

MACGREGOR RANCH NEWS

Muriel L. MacGregor Charitable Trust Annual Newsletter

January 2016

A year to Remember

As winter settles in on the ranch and the rush of the holidays are over, we are able to take a few minutes to reflect on the past year.

Firstly, a huge thanks to all those who joined us throughout the season making it in another monumental year for the books. MacGregor Ranch was able to host a few large groups, run a successful Heritage Camp and hit record breaking numbers for the museum.

Our former Office Manager, Shannon Clark, has decided to continue her research at CSU on Weed Management and we welcomed Kathrine Ellerman into the role of Program Administrator for the Ranch. We wish Shannon the very best in her future at CSU.

Brett and his team successfully harvested 4,400 bales of grass hay, calved 17 babies and worked diligently on weed management throughout the year focusing on Cheat Grass and Thistle. We had helpers from Colorado College join us for a few days to help cut down thistle patches and complete other tasks on the property.

The cattle herd was brought back to the ranch head quarters from summer pasture in October and calves were hauled to the auction a few days later. As hard as it is watching the little ones leave, as they feel like part of the family, we know that there will be new ones on the ground starting March.

“This is a beautiful ranch operated by a non-profit and is very educational! Highly recommend for the whole family, retirees, and anyone who would like to see what life is like on a mountain ranch as the West was settled”.

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Ranch Hands and a few helpers moving cows home for the winter



“This definitely made me feel that what I was teaching mattered”

- Kayla Calvin



Our wonderful campers getting ready for the award ceremony.

“The ‘Light Bulb’ Affect”

34 kids, 1 Colorado State University intern and 6 State FFA Officers is what it took to make a successful Heritage Camp. For four weeks in July we were able to educate children ,ages 9-11, about life on a ranch and the heritage of the Estes Valley. We were joined by kids from in and out of state at the A.Q house as our intern, Kayla Calvin who studies Agricultural Education at Colorado State University did an fantastic job getting all the campers interested and involved during their time on the ranch. Campers learned about the different soil conditions that farmers and ranchers deal with in the mountains, the challenges of gardening, raising livestock and many other ranching challenges that are faced in the Estes Valley.

“..The word of agriculture/ natural resources was being spread”.

Without the dedication, passion and excitement that we are seeing in young adults like Kayla, not only would we have an uneducated world, we wouldn't have the outstanding advances in agriculture that we see today. Here at Macgregor Ranch we truly believe that the future of agriculture starts with our youth. We were lucky enough to be able

to invite Kayla back for our 2016 camp. But before we move on, Kayla has some wonderful things to say about our 2015 camps.

“My favorite part of camp is what I like to call the ‘Light Bulb’ affect. When campers learned something new or interesting, many times you could see a ‘light bulb’ go off. The activity that this happened at most was an activity where the campers would learn about the layers of soil while making a tasty treat. Campers would layer a cup with different food items such as pudding and cookies which represented the different layers of soil. They were then taught about each of these different layers and the importance that each layer played in our ecosystem. This definitely made me feel that what I was teaching mattered”

- Kayla Calvin

Another huge thanks to the families that were involved in our 2015 camp. We look forward to seeing your kids back out at the ranch for the 2016 camps. We would also like to thank those FFA officers that assisted Kayla and Katherine during July. Your efforts make a world of difference and we look forward to hearing about your future success.

Winter Recipe

Creamed Chip Beef

2 tablespoons butter

4 eggs

2 Tablespoons all-purpose flour

1 1/2 cups milk

1/2 pound beef, chipped

1 can tomatoes

2 tablespoons grated cheese

1 teaspoon onion juice

1/4 teaspoon paprika

Directions:

1. mix meat and spices, brown and set aside

2. in medium saucepan, melt butter. Whisk in flour. Slowly whisk in milk and bring to a simmer until thickened.

3. Add in seasoned meat

4. Serve over Toast

Campers learning how to brush a horse



Roundup Riders of the Rockies

The 3R group is a select group for gentlemen from all over the nation who participate in numerous rides during the year. *"All members share a common appreciation and respect of the American West, conservation, environment, and love of horses (and the occasional mule)".* - 3R

MacGregor Ranch was privileged to be asked to host one of their annual rides this fall. Attendance was upward of 130 horse and rider pairs who were guided by a trustee on a three hour ride through the ranch. They were able to view Twin Owls and Lumpy Ridge horse back then have a wonderful lunch near the museum.

We would like to thank all the 3R members and their families for making the event successful. We look forward to working with you all in the future.



DID YOU KNOW...

