

# February, 2003

## .... From the President's Corner

Jeanne says she has nothing new to report at this time.

## Hoolan's On-The-Scene Report

"BIG WINTER DID NOT COME TO THE RANCH YET!"

Hi Folks, hope the New Year is off to a great start for everyone! Things are good on the ranch, with so little snow, we were able to drive in till late January. That's a month longer than most years. It's now early Feb. and daytime highs are about 20 degrees and the nights, around 10. The snow is 12 inches on top and 6 inches along the river. Normally, it's about three times this deep.

## Wildlife

The elk were a month late crossing the ranch this year on their way to Wall Creek Game Preserve, I would guess with so little snow in the backcountry, they could find food and just stayed. If the winter stays this mild, the herd will increase even faster than it's already" fast" pace. The state is allowing elk hunting, even this late in the season to try and get the numbers down. The game people tell me the wolves will take over a hundred of them, but the thinking of many of the locals, is that the herd will far surpass the 8,000 of last year. One rancher tells me that many of the cow elk didn't even leave his hay fields last spring to have their calves. He thinks they must feel safer from the wolves, out in the open, away from the woods.

As always, we have our resident 3 or 4 moose (you would never believe what one of these guys can do to a \$40 bush, in one sitting), and a couple dozen deer hanging around. And of course, the ever present foxes and coyotes roaming the ranch.

## Activities

Again this winter, more and more owners are coming to the ranch, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. If you have not been to the ranch in the winter, February and March are a great time, lots of sunny days, temp's

usually in the 30's, as always lot of spectacular scenery, with skies full of raptors.

## Neighbor News

Our longest ex-winter residents, Jack and Jean Hardy, are spending their 2nd winter in the fun and sun of Nevada. Sandra and I saw them in Jan. and they are doing well.

As always, we're here all year and can share all the ins and outs of a winter visit to the ranch!

Best Regards, Bill Hoolan

## New Neighbors

Mandie and Harold Myers from New Jersey bought lot 54A, and hope to get out to Montana as much as possible to enjoy their new property and get to know the neighbors. Welcome Mandie and Harold!

## Ranch Recipes

### Lazy C Pork Scaloppine

¾ lb. pork tenderloin  
 2 T. flour  
 Salt and freshly ground pepper  
 1 t. olive oil  
 2 med. Garlic cloves, crushed  
 2 medium tomatoes (2 cups) cut into 2-inch pieces (I just use a 1-lb can of tomatoes)

Remove fat from pork and cut into 1-inch slices. Place slices between 2 pieces of plastic wrap (or put in a baggie) and flatten with the side of a meat mallet.

Season flour w/salt and pepper, and dredge pork slices in flour mixture, and brown in oil. Salt and pepper each side as it cooks. Remove meat to plate.

Add garlic and tomatoes to skillet and cook 3 minutes. Spoon tomatoes over pork and serve. Makes 2 servings.

\*I got this recipe out of the paper (it's from Sara Moulton, if you ever watch the cooking channel), and it's super quick, easy, and delicious.

### *Thought for the day:*

"Mary and I have been married 47 years and not once have we had an argument serious enough to mention the word divorce – murder, yes, but divorce, never." Jack Benny

## Book Pick:

No matter what kind of books you like (or if, like me, you like all kinds), you can find them on tape or CD at your local library. I always keep several in my car so I can listen when I'm driving someplace. If you commute to work, it's a great way to entertain yourself while stuck in traffic. Try it, you'll like it!

## Hoolan's History

For this time, Bill has provided a poetic eyewitness account, written 100 years ago, of when the

Indians left the Madison Valley. This was published in our local paper. Since it's quoted, I did no editing to shorten or clarify.

