

Society for Range Management *Pacific Northwest Section*

Properly functioning ecosystems provide for long-term sustainability of watersheds, plants, animals and people
Volume 62, Number 1 *March 2011*

President's Message *Tipton Hudson, Ellensburg, WA*

NEWSLETTER

The PNW section has a lot going on right now – and not just because I'm more aware of it recently! The Board of Directors agreed to help the parent society develop membership promotion materials. These are frequently requested, but all existing materials are outdated. We need more than a tri-fold brochure with a mail-in form. The rangeland profession and associated skills are in great need worldwide. Many biologists, conservationists, ecologists, and technicians of all stripes would benefit from involvement in the Society for Range Management but either hold misperceptions about the Society or are unaware of it entirely. Our objective is to make the SRM known much more broadly, to market what we already do. Our immediate task is to examine the issue of outreach from several different angles: What are the target audiences we hope to influence? What media and angle of persuasion would effectively communicate what the SRM has to offer ranchers, young range professionals, non-'range' professionals doing range work, college students in natural resource fields, high school students and science teachers interested in native ecosystems and sustainable management? What do these various publics need in continuing education, scientific support, practical application, policy analysis? The SRM does all of this – and does it very well.

The PNW Board needs your help to do this. We need talking points, in your own words, that can be used in membership materials. Think about how you would answer these questions. Choose one or two of the following audiences and answer the question "Why would <insert audience> be interested in rangeland ecology and management?"

- college student
- teacher
- rancher
- high school student

- university professor in any natural resource field
- landowner without livestock
- wildlife biologist
- environmental scientist
- fisheries biologist
- forester
- soil scientist
- weed scientist
- you name one . . .

Being interested in range ecology is still a slightly different question than why one should be a member of SRM. Please send your 2-3 sentence responses to these questions to me at hudsont@wsu.edu. If you do not, I will extract one from you before you can register for the summer **PNW Section meeting in Yakima, WA, June 15-17!**

We will visit the U.S. Army's Yakima Training Center, a 327,000 acre piece of shrub-steppe that is also a live-fire artillery zone. This presents unique challenges to range management and demands a rigorous rehabilitation program. The area is also home to sage grouse. Those fortunate enough to make the trip will enjoy a tour of the private sheep range of the Martinez family, one of the last large sheep operations in Washington. The meeting flyer provides more details. Following the tour, you will be treated to a BBQ event par excellence. Gary Cox will deliver a talk on the "Synergistic Effects of Viticulture and Native Steppe Eco-Diversity" just before Cox Canyon Vineyards serves up a four-course meal with wine pairings. If you arrive by 1300 hours on the 15th, you can participate in the business meetings and get plugged in with the SRM Spokane 2012 Annual Meeting Committee.

The annual meeting committee, comprising members from the PNW and Idaho Sections, is in full swing. For those who missed the introductory article in Rangelands, thumb to the end of the magazine and go

Continued on page 6

PNW Updates

Thanks PNW . . .

To Tip Hudson, the PNW Board and our PNW Family,

We are completely blown away by your generosity!!!! We never expected anywhere near this amount of money to support our travel to Billings. It is our hope that the Spokane 2012 Planning Committee will make you proud to belong to the PNW Section by putting on an outstanding meeting in Spokane. Some of the hardest working people on the Spokane 2012 Committee are also on the PNW BOD. We guarantee that we will continue to work hard for you. Thank you for your vote of confidence in selecting us as Co-chairs for Spokane 2012. And, thanks again for funding our expenses in Billings.

The PNW Section rocks!!

Kevin Guinn & Will Keller, General Meeting Co-chairs, Spokane 2012

Dear Pacific Northwest Section of SRM,

On behalf of the Rangeland Ecology & Management (REM) Club we thank you for your assistance to our club. Your donation made it possible for four students from the Oregon State University REM club to attend SRM by assisting with the cost of flights. The members of the club competed with other universities across the nation, Mexico and Canada, in two competitions: Plant Identification Contest and the Undergraduate Rangeland Management Exam. The members attended symposia, technical sessions, and interacted with professional members of SRM in hopes of networking and learning more about the range management profession. Thank you so much for your assistance and giving the four of us the opportunity to attend the SRM annual meeting.

