

# THE 45th OLD TIME RANCH TOUR

## STOPS ON THE 45TH OLD TIME RANCH TOUR

Saturday, July 20, 1996

## Sponsors:

*The Laramie Kiwanis Club*

*The Albany County  
Historical Society*

### 1. Y Cross Ranch Overlook

Hostess: Amy Davis, Owner  
Speakers: Amy Davis  
Fred "Fritz" Mueller

### 2. T Lazy T Ranch (Tugman's Bar T Ranch)

Host: David Berry, Owner  
Speakers: Sam Rosengreen, Foreman  
Ron Preston, Foreman at Y Cross  
Donna Dereemer

### 3. Farthing Ranch

Host: Merrill Farthing, Owner  
Speakers: Merrill Farthing  
Charles Farthing

### 4. Francis Livestock Company

Host: John Francis, Manager  
Speakers: Ed Francis

### 5. Ferguson Ranch

Hosts: Dorothy and Walter Ferguson, Jr.,  
Owners  
Speaker: Walter Ferguson, Jr.  
Walter "Bus" Ferguson, III

THE FORTY-FIFTH OLD TIME RANCH TOUR  
Saturday, July 20, 1996

The Old Time Ranch Tours were conceived and promoted by Dr. Robert Burns. The series has continued annually since 1951, except 1982.

The 1996 Ranch Tour Co-chairpersons: Maurice Wear and Henry Bauer

1996 Site Coordinator: Ken Faulkner

Committee Members:	Bob Bacon	Jim Hand	Bob Leonard	Ike McKay
	Fritz Mueller	Bob Nelson	Bob Purdy	Dick Strom

Ike McKay is the master of ceremonies.

An annotated map of the tour is on the front cover of this booklet. The map was created using DeLorme's Street Atlas USA® 3.0 (800) 452-5931 and is used under its license agreement. The projected tour log follows the narrative.

Rest rooms are available for each stop at the trailer carrying the outhouses.

**Safety:** Safety is a primary concern. Tour marshals will coordinate the caravan. Keep lights on while traveling on paved highways. Stay to the right at crests of hills. Be careful making turns on and off paved highways. Please follow the directions of the traffic controllers. Please keep children and pets with you at all times. Neither the committee, individually or collectively, nor the sponsoring organizations accept any responsibility for accidents. A trailing car will inform the lead vehicle of any delays.

Keep a safe distance between cars. We will travel at 15 to 35 miles per hour on gravel roads and at 50 to 55 miles per hour on paved roads. Drive carefully. Respect the other fellow. Enjoy the scenery and have a good trip.

**Parking:** Your cooperation is appreciated at parking sites. Parking is accomplished so that cars need not use reverse gear for entering or leaving a site. If you have difficulty walking, please inform the first traffic director at each site so a close-in parking place may be found. Please allow the numbered cars to leave a site first so tour personnel may direct traffic.

**Courtesy:** WE ARE GUESTS OF THE RANCHES AND HISTORICAL SITES. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE ANY ITEMS, INCLUDING ARTIFACTS FOUND ON THE GROUND.

If you smoke outside your vehicle, please be careful and take your cigarette butts with you. Fire is an ever-present danger, and the dry grasses and old timbers of some structures offer excellent kindling.

**Thanks:** Many persons helped to organize and to promote this year's tour. In particular, we thank the publicity given to the tour by the Laramie Daily Boomerang, TCI Cablevision of Wyoming, and the Laramie radio stations KOWB, KCGY, KLDI, KRQU, KIMX and KUWR. We also thank the Wyoming Recreation Commission and Dick Strom's Rambouillet for lending the equipment for the rest room facilities. Thanks, too, to the Coca-Cola and Pepsi Bottling Companies for the refreshments at lunch. Finally, we thank the members of the Laramie Kiwanis Club who helped.

During your next visit please thank the fine people at these Laramie businesses that supported this Tour.

The Bank of Laramie	Albany County Public Employees	Brian Broderson Realty
First Interstate Bank	Federal Credit Union	Century 21 Real Estate Center
First National Bank of Wyoming	Laramie Plains Federal Credit Union	Duane Toro Real Estate
Key Bank of Wyoming	Security First	Espeland Realty of Laramie
	UNIWYO Federal Credit Union	

We remember the life and expertise of Walter Edens who passed away in February. Walter was a past president of the Albany County Historical Society and helped often with The Old Time Ranch Tours. He was an expert on the Overland Trail and, with his wife, a student of the Native American and white settlement history along the trail. Most recently, he spoke on our Tour at the Virginia Dale Stage Station in 1992. His friendship and advice are greatly missed.

