

Time Keeps Goin' On

It was around this point a year ago that I came to the realization that my living and financial situations were just about at a break point. The issue was not with wanting, but with needing. I had already stretched things probably too far and paid a heavy price for not doing something drastic, sooner. I wasn't interested in living in Colorado, but I did have my dad living there. It was either that or going to Florida where my mom lives, which really wasn't an option considering the distance. When I came up here, I only figured that I'd be here six months to maybe after Christmas sometime. Well, it's now been 11 months and have

become severely disappointed in the lack of results for a new career job. I came close with one museum job option in Fort Worth, even having a phone interview, but to no avail. Other apps have resulted dead, not even an interview. Many people ignorantly give me job ideas. But of course, they don't understand and, really, I don't expect them to. To keep me from being excessively angry and bitter, I've tried to keep busy with either working on the computer, working at Equi-Line, working with the planting areas, and whatever other things that will help keep a more positive and happy mindset. I have had people



RG de Stolfe

jokingly say that I'm never leaving, but frankly that's not funny to me at all! Considering that I graduated with my degree nearly 10 years ago, I've been excessively patient to wait for a decent, relative job! At this point, I've pretty much been made the fool! >:-[

Spring is Here

Well, it's spring time in Colorado. However, I've heard it put that it can be warm with scattered blizzards! So far, that can't be any truer! The snows seem to be weekly with very nice weather in between.

Time to start thinking about plantings. Last year, I created a new long row style planting bed in front of an existing planting area by the house. This year since I'm able to plan a little earlier, I'm being slightly more ambitious. I have already laid out a stepping stone path and have plans to add smaller planting areas along with some stone. Stay tuned!



Early bluebonnets taken on March 19, 2010 in the north Hill Country area of Texas. Note: It's illegal to pick them from the side of the road, but you can grow them on your own property from seeds.

Inside this issue:

Time Keeps Goin' On	1
Spring Is Here	1
Branding Breaks	2
Favorite Iced Teas	3
Street Names Revisited	3
Phoney Games	3
Merry Heart Doeth Good	4
Squirrel Report	5
Favorite TV Shows	5
Rodeos of the Region	6
Artist Corner—Magritte and Matisse	6-7
Back Page Literature	8

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Branding Breaks or Digital Shorts or News Briefs or Miscellaneous

New Article Written

I was asked to submit another article for the *Ranch Record*, published by the Ranching Heritage Association. I have submitted articles for this magazine off and on since 2006. This article is about a Florida cowboy named Bone Mizell who lived in the later 1800s to the early 1900s. The Spring issue of the Ranch Record will probably come out in late May/early June.

Fresh Spring Flowers

I went to the store a few weeks ago, and they had fresh cut daffodils at \$1.25 a dozen! So I got two dozen! What a nice way to welcome spring!



Viva Las Vegas

Dad went again in mid April to the CinemaCon convention in Las Vegas. This is the same convention we went to last year in April. I didn't go this year since dad found a good deal on a flight instead of driving like we did last year. (And besides, an 18 hour drive from Las Vegas back to Colorado Springs was insane and was NOT going to be repeated, especially through the icy roads of Aspen and the mountain passes!)

Psalm 33:22

"Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, just as we hope in You."

10 Years of Salvation

March 2013 marked 10 years of salvation for me! I was at a college rodeo in Odessa, Texas at a rodeo church service at the start point of this amazing and hilly journey!

10 Years of WTCB

By the same token as above, April 2013 marks 10 years since I first went to West Texas Church at the Barn! In 2003, This church only met on Monday nights, and that particular Monday night was just after Easter. I started going regularly and basically never stopped until I went to Colorado Springs to live. For the majority of the nine years I was a part of that church, I was the primary visual person of the praise and worship team, where I created and ran the PowerPoint presentations during the music. (And to note: I custom made all of the slides every week! No templates for me!)

Summer Youth Classes 2013

In mid July, I'll be again going to Lubbock to teach a class during the Summer Youth Classes. This is another one of those things I've done for quite a few years. I started out just being a helper on occasion, then actually started teaching a class in 2006. This year, I'll be teaching about horses and getting some advice and tools from the American Quarter Horse Association in Amarillo, Texas.

