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FOUNDATION FACTS

From Longhorns to Beefmasters . . . Arizona's Flake Family Pioneers . . .

by Jo Baeza

A century ago, a tumbleweed that broke loose its moorings in Flagstaff, Territory of Arizona, could drift clear to the Texas Panhandle with no fence to break its path.

Northern Arizona in the 1870's was inhabited by marauding bands of Apaches and Navajos, a few Indian traders, a scattering of Spanish settlements and widely spaced army forts. Wild cattle shared the short grass prairie with antelope. "Broomies" ran in hardy bunches along the Mogollon Rim. Deer, elk and turkey were plentiful.

Men drifted like tumbleweeds, blown by chance winds or driven by destiny, looking for a place to send down roots, to begin a new cycle.

Chance brought James Stinson out of Colorado in 1873 to receive a herd of Mexican cattle on the Little Colorado River in northeastern Arizona. While trying to locate the cattle, he came across the Silver Creek Valley, saw its potential and decided to stay.

For five years, Stinson and his partners bought cattle out of Mexico and sold them to army outposts at Camp Apache, Camp Verde and Fort Wingate. He built an adobe house, outbuildings and corrals, and put in a mile of irrigation ditch that watered 300 fertile acres of farmland.

Chance had no part in the life of William Jordan Flake, a man of authority, tenacity and ability. A resident of Utah, he was called by his church in 1877 to help colonize the Little Colorado River Valley. Mormon leader Brigham Young told him, "Sell all that you have that you can't take with you. Take your family and go there to settle the Saints. Leave nothing to come back to."*

Obediently, Flake sold out at a loss and left with his two wives, Lucy and Prudence, and their children to join other colonists in the region of present-day Joseph City. When they arrived, they found dissention and many of the colonists had decided to leave.

Some went back to Utah, but Flake and Alma Z. Palmer began scouting out the surrounding country. Finding the best land already taken, they tried to buy



The Jay E. "Jed" Flake family pose for 1983 Christmas picture.

the Silver Creek ranch from James Stinson. Finally, Stinson agreed to sell it to Flake for \$11,000 in Utah grade cattle. (Arizona cattle were all of Mexican ancestry; Utah cattle were of better quality.)

The purchase price included the land, water rights and all improvements. Flake's family arrived at Stinson Valley by wagon on July 21, 1878. Lucy Flake wrote in her journal:

As far as the eye could see, the rolling hills were covered with waving grass. One large house and a line of small adobes nestled in a brown patch among tasseled corn and ripened bearded barley in the center of the valley below. A few cottonwood trees and willows fringed the banks of the silvery stream that gave it its name.

Smelling the water, the hot, tired, thirsty horses and cattle almost stampeded getting to it. They drank their fill then began feeding on the luscious green grass.

We were almost as eager as they, but it took us longer to get there. Our wagons had to wind around to get down the hill. When we reached the bottom and stopped to let our teams rest and drink, we women folk climbed out, and kneeling down on the mossy banks bathed our faces and drank to our hearts' content of the first clear water we had seen in months.

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Editor's Memo's

Every week I receive a lot of really interesting letters and notes in the mail and obviously I can't print them all — I do like to share with the membership as many as I can, especially if they can be beneficial. I appreciate every little note — sometimes that's all it takes to make an otherwise gray day turn into a good one. Your interest and comments are appreciated . . . so keep them cards and letters coming!

Mary M Wilkinson
Executive Secretary

Ms. Wilkinson:

I am sending you a copy of an excerpt that I received in one of my range management classes in college.

I believe it is worthwhile reading and would be appreciated by anyone closely associated with the ranching industry and particularly FBA members.

Should this excerpt be too lengthy to include in one of the issues of *Foundation Facts*, I am sure you yourself will appreciate it's message.

Sincerely,
Doug Kuykendall

"CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY"

By Alan Paton

There is a lovely road that runs from Ixopo into the hills. These hills are grass-covered and rolling, and they are lovely beyond any singing of it. The road climbs seven miles into them, to Carisbrooke; and from there, if there is no mist, you look down on one of the fairest valleys of Africa. About you there is grass and bracken and you may hear the forlorn crying of the Titihoya, one of the birds of the veld. Below you is the valley of the Umzimkulu, on its journey from the Drakensberg to the sea; and beyond and behind the river, great hill after great hill; and beyond and behind them, the mountains of Ingeli and East Griqualand.

