Friday, November 20, 2026: AESCW Drive-Thru Dinner

December 2-4, 2026 @ CCA/CCW Convention in Atlantis Hotel & Casino, Reno, NV
110th Annual CCA/CCW Convention – California Cattlemen's Association

Happy Fall, Ladies,

Just when I think we couldn't be any busier, the Fall season is in full swing. Teresa's Place was a packed house for our Fall Luncheon/Meeting. CCW president Debbie Costa was our invited guest, where we celebrated the accomplishments of the Amador and El Dorado County Super Steer winners, the Top Hands and our Cattlewomen of the Year. We welcomed new members and enjoyed hugging and visiting with all our members while checking out the amazing raffle prizes.

The Cattlemen's/ Cattlewomen's Fall Gather brought the two units together for great food, conversation and a very successful live and silent auction to support our scholarship programs. I'd like to extend a special thank you to Rene Olagaray, Toni La Belle, Jill Jess and Brooke Wunschel for the organization, creativity, muscle and hours spent to make this annual event so special.

Looking forward to our 7th Annual Drive thru Dinner on November 20th. This event brings all our members together to support this fundraiser.

Warmly,
Katherine





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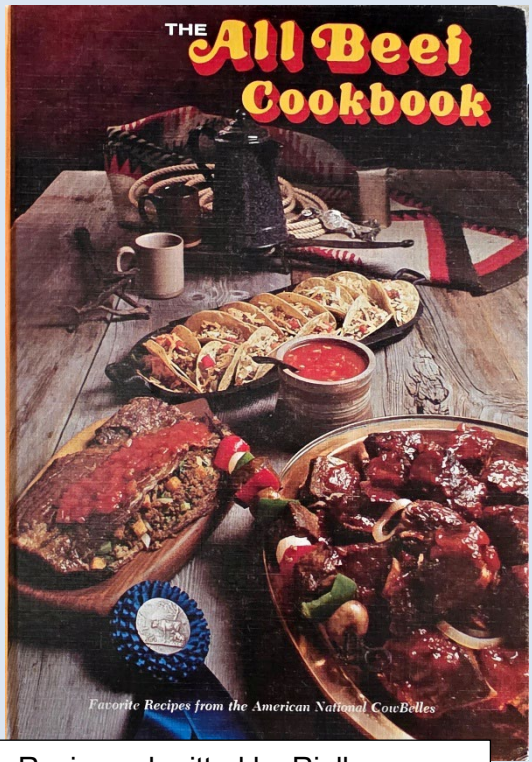


Recipe submitted by Rielle:
1973 American National CowBelles Recipe Book

FLANK STEAK SUPREME 6 TO 8 SERVINGS

2½-pound flank steak
1-pound lean ground beef
2 cups soft bread cubes (for croutons)
6 tablespoons butter or margarine, divided
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1½ cups chopped onion, divided
1 cup diced carrots, divided
1 tablespoon chopped parsley
½ cup diced celery
Salt and pepper to taste
1¼ teaspoons thyme, divided
1 can (8¼ ounces) stewed tomatoes
¼ cup dry red wine
½ cup beef broth
Flour

Cut large pocket in steak. In a large skillet, sauté bread cubes in 3 tablespoons butter. In a large bowl, combine ground beef, eggs, ¾ cup onion, ½ cup carrots, parsley, celery, salt, pepper, and ¼ teaspoon thyme. Drain croutons. Add to ground beef mixture and blend. Place mixture in pocket of steak. Tie steak in several places. Season with salt and pepper. Melt remaining 3 tablespoons of butter in skillet and brown meat on all sides. Drain off fat. Add ¾ cup onion, ½ cup carrots, 1 teaspoon thyme, and tomatoes. Simmer 5 minutes. Add wine and beef broth. Cover and simmer 1¼ hours. Remove meat to warm platter. Drain liquid. Thicken with flour, if desired (1 tablespoon flour to 1 cup liquid), and serve as gravy.

