

## **Siskiyou County Cattlemen 2015 Newsletter**

**Hello!! A New Year brings on a new board. If you don't know your board hopefully at the end of this letter you will have a better idea of the women behind the scenes. We are excited at all the events ahead and ask for support in what ever you can help with. At the end of the newsletter are the dates for the upcoming year. So lets:**

### **Meet the Board!**

**President: Sharon (Schisler) Erickson**

**I was raised on ranches in the valley riding, working cows and farming. My husband of 28 years and I own a ranch in Scott Valley, we raise grass, grass alfalfa, wheat barley and in some years corn silage, we also have several ranches who graze our fields in the fall. We had several hundred head of polled Herefords (started from his uncles herd in the mountains of San Jose) and lost our winter ground, so now raise steers. I was involved in SV Pleasure Park Rodeo on the board for 6 years. FFA volunteer, and numerous kid and young adult activity volunteer. I have been a member of SCCW since 1980. I have been a treasurer for 4 years, secretary for 4 years, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice, 1<sup>st</sup> vice, Siskiyou fair sandwich booth chair for 18 years with a couple years off for good behavior tee hee, on numerous other committees, 2005 proud recipient of Cowbelle of the year award. Now, your president. I have three boys. All have served in our military and two are currently National Guard, my third son is now a dairy fabricator. I have two daughters in law and two grandchildren and many great nieces and nephews who love coming to the ranch to play and work. And, a sweet Husband. Besides my faith they are the most important things in my life. I am in the organization and involved because I want to see farming and ranching survive. I want the kids when grown to have the opportunities I had and still have, places to own cows, farm and ride their land. By educating those who are less knowledgeable about the industry with all of us working together we keep our dreams alive. So if you are ever in the valley, from April to October I am in our fields. I drive every tractor and change water lines etc. The rest of the time I can be found at my barn with my horse or with the kids. So stop by and give me a reason to sit a spell.... I love people so if I don't know you please introduce yourself. Like Will Rogers: I never met a person I didn't like.**

**Past president: Heidi Martin**

**I live on Table Rock Ranch in the Little Shasta Valley, married into a long time (since 1852) ranching family operation when I moved here from Cincinnati, Ohio. Yes, a definite city girl, fashion-design major from the University of Cincinnati, previous clothes designer and graphic artist, undeniably over-committing volunteer and organizer, but with a passion for horses spurred by my two daughter's love for them. Being the "odd" Ohio family that owned horses and chose to leave the suburbs and buy a small farm on the outskirts, helped my transition here because I loved to ride and could help move cows and go on cattle drives. Gradually I have become more involved in the logistics of the ranch. Joining SCCW at my mother-in laws urging was a plan to learn more about cows and meet some of the greatest people in this beautiful county. Plan accomplished!**

**1<sup>st</sup>. vice president: Tara Porterfield**

**Grew up on the family cow/calf ranch outside of Montague near Copco Lake, graduated from Yreka High School and Cal Poly University. Married to Chet Porterfield 28 years ago; have two**



daughters ( Kady and Kara); and live on our own cow/calf and hay ranch near Macdoel. Previously worked for Farm Credit, the Cascade Cattleman/Horseman publications and Prather Ranch before returning full time to our ranch operations and my own home-based businesses (gift baskets and software). SCCW member since 1988 and previously served- 12 years on board of directors as a director and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP until my daughters got to the busy school age; but continued my involvement as committee member for the beef carcass and Rancher's Choice contests at the Tulalake-Butte Valley fair. Was honored to be named Cowbell of the Year in 2001, and returned to the Board of Directors in 2013 to fill a mid-term officer vacancy. I have always believed in the importance of SCCW's mission of beef promotion and education and proud of all the accomplishments of our hard-working organization. I am looking forward to serving as 1<sup>st</sup>. VP and then President over the next few years.

**2<sup>nd</sup> vice president: Lynda Bevelin**

I am a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Scott Valley ranching family descendant, with a background in education and agriculture. In my career of 35 years in Elementary Education, I made it my personal goal, to include all aspects of ranching as it related to my student's curriculum. Presently, I still enjoy interacting with students through Ag in the Classroom, Ag Awareness day, Cow Palace and San Francisco Gordon Lau School. I also enjoy our small herd of beef cattle in my retirement years.

**Treasurer: Cheryl Foster**

I am a sixth generation cattle rancher. I am the cow boss on our family ranch. I love to ride and I enjoy cattle, 95% of the time. I have input on most things cattle on the ranch and I get the call when cattle are not where they belong. This fall there have been a lot of calls. I have held two positions for California Cattlewomen at the state level; Credentials, and Publicity. I am the current First Vice President. I have worked at the same manufacturing company for the past 38 years. I supervise 8 people and influence many more. I have two grandchildren Hazel who is 7 and Soren who is 2. Hazel is horse crazy, she loves to visit Grandma Cheryl so she can ride. Soren thinks horses are okay but motorcycles are the best.

**Secretary: Donna Farnam**

I live on a ranch that I grew up on in Scott Valley with my husband. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have three sons, along with their wives, and six grandchildren. Family, ranching, farming, and being a school teacher are my passions.

**Membership: Heidy Carver**

I am a member since 2001, but have helped in the sandwich booth since 1993. I became Membership chair in 2013. I was raised in Quartz Valley. I graduated from Quartz Valley Elementary 1993 and Etna High School in 1997. I attended CSU Chico and majored in Ag Business and minored in Accounting and Business Management. I graduated college in 2001. I came back to Quartz Valley and worked a few office jobs. Then in 2004, I became a self- employed bookkeeper. I also work on my family's beef cattle ranch. I enjoy spending time in the mountains with my horses and Border collie.



