

ENJOY OUR COWBOY HUMOR

My blonde wife and I went to a dude ranch in Colorado. The wrangler saddling the horses asked my wife if she wanted an English saddle or a western saddle. "What's the difference?", she asked. He told her one has a horn and one didn't. She replied, "the one without the horn is fine; I don't expect we'll run into too much traffic here".

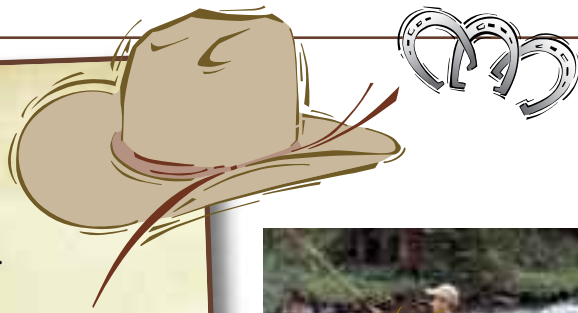
A guest at a dude ranch was walking with one of the wranglers in the pasture when he said "nice bunch of cows over there". The cowboy replied. "Not bunch, but herd". "Heard what?", the dude asked. "Herd of cows", he replied. "Sure I've heard of cows; there's a big bunch over there", the dude said.

A couple of frogs are sitting at the edge of the lake at Lost Valley Ranch. A fly breezes by and one of the frogs snatches it with his tongue. The other frog looking on says, "time sure is fun when you're having flies".

With dreams of rodeo glory dancing in his head the dude decided to practice his horsemanship. He mounted the horse and it sprang into motion. After galloping at a steady pace the dude began to slip from the saddle. His foot got caught in the stirrup as he slid off and began bumping his head. To his good fortune, the Wal-Mart manager ran out and unplugged the horse.

RIDDLE: What kind of horses go out after dark? Nightmares, of course.

Cowboy tales are a lot like taffy - the more you stretch them, the better they are.



FISHERMAN'S PRAYER

God grant that I may live to fish until my dying day.

And when the final cast is made and life has slipped away.

I pray that God's great landing net will catch me in its sweep.

And in his mercy, God will judge me bug enough to keep.



GOOSE CREEK GAZETTE

"Happiness Happens Here"



Ooooo-aaaah!

We're Mighty Proud!

...to have once again earned the coveted 2012 AAA FOUR DIAMOND award for excellence of accommodations, facilities, food and service. We have been awarded this Four Diamond designation for 40 consecutive years - which is every year since AAA began their rating system. And we are still the ONLY ranch in Colorado that is 4 Diamond!!

Nothing but the best for our guests.



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Greetings...

Brooke and I had lunch with some friends recently who we had not seen in several years. We were reminiscing and they asked if we ever think about how different our life is now than it was six years ago when we were in grad school together. Of course, this is as we were watching our Becca, Will and Jack roll around on the ground outside of the Broadmoor.

Brooke and I often reflect at how different our lives are now, and how thankful we are for those changes, specifically the lives of our three children. As we embark on this new journey at Lost Valley Ranch, the emotions we have are a mix of excitement regarding the opportunities ahead of us, trepidation realizing the incredible responsibility given to us, joy thinking of the relationships that surround us, and sadness that comes with saying goodbye.

I've had the privilege of working under the Fosters leadership, specifically Bob Jr., for 10 of the last 15 years, interrupted by a five year break to attend grad school in Dallas, TX. Everything worth knowing about hospitality and dude ranching I've learned from the two Bobs, Jr. and Sr. I learned the worth of a guest and the value of investment in the lives of others from Friday mornings with Bob Sr. I learned how to prioritize and operate a complex entity like Lost Valley Ranch through years of working for Bob Jr. And now I have the opportunity to apply what I know from the men who have mentored me and taught me all I know.

Moving forward, I find myself supported by an incredible wife and kids and surrounded by a team of leaders who are committed to "Making Happiness Happen" here at Lost Valley Ranch. The next time you cross the cattle guard you may notice a coat of paint here or a new flower bed there, but the quality staff and experience you have come to expect over the last 50 years is still our commitment to you, our guests. We look forward to serving you and seeing the transformation from guests to friends, and friends to family.

On behalf of my family and the McClish family, we'll keep the fire lit until you cross the cattle guard to your ranch home. Ooooo-aaaah! ❖

The Warnock Family



Echoes of the Past.

