

NOVEMBER - 2014
LESCIE SPANCK '64

Dear Phil & Committee,

I was so delighted to receive the package from you. As soon as we opened it we put the CD on and enjoy the music all afternoon. Thank you so much for remembering me.

All is going well here. It was a good thing I decided to stay in TX. While you were partying I was in the hospital having a kidney stone blasted. The right kidney was completely blocked. All is well now.

I am scheduled for a colon exam on December 11. If all is clear I will be put back together in January.

I got my strength back by the end of September and have been back to my normal routine. We are getting the ranch fixed up with furniture and things to make it a welcoming home. We want people to visit and just relax and have a good time.

Last April when my son and his family came for a visit my grandson caught 17 bass in an hour at our lake. Very exciting for a 10 year old.

We now have 12 cows on the land. They will keep the grass mowed. In the spring we will weed kill and fertilize so the grass will be better quality for the cows. The bare minimum land to raise them is four acres per animal. Two for grazing and two for hay in the winter. Also in the spring a bull will be rented to increase the herd. Bulls can destroy fencing so we like the temporary set up. We still need to get our donkey moved over here. Donkeys are to cattle as sheep dogs are to sheep. Donkeys have even been known to kill cougars.

The cattle auction barn is in downtown Buffalo. Every Saturday an auction is run. When they clean up the stalls the manure is put out near the road so anyone can help themselves to as much as they want. It is surprising how quickly the pile disappears considering how many people have their own cattle and horses. Over at the firehouse is all the mulch a person needs for their garden. Again free for anyone.

That reminds me. I can't remember if I told you about my private rodeo last year or so. I was in the house (previous address only 30 acres) when I heard a dog

barking. I went to see what was going on. The dog appeared stuck in the bushes in the far corner of my land. I went to get dog bones to lure him out. When I got a hold of him I locked him in the fenced back yard and called the owner listed on his collar. He said they were nearby and would be up to get him soon. I expected them to drive up in a car. Instead four cowboys arrived on horseback and asked me if I had seen a cow. I said no, but the dog had been barking in the corner. The dog was a cattle dog and had cornered the cow in the corner where I couldn't see it. The cowboys took the dog and had another one with them and took off after the cow. After chasing it back and forth several times the cow came thundering through the copse of woods at my driveway and headed for the far side of my property. With cowboys in heavy pursuit one raised his lasso over his head as he came out of the trees. He swung and roped the cow and took her down just like you see in the rodeos. He trussed her up and called his wife. She arrived in a truck with a large cattle trailer attached and a baby in her lap at the steering wheel. The cow and horses were loaded in the trailer, the dogs and cowboys in the back of the truck and they all left. Apparently they had been chasing that cow all over the neighborhood all day and were glad to get her. We are talking about \$1000.00 or more on the hoof. A young one is worth \$500.00. The day was a novelty for me, but a typical day for the cowboys of Buffalo.

I have enclosed a few newspapers for your entertainment. I get a kick out of the sheriff's report. You can see not much going on around here. One good thing about small towns – everyone knows each other and who the bad guys are. Our sheriff caught a murdered who escaped up here from Houston (200 hundred miles from here). Our county has only 16 people per each square mile.

Thanks again for everything. It is really appreciated.

Les (Spence Maciel)

P.S. New last name Hensler at 12221 Hwy 75 N, Buffalo, TX 75831

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