**Directors:**

**Carolyn Houghton**

I am a devoted Agricultural Steward and student. Born and raised on a ranch in Shasta Valley, I live each day propagating a long lineage of family ranching and farming. I raise sheep and cattle and grow hay/forage when we are blessed with rain from the heavens. I have worked for 25 years at the Montague Elementary School as a paraprofessional. I love working with the students and often have the opportunity to teach them about agriculture and a agriculture lifestyle. What an awesome way to join my two passions. God and family are a huge joy in my agricultural life and I am thankful that my family loves agriculture as much as I do. The hard work and long hours pale in comparison to watching a new born calf or lamb wobble on their new born legs and super exciting when watching the same experience through the eyes of my young granddaughter. Priceless.

**Elaine Kuck**

Graduated from Yreka high school in 1975. Worked for the city of Yreka water department for the last 26 years. Married to Richard Kuck in 1981. Joined SCCW at that time. Have been, a devoted member since.

As the person writing this newsletter I am adding this: Elaine is part of a many generation ranching family. She has been tireless in many committees through the years. From the SCCW exhibit booth at the fair, working with the ribs in sandwich booth many years, decorating and supervising our decorations for our meetings, and helping where needed. Her bio was too short, I needed to add some of her many deeds.

**Delegates:**

**Michele Murphy**

Married for 26+ years to Scott Murphy. I have two grown children, Kalie and Tyler Murphy. My husband and I started our cattle herd in 2002. Having grown-up in a big city, I realized that people had no idea how their food was raised and where it came from. This was important to me. Siskiyou County Cattle Women have a great program that I really enjoyed being a part of, Ag in the Classroom. I learned a lot about beef by-products and how healthy beef is in our diet. I also love to share how we are truly tillers of the land! I really enjoy sharing this message. I have attended many state Cattle women meetings and have met a lot of excellent women over the years. I am Very proud to be a member of the SISKIYOU COUNTY CATTLEWOMEN!!!!!!

**Lori March**

I was born in Calaveras County California and came to Yreka at age 1 when my Dad got a job at a local lumber mill. I attended elementary school in Yreka and Mt. Shasta. We moved a lot and I attended Junior Highs in Susanville, Redding and Citrus Heights, Ca. In 1975 my family moved back to Yreka and I graduated from Yreka High in 1976. I married and moved to Scott Valley in 1984. I have been a life long horse lover and have had a pony and 2 horses over the years. I hope to own one again someday. I am single and have two daughter ages 22 and 29. I would love to live on a farm. I live in Fort Jones and have worked at the Yreka AAA insurance office for 32 years. I got involved in SCCW through my Mother- in law. She recruited me to work in the fair BBQ beef booth and I have worked every summer for her for 20 plus years. She bought my SCCW



membership for the first year and took me to the luncheons. I love beef and love to promote it. I enjoy being part of the SCCW and appreciate all the good friends I am making through the club. It feels like it is where my heart is and it is a good feeling to be involved in it.

#### **Rita March**

Born in Oakland, 74 years ago, folks moved to Concord. Went to schools in Concord, Pleasant Hill. I met ole Bob in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Became sweethearts in my 10th year of school. After school I went to dental Nurses Training School, in San Francisco. After graduation I got a job out in Clayton, worked for 2 and half years while Bob was in the Sub. Service. Got married came to Scott Valley. Had three children, loved animals got us started in the calf Bottle feeding business. I help when it is needed on the ranch, working cattle etc. I take care of the house, yard and big garden. I do lots of canning. Married to the same ole man 55 years now been together 60 lol. I joined SCCW because I believe in what we do BIG TIME. Our way of life is very important.

That is the board. A little long but I felt needed to all who don't know who guides the organization and brings you the info needed to govern our organization. These women work endless hours to make sure things run smoothly and efficiently. We all want to promote our industry and see it grow and not vanish. We would love to see you at meetings. If you can help with different committees we would appreciate it. If you are just able to be a member and unable to participate for any reason that is great too!!! We need numbers for votes at the state level. Your membership helps us more than most know. Thank you so much for your membership, your love of agriculture, and your friendships. We all appreciate you and salute you for your work in the front lines and behind the scenes in your endeavors to promote our way of life and the cattle industry.

#### **Meeting dates:**

**January 24: General Meeting 11am Stings Res. Miner St. Yreka**

**March 14-15: Sportsmen Expo Siskiyou County Fairgrounds**  
**Walking taco booth \*\*\*\*\*WE NEED WORKERS**

**May 12: Board meeting**

**May 21: Ag Awareness Day Siskiyou County Fairgrounds**

**May 30: General meeting 11am Michele Murphy's Scott Valley Potluck**

**September 1<sup>st</sup>: Board meeting**

**September 26: General meeting at Cheryl Foster's Montague**

**Nov.19-21: California Cattlemen and Cattlewomen Convention**

If you are able and willing to help at any of the above mentioned please call, text or email me at [vallhallaranch@hotmail.com](mailto:vallhallaranch@hotmail.com) or 530-598-6741 ...Look forward to seeing you at the meetings!!!!

*Have questions or an idea? Email or call me  
at above - We value you! Sharon Erickson*