The grass is rich and matted, you cannot see the soil. It holds the rain and the mist, and they seep into the ground, feeding the streams in every kloof. It is well-tended, and not too many cattle feed upon it; not too many fires burn it, laying bare the soil. Stand unshod upon it, for the ground is holy, being even as it came from the Creator. Keep it, guard it, care for it, for it keeps men, guards men, cares for men. Destroy it and man is destroyed.

Where you stand the grass is rich and matted, you cannot see the soil. But the rich green hills break down. They fall to the valley below, and falling, change their nature. For they grow red and bare; they cannot hold the rain and mist, and the streams are dry in the kloofs. Too many cattle feed upon the grass, and too many fires have burned it. Stand shod upon it, for it is coarse and sharp, and the stones cut under the feet. It is not kept, or guarded, or cared for, it no longer keeps men, guards men, cares for

men. The Titihoya does not cry here any more.

The great red hills stand desolate, and the earth has torn away like flesh. The lightning flashes over them, the clouds pour down upon them, the dead streams come to life, full of the red blood of the earth. Down in the valleys women scratch the soil that is left, and the maize hardly reaches the height of a man. They are valleys of old men and women, of mothers and children. The men are away, the young men and the girls are away. The soil cannot keep them any more.

From "Cry, The Beloved Country",
A novel by Alan Paton

Dear Mary,

I sold the cows you were advertising for me in the *Buyer's and Seller's Guide*, so you may discontinue the ad.

The *Buyer's and Seller's Guide* has been beneficial to me and I would like for it to be continued.

Thanks.

Bob Pyeatt



KIDS IN THE CORRAL . . .

On May 7, 1984 Oran and Brenda Tracy of Virgil, Kansas became the proud parents of a daughter named Samantha Rae. She weighed in at 7 pounds and 2¼ ounces.



NEWLY CORRALLED . . .

Stephen Harkness, FBA member from Washington, will be married on June 30, 1984 to Martha Josephine Langallo. The office would like to congratulate Martha on bringing a good man to the hitching post!

CTBB PLANS FIELD DAY

The Central Texas Beefmaster Breeders satellite will hold a field day July 21st at West, Texas. West is about 15 miles north of Waco. Events are still being finalized. We do not have all the details as we go to the printer but preliminary plans call for four speakers, the video presentation, a steak luncheon and a drawing to give away a Beefmaster bull. Beefmaster cattle will also be on display. Watch next month's *Foundation Facts* for complete details.



FOUNDATION
BEEFMASTER
ASSOCIATION



FROM LONGHORNS TO BEEFMASTERS . . .

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The pioneers worked hard building dams and irrigation ditches, homes, barns, corrals, a school and a church. Their livestock multiplied on the rich native grasses. Gradually, a semblance of civilization appeared on the frontier.

Then their carefully constructed dam of security broke and disaster flooded the plains. In 1886, the Hashknife Outfit from Texas moved into northern Arizona with 44,000 head of Longhorn cattle and the wildest bunch of cowboys this side of Zane Grey. They had bought the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad land grant, and occupied not only the million acres of alternate sections, but all the public domain in-between. In the wake of the Hashknife, came organized bands of horse thieves, cattle rustlers, gunmen and outlaws on the run from Texas and New Mexico.

Since law enforcement was scarce, the pioneers had to form their own vigilante committees to defend their interests. From 1886 til the turn of the century, northern Arizona bled from cattle and sheep wars, gunfights over territory and water rights. Violence took its toll of both lawmen and outlaws.

By 1900, the incomparable grasslands were depleted and eroded from overgrazing. Drought, blizzard, depression and mismanagement combined to break the giant Hashknife. But the pioneers remained.

William J. Flake sired twenty-one children. From that rootstock came more than 10,000 descendants. Lawyers, doctors, teachers, laborers, farmers and ranchers. Whatever their occupation, their roots go deep into the soil of the Silver Creek Valley.

At least one branch of the family has been in the cattle business continually, from Longhorns to Beefmasters. James Madison Flake, son of William J. Flake, had twenty-four children. In the 1940's, the sons of James M. Flake bought out their father and split up the original Flake holdings. With pared-down ranches, the need for range management and breeding practices was recognized by the brothers. They put in tanks and wells and fences. To upgrade their herds, they bought Hereford bulls.

In the '40s and '50s, Herefords reigned supreme in northern Arizona, and brought top prices from cow buyers, who cut them back for conformation, color and uniformity. Woe to the rancher who had too many linebacks, rednecks or motley-faced steers. Anything that looked suspiciously non-Hereford took a shrink.

