

WYOMING OUTFITTERS & GUIDES ASSOCIATION

2022 HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER AWARD

— Jake Clark —

I WAS RAISED ON A RANCH in Meeteetse, Wyoming until the eighth grade when my family moved to Basin, Wyoming, but my heart was always in the Greybull River's Cowboy Country of Meeteetse. We grew up hunting to put meat on our family table, so the outfitting business was a natural transition.

Kay and I bought our first Greybull River Camps in Eleanor and Anderson Creek from life long friends Katie and Ed Larsen there in Meeteetse in the later 70's and we were off and running. It was a great learning experience for us to say the least. When we bought the camps from Ed and Katie they said, "If you feed them good and hunt them hard, they'll be back", and that still holds true today. With that in mind Kay would plan all menu's and have the food ready to go up to camp and for a few years she would take her vacation to go to camp and cook or guide an occasional hunter to get his game. She was a very good hunter herself.

Then came along our two kids and we just made mountain trash out of them. Basically, raising them up the Greybull River on Summer Trips and in Fall Hunting Camp as time allowed. T.J. began making a name for himself in the guiding business when he turned 18 for the taking of Good Bull Elk along with his great horsemanship. Codi, our daughter, was a huntin' fool, just like her brother and had drawn 3 Big Horn Sheep permits by the time she was 40-years-old. Some folks just have 'The Luck'. Codi and her family went on



to buy my old friend Ron Dube's camp and ran it for 8 years before selling it.

In 1993 we sold our Greybull River Camps and bought a camp in the Sunlight Basin area and later another camp in Dubois, Wyoming. We have bought or managed hunting camps in 8 different areas in the northern areas of Wyoming, mostly in the Big Horn Basin area, a couple of private ranches in the Sundance and New Castle area. We couldn't have done all of this without the help of our son, T.J. Clark, who basically ran our Emerald Creek and Wiggins Fork Camps for the last 5 or 6 years we had them. We sold these

two camps in 2020 to a basically hand-picked young man, Jimmy Owens, who is the grandson of a good friend of ours, Buck Allemand. He'll be one of the great ones, we're sure.

I could go on forever with a history lesson on

outfitting but want to take this space to Thank All My Great Friends I've made during my membership in WYOGA for their friendship and leadership. A special Thanks to Sy Gilliland, Lee Livingston, Budd Betts and Jim Allen along with many others. My sincere thanks for 'saving our rear ends' many times and their great advice at various times. If I had to do it all over again, I wouldn't change a thing and would do things exactly the same way. Like Gus said on the movie 'Lonesome Dove', "Woodrow, it's been a Hell of a Party!" 🐾