



# PALAVER

FOUNDED BY  
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SKP#16549  
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THE ORIGINAL RANCH - PO BOX 109 - LAKEWOOD, NM

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|--|---|--|--|
| President – Merrilee Mager<br>Jim Ward | Vice-President – Lucille Billings<br>Roxy Colomb Carol Fishel | Secretary – Laura Melvin<br>Doug Hubbard | Treasurer – Bob Abbott<br>Arnie Arnold |
|--|---|--|--|

### COMMITTEE CONTACTS

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| Beautification<br>Liaison – Lucy Billings<br>Chair – Charlene Tarvin | Building & Safety<br>Liaison – Arnie Arnold<br>Chair – Dan Newland       | Grievance & Dispute<br>Liaison – Merrilee Mager<br>Chair – Dean Minard | Library & Video<br>Liaison – Carol Fishel<br>Chair – Pat Busch      |
| Long Range Planning<br>Liaison – Doug Hubbard<br>Chair – Dean Minard | Lot Transfer<br>Liaison – Merrilee Mager<br>Chair – Bill Good            | Nominating<br>Liaison – Laura Melvin<br>Chair – Kasey Jones            | Water<br>Liaison - Arnie Arnold<br>Chair – Mike Kerr                |
| Newsletter<br>Liaison – Laura Melvin<br>Editor – Roxy Colomb         | Ranch House Hands<br>Liaison – Lucy Billings<br>Chair – Barbara Walthers | Welcome<br>Liaison – Merrilee Mager<br>Chair – Shirley Partch          | Wireless System<br>Liaison – Bob Abbott<br>Master – George Brothers |

For any information, questions, or suggestions you may have, please contact the Committee Chair or Board Liaison of that committee. Contact info is provided in your lease holder list. A note to the office manager at the Ranch P.O. address or an e-mail to: [skpranch@pvtnetworks.com](mailto:skpranch@pvtnetworks.com) will also get to the appropriate committee and also be kept confidential.

## PRESIDENT' S POST

This is my final Palaver Post as President and as I racked my brain for something insightful or interesting to write about I continually came back to the same thing, how grateful I am to have had such a great group of Ranch Hands helping me out this past year. From those who took initiative to lead special projects like raking pine needles, spraying and weeding lots, or organizing out mass of records, to helping with our office/maintenance duties while we searched for new managers, and those darn big improvement projects, there was never a hesitation when I asked for help. I thank each and every one of you (you know who you are) for taking pride in your Ranch and making this a terrific year.

As Carl and I depart for the winter, I wish you all a happy holiday season, and look forward to seeing you all in the spring!

Happy Trails  
**Merrilee Mager**

## PLEASE & PLEASE

Send me an e-mail with your birthdays, wedding anniversaries and whether you want a hard copy of the Palaver sent to you or if you prefer to read it on-line at the Ranch web site. If you want it sent to you please include a mailing address. The Palaver will be sent to all Livingston addresses in one envelope for them to distribute, all others will be mailed to your address unless you are in the park. In that case they will be placed in your mailbox in the Ranch House. I am requesting this now as there may be a new editor after the elections and I would like to give them as much background as I can, although they will be, of course, free to change the looks and/or content of The Palaver as they choose. I will also accept written information given to me at the park, but I will never remember all that are given to me verbally. I am currently missing about 25.

Thank you for your help and answers.  
Your Current Palaver Editor

*Roxy Colomb*

[matchedset@pocketmail.com](mailto:matchedset@pocketmail.com)

## THE BIG VEE

Summer has been great on both health and weather cooperating to allow us to travel and explore the coastal area of the middle Atlantic states including a two week stint of touring the DC area. Saw lots and left lots to see another time. We did take care to locate all the fresh "fruits of the sea" we could find, creating some of our most memorable and satisfying meals.

During what was to be a routine appointment in August, Vern's eye specialist in Lubbock discovered a problem in his good eye and began treatment immediately with a cutting edge drug for macular degeneration to be followed up regularly and often. Fortunately, he has no symptoms because once that happens, damage has occurred and can't be reversed.