Today we visit historical ranch sites in western Laramie County. We are indebted to Fritz Mueller for his help in arranging our visits.

The following narratives are the account of Amy Davis on the Y Cross Ranch; the accounts of Ellen Mueller; the account by Edward Francis; and the writings which appeared in *The Historical Encyclopedia of Wyoming* in 1950, in *History of Laramie County Wyoming*, Jean Bastian, Editor, in 1987, and in *History of Cheyenne, Wyoming*, Sharon Lass Field, Editor, in 1989. Additional information may be found in the books cited.

## Stop 1. Y Cross Ranch Overlook



The following account is provided by Amy Davis, the owner of the Y Cross Ranch.

The Y Cross Ranch as it is today is the creation of Courtenay Davis. Courtenay was born and raised in Evanston, Illinois. In 1909 Courtenay's father Elisha T. Davis and his young son Courtenay returned from an Alaskan trip through Estes Park. Mr. Davis purchased a piece of property between Fall River and the Big Thompson adjacent to the town. Thereafter, Courtenay spent his summers out West at Estes Park with his family.

Following Courtenay's graduation from Culver Military Academy, Princeton University and Northwestern Law School, he practiced law and dealt in real estate in Chicago commuting from his suburban home north of Chicago at Kenilworth. He purchased two farms in Illinois during the depression. He belonged to The Chicago Farmer's Club and was its secretary.

His health was greatly improved when in Estes Park, and he was able to get exercise. For many years Courtenay joined the *Western Livestock Journal* ranch tours hoping to locate the perfect place to settle out West and raise cattle.

In 1941 Courtenay and Lucy Davis drove over the hills from Laramie to visit the Y Cross Ranch. At this time Stella Monday was the owner and anxious to sell. The Davises purchased the ranch. For the first 12 years the Davises only spent summers on the ranch, and Courtenay commuted by train to oversee its operation. In 1955 the family sold their Kenilworth home and became permanent residents at Horse Creek.

There were many small ownerships in the area during the early years, and Courtenay found it possible to purchase them and add to the ranch during his lifetime. The ranch is now managed by Ron Preston and Courtenay's daughter, Amy. Ron formerly was employed by The Great Western Sugar Company for twenty-two years. He and his family moved to the ranch in 1978.

The Wyoming Stock Growers Association brand book shows the Y Cross brand beginning in 1875. The Dater brothers, Phil and James of New York City were the first owners. Phil was the Cheyenne Club's first President until his death in 1890.



## Stop 2. T Lazy T Ranch (Tugman's Bar T Ranch)

The ranch barn pictured above is seen close up by the Tour participants. It contains the beam shown to the right. The inscription says, "Donald Clark" and "Barn Raised Aug. 20 1902."

The following history appears in a paper entitled "History of the Clark-Innes Ranch." A very similar account appears in Jane Bastian's *History of Laramie County Wyoming* and is attributed to Florence Tugman.

Donald Clark was born in Islay, Scotland in 1837 and Jane McPhee was born in Paesly, Scotland in 1841. The two were married in Egremont, Canada in 1865. They made their home on a farm there until the spring of 1874, when Donald heard from Jane's brother, Donald McPhee, of a new land called the Territory of Wyoming, U.S.A. and boarded a train for Cheyenne.

Donald was to be met by his brother-in-law, but somehow the two missed each other so he walked to his home. He selected 160 acres on upper Horse Creek and began building a home. Before the house was finished, winter set in, so he went back to Canada for his family.

Donald dreamed of expanding his holdings and putting the DC brand on as many cattle as he could. In 1892 he leased the D property which joined his own on the south from the Swan Land & Cattle Co. and shortly thereafter, he bought the West Moyer property which joined his own on the west. This brought his ranch from 160 acres to over 8,000 acres. In 1893 he built the 15 room house of gray native stone brought from a quarry near the Horse Creek hogbacks. In 1910 Donald and Jane leased the ranch to their son Neil, and retired to Cheyenne, where they lived until they died.

