

Guadalupe County Livestock Producers Organization

Special points of interest:

- A Word from Your President
- Next GCLPO meeting
- SLO Controlled Burn
- Pedro Romero, Area Ranching Pioneer
- (CCX) Rangeland Carbon Sequestration Program
- Handy Hint
- Trading Post

A Word from Your President, Max Tenorio

The GCLPO continues to grow; we currently have 27 paid members and the membership dues continues to trickle in. We hope that in time we can enroll many more producers; numbers translate to power.

We hope that all went well this winter with your ranching operation, and that you are having great success with your new calves crop.

Once again it is almost time to start contracting calves. Last fall Mike Wolf gave us a verbal commitment that he would be back again

this year. It would be nice to deal with the same buyer every year, and that is our objective if possible. It is always nice to know that one will be treated fair and honestly. However, nothing is for certain and we need to have a plan B, in case plan A does not pan out. Therefore, if you come in contact with some other buyer or buyers please have them contact us. Their interest will certainly be considered should Mike Wolf not be able to do business with us.

SLO Controlled Burn

By Jim Thorpe

On March 5, the State Land Office, as part of its Rangeland Ecological Services Program (RESP), conducted a small controlled burn on trust lands on the Thorpe ranch in northeastern Guadalupe County. According to Commissioner Patrick Lyons, "The goal of the RESP program is to develop low-tech solutions to common problems agriculturalists face, and skills that are easily transferable."

This burn was part of a practical demonstration/study comparing different methods of controlling mature stands of one-seeded juniper which suppress forage production and ground cover, consequently contributing to run-off and soil erosion. A difficulty encountered in using fire to control mature juniper stands is the lack of "ladder fuels" to carry the fire into the main trunk with heat sufficient to kill it. In this study, the lower branches of the mature trees were limbed and stacked against the main trunks the year prior. It was hypothesized that these branches, when dried, would provide the fuel for a hot fire that would kill the main tree. Each tree was fired individually by the burn team where ground cover was insufficient to carry the fire from tree to tree. Adjacent areas are to be hand treated



Controlled Burn photo

with spot applications of two different herbicides; in addition, there is a "control" area without any treatment following a season of growth and grazing deferment, transects will be made to compare the effects. The State Land Office hopes to further develop treatments and practices that will enhance the continuing productivity of New Mexico rangelands.

If you have an interest in a potential project, please contact the SLO Range Conservationist, Ann Demint, at 827-5856 or ademint@slo.state.nm.us

The next GCLPO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, 2007, at 7:00 PM at the new Santa Rosa Middle School Cafeteria.

Please make plans to attend.



In the last issue we requested input so that we can feature an area pioneer for each issue. The following is an article written by Mike Romero of Newkirk, for which we thank him. We are now requesting submissions for future articles from GCLPO members so that we may continue with this feature on a regular basis.

Pedro Romero, Early Guadalupe County Rancher

My grandfather, Don Pedro Romero, established his ranch at El Valle in the early 1900s on what is commonly known as the Neafus Ranch located about ten miles north of Newkirk. The nearest post office in those days was at Isidore (Isidro) located just south of the San Miguel county line and east of NM 129. Pedro built his ranch by acquiring neighboring land and homesteads belonging largely to extended family. The ranch is now owned by Jim and Carol Thorpe.

Pedro was born near Golden, New Mexico Territory in 1871 to Vicente Romero and Guadalupe Quintana. His father died when he was very young, so his mother loaded him and his siblings, Fabian, Remedios, José, and Josefita into a horse-drawn wagon and headed for eastern New Mexico. We believe they initially settled near Trementina, perhaps because his mother might have had family nearby. In 1879 Pedro's mother married Nicolás Sánchez. The ruins of their home are also located on the Thorpe ranch. The children of Nicolás Sánchez and Guadalupe Quintana were Adelaida, the wife of Cipriano Martinez; Remigia; Alejandro; María Victoria; and Amadeo Nicolás.

In 1893, Pedro married Virginia Quintana. Their children were Abelina; Aurora, the wife of Raymundo Ortiz who was also my grandmother's brother; Adela; Pedro; and Saturnino. Abelina married Tomás* Martinez and lived on a ranch north of Cuervo. Their children were Isauro, Virginia and Juanita. After Mr. Martinez died, Abelina married Patricio Quintana of Cuervo. Their children were Patricio, who died in the Bataan Death March, and Ernestina (Tina).

In 1916, after my grandfather's first wife died, he married my grandmother, Eulogia Ortiz at Santa Rosa de Lima Church. My grandmother's parents were Fructoso Ortiz and Leonor Aragón, daughter of Don Pablo Aragón of Puerto de Luna. At the time of their marriage we believe my grandfather was running the newspaper in Santa Rosa and my grandmother had a bakery. My grandparents had nine living children, Bertha, Carlos, Aurora, Rebecca, Josefina, Gloria, Leonor (my mother), Horacio, and Margaret .

Pedro also had an active political career. In 1902 he was elected to the Territorial Legislature from San Miguel County, 4th District. In 1904, while living in Montoya, he was elected County Assessor of Quay County and served in that capacity until 1907. He was also the Guadalupe County Assessor from 1912 to 1917. In 1921 he was appointed the receiver of the U.S. land office in Fort Sumner under President Harding.

