



THE PALAVER

Founded by
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1998

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*Season's Greetings
and
A Happy New Year!*

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President's Post:

Hello Everyone,

It's nice to take a little time to reflect and be grateful, that's where my thoughts are this month.

We have closed out the year 2016, and it's been a tough one for many in our Ranch family. There have been many of us touched by personal losses that were difficult to go through.

This is why I, for one, am so happy to live in our community, surrounded with good caring neighbors.

We seem to be able to buoy each other up through these tough times.

We have also shared many light times together with fun activities and wonderful meals as we celebrated our Holidays together.

There have been new members added to our community and even more exciting is that more visitors are considering the SKP Ranch in their future.

I believe this is, in large part, due to this community spirit we share, and I hope this spirit will continue to grow and spread.

***Thanks for all you do!
Mike Jacklin***

2017 Board of Directors:

President: Mike Jacklin

Vice President: Marilyn Railey

Treasurer: Rob Levin

Secretary: John Livesay

At Large:

Jim Fagan

Johnnie Wygant (Mentor)

JoAnn Mauck

Phil Sharp

Donna Gates-Smeall

Please speak with your BoD members with regards concerns pertaining to the SKP Ranch if you need help.

We also welcome your ideas and suggestions to keep us moving forward.



The SKP Park has a new pool table, funded by donations given to our newly formed POOL/ Recreation Committee.

Letter From The Editor:

I was never so happy as to say goodbye to 2016 and usher in the new year. "Why? you ask."

Five days prior to Thanksgiving, I had enthusiastically embraced my upcoming role in preparing the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Ranch. My husband, Jim and I had gone to town to pick up the dinner supplies so that I might prepare a wonderful feast for The SKP Ranch Family. On returning to the Ranch, we stopped at the ranchhouse to drop off the turkeys and potatoes plus all the miscellaneous we needed to make it happen.

As I exited the pantry, I was so happy that I made a fist punch in the air that that portion of the Thanksgiving dinner prep was done. Needless to say, I then proceeded to trip over a mat located in the kitchen, broke my LEFT arm (my dominant arm), and had Jim rush me to the ER in Artesia to get the break confirmed. It broke my heart to hand off the Thanksgiving preparations to Pam McMickin and Lynn McKinstry.

I wanted to take a moment to thank all the members of our entire SKP Ranch Family who stepped up to make the dinner a happy and joyous event. It meant a lot to me that the meal came off without a hitch.

To Joyce Jenkins, I would like to extend my appreciation of her sharing of her family tradition regarding "the mustard seed cups" which was a beautiful table decor for the evening.

The community spirit that Mike Jacklin, our 2017 President of the Board, spoke of was clearly present and moved me to tears.

I spent the better part of six weeks in a sling unable to use that left arm. I just recently regained the use of both hands and the arm as well.

So, between the broken arm, the hectic holidays, and my inability to do as much; this is why the PALAVER has come out at the end of January 2017.

I hope you find joy, sweet memories and comfort in the words in this issue.

May the rest of 2017 be smooth and without tears, loss, and breakage.

Finally, to all in my SKP Family, I promise to the best of my ability to NOT break my arm or any other part again.

Sincerely,
Donna Gates-Smeall
Palaver Editor

P.S. A special edition follows this newsletter remembering all those we have loved and lost in 2016. My apologies for inadvertently omitting some people in our last issue. DGS.

 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Audit	not filled as yet			
Building & Safety	Wally Mauck	Lot 57	303-250-1548	wjdrjm@hotmail.com
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Welcome	Dick Montgomery	Lot 10	620-767-2707	dqdick@icloud.com
Wifi	Pam McMickin	Lot 65	303-475-1996	pmmcickin@yahoo.com

Prelude to the Holidays...

This year's Christmas tree was set up December 4th, 2016 to keep our holiday spirits up!

The rest of the month flew by with a Cookie Exchange, a Gifts Exchange, and a Christmas Day Dinner. Plus the men of the SKP Ranch held an "Omelet In a Bag" Breakfast for the entire SKP Ranch Family.



Loyce Finch enjoys conversation with Cheryl Marler and Greg Obst Sr. (Julio) during the Christmas meal.

Holiday Happenings:



This couple joined us for the Thanksgiving meal enroute to visiting family for Christmas.

A total of 85 people attended an elegant Thanksgiving dinner served by Pam McMickin and other Ranch Hands of the SKP Ranch.

There were quite a few visitors as well as Leaseholders that enjoyed the meal which featured three kinds of turkey and three types of mashed potatoes.

Joyce Jenkins, leaseholder, shared her family tradition via the beautiful decor centerpieces she created for the diners' tables.

The evening was enjoyed by all!



Christmas Day dinner was served to 51 persons and was enjoyed by all. Potluck sides were provided by the residents of the SKP Ranch.

The meal was served at 3:30 p.m. allowing for the leaseholders and visitors to enjoy their evening socializing after dinner.

Who is this Mystery Man? What is His Occupation?...



If you guess correctly, then let the Palaver Editor know, because the first person to correctly answer both of the questions will win a small prize. Email me at dgsmeall@me.com or talk to Donna at Happy Hour with your guesses.