John Innes was born in Nairn, Scotland in 1866 and came to Wyoming in 1888, securing work as a cowpuncher on the ranch of Andrew Gilchrist, 17 miles west of Cheyenne, but soon began operations of his own on the Laramie Plains. In 1902 he purchased 2,000 acres on Sybille Creek near Red Buttes near Laramie. In 1922 the Innes family moved to the 8,000 acre Clark ranch at Horse Creek and operated both ranches until 1936. John Innes owned several brands, but seldom used any, except the Bar T and DC. He acquired homesteads adjoining the Clark Ranch, totaling 3,000 acres, bringing the total acreage on the Horse Creek Ranch to 11,000 at the time of his death in 1945. In 1941 when John Innes became ill, James C. and Florence Tugman took over operations of the Bar T Ranch and after the death of John Innes (Florence's father) [in 1945] they leased the ranch from Flora Innes. In 1961 when Flora Innes passed away, Florence inherited the ranch. In 1965 Jim bought 3,000 acres of the John Whitaker Ranch, which adjoins the Bar T Ranch on the north, bringing the total acreage to approximately 15,000 acres. Jim and Florence operated the ranch until 1979, when Jim passed away.

Jean Clawson updated the account:

James Innes Tugman, son of James C. and Florence Tugman, was the fourth generation member to continue operation of the Bar T Ranch at Horse Creek. Following his graduation from school in Cheyenne, he operated the ranch with his father. After his marriage to Patricia Schwartzkopf of Cheyenne, they moved to the ranch in 1961. Following James's sudden death in 1992, Jeffrey, his oldest son, planned to continue operation of the ranch, but family problems forced the sale of the ranch to Dave Berry in 1995, and Florence was forced to move. Jeffrey and his wife, Denise, along with Florence have moved to Cheyenne where they still reside.

### Stop 3. Farthing Ranch



Carol Farthing's report about the history of the ranch in *History of Cheyenne, Wyoming* and information compiled by Teresa Lancaster used in an unattributed article titled, "The Farthing Ranch creed: Hard work and honest dealings" are the basis for this account.

Thomas Farthing, a whiskey distiller from Buffalo, New York, purchased Pole Creek Ranch for his sons Harry and Charles Thomas in 1884. Harry was already living there when Charles visited in 1903. Charles liked the area and began to search southeast Wyoming for a suitable place for him and his wife, Maude. They found the ranch near Iron Mountain which they agreed to purchase from William Edwards. The couple returned to Buffalo, and with their son, Tom, and all their belongings arrived in Cheyenne in 1903. Their second son,

Merrill, was born later that year. The ranch was purchased in 1904, and Farthing began ranching with a few cattle and some sheep. Two more children, Betty and Helen, were born.

Later the Farthings bought a Shetland stallion and a few mares that were imported from the Shetland Islands. During the Depression, these ponies, whose worth was then more than the cattle, saved the ranch from foreclosure.

The Shetland ponies were renowned and in great demand. In the mid 1900's the Farthings ran 800 to 1000 ponies. Although a sideline, the registered ponies sold for nearly \$1,000 each during the 1930's. During the 1940's one pony was auctioned off for \$2,000 to buy an ambulance to be shipped overseas. Since 1950 the Farthings have donated the ponies to the University of Wyoming for use as its mascot, Cowboy Joe. Today, about 100 ponies wander the hills.

Charles Farthing was a well known innovator of crossbreeds and businessman. He was elected as a county commissioner and Wyoming legislator.

Upon Harry Farthing's death, Tom and Merrill inherited the Pole Creek ranch which they deeded to Tom. Merrill remained at the Iron Mountain ranch.

Tom married Irene Elrick and had one daughter, Sharon. He ran the Pole Creek ranch until his death. Sharon and her husband, Gene Tuck, inherited the ranch and eventually sold it in 1975.

Merrill married Grace Moore, a school teacher from Saratoga in 1934 and they had two children: Elizabeth and Merrilyn. They continued to work the ranch along with Charles and Maude. After failing health forced the elder Farthings to move to Cheyenne, Merrill and his family remained on the ranch. A son, Charles, was born in 1955. He now lives on the ranch with his wife, Carol, and their three sons, Chris, Tom and Ryan.

The ranch has grown in size to over 50,000 acres over the years and today runs mainly cattle. The crossbreeds are from Hereford cows bred to Charolais, Limousin and Shorthorn bulls. The heifers are bred to Angus and Hereford bulls.

## Stop 4. Francis Livestock Company (Andrew Gilchrist Ranch)



Mrs. Ellen Mueller provides the following description of the early years of the ranch.