Virgil Flake, son of James M. Flake, had as good a herd of Herefords as any, but he shared the problems northern Arizona ranchers were having with the breed. Every year, the cows seemed to produce less milk and the calves seemed to get smaller. The brilliant sun and blowing dust of the region led to problems with pinkeye. The small-framed two-year-old heifers had trouble calving. He decided to cross them with Black Angus.

According to Virgil's son, Jed, "Our dad went to Iowa for two Angus bulls. He got them to put on his two-year-old heifers. He was one of the first ranchers in this country to raise non-Herefords. Our father was very far-sighted. He spent all of his money for range improvement. Any money he made went right back into the ranch."

Virgil Flake left his sons a heritage of hard work and dedication to the cattle industry. "We've pastured cattle all over the West," said Jed, "and I've never seen a better stockman than my dad. He knew how to work them. He never abused cattle, he always worked with them."

Jed and his brothers Jake, Steve and Dean are partners in the F Bar Cattle Company, now Snowflake Beefmasters, which consists of holdings which belonged to their father on part of the original Flake ranch. Said Jake, "My dad had the nucleus of

a ranch for the four of us. He gave us good terms and good interest rates, but he sold it to us. He didn't believe in giving anything away to his kids."

Jed, Jake, Steve and Dean all have university degrees in animal science, but also a degree in cow sense, handed down to them by their father. Jake said, "A stockman needs an education, but he also needs an open mind. I think open-mindedness is the quality a good stockman needs most."

At a time when many family-owned ranches are being bought out by large agricultural corporations or selling to subdividers, the Flakes are planning to stay in the cattle business. "A lot of the older ranchers have sold out," said Jake. "They couldn't change with the times. They couldn't make it with a debt to pay off, or their kids don't want to ranch."

He said, "It's going to be tougher and tougher. Your costs are getting higher and higher for leases, taxes, management and energy. You've got to become more and more efficient to make it."

Snowflake Beefmasters is expanding its holdings. Besides a cow ranch, they have anywhere from 4,000 to 5,000 head of cattle on feed or pasture every year, and they farm over 500 acres of hay and permanent pasture. They not only raise cattle, they feed them out.

"Taking cattle all the way through, we saw what kind of cattle we had to raise and knew we had to have some Brahma. They were the only ones that were performing," said Jake.

To increase efficiency, the F Bar Cattle Company has switched from fine-boned Herefords to heavier, growthy Beefmaster cattle, and has instituted a natural rotational grazing system developed in Rhodesia by Alan Savory, whom the Flakes hired as a consultant.

They started crossing their Herefords with Charolais in the early '60s, said Jed. "We crossed with about everything the next ten years - - Brown Swiss, Semital, Brangus. The buyers used to cut prices on our cattle, but the extra weight made up for it."

In the '70s, the Flakes started using a few Beefmaster bulls they bought from Pat Spurlock, another northern Arizona rancher. "We could see the future of the Brahma influence in cattle, but we didn't intend to get into purebred cattle at that time," said Jed.

"Our intent was to upgrade our own cows, but it took too long. To upgrade, it takes three successive crosses to get a seven-eighths, which is considered 'certified'," he said. They decided to buy about seventy-five Beefmaster mother cows in Colorado, and the next year they bought two more loads of Musser Brothers cows. "Our calves were averaging 535 pounds just from crossbreeding," he said.

"In my opinion," said Jed, "Beefmasters are the most adaptable cattle ever created. We've found no place to which they don't adapt. They're probably the hottest breed going right now."

Jake said he believed the secret of success in ranching is to stay up with, or stay ahead of the industry. At a recent cattle sale, he said he heard one old timer listen to all the arguments about replacing Herefords with heavier breeds. The old Hereford rancher, who wanted to stay in business, finally said, "Hell, if they (the buyers) want camels, I'll raise camels."

For the past fifteen years, Snowflake Beefmasters has been upgrading their herd by culling every cow that fails to wean a calf every year. They accomplished that mainly through pregnancy testing, said Jed. "Today, the only thing that goes to beef is ten-twenty percent, the culls. Everything else goes to

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Buyer's and Seller's Guide

ARIZONA

FOR SALE: Two loads — purebred Beefmaster cows. Twenty-two head 1/2 Beefmaster cows (young and bred for fall calves). One hundred head purebred yearling Beefmaster heifers. Thirty-five head 1/2 Beefmaster yearling heifers (open and ready to breed). Purebred Beefmaster bulls-yearlings and 2 year olds. Also we have semen available on several bulls — from \$6 per straw and up.

