

It's a mule's world

It's that time of year. The mules are all in and the season is changing over to winter. We do have one hang up, though, the mules have formed a union called the Jackass Union. They contend they have been over worked and under fed. They want six hour work days, no nights, three days a week off and only high grade hay. It is a serious situation as it stands and then they want special ear muffs for winter! They heard that some of the strings up north got ear muffs in really cool mule colors. Now, can you picture sending your rough outdoorsy packers into the lingerie store to buy nylons of the right colors for the mules? By the time they get over being embarrassed, the clerk wouldn't believe that they were for the mules. That's enough to make a grown man drink but then you have to try to teach these big tough guys how to sew them into the ear muffs. Though, one of our saddle builder / mule packers has figured out that he might be able to talk one of the nice young lady clerk types into showing him how to sew nylons. Old Tony wasn't born yesterday.

When the mules held the Wyoming Jackass Rally, a most prestigious event, they decided that they wanted chartreuse colored muffs and that they would strike if their demands weren't met. We feel that we can negotiate though; they are kicking up quite a fuss. Stay tuned for the next episode. Old Tony may be getting into more than he can handle.

On a more serious note we here at Wyoming Outdoors have reworked and redefined our business. We recognized we were behind the industry in our saddle designs and that we could improve our construction techniques. We redesigned all of the saddle lines and dropped the Jesse James, Lady Lieuellen and the Santa Fe. The Jesse James and the Lieuellan turned in to the W O I Trail Saddle which is built on a Lieuellen tree. At the same time we wanted to fully address mules as well as horses. We now offer saddles built on mule trees as well as horse trees.

With the new saddle program we have introduced three entirely new lines focused on extreme hunting conditions and the working Rancher. The Ultimate Packer is a light weight hunting saddle built on the Santa Fe Tree with the same high quality materials as our other saddles but only weighing thirty one pounds. The other two are designed for the rigors of ranch work. The first is the Cowboy Wade built on a custom tree in the old tradition while the second is the Swell Fork Rancher also built on a custom tree. These saddles are built to your specifications by our own saddle makers. We work directly with you through the entire process.

We would like to take this opportunity too introduce our saddle makers and their creations. Tony Siggins comes to us from the outfitting industry and riding rough stock. John Sevenride has a strong background with the working cow horse both in the rodeo arena and on the ranch. Gordon Andrus is an artist and leather worker with a strong focus on design. Each one of these men brings a special set of talents to our store. Have a look at our saddles and let us know what you would like and don't forget that we carry a full line of tack and packing equipment.