Our plans were to attend the Chili Chapter Rally but after learning of the necessity of another visit

to Lubbock, we decided to return to our cabin in Illinois until late October when we will see the doctor again before going on to White Tanks in Arizona for our hosting positions this winter. We have been the grateful recipients of loads of tomatoes, bell peppers, cucumbers and other goodies from our tenant's garden and of course the apples are in season so have enjoyed them also. I have harvested a lot (Vern says too many) walnuts from our trees, a very messy proposition indeed, to crack and use for baking this winter.

For those of you who were present when we left with the black Pontiac for Dallas, we got there just fine and the kids are making good use of it.

Have a great Round-Up and safe and warm winter.

Hugs  
Vern & Sheila Miller  
Lot # 109

happy thanksgiving



## TUMBLEWEED THEATER COLUMBUS, NM

Columbus NM has a dinner theater. Yes, that is right – a dinner theater. It is open normally on Wednesday evenings and serves a spaghetti dinner with a show afterwards and an open mike for Karaoke. Chili Chapter had made reservations for two shows. Tuesday and Thursday nights, and only 34 people per dinner show.

Helen and I went to the Tuesday evening dinner show so now to describe the characters, oops I mean the people. Our waiter was a slender man with long straight hair and a black mustache named Willie, about 5' 8". Then there was Walter who was over 6 ft tall, not fat but big, had a prize fighter's face, big busted nose, just a face only a mother could love, and his hair. How do I tell you about his hair? It was shoulder length and a lot of it. Looked like he had put a curling iron to it too, kind of a sandy color. It was wild and bushy. July was the cook and the waitress. A middle height, slender blonde with long hair.

Okay, our meal started with a salad and the salad was good. Vegetables were fresh and just good. Our dinner was spaghetti but we were asked first if we wanted turkey sausage on it too. I did. Wasn't enough turkey sausage to bother with – just three tiny slices. A small piece of French bread, but the sauce was good. I ate the olives, and 3 tiny sausages. Ice cream and Brownies for desert, but extra. Oh yes we paid \$7.50 for the meal and show. The desert was \$1.50 and one gal didn't want the brownie as she just wanted ice cream, so we shared. I prefer brownies to ice cream. This other gal and I ordered diet coke. Uck! Tasted like tea, blah and bitter. Willie came back and said they opened two more cans of diet coke and they all tasted like that. The case of coke was old and had gotten hot. I took water and she took regular coke.

The dinner show was put on by a neat band "Howling With Wolves" and in the band were Willie on the guitar, July on the bass guitar. Walter worked the lights, while another couple joined them. Bud played the guitar and did most of the vocals, his wife sang too. Between songs they told old jokes. HAA HAA. But they were a good band. Jokes were old and stale but the music was pure country. They started with "Good Old Mountain Dew" and went from there. I really enjoyed the music and Willy could sure make that guitar sing. An hour of old country music was perfect after the meal. So that ended that day

So if you are in the Columbus area, make reservations at the Tumbleweed Theater. You will enjoy it.

From the Ranch  
Lucy Billings.



### DID YOU KNOW!!!

Q. What does The Ranch have that is better than a garage sale, flea market and thrift store all rolled into one. ?

A. The Swap Table

Located in the sun room on the west side is what is affectionately known as the "Swap Table". It is a place where you may unload items you no longer use or need and where you can find items you've been searching for. Whenever you take a treasure from the Swap Table put a donation in the can provided. All money collected goes to The Ranch Treasury.

Everything put on the swap table must be clean, in working condition, no "fixer uppers" please. (Almost) anything can be put on the swap table; however absolutely NO food items or medications on the Swap Table. There is a dumpster nearby to receive those items.

Check the Swap Table frequently as the table is periodically cleared and all items are donated to CARC or to Grammy's House.

Remember the speed limit in the park is 10 mph, and please break down all those boxes before putting them in the dumpster.