SNOWFLAKE BEEFMASTERS / F BAR CATTLE CO.
JAY E. FLAKE
HC 63, Box 5120 / Snowflake, AZ 85937
(602) 536-7115 (ranch) or (602) 536-7375 (res.)

CALIFORNIA

FOR SALE: Nine cow/calf spring pairs, Cage breeding. Six 2 year old bred heifers due to calve in early fall. Also nine open heifers of W. H. George and Spurlock breeding.

U WING BEEFMASTERS / NICK & PAMELA EWING
P.O. Box 243 / Santa Ynez, CA 93460
(805) 688-5366

COLORADO

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY: Two hundred Beefmaster heifers. Large number of bulls. All cattle have been calfhooed (Bangs) vaccinated and ready to go anywhere.

CLAUDE R. CAGE BEEFMASTERS / CLAUDE R. CAGE
2665 Whispering Terrace / Colo. Springs, CO 80917
(303) 743-2783 (ranch) or (303) 591-1945 (res.)

VORIES BEEFMASTER PLAN - 1984: Contracts now available for weaning bull and heifer calves and a few bred cows.

VORIES BEEFMASTERS / VORIES CATTLE CO.
EUGENE C. VORIES
P.O. Box 2201 / Grand Junction, CO 81502
(303) 242-1585 (office) or (303) 242-4558 (ranch)

FLORIDA

FOR SALE: Four cows 3 to 5 years old, two with calves at side and one heifer 14 months old and one bull 30 months old.

LAZY J. BAR BEEFMASTERS / JOE JONES
Route 1, Box 928 / Newberry, FL 32669
(904) 472-2680

ILLINOIS

FOR SALE: Large selection of Beefmaster bulls, 12 to 24 months old.

RS BEEFMASTERS / ROY SCHOENBECK
Rural Route 1, Box 215 / Evansville, IL 62242
(618) 853-2546

KANSAS

FOR SALE: D-Glenn Beefmaster bulls for sale.
D-GLENN BEEFMASTERS / DALE GLENN
P.O. Box 152 / Lecompton, KS 66050
(913) 887-6198

MISSISSIPPI

FOR SALE: Forty-six cow/calf pairs, bulls and heifers, \$600 and up or \$30,000 for all.

B & D HOMESTEAD BEEFMASTERS / DAVID SISTRUNK
P.O. Box 955 / Monticello, MS 39654
(601) 833-0823

MISSOURI

FOR SALE: Thirty yearling heifers.

ST. CLAIR BEEFMASTERS / BILL BISHOP
107 West Hickory / El Dorado Springs, MO 64744
(417) 876-2529

FOR SALE: 1978 Lasater herd sire, \$2,500. Also 3 yearling bulls.

SQUIRES BEEFMASTERS / PAUL C. SQUIRES
Route 4, Box 295-A / Troy, MO 63379
(314) 338-4591 (day)

NORTH CAROLINA

FOR SALE: Eight Beefmaster bulls, 18 months to 2 years of age, priced from \$700 up.

PHYL ANN RAY BEEFMASTERS / RAY & PHYLLIS SAFRIT
Route 5, Box 784 / Concord, NC 28025
(704) 436-6078

OKLAHOMA

FOR SALE: Forty polled yearling bulls.

COTULLA BEEFMASTERS / E. R. COTULLA
Route 1, Box 100 / Hugo, OK 74743
(405) 326-5049

FOR SALE: Fifteen open heifers, born in March.
HARGIS BEEFMASTERS / L. G. HARGIS, JR.
Route 2, Box 226 / Waurika, OK 73573
(405) 228-2540

OREGON

FOR SALE: Four year old HEART THREE Beefmaster bull.
DOUBLE G BEEFMASTERS / DAISY CREEK RANCH
ROBERT L. GEMAEHLICH
P.O. Box 780 / Jacksonville, OR 97530
(503) 899-1022

TEXAS

FOR SALE: Polled Beefmaster herd: 11 cows, 7 with calves at side, balance to calve soon; herd bull 3 years old, group price \$13,000. Four yearling heifers, four yearling bulls \$550 to \$800 each or entire herd of 27 head \$18,400 — see to appreciate — Brucellosis free herd.

GLASSCOCK BEEFMASTERS / ALEX GLASSCOCK
Route 1, Box 37 / Cotulla, TX 78014
(512) 378-5343

FOR SALE: Forty registered eight year old cows; bred cows or calves at side. One hundred three-quarter Beefmaster cows, high grade, eight years old; bred or calves at side. Eighteen two year old bulls.

