

- December 2011 BULLETIN -

We hope this finds you in joyful anticipation of a warm and caring holiday season!

As the year comes to a close, we are again filled with wonder and gratitude to have shared the journey of another full season with you. Your kind and caring support continue to make all the difference as we all strive to make a positive difference, decouple from what isn't working and begin building something better. As we view the fruits of this year's labor we're again reminded that together, so much it is possible!

Absence December 3, 4 and 8th

We will be absent from the markets the weekend and the following Wednesday, Dec. 8th. This will give us 6 days at the ranch where long overdue chores await us. We will be back the following week. We may also be gone the holiday weekend of December 31st and January 1st; please check with us for updates!

Lindner Bison to offer Burlap or Cloth Bags in 2012

Sadly many discarded plastic bags now occupy a vast area of our planet's ocean. When they accidentally blow onto our property at the ranch, we immediately remove them by hand and place them in a recycling bin. For the past several years, we've all learned the importance of lessening or discontinuing our use of plastic bags. At the markets we offered biodegradable bags, then later learned there is little that degrades in a meaningful way. Most of the time, we personally forget to bring our own bags when shopping, so it's clear to us that decoupling from this mindset is not the slam dunk that we thought it would be!

This week quite by accident, we came across an article with photos showing how plastic bags with handles affect marine animals who believe the bags are food and try to eat them. We weren't able to refind the photo showing an entanglement by a sea turtle, but for those who may be interested, here's a url that reasonably speaks to the issue. <http://bagitmovie.wordpress.com/2011/03/24/sea-turtles-and-plastic-read-on/>

Because Lindner Bison advocates sustainability for us, the animals and the earth, it has finally hit home that providing plastic bags is in conflict with this goal. Therefore, effective January 1st, Lindner Bison will no longer provide plastic bags of any kind at any of the farmers' markets. We will instead offer one size (8" x 12") cloth or burlap bags for \$.75/bag for those who forget to bring their bag or container.

2012 Calendars

This year's calendar marks the ending and beginning of a new cycle for Lindner Bison. With luck, our 2012 calendar will be available in December! Price: \$10+tax.

Heritage Ranch Log Home

As we sort through the photo's to pick from, we are filled with the sense that because we followed our passion (described in our book) and didn't give up, our dreams are becoming manifest. What was the flicker of an idea in 1993 brought with it nearly unimaginable gifts. This year's gift is a log home being built at the ranch. Truly a dream come true and marks the beginning of other long held dreams to humanely raise heritage chickens, turkeys and pigs!



August, 2011 material arrives at Heritage Ranch.



November 2011 porch in place.
The house is expected to be done the first half of 2012.

IN MEMORIUM: Art "Sonny" Crowley

It is with deep sadness that we report the sudden passing of our beloved bison mentor and friend Art "Sonny" Crowley of St. Onge, South Dakota. With Art is where we first placed our fledgling herd in 1997 and as middle aged newcomers, became willing students of his 100% grassfed counsel. We are grateful that he was able to read about himself in our book which was released and immediately mailed to him in early October. It's hard to measure Art's positive impact on us and the animals, as well as the positive ripple effect to countless others here in Southern California. We are forever grateful and will miss him. We extend our deepest and heartfelt condolences to his family.



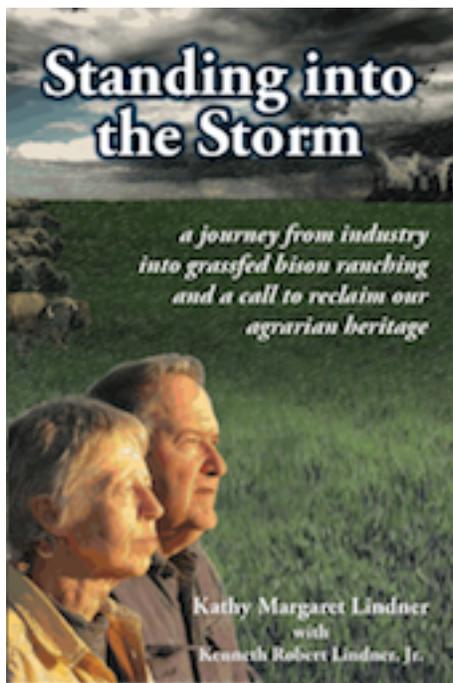
Art "Sonny" Crowley, 1997, first meeting in St. Onge SD



Art & Kathy, 2005 Heritage Ranch, final delivery of our herd to CA.

Our New Book: *Standing into the Storm*

We are pleasantly overwhelmed that our book has received such wonderful reviews from you! Some of the comments we've received so far: "You didn't tell us it was a love story!" "Normally, I'm not much of a reader. But your book is wonderful! I just couldn't put it down!" "Guaranteed: You'll laugh, you'll cry. You'll love this book!" "It's so inspiring and easy to read, I loved it! Now I'm sending a copy to sibling/friend/relative." "It's more than about raising animals. It's about making a decision and sticking with it!" "I finished reading it in two days. There's so much there, now I'm going to back and read it again!" "Thank you for writing such an inspiring book!"



For details and to view an online sample:<http://lindnerbison.com/book.html>

This year - and especially with the book's timely *Societal Call to Action* which may involve the 2012 farm bill and "conservation" issues for bison - we encourage you to give a thoughtful and sustainable gift that expresses caring on a new level. Special pricing for market customers: \$25/book; \$23/each for 3 books; and \$21/each for 5 books. Plus tax and shipping. In 2012 it will become available as an e-book as well as an audio book. On behalf of the species, we are grateful your support!

In thanks for another meaningful year, we extend bright and warm holiday wishes to you and yours!

Kathy and Ken
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