Working at Equi-line

For over 4 months now, I worked semi-regularly at Equi-Line, which is a used saddle and tack consignment store located in Falcon, Colorado (just east of Colorado Springs). I don't work hourly. Rather, I work based on commission. What I do is post selected items on eBay, Craig's List, and others.



Hopping Down the Bunny Trail

Just before Easter, I went to Home Depot to get an Easter lily. As I was leaving, I saw this cottontail in the parking lot. (A sort of strange place for bunnies to be, but whatever.)



Waldo Canyon Fire Exhibition

In June, I think, the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum will open an exhibition about the Waldo Canyon Fire from a year ago. The details are general at the moment, but they will include a burned up Harley bike and various other artifacts donated by people who had burned out homes. It'll likely be a somber, but educational exhibition about the devastation caused by this fire on the Colorado Springs area. I'll report more in later issues.



<http://pinterest.com/cowbovrg>



<http://www.facebook.com/rg.destolfe>



<http://myworld.ebay.com/cowbovrg>

Top 5 Favorite Iced Teas* of National Restaurant Chains

Having lived in the South all of my life, I have come to like iced tea over the past 30 years. Most of the time, I've had it as sweet tea until when I moved to Flagstaff, Arizona where at the time, they didn't know about sweet and unsweet teas. They just had iced tea. Well, I've developed a taste for iced tea from different restaurants over the years and decided to compile a list of my top five favorites. Now, just to be clear, these are national chains, and I have not included my own homemade tea, since it is automatically number one. :-} When I drink iced tea, anymore I make it 3/4 unsweet and 1/4 sweet. They put plenty enough sugar in the sweet tea to easily stretch the unsweet into tasting sweet!

A few notes. Purified water makes a huge difference in the taste of tea (and coffee), even though I've had people swear that they can't tell a difference! In the Springs, I can sort of get away with using tap water, but I still like using purified water even here. In addition, make sure all your utensils, pots, and whatever you use to make iced tea are clean, which affects the taste.

Top 5 Favorite Iced Teas

1. *Chick-fil-a!* (All over US)
 2. *Rosa's Café* (Texas & California)
 3. *Cracker Barrel* (all over US)
 4. *Culver's* (Midwest and few other states)
 5. (tie) *Sonic* (all over US) & *Rudy's BBQ* (SW states)
- HM: *Steak Express* (Texas Chain)

**Actual brewed tea in refillable dispensers, not syrup from concentrate with water added from a fountain type dispenser.*

RG's Iced Tea Method

Lately, this is how I've been making iced tea. First, I put about two quarts of purified water in a three quart pot. I heat the water until it's just about boiling, but not actually at a full boil. I then add three family Luzianne decaf tea bags and let sit for say an hour (or however long. It can vary for me; sometimes it's only fifteen minutes.) I add the sugar, usually about a half cup (that's more than enough.) I make sure that the sugar is fully dissolved. As the last step, I add ice I bought from the store until it is almost full. This will make a mess, because when the ice hits the hot or warm tea, it explodes, and with all the ice it'll make some noise. (But whatever, just clean it up later with a wet rag.) I like to use the large chunks of ice that won't break apart. You know the parts of bag ice you really hate to mess with? It'll just melt anyway, so it works great! Stir up the whole mess until most of the ice has melted. At this point, I pour myself a cup over more ice (you know, the parts of bag ice that's a joy to deal with!) and put the rest in a jug to drink over the next couple of days.

Street Names Revisited

In the August issue, I wrote the article *The Old Ranch Road* using the street names in sentences. Well, many of the names of other streets not ranch related are worthy of mentioning.

I am **hopeful** that the **picturesque drive** through the **scenic circle** will give **inspiration** for an **artistic** endeavor that leads me to a **peaceful place!** The **fascination** of this **splendid** and **blissful** location is like a **whimsical** moment, a **dream** of **enchanted** and **delighted** places. I am **cheerful**, but remain **nonchalant** of this **serendipity**. With **whispering**, I bid **adieu**.