Sincerely,

Jessica Hopper, Catherine Sesa, Sara Norman, Cori Nuss

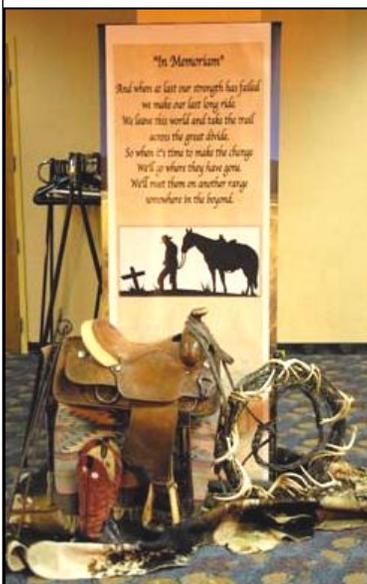
High Desert Youth Range Camp

June 19-23

Burns, Oregon

Applications are available NOW; the application deadline is April 30. If you know a PNW high school student who could be interested, please request an application from **Anna Marie Chamberlain at 541-881-1417** or **Brenda Smith at 541-573-4084** today! The application requires a letter of recommendation. The fee is \$175. Scholarships of \$125 may be available.

Lost Resources - Farewell to Jim Brunner (92) and E. William 'Bill' Anderson (96)



It hurts to lose two charter members of SRM in the same winter, but it happened to our PNW Section.

On January 7, Jim Brunner, died "peacefully and gracefully". On March 3, Bill Anderson "rolled up his bedroll and packed up his tent for the last time". Bill and Jim served in World War II: Jim participated in the liberation of Paris; Bill served four years as a Naval Air Officer. In 1947, Bill and Jim were part of a team that founded the Society for Range Management. They each had long careers in the field. Believing that range management means being out on the ground, these two gentlemen walked their talk. PNW members applauded when the surprise reception was held for Jim & his bride Mae at the 2003 spring workshop. (On 12/21/2010, Jim wrote "Mae went to Heaven on Dec. 19th".) We were honored and delighted to hike again with Bill during the 2006 fall workshop at Mt. St. Helens. Bill Anderson and Jim Brunner set the standard for all of us as keepers of the range.

Photo by Brian Haddow, PNW photographer from Dawson Creek, B.C.

Spokane 2012 coming your way soon!

Winter Dance: Lessons from the Past-- Strategies for the Future

The Three Amigos (Kevin Guinn, Will Keller, J.D. Wulfhorst) are setting targets for 2012, and it will be up to ALL SRM'ers, not just the planners, to make sure we hit those. Mark your calendar now, **January 29-February 3, 2012** and start planning/saving/negotiating, whatever it takes, so that SRM's 2012 annual meeting, hosted by PNW & Idaho Sections, will meet the Attendance Goal of 2000. Together, we can do it! We will!

At the Billings business meeting, the **Three Amigos** set the stage for success when they introduced the **Winter Dance 2012**. The biggest event of the year for the native Americans of the Columbia Basin was their Winter Dance. The annual gathering of range management practitioners and professionals is our biggest yearly event. Thus, Winter Dance is an appropriate working theme for us in 2012. Workshops and symposia will guide participants to explore our Lessons from the Past -- Strategies for the Future. Presentations will be geared to the interest and needs of ranchers, rangeland managers, and new or experienced state and federal agency professionals. Rangelands management includes the whole system, from soil and water, to plants and animals. Workshops will cover the whole; there will be something for everyone. Tours, mixers for a multitude of groups, a dance and the special dinner, "Taste of the PNW" will allow ample opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new friends. The Spokane Convention Center will be our hub. Our hotels, the Doubletree, Travelodge and Red Lion Inn are all within easy walking distance to unique dining, shopping and galleries. For updated information, watch for articles in each 2011 issue of Rangelands and go to the SRM website: www.rangelands.org

