

# Guardians of the Range

*Dedicated to the Multiple Use of Public Lands & the American Way of Life*

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## Special Edition

To our readers.....we are publishing an e-mail/website edition only of this month's newsletter. We are using our available funds for a special mailing to our paid membership to assist them in preparing public comments on an important BLM issue. Thank you kindly. If you'd like to become a member of the Guardians, you can do so from the link on our home page. All members of the public are most welcome.

## National Horse & Burro Rangeland Management Coalition

*Special Note: All horses and burros running on your public lands are not in the condition shown. However, almost always the public does not see the full picture of reality on this issue. All horses and burros on your public lands are not running around with the wind in their manes and food and water in their bellies. The Guardians feel it important to help the public have easy access to seeing a more complete look at the bigger picture where feral horses and burros are concerned. Not only are the horses and burros suffering because of over population, so is the public landscape and the diverse multitude of other animals who are trying to call your public landscape home.*  
[www.wildhorserange.org](http://www.wildhorserange.org)

The National Horse & Burro Rangeland Management Coalition is a diverse partnership of 13 wildlife conservation and sportsmen organizations, industry partners, and professional natural-resource scientific societies working together to identify proactive and comprehensive solutions to increase effective management of horse and burro populations and mitigate the adverse impacts to healthy native fish, wildlife, and plants and the ecosystems on which they depend.

The Coalition was formed in 2012 in response to the steadily worsening degradation occurring on portions of our nation's rangelands due to inadequate management of "wild" horse and burro populations. For many years, individual organizations concerned with



the federal land management agencies' effectiveness at managing these non-native, congressionally protected

animals. When, in 2009, the Secretary of the Interior announced his plans to develop a new horse and burro management plan, these organizations provided individual comments to help improve the program. The Secretary's plan has yet to be finalized and management has yet to improve.

Frustrated by this inaction and the resulting rangeland damage, a core group of organizations—each with different memberships and purposes, from producer to conservation organizations—recognized they shared a common goal: rangeland health. They understood that rangeland health is essential for a thriving natural ecological balance on the rangeland—and essential to the clean air and water that the entire nation counts on. Thus, they created a coalition to proactively influence the management of the range. Cognizant that there would be diverging views in certain areas, they were determined to focus on areas in which they could collaborate.

The Coalition is developing specific, science-based management recommendations that will help both the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture follow through with goals of improving the horse and burro program and our rangeland health, for the sake of the horses and all multiple uses on the range. The Coalition also serves as a source of information for the public and decision makers, dispelling myths about "wild" horses and burros, providing adoption and volunteer information, and more. ★

**"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it's the courage to continue that counts."**

**~ Winston Churchill, English Statesman & Prime Minister (1874-1965)**

## Guardian Wayne Barnett: A Life Well Lived 1929 - 2013

Life-long area rancher Wayne F. Barnett, surrounded by family, passed on to greener pastures on Sept. 5, 2013, at the Washakie Medical Center in Worland, Wyoming. Wayne Fred Barnett was born April 24, 1929, in Greybull to Fred Granval and Hazel Vernita (Mobley) Barnett.

The first few years of Wayne's life were spent in the log cabin (which mysteriously burned to the ground several years ago) located between Porter ditch and the big hill north of the ranch. A short time later, the family moved up to the Mobley place on the east end of the ranch where they were living when Wayne started school at the Stone School house. He rode horse-back 3½ miles to school, thus starting his life in the saddle. On June 8, 1934 brother Harry joined the family. In 1935 the family purchased the Swanson place and then moved down there, shortening the ride to school.

Wayne thoroughly enjoyed the local Sunday afternoon past time of chasing and trying to corral wild horses from the badlands north of the ranch. He was involved in capturing and furnishing stock for the first Greybull Days of '49 rodeo, which was held on the football field in Greybull. In later years, he provided roping calves and yearling cattle for the rodeo. In his younger years, he was an avid big game hunter and he enjoyed watching deer eating in or crossing the pasture by his house.

In 1945 the family purchased their first D6 Cat which was used to clean ditches and level land on the ranch and for various other ranchers up and down the valley. The family also did custom thrashing throughout the valley with a thrashing machine and later with a combine.

Wayne quit school in the ninth grade to help fill a void left on the family ranch with the passing of his father, Fred, on April 3, 1946. The family continued to raise cattle, grain, corn and sugar beets.