*Shirley Partch*

Welcome Committee Chair

Hello Ranch Hands,

We were in Arkansas for 6 weeks in the spring as Sally was working for FEMA.

It was a busy time and we were glad to get back to the dry desert after weeks of rain and humidity! We have been in and out of The Ranch since returning in mid-June. Sally's brother and sister-in-law visited The Ranch for 10 days in June and July. After they left, we went to Las Vegas, NM for a couple of weeks. We used Las Vegas for headquarters and explored that part of NM. The weather was definitely cooler than at Lakewood! One area we especially enjoyed was the Pecos National Historic Park where we had a Ranger-led tour of various Civil War battlefields from the Battle of Glorietta Pass. Thanks to Lucy for encouraging us to visit the raspberry farm a La Cueva and the Alpaca farm outside of Mora. They were highlights of our stay in that area! In August former leaseholders John and Libby Veach stopped at the Ranch to visit. We all left together for a trip north that eventually took us as far north as Chama and a ride on the train. What fun! On this trip we also met Sally's siblings for a quick family reunion in Espanola. On our way back south we stopped for a few days in Albuquerque to visit our kids there and to say aloha to Sally's brother and sister-in-law as they put their rig in storage and flew home to Hawaii. Before they left, we all gathered along with Arnie and Sue Arnold for a dinner. Spent the month of September at The Ranch. October found us again traveling for 3 weeks. We spent time in some NM State Parks before and after attending the Chili Chapter Rally at Pancho Villa State Park. It was a joint rally with Chapter 21 from Benson AZ so we enjoyed meeting many new Escapees.

Plans for the future are set in Jello, as usual. We intend to be at The Ranch until flying to Alaska for Thanksgiving with family and friends on Nov 18 for 2 weeks. However, since Sally is available for work with FEMA at any time, plans could change tonight. Until that happens, those are the plans for the immediate future. Not sure where we will be for Christmas and the New Year.

Hugs to all  
Dave and Sally  
Lot # 86

ESCAPADE 2009  
SEDALIA, MO.

Escapade was a little smaller this year. There were a little over 700 rigs. The MO State Fairgrounds were very nice. All buildings were air conditioned. "The Row" was in a building by itself, which in the past has not worked out well as far as attendance goes. But, everything worked out fine this year. The marketplace seemed much smaller also with fewer vendors and no RV's to look at. There were only three outdoor vendors.

Now we move on to the weather. It rained. It poured. You probably know what that means at a fairground. Everyone around us had to be pulled out. Luckily we didn't. The Stuvel's were not so lucky. People had to get hold of their insurance companies to get tow trucks out there and pull them out. Needless to say, the towing business was doing a rip roaring business.

Ranch Hands that worked or volunteered some of their time this year were Jean and Bob Stuvel (Chili Chapter Representatives), Barbara & Soren Walther (Elk's BOF), Linda and Bill Good, Bonnie and George Keefe, Taffie and Rob Levin and their good friends Lori & Ken Campbell. We all got together for a dine-out at the Golden Corral. Jean, Soren, Bill and John were the lucky ones that won door prizes. I would venture a guess that no other co-op had that many winners.

The lady who won the the Ranch t-shirt was Ann Posey #91246 from Texas. She stopped by the booth to thank us.

We attended a Roundtable discussion with other co-ops. This is always very interesting. On co-op told how they save money on paper and ink by sending their electric bills by e-mail to members that are in the park. Another told how they just got park-wide Direct TV at each site. Another co-op said they bought a compactor for their trash. They figured this will save them money on their trash pick-up.

As always we enjoyed meeting all the folks that stopped by to talk with us. We definitely know of some that will be coming to visit.

Escapade next year will be in Goshen IN in Sept. "The Row" will be outside. The past two years we have enjoyed nice dry conditions inside.