Of their time in Billings, the **Three Amigos** commented: Billings was a meeting just trying to find a place to happen. What a success in finding key people to visit with at every turn of the corner. We had good meetings, impromptu discussions, and a few head-scratchers thrown in for good measure! The 2012 committee is committed, dedicated, enthusiastic and hard working. The next 11 months will be a fun ride with a great group of range professionals.

Spokane 2012 Trade Show Booth in Billings Lures 'em In!

Maura Laverty, Publicity Co-Chair for Spokane 2012

Thank you, **John Tanaka**, for loaning us your University of Wyoming laptop to play our slideshow. You were a life-saver, and I appreciate your trust! The laptop enabled us to play the powerpoint slideshow which I created from photos donated by PNW & Idaho Section members. Thank you **Don Blumenauer** and **J.D. Wulfhorst** for the incredible photos showcasing our regions. If visitors could pry their eyes away from the slideshow, they were invited to Spokane 2012 by our many hosts. Thank you volunteers **Meribeth Lomkin, Mike Borman, Rae Haddow, Richard Fleenor, Holly Myers, Will Keller, J.D. Wulfhorst, and Juley Hankins-Smith** for taking time out of your busy schedules to represent Spokane 2012 in our Trade Show booth. I hope you enjoyed Cherie Gwinn from the Spokane Convention & Visitors Bureau, and had as much fun talking to folks as I did. I really appreciate your time. The booth was a real eye-catcher! Cherie provided Spokane travel and event information, maps, pins and chocolates, as well as a huge photo backdrop displaying downtown Spokane. We supplemented that with our 2012 logo banner and Spokane 2012 post cards with hotel information. Cherie had a flat screen TV showcasing Spokane cultural events. We had our laptop playing the slideshow showcasing scenery from BC, Washington, Oregon & Idaho. Anyone passing by was lured in with conversation and encouraged to come to Spokane. Cherie told me the weirdest question she was asked was, "why do you have a picture of a road-kill deer?" When we get the Spokane 2012 website up and running, I'll post the slideshow and you can be the judge of the photo in question. We can laugh about it later!

The Buzz from Billings

Lavona Liggins, Kamloops, BC: After negotiating my way across the "skating rink" that was Kamloops following a freezing rain, I headed to Billings and the week improved from there! I met old friends in the Denver airport waiting for the last connection to Billings, solved the mystery of how to find a cab, learned about recent findings in animal ecology and developed new understandings about carbon and rangelands, saw Dr. Rick Miller receive the WR Chapline Research Award, saw the TRU students in their new cowboy hats, connected with new colleagues, and learned more about the great plans and progress of the Spokane 2012 planning committee. I urge all PNW members to start planning NOW to attend the 65th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management in Spokane, WA, January 29 to February 3, 2012.

Hugh Barrett, Long Beach, WA: The Three Amigos were incredible!!

Emily Hurd, Bend, OR: Billings 2011 was another SRM success. I have a new definition of cold... it is Billings in February! Amidst the blowing wind and snow, the annual meeting held a variety of relevant topics to range management. Invasive species sessions are more and more abundant and informative. Participating with the High School Youth Forum again, it seems that the caliber of these students gets higher each year. If they continue on in the range management field, then I do believe we are in good hands. Now it is exciting to be looking forward to Spokane in 2012 where the PNW section can wow the parent society!

