

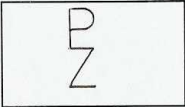
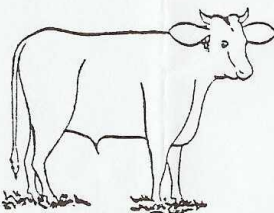
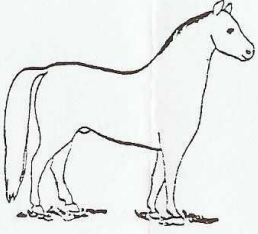
ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter of the Oro Valley Historical Society

July/August 2010

Web: www.ovhistory.org

The Historical Society Is New Owner Of The "P hanging Z" Brand!

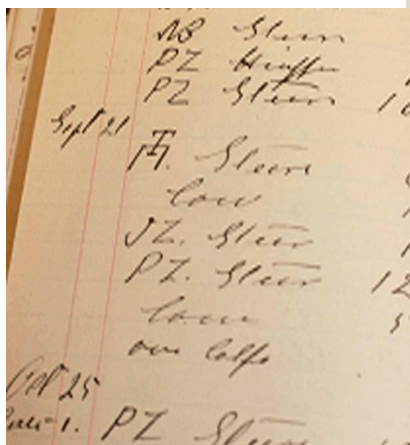
LOCATION OF RANGE(S)	RANGE	COUNTY
	Catalina Mts	Pima
BRAND NUMBER		
07017		
		
LOCATION OF BRAND	RIGHT	LEFT
CATTLE: LH		
HORSES: LT		
SHEEP : NO		
GOATS : NO		

ANIMALS MUST BE BRANDED EXACTLY AS SPECIFIED

The "P hanging Z" brand is one of a number of cattle brands registered by George Pusch. He immigrated to the United States from Germany in 1867. After living in New York, San Francisco and places in between, he came to southern Arizona. Here, with his friend John Zellweger, a Swiss immigrant he met in New York, he purchased land along the Cañada del Oro and decided to become a cattle rancher. The two men registered the "P hanging Z" brand and began ranching enterprises that lasted for decades. The "Steam Pump" name for the ranch was adopted after the two men installed a well and water pump driven by a steam engine to provide large amounts of water for cattle.

The "P hanging Z" brand is only one of at least eight brands Pusch registered, individually and with partners, between the mid-1870s and the early 1900s. John Zellweger, sold his interest in the "P hanging Z" brand to Pusch in 1883 and the Pusch family continued to use it. The brand remained in Pusch family ownership until May 2010 when Henry Zipf (George Pusch's grandson) sold the brand to the Oro Valley Historical Society.

The Society is a very proud owner of this historic brand and looks forward to using it in educational programs and events related to Steam Pump Ranch. Thank you Henry!



Part of one page in log book



President's Message...



It's summer again. During these months the Historical Society typically does not have regular program presentations, but that doesn't mean that things aren't happening. For the third summer we are working to assist the Town with management of Steam Pump Ranch. In 2008 the Historical Society and Historic Preservation Commission helped Town staff clean up and remove "stuff" left at the Ranch.

In 2009 the Society established the first Heritage Garden at the property. The monsoon season "three sisters garden" consisting of Tohono O'odham corn, beans and squash was a great success. And now, in the summer of 2010, a spring garden at the Ranch is ready for harvest with Tewa blue corn over 10 feet high (think blue corn pancakes). In addition, a new monsoon garden will be planted in a few short weeks with student volunteers testing a curriculum for learning about plant cultivation through time.

A second major summer project is an archival one: the Historic Documents and Photographs Archival Project. We reported in the last Newsletter that Monique Shephard, a graduate student in library science and Library volunteer, was working with the Society to scan documents from the George Pusch Historical Documents Collection. The project has been expanded for the summer months, in partnership with the Town, the Historic Preservation Commission, and the Library. Monique is working with volunteers to complete scanning and inventory of the Pusch documents as well as hundreds of photographs recovered during clean-up efforts at the Ranch. These will be available for future research and exhibits use.

As many of you have heard me say, preservation of historic places and resources is valuable only if they are used, for learning and for enjoyment, by a community. If you would like to participate in either project please let us know of your interest. Work for the archival project takes place at the Library each afternoon, and mornings are the best time for work in the garden.

Enjoy your summer!