MARGO BEEFMASTERS / ROBERTO S. MARGO
601 W. 6th / Rio Grande City, TX 78582
(512) 487-3623

FOR SALE: Thirty-three quarter pairs all calved last two months. Twenty-two three quarter heifers now being bred.

MARTINEZ BEEFMASTERS / HENRY E. MARTINEZ
4909 Erik / Amarillo, TX 79106
(806) 352-6098 (home) or (806) 779-2395 (ranch)

FOR SALE: Yearling heifers, \$600 each, also weaned heifers in July for \$500. Lasater, Miller and Casey breeding.

LAZY S BEEFMASTERS / BUNKY SMITH
Route 1, Box 25 / Detroit, TX 75436
(214) 632-5760

? INQUIRIES ?

ALABAMA

PF Bragg Carter, Rt. 8, Box 207-A, Audalusia, AL 36420
AC Jerry R. Clemons, Rt. 2, Box 398, Killen, AL 35645
AC C. L. Freeman, Rt. 3, Box 576, Millport, AL 35576
AC Jerry M. Howell, P.O. Box 67, Goodwater, AL 35072
AC Jim Murphree, Route 3, Box 29A, Albertville, AL 35950
AC Steve Pemberton, Rt. 5, Box 249, Alex City, AL 35010
WL Jay Segers, 2358 Grayson Valley Dr., Birmingham, AL 35235

ARIZONA

NMS Jimmie Burbank, P.O. Box 484, Pinon, AZ 86510
C Robert Goye, P.O. Box 35, Oraibi, AZ 86039
NMS Tom Henderson, P.O. Box 444, Pinon, AZ 86510

ARKANSAS

ACB Bill J. Bell, c/o Bonnie S. Trader, 112 Kay St.,
Hot Springs, AR 71901
ACB Alton Dollar, Rt. 9, Box 55, Pine Ridges, AR 71966
TEL Ray Howard, 16 Lakeview, Concord, AR 72523
ACB Ron Huddleston, Route 1, Box 224, Lamar, AR 72846
BF Miguel Madero, 3001 Wedington #111, Fayetteville, AR 72701
ACB Billy Joe Payne, Route 1, Box 190-B, Emerson, AR 71740

CALIFORNIA

CC Howard A. Hill, Box 38 Star Route 1, Banning, CA 92220

FLORIDA

PF William C. Archer, 7311 Cedar Point Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32226
FC D. H. Ranch, P.O. Box 631, Lake Wales, FL 33853
PF Jim Elmore, Bag Point Box 296, Panama City Beach, FL 32407
FC G & S Cattle Company, 327 1/2 Tasmine Blvd.,
Port Richey, FL 33568
FC Claudell Rhoden, P.O. Box 96, Sanderson, FL 32087
MM Timmy A. Trammell, Route 1, Box 415, Westville, FL 32464
MM Bill Wiersma, Foreman, Scarborough Ranch,
408 S. W. 15th Street, Okeechobee, FL 33472

GEORGIA

BF Thomas Burnette, Rt. 1, Box 40, Tallapoosa, GA 30176
GC Walter R. Bush, Sr., P.O. Box 2276, Dalton, GA 30720
GC Corry M. Copelan, Rt. 4, Box 162, Madison, GA 30650
GC Reece V. Morris, 3210 Woodlyne Way, Doraville, GA 30340
PF Jimmy Roberts, Route 1, Box 93, Jefferson, GA 30549
E T. Stevenson, 160 Barber Street #1, Athens, GA 30601
GC Zack D. Smith, Route 3, Box 880, Byron, GA 30240
GC Clyde S. Taylor, Rt. 1, Box 187, Doerun, GA 31744

IDAHO

MM Laurence Boyd, Rt. 1, Box 53, Midvale, ID 83645
BF Ronald D. Chisham, Star Route, Macay, ID 83251

ILLINOIS

C Larry Rasner, P.O. Box 56, Marshall, IL 62441

INDIANA

BF Joyce Dusenberry, Pendleton Heights High School,
R.R. 3, Jct. 67 & 38, Pendleton, IN 46064
BF Jane Williams, R.R. 1, Box 35, Sandborn, IN 47578

IOWA

IC David A. Brown, R.R. 1, Box 34, Lenox, IA 50851
MM J. O. Gibb, R.R. 1, Box 223 Frta. Rd.,
Strawberry Point, IA 52076
C Marvin Kiewis, Rt. 2, Box 146, Batavia, IA 52533
BF Larry Richards, R.R. 2, Charkes City, IA 50616