Most of these roads are within a square mile and about two miles from the house. Nothing particularly special about the area, just that the roads are unusually named, and it is a little hilly.

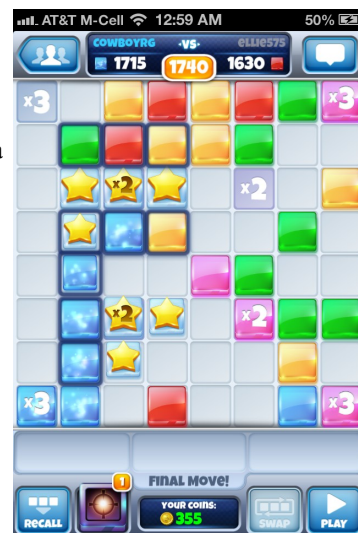
Here are the roads used (and there are more like these):

Hopeful Way
Blissful Circle
Delighted Circle
Splendid Circle
Cheerful Road
Scenic Circle
Picturesque Drive
Artistic Circle
Inspiration Drive

Nonchalant Circle
Dream Lane
Adieu Circle
Whimsical Drive
Enchanted Circle
Peaceful Place
Serendipity Circle
Whispering Terrace
Fascination Circle

Phoney Games

Ever since I got my iPhone, it wasn't very long before I started playing games on it. For the longest time, I only played Words With Friends. But after a while, I started playing other games too. Now I also play Hanging, Chess, Scramble, Gems, Matching, and What's the Phrase. On this recent game of Matching, look at this round! My final round had more points than all the prior rounds combined! Each square is 5 points. The stars are wild cards, and the matching color to the name is worth double points.



So, for this final round, I had:

Green: 5 squares x 5 points x 2 = 50

Red: 5 squares x 5 points x 2 = 50

Yellow: 8 squares x 5 points x 2 = 80

Blue: 13 squares x 5 points x3 x2 x2 x double color = 1560

Grand total = 1740 points!

A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like A Medicine (Proverbs 17:22)

Southern Understanding of Medical Terms

Benign – What you be, after you be eight. boy
 Bacteria – Back door to cafeteria.
 Barium – What doctors do when patients die.
 Cat scan – Searching for Kitty.
 Caulerize – Made eye contact with her.
 Coma – A punctuation mark.
 Dilate – To live long.
 Enema – Not a friend.
 Fester – Quicker than someone else.
 Hang nail – What you hang your coat on.
 Impotent – Distinguished, well known.
 Morbid – A higher offer.
 Nitrates – Cheaper than day rates.
 Outpatient – A person who has fainted.
 Pelvis – Second cousin to Elvis.
 Post-Operative – A letter carrier.
 Recovery Room – Place to do upholstery.
 Tablet – A small table.
 Terminal Illness – Getting sick at the airport.
 Tumor – One plus one more.
 Urine – Opposite of you're out.
 Varicose – Near by/close by

<http://heartoftexasblog.com/2013/04/08/southern-medical-terms>

How To Annoy a Yankee

- Take your own sweet time when doing ANYTHING.
- Pronounce all one-syllable words as if they had two syllables.
- When giving directions, finish with “it’s right down yonder on the left.” Confuses them no end!
- Refer to every soft drink as “Coke.”
- Insist on being addressed by your first AND middle names. (ex: Lisa Marie, John Michael, Jim Bob, etc. . . .)
- Frequently bring up “The War of Northern Aggression” in conversation. If anyone ever says the words “Civil War”, always interject, “there was nothing civil about it.”
- Address all males as “son” and females as “little lady”.
- Correct their pronunciation of certain words, such as “Pah-kahn” not “Pee-can”.
- Put Big Al’s Texas Hot Sauce on everything.
- When invited to dinner, offer to bring dessert. Show up with a box of Moon Pies . . . preferably the banana ones.
- Name all of your children “Bubba”.
- Use the word “reckon” in a sentence and watch their reaction.
- Never simply “do” something. Always be “fixin’ to do” something.
- Tell them you don’t have an accent, they do.
- Only use landmarks and ramble on when giving directions. “Now go down Jeff Davis Highway and turn left at where the Chevron station used to be. I think they turned it into a Amoco. Or maybe a BP. Anyway, turn right there . . .” “You said left.” “Did I? Well, turn left there and follow it until you see a big fish on your left. I remember when that fish used to be on the other side of town . . .”
- Ask them if it’s still snowing up North. Then tell ‘em you went driving around in your convertible this weekend.
- Call them a “Yankee”. Works every time!