Moving In, Out, And Around...

Moving In.....

Gary McKinstry Lot 67

Michael and Lorraine Rogge Lot 76

JoAnn Cobb and Mr. Kellerman Lot 114

Moving On...

Shirley Partch Lot 6

Moving Around...

Trudy and Richard Harter Lot 2

Lynn Dee White Lot 107



January Birthdays

- 2 Dennis Bratcher
- 4 Cece Neitz
- 4 Chance Brunton
- 10 Jerry Campbell
- 10 Chuck Haase
- 10 Rob Levin
- 11 Laurie King
- 12 Doris Gage
- 12 Helen Abbott
- 12 Greg Obst Sr. (Julio)
- 13 Vicki McKenna
- 13 Beverly Holtsford
- 17 Roger Heaver
- 21 Tim Shaffstall
- 25 Jim June

February Birthdays

- 1 Pat Bilberry
- 3 Patti Coble
- 4 Roxy Colomb
- 4 Elaine Simms
- 7 Eric Cook
- 12 JolieAnne Brunton
- 13 Joyce Jenkins
- 14 Roy Gilbert
- 15 Mike Ellsworth
- 16 John Kohl
- 17 Bob White
- 20 Pam McMickin
- 21 Rhonda Dutton
- 26 Bob Collins
- 26 Roland Begin
- 26 George Keefe

January Anniversaries

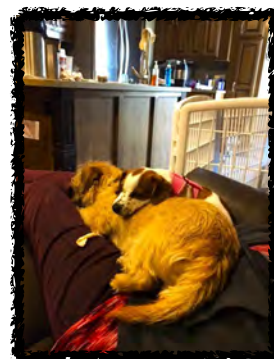
- 16 George Brother/Pam McMickin
- 23 Ron & Rhonda Dutton
- 25 Les & Elaine Simms
- 29 Al & Betty Lugar

February Anniversaries

- 10 John & Trudie Tenison
- 14 Mike & Lorraine Rogge
- 19 Mark & Karen Ireland

BRAGGING CORNER:

The newest addition to the McKinstry Family of Lot 107 is a three month old female pup named Lexi. Lexi is a Jack Russell terrier with an abundance of energy and love that she shares with everyone. In the photo below, she is sharing time and space with her playmate, Romeo who was the first pet to the McKinstry home. Gary and Lynn spend lots of time with both of them.



The "New Normal" and Riding Life's Wave

It was quite a Summer, Fall and now headed for a TRUE Indiana Winter for Gary and I.

We lived in Indianapolis up until we went full time in 2005. Now we are surviving the cold and snow but definitely NOT liking it.

Just when we think Indiana will let go of us yet another thing holds us up. After the motorcycle accident was the retinal tear. Then after the laser repair to the eye it sure was hard to accomplish much with no lifting or bending at the waist and extremely limited phone or internet use for two weeks. By week three, the eye doc pronounced a good heal and said I really need to get my cataracts tended to

And so..... that is the current hold up, some unexpected cataract surgery for me.

In between my stuff, Gary had a minor hand surgery that kept him from doing much for about two weeks. Now he's all repaired now and I'm what I call the "new normal".

The body parts don't move quite the same but I'm still ready to ride the wave of the rest of what life gives me.

My heartfelt thanks for the many prayers sent my way through cards, emails and phone calls..... I feel blessed.

We are eager for Indiana to release us to return to The Ranch, we hope, sometime in March 2017.

From Shirley Partch:

Thank you to my Ranch family for all the cards, letters, calls and kind words at Norm's untimely passing. And a very special thank you to everyone who helped my daughters and I load up the U-Haul. We couldn't have done it without you. I have such wonderful memories of our time at The Ranch and you will always have a special place in my heart.

Hugs, Shirley Partch.

Christmas LOT Decorating Contest Winners:

The winners of the Lot Decorating Contest were: #1- Roger & Barb Heaver, Lot # 8, #2- Charlotte & Dennis Bratcher, Lot # 27, and #3- Dick Montgomery/Joyce Jenkins, Lot # 10.

Congratulations to all the winners and many thanks to all of the participants of the decorating contest.

--Submitted by Nettie Haase, Lot 95

Lot 76's New Leaseholders: Michael & Lorraine Rogge,
from San Diego, California

Q: What made you choose The SKP Ranch? Everyone is so friendly. We like the security, the ruralness, and we can move our "stuff" from storage in Texas. The storage unit has already been broken into.

Q: When we can expect to see you at the Ranch (what season or time of year), We will probably be there in the Spring and Fall for about a month at a time.

Q: What are your hobbies? Lorraine's hobbies: sewing, reading, and surfing the internet.



The Rogges, Lot 76

Q: Did you retire or are you still working? Michael retired after 35 years with Hewlett-Packard. He was a program manager in IT. Lorraine is also retired and was blessed with many different careers in construction, accounting and banking.

Wishing each of you a very Happy Valentine's Day!



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Address label here.

First snowfall of the Winter 2016 graced Cecey Neitz's car during our Ladies' Coffee Hour in December.