KANSAS

MM Steve Brown, Route 2, Clearwater, KS 67026
BF Jerry Gantenbein, Turkey Creek Stud Farm,
Rt. 2, Abilene, KS 67410
KS Atkinson Rowe, 9001 W. 101 Street, Overland Park, KS 66212
BF Tim Wiles, HC61 Box 106, Hunter, KS 67452

KENTUCKY

PF Dwight Butler, Box 24, Harned, KY 40144
BF Bonnie Cartwright, Rt. 2, Fredonia, KY 42411
PF Carl Gray, R. #4, Box 203, Cadiz, KY 42211
PF Douglas C. Steen, Route 1, Box 23, Austin, KY 42123

LOUISIANA

PF Andrew Cure, 400 Aycock Street, Arabi, LA 70032
CBM George E. Lee, Jr., 3701 Lake Drive, Metairie, LA 70002

MISSISSIPPI

CB Ashe Farms, Rt. 2, Box 105A, Senatobia, MS 38668
PF John Carlisle, Route 2, Box 162-D, Vicksburg, MS 39180
E Terry Crabb, Ext. 4-H, 1206 Madison, Oxford, MS 38655
CBM L & M Cattle Co., Rt. 2, Box 255A, Church Hill, MS 39055
PF Dwight Jackson, Rt. 2, Box 20, Preston, MS 39354
PF Terry Staniscavage, Rt. 1, Box 530, Meridian, MS 39301

MONTANA

NWFO Lin-Lo-Ranch, L. Rueb, Box 453, Belgrade, MT 59714
BF Quirk Cattle Co., Route 1, Box 84, Eureka, MT 59917

NEBRASKA

NC Susan Draus, R.R. 1, Madrid, NE 69150
BF Dr. Dwight Maseberg, Box 127, Wallace, NE 69169

NEW YORK

BF City Bred Homestead, RD #1, LaFayette, NY 13084

NORTH CAROLINA

PF Stan Farrell, c/o Washburn, Rt. 2, Box 98, Bostic, NC 28018
BF Robert E. Jones, Route 2, Box 376, St. Pauls, NC 28384
PF James G. Steele, 2014 Griffith Rd., Monroe, NC 28110

NORTH DAKOTA

BF Wayne Hansen, Raub Star Rt., Box 6, Ryder, ND 58779
BF Leroy Throlson, Rt. 1, Box 98, Sheyenne, ND 58374

OHIO

BF Tim Schlatter, 3-15172 US Rt. 20-A, Wauseon, OH 43567

OKLAHOMA

MM Clifford Darrow, Rt. 3, Box 128, Helbert, OK 74441
OC Earl E. English, P.O. Box 473, Tishomingo, OK 73460
BF John H. Hood, Rt. 6, Box 357, Tehlequah, OK 74464
BF Joe Robertson, P.O. Box 179, Sallisaw, OK 74955

OREGON

WL Stan Basford, P.O. Box 113, Hermiston, OR 97838
BF Wiley Fortson, P.O. Box 475, Madras, OR 97741
NWFO Leigh A. McGilvray, Route 1, Box 73, Powell Butte, OR 97753
NWFO John Miller, 26515 Old Holley Rd., Sweet Home, OR 97386
WLJ H. Eugene Smith, Rt. 3, Box 3496, Hermiston, OR 97838
NWFO Archie Smotherman, P.O. Box 26, Maupin, OR 97037
MM Wildflower Ranch, B. Stawski, 4300 Woodworth Dr.,
Mt. Hood, OR 97041

SOUTH CAROLINA

PF A. P. Bruner, 119 Reynolds Rd., Sumter, SC 29150
PF William D. Lucas, P.O. Box 21, Pelion, SC 29123

SOUTH DAKOTA

BF Shirley Marvin, CRST Tribal Planning Office,
P.O. Box 6, Eagle Butte, SD 57625

TENNESSEE

PF Phillip Anderson, Rt. 1, Box 256, Lyles, TN 37098
MM Chad Garner, Route 1, Bakers Chapel Rd., Medina, TN 38355
PF G. Randy Hayes, Route 2, Box 50, Fall Branch, TN 37656
PF W. L. Johnson, Rt. 1, Box 302, Shelbyville, TN 37160
PF Bob Nagy, 117 Swift No. 3, Algood, TN 38501
TEL Clark Wilbur, 230 Ussery Road, Clarksville, TN 37043

