

TRIP REPORT JUNE 26, 2005

Well the June trip turned out to be one for the books as everything went according to plan. The food was awesome, the weather was cool, the cattle walked like they were supposed to, the guests did a great job and the horses all stayed sound. What more could you ask for!!

Sunday June 26th: The horsemanship clinic went very well as everyone paid attention and we seemed to have everyone matched up pretty well. The dark clouds were building over the mountain as we kept looking at the sky wondering how much were we going to get completed before it was going to get wet. We started out on the trail ride and got just outside the first pasture when the thunder and lightning started followed by some light rain. Now, I really don't mind getting our guests wet at all, but fried cowboys is not on the menu and riding in a lightning storm is frowned upon by our insurance company, so we called the ride short and headed back to the barn. As we ate lunch the drizzle continued and we had a couple hour lunch, before the rain broke. We then headed back to the arena to start the cattle handling seminar.

Monday June 27th: I'm not saying some of the guests weren't excited to get going the next morning but Tim Owen came to the fire the next morning around 4:00am but had forgotten to put his pants on! Were still not sure what was behind this as we all backed away from the fire and slowly disappeared into the shadows. The trip to the Rafter went very smooth and we arrived around 1:00 for lunch. The only mishap of the day was crew member Kenny Barker got bucked off his horse, other than being a little sore and embarrassed he was just fine. After lunch we slipped out to get the cattle in to start the branding seminar. Now one of our guest(I won't give you his name) was here as a birthday present from his wife was going to show us what a top hand he was. He slipped out on foot while the ropers were saddling their horses and walked the cattle into the arena. He was really proud of himself except he then realized that the two gates that he had opened to bring the cattle in were still open. As the cattle came in the south gate they then turned and went down the arena and right out the north gate back into the pasture they had just come from. When you turn 40 some things just start to slip mentally, don't they Woody, oops, I said I wasn't going to mention his name, but then I'm over 40 so I guess it just happens!! That afternoon people were slipping over the house to take a shower as it would be the last chance for a real shower until Friday. As Frank Hochstenback went into the house he heard mom yell "Your not supposed to be in here". Now Frank being the gentleman that he is went on in to apologize to mom for entering the house. Mom was embarrassed as the dog had walked into the living room at the exact moment that Frank entered the house. Mom was yelling at the dog!

Tuesday June 28th: Things went real well that day except for Tyler Alcorn saddling the wrong horse. I remember Chris stating very clearly in the horsemanship clinic to notice some identifying marks on your horse and remember them. Tyler, two ears does not constitute identifying marks. The only other event for the day occurred around noon as Andy Boyle came racing his horse into camp which is strictly forbidden. However, it seems Andy hadn't used the outhouse for two days and things had piled up to tsunami proportions.

Wednesday June 29th: We awoke to overcast skies and a cool breeze. It was perfect weather for the day up the canyon. Everyone kept their slickers handy as it

looked like it might rain. We had several very small showers during the day but most of them stopped before you even put your slicker on. The rest of the day was rather uneventful other than the horse Wayne Grove chocked himself down going up out of Robinson Crossing. The other really great story was that Tyler Alcorn convinced Pat Houck that we had small cabins that had a shower and bed and that for an extra fee they were available on a first come first serve basis. He asked her if she had gotten one. She replied that she had missed that in the information but offered them \$50 bucks for theirs. Tyler responded that he didn't think so. Then came the \$100 offer. Here again Tyler said no, and Pat then said what would it take to get his. At that point in time Tyler couldn't keep a straight face any longer.

Thursday June 30th: Fry Bread morning at 9:00am had most of the guests smiling as by this time on the trip people welcome the extra sleep. We made our trip to Leaky Mountain and most of the people opted not to go swimming, I can't imagine why! That night around the fire as the white bag nominations came up we had several worthy of mention. Every time Andy Boyle walked through the mess tent he managed to hit his head on the lantern. He never did see the light!! The other great one was that Jay Looft went to the outhouse and hung his hat out as the occupied sign but forgot to pick his hat up when he left. For over an hour people thought it was occupied and the big problem was that it was the ladies she pee that he had used. Jay, you are messing with the cooks here and I really wouldn't make a habit of it.

Friday July 1st: We made our trek from Rock Cabin Park to the Lake Creek cow camp where we turned our horses out signifying the end of the cattle drive. Most of the guests were sorry to say goodbye to their horses for the week. However, I don't think the horses had any qualms about saying goodbye. We transported everyone to Bear Lodge where Jack Donnelly, Tyler Alcorn and Tim McAteer had to leave early and were going to miss the banquet that night. Your loss guys! That night at the banquet as we were playing a little game of cowboy trivia for the belt buckle we certainly had an unusual answer to one of our questions. What is a breast color on your saddle? The answer according to Pat Houck-something to keep your boobs from flopping. That one was a first and needless to say she didn't win the belt buckle. Her daughter Mari did win the drawing for the white bags and did take them home. Wayne Grove won the belt buckle and Jay Looft won the booby prize of some genuine already regurgitated Wyoming Grass. I would like to thank all of you for making the week so successful and we would love to see you all again. Remember its just another 30 minutes until we meet again!!