



125th year
Owyhee

Owyhee Cattlemen

ANNUAL
CONVENTION
AT SILVER CITY

SATURDAY,
AUG. 2, 2003

The Owyhee Avalanche

SECTION B JULY 30, 2003

Cattlemen to hold summer meeting this weekend

The Owyhee Cattlemen's Association will hold its 125th annual summer meeting this weekend in Silver City. This year the convention will be moved to the Silver City Masonic Lodge instead of at the schoolhouse where it has been held in years past.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the general business meeting will come to order at 9:30 a.m., with a drawing from members present for a silver bit.

President Charlie Lyons will do the introductions and present the president's report followed by the election of directors by past President Kenny Tindall.

The general business meeting will follow with the introduction of this year's honorary Life Members Asa and Marilyn Black from Bruneau.

Mike Hanley, and "crew," will make an oral presentation of the past 125 years of cattlemen's history, and Senator Mike Crapo will attend to speak of the year's political accomplishments.

Spokesmen for the Owyhee Initiative will give an update on the proposal followed by James M. Hughes, Deputy Director of Programs and Policy, Bureau of Land Management. The Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Trust will end the business meeting.

A potluck lunch will be served following the business meeting. At 2 p.m. the industry reports will be given beginning with Eric Davis, president of the National Cattlemen's Association.

Ted Hoffman, president of the Idaho Cattlemen's Association, will follow Davis with a report.

State and District members of the Bureau of Land Management will

also present reports.

Other reports will be available as time permits.

At 3:30 p.m. the business meeting with old and new business will continue followed by a presentation of resolutions by Vice President Tony Richards.

The social hour begins at 5 p.m. sponsored by the association. Dinner

will be prepared and served at 6 p.m. by Caba's Catering of Marsing. A dance will begin at 9:30, with music by The Running for Cover Band. Admission is \$5, or \$8 per couple.

Breakfast will be served on Sunday morning by Caba's of Marsing from 7 to 9 a.m. A director's meeting will be held at the Nettleton Horse Corral at 10 a.m.



Silver City

The sleepy "queen of the ghost towns" Silver City will be jumping this weekend as cowboys and cowgirls gather for the 125th celebration of the annual Owyhee Cattlemen's Association summer convention.



**Congratulations,
Owyhee Cattlemen**

on the 125th anniversary of the
founding of your organization.

Gary Aman

Owyhee County Sheriff

Welcome ...

to the 125th ANNUAL MEETING
of the

OWYHEE CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Saturday, August 2, 2003 — Silver City, Idaho

PROGRAM:

9:00 am Registration

9:30 am Business meeting

Membership bit drawing

Introductions and president's report, Charles Lyons

Election of directors – Past President, Kenny Tindall

10:30 am **GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**

Life member awards

Oral History-Mike Hanley and "crew"

Senator Mike Crapo

Owyhee Initiative

James M. Hughes, Deputy Director of Programs and Police, BLM

Owyhee Cattlemen's Heritage Trust

LUNCH BREAK (POTLUCK)

2:00 pm Industry Reports

NCBA-Eric Davis, President

Idaho Cattle Association-Ted Hoffman, President

BLM State/Director

Other reports available as time permits.

3:30 pm Continue business meeting – old and new business

Presentation of resolutions – Vice President Tony Richards

Evening Activities

5:00 pm Social, Sponsored by OCA

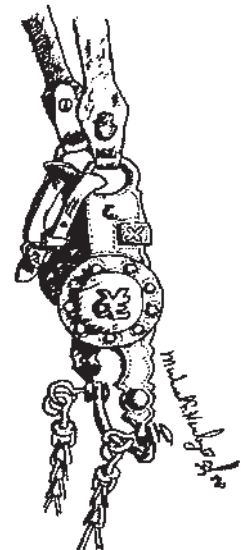
6:00 pm Dinner, catered by Caba's

9:30 pm Dance - \$5.00 single / \$8.00 couple

SUNDAY

7 – 9:00 am Breakfast, catered by Caba's \$5.00

10:00 am Directors' meeting – Nettleton horse corral



Cattlemen celebrate 125 years

Though the history of the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association seems to be lost in the beginning years of 1878 when the organization was formed, the original plan of the oldest cattle group in Idaho, "The Owyhee Cattle and Horse Growers Association" was to protect herds from "rustlers and Indians."

Rustlers seldom plague the cattle industry anymore and the threat of an Indian uprising is a thing of the past, but the cattlemen still gather to fight for their rights now against the federal government, environmentalists and those who preach cattle ranching is a thing of the past.

History shows that Owyhee County was born on Dec. 31, 1863 and was plagued with fortune hunters who were at the time engaged in changing the formation of War Eagle and Florida Mountains with their picks and shovels in their search for the riches of gold and silver.

Silver City was quickly populated by fortune seekers and was named the county seat in 1866 and the demise of Ruby City began. Many years later the county seat was moved to a more central location in Murphy.

Many hundreds of people made residence in Owyhee County in the beginning years as roads were built. Some stayed as permanent citizens, while others traveled on in search of the "mother lode."

"These remote lands that had known only sagebrush and jackrabbits became prosperous ranches, and have continued throughout the years to be the real economy of the county," taken from the pages of

"Historic Silver City" by Milderetta Adams.

Texas Longhorns stocked the early ranches in the county brought to the area by Con Shea and George Miller. Cattle ranching reached its peak in the 1880's from an assessed number of 24,559 cattle in early 1880 to over 100,000 in the late 1880's.

There were no range restrictions and cowboys followed the herd and the chuckwagon where ever grazing was good," as read from the pages of "Historic Silver City."

"They built their little fires and slapped their branding irons on the cattle, on the open range."

Early ranches included the Joyce Ranch, established in 1865 by Matthew Joyce and is still a working ranch today, the Collett Ranch located on Castle Creek, which is also a working ranch today and many other ranches throughout the county who have continued to raise cattle in the dry deserts of Owyhee County.

Taken from the pages of The Idaho Avalanche, 1890. "Mr. L.A. Stanford, of Reynolds Creek, was in on Wednesday and made us a call. He reported that he had seen but 27 dead horses, but a great many cattle.

"Teams are now crossing at Bernards Ferry on the ice. The stage now makes the entire distance to Nampa on runners."

Mr. J.H. Black, of the Bruneau Valley reported on February 15, 1890 to The Idaho Avalanche, that "many dead cattle in his section of the country, and many more so poor and starved that they must die. On the island in Snake River above the Bruneau, known as Hyde's ranch, containing about 160 acres, there were 140 head of dead cattle, and others ready to die."

The battles of the cattlemen 125 years ago are not much different than the battles they face today. Cattlemen still risk losing their livelihood to a large number of unpredictable circumstances. Although the days of Indian raids and cattle rustlers have mostly gone, the cattlemen fight for property rights, water rights and the ability to continue many generations of ranching, and feeding the world.



