



# EMPIRE RANCH FOUNDATION NEWS

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[www.empireranchfoundation.org](http://www.empireranchfoundation.org)

## A Shared Commitment

I'm so grateful for the contributions and collaboration of our volunteers who in 2021 supported and strengthened the Foundation. Every challenge faced was met with innovative solutions.

When we could not offer in-person activities due to COVID-19, we enhanced our virtual activities. Over 400 historical vignettes were shared via Facebook and email. A virtual tour of the Empire Ranch House was posted on the ERF website, and we launched an online gift shop. Without the revenue from holding events we could not fund our administrator position, so a small cadre of volunteers collaborated to handle the Foundation's day-to-day operations.

When we could resume workdays, volunteers responded enthusiastically. And when we celebrated National Day of the Cowboy and hosted the 20th Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival over 2,600 visitors participated in both events.

Please take a moment to read the letter enclosed with this newsletter requesting your support for our New Ranch House fund. I hope you will contribute to this important capital campaign. The enclosed return envelope can be used to send a check or you can donate quickly and securely on our website ([www.empireranchfoundation.org](http://www.empireranchfoundation.org)).

The strength of any organization is its people. ERF supporters, members, and volunteers are simply the best! You share my love for the historic Empire Ranch and my commitment to preserve it for generations to come.

Thank You!

*Faith Boice, President*

## A Cowboy Festival To Remember!



It was wonderful to see the historic Empire Ranch come alive again for the 20th Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival on November 6-7th. For the first time the Festival was expanded to two days, and over 2,400 excited participants enjoyed the beautiful weather and wealth of activities.

B Troop 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment (Memorial) started off each day's Arena events with the presentation of colors, followed by exciting precision riding performances. Lanny Leach, Joel Eliot, and George Masek demonstrated horsemanship and cattle handling techniques. Sarah Ogilvie showed the amazing skills of working cattle dogs. The BLM Wild Horse & Burro performances were enjoyed by all. Demonstrations by the Spanish Barb Horse Association allowed a close look at these historic horses. And the skilled and colorful riding of the Charros y Modelos de Tucson and Copper State Renegades Drill Team never cease to impress.

Toes were tapping and hands were clapping at the Music Stage. On Saturday, Dan McCorison, the Broken Chair Band, and Randy Huston performed. On Sunday, the Dance Group of Tucson performed traditional Mexican dances, and

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