

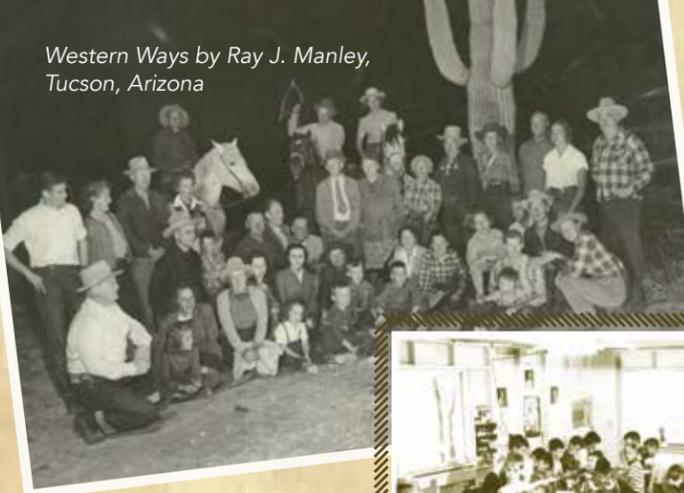
1868



Don Emilio Carrillo

The 150 years of history started in 1868 when Don Emilio Carrillo started ranching on the Tanque Verde land. Emilio and his contemporary, William Sanders, began raising short-horn cattle together. Emilio named the land Bueno Vista, then Cebadilla (Spanish for the barley that grew on the property). He built the original corral and the ranch house. Made from adobe mud, the card room, living room, and The Dog House Saloon were all built by Emilio. In 1904 a Western gang hung Emilio because he refused to give them money. Four years later, in 1908, Emilio passed away from the complications. In those four years, Emilio and his oldest son, Rafael, became very close.

Western Ways by Ray J. Manley, Tucson, Arizona



Brownie Cote Purchased Boys Camp

1921

Forgoing a promising law career, Brownie Cote decided to follow his passion for developing the lives of the youth, purchasing Camp Lincoln for Boys in 1921 near Brainerd, Minnesota. Brownie would end up purchasing the Ranch in the 1900s.

1928



Jim Converse

A man from Texas named Jim Converse came in 1928 and bought the ranch from Rafael. He also made the name 'Tanque Verde Ranch' official throughout his time there. Jim was the turning point in which the ranch began to host 'guests.' Although Jim started the hospitality industry there, he was not the best for the role. You could expect him to be out in the mountains hunting.

However, Jim was known to get along with many people. He had numerous friends and enjoyed entertaining, but he was also quite obnoxious. Converse went to jail because he tried frightening his friend with a gunshot. He missed, and the man was shot dead.



Western Ways by Ray J. Manley, Tucson, Arizona



(Bob Foster, Millie Foster, Brownie Cote)

Brownie Purchased Desert Willow Ranch

1944

In 1944, Brownie purchased the Desert Willow Ranch in Tucson, Arizona from Bob and Millie Foster (6 miles west of TVR) to offer year-round employment to his seasonal Minnesota employees. While Grand View Lodge and Camps had their off-season in the winter, the employees would travel to Desert Willow Ranch to help maintain this Guest Ranch and Boys and Girls Camps. Brownie continued the search for promising land for Boys and Girls Camps in Tucson and eventually for a Guest Ranch of his own.

1908

When Carrillo passed away, Rafael took over the ranch (February 14th, 1908). In 1914, more land was bought adjacent to the ranch from Mexican farmers. After several consolidations from a couple of different men it was then named Tanque Verde Ranch, which means 'green tank' or 'green pool' in Spanish. This was the name of just the land, not the ranch. Rafael was successful in naming the ranch La Cebadilla Ranch.

Rafael Carrillo



(Bob and Millie Foster)

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1924

With great success at the Boys Camp, Brownie Cote purchased Camp Lake Hubert for Girls in 1924, near Brainerd, Minnesota.