When the Indians left the Madison Valley

By: Frank Conway

*"One of the interesting epochs of early history in Montana, and on which has had more than a little bearing on the development of one of the fairest valleys in the state, has had little mention by historians of Montana and by many it has been forgotten entirely. This is the occasion when the Bannack Indians gave up their home on the Madison valley and moved themselves on the backs of ponies to the Lemhi reservation in Idaho.*

*This occurred in 1867. Previous to that time a number of the Indians had already made their home on the Idaho reservation, but old Tendoy and a considerable number of his followers, aggregating fully 1,000 clung to the valley which has been the hunting grounds for generations.*

*Down at the mouth of Jack creek was the birthplace of Tendoy and he cherished the place as fondly as any man who loved the spot which gave him the first peep of the light of day. For several years after the white man came to the valley and after the reservation had been allotted to the Indians in Idaho, the old man refused to leave the valley. He and his tribe lived there in peace and comfort and were friends of the white men since the times the first trapper made his way into the mountains. Their hunting grounds ranged from the Three Forks of the Missouri up the Madison to the Borders of the Yellowstone National Park, the latter line being one which they never crossed, for their tradition was that the evil spirit made their home in the hissing geysers and boiling springs which cover the area embraced in the park.*

*For a distance of 100 miles long and 40 miles wide Tendoy and his band held undisputed sway and control and they had one of the fairest spots in all of the world for their home during the many years they lived there. Antelope were found by the thousands in every basin and in the foothills and even until this day the skull of many a buffalo can be seen lying on the benches which surround the valley, mute proof of where some nobles specimens of the "Indians' cattle" gave up their lives to help in the feeding of Tendoy and his band. Deer and elk were everywhere in the mountains and in the rocky fastnesses of the Madison canyon more mountain sheep than lived in the rest of the state made their homes. Truly the Madison valley was a hunter's paradise. Every creek teemed with fish; every slough and stream was alive with waterfowl; the prairie lands were dotted with curlews; the plains with rabbits; the rocks were alive with woodchucks and an occasional bear or mountain lion was found to add zest to the hunts of the red man.*

*Into this paradise came the white gold seeker and on a May day, in 1863, Alder gulch was discovered and within two years 30,000 people were swarming into the little rocky chasm in the wild search for gold. The hills and the gulches for miles around were swarming with gold seekers; hunters went into the hills to kill the game which was required to maintain this vast army of gold seekers; farmers began to till the soil, to raise vegetables and wheat to be ground into flour to feed this multitude. Then it was that the Indian found that he could no longer have a home in the Madison. Interests began to clash and wires were pulled at the seat of government which soon led to the order that Tendoy must give up his home he loved so well and make a new one on the Lemhi river in Idaho.*

*There were bitter protests offered from the red men when this order was made known to them. There were even runners started across the continent to carry a message to their great white father to combat the order of the department. But it was thousands of miles across the mountains and valleys and prairies which lie between Washington and Montana and if the runners ever reached their destination, it was never recorded.*

*Meanwhile preparations for the removal of the Indians went on uninterrupted, the government*

*moving slowly but with decision. Finally the great day came when the order was to be carried into effect. Tendoy was still sulking, but his sub-chiefs had been won over. He was not then at the head of the tribe: Waschitkee, an old time war chief, was recognized as the head of the Bannack tribe and he gave his sanction to the removal of the tribe. Now Waschitkee had never lived on the Madison; the place had little attraction for him, as he generally made his home on the headwaters of the Beaverhead and for that reason his consent was easily gained.*

*True to their usual custom, the Bannacks made the day of their removal one of great festivities. Hundreds of them gathered in a large open bottom directly opposite Virginia City and which is now known as the "VF" ranch. There was to be distribution of annuities which were awarded under treaty rights, and the occasion of it being the last ever to be made away from the reservation, was an occasion of great festivities.*

*The residents of Virginia City turned out in hundreds that day. Every rig that could be devised was pressed into service and people were hauled out to the camping grounds until it would seem that among all of Virginia City's thousands, there would not be enough left in town and in Alder gulch to guard the place of business and the sluice boxes.*

*Now the Indian is fond of spectacular effects. He likes to have an appreciative audience when he dances, so the show did not begin until all of the white people were present. And such a dance it was! From 10:00 in the morning until the sun went down at the close of a June day there was not a moment's intermission between the different dances which were danced."*

**Many thanks to Bill Hoolan for his valuable contributions. As always, please send or email me anything you think would be of interest to your neighbors, whether it's family news, reports from the ranch, stuff for sale, letters to the editor, etc. I really enjoy hearing from you!**

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