

# de Stolfe *Journal* ●●●●●●●●

Late Fall 2021 | 10.6



# Contents

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*Covers activities in November and December 2021.  
The page numbers correspond to the PDF pages.*

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[www.destolfe.com](http://www.destolfe.com)



## On The Cover



*I had parked and was on my way to the trade shows when these three Clydesdales with their handler were in the parking lot! Well of course, it made for great publicity as people walked by! But, the handler said that they were going for their morning walk and were indeed tired as you can tell! They are certainly well kept!*



*Cozy little fire.*

# Comments by RG

## Happy New Year!

Okay, so it is no lie to anyone that the last two years were horrible! Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II stated on the 40th anniversary of her Accession that *“1992 is not a year on which I shall look back with undiluted pleasure.”* That’s a really subtle way to state that she hated what happened that year and never wants to think about it again! She referred to 1992 as *annus horribilis!*

When we celebrated the New Year 2020, we were full of hope for the new decade! For the first couple of months, it was okay, but it went sour extremely fast by March! So while the last two years were horrible, we cannot allow what has happened in the past to control us into the next year! This is true every year, not just because of recent events.

This issue of the journal includes the activities I did in November and December, hence “late fall”. While overall, it was not as full as earlier in the fall, I did have two main travels, the biggest of the two was going to Amarillo and the other was going to the Hill Country for Thanksgiving.

I went to Amarillo in early to mid November for six days to go to the WRCA ranch rodeo finals! You can read more about that in full later in this issue. While in Amarillo, I did a number of side activities to visit some things I wanted to see, at least what I

could with what free time I had. The things I saw included the Madam Queen locomotive, Cadillac Ranch and the nearby Cadillac RV Park, Combine City, the Amarillo Zoo, and the Big Texan restaurant. My hotel was several miles from the convention center, and so I did plenty of driving through and around Amarillo than I had ever before.

Less than two weeks later, I left again for about five days to go to the Hill Country to spend Thanksgiving with friends. I centered in Stephenville at a motel and did a minor bit of travelling to De Leon and briefly stopped in Dublin as well. The day after Thanksgiving, I went back to Glen Rose briefly to photograph again and to take some video of the abandoned gas station I reported about in the summer issue. I have a new video on YouTube about that structure.

For December, I did not really go anywhere or see any attractions, but rather focused on getting ready for Christmas by setting up my new fake tree I told about before and to put out lights on my new duplex. I also spent a good part of December just to get the early fall issue together before Christmas, a week ago!

For Christmas, I had myself a merry little Christmas at home



**Producer, RG de Stolfe**

making the traditional (but simplified) dinner of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, homemade gravy, green beans, rolls, cranberry sauce, iced tea, and pumpkin pie. I also had the same meal after Christmas and turkey sandwiches sometime after that! I also had enough of it left to eat for NYE.

So, this issue includes these topics and a few other perhaps more random things like I usually include in all of my issues. I hope you like what I have included. Don’t forget to look over my new Broadsheets. I will add them randomly as I make new ones, and they might or might be announced when new ones are added. Also make sure to go to my YouTube page for my new videos, some short, some longer.

Happy New Year!

# Word For Life

## Your Words Matter!

Matthew 12:37 NKJV

“...by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Proverbs 18:21 AMP

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it and indulge it will eat its fruit and bear the consequences of their words.”

How important are the specific things you say? According to the Word of God, the words you say will either bring constructive change or it will be destructive change! Sadly, too many people are grossly slack in what they say and are greatly confused when the things they say actually happen! Here are some examples that many—maybe even you—are guilty of.

*“Flu season is coming! You watch! I’ll probably get it and be sicker than I was last year!”*

*“Uncle Jack just called saying that Aunt Betty has cancer. We better get ready for a funeral soon.”*

*“I just heard that Johnny got laid off yesterday. You know how bad their situation is, and how bad the economy is doing. No telling what they are going to do. They might even lose their house!”*

*“No son of mine will ever be a [blank]. You sorry SOB! I’m ashamed of you! You will grow up to be worthless!”*

*“I laughed so hard at that joke that I thought I’d died!”*

*“That employee at the store yesterday was such a jerk! I wish something would happen to him!”*

Are you guilty of ever speaking these evil words? They are words of fire, and they will burn and destroy faster than you can blink!

Evil words are influenced and driven by thoughts from the enemy, known as the Devil or Satan. Evil words are speaking a curse on someone’s life. Also, you do not know who else has spoken these same evil words about you to put a curse on you in the same manner! That can be one explanation why you are going through something you cannot explain.

Let’s take each of these examples and explain what is evil about them and what to do instead.

*“Flu season is coming! You watch! I’ll probably get it and be sicker than I was last year!”*

The problem here is that the curse was spoken before and only gets stronger the more it is repeated to the point where it will happen even if you say nothing! Don’t start saying it in the first place! **Instead, say that you are protected by the 39 stripes of the Blood of Jesus and that no disease, germ, virus, or sickness by any name can harm me. To the world, this sound foolish, but so are Christians to the world anyway. (Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:24)**

*“Uncle Jack just called saying that Aunt Betty has cancer. We better get ready for a funeral soon.”*

This is believing that anyone who gets sick will automatically die from it! Oh how foolish we have been these last two years believing every lie spoon fed to us! **(Note again Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:24)**

*“I just heard that Johnny got laid off yesterday. You know how bad their situation is, and how bad the economy is doing. No telling what they are going to do. They might even lose their house!”*