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Initiative group finalizing proposal

by Cheryl Beeson

The Owyhee Initiative has been in the making for nearly two years, comprised of research, meetings and discussions and is finally coming down to some agreements. Last month, Initiative Chairman Fred Grant presented a report on the status of the initiative to county commissioners who say they feel very confident and proud of the work the group has done.

Grant told the commissioners he expected a package of the initiative should be complete so a presentation

to Senator Mike Crapo can be made by this fall.

"The resolution of the long standing land use conflicts involves settlement," Grant told the commissioners. "And, settlement means that neither side of the issues gets everything it wants. Each side must give some in order to gain the elements important to their interest. The ranching interests seek such settlement, through the Initiative, in order to protect against repeated lawsuits in which hundreds of thousands of dollars are wasted, and

in order to prevent continued arbitrary grazing restrictions, which threaten continued ranching operations."

Many ranchers in the county said they feel the initiative is a very positive outcome to a very long ongoing conflict. But most say they still have reserved feelings that the cattlemen are being represented as they should be.

"I think it is going very well," Commissioner Chris Salove said. "It is going much better than I expected considering how opposing the views have been up to this point with the groups that are involved. That is the

— to page 8



Below the confluence of the south and main branches of the Owyhee River.

Initiative proposal calls for:

A Scientific Review Team, staffed by scientists selected by the University of Idaho, to review decisions by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to reduce cattle numbers on the public land and any other BLM-related issue ranchers or county residents wish to have reviewed.

The option for ranchers to swap public lands grazing leases for other public land or cash. This is expected to involve at least 30,000 acres of grazing land.

The option for landowners adjoining wilderness areas to trade access for public land or cash.

"Occasional" motorized access to grazing areas in wilderness for ranchers needing to fix fences and watering ponds or distribute feed or rescue sick animals.

Wilderness designation for about a dozen deep canyons across Owyhee County, in the southwestern corner of Idaho totaling roughly 400,000 acres.

— to page 18

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Initiative group finalizing proposal ...

from page 6

thing that amazes me more than anything else.”

Salove said he also has some concerns that the final package could be “dumped” by environmentalist groups that are involved, but he said his concerns keep him attentive.

“You always have some concerns, but to me I look at it one way and that is we are trying to do what is best for the largest number of people in this county, and if they get it killed they are only hurting themselves,” Salove explained. “I really have no more stake in this and a lot less than most people. Some of the ones trying to kill it are cutting off their own foot. So be it, if that is the way it turns out. I believe most of them are hurting themselves a lot more than they are hurting me. It is their call.”

When the initiative was announced in 2001, the county had just barely escaped the simple presidential pen stroke that would have converted over half the county into a national monument. If the president had signed the national monument designation, the county would have been completely controlled by the BLM without any congressional involvement.

“Over 68 ranching families in the Owyhee Resource Area faced grazing restrictions from arbitrary BLM terms and conditions which threatened their ability to continue in business,” Grant told commissioners. “Ranchers in the Grand View-Bruneau area faced development of a Resource Management Plan which would form the base for the same restrictive type management. All ranchers involved with the Wilderness Study Areas were hamstrung by the BLM policy which prevented range improvements necessary for the health of the resource and for the economic health of the ranching families.”

The ranchers, landowners and the county are represented by Chad Gibson, Inez Jaca, Cindy Bachman,

Ted Hoffman, Brenda Richards and Frank Bachman.

Cattle rancher Chris Black from Bruneau feels confident that the proposal will help everyone in the county, and those involved in the county.

“I think it will be good for the cattlemen with the addition of the review committee proposed. It will help cattlemen in a lot of ways to review the BLM,” Black explained. “It will effect most of the people in the county because a lot of the county is proposed in the wilderness.”

Black said the county cattlemen have had a great deal of input in the initiative and he said he felt “things are going as well as can be expected.”

Bob Collett from Oreana still has doubts if the initiative will benefit the cattlemen of the county. He runs 600 head of cattle on about 100,000 acres of federal land with four permittees. Collett said he has the biggest operation of the group so the results of the initiative will have a big impact

on him.

“It is better than what we were going to get, but I still feel it is leaning a little toward the left wingers,” Collett said. “They are trying too hard to appease them, I think. They are still going to make it tough for the cattlemen to operate with full numbers it looks to me. It is going to be too easy for someone to holler and get the rights cut down some more, which in order to get everything set up, that is what they do.”

“I believe that the package, which is nearing completion, will provide a proposal which will assure against future attempts to create a monument, [and] locking up most of the County,” Grant told commissioners. “It will assure that there will be an objective means for reviewing arbitrariness on the part of BLM personnel, will assure a well defined recreation presence in the County, will provide assistance to the Sheriff in law enforcement efforts. It will serve well for the protection of the traditional ranching economy of the County.”



Cattle graze in a meadow near Rock Creek, with Quicksilver Mountain in the background.

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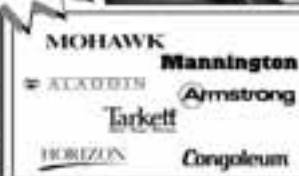


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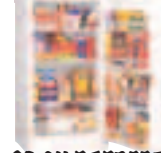
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OCA president hopes ranchers will keep the faith

by Cheryl Beeson

Owyhee Cattlemen's Association President Charles Lyons will be replaced by an incoming president during this weekend's summer convention, and Lyons said his parting words would be for ranchers to keep the faith, good will prevail.

Lyons replaced Kenny Tindall during last year's summer convention and Tony Richards will replace Lyons this weekend. He said he has learned a lot and enjoyed his tenure in the presidential seat. He said the biggest issue the cattlemen have been working on over the past year is the Owyhee Initiative.

Lyons does not come from generations of cattle ranching, but his passions are obviously in his family and in his work with the land. He and his wife, Rebecca, live in Elmore County on a small farm. He works with Rebecca's uncle Steve Lyons.

"My father was a career forest service," Lyons said. "When I was about 12 I have been working on cattle ranches. My dad never raised cattle I started with neighborhood ranches. When we moved to this country is when I started raising my own cattle."

Lyons said he and Rebecca, purchased some ground and between the two partners they run about 500 head of cattle. Lyons said his right-hand-man is his four-year old son Henry who attends some of the meetings Lyons travels to concerning ranching business. He said his two-year old daughter Alice, still spends most of her time with her mom.

"He goes to a lot of the meetings with me," Lyons said. "He does really well with it. Rebecca is also a teacher in Bruneau. She helps out a lot with the domestic duties."

Although Lyons has only been



*Owyhee Cattlemen's Association
President Charles Lyons*

ranching his own herd since 1990, he said he has seen a lot of changes in the business.

"I think the impact on our permits and the pressure on that is so much stronger than what it used to be," Lyons explained. "The issues are still fairly the same within the industry.

Like consolidation. They were complaining about consolidation around the turn of the century also, so those kind of things don't seem to change. Issues like how much the government should be involved in our lives, those issues don't seem to change much. But as far as environmental and people having a say in your day to day activities on your permit, that has definitely changed. It is a lot more severe. There are a lot more players on the table now."