TEXAS

I Gregory R. Albro #341437, Coffield Unit, Rt. 1, Box,
Tennessee Colony, TX 75861
T Alfred Buecker, Rt. 2, Happy, TX 79042
MM Burel L. Burton, Rt. 1, Box 161, Kempner, TX 76539
T Gene Glazner, P.O. Box 226, Umarger, TX 79091
PF Henry Griffin, Rt. 2, Anna, TX 75003
MM Mary Jasek, 1140 Oney Hervey, College Station, TX 77840
PF John T. Johnson, 715 11th St., Huntsville, TX 77340
PF L. B. Jordan, 520 Pampa Street, Sulphur Spgs, TX 75482
MM Mr. Lynn D. Krebs, Rt. 1, Box 50-I, Mathis, TX 78368
I Harold McCallum, Rt. 4, Box 278, Seguin, TX 78155
BF Anna Matula, P.O. Box 16, Fedna, TX 77957
MM Mark S. Montgomery, 836 Peavy Road, Dallas, TX 75218
C Scott Read, Rt. 2, Box 1454, Warren, TX 77664
C Joe Rizk, Route 2, Box 343E, San Marcos, TX 78666
PF W. H. Sheffield, Rt. 1, Box 952, Spurger, TX 77660

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A Big WELCOME to the NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN MAY

HISER'S BEEFMASTERS

Pandora Hiser Sikora
Route 2, Box 162
Willard, MO 65781
(417) 742-4315
Rendition: 48
Origin: Ted Sare
Previous Member

MILLER FARM BEEFMASTERS

Nancy Miller
Route 2, Box 294
Gloster, MS 39638
(601) 657-8722
Rendition: 15
Origin: Kaye Kaberlein

CAMANCHE BEEFMASTERS

John Sparrowk
P.O. Box 65
Clements, CA 95227
(209) 759-3551
Rendition: 5
Origin: W. H. George and
J. D. Cage

breeding," he said. Snowflake Beefmasters sells bulls and females to ranchers throughout the Southwest.

An artificial insemination program is underway, and 200 head of top young heifers are expected to calve within two days of each other this spring. They expect this synchronized breeding to reduce death loss and expenses.

The Flakes are also experimenting with embryo transplants in their cow herd. "We bought the most outstanding cow we could find in Texas and sent her to a lab in California along with our own best heifer," said Jake. "We also bought twenty-five amps of premier bull semen out of Texas. They inject the cows with hormones. It makes them ovulate many eggs. The embryos are transplanted in recipient cows. That way, one cow can give twenty-five to thirty calves a year. It's happening throughout the industry."

Beefmasters, the philosophy of raising them and the Foundation Beefmaster Association were all developed by Tom Lasater, a Texan, said Jed. His intensive breeding program produced a 'supercow' which has six essential qualities of a good beef producer: hardiness, disposition, fertility, weight, conformation and milk production.

"Beefmasters," said Jed, "are 'rustlers' and have proven their ability to stay healthy and productive under sever conditions of heat and cold. Fertility has been bred into Beefmasters by culling females who don't wean a good calf every year. Beefmaster cattle have gently dispositions, and gentle cattle are easier to handle, make better gains and bring better prices. The conformation of Beefmasters produces more pounds of the desired cuts of beef than other breeds," he said. "Cows have an easy time calving and gain faster on their mother's milk. Beefmaster cows are good milk producers and their calves don't require creep feeding."

In the book, *The Lasater Philosophy of Cattle Raising*, by Laurence M. Lasater, Tom Lasater is quoted as saying, "Cows should look like cows," and "The only thing a bull needs a head for is to take in groceries and emit a mating call." Lasater believed "the ideal conformation is exemplified by that animal whose carcass will yield the most pounds of tender, lean beef per pound of live weight."

"The land must also yield efficiently," said Tom Lasater. His philosophy of range management was based on the belief that "nature knows best, and that man should interfere as seldom as possible." By watching the natural grazing patterns of wild animals in Africa, a method for grazing was developed by Alan Savory. That method has already improved the yield of the Flake ranch, said the brothers.

Jake said, "My dad spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on range improvement. Even then, the carrying capacity kept diminishing. We tried brush eradication, reseeding, everything. We kept open-minded. This Savory Grazing Method has in-

creased our yield. We think it's going to revolutionize grazing of semi-desert ranges like ours."

Jed said, "There's a way to do it to some extent on any ranch." Flakes now have their pastures arranged around a central watering place. Pastures are about a section in size. "Because of the close supervision this method allows, the mortality rate has been cut to one-half of one percent. You don't need as many bulls, either," he said. The Flakes now pasture about 800 mother cows under this method. "One of the benefits," said Jed, "is that the concentration of cattle breaks up the hard crust of the earth and fertilizes it heavily, making it produce more feed the following year."