These statements are wrong on so many levels. It might sound “concerned” as first, but it only speaks frustration, confusion, and destruction through the use of a general mindset that the situation is too big for anyone to do anything about! **(Isaiah 40:9-11)**

*“No son of mine will ever be a [blank]. You sorry SOB! I’m ashamed of you! You will grow up to be worthless!”*

This one is the most directly violent! A father and a mother are the head of their children and have the responsibility to care for, protect, and nurture their children into adulthood and beyond. When parents speak these and other evil words over their children—especially at younger ages!—they are crutching their children’s lives that so often haunts them into their old age! **While a parent might not always agree with their child’s beliefs or actions, step back and evaluate the situation before lashing out with harmful, mindless words! (Ephesians 6:6, Proverbs 31:26-27)**

*“I laughed so hard at that joke that I thought I’d died!”*

Many dismiss this as “just an expression”! Words are words in spite of the intent or the meaning! Why do you think so many people can misunderstand your words! Are the words you are saying what you actually want to happen? Do you actually WANT to die when you laugh hard? **Instead of dismissing it as an expression to give yourself license to say it, reject these types of expressions and say constructive words instead. For this example, just say instead, “I laughed so hard at that joke!”**

*“That employee at the store yesterday was such a jerk! I wish something would happen to him!”*

This statement nearly equates to intent of maliciousness! If something were to happen to that person, you rather framed yourself into legal trouble! But even if something happened that you could not have caused, your words still spoke destruction over that person. Even if he was a jerk, you do not know why he was so rude. **Instead of lashing out, speak peace over him to help him with whatever problems he might be going through!**

**Here is the hope you can have: through Jesus alone, you can break every one of these and all other curses and make them of no effect to harm you or anyone else ever again!**

# Random Things

## Big Hereford

A restaurant called Bryan's Steaks has this big figure of a Hereford bull out front. This local restaurant has been around for many decades, roughly 40 years. In the early 2000s after I moved to Lubbock, I went there a number of times for affordable steaks. However, they only accepted cash or checks. Only this year, have they started taking credit cards, but they make you pay for the credit card fee. I decided to go there in late October to try them out again after so many years. (Paying with cash, of course!)



*Compare the Hereford above at Bryan's Steaks with the Hereford below at The Big Texan.*



## Interesting Doughnut Shop

While in Amarillo, I drove past a doughnut shop that is right on the interstate. I passed by it every time I would go to the convention center. One morning, I stopped to check out the doughnuts. It is called Donut Stop, and they had a good variety of doughnuts (at least what was left by the time I got there!) and very tasty. One interesting thing I noticed was that the entire place had middle aged Mexican women workers! Part of the inside looked like a 50s style diner at some time in the past.



*What is this??  
More in a future issue!*



# Random Things

## Craft Sale

The Garden and Arts Center in Lubbock has an annual craft fair. I last had a booth there in 2017. I decided to have a booth again this year. It was a two day event of Friday evening and Saturday all day. We had some visitors, and I ultimately did better than I did in 2017, which was meager.



## Christmas 2021

I had a good merry little Christmas in my new duplex where I finally had a Christmas tree again after nine years. I had various decorations around the house and many lights outside. Refer to the last special issue for Christmas 2021 to see more.



## Summer Sunset

Back in the summer on July 11 at about 8:45 PM, I saw this interesting sunset where I could see the circle of the sun, and it was a strange pinkish color.



# Random Things

## Christmas 2021

Candlelight service at my church, 12.23.21.



Christmas lights on my duplex.



At the Kingsgate Center in south Lubbock, they have horse drawn carriage rides around the parking lot! Photo on 12.24.21.



## Citrus Spectrum

At a grocery store here in Lubbock, they had this poster above the citrus. I thought this was a great way to show how different types of citrus compare to each other.



# Weekend at WRCA Finals

I spent about six days (November 10-15, 2021) in Amarillo, Texas to go to the WRCA 26th World Championship Ranch Rodeo performances and the accompanying trade shows and its other related activities. I first heard about the WRCA (Working Ranch Cowboys Association) and their finals twenty years ago in 2001. At that time, I wanted to go or in the years shortly after, but I never did. Until this year, I was never able to even consider going to the finals. With a change of circumstances that happened in 2021, I decided that I would join the WRCA. I am a Riding For The Brand member, which lasts for two years. However, I have been giving donations to the WRCA crisis and natural disaster funds for about the last five years. Those are funds to help “give a hand up, not a handout” for ranch families experiencing severe problems of different types. In fact, the entire finals was a means to raise money for the funds, besides having the finals for the ranch rodeos throughout the year. Since I was a member, I had no reason not to go the finals this year! In fact, I bought the tickets for all four of the perfs along with the kids perf on June 1, 2021! That was the first day when tickets were available to the public.

I had heard for years that ranch rodeos were very different from and even more fun than common rodeos—what most rodeos are. And indeed, the most different aspects of the ranch rodeo were the events and the general attitude of the contestants and even of the visitors. As for the events, the ranch rodeo circuit is structured as teams competing, not as individuals competing, like in common rodeos. That means that most or all of the team members must compete in all of the events and work together as a team, except for the ranch bronc riding (more on that later). At least for the finals, these events included ranch bronc riding, stray gathering, team penning, team branding, and wild cow milking. These are events that stem directly from the everyday ranch work that the cowboys do on their respective ranches. Ranch bronc riding uses regular work saddles and is mostly the same as saddle bronc riding, but without the excessive restrictions and penalties. It is also the only event where the cowboys compete individually rather than together.