Craig Carr, Reno, NV: The Billings meeting was a fantastic opportunity to catch up with old friends and colleagues and to learn about what is going in the world of range management. I particularly enjoyed the talks on wolf/cattle interactions that included work being done in

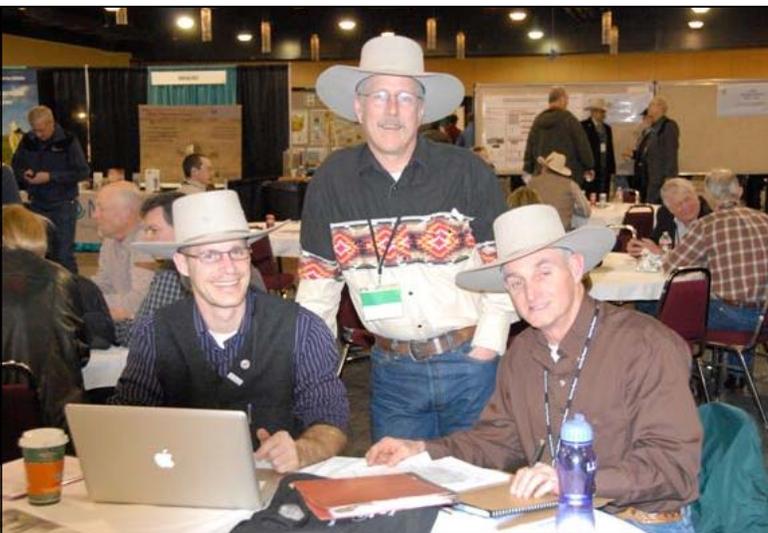
Oregon. A fascinating study of wolf diets in Alberta reported substantial "beef" in wolf diets during periods of wolf and cow common use. Talks on the interactions between fire and grazing were worth thinking about in terms of our PNW ecosystems where fire and grazing most certainly interact. Another interesting concept presented, for my watershed management friends, is the potential for interactions among fire, run-off, sediment yield, channel morphology and evolution, and stream restoration.

Brian Haddow, Dawson Creek, BC: Of 1573 attendees in Billings, there were 400 college participants (posters, Range Clubs, URME, plant ID, presenters, etc.) and 37 students in the High School Youth Forum. These amounted to over 25% of the total registrations.

Courtney Smith, Clarkston, WA: I split my time between technical sessions and the 2012 Annual Meeting Committee. The post-convention tour featured excellent speakers who were well-versed in ecology and history. The planning committee identified responsibilities for many participants, but bogged down in a discussion of the color of the vests for next year's volunteers! Watch out for pastels!!

Cynthia Warnock, Imnaha, OR: My son, Tyrel, attended the SRM annual meeting through the High School Youth Forum (HSYF), and had a wonderful time. He talked about how nice everyone was, about the other youth attending and where they were from, and about the professionals who came to their dinner to talk about jobs. Tyrel always had an interest and knowledge for weeds and weed control, but this forum allowed him to see that there are many other aspects and opportunities in range. He has already told his dad & me that he will be attending the next two annual meetings! Thank you for sponsoring this forum. You will probably see him again!

Shawna LaRade, Cranbrook, BC: Wow! Information! Information! Going to the SRM meeting was like a kid in a candy store, all senses in overdrive wanting to taste it all, forced to focus on one thing! Difficult task. Some talks I was able to graze over included: difficulties in valuation of ecosystem services; Canadian Federal Community Pasture program and



Left to right, J.D. Wulfhorst, Will Keller, and Kevin Guinn, with never an idle moment in Billings, as they review and plan for Spokane 2012. Photo by Brian Haddow.

See The Buzz, continued on next page.

Recognized in Billings

Dr. Rick Miller, Corvallis, OR, was awarded the W.R. Chapline Research Award

Rick is one of the most prominent authorities on juniper woodland and sagebrush ecology with an emphasis on fire. Rick has conducted research that has advanced science and been readily transferable to managers. He has the ability to discuss his research on a "science" level, and then just as easily talk with land managers and ranchers on a practical level. Rick exemplifies what an outstanding scientist should be. Congratulations from all of us, Rick!