Pat Spoerl

Historical Society Elects New Board Members

Annual Board elections were held in March and three new Board Members were elected: Bob Baughman, Barb Campbell, and Marilyn Pincus. They replaced Fred Roof, Georgia Hollinger, and Joyce Rychener. See the box to the right for a current list of all Board Members and officers.

Oro Valley Historical Society

Officers:

President: Pat Spoerl (2011)
520 297-7347

Vice Pres: Jim Skalicky (2012)
Secretary: Roxy Johnson (2012)
Treasurer: Lyra Done (2012)

Directors:

Bob Baughman (2012)
Barb Campbell (2013)
Twink Monrad (2011)
Krista Neis (2012)
Marilyn Pincus (2013)

Note: Officers are selected by Directors each year from the elected Directors. The numbers in parenthesis are the year the Directors term expires in March.

Committees:

Membership: Bob Baughman
Fund Raising: need help
Archival: Roxy/Joe
Speakers: Roxy Johnson
Education: Joyce Rychener
Oral Histories: need help...
Historic Gardens: Joyce Rychener
Editor: Joe Frannea
joe @ ovhistory.org

Donations:

Donations are always welcomed, much appreciated and needed. We are a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation with donations being tax deductible to the extent of the law.

Memberships:

Family: \$25
Individual: \$15
Student: \$10
Corporate/Institution: \$100

Life-Family: \$400

Web: www.ovhistory.org
Email: [info at ovhistory.org](mailto:info@ovhistory.org)

Tours of Steam Pump Ranch

Pat Spoerl and Roxy Johnson provided a history tour of the Ranch for Gabrielle Giffords, Washington DC Legislative Director and her Tucson District Office Outreach Director in early June. Their visit was a result of an invitation by the Interim Town Manager. The Town has submitted a request for federal funding to assist in the restoration of Steam Pump Ranch. It is Number 1 on the list of projects forwarded by Representative Giffords for funding.



The Arizona Pathfinders, a support organization for the Arizona Historical Society, requested a tour of Steam Pump Ranch as part of their spring fundraising and educational tour. The Town authorized access and the Historical Society was asked to provide the tour.



Roxy Johnson and Pat Spoerl gave the tour and Joyce Rychener was working at the garden. There were 62 participants -- a great group with enthusiastic interest in southern Arizona history. We all need to encourage additional activities such as this to increase awareness of the historical significance of the Ranch and to generate further support for use by the community. The Pathfinders made a donation to the Society at the tour.

Please note. The Society is authorized to give one tour a month at Steam Pump Ranch. We're ready to hear from interested groups.

Oro Valley Library Grant

The Oro Valley Library, in partnership with the Historical Society, has received a grant from the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public

Records department as part of available LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) funding. LSTA funds are used to help libraries develop a central role as

community builders and deliver services for cultivating educated and informed citizenry.



The awarded project "Oro Valley History and Cultural Heritage Preservation Project" consists of a series of presentations at the Library, field visits to Steam Pump Ranch and Honey Bee Village Archaeological Preserve, and hands-on workshops about Native American basket weaving. The funds also provide for acquisition of books for a special cultural heritage collection at the Library. The project will be implemented in September and will be a major component of our program presentations for the upcoming year.

Plan now for the Arizona Centennial

It's not too early to start planning. Beginning in early 2011, Arizona will launch a year-long celebration of its centennial, culminating on Feb. 14, 2012. Town staff are developing plans for local celebrations and events. A major one proposed includes a partnership with Marana where the two communities will work together on events that will highlight Northwest Tucson's rich history. A shared emphasis on farming and ranching is anticipated.

The Historical Society will be a partner in these projects and programs that will be designed to celebrate 100 years of history. A focus will be on educational programs and the importance of incorporating our past heritage in community activities.

A New Lifetime Member

Pat Spoerl, on behalf of the Society, presented outgoing Mayor Paul Loomis with a Lifetime Membership at his farewell reception. The Mayor has been a longtime supporter of preserving special places of the past and using them for community purposes.

The PZ Feldman Ranch - Memoirs by Henry Zipf from his childhood

This was our home over here, the large two story house. We would sleep on the porch because it was cool. It didn't have any heat, it had a fire place in the middle, and an old kitchen. It was rather roomy, a nice place.

The school teacher would live there with us. And, when they had roundups the cowboys would come in and occupy part of it. Once in a while we would find rattlesnakes under the bed. On the other side we had chicken coops.