*Grand entry on the first night.*

All of these other events are timed events. Stray gathering is similar to team roping, but each team has two headers and two heelers, and they need to catch two steers. Time stops after both steers are headed and heeled. Team penning is much like it sounds, penning cattle. A mix of cattle with numbers on them are at one end of the arena. Each team individually must cut out the cattle with their assigned number and get all of that number into a corral, the “pen”. Team branding also starts a group of cattle at one end, but instead one cowboy is horseback and must rope and drag the calf to the “branding spot” where two cowboys then hold down the calf while the fourth takes a cold branding iron dunked in flour to “brand” the calf before letting it go. In this case to save time, two team are going simultaneously but timed separately. The fifth event is wild cow milking. This one is certainly wild to watch! For this event, one cowboy is horseback and must rope and pull the cow to the other cowboys where two more try to hold the cow stable while the fourth cowboy squirts milk into a bottle and runs to a circle where the judge is. The cows are not always cooperative! In the end, awards go to the top five teams, and special awards for a top hand, reserve top hand, top horse, and reserve top horse. They also give awards for the top teams in each event, noting a specific cowboy for the ranch bronc riding.

The kids finals was completely new and had events that were similar to the adult ones but scaled down and simplified to kids abilities. (Several young kids with the ranches of the main ranch rodeo did compete in the “adult” competitions, but only in

# Weekend at WRCA Finals

what events where they were allowed.) The kids events, all timed, included branding, sorting, doctoring, trailer loading (this one was the most fun to watch!), and wild steer race. The one kids event that was the most different from the adult events but that was the most dynamic was the trailer loading. A ranch truck with a divided stock trailer were on one side of the arena with corral panels. The kids were all horseback and had to push one steer into the trailer, close the inside gate, load one horse, close the outer gate, and all the kids had to do dismount to the back of the truck. One kid, a young one, did a “flying dismount” from the saddle to the back of the truck! The kids finals was a mini finals of itself all done in about two to three hours from grand entry to award ceremony. Quite frankly, those kids went through A LOT in a short time! I can imagine that it was an emotional whirlwind or rollercoaster!



TESKEY'S	
Overall Team Standings	
1 Circle M8 Land & Cattle	25.00
2 Nutrition Plus	23.00
3 Myers Cattle / C3 Cattle	17.00
4 Sand Creek Ranch	16.00
5 Campwood Cattle Co. / Freeman	10.00
Unofficial	

The other events and activities at the finals included trade shows and some special events. There were three simultaneous trade shows held all over the convention center. (Amarillo has a very nice setup for conventions.) The three shows included the Cowboy Trade And Trappings Show, the Ranch Equipment Expo, and the Heritage Trade Show. In addition to the three groups of shows, they spilled out into ALL of the hallways, almost making the halls into another show in itself! The trade/trappings and heritage shows were the places for clothes, belts, buckles, saddles, tack, hats, boots, leather, and various other needs for working ranch people. The Ranch Equipment Expo was the most different in that it focused mainly on trailers, corral fencing,

cattle chutes, etc. These were the larger and more expensive parts of ranching. At one end of this hall was where the Budweiser Clydesdales were stalled, along with the Dalmatians! At every perf, the Clydesdales were hitched and pulled their beer wagon through the arena as a type of halftime show.

During the weekend, I attended some specific events besides the trade shows and the perfs. The Wednesday night before the other events started was an invitation only kickoff event with dinner. I arrived to Amarillo a few hours before this kickoff event. Besides a buffet dinner, they had a live Calcutta auction of the teams. Saturday had some other events I wanted to attend. In the late morning, there was a live auction of a large range of donated items. I got a bid number, but I didn't get to bid on anything because of a call. There was a lunch after that, with a legends tribute after that. The Legends Tribute was an hour long discussion with Tom Moorhouse and Boots O'Neal led by John Welch as the moderator. I have most of that recorded on video. They talked about the old days of their ranching with fun and interesting stories.



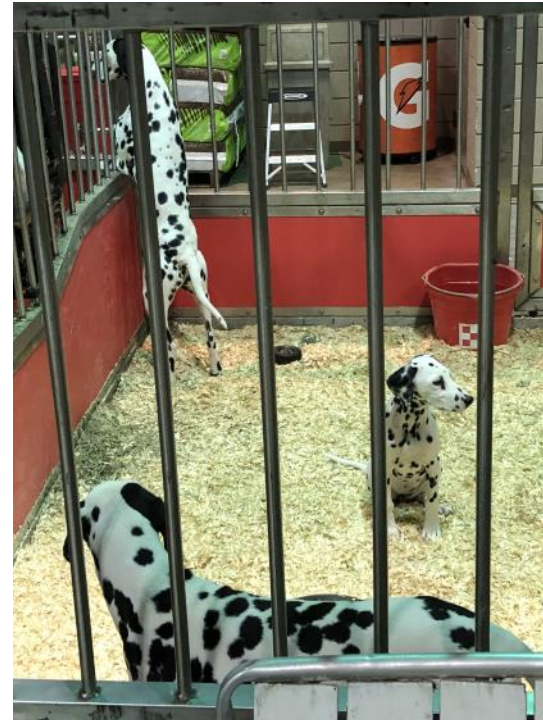
*Tom Moorhouse, John Welch, Boots O'Neal*

Sunday was a shorter day with a cowboy church service in the morning and the short round perf in the early afternoon. The awards ceremony with a dinner started at 6:00, but I did not go to that. Overall, the entire weekend was fun and enjoyable. Also, I have never seen so many HUGE ranch trucks in one place before!

