

# CORRESPONDENCE

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Three Wire Winter Magazine  
Steamboat Springs High School  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Dear Students,

On page 12A of the **Steamboat Springs Pilot** is a picture of Mag Wheels, a subscription drive for **Three Wire Winter**. I am about 1400 miles northwest of you; rollerskates are a little slow at getting here. There is no address or no amount for the subscriptions.

A few years ago, I purchased at the **Pilot** some of your issues, or read, if I remember correctly, some of your stories in the magazine in the **Pilot**. Many people besides myself are "old timers" and enjoy reading about people we once knew or knew about.

My family moved to Routt County in 1908. We came by stage coach from Wolcott to Steamboat to Hayden, where we lived on the Lower Cary ranch for the winter. In the early spring of 1909, we moved to Lily Park. We first lived in a four room log cabin. Many of my mother's pictures are in John Burrough's book, **How the Old West Stayed Young**. O.H. Waterhouse, my father, was the superintendent of this absentee land owned ranch. My mother was the bookkeeper and cook, except in the summer. Later we had hired a cook for hay hands, or at least we had a hired girl. My

mother kept a daily record of how many meals were served. One record I have is over 7000, and of that over 3000 came to dinner, fed their horse or team. At night they came to supper and fed their horse. The cowpunchers slept in the bunkhouse and others slept in the house. If there weren't enough beds, there were extra mattresses. In Uncle Will Templeton's log cabin house, where we always stopped for dinner on the way to Maybell or Craig, I always remember mattresses piled to the ceiling in one room.

I knew Ann Bassett, "Queen Ann." She was not only a very good cow hand and owned her own cattle. She was a "lady". She had a very gracious family and she had gone to finishing school. After dinner, outside, I heard one of the cowpunchers remark, "Ann is a perfect 'lady' in there at the table with Mrs. Waterhouse, but out on the range she can out work a man. Only thing wrong with Ann was that she was born 30 years too soon."

Now about sending the cost of the subscription? This is a long way around to ask to buy a magazine. Between phone calls, going somewhere, and my trying to get along with a new electric typewriter on which the "a" sticks, and seven years of college without shorthand, I concocted my own system of shortening words, like Supt., I never spelled that out. Now that is proper in typing.

Have a good year.

Sincerely,  
Kay DeKraayaka Eva Waterhouse





### Bootprints

I saw the print of a tiny boot in  
the soft white snow today.  
It's four inch outline so distinct  
and clear  
Brought back memories of  
many a bygone year  
Of brothers and sisters and other  
children so dear  
Who have trampled the snow  
on the ranch here.  
But now they are grown and  
scattered far and near  
And only the echoes of their  
voices I hear  
As I gaze at the print of a tiny  
boot in the soft white snow  
today.

1979

By Margaret Rossi