The Gilchrist House is one of the best known landmarks in western Laramie County. The compact two-story stone house is frequently referred to as the "stone ranch." This is misleading because about two miles south on South Crow Creek is the remains of a ranch site from people named Stone.

Andrew Gilchrist was a retired guardsman from the regiment assigned to Buckingham Palace. He arrived in Wyoming ... and married a Scottish woman ... named Mary. He also had a shadowy brother named David and a sometimes evident nephew William,

whose wife's name was also Mary.

Andrew Gilchrist established the Gilchrist Ranch on the Happy Jack Road, probably in the early eighties, and built the Stone House (pictured here) in 1892. He also built the stone house on the Cole Ranch to the south on South Crow in 1896. He split the Gilchrist holdings, which were purchased from the Union Pacific, into his ranch on the Happy Jack on Middle Crow Creek and a smaller outfit for brother David on South Crow Creek. It is interesting to note the zigzag boundary between the two properties parallel to South Crow Creek in Section 23-14-69. This pattern allowed both properties access to water on South Crow Creek.

David was one of those many delicate personalities of the era who marched to a different drummer as a result of being too near an explosion, probably in the Civil War. David's house on South Crow Creek is still in use. The store is covered with stucco. The Gilchrist house on Middle Crow Creek is badly weathered and stones are rotting out. The stone for both houses was cut and laid under the supervision of John Stevenson, a well-known stone mason and rancher and father of Albany County's legislator John Stevenson of the 1940's. Stevenson had a ranch on South Crow about three miles up the Creek from Gilchrist on South Crow. The Stevensons were noted for fine craftsmanship and for exquisite elegant taste in personal effects.

The stone for the Gilchrist houses was quarried in the central south portion of Section 9-14-69. It is a layer of sandstone in the upper Pierre Shale of Cretaceous age. The quarry still has some artifacts around it--a broken slip, a dry, caved in well cased with stovepipe, and broken glass and tin cans. I can remember the inscription carved into the wall of the quarry, "Walter Black 1911." ...

Among the lessees of the Gilchrist Ranch were Boyd Fye and Brother...in 1907 and 1910, J. L. Jordan in 1900-1903 or so, Nels Elkar 1910-1920 or so, and Walter Ferguson from 1920 or so to about 1932. The Stone House was the birth place of Mary Elkar Wallace and of Mark, Bergetta, and Walter C. Ferguson, II.

The well-built barn was the product of Nels Elkar's labor, as it is considerably younger than the house. Elkar also built a concrete headgate on Gilchrist ditch No. 8 on Section 23-14-64 which bears his name and the date 1913. Walter Ferguson built two or three calving sheds, all of which are gone. The oldest consisted of cottonwood and pine logs squared by ax and piled for the west wall with the other three sides built of corrugated metal. The roof was simply sheeting boards nailed close to each other. The barn stood adjacent to the creek about 500 feet southeast of the house. It suffered severely from flooding and was cut off from the rest of the headquarters by an irrigation ditch. It was torn down, piled and burnt in 1969. It was at times used for calving, but use of it involved herding cattle back and forth across a county road twice a day.

The other calving barn lasting into recent times stood on the right of the present calving barn across the road from the house, the one southwesternmost of the barns in the cluster. This barn was built of 2 x 4's, 2 x 6's, and corrugated metal, and was originally open on the east....

Edward Francis provides the following account of his family's history on the ranch.

J.A. "Art" Francis purchased the Gilchrist Ranch from Mary Gilchrist, Andrew's widow, in 1932. Andrew had been dead many years by then, and Mary had leased the property.... "Art" Francis's father, Edward Francis, arrived in Wyoming in 1876. He was the first of 13 siblings to emigrate from Church Wenlock, in western England. He was from a farming and coal mining background and came to pave the way for the rest of the family who followed over the next decade or so, including his parents.

Edward secured employment as a manager on the T.H. Hord property nine miles west of Cheyenne, now known as the Happy Jack Ranch. The Hord enterprise was a large corporate operation which raised Shorthorn cattle in the west and grew corn and other crops to feed them out in Nebraska and Illinois. Edward served faithfully, married a Hord household servant named Agnes Hatley, who had emigrated from Edinburgh, Scotland, and soon was accumulating livestock and equipment. The Hord Company was paying in kind rather than cash.