# Budweiser Clydesdales



*Smile for the camera!*



# Madam Queen

Located at the northwest corner of SE 2nd Avenue and Lincoln Street in Amarillo is a locomotive called the Madam Queen. It is right across the street from the Amarillo Civic Center Complex. The historical marker gives all the information about this locomotive (read below).



A.T. & S.F. No. 5000  
"Madam Queen"



*The Madam Queen*

A star of the age of steam transportation. Pride of Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railway, which came into Texas in 1886, has its Panhandle and Santa Fe General Offices in Amarillo, and served much of this area.

Manufactured at the cost of \$133,902.80 by world-famed Baldwin Locomotive Works, according to designs made by Santa Fe engineers. "Pilot" locomotive of its type, a model and champion in power and speed.

When this locomotive went into service in December 1930, Santa Fe (like other American railways) had ceased to name engines for officers or celebrities, but called them by number. This was No. 5000.

But one of the first engineers to steer it over the rails affectionately called it "Madam Queen", for a character in radio's popular "Amos and Andy" show.

Gallant, faithful, swift, and strong, "Madam Queen" ran for more than 1,750,000 miles. Prior to diesels, this was the greatest of Santa Fe's locomotives. Its tender held 20,000 gallons of water and 7,107 gallons of fuel. Locomotive and tender weighed 662,500 pounds. Tractive force was 93,000 pounds. Boiler pressure, 300 pounds per square inch.

Retired from service November 1953, the "Queen" was given to City of Amarillo on April 17, 1957.

(1965)



*Terrible placement for a historical marker!*

# Lazy Monday - Amarillo Zoo



Who knew that Amarillo had a zoo! Well, they have since 1955! It is owned and run by the city of Amarillo located north of town in Thompson Park. It used to be free until just a few years ago when they started charging admission. It was a nice little zoo of some common and not so common animals. Here are some photos of some of the animals.



*Yellow Anaconda*



*Chuckwalla*



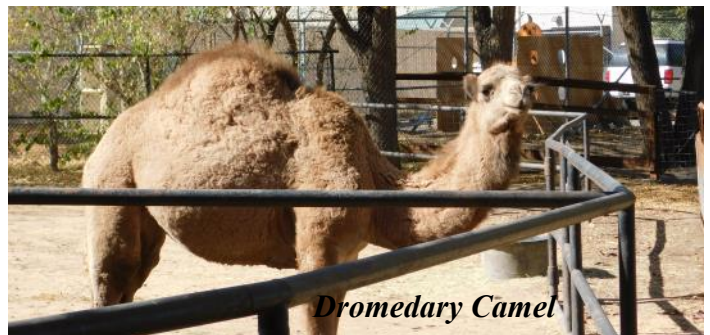
*Texas Longhorn*



*Bengal Tiger*



*Bison*



*Dromedary Camel*



*Peacock (Only animal that roams freely)*

Read More

- Amarillo Zoo—<https://zoo.amarillo.gov/>

# The Big Texan

If you ever travel on I-40 through Amarillo, you are bound to come across The Big Texan on the east side of Amarillo! I went there three separate times: 2003, 2014, and 2021. My most recent visit was the very last thing I did before leaving Amarillo after the ranch rodeo finals. This time, I wanted to eat there, which I had not done before. I thought the food was good and quite filling, but a little expensive, which I assumed. They have a gift shop, an arcade of sorts, and a live rattlesnake. They are famous for their 72 oz steak! The challenge is that if you can eat the entire steak, shrimp cocktail, baked potato, salad, and the roll with butter in one hour, it is free! Note: you do have to pay for the challenge first (\$72), but you will get the money back if you complete it. If not, you can take the food home!