Pedro lived in Fort Sumner until 1944 and died at Santa Fe in 1946. He is buried in a chapel he built on his ranch together with other relatives. My grandfather and the chapel he built are mentioned by Fabiola C de Baca in her book, We Fed Them Cactus. The chapel has since fallen into ruins. Jim O'Connell, a former owner of the ranch lovingly stacked the stone and erected a pipe fence around the cemetery with a gate and cross. Although my grandfather died before I was born, I feel like I know him. I inherited his love of this land and its people. Pedro is memorialized in A History of New Mexico by Charles F. Coan, Ph.D., 1925.

*Agapito Ortiz referred to the first husband of my Aunt Abelina as Tomás; however, Joe V. Romero said his name was Desiderio.

Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) Rangeland Carbon Sequestration Program:

(Notes from Jim Thorpe, Preliminary Eastern New Mexico Producers Orientation Meeting)

New Mexico ranchers in 14 inch or above rainfall areas may be able to realize an estimated \$0.80/acre per year for participation in four-year “carbon offset projects.” But, as is often said, “The Devil is in the details.” The following is a summary from the notes of the CCX ranch site visit at the Thorpe Ranch located in eastern Guadalupe County on March 22, 2007.

This initial meeting was to “test the waters” in terms of potential interest from New Mexico ranchers, as well as to provide CCX with queries from potential participants.

The CCX is “the world’s first and North America’s only active voluntary, legally binding integrated trading system to reduce emissions of all six greenhouse gases (GHGs), with Offset Projects world-wide. CCX employs independent verification and has been trading GHG emission reduction since 2003. CCX Members that cannot reduce their own emissions can purchase credits from those who make extra emission cuts or from verified Offset Projects.”

While carbon storage per acre of rangeland is relatively low (when compared to, say, rainforest), the vast acreages encompassing America’s rangelands add up to significant carbon storage potential.

In eastern New Mexico, it is estimated that 400 acres are required to store one metric ton of carbon per year; thus 40,000 acres of New Mexico rangeland would be required to make one 100 ton contract. These 40,000 acres need not necessarily be contiguous or attached; they may actually, in some cases, be in different counties or states (as a geographic hedge against localized droughts). The current trading prices for rangeland CFIs have been around \$1.00/acre; after fees, commissions and costs, the net return to the land owner will be approx. \$0.80/acre.

To put together, or “aggregate,” individual properties into a 100 metric ton contract unit, specialized brokers, or “Offset Aggregators,” will be required. It has been suggested that aggregators will receive 20% of the contract in overhead and commissions. As a performance guarantee, 20% of contract credits/payments will be held in reserve by CCX until the completion of the contract. CCX-authorized verifiers may conduct in-field inspections to ensure rangeland management practices agree with CCX protocols.



Area land owners that have an approved SCS grazing management plan have an advantage because this plan is in line with the requirement of the CCX as far as the stocking rate and brush control on rangeland. The land must be stocked low to moderate and cannot be overgrazed, and it must not be tilled. We will get more information and present it to the membership at the next meeting scheduled for April 10, 2007 at the Santa Rosa Middle School cafeteria at 7:00 PM.

Handy Hint

After you kill a pig use a brush with soap and bleach to lather the carcass .

Use a pressure washer to wash off the pig till it is clean.

Once it is clean you can skin it or shave the hair.

For those who haven't yet had an opportunity to visit the GCLPO website, please check it out and give us some input and feedback. It's at www.gclpo.org. Thanks!

GCLPO

PO Box 119
Santa Rosa, NM 88435

Phone: 505-868-9625
Phone: 505-472-3210
Email: info@gclpo.org

Organized for the future

We're on the web
www.gclpo.org

The GCLPO staff is strictly a volunteer organization. None of the members charge for their time or services. The GCLPO would like to encourage all area producers to participate in special fund-raising events to help promote our area youth in agricultural endeavors.

If you would like to become an official member and be put on the quarterly newsletter mailing list, we would appreciate a \$20 annual donation. This would help with newsletter postage and printing, and would also finance the GCLPO web site to post newsletters, free classified ads, schedules of events, special promotions, etc. (The web site costs are minimal since we are maintaining the site ourselves.)

We would encourage all Guadalupe County Livestock Producers to become members. If you know of any producers that might like to become members, please have them contact us by phone, mail, or e-mail.

Please send your \$20 donation to GCLPO, P.O. Box 119, Santa Rosa, NM 88435.

Newsletter organizers: Max Tenorio, Bill Ortiz

Proof readers and constructive critics: Yolanda Tenorio, Joan Ortiz

Trading Post items are free for GCLPO members. Call Max or Bill, or e-mail your item to info@gclpo.org.

For Sale	Wanted to Buy
2002 Ford Ranger 2WD, white, 68,000 miles. Contact: 781-0057 or 472-2828, Karl or Danita Agar (posted 1-19-07)	Milk cow. Call 505-4215 or 799-0155.
Used pump jack and 8" auger for 3 pt hitch both in excellent condition, Call 472-3210 or 799-8812 (posted 12-19-06)	Used branding calf table, for calves up to 500 lbs. Call 868-1701, 512-6025, or 512-6026 (posted 12-15-06)
	Used meat saw, grinder, tenderizer, and slicer. Contact info@ortizranch.com , or call 868-9625 or 799-8108 (posted 12-15-06)
	Used pickup feeder, 500 to 1000 pound capacity. Contact info@ortizranch.com , or call 868-9625 or 799-8108 (posted 12-15-06)