Lyons said the hardest things he has had to do for the cattlemen's is the public speaking.

"Being the president has been a good experience," Lyons said. "I am not the kind of guy who can articulate my ideas very well and the cattlemen's has helped me be able to do that. I love the people I work with. I like meeting the people and seeing the passions they have to their families and their jobs. It has been an extremely rewarding job as well."

"In the end faith and honesty will win the battle for us. Ranching people deal with people honestly, straight up and straightforward."

"What other groups have done is taken the trust of the ranchers and beat us with it, but in the end that trust, that strength that we have to truth and dealing with people in a straight forward way will win out. I think there is no moral foundation in Western Watershed. It is just a group out there for control. Money manipulates and they manipulate people with it to get what they want. But some day they will be gone."

"Most people seek good, most people seek solutions, most people try to find the best in things. I think people are beginning to see the real side to those groups."

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Horses in the pasture at Bull Basin.











25 years ago

Miss Emeline Nettleton was chosen queen of the centennial celebration of the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association in 1978. The convention's theme was "100 Years in the Saddle,"

Queen contestants included Miss Nettleton, Mildretta Adams, Elizabeth Walker, Evelyn Cummings, Nellie Larsons, Phyllis Malmberg, Margaret Duval (runner-up), and Helen Nettleton.

Emeline was previously from Sinker Creek and spent more than 50 of her 80 years in Owyhee County. She was born on Sept. 16, 1898 and moved to Boise in 1945. In 1948 she moved to Nampa.

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Asa and Marilyn Black chosen honorary life members

by Cheryl Beeson

Long time Bruneau area rancher Asa Black and his wife Marilyn will be honored as this year's honorary life members for the summer OCA convention in Silver City this weekend. Its an award Asa said he is not sure is a compliment. "I thought they only give that to old people," Asa laughed.

The couple live near Bruneau in the same house in which Asa was born in. He said the home has been in his family for several generations. The couple raised seven children, five boys and two girls, in the two-story home and pictures of every one of the children and their families cover the walls.

"This house itself is not the original Black family house," Asa said. "My dad bought this ranch from a cousin of one of the other family. My two older boys are partnered with me on the ranch now."

The Blacks are not strangers to hard times and say they accept the challenges they have been handed. The couple lost one child in a vehicle accident when he was young. Marilyn said she is a survivor of brain cancer and she now has it "whipped." She was named Bruneau's distinguished citizen when she became ill and a plaque in her honor hangs on her wall.

"She volunteered for everything," Asa said. "She always said if she got paid for what she volunteered for she wouldn't do it."

Asa spent some of his time through the years working the local rodeos while he was building his cattle business. He said he rode broncs and was a pick-up man in local rodeos for many years. Marilyn was chosen as grand marshal for a Bruneau Rodeo several years ago.

— to page 15



Asa and Marilyn Black



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Blacks...

Asa would not say the number of cattle he now raises, he said the question was too personal, but he said he still has taken on additional jobs just to keep up.

"We do some custom work with semi-trailers," Black said. "You need some kind of supplement.

"I don't think that a person can start like we did when we did. We started with nothing. We didn't have anything at all. The first new car we ever had is the one in the driveway now."

"We had nothing but seven healthy children," Marilyn added.

Asa began working for his father until money issues forced him to move on. He said he then began working on the Joyce Ranch in Sinker Creek.

"I ran the ranch for three years," Asa recalled. "While I was down there I got to talking to an the FHA guy. His name was Hansen. He told me that if my dad would help he could show me a way to buy into the ranch. So I talked to dad. He didn't want to at first. He figured out a way to do it and we stayed as long as we could. From there we have just struggled on as we can."

Asa said the same issues are facing cattle ranchers now that cattle ranchers faced many years ago.

"I have been with the Cattlemen's for many years," Asa continued. "We always had something we had to fight for.

"A few years ago the environmentalists came in and found a snail in some hot water and they called it an endangered species. You can't see it. It is about the size of a pinhead.

"The best thing I ever did was sell out near the river. It was called the wild and scenic river then. The wilderness deal was coming in then. I could see what was coming and got out. I knew our days were numbered up there.

— to page 16



Welcome

A wagonwheel gate welcomes visitors to the Asa and Marilyn Black home near Bruneau. The couple live in the very home the Asa was born in which has been passed down through the generations.



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Finding a place in the shade ...

Blacks...

from page 16

"I think if we had just straight cattle we would be in trouble. Trucking is a pretty good business. You have to get more than one income to keep going. It is another source of income."

Asa said the only advice he would give future cattle ranchers is to tell them the job is tough work and they can't give up when things get hard.

"The only thing it boils down to is if they are capable of doing it," Asa explained. "I think anyone can do it, if they want to do it. The worst thing about right now is these kids want to have everything brand new. A new pickup truck, lots of payments and you can't get started unless you tough it out and save money. If they are working a job and running cows too, they can do it. All it takes is some kind of help to get started."

Asa and Marilyn will be honored at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday during the general business meeting.

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The Process Begins...

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Initiative proposal calls for:

from page 6

Release of remaining 300,000 acres of wilderness study areas for "multiple use."

Wild and Scenic River designation for about 300 miles of rivers, including a portion of the Bruneau River, the main, north and south forks of the Owyhee River, and possibly Deep Creek.

A noxious weed and fire research center.

An Owyhee Initiative Board of Directors, appointed by the Owyhee County Commissioners, to oversee the deal.

Here's a full list of the groups and their representatives:

Air Force - Col Lynn Wheelless
Nature Conservancy - Lou Lunte, with Will Whelan as second;

Idaho Conservation League - John McCarthy,

Sierra Club - Roger Singer

The Wilderness Society - Craig Gehrke, with Lahasha Johnston as second;

Owyhee Boarderlands Trust - Ted Hoffman;

Owyhee Cattlemen' Assoc - Chad Gibson;

People for the Owyhees - Sandra Mitchell;

Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association, and hunters - Grant Simonds;

Owyhee Commissioners - Inez Jaca;

Soil Conservation District - Cindy Bachman;

Group chairman - Fred Grant, who also works for the Owyhee County Commissioners.

Sen. Crapo's staff - Susan Bigger, non-voting.

BLM - Howard Hedrick, non-voting.



*Crutcher's Crossing on the Owyhee River.
Will the public have access under the Initiative?*

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Frankie Dougal is ranching the 'good old fashioned way'



Frankie Dougal doesn't let the rush of the city life affect her as she lives on top of a mountain "in blissful solitude." Her nearest neighbor is located over two miles away and Dougal says she wouldn't have it any other way.

Living in a home with no electricity, a wood cook stove and a generator to operate her lights and electrical outlets is not a hindrance to Dougal as it is the only way of life she has ever known. She has a generator for her electricity and said she has never paid a power bill.

"I would not change it for the world," Dougal said. "I have so much to do every day that I don't even notice it. This is all that I know."

Dougal has lived on the ranch north of Cliffs since her marriage to Chuck Dougal. She ranches over 3,000 acres of deeded land. She has three children, two girls and a boy. Her daughter Charlene now lives on the ranch and helps her mother.

