



By Gary Frasier

Frasier's Philosophy

How quickly time passes. With this issue we have completed 1 year of the new format for *Rangelands*. In this issue, you will find articles concerning "Small Acreage Management and Marketing Rangeland Products."

It has been a good year for the publication. We have had some excellent articles and great columns. I want to thank everyone who has contributed. It is only with good material that we can have a great publication.

I would encourage all of our readers to go back over the last 6 issues and (re)look at some of the stories. We have had stories of range management from around the world. Look at what some of the SRM Charter Members thought when they were starting the organization. See what some of the new youth members think (High School Youth Forum papers [August issue]). Look at the accomplishments of some of our members in the SRM Honor Awards (June issue). I can only say, "Thanks to all!"

What is in store for the future—2006? In the February issue, we will have articles related to "Managed Livestock Grazing." April topics will include "Fire and Wildlife." The June topics will have articles on "Wildlife." In August, we will again have an issue on "Youth." The October issue will have the theme of "Recreation." As always, throughout the year, we will have papers on other topics in each issue. We will have columns of interest such as "Listening to the Land" and "Browsing the Literature." If you have a paper topic or other item that may be of interest to the readers, pass the information on to the *Rangelands* Editorial Board or Editor-in-Chief.

Do you want to become more involved in the publication? It is easy. Come to the Editorial Board meeting in Vancouver on Sunday, February 12, 2006. Or if you are unable to attend the SRM Annual Meeting, send a note to the Chair of the *Rangelands* Editorial Board or Editor-in-Chief. Take this as an invitation to join.

Finally, let us take time to reflect on where we stand. We have a great organization. We are making progress on understanding and implementing the proper management of our natural resources. As I write this, the news of the problems in the South from Hurricane Katrina is all encompassing. This is just after the world has started to recover from the tsunami in the Indian Ocean. I reflect that we as a Nation have been relatively lucky in not having major large-scale disasters. When you look at the past, we have been lucky. More disasters will occur. Will the San Andreas Fault make a major earthquake? History tells us, "Yes." Will there be a major volcanic eruption? History tells us, "Yes." These items may not occur in our lifetime but may at some time in the future.

Will the "Global Warming" continue to increase? Geological records tell us that there have been dramatic changes in climate in the past. This is one item that rangeland management may be able to alleviate the impact to some extent. With proper management of our soil and water resources, we may be able to reduce the impact of a changing climate. The Society for Range Management is in the position to best recommend how to cope with a changing climate.

I hope everyone has a Happy Holiday Season. See you next year. ♦