AESCW SUPER STEER WINNERS for 2026:
Scarlett Astin ~ Amador County
Abby Patterson ~ El Dorado County
Judging criteria include Live Carcass,
Rate of Gain & Hanging Quality





PRESENTING OUR AESCW
CATTLEWOMAN OF THE YEAR!!

TONI LA BELLE





RAFFLE TABLE

... and Katherine's
TOP HAND AWARDS
go to:
RIELLE WATERS-SANTINELLI
&
TOSH TAMANTINI







2026 ~ 2027 AESCW Board Members:
Rielle, Katherine, Toni, Jill C., Nancy,
Jill J. and Jeannie

An interview with Colette Busi: **"Our New Toys"**

The Busi Ranch (Frank and Colette Busi) summer their cattle on the Hwy 88 corridor between Bear River and Silver Lake. Additionally, Colette's dad (Elliott Joses) summers his cattle with the Busi Ranch herd. The cabin built in 1920 is headquarters for the mountain operations, providing a shelter, a place to hold the horses, and mission control to plan the daily rides to check cattle, but the decision to research and spend the money upfront was predominantly to eliminate the "Easter Egg Hunt" for the cows as they travel up the mountain grazing areas.

After talking to ranchers that have been using various GPS location systems, they made the financial decision to purchase the solar ear tags from the Australian company "CERES". As the family aged, it was important to use their time in the saddle more efficiently. In years past, many days were spent riding, listening for bells and following tracks that might be weeks old and not find a single cow or calf after being in the saddle two days in a row.

The "CERES "company designs and markets their cattle solar ear tags at $5.00 per tag which includes a 12-month subscription. A separate application is needed to utilize the ear tags. Ag Tech 360 phone app is the tracking system Busi Ranch uses to monitor the cattle movement. The solar cattle ear tags indicate the last location of the animal as they graze the mountain rangelands. A mini Starlink internet computer is set up at the family cabin, allowing Colette to view where the cattle are grouped each morning and plan the direction to either check the herd during the summer or gather at the end of the summer and load out to the main ranch.

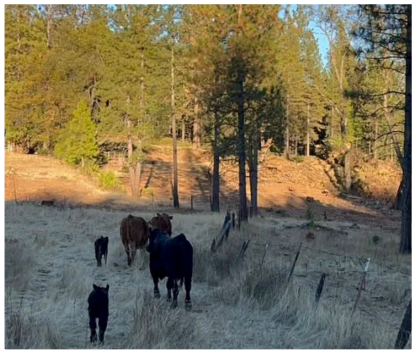
Colette had quite the learning curve to set up the input of each cow or calf in both herds to the computer program and the vocabulary the Australians use for the program. The Australians call a group of cattle a "MOB" and the areas we call pastures or meadows "Paddocks". Each ear tag needs to be charged before being programmed into the system, then placed in the cow or calf's ear. Once the solar ear-tagged cattle are linked together with the monitoring system, it updates every six hours, ensuring an accurate location four times a day.

If you follow Colette on Facebook, her posts indicate the solar ear tags are working as designed. They have greatly reduced the hours spent riding from the cabin to check both herds. She shared the High Country gather was the best ever, having it completed by October 14th. The Low Country gather on the Sierra Pacific Industries property for both herds was so successful this year due to the GPS ear tags. By all indications, the solar GPS ear tags are money well spent and will pay for themselves over the next few years.

To quote Colette, **"The GPS solar tags are here to stay!!"**



Finding cows w/GPS



Yep,....here they were!



The fall AES Cattlemen's/Cattlewomen's Dinner:

October 17, 2026,
The meeting & dinner were well attended. It was wonderful to see so many members and new faces.

The auction total was $9605.
The breakdown was as follows:
Silent auction = $2605
Live auction = $7000
Cow floral centerpieces an additional $420
Note: Cows were cutouts and hand-painted by AESCW members, and flowers were arranged by Jill Jess & her pal, Cheryl Galvin-Azevedo.





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SILENT AUCTION TABLE



Announcement:

Charlie & Riley Neely

Married 09-26-2026





Hey, that's Mary Robertson 😉



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