Dougal's favorite past time besides her ranch, is making horsehair ropes. She uses a "hair picker" invented and built by her husband. She said the invention has saved her many hours of time. Now she can make a rope or Mecate in over half the time.

"It is made out of a old Maytag ringer washer I got out of Winnemucca, Nevada," Dougal said. "The motor is out of an old swamp cooler. He welded all of these old license plates and nails in it and now it picks the hair. Then it comes out in

The good ol' days

Frankie Dougal and her faithful companion Peko stand with Dougal's prize saddle, spurs and ropes at her home near Cliffs, south of Jordan Valley.

Dougal ...

the bottom like someone had combed it. Then I spin it into the ropes. I can pick enough hair in an hour to do two ropes."

The art of rope making has been passed down to Dougal through generations. She has passed the gift down to her daughter Helen.

Helen makes the Mecates for Buckaroo, show horse, and home decor use. The ropes are made from all shades, and color combinations of horsehair. The ropes and gear are created by working Buckaroos who make the gear for their own use, and then they sell it to other Buckaroos to use as well.

Dougal sells her handmade ropes throughout the United States and said she has even sold ropes in Australia. She has Mecates on display in the ION museum in Jordan Valley.

She said times are not the same as they were years ago. She said she enjoyed the "good old days."

"First of all there is too many people," Dougal explained. "Since they built a recreation center over here on the North Fork of the Owyhee River it has been terrible. This road can be worse than Highway 95. Even in the winter time it is bad."

Dougal has a large pond that supplies her ranch with irrigation water through the summer months. She said she has had to post no trespassing signs on it because of the amount of people who try to fish, and boat on it.

"A long time ago it would not matter if a fella wanted to come and camp, but now a days, people don't care, they don't care about someone else's land," Dougal continued. "The environmentalists, they don't want the cow man out here at all. They expect to be able to ship the meat in from foreign countries. I was talking to a meat inspector and he told me

— to page 22



Frankie Dougal shows a Mecate she made with the help of an invention her late husband built for her.



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The Dougal Ranch near Cliffs and the North Fork in Owyhee County.

Dougal...

from page 21

that I would not believe how many times the meat is thawed when it is shipped from over seas. People who go to the big stores don't know what they are getting."

Dougal, who turned 85 this year, had a hip operation last year and said she feels back to her "old" self again. She said the only reason she has slowed since her operation was because she was "forced" to.

"I just got back from five days checking fence," Dougal said. "I figured after the hip operation I should give it some time, but I am back in the saddle again. Feel great. Even my doctor is amazed at how well I am doing."

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BLM director mending fences with ranchers

by Cheryl Beeson

The newest addition to the Bureau of Land Management, Idaho office is a man who has 36 years of experience as a professional in the field of natural resource management. He served seven years as the Vegetation Management Bureau Chief for the



Glen Secrist

Idaho State Department of Agriculture, 29 years of natural resource management experience in federal service, 11 years with the Soil Conservation Service in Utah and Idaho and 18 years with the BLM in

Idaho, Colorado and the national office in Washington D.C.

Glen Secrist joined the staff of the Lower Snake River Districts BLM office in May and said he, along with the state director K Lynn Bennett, plans to "mend some fences" with ranchers who have in years past been hit hard with BLM regulations and cutbacks.

"I have known K Lynn for a long time," Secrist said in an interview earlier this year. "I don't know of many people who are as tough mentally. Nothing that he believes in strongly is going to go unattended. He is a very generous, warm hearted person, but he expects a great deal from the people who work for him. Excuses like 'I didn't get it done,' or 'I didn't have time to get it finished,' are not good responses to K Lynn."

Secrist said he realizes the relationship between BLM and the county ranchers has been damaged in years past. He said working in the field could be the key to healing those damages.

"In some respect it is our own

doing," Secrist explained. "When I was in the Owyhee Resource area when I left in 1986, there was time to get in the field. I mean that is what the job was working with the permittees and looking for opportunities to improve and make things better."

Secrist said the BLM is only a portion of the departments who will need to make changes to have better relations with the permittees. He said

the Department of Interior would also need to begin changing.

"There are a number of these changes that were made under the range land reform that created a tremendous problem of how we get things done, the way we get things done," Secrist continued. "I don't know what the appetite for the new administration is going to be for

— to page 25



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Idaho's beef inventory valued at \$1.81 billion

On January 1, 2002, there were 1,990,000 head of cattle and calves (including 377,000 head of dairy cows) in Idaho valued at approximately 1.81 billion dollars. This is up 30,000 head and 10 percent in value over 2001 and ranks Idaho 15th among all states, amounting to about 2 percent of the U.S. total. However, Idaho is a bigger player than might appear, especially in the areas of cattle on feed, fed cattle and commercial slaughter. In fact, in 2001, Idaho ranked 6th in fed cattle, with 760,000 head marketed. January 1, 2002, inventory showed 335,000 head on feed, ranking Idaho 9th for cattle feeding. Idaho processors, led by the IBP plant in Boise, processed 861,000 head in 2001, ranking Idaho 10th in beef processing.

Cash receipts for cattle and calves ranked second only to milk in 2001 for all Idaho agricultural commodities. The total cash receipts for cattle and calves increased 17 percent in 2001 totaling a record \$915 million compared to \$757 million in 2000. This continued strong performance demonstrates the cattle industry's continued impact on Idaho's economy.

For the second consecutive year increased marketings and higher prices led to the record cash receipts for the 2001. The 2001 calf crop was a record 860,000 head, up 20,000 from the prior year. Cattle producers continue to meet the challenges of a changing industry to provide lean, high quality, nutritious and safe beef products to consumers.

Cattle are raised in every county in Idaho, with the largest production in the southern part of the state. Cassia County boasts the most beef cattle with 141,500 head. Elmore County is close behind with 137,300, followed by Canyon County with 101,500 and



Owyhee County ranks fourth in the state with 99,700 head of beef cattle.

Owyhee County with 99,700. However, when we look at beef and dairy combined, Gooding County dominates with 172,000, followed by Cassia County with 163,000 and Jerome County with 154,000. The feeding industry in Idaho is made up of about 150 feedlots of which about 100 have a one-time capacity of over 4,000 head. About 57 percent of Idaho cattle operations have 50 head or less and only about 7 percent of operations have over 500 head. However, that 7

percent accounts for about 63 percent of the total cattle inventory in the state compared to the national average of the largest operations accounting for about 40 percent of the total inventory.

Small independently owned operations are still the backbone of the Idaho livestock industry. Despite the large holdings of corporate operations headquartered in Idaho such as Simplot and Agri-Beef, the majority of Idaho cattle are raised and fed on privately owned ranches and feedlots. For the most part, beef cows are raised on open pasture. Calves are born in the late fall or early spring. With more than two thirds of the state owned by federal and state government, most cows and calves spend a least part of their lives on public rangelands. Idaho feedlots depend on crop by-products, especially waste from potato processing plants, to efficiently finish high quality cattle for domestic and international markets.