Feldman Ranch House - North End



Henry Zipf

The old road that we came in on out front, that's the old road that we had. There was a heck of an arroyo just a little ways up that old road, I bet that arroyo is still there. What my mother told me, my grandfather owned the Steam Pump Ranch on Oracle Road and First today. That was a ranch where he developed water to water cattle that they had here in Pinal County, Mammoth and everywhere else. They bring them into his ranch to water and then load them at Red Rock to ship or Tucson. He got ten cents a cow or something like that and built the Steam Pump for that purpose. And that was a place they would drive from Tucson the first day, to the Steam Pump, stay overnight, then they would come across from the Steam Pump across what they called the Antelope Plains and that ended up in Finch Canyon. And that would come in about where Aravaipa is and then there was a road that would come in up here. Maybe that was Putnam wash, that makes sense, that's the one I was trying to think of. My mother would come across in a wagon, not me, I'm not that old, pretty close.

Anyway, they would come along in these old wagons, my grandfather who developed the whole area never carried a gun. And the Indians, my Mother told me, would surround the wagon as they came into this area and he had sugar and flour and other provisions that he would give them so they never bothered him. He had two young daughters, Mabel and Mimi who had long blonde hair. The Indians would come off their horses and run their hands through their hair, but other than that, the Indians never bothered them. The Indian kid was born somewhere down here in the San Pedro and he was a renegade. Maybe it was the Apache kid. He would ravage up and down this valley but never cut a fence on the ranch. They lived over in the Aravaipa. I don't remember that of course, my mother was telling me this.

They called it the antelope plains because she said they would run into herds of antelope and have to stop the wagon. When I came out here because of a couple years they needed someone to run the ranch range and my dad who was really not a rancher, he came and operated it. I can remember him getting up at daylight almost every day and going out on the ranch. They farmed all this and had cattle. I can remember around 1924 when they had a drought and the cattle would all come up to the ranch because there was water here and they had to fence them out. Otherwise they would come in and over drink.

The blacksmith shop was a pretty busy place as I remember as a kid, I remember the old adobe building.

This silo over there was for the grain raised in these fields and put in that silo. I remember the smell of the silage they put in there.

One year my dad raised a bunch of hogs. The hogs were kept over there in pens. He had a couple of sows and gave one to me and one to my brother.

He had a prize of a dollar for the one that had the most pigs, I won. My brother cried, so the next day he took a couple of pigs out of my place and put it into my brothers, he got the dollar that time.



Adobe Blacksmith Building



Grain Silo and Wheat Field

He had a bunch of pigs, they were out in this field, he would get out there and yell "PIG", "PIG" and they would come running from all over. A good thing about the pigs is that they would get rid of the rattle snakes. There were a lot of snakes out here because there was water here. Those pigs would go after the rattle snakes.

I can remember we had jerky up in the top room. There were lines and the jerky was on those lines up there. And whenever they would kill a calf or cow we would get jerky. I can remember there was a lot of meat up there. We would go up there and sneak some of that jerky. I guess they would bring out stuff like flour and sugar in big bulks. We could go into Hayden and Winkelman, it wasn't too far. There was a good merchandise store in Winkelman. Drugstore was in Hayden. It wasn't that isolated. The store had provisions for sale and I guess they did not have any meat or anything that would be bad, they had all kinds of merchandise.



Feldman Ranch House - Upstairs Large Room Over Whole House

OUR MISSION

- To promote research, preservation, education, and dissemination of historical information related to the greater Oro Valley area.

OUR PURPOSE

- Assist the Town of Oro Valley in protecting and preserving places of historical importance.
- Provide educational opportunities in our schools to encourage student awareness and interest in history.
- Sponsor informative programs to increase interest and knowledge of area prehistory and history.

Special Benefits for Corporate/Institution Members

We will be issuing Support Certificates for display in their place of business and will list these businesses on our web site.

OVHS

Newsletters

Our goal is to publish newsletters six times a year. We did miss printing a May-June issue.

Our newsletters are mailed to those members without email addresses (black and white copies) and made available to all others (color version) on our web site. We mail a copy to all members when we have any material that needs mailed such as renewal envelopes, election ballots or a special event notice.



**ORO VALLEY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 69754 - Oro Valley, AZ 85737