Rick Miller and SRM President Jack Alexander. Photo by Brian Haddow.

The Buzz, continued from previous page.

its successes; how the simplest alteration in management, such as changing the entry point to a pasture, can influence grazing pressures on preferred range; photo point of successful bio-control of knapweed in B.C.; fire stabilization and rehabilitation practices; and a one-day workshop that provided valuable Sustainable Ranch Management tools and techniques (U. of Wyoming).

Julie Conley, Yakima, WA: Heard lots of great technical presentations and saw old friends. The Minnie Cody quote on my new "Wild Women of Range" commemorative coffee cup took on a new meaning when I discovered at 10 p.m., after I was already in my pj's, that I had left my new cup well across the way at the bar. Had to put my clothes back on and trudge through the bitter cold to get it back!

Holly Myers, Bend, OR: Overall, it was a two-steppin' good time: great speakers, informative posters, and lots of catching up with old friends. It was cold, but it was comical to watch everyone use their window panes for refrigeration!! The wolf symposium was great, and it had various perspectives on the wolf and livestock interactions, wolf and wildlife interactions, and even wolf and habitat interactions. I would like to see this symposium carried on to Spokane! There is still a lot of research to be shared with the group, plus, this topic seemed to pull many participants who came just for this part of SRM!

Maureen (Wendy's Mom) Malenstyn, Delta, BC: I was the 'mom' for Wendy's five Thompson Rivers University students because she is on sabbatical in New Zealand (guess where I'm going in May!). They really enjoyed the whole week's events. They were interested in all their sessions, but the one that most fascinated them was the one on wolves - they talked about it the rest of the day! Mahesh, when in Nepal, studied snow leopards, so the wolf situation was very similar to some of his experiences. Thanks to the Oregon Mixer, Mahesh met an Oregon academic who has a student in Nepal. He zeroed in on Mahesh and they have agreed to keep in touch.

. . . and while her Mom was in Billings, **Wendy Gardner, Kamloops, BC** wrote from **New Zealand:** Six-year old Bree and I are living in Palmerston North, on the North Island, but close to the south tip. The earthquake was in Christchurch, on the south island, so we didn't feel a thing. There was a small earthquake in Wellington, about 2 hours drive from here. There seem to be fault lines running all over New Zealand! The quake damage has been extensive and many Christchurch people have relocated, either temporarily or permanently. Bree has new kids from Christchurch in her school since many schools closed due to structural damage. We have been doing fundraisers and sending supplies down to Christchurch. Otherwise the sabbatical is going well, and I have been learning lots about the NZ beef industry. All the animals are grass fed, but the pasture growth is quite amazing and makes this a viable option. Even the dairy cows are on a forage-based diet - all pasture grazed with no real grain inputs. The "grasslands" on the North Island are all pastures and agronomic species, so they are not native grasslands (in fact, they are cleared forest areas). They do have native bunchgrass areas on the south island, which I hope to visit. Thanks to **Joe Wagner** for tracking Wendy down!

Marti Butow, Alturas, CA: The tour to Pryor Mountain Horse Range was well presented by good bus speakers who explained the history and the sites, even though we were not able to access the whole tour due to weather. We did stop at a rehab. nursery which raises plants that would tolerate toxic sites like abandoned mining claims. On the Little Bighorn Battlefield tour, a great guide took us through the battlefield and we saw grave markers placed where soldiers had fallen during the battle. There is also a "national" cemetery where soldiers from other wars have been buried. Pompey's Pillar was exciting for me, as I had read *Undaunted Courage* by Stephen Ambrose. It was special to see Clark's signature plus others from the same period in history.

See The Buzz, continued on page 7.

What happens in Billings does NOT stay in Billings!

Sandra Wyman, Prineville, OR, wants to hear your ideas, concerns and questions about SRM.

Howdy PNW Section Members,

As a member of the parent Society Board of Directors (BOD), I had another wild ride at the annual meeting, starting with the GREEN BAY PACKERS WINNING THE SUPERBOWL! (sorry Obermiller).