<http://heartoftexasblog.com/2013/04/02/the-25-best-ways-to-annoy-a-yankee>



Squirrel Report

The squirrels never stop to do interesting things and entertain even though they probably don't know anyone is watching! (except the kitty!)



Uh, oh! Kitty is watching the squirrels! On this nice spring day, time to start with the food chain! Ha, ha, ha!



I've wondered how the stripped corn cobs kept disappearing!

Even during the cold, heavy snows, the birds and the squirrels just didn't seem to be bothered by it!



Favorite TV Shows

I haven't reported on this in a while, but since coming to Colorado, I've been able to watch TV (if I wanted to) because dad has DirectTV. In Lubbock, I only had the few stations I could get normally. So, here's a list of the programs I've like watching since I've been up here.

- America's Got Talent
- Dallas
- Into the West miniseries
- Longmire
- Revolution
- Saturday Night Live
- The Voice
- This Old House Hour
- Vegas



Some flowers in a yard in Cherry Creek, an area of Denver, Colorado (July 2010)

Rodeos of the Region

I had a suggestion of adding a rodeo schedule to my newsletter. So here are some of the rodeos of different circuits and organizations in the corridor from Casper, Wyoming to the Rio Grande.

June Rodeos

- June 6-8, 2013, Garden City, Kansas, Beef Empire Days PRCA Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 7-8, 2013, Haskell, Texas, Wild Horse Prairie Days (WRCA)
- June 7-9, 2013, Clovis, New Mexico, Pioneer Days Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 7-9, 2013, Elizabeth, Colorado, Elizabeth Stampede Xtreme Bulls (PRCA)
- June 8, 2013, Lusk, Wyoming, Eastern Wyoming Ranch Rodeo (WRCA)
- June 9-15, 2013, Casper, Wyoming, College National Finals Rodeo (NIRA)
- June 12-15, 2013, North Platte, Nebraska, Buffalo Bill Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 15-16, 2013, Evergreen, Colorado, Evergreen Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 15-16, 2013, Grover, Colorado, Earl Anderson Memorial Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 20-21, 2013, Alamosa, Colorado, Alamosa Round-Up (PRCA)
- June 20-22, 2013, Big Spring, Texas, Big Spring Cowboy Reunion & Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 21-22, 2013, Hugo, Colorado, Colorado Championship Ranch Rodeo (WRCA)
- June 21-22, 2013, Thermopolis, Wyoming, Thermopolis Cowboy Rendezvous PRCA Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 21-22, 2013, Raton, New Mexico, Raton PRCA Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 28-29, 2013, Sonora, Texas, Sonora Outlaw Pro Rodeo (PRCA)
- June 29, 2013, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Ride For The Brand Championship (WRCA)



Artist Corner—Additional Magritte

Most text and photos from Wikipedia and Google

René François Ghislain Magritte

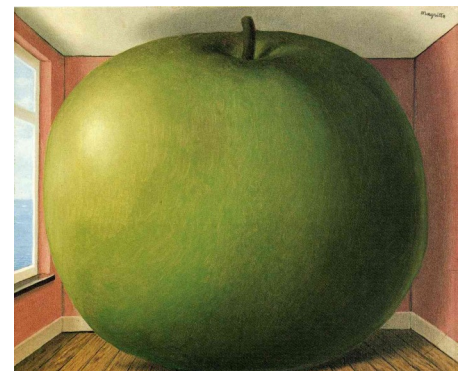
November 21, 1898 – August 15, 1967

He was a Belgian surrealist artist who became well known for a number of witty and thought-provoking images that fell under the umbrella theme of surrealism. His work challenges observers' preconditioned perceptions of reality, what is real versus what is perceived rather than real.