**Trudie & John Tenison**  
#67553  
Ranch Representatives.

## ROUNDUPS & RAUNCHY NIGHTS REMEMBERED

Do You Remember-----

The night we had "Playboy Bunnies" dressed up with ears and cotton tails, black outfits with mesh hose and high heels? The ladies served the drinks when we had an open bar. Later in the night 3 of them apparently had sampled their wares too frequently and ended up dancing on the tables.

The night one lady became so inebriated that her friends took her home and put her to bed, telling her not to come back to the Ranch House?

The night that many people stayed after the program was over and continued partying until dawn? They then went home, brought back breakfast fixings and cooked breakfast in the Ranch House.

The night that a play was produced, and many of the performers couldn't remember their lines? They resorted to writing their lines on their arms, on table tops, and on little pieces of paper. Cheat sheets galore, and they still couldn't get it quite right. One of the most hilarious productions.

The yearly entertainment from the Senior Citizens Center in Artesia? The KAZOO BAND was the highlight. After their program we gave them drinks and snacks, then they really had fun.

The white elephant Auctions where people paid ridiculous sums of money for ridiculous items? One lady paid \$50.00 for a brown bag that contained her husband's hat. One member traditionally paid up to \$500.00 for items of no value. He said it was his yearly contribution to The Ranch.

That we used to have TWO Roundups a year? No wonder we got burned out!

**The Railey's**

Lot # 30

## THANK YOU 11

Thanks to all the Ranch Hands and visitors for purchasing tickets for the "Southwest Twist" quilt raffle. The lap size quilt was made by The Ranch Quilters and guests who were in the park over the summer/fall of '09 Thanks to all of you we are adding \$161.00 to the quilters fund at The Ranch.

The lucky winner of the drawing was Barbara Komatz. Congratulations Barbara!

*Sally Stribling*  
Ranch Quilters

## OUTSIDE VIEW

I was at most, but not all, of the "ROUND-UP" at The Ranch this year and what a time was had.

There were so many things to choose to do. I personally couldn't even come close to doing all of them. However what I did do was really fun.

Thanks to all those who worked so hard, to those who just went along, and to those who really enjoyed the whole thing. Each of you made a difference and added to the whole. It was truly a grand round-up and it appeared that many of the Ranch Hands had come back out of the where ever to be a part of it.

Hopefully next year I will be able to come to more events and add to the fun in a different way. Keep up the spirit, the fun, and all your good work.

Thanks again  
Your visiting Cowpoke

## NOVEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

1 Bob Railey  
4 Helen Farnsworth  
11 Gene Sharp  
15 Don Gage  
17 Norm Partch  
22 Alan Lugar

### ANNIVERSARIES

1 Barry & Marilyn Weiss  
5 Gil & Paula Carey  
5 Greg & MaryAnn Obst  
17 Wally & Joann Mauck  
22 John & Cathy Gleason  
25 Larry & Karen Andrew  
26 Harold & Ethel Draper



## DECEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

3 Doug Hubbard  
7 Carol Fishel  
9 Barb Heaver  
9 Jean Stuvell  
11 Vern Miller  
13 Taffie Levin  
15 Bob Oetgens  
18 Allison Smith  
20 Rudy Shubert  
21 Gunther Kekstadt  
24 Jim Gallivan  
28 Sue Arnold  
29 George Brother

### ANNIVERSARIES

10 Thayer & Charlene Tarvin  
13 Harry & Carol Fishel  
16 Pat Gorsach & Bill Kukes  
22 Dennis & Chixkie Rundall  
24 Pat & Richard Busch  
24 Karl & Barbara Komatz  
28 Bob & Marilyn Railey

## A “RAUNCHY & ROLLICKIN” ROUND-UP

Oh, my, where do I begin? I think the best place might be “the end”. It appears everyone had a good time! And, all though we don’t yet have the final numbers, it also appears WE MADE MONEY!

We started a bit early this year when Gil suggested The Pecos Diamond Fields Day Trip be held on Wednesday morning since nothing else was happening until 4:00 PM. The Border Patrol and Lady Rhubarb were on duty when they returned and caught them smuggling in a pile of “diamonds” !