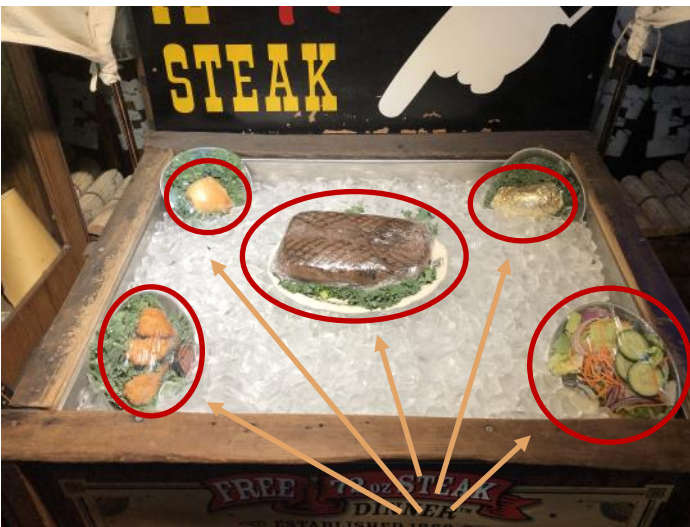
*Visit on April 17, 2003.*



*Visit on July 20, 2014.*



*Visit on November 15, 2021*



*The 72 oz steak! Free IF you eat ALL of this in 1 hour!*

*The inside all decked out for Christmas (in mid Nov!)*

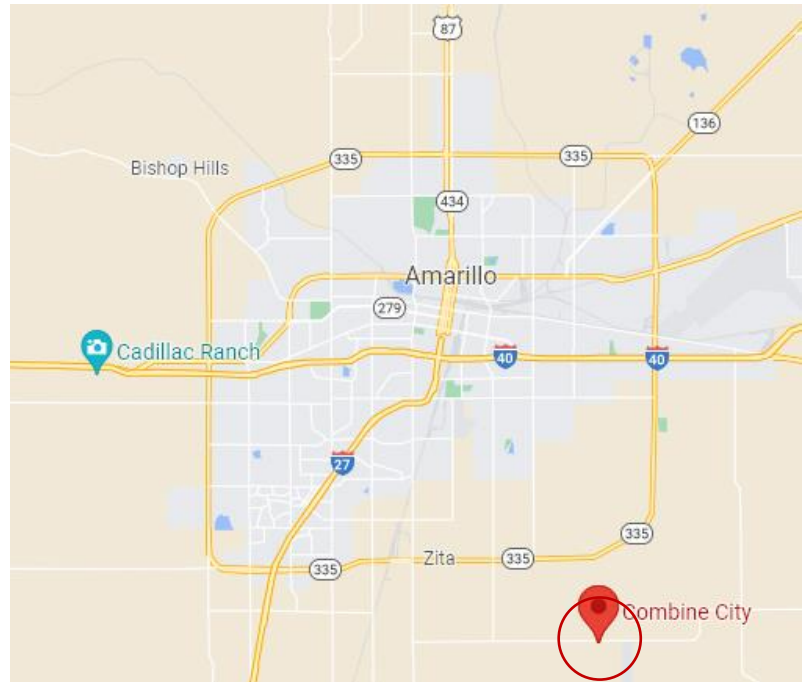
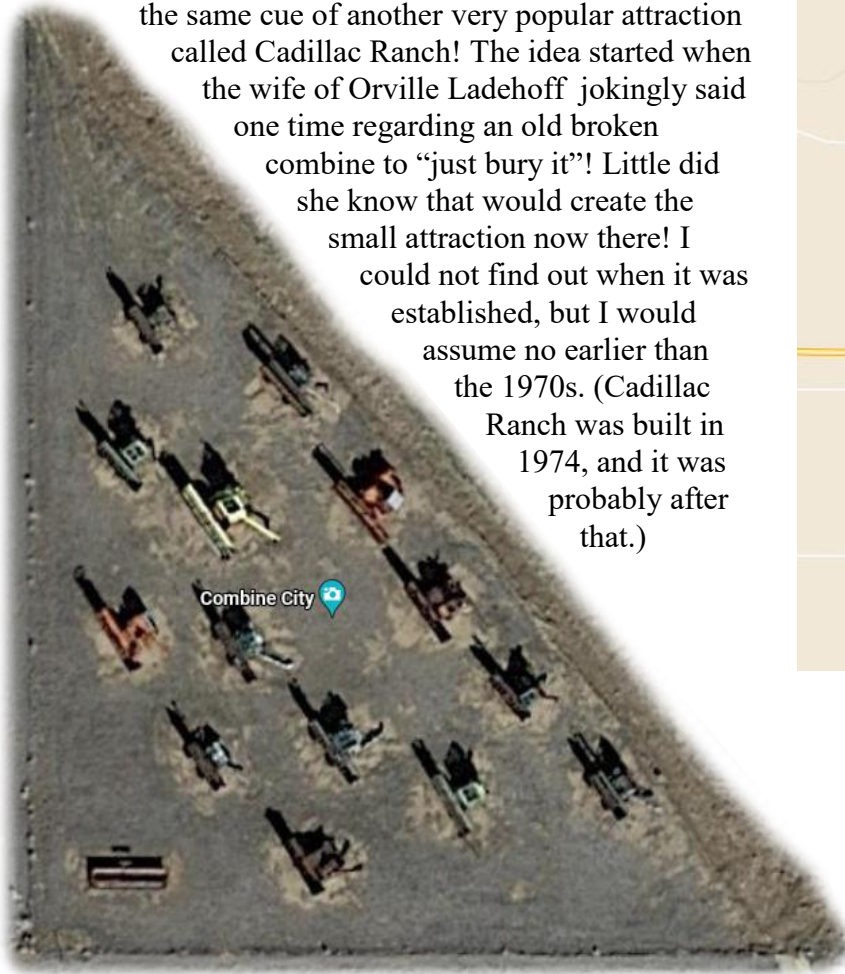


**Read More**

- The Big Texan—[www.bigtexan.com](http://www.bigtexan.com)

# Combine City

Southeast of Amarillo a few miles is a little attraction way off the main roads on Claude Highway (FM 1151) called Combine City (not to be confused with Combine, Texas located east of Dallas). The two acres of land feature 14 combine harvesters from the 1940s through the 1970s half buried into the earth at an angle, with part of one more not buried holding a sign. If this sounds familiar, it is because it takes the same cue of another very popular attraction called Cadillac Ranch! The idea started when the wife of Orville Ladehoff jokingly said one time regarding an old broken combine to “just bury it”! Little did she know that would create the small attraction now there! I could not find out when it was established, but I would assume no earlier than the 1970s. (Cadillac Ranch was built in 1974, and it was probably after that.)