The Muriel L. MacGregor Charitable Trust has awarded nearly 1 MILLION dollars in scholarships to Estes Park High School graduating seniors.



3-R Riders on the South side of the ranch.

A Volunteers Perspective

Volunteers are vital to MacGregor Ranch. Each year we have nearly 60 volunteers who work in our community garden, give tours to visitors, participate in the ranch work and help operate Maude's gift shop. Without these wonderful volunteers MacGregor Ranch would not be as successful as we are today. We have asked one of our volunteer couples to share their experience on the ranch. Here is what they had to say.

Name: Dan and Tami Scace

Number of years volunteering: 2

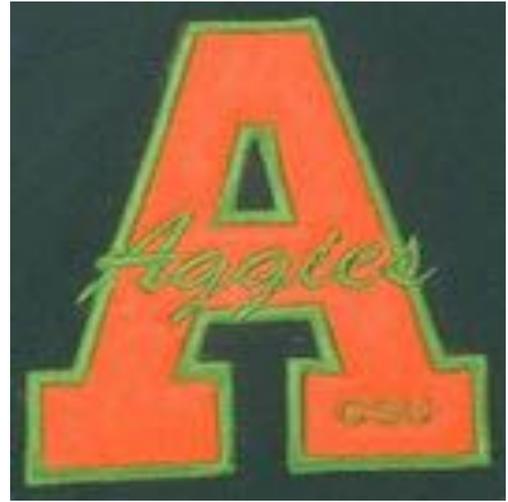
Dan and Tami learned about our volunteering opportunities through a Newcomers meeting after moving from a farm in Connecticut. Dan had dreamed of being a cowboy while growing up in Massachusetts. He enjoys spending days working on tractors, mending fence and shoveling manure which makes him the perfect volunteer for MacGregor Ranch. His wife Tami spends many of her afternoons at Maude's and the museum volunteering as a Docent where she interacts with and educates the Estes Parks Tourists.

"The ranch house is a place that charms historians and fascinates those who yearn for the 'olden days'. The peace and quiet, plus the stunning views are appreciated by everyone, especially the self-professed 'city slickers'", says Tami.

Tami and Dan can be found working hard to make MacGregor Ranch a better place. We are lucky to have such wonderful, committed and high spirited volunteers like the Scace's. They allow us to carry out our mission to educate youth and run a high country cattle ranch.

Tami and Dan play a big role at MacGregor. We can't wait to spend more time with this wonderful family in 2016.





RAM PRIDE

Colorado State University plays an important roll in partnering with MacGregor Ranch. Every year MacGregor Ranch teams up with the CSU Agricultural Department to hire summer interns. CSU has an elite group of professors who have done a great job of preparing their students for work after graduation. Annually MacGregor Ranch offers a month long internship to a current CSU student to help run Heritage Camp. We at MacGregor Ranch work with that chosen student during the early summer months to develop a curriculum that specializes in their field of study while incorporating the heritage of the MacGregor's. This allows each year to bring new activities and learning experiences to campers while allowing for the university students to apply what they

are learning in the classroom through practical use. We believe that it is important to provide learning opportunities to all ages, including young adults. Throughout this process the ranch works with an advisor from CSU to make sure that the student and the ranch are getting the most out of the experience. This allows for the students to work on communication skills and build a trust between themselves and their mentors.

We would like to thank the staff as CSU for all of their continued support of Heritage Camp and all the extremely talented students that have been sent our way. We are looking forward to the 2016 summer.

What's Actually in your Beef!

The Ranches Mission is to continue to operate as a high country working cattle ranch while educating youth. Because most kids today are unaware of where their food comes from, it is more important than ever to educate them about agriculture. With the advances in technology and new fad diets there are many myths going around about food production. MacGregor Ranch strives to enlighten not only today's youth about the processes and practices of agriculture and animal production but the entire community.

Family farms of all sizes make up 98% of U.S farms and produce about 85% of the value of the na-

tions agriculture (IBT). The United State is the number one beef producer in the world followed closely by Brazil. This industry is one of the most misunderstood industries today. Sometimes, mistakenly, people look in from the outside and without truly understanding what is going on assume that all producers are doing the wrong thing. Those accusations need to be acknowledged, addressed and cleared up.

