magee. And still others, Lillian Cowles, Chuck Haase, CT, have seen that the paper is copied and mailed or distributed. Mary Irons continues to serve as the food editor and recipes should be sent her direction. Ede Trockels keeps coming up with great tips. All I've done is collect it all and type it!

Thanks everyone.

Lynell Arnott for the Palaver Committee

Anyone for a Workshop?

by Nettie Haase

Things are really humming here at the Ranch. March has been a wonderful month and April is shaping up to be a real winner too. Of course, we have had the usual games, potlucks and ice cream socials, but we have added a new dimension, hands on workshops.

Of great interest was a computer workshop. Dave Armstrong organized it and then brought in other pros for the special sessions. Chuck Morris did a session on Pocketmail and another on digital cameras. This really helped a lot of us move a little farther into the age of technology.

Health is of great interest to all of us and we are taking steps to insure our continued health. We have started a weekly class called Food for Living. Some of the topics we are covering are, weight control, balanced nutrition, special needs, reading labels, and how to eat healthier at our social gatherings.

Along this same line, Hope Trussell, a guest, with

the help of Mike Klick did a demonstration on Tofu. It was a true infomercial. Thirty two people showed up when they heard that food was to be served. It was wonderful. They made a stir fry and a tofu and "cheese" sandwich which we were all encouraged to sample. I was really impressed and I now plan to incorporate tofu into my meal plans. A big "thank you" to Hope and Mike.

Shirley Bellon has been teaching the ladies how to decorate tee shirts. Amazing how a few beads and some embroidery thread can improve plain old tees.

Russell David taught a watercolor class. For those of us who were lucky enough to be the first eight to sign up, it was a wonderful experience. I for one have no talent and yet with his guidance I was able to create a pleasing addition to our motor home decor.

When you see these people let's give them a big SKP hug of appreciation for sharing their many talents with us.

In Memory

Arthur E. Welsh (lot 22) died April 3, 2000, at the Ranch. He and his wife Dorothy had been leaseholders for more than three years.

A former truck driver, Art and Dorothy had been married 15 years and had 5 children in the Bay Area of California. Art will be buried there and Dorothy will be returning to Cedarville, California to live near the children.

We extend our condolences to Dorothy and the rest of their family.

Lois Young (lot 89) died April 22, 2000. She and her husband Harold are long time leaseholders at the Ranch. They had two children.

Lois had been ill for some time but had been at the Ranch recently and had been able to leave hospice in Amarillo, TX, for both a trip to Medina, TX and to Illinois. We will miss her brightness and positive attitude. Burial was in Potomac, Illinois on April 27.

We extend our condolences to Harold and the rest of their family at this time of loss.

Getting to Know the Lynes

By Ginny Magee

If that airport across the street from the pecan grove were open we might be able to talk Minor Lyne into giving us a ride. Minor has a private pilot's license and a 1946 Aercoupe Plane, which according to Pat, is an antique. Some of the same planes were made in Carlsbad. When home in North Platte, Nebraska, Minor flies his plane quite often. He commented that if that airport on 285 were open he would be flying the plane around here.

Minor and Pat have a home on land that once belonged to Buffalo Bill. Buffalo Bill obtained it when he was a scout for the railroad. The government gave the railroad the land and the railroad gave Buffalo Bill his parcel, which ran between the North and South Platte Rivers.

Minor was an electrical contractor for 53 years and Pat said she tells people she was a MPHA. This stands for Multipurpose Household Appliance

Worker. In addition to raising two boys and two girls Pat often filled in at the office of Minor's business.

The couple still have their home but after the first of May they only slept in it for two nights. They belong to a private club on Lake Maloney, which is five miles from their home. They have full hookups and there is a dock for the boats. The membership of 100 each has its own key to the gate that is always locked, Pat said.

It won't be that way this summer, They will become full timers. Plans call for them to clean out the house and rent it. They haven't been to New England so will make that trip in order to see the fall foliage. Right now they are looking forward to heading to Nebraska where they have eight grandchildren and a great-granddaughter who is three years old.

On the Injured List

by Lynell Arnott

It is risky to do this because I am guaranteed to miss someone, so I ask forgiveness in advance. There are a few Ranch folks we need to be remembering. Carolyn McKinzie recently had surgery and is now off and running for the summer. Rumor has it that Elena Morris is out and about on that hip of hers, back in the race it appears. Speaking of hips, Margaret Dulcich is on the run again after her hip replacement. Flo Schmalzl has been in the hospital recently. Our prayers are with you, Flo and Paul. Also, CT Hancox continues his struggle with various ailments. Keep up the old fight CT.