In the mid 1890's Edward moved his family to Potter, Nebraska, to a ranch he bought there. Hail, grasshoppers, and rattlesnakes encouraged him to return to the area west of Cheyenne. He purchased a ranch known as the Shaver Place from Alec Nimmo, a Cheyenne entrepreneur who dealt in land, livestock, meat, and groceries.

Most of his equipment and livestock was shipped by railroad from Potter, Nebraska to Silver Crown, Wyoming which was on the Shaver Ranch. This occurred in 1903. The family consisted of Edward and Agnes and their children J.A. "Art" and Edith Francis. They set up their headquarters on North Crow Creek between the Van Tassel Ranch (now Table Mountain Ranches Subdivision) upstream and the J.T. Bell (Polo Ranch) next downstream. Edward Francis died from a burst appendix in 1915. Art Francis had graduated as a mechanical engineer from the University of Nebraska in 1911. He returned to the ranch after his father's death to assist his mother with it. Meanwhile, sister Edith was serving with the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I as a nurse on the trenches in France.

Art put his engineering skills to work on the ranch, building barns, a concrete ditch, and an electrical system. He also formed a telephone company which served the ranches in the area. He and his mother expanded their holdings by purchasing adjacent homesteads and by proving up on desert claims by rehabilitating an old Hord water right.

In 1932 Agnes Francis died, and Art purchased the Gilchrist Ranch and hired a Missouri farm family, the Dan Maher family, to move into the Gilchrist house. This gave him three more hardworking men and doubled the size of his operation. He was able to get away from the ranch for a month-long Caribbean honeymoon with my mother, Alice Yoder Francis. Art had met Alice about ten years earlier when she was a teacher boarding at the McGee Ranch.

Art and Alice and the Maher family tended a prospering ranch through the depression and on through World War II. Meanwhile sister Edith married the owner of the old Hord Ranch, Nelo Elkar. Art and Alice's two children, Edward and Ann, grew up in a new house built on the Gilchrist Ranch in 1941. This house was necessary because in 1938 a huge flood on North Crow Creek had inundated the old Shaver house which had been the Francis home since 1903.

Ann and Ed Francis repeated the pattern of the previous generation to the extent that Ann, after graduating from the University of Wyoming and becoming a teacher, married Jerry King, of the King Ranch five miles west of Cheyenne; and Ed returned to the ranch after graduating from the University of Colorado as a geologist. The Francis Ranch was incorporated as Francis Livestock Company in 1958.

As manager, Ed and his wife Shirley Hunter Francis made some expansion purchases and converted the cow herd to a cross-breeding program, increasing weaning weights from about 350 pounds to 450 pounds per calf. Shirley has had an extensive public service career. She served 12 years as Laramie County Commissioner and is presently a member of the Cheyenne City Council and is Executive Director of Community Needs Interagency. Ed left employment at the ranch in 1977 to become a State worker. He is presently a project officer for the abandoned Mine Land Division of the State Department of Environmental Quality.

Ed and Shirley's son John, the fourth generation on the ranch, became ranch manager in 1977 and President of Francis Livestock Company in 1979. John, his wife Sue, and children Chris and Missy live on the ranch. John has gone forward with innovations in ranch management including full implementation of holistic resource practices using intensive grazing control. He has achieved weaning weights of 550 pounds per calf by improving watering facilities, by adding pipelines and tanks, and embarking on artificial insemination for breeding improvement. John also performs public service as Chief of Fire District 8 and as a member of conservation organizations.

The record systems for cattle records and accounting have been fully computerized by Shirley and John. John's sister Linda Uzzell is a special education teacher and extra hand at branding and weaning time with her son Matt and daughter Ruthie.

Over the more than 100 years of Francis Ranch management the emphasis has always been to adapt as quickly as possible to new technology. Another principle always applied is to avoid dependence on decisions made by outside entities. This has enabled the ranch to avoid the impacts of government agency interference because federal lands are not involved at all.

## Stop 5. Ferguson Ranch



*The Historical Encyclopedia of Wyoming* reports that the Ferguson family was one of the pioneer families in Wyoming. Martha (McCarley) and William Matthew Ferguson came to Wyoming from Montreal, Canada, in 1875. They opened the first bakery shop in Cheyenne and later moved to Old Crow Creek at Granite Springs to establish the present Ferguson Ranch.

Walter Chester Ferguson was born in Cheyenne on May 14, 1879. His father, William M., died in 1891 leaving Walter and his brother William, older by three years, to take care of the ranch. Both had to quit school.