## Read More

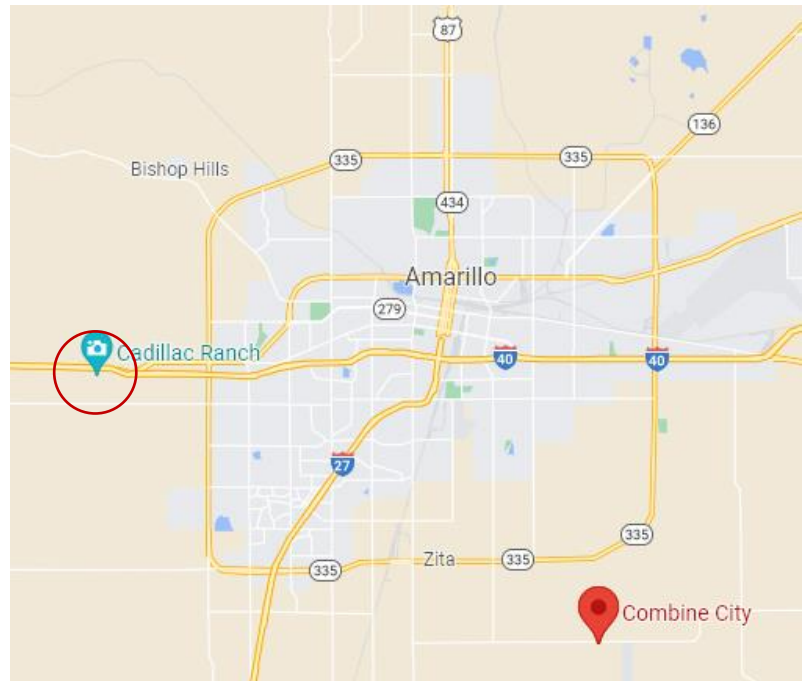
- Atlas Obscura—<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/combine-city>
- Route 66 News—<https://www.route66news.com/2007/06/06/combine-city>



# Cadillac Ranch



In the middle of my time in Amarillo, I took a little side trip over to Cadillac Ranch! Located on the west side of town in a milo field, Cadillac Ranch is an art installation in 1974 by art group Ant Farm (Chip Lord, Hudson Marquez, and Doug Michels) and was funded by Stanley Marsh 3. It features ten Cadillacs from 1949 through 1963 half buried forward at the same angle as the Great Pyramid of Giza in Egypt. In 1997, the installation was moved two miles west to the current location. I have been to the installation three times: 2003, 2014, and 2021. The whole spray painting thing was not originally done, but gained popularity of the decades. Now, you can't even see the cards for the spray paint. It's so thick that in the heat of summer, the paint oozes off the cars! They now have a merch truck where you can buy souvenirs and spray paint!



**Read More**

- Cadillac Ranch—  
[www.facebook.com/1974cadillacranch](https://www.facebook.com/1974cadillacranch)

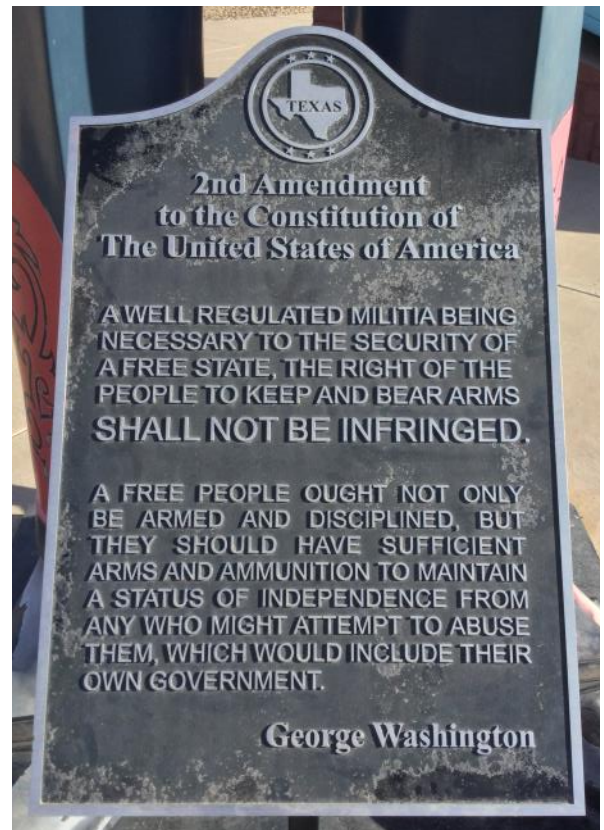


# Cadillac RV Park

Not far away from the Cadillac Ranch is a completely unrelated business called the Cadillac RV Park. Besides being a regular RV ground, they have several features out in the front. They have three Cadillacs set at a shallow angle to represent the idea of the Cadillac Ranch art installation. They also have a large cowboy sculpture referred to as the 2nd Amendment Cowboy with a historical marker underneath. And finally, they have a little gift shop. If you look carefully at the Cadillacs, you can see mannequins at the wheels resembling Elvis, John Wayne, and Willie Nelson! The cowboy sculpture was originally a Glenn Goode Muffler Man, then it was modified to become a cowboy to advertise the Country Barn BBQ & Steaks, and finally the 2nd Amendment Cowboy since 2014.



## 2nd Amendment Cowboy



# Hale County Rest Stop

In the summer issue, I told about a rest stop that had an exhibit inside telling about the area. Another similar type of exhibit is at a rest stop on I-27. Okay, so there is only one rest stop on I-27, but I digress. The Hale County Rest Stop has a small exhibit about cotton farming and aquifer zones, among other details. I stopped at this rest stop once before in September of 2018 and reported about it in that issue. Most Texas rest stops (referred to as “Safety Rest Areas”) are along interstates, but there are a significant number on other federal roads too.