Your BOD has dealt with critical issues for a year, and we see progress. Problems with membership renewals continue, but Allen Press is working on it, and they are taking comments from our members. The Allen Press website will soon be updated for easy access and use of the SRM websites.

We took a different route from the past by hiring a contractor as Executive Vice President (EVP). The Board is very happy with the guidance which Tim Cansler and Jess Peterson are providing to the business aspect of SRM.

I am the BOD representative to the Policy Division committees, and this was a year of change. The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Task Force was changed to the GLCI Committee by vote of the BOD. This provides emphasis to increase producer participation in SRM activities. The GLCI Committee will work with the annual meeting organizers to offer producer forums and workshops.

The Government Policy & Programs Committee integrated with the Public Affairs Committee to become the Policy & Public Affairs Committee (PPAC), chaired by Gary McCuin. This was approved by the BOD for several reasons, including their history of working together and the opportunity to improve efficiencies for both. The new PPAC wants to increase producer participation; if you know someone who could strengthen the committee, please let us know.

The Endowment Fund Silent Auction & Raffle raised over \$14,000! Thanks to the organizing volunteers and thanks to everyone who purchased and/or provided items for the auction!

I attended the OSU/PNW mixer, and once again a great crowd was present. Fortunately, we were able to reunite **Brian Haddow** with his daughter **Rae**! Sometimes it "takes a village"!!

The Three Amigos were GREAT!!! They provided a unique 2012 presentation at the Business Meeting, encouraging folks to attend and to assist with the Spokane 2012 meeting. If you don't have a 2012 duty, contact one of the "Three Amigos", (**Jamie McCormack, Rae Haddow, Juley Hankins-Smith**) to help out at 2012. And, do watch each 2011 issue of Rangelands to learn more about who you are!! Great job, Hugh Barrett, on the 2012 introductory article in the February issue.

The BOD and EVP provided a "live" SRM update in place of our normal monthly conference call. It was a good time for folks to ask questions and express concerns regarding SRM operations. Take advantage of this continuing opportunity each 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:00 PST, or call in on the BOD call every 4th Friday, 7:00 a.m. PST. See the SRM website for call-in information. Please ask any questions you have regarding the operation of SRM. The BOD is working very hard to make our business as transparent as possible. If you have concerns, you can reach me at 541-447-0206 or wymansk@msn.com

SRM is a work in progress, and we want to continue to meet society's vision and mission on managing our precious rangeland.

President's message, continued from page 1

back a few pages. If you don't get the paper version, go to rangelands.com and read it there – special thanks to **Hugh Barrett** for a great introduction to the best annual meeting yet. **Winter Dance: Lessons from the Past – Strategies for the Future** promises to be unforgettable, un-missable, and unmistakably Pacific Northwest (the Northwest includes the state of Idaho, most of which is west of the Rockies).

Finally, I want to honor the lives of Section stalwarts who passed on this year. I want to honor their pursuit of sustainability and collaborative planning and meeting human needs without compromising ecological integrity. The thousands of lives they touched will preserve their memory better than exalted diction here. May we learn from their lessons. Talk to some of the people who knew **Bill Anderson** and **Jim Brunner**. Forgive me if I've missed others (and tell me about them). If someone close to you is reaching the end of their earthly pilgrimage, ask to record some of their memories, experiences, advice. In the last twelve months

Continued on next page.

The Buzz, continued from page 5

Gene Fults, Portland, OR: One often finds that the symposium presenters at SRM annual meetings provide unexpected information that the talk titles do not always convey! We members often improve our knowledge of our topic, and we really exceed expectations on the day of presentation. Sometimes very unexpected information is provided, like when the economist's talk from a neighboring symposium began broadcasting through the audio in the monitoring symposium! Many thanks to the Montana volunteer who acted to stop it.