Angie Ferguson and Mary Lou Anderson wrote in *History of Laramie County Wyoming*:

The two boys were used to hard work. At a young age they had started their own business of selling eggs and dairy products to the residents of Cheyenne. They later turned the route over to their sisters and their brother, Edwin, and they went to work in the mines. In addition, they worked at breaking horses and participated in fall and spring round-ups.

In 1895, Walter went to work for Tom McGee for the fall round-up....

In 1896, with money earned from their many assorted occupations, Bill and Walter bought Pole Creek ranch located in what is now Medicine Bow National Forest. In 1899, they traded that place for a ranch at Hecla.

In 1906, Buffalo Bill came to Cheyenne to find rodeo guys for his Wild West Show. Because Walter had been somewhere near the top when he competed [in Cheyenne Frontier Days and elsewhere], he was asked to go



along. At the time, however, his brother, Wesley, had been ill for several months. Bill and Walt did not feel they should both go...and yet one would not go and leave the other behind with no fun. So the opportunity of a lifetime was pushed aside because of family pride and loyalty.

By about 1910 the remaining children were marrying and starting their own families. Walter was left alone to care for his ailing mother who by 1913 was bedridden. She purchased a house in Cheyenne and moved there to be less of a burden. In the fall of 1913 the wagon in which Walter was hauling posts turned over on him on a side of a hill. When he got up to stop the team the splintered bones in his broken ankle were driven through his boot. Walter married Julia Willadsen on January 14, 1914 and had to sit through the ceremony due to his ankle. The couple rented the Andrew Gilchrist Ranch. Julia and Walter were the parents of four children: Martin; Martha (Mrs. John Salsbury); Bergetta (Mrs. George Wilson); and Walter, Jr.

In 1918 Walter bought Bert Ferguson's ranch and moved his family there in 1923. This site on Crystal Lake Road is the one we visit today. Walter, Jr. was born here in 1924.

Walter, Sr. built up a ranch of 23,000 acres, buying up the Statler, Pickle (or PeCal), Kinnamon, Van Tassell, Haygood, and McGee ranches. During the 20's and 30's Walter changed the ranch from a cow-calf operation to a steer operation. In 1937 he switch from Hereford to Angus cattle to avoid the Hereford's disposition to sun-burned udders.

Julia died in 1940 of pneumonia, and Walter, Sr. lived until 1963. He remained active until his death. He had survived being dragged by a run away team and then a broken back at age 79 caused by a being tossed in the air by an injured bull.

Angie Ferguson writes about Walter, Jr., himself a complete rancher. He broke his first horse at the age of 6. The horse, named Bally, was given to him by some Army soldiers camped nearby. At age 10, he and his father were trailing cattle from LaGrange when a storm came up. They were stranded in Meriden for a week when a trip that should have taken 6 days took 18 days! Regular daily chores included taking care of the chickens, gathering eggs, and killing enough chickens each day for two meals. He also helped his father and sister Martha milk 30 to 40 cows twice a day.

In July 1943, Walter, Jr., married Dorothy Salsbury, sister of Martha's husband. The couple had five children: Walter, III, (nicknamed Bus) (1944); Kathryn Dianne (1946); Charles Mark (1948); Thomas Paul (1951); and Mary Louise (1953).

In October 1949, Walter and his father bought the Haygood ranch, southwest of the home place on Lone Tree Creek. It had territorial water rights and good hay fields. Dorothy and Walter moved there to manage the ranch. The children spent most of their childhoods at the Haygood ranch, attending Ozone, Granite, and Willadsen schools before going to Cheyenne's junior high and high schools.

One notable unfortunate event in their ranch's history occurred in 1961 when a tornado struck the ranch killing the entire herd of purebred Angus cattle. It took 10 years to rebuild the herd.

In 1966 Walter, Sr.'s ranch was divided up, and Dorothy and Walter, Jr., returned to the home place. They were joined in their business by Bus and his wife, Kimberly; and Mary Lou and her husband, Terry Anderson, and their children: Mark, Matt, Luke, John, Micah, and Kristi.

## **Return to Laramie**

There are several ways to return to Laramie. The most direct route is shown in the Trip Log.

### **Direct Route**

Leave the Ferguson Ranch yard and turn right. Follow Crystal Lake Road passing Curt Gowdy State Park's Crystal Reservoir entrance until you reach I-80 in Buford. Turn right onto I-80 West. Exit I-80 at the Grand Avenue exit.