For those of you who were not here this week, Lady Rhubarb will greet you at the gate upon your return !

As tradition demands the official start of “Round-Up” was a court session and the collection of numerous fines! Court was followed by Happy Hour. The Ding-A-Ling, Merrilee, officially welcomed everyone to the “Raunchy and Rollinkin” Round-Up in Raunchy Town, N.M. This was followed by dinner at Furr’s in Carlsbad. Mary Lee’s count was approximately 80 persons. There was a very long line leading up to the cafeteria style serving area!

The next four days were definitely busy with crafts, many day trips, a lecture on Desert Gardening (attended by 32 people), golf contest every day, a Cow Patty toss, card games, a poker walk, Casita Tours, Yard Sales, Horse Races (which I slept thru but hear was great), A Super Auction, and a Fantastic Raffle which does require a special Thanks to Money (Melodie) Baker and her crew.

Print space prevents me from listing all the folks who hosted these activities but we do say “Thank You” for everything each of you did to make this such a fun event.

The court sessions were, as always, a hoot! This year we had the added interest of a Madam and “her girls”. (I use the word “girls” part very loosely!). Madam Debra had set up her Brothel in the phone booth. She had a pole installed leading down into a labyrinth of lovely ruins running underneath Raunchy Town. On the last day the Mayor, the Madam’s business partner faced a paternity suit. I still can’t figure out if he was innocent or guilty, but from my own experience, since 1971, it’s highly unlikely he was the father! Of course there was **FOOD! Lots of wonderful food.** On Thursday we had “Dinner & a Movie”, a covered dish followed by two Western Movies (Donna) that was a fun time for all. We also enjoyed a “Chuck Wagon Dinner (Barb), a “Pulled Pork” Lunch (Yvonne), a Sunday Brunch of Chicken Noodle (home made) Soup and Chicken Salad in a Bread Bowl (Trish), and a Wagon’s Ho Breakfast (Trish,again).

It has been said time and again but just one more time I need to say **Thank You, One And All** for all the help you offered to make the 2009 Round-Up a success. I truly hope everyone had fun and once again , as soon as we have the financial results we’ll post them on Ranch-Ramblings



**KASEY**

Wagon Master  
Round-Up 2009

## November 4, 2009 Semi Annual Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Merrilee at 9:00AM. A roll call of the BOD revealed two members absent and a quorum present.

The pledge of Allegiance was said by all and the invocation presented by Phil Sharp

A memorial was given by Charlene Tarvin for Dick Billings our most recent deceased lease holder.

Approval of the agenda was unanimous.

The report of the voting committee noted that 58 leaseholders were present with 23 proxies which equaled 68.5 present to vote.

Reports of the various committees and the manager were posted on the bulletin board and copies will be included in the mailing following the semi-annual meeting.

Bob A gave a short but definitive financial report concluding that the finances were excellent at this time.

There was no old business to report or discuss and the meeting moved on to new business which consisted of 1 proposed by-law change, 1 proposed amendment to by-law change, 1 relocation of a by-law moved to be standing rule #9 b & c, a proposed change to standing rule # 6, a recommendation to building requirements, and a water usage standing rule # 17 change. All motions were approved as presented or amended

A copy of all will be included in the official minutes of the meeting.

### NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE RANCH

“Spike” Jones – President  
Jennifer Roessler - Vice President  
Lucy Billings – Secretary  
Bob Abbott will continue as Treasurer  
Charlene Tarvin  
Frank Lieberman  
Jim Ward  
Laura Melvin  
Doug Hubbard

Committee members, chairpersons and all further information will be posted in the minutes , on Ranch Ramblings, and/or in the Palaver as soon as information is available.

I have no idea if the BOD will approve of my continuing with the newsletter or if a new editor will be chosen but for now, thank you all for help and the opportunity of being your Palaver editor.

Luvya All  
And much Appreciation for the new Board

*Roxy Cosomb.*

Lot #1

PALAVAR  
P.O. BOX 109  
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88254

*Happy Holidays*