Statistics used in this summary are primarily from "2002 Idaho Agricultural Statistics" compiled by the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service at the Idaho Department of Agriculture. Compiled 5/03.

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BLM director ...

from page 23

making a lot of changes right now, they have plenty on their plate as well, but little by little, I think we will see some of these changes."

Secrist said a lot of the credit should be given to BLM director Kathleen Clark since she is very familiar with the needs of the issues in the west.

"She came from Utah which is second only to Nevada in the terms of the vast amount of public lands we have," Secrist said. "She knows very well what these issues are. She knows particularly how important the decisions that are made by departments and federal agencies to rural communities. She understands the impacts."

Secrist said he and Bennett spoke in depth of the issues that Secrist would need to follow before accepting the position.

"He said that we had three things that we were going to do for goals in Idaho," Secrist explained. "He said we were going to follow the law, we were going to improve and maintain the public land resources and the third one that I think is no less of importance was he said we were going to do all we can to

see these rural communities thrive and keep people on the land. I certainly share that vision."

Secrist said he would be attending

the summer cattlemen's convention this weekend and would be addressing issues that concern the cattlemen of Owyhee County.



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Lowrys win water rights decision

Members of the LU Ranching Company have a lot to celebrate this last year after Special Master Thomas Cushman of the Fifth Judicial Court of Idaho issued the most significant victory for water rights in the Snake River Water Rights Adjudication in February.

Bill Lowry, owner of the LU Ranching Company, originated stock water rights in history and law in the same manner as other stock water rights in the western grazing states. Over a century ago, ranchers settled Owyhee County by acquiring private property where there was water and enough area to raise feed to sustain a herd through the winter.

Through the growing season, the herds grazed on the federal lands appurtenant to the private base property and drank from the streams and springs located there. Since the ranchers were the first settlers to make beneficial use of the water, their water rights were established under the "prior appropriation" doctrine, which drives western water law. Water rights so established are protected by the Idaho Constitution and implementing statutes.

Cushman ruled for LU Ranching Company and against the Bureau of Land Management in this long awaited decision. He ruled that LU holds a priority date for stock water rights in the Snake River Adjudication of June 10, 1876, which predates the government's claims.

In May of this year, the Lowrys received yet another decision when the Idaho Supreme Court struck down LU Ranching Company's contention that due process was violated by default decisions granting federal

— to page 28



A young girl stretches to feed a donkey during a farmers appreciation event held last spring near Marsing.

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Frank Maher, OCA life member and past president, remembered

Frank Maher was born on November 11, 1917 in Boise to Ambrose and Ethel Maher. He died on February 17, 2003 at the age of 85.

He was a lifetime member of the Owyhee Cattlemen's Association and served as its president for two terms. Frank was a charter member of the Owyhee County Rodeo and served as an honorary board member for the past few years. He was also a member of the Jordan Valley Rodeo Board. He was the pickup man for both rodeos for many years.

He and Jack Staples were part of the team of Malheur County ropers to win a "Big Loop" rope-off between Harney and Malheur County ropers. There was a purse

of \$1,000. In the early '90s he was one of the first recipients to receive

honors presented by the Idaho Cattlemen's Association for "A Million Miles in the Saddle." He really was close to that.

He was known for his rawhide work, be it braiding riatas or hackamores. All his children had rawhide ropes he braided as well as chinks that were handmade by him and he made his wife a beautiful leather jacket. He always rode big thoroughbred horses and never believed in riding a gentle one.

He even raised remount horses for the Cavalry. A number of his saddle horses ended up in bucking strings and some went to the NFR.

A memorial Mass was held on Feb. 24 at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Jordan Valley.



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Owyhee Cattlemen's
Association on their 125th
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Lowrys ...

from page 26

water rights to LU's stock water sources.

The Supreme Court decision does not limit or negate the victory, but it does eliminate the belief by ranchers throughout the Basin that they were deprived of due process of law with regard to U.S. claims, which were filed in competition to private claims.

The Supreme Court ruled that ranchers were not entitled to actual notice that the Government had filed claim water in conflict with the ranchers' claims. The Court ruled that due process was satisfied by issuance of a Director's Report listing thousands of claims, with no cross reference to specific sites or to competing claims.

House at the Bill Lowry ranch near Jordan Valley on Trout Creek.



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BLM issues draft National Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation strategy

The Bureau of Land Management has developed a draft Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy that seeks to reverse the declining trend of sage-grouse and their habitats on BLM-administered public land in the West. The public may comment on the draft Strategy, which is on the BLM's Web site, from July 21 through August 20. Answers to frequently asked questions are also on the Web site.

The BLM's final national Strategy, scheduled to be released September 30, 2003, will provide consistent Bureau-wide guidance for BLM state offices as they develop and implement state-level habitat conservation strategies for public land they manage.

"The overall goal of the BLM Strategy is to conserve and improve sage-grouse habitat so we can reverse population declines on public land," said BLM Director Kathleen Clarke. "This will enable us to meet our multiple-use mandate and, we hope, preclude the need for any grouse-related Endangered Species Act listings." Clarke added, "The draft Strategy complements the sage-grouse conservation planning efforts now being led by the states and does not pre-empt state wildlife management authority."

Multiple petitions to protect both the greater sage-grouse and the Gunnison sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act have been filed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. An Endangered Species Act listing of the sage-grouse would affect a wide scope of activities either conducted or authorized by the BLM, which administers the largest amount of remaining sage-grouse habitat held by a single entity—over 50 million acres, or approximately half of all remaining habitat.

An interdisciplinary BLM team has been identifying BLM activities

and authorized land uses that may adversely affect sage-grouse and their habitat. This Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy Team has completed its preliminary analysis and in the draft Strategy has recommended actions the BLM can take to eliminate or minimize those adverse effects. The intent is to ensure that sage-grouse habitat conservation is fully considered in the BLM's

public land management decisions at the state and field office level.

Comments may be submitted from the Web site or mailed to: BLM Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy Team, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, ID 83709-1657. If you are unable to obtain a copy of the draft Strategy from the Web site, please request a copy from the team at the above address.

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From back issues

Not important. . . but possibly of interest

July 19, 1979

By Wayne Cornell
former editor of the
Owyhee Chronicle

Last weekend we managed to get up to Silver City. It was our first visit to that famous Idaho ghost town in about five years.

I'm not sure "ghost town" is the correct term to use when talking about Silver. The town seems to have taken on new life since my last visit. And, there were times during the day when the street in front of the Idaho Hotel seemed more like Orchard Avenue in Boise at 5 p.m. than a back country throughfare.

It was my first opportunity to see the interior of the Idaho Hotel, and to meet its owner, Ed Jagels. Ed is one of the only year-round residents of Silver. Although he spent all of last winter there, Ed admitted he isn't really a cold weather fan.