Brownie Cote Purchased Girls Camp



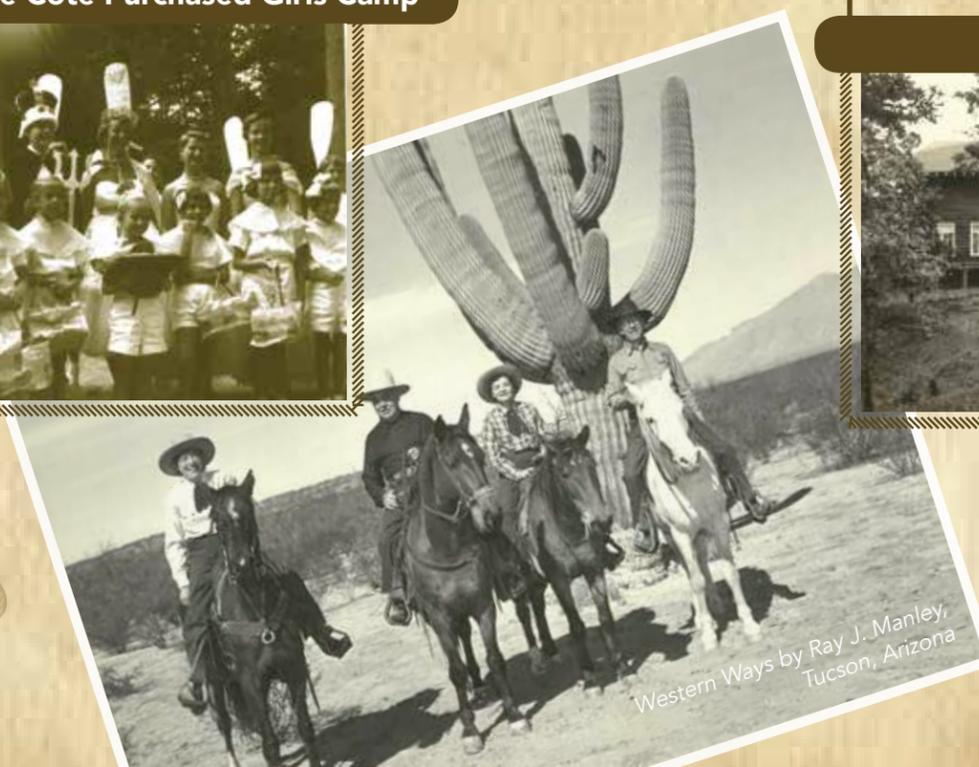
1937

Being successful with both camps, Brownie Cote acquired Grand View Lodge of Nisswa, Minnesota in 1937 to accommodate parents visiting their children at the camps. Grand View Lodge is still in operation and has big additions for 2018 including a hotel, a recreation center, and much more.