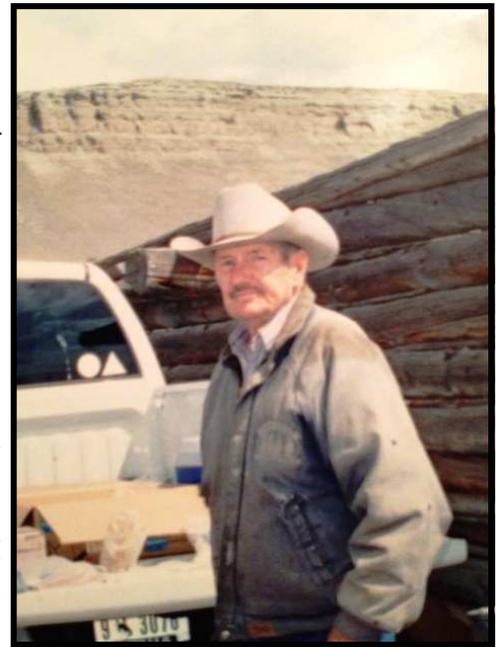
On June 12, 1953, Wayne married school teacher Lillian M. Zednick in Lincoln, Nebraska. As a result of this union, two children were born, Fred W. in 1957, and Judy Ann in 1962. Wayne and Lillian divorced in 1971, but have remained friends the last 32 years.

Wayne contributed many hours of time and dedication to several associations/organizations throughout his life: Wyoming Stock Growers, Farm Bureau, Conservation District Board, Welfare Board, BLM Advisory Board, Predator Animal Board, BLM Range Improvement Funds Board, was a Republican Central Precinct Committeeman, served one term on the Greybull School Board, a past member of the Elks and the Eagles and served as Chairman of the Shell Reservoir Company. He also was one of the creators of the agriculture product buying coop - The Shell Valley Exchange. Wayne was known by many to be very independent, to stand up for what he thought was right, and he did not play politics.

His true love of life was being a member of the Salt Creek Grazing Association; trailing cattle to and from the beautiful Big Horn Mountains and grazing those cattle on the grazing allotment pastures for 70 years.

He was quoted many times saying, "It has been a great life" regarding his time with his "good old girls", as he called the ranch cattle herd.

He was one of the first importers of Salers cattle from Canada to Wyoming/Big Horn County. Wayne was pretty much a perfectionist in everything he did: raising high quality commercial beef cattle, hay, grain, sugar beets, pinto beans, and corn. He also raised a few good quality Quarter Horses for use on the ranch using a Quarter Horse Stallion named Lucky Red Alamosa, a horse Wayne's dad bought in 1944 from Hall of Fame Quarter Horse Breeder Hank Weiscamp of Alamosa, Colorado. These horses were the Barnett family's pride and joy using them to do their work with the cattle. Wayne also raised some excellent Blue Heeler/Aussie dogs for his own use. They were tremendous assets to the cattle operation as well as being his long-time buddies and companions.



Fred and Judy say they so much appreciate their dad's teachings of loving and taking great care of the land, crops, and their livestock and pets.

They also state that their dad was a walking history book regarding Shell Valley history. They loved listening to him relate a piece of history. He himself was a part of history in 2009 serving as Grand Marshall of the Days of '49 parade which he thoroughly enjoyed doing. His family also relates how at Christmas time he would go around to elderly house bound friends and neighbors taking fruit or a jar of honey to them and visiting about the good old days Wayne was lucky enough to keep working on the ranch into his late 70's riding horseback all day moving cattle. Due to some health issues, he gradually turned everything over to Fred and spent time in his house with his dear old "Grandma" cat, reading and looking out over his ranch thru big picture windows. Two wonderful caregivers Breanna Bishop and Diane McLauchlan enabled him to stay at home until May of 2013. Wayne's family is most appreciative of their special care!! He spent the past four months at the nursing home in Worland, Wyoming.

Wayne is survived by son Fred and his wife Jan, of Greybull, daughter Judy and her husband Forrest of Lander, brother Harry and his wife Gala of Greybull, two step-grandchildren and six step-great grandchildren and numerous cousins and their families. Preceding him in death were his grandparents, parents, numerous aunts and uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were September 12. Memorial contributions can be made to the Shell Community Hall, c/o Theresa Kimberlin, 660 Hwy 14, Greybull, WY 82426.