We hiked up Long Gulch and discovered one of my favorite photographic subjects is no longer standing. A number of years ago I discovered the old gutted ore crusher building on the slope of Florida Mountain. I was disappointed to find that the building has fallen down since my last visit. The structure really wasn't good for anything. I just like the haunting quality it possessed.

Next week the Owyhee Cattlemen will hold their 101st annual convention at Silver. This year's event will be a little different since it's being held on Wednesday and Thursday, rather than the weekend. This is due to an agreement with the Silver City Taxpayers Association.

My first encounter with this annual Owyhee County event took place about 12 years ago when I was a somewhat "green" reporter for one of

the local daily newspapers.

My first mistake was arriving too late to cover the actual business session, so I decided to wander around and shoot some photos for a feature. At the point in my career, I hadn't really had a great deal to do with cowboys, so I approached a group sitting in the porch of a store with a certain amount of apprehension.

Almost immediately, one of the fellows on the porch got up and ambled over to yours truly. He looked down at me, (I'm 6-1), threw his arms around my shoulders and suggested I join him in a spot of refreshment. He immediately produced a half empty bottle and shoved it into my hand.

At this point it flashed through my mind that my editor had suggested I try to get back with a story by late in the afternoon. It was obvious that this particular individual, who had apparently taken a liking to me, was warming up for a party that wasn't likely to end until well after deadline. I cleared my throat and informed my new found friend that as much as I would like to, I had a job to do.

My reply to the invitation to have a drink brought what sounded like a low growl from the throat of my new acquaintance. As I remember, there was something said about that "city slicker being too good to have a drink with us." Suddenly I could see that my position was becoming a little shakey. So, being a diplomat I announced in as clear a voice as I could muster that maybe I did have time for just a "little nip." All eyes seemed to be on me as I tipped up the bottle.

I think the first swallow was somewhere between my tonsils and my stomach when I read the label on the bottle. The bottle was still tipped up, but being a printer, it was no problem to read the label information upside down. I had just swallowed for

the second time when the words, (100 proof) jumped out at me. At the same time I became aware of a growing warmth in my throat as swallow number one raced downward. I tried to stop swallow number two in mid-swallow, but it was too late.

I very carefully handed the bottle back to my cowboy "friend", wiped the tears from my eyes and whispered a thank you.

It was shortly after this that my memory of the event begins to fade. I do remember sitting on a porch somewhere watching someone play a guitar and it's possible that I was singing. I also seem to remember a campfire and more singing, along with a great deal of shouting and laughing.

As I remember, there wasn't a great deal in our paper that year about the convention.

Over the years, I've grown older and, I hope, wiser. In the first place, I know a little more about cowboys. In the second place I know that all of the individuals attending the convention aren't as wild as the group I encountered in 1968.

But, probably most important, is the fact that I now read labels prior to committing myself.

With these points in mind, I will head for the 101st annual cattlemen's meeting next week.

Wish me luck.

Owyhee Graffiti

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Owyhee brands of 1876 listed

**Idaho Daily Avalanche
May 8, 1876**

Marks and brands adopted by stock owners in Owyhee County—1876:

Matt Joyce—M J on right side and slit in right ear.

John Farnemen—Ear Mark, smooth crop of the left, and brand on the left front shoulder, thus F, and the same brand on the left horn of cattle.

Enos and Dorsey—Brand of a Triangle on the left hip for Dorsey and right hip for Enos.

Michael Hyde—Smooth square crop in left ear and a slit on the right ear; branded with an H on the left hip.

Wm. F. Sommercamp—A crop and slit on each ear; cattle, horses,

mules and jackasses branded with an S.

Hoffer and Miller—A crop on the left ear with an underbit; and brand 3 on the hip.

Cornelius Shea—One over slope on each ear and branded S on the left hip; an Ox Yoke on the left side and dewlap on the breast.

Thomas Walls—Earmark and under slope out of the right ear and banded T W on the right hip.

Wm. E. Harris—A C on the right hip and a crop on the left ear and an underslope on the right ear; horses with a C on right shoulder.

George W. Hill—Crop, a slit on right ear; small dewlap on left under jaw, brand HILL on left side.

V. Blackinger—A horse shoe on left hip. Mark 2. Wattles on chin

bone. Ear mark, crop of the right ear, half under crop on the left ear. Hogs marked with the same ear mark. Horses marked VB on left shoulder.

John H. Hart—J and Heart on all his stock.

R. L. Enos—Horizontal or crossways cut on both ears and diamond with dot on left hip and side.

Joseph Babbington—Brand in both ears, thus, ear bobs. Brand E B on both hips, some branded on left hip and some on right hip.

J. B. Benson—Branded Triangle on left hip with a square upper, half crop out of right ear, and double wattle under the neck where head joins the body.

M.H. Presly—Old cattle branded

Branded...

Branding is still the standard practice to identify livestock. This bull belongs to Frankie Dougal.



Brands...

previous to 1876 are branded P on the left shoulder, and all cattle branded since that year are branded P on the left rump. Ear mark established since beginning 1873 on all cattle born after that date is two circles out of under side of both ears.

Robert Bruce—Brand B. Two swallow mark forks in each ear.

Peter Conner—Brand is D. C. for cattle and horses.

R. S. Hudson—Shape of snake on right side.

Walters and Miller—T on right side.

Edmund Squieres—R S on left side.

Wm. Toy—W T on left hip.

Thomas Fritzsimmons—A cross X on the left side.

John Beggs—J. B. on left side.

Dennis Linehan—A square and compass on the right hip and on either side of the left hip on stock cattle. Work cattle branded L on the horn. Horses, Mules and Jacks branded L on right front shoulder.

Hank and Scott—All cattle over one year old marked V on left side; all under, marked V on left thigh.

Margaretha Rauschmayer—L R joined in one letter and branded on left hip.

Murphy and Dowlen—JD on right horn.

B. S. Hawes—Letter H on the right side of cattle, left shoulder of horses.

McLaferty, Jackson and Deary—Brand 69.

Silas Skinner—S S on left hip. Horses S S on left shoulder.

John Mitchell—Brand Spur on the left hip.

The Avalanche urged all stock growers to send in their brands to be published.



A dustdevil develops as cattle graze on the abundant grass on the range. Visible in the background is the rim of the Owyhee River canyon.

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Horsethieves

as reported in the Avalanche

by Mildretta Adams
"100 Years in the Saddle"

Avalanche—Nov. 6, 1870:

"In our last we mentioned the fact of two horses having been stolen at Fairview on the night of October 27th. One of the thieves called himself Thomas, but his real name is said to be Larkins. He was for sometime in the employ of the Government at Camp Harney. The other sport was a corn salve dealer by the name of Kingsley. He danced, sang, and performed slight-of-hand tricks for the amusement of the boys on the Mountain. His last trick was to disappear with Bob McFee's horse. When last heard of they had passed through Cope with Bob in pursuit on the stage 12 hours behind. It is to be feared that the scoundrels would reach the railroad and escape."