Magritte influenced later artists like Andy Warhol and Jasper Johns.



Decalomania, 1966

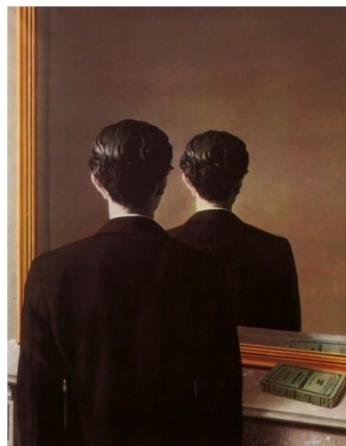


The Listening Room, 1953



Photo portrait of René Magritte taken by Lothar Wolleh in 1967.

Not to be reproduced, 1937



The false mirror, 1928

Artist Corner—The Phases of Henri Matisse

Most text and photos from Wikipedia and

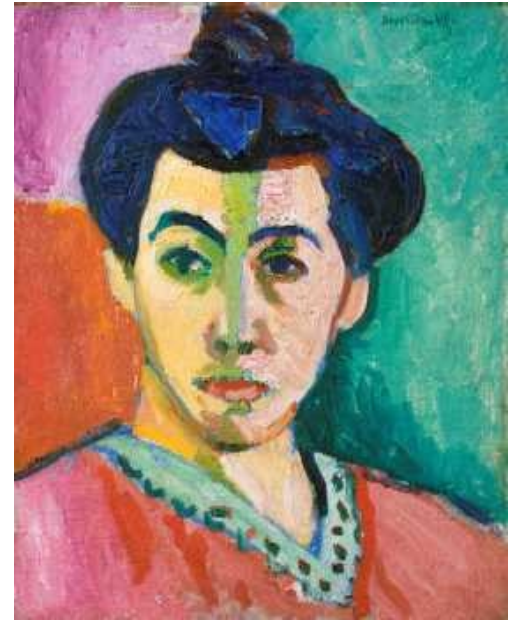
Henri-Émile-Benoît Matisse

December 31, 1869 – November 3, 1954

He was a French artist, known for his use of color and his fluid and original designs. He was a designer, printmaker, and sculptor, but is primarily known as a painter. Matisse is commonly regarded, along with Pablo Picasso and Marcel Duchamp, as one of the three artists who helped define the revolutionary developments in the plastic arts in the opening decades of the twentieth century, responsible for significant developments in painting and sculpture. Although he was initially labeled a Fauve (meaning “wild beast”), by the 1920s he was increasingly hailed as an upholder of the classical tradition in French painting. His mastery of the expressive language of colour and drawing, displayed in a body of work spanning over a half-century, won him recognition as a leading figure in modern art.



Woman with a Hat, 1905



Portrait of Madame Matisse (The green line), 1905



Henri Matisse (with a cat)



Fruit and Coffeepot, 1898



The Dessert Harmony in Red, 1908



Dance, 1909



La Gerbe, 1953 (“the sheaf”)

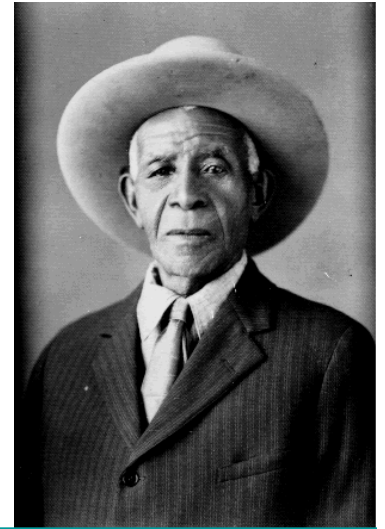


Panel with Mask, 1947

Back Page Literature—Daniel Webster “80 John” Wallace

In 2012, I wrote a biography for a cumulative exhibition called Western Visionaries & Unsung Heroes. I was originally more involved in researching more facts and photos about various people until the realization that I would need to move to Colorado Springs cut that involvement to just writing a single biography. I wrote two versions of the biography, a long version for a large gallery guide and a short version for text panels in the exhibition.