Read More: [www.txdot.gov/driver/travel/rest-areas-map.html](http://www.txdot.gov/driver/travel/rest-areas-map.html)



# Visit to Publix

As I was going through some boxes and some photos in a box, I came across this photo. This is my Mom probably in the early 70s or very late 60s. Either way, about 50 years ago. Dad probably took the photo. This was likely before I was born. Besides being a rather random photo to take—“checking out at the grocery store”—it does come across much like a time capsule. Today, grocery stores don’t quite look this same way, nor is the checkout the same either (unless your store hasn’t been remodeled in 40 or 50 years!) I thought it be fun to take an inventory of what is on the turntable. This grocery store is called Publix and was probably in South Florida. Going clockwise:

- Sweet Heart dish soap
- Keebler oatmeal cookies, 3/\$1.00
- Heinz [something] tomato
- Green Giant green beans
- Chicken of the Sea solid white tuna
- Apple turnovers Pillsbury?
- Golden Gift orange juice
- Zesta crackers
- Miracle Whip
- Pix soda: cola, root beer (You need a key to punch a triangle hole to drink!)
- Hungry Jack waffle mix
- Post Super Sugar Crisp
- Milk Bone, medium dogs
- Karo corn syrup?
- Waldorf TP in yellow!
- Chiquita lettuce
- Packaged meat
- Bananas
- Dial bar soap

(The rest is undeterminable.)



# The Bark Covered House

*In the summer issue on the very last page, I put a short, interesting quote from The Bark Covered House about mosquitoes! I mentioned that there would be more in a future issue. Here are some excerpts from that section.*

## **Excerpts from *The Bark Covered House* by John Knowlin, 1876, Chapter 2, pages 33-34.**

“We had many annoyances, and mosquitoes were not the least, but they did us some good. We had no fences to keep our cattle, and the mosquitoes drove the oxen and cow up to the smoke which we kept near the house in order to keep those little pests away. The cattle soon learned, as well as we, that smoke was a very powerful repellant of those little warriors. Many times, in walking those logs and going through the woods there would be a perfect cloud of mosquitoes around me. Sometimes I would run to get away from them, then stop and look behind me and there would be a great flock for two rods back (beside those that were around me) all coming toward me as fast as their wings could bring them, and seeming only satisfied when they got to me. But they were cannibals and wanted to eat me. All sang the same song in the same old tune. I was always glad when I got out of their company into our own little clearing.”

“But Mr. Pardee was a little more brave; he said it was foolish to notice such small things as mosquitoes. I have seen them light on his face and run in their bills, probe in until they reached the fountain of life, suck and gormandize until they got a full supply, then leisurely fly away with their veins and bodies full of the best and most benevolent blood, to live awhile, and die from the effects of indulging too freely and taking too much of the life of another. Thus at different times I saw him let them fill themselves and go away without his seeming to notice them; whether he always treated them thus well or not, I cannot say, but I do know they were the worst of pests. Myriads of them could be found any where in the woods, that would eagerly light on man or beast and fill themselves till four times their common size, if they could get a chance. The woods were literally alive with them. No one

can tell the wearisome sleepless hours they caused us at night. I have lain listening and waiting for them to light on my face or hands, and then trying to slap them by guess in the dark, sometimes killing them, and sometimes they would fly away, to come again in a few minutes. I could hear them as they came singing back. Frequently when I awoke I found them as wakeful as ever; they had been feasting while I slept. I would find bunches and blotches on me, wherever they had had a chance to light, which caused a disagreeable, burning and smarting sensation.”

“Frequently some one of us would get up and make a smudge in the room to quiet them; we did it by making a little fire of small chips and dirt, or by burning some sugar on coals, but this would only keep them still for a short time. These vexatious, gory-minded, musical-winged, bold denizens of the shady forest, were more eager to hold their carnivorous feasts at twilight or in the night than any other time. In cloudy weather they were very troublesome as all the first settlers know. We had them many years, until the country was cleared and the land ditched; then, with the forest, they nearly disappeared.”



John Knowlin

# Prohibition Speakeasy

I visited this structure in late July 2021 and reported about it in the Summer 2021 issue. I also have a Broadsheet on the topic in addition to a video on YouTube. I revisited this structure the day after Thanksgiving on Friday, November 26, 2021. The structure basically looked the same, but with most of the vegetation dried and brown.



Watch: *Prohibition Era Speakeasy*  
<https://youtu.be/epbmMrARsCE>

# Garden Roundup

Not since the Late Spring issue have I discussed my garden after moving to the duplex. I left off in mid

July and so I will show a summarized catch up of the garden with the few times I took photos.

**August 2, 2021**



**August 17, 2021**



**September 19, 2021**



# Garden Roundup

October 29, 2021



December 12, 2021



## Harvests

The produce I grew this year included 5 varieties of peppers, strawberries, peas, cucumbers, and sunflowers.



# What is Verlan?

In short, verlan is French slang, specifically one type of French slang (there are many). The l'Académie Française would like you to think that their “proper” French is all that exists. But in everyday spoken French, that is far from reality. However, note that more formal French is still regularly used in writings, in business, and in governmental things.

Verlan is a specific type of slang where regular words are formed backwards. It is not used for every word, just like not all of an English sentence is spoken in slang, but certain key words as chosen by the person talking.