McFee was accompanied by B. G. Hooker, who took off for Bull Run from Mountain City on horseback in case they had gone that way. McFee went by stage as far as Friend's Station, gave up and returned to Silver City. Arriving at Bull Run, Hooker learned that two men, riding horses of the stolen ones description, were ahead of him on their way to Elko. Hooker outguessed the thieves and took the stage to Elko, mounted a horse and started for Carlin, rightly surmising that they would reach the railroad at that point.

He met the two on the road, nearly a half mile apart, riding the stolen horse. He rode into Carlin and a man named Smith went back with

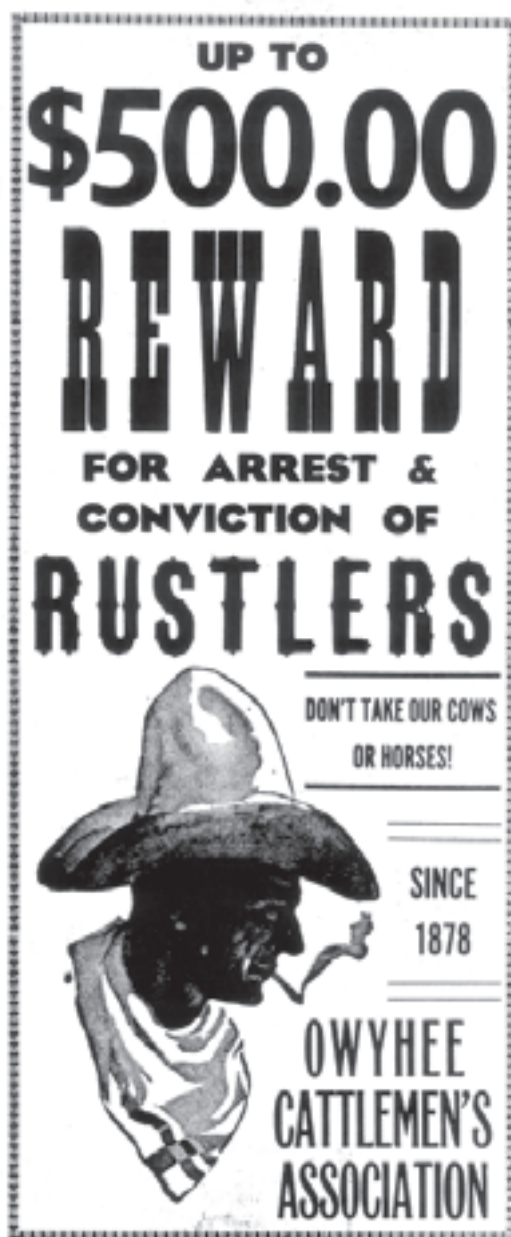
him and they succeeded in capturing the thieves. They were held to await a hearing before a Grand Jury.

Avalanche Nov. 19, 1870:

"A young man named John Germaine, stole Hank Townsend's horse, saddle and bridle from a shed near Springers stable last Sunday night, and started on the road to Elko. Rightly surmising the direction taken by the thief, Hank started after him the next morning and found the horse, minus saddle and bridle, tied in the bush about two miles beyond Walbridges sawmill on Boulder Creek. Supposing that the fellow would come to Fairview after something to eat, Hank went up there the next night and found his man in a high old state of intoxication."

By means of threats he was induced to bring in the saddle and bridle, which he had concealed in the bush near where the horse was found. As Hank had recovered all the stolen property he did not have the scamp arrested, not wishing to put the county to unnecessary expense.

People should be aware of the thieving scoundrel, as he intimated that this was not the first horse he had stolen, nor would it be the last. If caught making off with another horse that does not belong to him, a dose of gun shot would probably cause him to have a better regard



*From Mike Hanley's book,
 "Owyhee Graffiti".*

Horsethieves ...

for the rights of property.

DeLamar Nugget—June 30, 1891:

“The horse thief committed to jail in Silver City, last Dec and who escaped during the winter and was recaptured, with his feet frozen, walked out on Friday night, and has not been heard of since. He was committed under the name of Jack Brady. He is about twenty-four years old, five feet six inches high, dark complexioned, with a dark mustache. He is slightly lame in the left foot, having had a big toe amputated after being frozen last winter. A reward of \$100 will be paid for his capture.

In early November, 1915 Dave Sommerville had been tipped off that some of his horses that had been stolen from his Juniper ranch were in the Nampa area. “He had been there looking over Alf Wassler’s ranch near Nampa and found four of his range horses working on a neighboring ranch. A little sleuthing on his part traced the animal through three of four hands and the thief was caught. We did not learn the name of the offending party, but understand he is not out on bail.”

Avalanche Nov. 12, 1915:

“Dave Sommerville was in town Sunday evening on his way home to the Junipers from Caldwell, where he had two young men, Custer Young and Robert Lang bound over to District Court to answer to the charge of horse stealing. It is said that these parties drove a bunch of eight head from the Juniper range last Spring, four of which belonged to Sommerville, and the balance to other stockmen in the vicinity. It

would seem that Young has been rustling range horses and proof is being gathered that he drove another band off this same range last July. Young seems to be the leader in this work, and with evidence at hand Mr. Young will be much older than he now is when he again appropriates other peoples property to his own use.”

Lang was proven innocent, but Custer Young pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a term of one to 14 years in the penitentiary.

Nov. 23, 1917:

“Sheriff Charlie Rogers returned Tuesday from a four day trip to the Bull Basin Country in the southwestern part of the country where he went to arrest Walt McCoy, charged with altering brands. Despite the wild stories afloat over the county as to the ability and willingness of McCoy to use a gun if necessary, Charlie experienced no trouble in landing his man here, but admits he kept his weather eye open during the homeward trip.” Horse stealing continued for years in Owyhee County.

Three men were arrested in the Jordan Valley country in the spring of 1917 and were accused of stealing 19 head of horses. Deputy Sheriff Mumford of Malheur County captured the men and delivered them to the authorities at Vale. They were believed to be the ring leaders of a gang operating in that section. All the horses were identified as the property of Jordan Valley ranchers. Two of the men claimed to be brothers by the names of James and the third gave his name as MacKenzie.

During the Depression year of 1930, a half dozen or so men were camped at the Bush Ranch on McBride Creek. Fred Bush and his family had moved away, the ranch had changed ownership a couple of times, and no one was living there in 1930. Buckaroos used the place for a temporary camp when they were riding in the vicinity.


Two of the riders were Indians, there was Bob Delore and his wife Minnie, and two or three others. The scattered ranchers in the area were preoccupied with eking out a living, and no one checked on the activities of the horse runners. Horses were a “dime a dozen” in those days and could be sold as “chicken feeders.” Some were shipped to Portland where there was a horse market for human consumption. This group of riders succeeded in “cleaning up” a lot of horses off the range, including thirty-five head of the IRA horses, the Hamilton family’s accumulation, in Sands Basin.

The Rockville, Cow Creek and Squaw Creek ranchers were also hard hit by these Depression raiders.

