

November 2007

Anniversaries, Birthdays, Comings & Goings,
Get Well Wishes, Etc.

Happy Anniversary to:

- ...Mike and Karen Schuhen - 3
- ...Will and Jammie Stevens - 11
- ...Oscar and Sharon Moore - 20
- ...Don and Norma Sadauskas - 21
- ...Gary and Loraine Gardner - 23
- ...Al and Teri Alvarez - 30

Happy Birthday to:

- ...Francis Newell - 2
- ...Doug Miller - 3
- ...Phyllis Newton - 4
- ...Larry Wilde - 5
- ...Jenna Livers: Amber Schueltz: Abigail Schuhen-7
- ...Frances Goss - 11
- ...Billy Weddle: Teri Alvarez - 12
- ...Amanda Schuhen - 15
- ...Jon Koch - 16
- ...Jim Walls - 19
- ...Cal Blodgett - 21
- ...Noel Akers - 23
- ...Craig Foster: Mary Lou Otts -.25
- ...Claudine Walls -.26
- ...Wendell Jordan -.28
- ...Norma Saudauskas -.29

Congratulations to:

- ...Kyle Goss

Get Well Wishes & Prayers to:

- ...H.B. Newell
- ...Terry & Marie Rodgers
- ...Obie Manning
- ...Jim Walls
- ...Gary Stone

Comings & Goings

...Tom & Patsy Ward enjoyed a visit from John & Sharon Sheaffer, relatives from Pennsylvania, and Jeff Perry, Barb Schuessler's son. Later in the month, they traveled to New Jersey to visit Tom's son, Brent, and his family and drove thru Vermont to see the beautiful fall colors.

...Bob & Donna Stephen were spotted visiting folks in the Weed area. They now make their home in Alamogordo.

Thank You to:

- ...James & MaryLou Otts for their donation to the Hitchin' Post and to Obie & Pat Manning for the used print cartridges.
- ...Everyone who submitted information.

Calendar of Events

- November 4**, Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.
- November 6**, VFD meeting, 7 p.m.
- November 11**, Veterans' Day
- November 22**, Thanksgiving Day
- November 24**, 1 p.m., decorating the Weed Christmas Corner and the town of Weed. This is a fun event! Come join us!

Weed Happenings

- Frances Goss

The community of Weed NM wishes to offer Congratulations to Kyle Goss, a lifelong citizen of Goss Ranch and this community, who won



Grand Prize in the Eastern NM Fair in Roswell NM. Kyle built a stock trailer, and many members of the community encouraged him to enter it in the fair. He did and brought home the Grand Prize ribbon along with a cash prize. It is great to see a young person willing to put time and patience into such a great project of this magnitude. We are all so proud of you Kyle (who turned 18 on October 15).

On September 23, Kara Goss and Felicity Brazil participated in the annual Turquoise and Silver Tea and Fashion show. They were invited to model wedding attire. Kara looked gorgeous in brides- maid dresses and Felicity was beautiful in a flower- girl gown and matching headdress. The funds raised at this affair go to support the Flickinger Center. We were honored to be represented in the event.

On September 23, several County organizations held their annual meeting in Weed. About 140 people attended and enjoyed a great covered dish dinner and danced to music by Gary Stone and his band. The purpose of this meeting was to inform local people of issues that are occurring in our county that not only affect ranchers and farmers, but all of us. Updates on water issues were given. We were told of the latest intent of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife organization to introduce wolves in all of southern NM. We need to begin to stand against this introduction as we have seen the example of what this could mean to our community by what has happened in western NM. Get in touch with your County Officials and see what you can do to help stop the things that are harmful to all of us. Our county commission is preparing some ordinances that are going to be beneficial to us as well.

Piñon News

- Margaret Merritt

Greetings! So much has happened in our area so fast we had about decided to skip the month "Life happened."