The word “verlan” itself is an example of itself. It is the slang of “l’envers”, which means “the inverse”, or “backwards” generally. The backwards of l’envers literally is versl’an, but then it is simplified by dropping silent or useless letters or characters to form, verlan. In linguistics, this slang is referred to as metathesis, in this case two syllables switching places with each other. Also to note is that the slang words are spelled more like they sound rather than a formal inversion. That means that letters could be substituted or a slightly different sound forms as the verlan slang. The words can be nouns and verbs. However, since this is slang, it is not consistent or regular in how it works.

According to Langfocus (a linguistics/language channel on YouTube), here are some examples of two syllable words converted to verlan.

Thank you	merci	cimer
Hello	bonjour	jourbon
Future	future	turfu
Subway	métro	tromé
Weird	bizarre	zarbi
House	maison	sonmai
Car	voiture	turevoi
Mother	mère	reum
Father	père	reup
Party	fête	teuf
Cop	flic	keuf

These last four words are single syllable words, and they warp slightly in how the word is reversed as noted before. Sometimes a word that is already slang turns into a verlan word. The word cop is already a regular slang word that is slanged again into verlan. Not only can any word be turned into slang verlan, a verlan word can be slanged again into a second verlan slang word! Although it sometimes becomes a little strange in spelling and pronunciation.

Cop	flic	keuf	feuk
Arab	arabe	beur	rebeu
Woman	femme	meuf	femeu

Now, it is your turn to practice creating verlan slang!  
Turn these French words into verlan. (Answers on last page.)

- (group) bande \_\_\_\_\_
- (trendy) cable \_\_\_\_\_
- (class) classe \_\_\_\_\_
- (French) Français \_\_\_\_\_
- (crazy) jobard \_\_\_\_\_
- (shady) louche \_\_\_\_\_
- (music) musique \_\_\_\_\_

## Learn More

For more information about verlan and its history, development, and use, go to the Langfocus channel’s video about Verlan:

- Langfocus-verlan—<https://youtu.be/FSeEPxLKHNM>
- Wikipedia—<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Verlan>

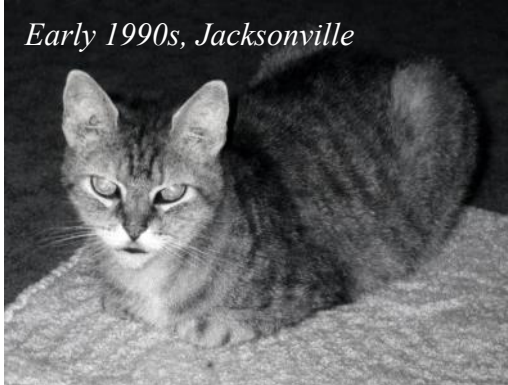
# Gator Journal



*1980s,  
Miami*



♪ ♪ ♪  
NEVER GONNA GIVE YOU UP,  
NEVER GONNA LET YOU DOWN...  
♪ ♪ ♪




*Early 1990s, Jacksonville*



# Historical Newspapers

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Leadville Daily Herald. August 6, 1884. Page 3.

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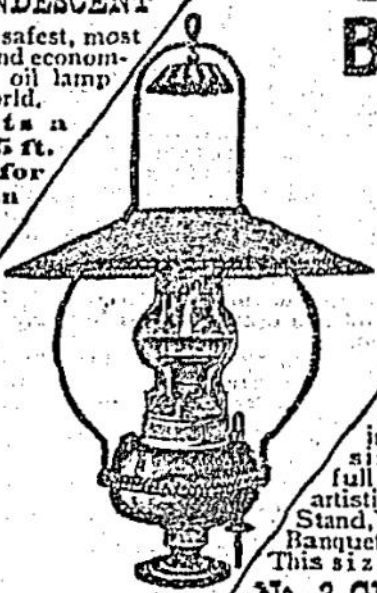
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Leadville Daily Herald. August 6, 1884. Page 1.

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Leadville Evening Chronicle. October 7, 1889. Page 2.

Says Bridget, "Well, I never see  
The loike in all me blissd loife,  
If Micky iver marries me  
It's DENVER BEST he'll buy his wife!"

Specially adapted  
for use  
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The Herald Democrat. December 18, 1892. Page 15.

**Do You Live on a Ranch?**

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**The Colorado Telephone Co.**



The Erie News (CO). September 29, 1905. Page 4.

# Final Thought

In the Avondale and Riverside areas of Jacksonville, they have a Christmas tradition of putting out white bags with candles lining the streets, and sometimes the sidewalks, for an event called Luminaria. It's also a time where people go out and about, often on bikes, to look around. With LED lights, many people put them on their bikes. These are photos Mom took with her iPhone of the 2019 Luminaria.



## Answers for Verlan

(group)	bande	deban	[de-ban]
(trendy)	cable	bleca	[ble-ca]
(class)	classe	secla	[sse-cla]
(French)	Français	céfran	[çais-fran]
(crazy)	jobard	barjot	[bard-jo]
(shady)	louche	chelou	[che-lou]
(music)	musique	zicmu	[sique-mu]

# de Stolfe Journal

The de Stolfe Journal is a publication made by Robert-George de Stolfe. The first issue was published in March 1986 as the de Stolfe Journal and published irregularly until 1998 (17 issues total). The *Candid* variety of the Journal started in July 2012, with a production of over 60 regular and special issues, with now the *Candid* dropped from the name. Archives of all issues—including the original ones (1980s-1990s)—are available on the website: [www.destolfe.com](http://www.destolfe.com)

**Publisher/Owner/Editor**  
Robert-George de Stolfe

**Graphics/Layout\***

Robert-George de Stolfe

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