Owyhee Graffiti

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by Mike Hanley

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Honorary Life Members

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Prior to 1968 | 1982 | 1991 |
| Emmett Fry | Joe Turner | Chet Tindall |
| Ralph Sampson | Grant Strickland | Bill Tindall |
| 1968 | Cliff McMahan | Ruby Staples |
| Ralph Stanford | 1983 | 1992 |
| Norman MacKenzie | Dick Gabica | Roy Hoagland |
| 1969 | Allbert Harley | 1993 |
| Henry Hatton | Paul Black | Ted Cossel |
| Albert Harley | Bob Gluch | John Malmberg |
| 1970 | 1984 | Don Davis |
| Jonas Bass | Walt Yarbrough | 1994 |
| Kirby Forman | Noy Brackett | LeRoy Beaman |
| Earl Bachmann | Johnny Miller | Walt Morgan |
| Hugh Nettleton | Jim Alzoa | 1995 |
| 1971 | 1985 | Calvin Johnson |
| Milford Vaught | Bill Maher | Joe Churruca |
| Omar Stanford | Art Bahem | Bill Lowry |
| Angel Bilboa | Emeline Nettleton | 1996 |
| Zack Montini | Rollie Patrick | Bob Collett |
| Bill Burghardt | Dick Benham | Bus Cummings |
| Theron Adcock | George Johnstone | Gene Davis |
| 1972 | Henry Brandau | Hazel Hanley |
| Ray Pershall | 1986 | Tom Skinner |
| Al Mackey | Al Curtis | 1997 |
| 1973 | Jay Thompson | Frank and Natalie Davis |
| Walt Adams | Clayton Turner | Ray and Bonnie Colyer |
| 1974 | Bill Tindall | Frances Field |
| None | 1987 | 1998 |
| 1975 | Harold Markley | Tom and Celia Hall |
| Marion Wroten | Curley Heath | Jack and Elvira Potter |
| 1976 | Willie Panzeri | Gene Stanford |
| Elmer C. Johnston | Bob Harris | 1999 |
| 1977 | 1988 | Joe Black |
| Pearle Davis | Frank Maher | Ronald Hutchison |
| 1978 | Owen Barton | Herb Mink |
| Joe Nettleton | Fostino Alzola | Merv Robinson |
| Albert Black | Bob Davis | 2000 |
| Frank Baltzor | 1989 | Bud Greeley |
| Adam Blackstock | Monk Stimmel | Clarence and Virginia |
| 1979 | Don McKay | Miller |
| None | Rufus Lequerica | 2001 |
| 1980 | 1990 | No one chosen |
| Lee Stanford | Arsen Alzola | 2002 |
| Ed Muller | Bill Swan | Richard Bennett |
| 1981 | Chuck Dougal | 2003 |
| Cliff Fretwell | Gertrude Anderson | Ace and Marilyn Black |
| Evertt Townsend | Gusty Elordi (in memory) | |

Nice shot...

A beautiful buck, still in velvet, stands in the skyline near the Cliffs in the spring-time. Wild game in the Owyhee Mountains draws hunters from around the globe in search of a trophy buck.



We've been around a while, too...



The Owyhee Avalanche office
in Ruby City,
1866

This newspaper was established in 1865 at Ruby City, just a long stone's throw down the creek from Silver City.

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Past Presidents of the Owyhee Cattle and Horse Growers Association

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----------------|------|-------------------|
| (no list available prior to 1935) | 1968 | Bill Tindall | 1986 | Eric Davis |
| 1935-41 Frank Gusman | 1969 | John Tyson | 1987 | Craig Malmberg |
| 1942-47 Lynne Bachman | 1970 | Ernie Bahem | 1988 | Dave Tindall |
| 1948-50 Milford Vaught | 1971 | Dick Bass | 1989 | Frank Bachman |
| 1951-52 Earl Bachman | 1972 | Ben Panzeri | 1990 | Vern Kershner |
| 1953-54 Dick Gabica | 1973 | Bob Collett | 1991 | Tim Lowry |
| 1955-56 Jim Nettleton | 1974 | Pete Jackson | 1992 | Bill McBride |
| 1957 Gene Davis | 1975 | Bill Ross | 1993 | Ted S. Blackstock |
| 1958 Frank Maher | 1976 | Don McKay | 1994 | Ted Hoffman |
| 1959 Ed Riddle | 1977 | George Earll | 1995 | Jerry Hoagland |
| 1960 Alvin Benson | 1978 | Ted Cossel | 1996 | Michael Hanley IV |
| 1961 Frank Baltzor | 1979 | Ray Colyer | 1997 | Peter Jackson Jr. |
| 1962 Arsen Alzola | 1980 | Frank Davis | 1998 | Chris Black |
| 1963 John Malmberg | 1981 | Ted Gammett | 1999 | Richard Brandau |
| 1964 Walt Morgan | 1982 | Gene Tindall | 2000 | George Bennett |
| 1965 Walt Yarbrough | 1983 | Elias Jaca | 2001 | Martin Jaca |
| 1966 Don Davis | 1984 | Rand Collins | 2002 | Kenny Tindall |
| 1967 Lee Stanford | 1985 | Forest Fretwell | 2003 | Charlie Lyons |



OCA past presidents include front row, from l to r; Gene Davis (1957), Forest Fretwell (1985), Ted Hoffman (1994), Vernon Kershner (1990), Frank Davis (1980), Ernie Bahem (1970), Ken Tindall (2001), Richard Brandau (1999), Eric Davis (1986), and Tim Lowry (1991). Back row; Mike Hanley (1996), Chris Black (1998), David Tindall (1988), Martin Jaca (2000), Dick Bass (1971), Gene Tindall (1982), Jerry Hoagland (1995), Elias Jaca (1983) and Ted Blackstock (1993).



PHOTO COURTESY MARY BLACKSTOCK

A tribute to the cowboy

DeLamar Nugget, June 23, 1891

A tribute to the cowboy is found in an address by H. H. Campbell, late of the Maladar Land and Cattle Co. as follows:

“We have already remarked everything is characterized by change. How often have we seen this truth verified by personal observation in this country. First the Indian and the buffalo: then the cowboy and the herd, and finally the settler and civilization. The cowboy – how shall I pay a proper tribute to his courage, fortitude, and his kindness? He has defied the torrid heats of summer and the frigid blasts of winter without shelter and at all times almost without food and clothing. He has bearded the fury of savage beasts and still has turned his back upon more savage men. He has the comforts of home and the love of kindred to sweep across the trackless desert in the face of dangers seen and unseen, to pave the way for advancing civilization. He has endured every hardship, scorned every danger and surmounted every obstacle that rude and untamed nature could throw in his pathway. Civilization owes him a debt of gratitude greater than is conceivable and one that will never be either fully realized or repaid.”



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| LT215/75R-15 | C | 64.32 |
| LT235/75R-15 | C | 66.55 |
| P245/75R-16 | D | 74.13 |
| P265/75R-16 | D | 88.55 |
| LT225/75R-16B/W | D | 72.22 |
| LT245/75R-16 | D | 77.70 |
| 30/9.50R-15 | C | 73.60 |
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