

Hello ladies,

On behalf of Kittitas County and Washington State CattleWomen, I would like to personally invite you to the Region V meeting of the American National CattleWomen, in our hometown of Ellensburg WA. Ellensburg is notorious for its wind, so remember a light jacket or hooded sweatshirt. May is one of the prettiest seasons' for our valley, bring your camera and set your sights for wild flowers in the sagebrush and spring calves blooming on the spring range grass.

Thursday opens our minds and our meeting with the wisdom of one the world's oldest cattle ranching communities, that of the Maasai, Kenya Africa. Kakuta Ole Maimai will speak to us of cattle which are a fundamental part of their culture. The web address is www.maasai-association.org/ Sharon Loosmoore of Ellensburg has a strong connection to their people and has been gracious in contacting Kakuta, pronounced like Ka (like a crow) and ta (like ta, ta, ta). Buddy up as we take a group photo, enjoy a slideshow of WCW, and partake in some beef and goodies. Marty Stingley will lead us in a little history of the range that encompasses the Wind Farm, as her family has grazed there for twenty some years. This will be a good camera op, as the wild flowers will be on their final show of spring blooms.

Friday will set the pace for learning with a Facebook workshop, reading of the State Presidents' and Region V Committee reports at the Washington Cattleman's Conference room. Jeannie Kiehn (WCW) will keep things clicking, as Peggy Biaggi presides over the business of Region V. Lunch is served in house, followed by a lively discussion by Fred Oldfield www.fredoldfieldcenter.net. Washington Beef Commission will tip us on consumer driven purchases, followed by the Presidents round table discussion, then we'll head to the world renowned, Ellensburg Western Art Show. The art show is held at our fairgrounds, we will be just in time to watch and visit while 20 some artists' participate in the Quick Draw till 6 pm. The art show is also at www.westernartassociation.org/auction.html take time to preview what is in store. To cap off our night, "The Andrew Sisters' Tributes" will lull us while we wait for dinner at the famous Palace restaurant of Ellensburg-they have prepared a special "no host" special dinner just for us.

Saturday Jill Ginn, President Elect will speak on ANCW programs and bridging the gap. Barbara Jackson will bring home the issues surrounding Animal Welfare and our role as CattleWomen. Julie Hensley will inspire us to live our lives to the fullest, as tells her story "The Lucky One". For those "who love cattle" a ranch tour, followed by a Wild West reenactment of the Battle of the Bull and an all out Ranch BBQ at Trinity Farms, owned by our local Kittitas County President, Paulette Forman and family. You can find them at www.trinityfarms.info and were featured in March issue of "Working Ranch" magazine.

My hope is to help CattleWomen connect on a level that is only privileged to good friends, friends who have a common cause, to promote and support the cattle industry. A noble livelihood, whose sole mission is to feed people. We've thrown some fun in on the weekend, join us. May this find you well, take time to know the industry from the inside out, state to state, and woman to woman.

Warmest Regards,

Teddy May Charlton
Washington CattleWomen's President