President's Report

It was great to see the awesome attendance for last months double event at Los Senderos Park. Terry and Charlene Brown put together a wonderful Saturday evening dinner party for Members and their wives. This annual event is always a highlight. Thank you to Terry and Charlene for all they do for Los Senderos. That was followed by a great overnight stay at the Park, leading to our monthly ride on Rancho Samataguma. We had 28 riders in the saddle to enjoy the Ranch ride led by Mike Tinch. Our trail boss was kind enough to schedule 2 watering hole stops that were attended to by Bill and Lou Gene Cuddeback. What a treat. Jim Sheridan provided great meals for the weekend and our bartender Adam provided great service at our well stocked bar. We had 50 folks attend the luncheon under the "Big Top". Thanks to all for a great turnout and those that support our Los Senderos activities.

2020 Annual Ride:

Our 70th Annual Ride is scheduled for September 16th – 20th at Los Senderos Park. Ride Chairman DK Nasland has a wonderful event planned (see enclosed itinerary). Please get your application returned as soon as possible, so we can get an accurate head count and get all accommodations in place. Get your horse ready to sort cattle and enjoy the trails of our surrounding mountains. Let's continue this great tradition by bringing a guest and having great camaraderie with fellow Members.

In Loving Memory:

Please keep the family of Bill Tulloch in your prayers. Los Senderos has had the pleasure of riding the Tulloch Ranches for many years. Bill passed away peacefully at home on July 22nd, 2020 at the age of 94. Rest in Peace Cowboy.

Next Event: (Sunday August 23rd)

July 2020

Our next monthly ride will be at French Valley Ranch on Palomar Mountain. Wog and Dutch Bergman have been kind enough to host us at their Ranch once again, which we last rode in 2015. The views on the trail are incredible and we will be surrounded by beautiful pines, cedar trees and a couple lakes. Be sure to sign up and attend this ride and luncheon. Give yourself a little extra time to get there and we will see you and your guests in the saddle at 10:00 am on Aug. 23, 2020.

Directions to French Valley Ranch:

Palomar Mountain -> from Santa Ysabel, take Hwy 79 north to Hwy 76, left past Lake Henshaw to S7, right up the mountain to Canfield Rd. (which is S6), about 3 miles just past the 2nd cattle guard. Look for our Los Senderos signs, turn left into French Valley Ranch. Please close gate and proceed to our staging location – about ½ mile. Look for Los Senderos sign on the right and park in the meadow. From Hwy 15, take 76 east to S6, left up mountain, follow S6 to French Valley gate. See you on the Mountain.

Annual Work Party:

We have scheduled a "Park Cleanup" prior to this years Annual Ride. It is on calendar for Saturday September 5th, 2020 at 8:00 am. Rick White will bring his tractor and "Moer" to do the lions share of the brush cutting. Please bring a weed eater or trimmer and let's get our Park in tip-top shape. I appreciate all of our efforts earlier this year and look forward to a great turnout again. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

See y'all on the trail soon.

Sincerely, John Omahen President

2020 Annual Ride Itinerary 1:00 pm – Camp Opens

Wednesday September 16th 5:00 pm - Happy Hour

6:30 pm - Dinner

Thursday September 17th

7:00 am - Breakfast 9:00 am - Trail Ride, Mike Tinch Trail Boss 12:30 pm - Lunch 2:00 pm - Roping Clinic by Bill Cuddeback 3:00 pm - Optional Trail Ride (unguided) "All Around Cowboy" event practice 5:00 pm - Happy Hour 6:30 pm - Dinner 7:00 pm - Sorting Team Draw Auction

Friday September 18th

7:00 am - Breakfast 9:00 am - Shot Gun Shoot 12:00 pm - Lunch 1:30 pm - Ranch Sorting Clinic by Steve Tellam 4:00 pm - "Overall Cowboy" Event Practice 5:00 pm - Happy Hour 6:30 pm - Dinner 7:30 pm- Ranch Sorting Calcutta Auction

Saturday September 19th

7:00 am - Breakfast 9:30 am - Ranch Sorting Competition 12:00 pm - Lunch 2:00 pm - "All Around Cowboy" Events 5:00 pm - Happy Hour 6:30 pm - Dinner 7:30 pm - Introductions Awards Auction

Sunday September 20th

7:00 am - Breakfast 8:00 am - Break Camp till 2021

2020 Board of Directors:

President – John Omahen Vice President – Tom Laff Director – Steve Vaughn Director – Jerry Moss Director – Tuck Arnold Director – Gordon Garewal Treasurer – Scott Vowles

Past President - Don Horn

Annual Ride Committee

Chairman – DK Nasland Co-Chair – Tuck Arnold Raffle Chairman – Larry Wilske

Monthly Ride Committee

Chairman – Steve Vaughn Co-Chairs - Chuck Gallant, Bill Cuddeback, Tim Dirkes, Bob Wining

Membership Committee

Chairman – Don Horn Co-Chairs – Rick White, Bill Cuddeback, Jerry Moss, Tim Dirkes