Rae Haddow, Cranbrook, BC: The Sustainable Ranch Management Workshop really got me excited about the possibilities of working with rangelands. I was able to see major differences and challenges associated with being on the north side of the border, compared to the south, but was really excited that so much work had already been completed with respect to understanding and putting into practice, management techniques based on tangible ecosystem goods and services -- definitely something to pursue further! I was lucky to be one of the judges for the HSYF oral presentations. I learned a lot, and let me tell you, these are promising young people -- hopefully we are able to get some of them into range careers and keep them involved with SRM -- a great group! On a lighter note, I need to mention the Wild Women of Range auction. It was great to see the women get so enthused, and even better to see Jess Peterson (SRM EVP) taking one for the (women's) team and paying a high price to get his OWN tie back . . . !!

Jessica Hopper, Corvallis, OR: My personal buzz comes from a session which discussed the influence and importance of pocket rodents (e.g., kangaroo rat) in assisting native grasses stay competitive in sagebrush steppe. The rodents assist with this threshold by collecting native grass seed and placing it in safe sites, which ensures a larger percentage of new grasses the following year. Of course, some are eaten, but the main

focus is on their importance. These little guys are amazing! In a pure pile of native grass seed, they can remove the seed coat on 40 of them in less than 5 seconds. With a mixture of sand and seeds, the small mammal can remove the seed coat and sort the sand from the seeds. It's impressive and reminded me of the saying "all things, great and small, have an impact" (or something along those lines).

John Williams, Enterprise, OR: Billings was a good meeting. Having recruited and taken Tyrel Warnock of Imnaha to the HSYF, I was particularly interested in the 30+ members of that program. The presentations were very good, showing off many exceptional youth with an interest in Range that is growing through these programs. I attended the USFS family gathering where one of our own, the Krebs family (Skye, Penny & Kip) received a national award for their work on public lands at the local level, and up through the national level with the Public Lands Council. Presentations such as the wolf symposium were informative and well done. The opportunity to connect with others was, as usual, key. Research groups touching bases, organizing a September workshop, and just hearing how others are doing and coping with continuing challenging times should not be over-looked as valuable to the SRM member and our organization.

Les Boothe, Lakeview, OR: In spite of the typical Montana Winter of cold wind and some snow, I enjoyed Billings. It is always great to see many old friends and meet new ones, while we learn and explore together.

2011 CALENDAR
PNW SRM
Summer Field Workshop
Yakima Washington
June 15-17
Mark your calendars!

President's message, continued from previous page

I bade farewell to two of the only centenarians I've known: my grandmother, who accomplished more between 80 and 100 than many people do in a lifetime; and a dear friend in Ellensburg, a single schoolteacher who remembers taking the stagecoach from Ellensburg to Yakima via the Durr Road (which still has the level resting places for horses on the switchbacks) as a child before there was a state highway down the Yakima River canyon and long before the freeway was built. I can't think too long about the world events these women saw between 1910 and 2010 for better and for worse. Ideas have consequences -- I pray we as professionals and individuals will pursue truth, beauty, and goodness in the 21st century in all spheres of life.

Tip

Calendar of Events

June 15-17, 2011	PNW Section Field Workshop, central Washington
June 19-23, 2011	High Desert Youth Range Camp, Burns, Oregon
September 21-23, 2011	PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Cranbrook, British Columbia
January 29-February 3, 2012	65th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management, Spokane, WA
Summer 2012	PNW Section Field Workshop, Oregon
Fall 2012	PNW Section Annual Meeting & Workshop, Washington
February 2013	66th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management, Oklahoma City, OK

PNW Website address: <http://pnw.rangelands.org>

Pacific Northwest Section, Society for Range Management — Caring for basic range resources: soil, plants and water

Want to alert members to an upcoming event? Comment on an article? Give us your new address? Brag about another member's contribution to range management? Tell us a story? Contact the Newsletter Editor!
jlbreese@crestviewcable.com