Wedding Bells Ring at the Ranch!

June 23, 2000, will be the wedding day of our very own Bob Stephenson and Pat Brennan! They will be married in Prior Lake, Minnesota. We are very happy for you and send you all our best wishes. We look forward to seeing you at the Ranch again soon.

Win Some, Lose Some

We offer a great big SKP hug to our new leaseholders. Let's make sure we all meet:

Robert and Marjorie Grevenow, Lot 2
Art and Susan Breen, Lot 3

Dennie and Nora LaBeau,
Lot 22

Jack and Ruth Tait, Lot 24

At the same time, there are others we have to say Happy Trails to.

We will miss:

Dorothy Welch
Doug and Vivian Price
Harmut and Irma Gumperlein
Floyd and Ginny Magee
David Miller



Keep Those Cards and Letters Coming In:

Arrived in Norwell, MA Friday after a very pleasant trip stopping by 2 pm which made for a less tiresome trip. Saw most of the family on Saturday when daughter and her husband entertained 14 for barbecued brisket. Our lot in New Mexico has been sold, now to sell the trailer and Van. Hugs to all Ginny and Floyd

few and far between, or we wouldn't have very many Full Timers Traveling!!

Some wouldn't even Try! So be glad for "Escapees" that make it possible for most of us to be Traveling!
Hugs, Lillian C.

grounds. It is raining today, and supposed to continue all week. Our e-mail address is : bobnbessie@email.msn.com. Will enjoy hearing from all of you.
Hugs
Bob & Bessie Lider

We will be at Lake Pointe RV Resort on Canyon Lake between Austin and San Antonio, Texas in June and July. If you're in the area, stop by and join us for a Happy Hour cruise on the lake or early morning water skiing. The Coast to Coast rate is \$6 or our guest rate is \$10. Hugs, Rudy and Jennie

January 29, 2000 E-mail

Don and I really have enjoyed receiving the Original Ranch Palaver. The last issue was outstanding. It is great to get all the latest news about the happenings at The Ranch. We are enjoying the wonderful weather we are having here in Yuma. We are looking forward to being back at the Ranch, but at this point in time do not believe it will be in time for the April meeting. It is usually hard for us to get away from here that early in the month. We will be going to an Avion Rally in Lodi California the middle of March and will be stopping off in Las Vegas on the way back to Yuma. Love and SKP
Hugs from the Witschgers, Elaine and Don — lot 113

A Note from Helen Farnsworth

I flew East for a couple of weeks to visit with daughter Gail and grand kids. Over a weekend we met with my other daughter Jill and her two boys. We had a really great time...Back at the Ranch, Russ is busy with the finances, the beautification committee is sprucing up everywhere, and to me the park looks good. People are leaving and it's getting a bit empty. Mary Jordan and I will leave mid-May to go back to Cheyenne. It's been hot and very, very dry. One hopes for rain. Helen

Hello Everybody!

When Traveling Becomes a Chore!

Traveling becomes a Chore! When you get last minute Plan Changes. Traveling becomes a chore if you're going somewhere you have to because of a situation beyond your control, but you don't necessarily want to.

Traveling becomes a Chore, when Expenses say you can't and you try different ways to cut them to make the trip anyway! Sometimes You Can!

Retiring to Travel is supposed to be a Breeze, Fun, and Care Free! Whoever thought we would run into these kind of things?
Thank Goodness These are just

To all our old friends,

We are doing great and are trying to master this computer we bought in January. We miss all our friends at the Ranch and especially now when we are not having any Chapter 24 rallies. Our first one for 2000 will be at Roseville, CA, March 13 to 17 at Lacer Co Fair-

We Hear from Pat Zanotelli

I spent the winter under palm trees in south Texas. So much to do - square dance lessons, playing the guitar in jam sessions, playing tennis. The weather was great. I saw a Willie Nelson concert - \$15, can't beat that.

I will be back to Wisconsin this summer and back to the Ranch in the fall.

Trockel's Tips

by Ede Trockels

Who ever heard of using coffee filters to filter coffee? Here's what they are really good for:

- * lint free glass cleaning paper
- * splash guard protection for microwave cooking
- * liners for fruit bowl
- * put small hole in center and use as funnel to transfer herbs and spices
- * strong replacement for paper towels
- * under cereal bowls
- * for nesting plates & bowls to protect

against breakage

- * place in jar ring as paper for giant muffins
- * drip catchers for popcicles
- * polish furniture
- * pour fabric softener the size of a quarter & rub into coffee filter and use as dryer sheet

Bathroom uses:

- * polish brass or chrome
- * dampen first, then use to pick up hair
- * liner for soap dish
- * removing make-up
- * remove nail polish

TOOLS TO FIGHT THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE:

Seven Secrets to Lifelong Success
by Nettie E. Haase

Call them little tricks if you like. After monitoring many people who have been able to take off unwanted pounds, and keep them off, I have discovered that these people have a lot in common. They all have developed techniques, or tricks, which they incorporate into their lifestyle to help keep them on track. This is a list of their frequently used tricks. (They really can't be secrets because they were willing to share them.) Sure hope this is news that you can use to lose.