The history of Lost Valley Ranch and the surrounding area is the story of the South Platte River. Five hundred years ago the South Platte country



Original ranch house - circa 1882

was, in many ways, no different than it is today. Ponderosa Pine and Douglas Fir grew on the hillsides. Aspen groves mark the sites of lightning fires. Grasses filled the open meadows along creeks; and the open areas were color washed with Lupine, Columbine and Indian Paintbrush. Game trails dotted the area and early Indians followed these trails. There were no scars from old wagon trails, no deeply rutted bike trails, no rusted cans and other trash. These scars began appearing with the coming of the early settlers.

Within this comparatively small section everything that has been part of Colorado history has occurred. There have been Indians, lumbering, railroads, stage lines, gold and silver mines, outlaws, farming, ranching and tourism.

In 1867 Lost Valley was one of a number of round-up headquarters for cattle ranging all through the South Platte area from the base of Pikes Peak north to Mount Evans. Among the early settlers using the area, William Webster established a large cow camp where Goose Creek joined the South Platte River, beneath what is now Cheeseman Reservoir. Extensive corrals were built near the river just south of the present Lost Valley Ranch. Today's maps still bear the names "Corral Gulch" and "Corral Creek".

In 1888 George Tarbell operated what is now Lost Valley Ranch, having claimed ownership by "squatters rights". Operating as a cattle ranch and some light farming he began taking in guests, or "dudes", from the east to supplement his income. Since that time the ranch has passed through four owners, the last being the Foster Family. Each has taken advantage of the burgeoning tourism market by continually upgrading facilities and accommodations to provide guests with an authentic ranch life experience. Over the years neither flood nor fire has stopped Lost Valley from providing outstanding hospitality and a taste of ranch life to guests from throughout the world. ❖

Ranch Trivia

• The original two story ranch house was built sometime around 1882. A big mystery is still, "who built it and when?"

• Lost Valley Ranch brand, the reverse LVL, was legally registered in 1900 and is still in use today.



"Afternoon with Anne" debuts at Lost Valley.



Every year guests have asked, "how do you come up with the delicious variety of meals you serve?". Well, to answer that question we have started a weekly afternoon cooking clinic that will introduce you to the workings of a ranch kitchen. The presenters are Anne Spears, our Head Chef and

Perrie Bonner, Pastry Chef. Together they will, not only discuss and demonstrate, how our kitchen prepares up to 300 meals a day, but will demonstrate and share with you a selection of their recipes.

Anne, who hails from Texas, learned much of her cooking from her Moms apron strings - and has been an accomplished cook ever since. Perrie, a native of Los Angeles, reflects that food has been a centerpiece of family tradition forever. Cooking with her dad as a little girl and having an inherent sweet tooth has led to her baking skills. But don't let their youthful good looks fool you, these gals know what they're doing.

We know that you will enjoy this new afternoon activity when you don't have the inclination to ride or just want to take it easy. So, move over Rachael Ray! ❖



Anne Spears



Perrie Bonner



Reunion News...The Seltzer Family enjoying a get together dinner during their family reunion at Lost Valley. Members of the family came from California, Massachusetts and Florida. Can we reserve your family's next reunion?

Improvement News...As part of the ongoing improvements that are and will always be happening at the ranch; we have given the Lobby/Reception area a facelift. For guests comfort we've changed our seating and decor - but have not changed the warm hospitality you'll find at the front desk.

A Treat for Moms Only.

Brooke, Tony's wife, a "city girl" all her life, is now a "ranch girl". She has posted a site called "The Ranch Mom", which is an absolutely delightful personal diary of her experiences and thoughts about her new home - Lost Valley Ranch. Google up & enjoy! www.theranchmom.com



Fall Specialty Weeks Filling Fast

The Rockies are a special place in the fall. Fresh days, cool evenings, mountains vivid with the gold of Aspens and the kids back in school.

Guess that's what makes them so popular. We fill up pretty early - pretty quick. So, check out our website or call for complete details. Here's our dates for 2012.

✓ Sept. 9 - 16
Horsemanship Instruction by Wegener

✓ Sept. 16 - 23
Fall Colors Week & RIDE.RIDE.RIDE.

✓ Sept. 23 - 30
Annual ROUND-UP and Cattle Week

✓ Oct. 14 - 21
Horsemanship Instruction by Krause

Welcome to the Kidz Corner.



Find Six Differences Between These Panels!

E-mail your answer along with your mailing address. If you've gotten them all correct, Lost Valley will send you a special souvenir of the ranch. Get your entry in early - contest ends 5/10/12. www.lostvalleyranch.com