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The United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) works closely with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to manage and control all agricultural products and have implemented standards that must be met by producers in order to legally sell their meat. These standards deal

World		58,443,000	
Rank	Country	2015	% Of World
1	United States	10,861,000	18.58%
2	Brazil	9,425,000	16.13%
3	European Union	7,540,000	12.90%
4	China	6,750,000	11.55%
5	India	4,200,000	7.19%
6	Argentina	2,740,000	4.69%
7	Australia	2,550,000	4.36%
8	Mexico	1,845,000	3.16%

Beef2Live.com

with the two main causes of concern to consumers. These concerns are 1) Antibiotics and 2) Hormones

All consumers have the right to know what is in the food that they are buying and more importantly, what they are feeding their families. Here are some interesting facts.

Antibiotics

FDA recently came out with new regulations that address the usage of antibiotics on food animals. Some of the results are as follows:

- *“States that new drug uses must have a specific dosing duration and level for an identified disease and be available only to certain animals, not an entire herd or flock”.*

- *“Defines appropriate therapeutic uses of antibiotics in food animals as the “treatment, control, and prevention of specific diseases necessary for assuring the health of food-producing animals.”*

- *“Establishes criteria to justify the use of antibiotics for “disease prevention”*

These rules are put into place so that farmers and ranchers are not allowed excessive use of animal an-

tibiotics without justifiable cause. It is similar to human health. When you or a family member are sick you go to the doctors to get better. The doctor gives you medicine to help get rid of the infection. Once the illness is cured, medicinal usage stops. That is exactly the same way that animals are treated.

Hormones

“People are not at risk from eating food from animals treated with these drugs because the amount of additional hormone following drug treatment is very small compared with the amount of natural hormones that are normally found in the meat of untreated animals and that are naturally produced in the human body”.

-FDA.gov

Hormone implants used in animal production are authorized for use at specific times during animal growth and in small amounts only. All implants have a ‘Zero-Day’ withdrawal which means that once the animal gets the implant they must be available for human consumption at any point. For that to be true the amount of hormone implanted is closely watched and must always remain at a healthy level. Only certain hormones are approved by the FDA which include naturally occurring and select synthetic hormone such as Trenbolone Acetate and Zeranol.

It is important that consumers understand that just because the meat that they are offered is not antibiotic or hormone free, does not mean that they are harming themselves. As you all now know, that type of meat is safe and just as nutritious as any.

For more information visit www.fda.gov



MacGregor's New Employee

The board of Trustees would like to announce the hiring of Katherine Ellerman as our new Program Administrator. Katherine is a graduate of Colorado State University where she obtained her Bachelors Degree in Agriculture Business. She was a student athlete and enjoys being outdoors. Growing up, Katherine showed horses and worked in the cutting horse industry.

Katherine loves sharing her passion for agriculture that started when she was a young girl. It is this passion for agriculture that brought her to MacGregor Ranch in beautiful Estes Park, Co.

Her responsibilities and duties include the organization of Heritage Camp, museum tours, volunteer coordination and day-to-day business activities.

Katherine believes it is important to engage with the community where one lives and she is currently on the Estes Park High School FFA/Agricultural Advisory Board and coaches 4th grade boys and 5th grade girls basketball for the NVRD in her spare time. For fun she has recently pick up a new hobby...team roping.

" I am thankful to have the opportunity to work for such an amazing non-profit such as MacGregor Ranch. I was not sure what my next step out of college was going to be but I couldn't imagine myself anywhere else right now. I am looking forward to all that MacGregor Ranch has to teach me and no matter where I end up, I will always keep Muriel and the rest of the MacGregor Family near" - Katherine

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at

www.macgregorranch.org

Also on Trip Advisor



Facts about the MacGregor's

- In 1983, Trustees sold a conservation easement on the main 1,221 acres of the ranch to the National Park Service
- The MacGregor Ranch is the last remaining working cattle ranch in Estes Park and one of the few operating historic working ranch and youth education center in the west.
- Each year the MacGregor Trust awards the Muriel L. MacGregor College Scholarship to an Estes Park High School graduating senior.

Make a difference and Volunteer

While Macgregor continues to increase their number of visitors each year, we want to make sure that we have enough staff to tend to those visitors. We are looking for people who are willing to spend a few hours a week on the ranch. There are three areas where you can volunteer. The first is the gift shop ,where admission to the museum is purchased. These volunteers have the job of greeting the guests and answering general questions. The second spot is for Docents. Docents are the ones who give

the main tours of the MacGregor's Ranch home. Our last spot is called a floater. Floaters will accompany the guests from Maude's to the museum where they will make sure that guests are staying within the allowed areas. All volunteer positions will have training sessions starting in the spring. Anyone who is interested in being a volunteer is welcome to attend a training session. For further questions please contact Katherine Ellerman at 970-231-7374 or office@macgregorranch.org