To begin with, the rainy season slacked off. No major rains - just .2", .3", $\frac{1}{2}$ ", 4" of moisture every now and then at night which kept the short growing grass going, thankfully, but hardly dampened the tall curing crop from earlier, heavier rains. Excellent fire carrier/hazard prospects. So far, locally, we have had only one grass fire. Elsewhere, the fire cry has gone up already. Range fire prospects won't decrease until snow-fly time. Indian Summer with its balmy days and blanket-cool nights have awhile to be enjoyed before snow can be expected to ease our fire concerns. Please be CAREFUL of any fire situation: smoking, campfires, hot exhausts going thru tall grass, glass bottles cast away into grassy areas. Please remember fire can be a fine friend or an unforgiving enemy.

Labor Day in our area was celebrated many ways - BBQ parties, rodeos, trips to White Sands which are finally cleared of enough of 2006 water to be enjoyed again. My personal fun-day was at Mitch & Kelly Hibbard's ranch. Plans began long before, but folks began to gather by 8:30 a.m. from all over the area. Plans were for different phases of rural life in our area - lunch, more programs of interest, games for all, and a few balloons to make a farewell show for everyone as children let them go.

What DID we do? There was a goat roping. A goat milking context where the winner (who got most milk in a cup in 3 minutes) got to feed the milk to a Hereford doggie calf which much appreciated the treat until the children tried to ride him. Promptly threw three or four of them off one by one until opinion was "He does not prefer to be ridden. Lead him." Back to his stall he went, full of milk. Next goats were fed. Amazing how fast they chew corn kernels and want more. One of the daily goat milkings goes to the family refrigerator, the other to be calf and chickens. Guineas live there also. Small livestock is penned at night against predators. Usually cats, dogs, fowls, cows, and children share the huge yard while looking after each other.

Another project was horse shoeing. Mike Joy (ferrier) laid out a rope along the ground, put a horse on the far side saying, "this side of that rope is mine and the horse's" and proceeded to explain how, why, and the tools he uses to put shoes on that horse. About 47 of the 89 who had registered observed the process wide-eyed.

Next came an obedience show by a horse trainer. That creature walked forward, backward, sideways, both ways. Trotted thru narrow wires, stepped over barrels and boxes, forward/backward. Allowed her to put ropes/wires all over him. All because she touched him and talked to him. Amazing, with a horde of inquisitive folks of several ages getting in the wrong place at the right time.

Fish catching in water troughs was background here. Somehow the peafowl (peacocks) got involved about this time, and the lunch ranch house bell was heard. Eighty-nine of 109 invited had registered by then.

After a lunch spread of just about anything known as good food and drink of a healthy nature was enjoyed, the abundant remains were properly covered and refrigerated/consumed so

the day continued.

The afternoon program included rodeo contest roping steers exhibit by a WINNER; practice on stationary steers/bales of hay; practice roping by children (okay to catch self but frowned on to catch others); good information on Rural Electric/Telephone Co-ops by one who knew the life before - John Metts; identification of noxious or otherwise local greenery by knowledgeable John Conners; a poem, a song, and a story about this area by an old timer whose family New Mexico as a Territory and Mescalero/Apache Reservation as neighbors for over 80 years (Charles & Thelma Walker are living history in a joyous form); goodbyes and thank yous and appreciation by many who needed to begin long trips home.

I'm sure I missed some activities because along the way a nap or two overtook me as the shade, chairs, cooling wind, and blue skies gave us all so much fun. Wonderful hosts, folks. Having hosted Ranch Holiday parties of varying sizes over the past 70 years, I do appreciate the kindness shown. You program gives know who you were. We remember what you did. Maybe do it again?

A lot of work got done in October. Some folks have already worked their livestock and delivered it to the buyers. Getting ready for another year. Others are still harvesting grass, gaining pounds and getting shipping facilities repaired and vehicles road worthy. No longer do we "drive cattle to market by miles of foot work." The cattle are carefully rounded up, penned, separated, and, as peacefully as possible, transported to a buyer.

Trucks pass thru our village early, late, and in between depending on the distance necessary to travel between point-of-origin and point-of-sale/receipt.

A few days of fun for family was held in Roswell. Cullender family came to Pecos Valley area from Texas in about 1917. Scattered all over eastern New Mexico. Drought, depression, and WWII happened. Families revisited kin in midwest Texas over the years sporadically. Advancing age and losing family members becoming a factor, the e-mail/internet process got us together. We visited, ate, took pictures, shared memories (and understood a few old questions), visited cemeteries and homestead, and took more pictures. Finally had to drift off to our busy everyday lives as we promised to write/call/e-mail until we meet again. Was especially happy to know that the crew at Price's Truck Stop said they really enjoyed having us. They catered to our needs for all the services out-of-town folks need for three days. Food, drinks, directions, tires/gas. Where can I get this?