Jed and Jake Flake agreed that the most valuable lessons their father taught them were how to work, how to enjoy it and a love and understanding of livestock. They hope to pass these qualities down to their children, thirty-six in all.

"All of my kids are learning to be cowboys," said Jake. "I have seven boys and generally take them all on roundup. We pool our horses when it's a major work. They all love ranching. Our biggest problem is every one of our boys would like to come back and live on a ranch, and there just isn't enough country to go around."

Jake says he lets each of his boys break his own horse when he is ten years old. "We've all rodeoed a little and roped a little, but we don't encourage it," he said. "What we do encourage in our kids is hard work and responsibility -- integrity, the keeping of their word, the love and care of livestock. They learn that the comfort of livestock comes before your own comfort."

Every year, the entire Flake family gets together for a reunion in Snowflake, Arizona. They have a program at the Mormon church in the morning, and a potluck dinner under the cottonwoods at the rodeo grounds at noon. The rest of the day belongs to the children. They may be the only family in the nation that holds its own family rodeo. "Everybody takes part in it. We have foot races, and games on horseback for the kids besides some roping and barrel racing. We try to have something for everyone," said Jake.

Not all of the Flake offspring can become ranchers, but they can all share the heritage left to them by William J. Flake, Mormon pioneer. "Our goals for our children are to teach them to work and to learn, to send them on a mission for their church," said Jake. "After that, we feel they can make it anywhere."

"Three things govern my life," said Jed Flake. "My family my church and ranching, in that order. My family comes first."

Snowflake Beefmasters continues to pioneer. "I think there's still a frontier," said Jed.

Jake agrees. "I think the frontiers in ranching are improvement and efficiency."

*from *Snowflake's Centennial History* by Al Levine

INQUIRIES . . . Continued from Page 5

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 Ferreteria la central, Costa Rica
 MM Dixon Gonzalez Obando, Ministerio de Agricultura,
 Ciudad Neily-Punatarenas, Costa Rica. C.A.

ACG = Arizona Cattle Growers	MLD = Livestock Mkt. Digest
FC = Florida Cattleman	PF = Progressive Farmer
ACGO = Arizona Outlook	I = Independent
NMS = New Mexico Stockman	OC = Oklahoma Cowman
NWFU = No. West Farm Unit	CBM = Cattle Biz In Mississippi
BF = Beef	ACB = Arkansas Cattle Biz
= El Ganadero	NC = Nebraska Cattleman
CC = California Cattlemen	AC = Alabama Cattleman
HPJ = High Plains Journal	GC = Georgia Cattleman
CM = The Cattleman	MBC = Missouri Cattleman
WLJ = Western Livestock	KS = Kansas Stockman
NR = Nevada Rancher	IC = Iowa Cattleman

CERTIFICATE AND TRANSFER TRANSACTIONS

State	Certs.	Trans.	Total
ALABAMA	15	23	38
ARIZONA	41	2	43
ARKANSAS	3	3	6
CALIFORNIA	—	6	6
COLORADO	1	3	4
FLORIDA	5	5	10
GEORGIA	4	5	9
IDAHO	29	33	62
ILLINOIS	9	9	18
KANSAS	11	11	22
LOUISIANA	4	4	8
MISSISSIPPI	6	8	14
MISSOURI	5	8	13
NEW MEXICO	1	1	2
OKLAHOMA	25	26	51
OREGON	1	1	2
TEXAS	80	105	185
WASHINGTON	1	1	2
TOTAL	241	254	495



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CORRAL OF EVENTS

FBA will hold their next annual convention February 21-24, 1985 at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. More workshops and seminars are being planned. Mark your calendars now.

Watch the June edition of *The Cattleman* for FBA advertising.

CTBB field day will be held July 21, 1984 at West, Texas. Watch *Foundation Facts* for details next month.

REPEAT OFFER

We have made a bulk purchase of "*The Lasater Philosophy of Cattle Raising*," written by Laurence M. Lasater, in a hardback edition to accommodate the many inquiries we receive. If you want to order one and/or several to pass out to new buyers, please fill out this coupon and enclose \$8.00 for each copy to cover postage and handling.

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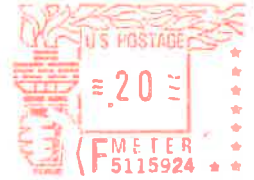
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