Grand View Lodge

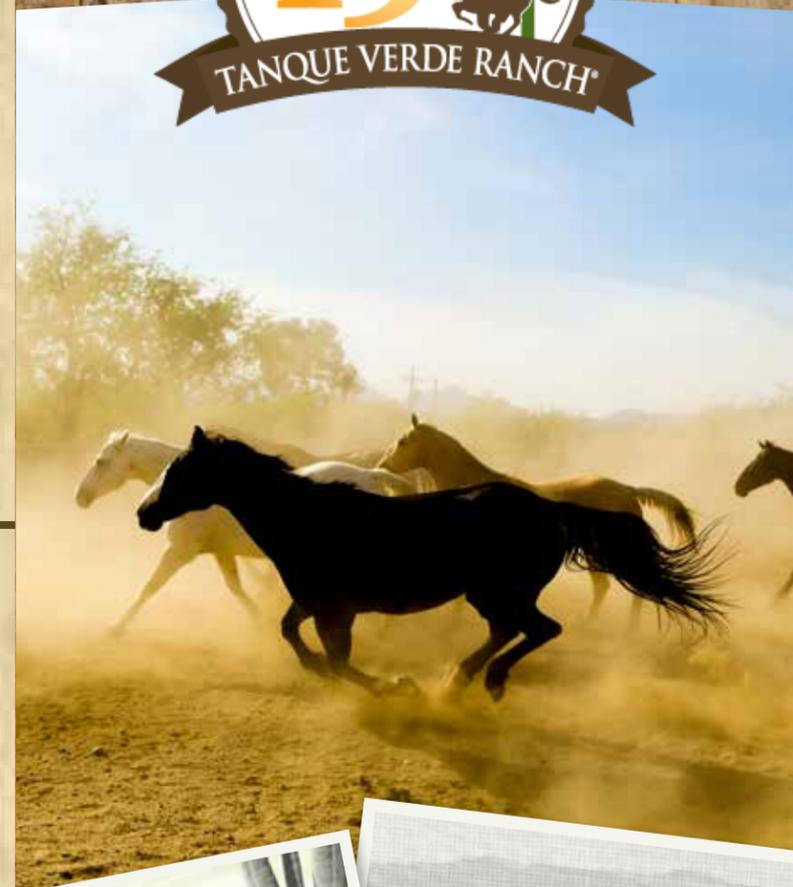


Western Ways by Ray J. Manley, Tucson, Arizona



HISTORIC TIMELINE

1868-2018



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF CREATING MEMORIES

Saguaro Room Built

1998

Because of the expansion of activities and more guests, there became demand for gathering spaces for meetings, banquets, weddings, events, and more. Tanque Verde Ranch built the Saguaro Room in 1998. With 2,304 sq. ft. the room holds 175 people and has been a great success for hosting events.



La Sonora Spa

2000

La Sonora Spa was an addition to Tanque Verde Ranch in the early 2000s. It houses treatment rooms for guests, allowing for massages, facials, and body treatments. The spa is also connected to an indoor pool and hot tub.

Activity Enhancements

1970s

With more and more guests coming to Tanque Verde Ranch programs such as mountain biking, kid's programs, hiking, nature center presentations, fishing, bird watching programs, and more were introduced. These activities became popular and grew. An activity schedule was eventually created for guests to have a variety of excursion options during their stay.



Construction Begins

1959

Brownie Cote purchased the remaining land from Converse in September of 1959. In 1959, Brownie Cote and his wife, Judy, began to add to the ranch. The indoor pool building, the outdoor pool, and hot tubs were all built that year. With beautiful brick walls, native-stone fireplaces, mesquite wood ceilings, verandas, and archways - they began to maintain an international reputation with their western, territorial style.



Lynn Gillham

1955

Jim Converse sold Tanque Verde Guest Ranch to Lynn Gillham in 1955, but Jim still owned an abundance of the land and continued to ranch and raise cattle.



Cotes Buy Into Tanque Verde Ranch

1957

In 1957, Brownie Cote first bought 480 acres of Tanque Verde Ranch from Lynn Gillham, and then the rest of the property over a series of increments totaling 640 acres.



(Judy and Brownie Cote)

Bob Cote

1969

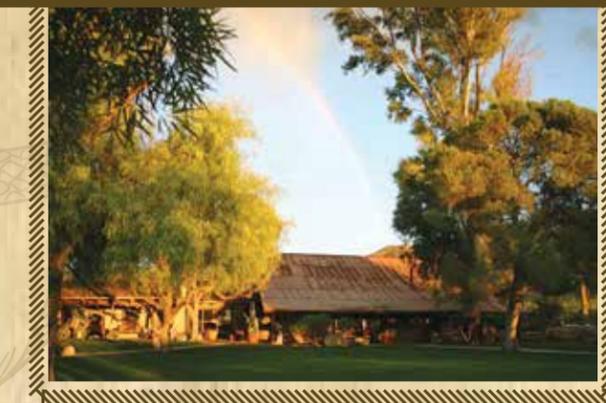
Brownie's son, Bob, took over management in 1969. Having spent the thirteen previous years overseas in a variety of countries, Bob decided to market heavily in Europe in the early 1970s and to remain open year-round. He and his wife, Rita, have introduced a wide range of activities to cater to the varied interests of families now visiting Tanque Verde Ranch. Bob retired in 2009 but still lived on property. Rita became General Manager for the 2nd time in 2016 and will retire in 2018. In 2017, Bob Cote passed away.



(Rita and Bob Cote)

The Ranch Today

2018



As of January 2018, Tanque Verde Ranch welcomed Terry Hanley as the new General Manager of the ranch. However, Rita is still doing work at the ranch as the Innkeeper.

The present day ranch has 640 acres and also leases approximately 60,000 acres from the U.S. Forest Service for its cattle operation. Today, guests can kick off their dusty boots and gaze into the spectacular Arizona sunsets just as the earlier cowboys did after a long day's ride. These traditions can be expected to grow and continue to be cherished as we celebrate the 150th milestone of Tanque Verde Ranch history!

There are big plans for Tanque Verde Ranch in the near future. Be sure to stay updated through our social media pages, and our blog articles.