Adios until next time. Margaret

Area Churches

Cowboy Church - Mike Burris, Pastor.
Slack (Breakfast) - 9:15 a.m. Services - 10 a.m. We ain't fancy! Just come on in, kick off your boots, grab some coffee, biscuits & gravy and share the word of God with the rest of us Cowboys, Cowgirls and little buckaroos. We are located in Hay Canyon. God Bless and Happy Trails!

Mayhill Baptist Church - Norman Green,
Pastor. Sunday School at 10 a.m., worship services
at 11 a.m. Children and youth Bible drill and adult
and youth Discipleship training, 5 p.m. Evening
worship service, 6 p.m. Children and youth Bible
study and adult Bible study and prayer meeting,
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Men's breakfast and
devotional, Thursday, 7 a.m.

Mayhill Church of Christ - Eddie Coleman,
Pastor. Sunday Bible class, 9:30 a.m.; worship
service, 10:30 a.m. Evening worship, 6 p.m., and
Wednesday Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Piñon Baptist Church - J. B. Craft, Pastor.
Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.; Worship service, 11:30
a.m.; 12:30 potluck.

Piñon Church of Christ - Bible Study,
10:30 a.m., Worship Service, 11:30 a.m.; potluck
12:30 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 7 p.m.

Sacramento Mountain United Methodist
Church - Joy Garrett, Lay Minister. Sunday
worship service at 10 a.m., Sunday School at 11 a.m.

Weed Baptist Church - Wade Maberry,
Pastor. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service at
11 a.m. Bible Study/Prayer, Wednesdays at 2 p.m.
A potluck luncheon is held every third Sunday of
the month.

Weed House of Prayer - Don Brown,
Pastor. Services are held every Sunday in the home
of Jimmy and Frances Goss. Prayer and singing at
10 a.m.; sermon at 11 a.m. Prayer service is held
each Wednesday at 10 a.m. Wednesday Bible study
class, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Everyone is
welcome to attend. A potluck luncheon is held the
second Sunday of the month.

(If you have additional information you
would like to include about your church, or if there
are changes to the existing info, please let me
know. Ed.)

Letters to the Editor

I just wanted to take a minute to compliment you
on the newsletter. My sister, Anita Self, forwards
them on to me and I enjoy them immensely! My
sister and I are both registered nurses, and she is
in the process of building her dream retirement
home in Weed. She tells me often what a wonderful
community Weed is, and I am beginning to see her
point. Thank you for such a well written and
informative as well as entertaining newsletter!
Please keep it up! Who knows, maybe I should
start looking for a small mountain town to hang up
my boots!

Bill Rice, RN BSN
Cardiac Rehab Manager
Roosevelt General Hospital
Portales, NM

Hi! I picked up your fine newsletter at the Weed
Café last week and enjoyed it. I thought you might
like to give an "Atta Boy" to Bill McNew. He works
for the county jail and has a crew of prisoners
cleaning up the cemeteries. Last week he showed
the work to his wife and me, and we were
impressed. Weed Cemetery, Marcia and James
Canyon Cemeteries look so nice. The men have also
cleaned the old part of the big Monte Vista
Cemetery in Alamogordo and the Catholic Cemetery
in La Luz. Have a great day, Janie Furman

On the Lighter Side

Remember, if a dog was the teacher you would
learn things like:

- ...When loved ones come home, always run to greet
them.
- ...Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.
- ...Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in
your face to be pure ecstasy.
- ...Take naps.
- ...Stretch before rising.
- ...Run, romp, and play daily.
- ...Thrive on attention and let people touch you.
- ...Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- ...On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the
grass.
- ...On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a
shady tree.
- ...When you're happy, dance around and wag your
entire body.
- ...Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- ...Be loyal.
- ...Never pretend to be something you're not.
- ...If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- ...When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit
close by, and nuzzle them gently.
- ...ENJOY EVERY MOMENT OF EVERY DAY!