1. ALWAYS SIT TO EAT.

Even if you want to eat potato chips. Put a handful on a plate, sit down and enjoy. This ends mindless eating. If you snack in front of the TV or fridge, you can consume many more calories than you would ever imagine.

2. MAKE SUBSTITUTIONS YOU CAN LIVE WITH.

We all need treats. If you like rice cakes, go for it. But if your heart says chocolate and you eat anything else, that is a total waste. You have

consumed calories but you are unsatisfied. You still want chocolate. Instead go for a mint patty at 60 calories or a low fat fudge bar at 70 calories. The same goes for whatever you desire, whether it be sweet, sour, salty, or crunchy. Choose the same category only light or smaller portions.

3. FILLING UP ON FIBER.

Fresh veggies and whole grains need to be staples in your meal plan. They keep you from being hungry all the time and they keep your blood sugar normalized so you have fewer cravings. The added bonus, they help to lower cholesterol.

4. WATER, WATER, LOTS OF WATER.

At least 8 glasses daily is the recommended amount. It helps in so many ways. It takes the edge off your hunger. In fact, many times when we think we are hungry, we are actually thirsty. Water aids digestion and cleanses the system. It even does wonders for your skin. But if after glass number six, you find yourself bored with the taste, try a slice of lemon or some herbal tea.

5. FIND ACTIVITIES THAT YOU ENJOY

I don't like the word exercise. It always makes me think of sweat and sore muscles. If you like aerobics, by all means go for it. But if not, find what you do like. Maybe it is walking, swimming, bowling, golf or whatever. The object is not what you do, but that you do something. Activity burns calories, speeds up the metabolism, and gives us a sense of well being like nothing else can.

6. WEIGH YOURSELF REGULARLY

Don't let the scale be your god, but it definitely serves a purpose. It is one way of measuring your progress along the way, but it is even more important when you reach your goal. If you weigh weekly, and give yourself only a 3-5 lb. margin, those pounds will never creep back on unnoticed.

7. HAVE A SUPPORT SYSTEM

We need either friends or a group to share with. People who understand our needs and frustrations. We need to know that we are not alone. When we are on top we need to support others. When we fall down we need others to pick us up.

In The Kitchen With Mary

By Mary Irons, Food Editor

Hominy-Cheese Bake

- 1 can hominy
- 1 can cheddar cheese or cheese broccoli soup
- 1/2 can milk
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 or 2 jalapeño peppers
- cooked chicken, boned or any other meat desired

Put in casserole with crushed Fritos on top.

Bake in 350 oven for 30 minutes.

Chicken Rice Casserole

Submitted by Donna David

- 3 or 4 chicken breasts or thighs cut up into pieces
- 1 onion diced
- 1 or 2 large cloves garlic, minced
- 1 - 14 oz. can chicken broth
- 1 green pepper diced
- 1 cup rice.

Cut up chicken breasts or thighs into bite size pieces and brown. Add the garlic and onion and cook for about ten minutes or until the chicken is browned and the garlic and onions are soft. Now add the tomatoes and broth and cook an additional ten minutes. Then add the green pepper and rice and cook for another 20 minutes or until the liquid from the tomatoes and broth is absorbed and the rice is cooked. This is a very good company dish and will yield at least 4 servings.

Spinach Cornbread

Submitted by Ede Trockels

- 1 box (small) Jiffy corn muffin mix
- 4 eggs
- 1 stick butter, softened
- 1 T dehydrated onion, softened, or 1 green onion, chopped
- 1 box chopped spinach, thawed & drained well
- 6 oz. cottage cheese

Cream butter, add cottage cheese, eggs, corn muffin mix, and onion. Mix well. Fold in spinach. Put in a well greased 9 x 12 pan. Bake at 350 until about 1 " thick and crusty on outside. Serve in squares hot or warm.

The Original Ranch PALAVER

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SKP Ranch Board of Directors

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**Round up at The
“Original” Ranch
November 2 –6, 2000**

**Old Time Melodrama
Cowboy Poet
Campfire Story Teller
Health Fair**

**Crafts
Food
Tours
Games
Classes
Raffle**