### **Scenic Route**

Leave the Ferguson Ranch yard and turn right. Follow Crystal Lake Road about two miles to the entrance to Curt Gowdy State Park. Turn right. Travel through the park to WY 210, the Happy Jack Road. Turn left onto Happy Jack Road heading west. Eventually, you will reach I-80 at the summit. Enter I-80 heading west. Exit I-80 at the first exit, the Grand Avenue exit.

### Happy Jack Road Route

Leave the Ferguson Ranch yard and turn left. Retrace our path on Crystal Lake Road to WY 210, the Happy Jack Road. Turn left onto Happy Jack Road traveling west past the Gilchrist Ranch. Eventually, you will reach I-80 at the summit. Enter I-80 heading west. Exit I-80 at the first exit, the Grand Avenue exit.

## Old Time Ranch Tour Videotapes

VHS videotapes of the 1992, 1993, and 1994 Old Time Ranch Tours are available for purchase at \$20 per tape. If you are interested in ordering videotapes, please contact

Mr. Robert Dudley  
6245 W. Wolf Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85033

# The 45th Old Time Ranch Tour

Saturday, July 20, 1996

Place	Time	Local Distance	Total Distance
Ninth & Reynolds in Laramie	7:30 AM	0.0	0.0
City Dump	8:00 AM	1.3	1.3
End of Pavement	8:20 AM	10.0	10.0
Right at County Road 17	8:27 AM	12.7	12.7
Right on Roger Canyon Rd	8:33 AM	15.1	15.1
Private Property Sign	8:35 AM	15.9	15.9
Powell Hill Road to left	8:41 AM	18.4	18.4
Pull off to Y Cross Ranch Overlook	8:55 AM	24.6	24.6
Y Cross Ranch Overlook	8:57 AM	24.7	24.7
<b>STOP 1: Y Cross Ranch Overlook</b>	<b>8:57 - 9:50 AM</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>24.7</b>
Y Cross Ranch	9:54 AM	1.3	26.0
Railroad Track	9:59 AM	3.5	28.2
Left onto WY 211	9:59 AM	3.5	28.2
T Lazy T Ranch at Horse Creek	10:06 AM	4.1	28.8
<b>STOP 2: T Lazy T Ranch</b>	<b>10:06 - 11:05 AM</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>28.8</b>
Left onto Iron Mountain Road	11:16 AM	9.1	37.9
Left beyond Railroad Track	11:20 AM	9.7	38.5
Farthing Ranch yard	11:27 AM	11.5	40.3
Farthing Ranch	11:30 AM	11.8	40.6
<b>STOP 3: Farthing Ranch &amp; Lunch</b>	<b>11:30 - 1:00 PM</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>40.6</b>
Back to Railroad Track	1:08 PM	1.8	42.4
Right onto WY 211	1:08 PM	2.4	43.0
T Lazy T Ranch	1:19 PM	11.3	51.9
Horse Creek	1:20 PM	12.0	52.6
Railroad Tracks	1:27 PM	18.1	58.7
Right toward Federal	1:32 PM	21.9	62.5
Right over Railroad Tracks	1:35 PM	23.1	63.7
Railroad tracks	1:36 PM	23.3	63.9
Sign for Federal	1:37 PM	23.7	64.3
Left onto Wyoming 210	1:55 PM	31.4	72.0
Right into Francis Ranch yard	1:58 PM	31.6	72.2
Francis Ranch	2:01 PM	31.9	72.5
<b>STOP 4: Francis Livestock Company</b>	<b>2:01 - 2:55 PM</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>72.5</b>
Leave Francis Ranch; Turn right	2:55 PM	0.0	72.5
Right onto County 210, Crystal Lake Rd.	2:57 PM	0.4	72.9
Ferguson Ranch Yard	3:09 PM	4.5	77.0
<b>STOP 5: Ferguson Ranch</b>	<b>3:09 - 4:05 PM</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>77.0</b>
Right toward Buford	4:06 PM	0.1	77.1
Curt Gowdy State Park, Crystal Reservoir	4:11 PM	2.2	79.2
Right toward I-80 West	4:22 PM	9.2	86.2
Grand Avenue Exit	4:37 PM	27.5	104.5
30th and Grand in Laramie	4:42 PM	29.9	106.9