Members Only Ride

Chairman - Chuck Gallant

Los Senderos Park Chairman

Bill Cuddeback

2020 Monthly Ride Calendar:

August 23rd • French Valley • Palomar September 16th – 20th • Annual Ride • L/S Park October 25th • Tullock Ranch • Santa Ysabel November 29th • Lions Tigers & Bears • Japatul















Slouching Toward Geezerhood

To me, a Smart Phone is a Chinese puzzle. Words by Bill Jones. Illustration by John Bardwell.

f you are fortunate to live long enough before taking that inevitable "dirt nap" that awaits us all, there are two unavoidable consequences: (1) You *will* grow old with all the unpleasant symptoms associated with the process. (2) You won't like it. (Not only will you not like it, you will also notice some interesting phenomena that will occur despite anything you do to prevent/delay them.) As a public service I will graciously attempt to warn you of some of these things as you slouch, shuffle and limp toward official geezer status. If you are already a geezer, you can make up your own list.

Almost everything will irritate you. Recently at the cattle sale barn, the little café was out of coconut *crème* pie. This was extremely distressing since it is the *only* reason I go there in the first place. I make a mental note to go an hour early next week to keep some miserable SOB from eating all the pie.

I keep three horses for no apparent reason. (Actually, two-and-a-half horses. Two quarter horses and a pony.) They have not been ridden in 15 years. They stand around, eat, look for handouts, and, since they are geldings, have no interest in reproductive activities. Does this make any sense? This is also irritating—especially once the realization occurs that your horses share the same characteristics as you....

Technology is advancing so fast that, as a full-fledged geezer, you can't keep up. Not only that, you don't want to. Just last month I learned to stop that flashing light on my VCR. (By the way, VCRs went out a decade ago.) A Smart Phone is a Chinese puzzle. My granddaughter, age eight, helps me with mine. Just the other day I asked her for some help. (I ain't, by the way, making this up.) "Grandpa," she says, "I already showed you this twice. Next time you are on your own." If she wasn't so unbelievably adorable and smart, I would find this irritating too.

As an official geezer, you will make unwise financial decisions. After raising cattle for 30 years I can count on one hand the times I made any money. Why do you do it? Well, first it is hard to describe yourself as a cattle farmer/rancher if you don't own any cows. Plus, I like seeing the new calves in the spring and eating pie at the sale barn. It is beginning to be an expensive hobby.

Watching television is irritating. I have over 100 channels and can't find anything to watch. The morning news shows are especially revolting. All that giggling and "happy talk," even by those short-skirt-wearing beauty queens, is so contrived it borders on being

The definition of middle age is when you are home alone on a Saturday night and the phone rings and you pray it is not for you.



nauseous. Nobody is that happy. I usually end up watching the nature channels, as animals do not have any hidden political agendas. My favorite shows involve some mental midget handling poisonous snakes.

Another thing about these television news people. After any major tragedy/catastrophe the cameras show up and some "journalist" sticks a microphone in some grieving victims' faces. If they are overcome with emotion and weeping, that is especially newsworthy. This is more than irritating. It is pathetic, inexcusable and a shameless ploy for ratings. I feel like slapping somebody.

Someone said once that the definition of middle age is when you are home alone on a Saturday night and the phone rings and you pray it is not for you. I am not pushing middle age. I have been dragging it for years. As a geezer, you are on your own timetable. For example, the other night me and my bride of 40-plus years were in bed at almost nine o'clock. The phone rings. "Who," she says, "could possibly be calling us this late?" My response is not to answer it. Whoever is calling...well, I do not want to talk to them. "Maybe you should answer. Could be somebody died."

I recall that this same thing happened to Rodney, my rancher friend from North Dakota. I used his line: "Somebody died? Well, they will still be dead in the morning."

There are a few surprises as you stumble your way through geezerhood. I am on Facebook (primarily to see pictures of my granddaughters), and the last few months I have been getting "friend requests" from some very attractive young women I don't know. Coincidentally they are all showing a little "cleavage." I simply can't figure out why they want to be friends with a 70-year-old "has been" with bad knees and hip, heart problems and diabetes. A great mystery, but flattering nonetheless.

Since my bride also has access to my Facebook, I thought it would be wise to ask permission to "friend" these young partially clothed beauties. Her short answer includes a suggestion I do something disgusting and physically impossible with my laptop. The sad part of this incident is...well, I was kind of relieved. I already have all the friends I need and can afford.

One more thing. As a responsible geezer it is important that you practice and learn these words: "Get off my lawn!"

Bill Jones, despite numerous suggestions to do otherwise, is still venting his many frustrations on RANGE. A recent Vietnam War memoir, "The Body Burning Detail," was published by McFarland Press in September and is available at \$29.95 from mcfarlandbooks.com or Amazon.com. If you buy from RANGE (reg. \$29.95, only \$25), all proceeds will go to Range Conservation Foundation. See page 67. Recently he was invited—all expenses paid—to the Library of Congress in conjunction with the Veterans History Project. He says he was previously opposed to taxpayer-funded artist events, but has now changed his mind.