The man is Daniel Webster “80 John” Wallace. Interestingly, I originally researched him and put together an exhibit 10 years ago at the American Wind Power Center as part of my internship for my master degree. The exhibit there was called, 80 John: Legendary Black Rancher. 80 John’s house, reconstructed, is located at the National Ranching Heritage Center.



Daniel Webster Wallace: Black Texan Rancher

Daniel Webster Wallace was born in Victoria County, September 15, 1860. As Webster grew, he kept himself entertained by “riding the stick horses his mother [Mary Wallace] made for him. They pitched, bucked, sometimes stamped from room to room until [he] grew tired, and fell asleep on the floor.” Later in life, he started working in the fields chopping and plowing. One day, he rested under a tree and heard, “The herd starts in the morning.” He jumped up determined that this was his last day in the field. He rose at 3:30 and ran towards the herd. They left at daylight with Webster riding along at point. After reaching Coleman County, they turned out the cattle and paid the men in cash. Webster received \$15. At age 15, he decided to search for another job.

Webster then hired on with Sam Gholson. He learned many skills on the open range, such as earmarking and branding. Webster became the wrangler and was responsible for gathering the horses. Webster often felt alone with this outfit. He was with them for less than 6 months when Mr. Gholson moved to new territories. He then hired on with the N.U.N. outfit owned by Mr. Nunn. Webster felt like he belonged and continually did his best. One day, he got a letter from Mrs. O’Daniel who wrote stating that his mother was critically ill and wanted to see him. Webster left immediately, but his mother died before he arrived. Then at 17 years old in 1877, Webster rode to Buffalo Gap and started working for Clay Mann.

Mr. Mann regularly took Webster on expeditions and explorations to his many ranches, which exposed him to many phases of ranch life. In 1877, Mr. Mann drove cattle to a ranch in Mitchell County. These cattle with “80” branded “backbone to belly” on their sides were the first to enter that section. By this brand, Webster acquired a new nickname, 80 John. Clay Mann trusted 80 John and likewise, 80 John believed in Mr. Mann. He regularly helped 80 John with advice, such as to buy land. In 1885, 80 John purchased and homesteaded two sections near Loraine in Mitchell County. With a desire to gain more education, he went to a Negro school in Navarro County and enrolled in second grade at the age of 25. While in Navarro County, he met Laura D. Owen. After she finished high school, they married on April 8, 1888. Mr. Mann died in 1889, but 80 John continued to work for Mrs. Mann until he decided to work for himself in 1891.

80 John had solid guidance from Mr. Mann to become an independent rancher. He saved his money and used the resources available to him to build his ranch. Wallace purchased some Durham cows and changed his brand to a D triangle. Wallace also joined the Texas Southwestern Cattle Raisers’ Association, of which he attended regularly for 30 years. Laura was a woman of fortitude who had great courage to live in the frontier West. After a drought, D.W. bought Hereford cattle, and once again changed his brand by putting a D on the right hip and a running W on the side,

which he never changed. He also erected windmills, which speckled his pastures. In resurveying his land in 1915, D.W. bought two sections of land sold to him in error and secured a patent. Not long after, he discovered oil on it! D.W. refocused his operation to quality by reducing his herd size, adding perimeter fencing and cross fencing, eradicating prairie dogs, and building better barns and sheds. In addition, he built a more comfortable and modern house for his family. (This house is restored on the grounds of the National Ranching Heritage Center.)

Winter 1939 was brutal, and D.W. suffered a serious illness. He said to Laura, “I have reviewed my life from 6 years to now—I have harmed no man, I am ready to go; what do you think of me?” She bent down and kissed him, “You have always been my ideal, don’t you know?” On Tuesday morning, March 28, 1939, at the age of 78, Daniel Webster Wallace, “went across the Divide to a new frontier where cowboys do not return—waiting for the Great Roundup.” Laura D. Wallace died on December 28, 1950 at the age of 80. Wallace lived to see his dream come to fruition. He gave generously to fellow men, civic welfare, and his church. His and Laura’s tombstone states, “With characters of granite, they had hearts of kindness always, ready and willing to respond to the call for help.”