

## CO Bar Well-suited for Testing NASA Space Gear and Rovers



Johnson Space Center has been testing NASA's prototype spacesuits in the Flagstaff area since the '60s. This photograph is from a 2006 testing session. JSC and NASA are expected to be testing on Babbitt Ranch lands next spring.

With its lunar-like volcanism and impact craters, northern Arizona has long been considered well-suited for training NASA's astronauts for the six Apollo expeditions to the Moon. Next spring, geoscientists plan to test proto-type Lunar and Mars spacesuits and several robotic rovers from NASA engineering teams on the CO Bar Ranch.

"The soil and basalt are similar to that found on the Moon and Mars with surfaces that can bear five to ten pounds-per-square-inch, so the large lunar habitat rover won't get bogged down in cinders," said U.S. Geological Survey geoscientist Dr. Mary Chapman. "Also there is easy access to the terrain and the Babbitts have been extremely nice and a

pleasure to work with."

Mars exploration and our likely return to the Moon have captured the imagination of millions worldwide as Mars Exploration Rovers: Spirit and Opportunity continue to roll over Martian terrain and beam back images of the landscape. Meantime, NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander is working as a field geologist examining soil samples for water and habitability.

Because of such widespread interest in Mars, IMAX film producers visited Babbitt Ranches two years ago to cast the CO Bar as the Martian

landscape in its big screen story about the Red Planet.

"The Babbitt Ranches Community feels privileged to be able to host scientists, astronauts and filmmakers," said Babbitt Ranches President Bill Cordasco. "It is extremely exciting to be part of history in the making and to be able to contribute to space exploration."

### Article III Cowboy Essence Section 7. Alertness

Observe constantly. Stay open-minded. Be eager to learn and improve.

For the latest updates on Mars missions, log on to [www.phoenix.lpl.arizona](http://www.phoenix.lpl.arizona) or <http://marsrovers.jpl.nasa.gov/home/index.html>.



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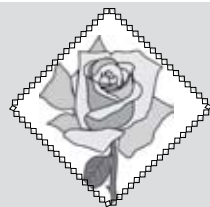
## RANCH COMMUNITY PRAYER

We thank you Lord, for this place in which we live; for the love and friendships that unite us and for the peace accorded to us this day: for the hope with which we expect tomorrow - for the health, food and the bright skies that make our lives happy - for our friends everywhere.

Let peace abound in our families. Purge out of our hearts the hidden grudge. Give us the grace and strength to practice self-control. Give us the will to accept and to forgive each other. Give us brave, joyous and peaceful minds. Bless us in all our honest and sincere endeavors.

If it may be, give us the courage to face that which is to come - that we may be brave in risk, constant in difficulty - temperate in anger - and in all changes of fortune; loyal, true and loving one another.

**Babbitt Ranches**



## Yellow Rose

*In loving memory, the Babbitt Ranches community celebrates lives lived well.*

## Babbitt Community Remembers Nimmons

Long-time Babbitt Brothers Trading Co. and Babbitt Ranches treasurer Robert "Bob" Nimmons is remembered fondly as a generous, trustworthy company and family man. Friends and co-workers say he was dedicated to his country, the Babbitt operations and the Arizona State Elks Association.

Jim Babbitt of Jim Babbitt Ford served on the Babbitt Ranches Board of Directors with Nimmons. "He really loved the ranch. He was one of the important guys on every cattle shipping sale. He would help with the weigh-in and calculate all the numbers several times every fall. He was an awful great guy working for a great organization," said Babbitt.

Flagstaff insurance agent and

fellow Elks Lodge member Randy Evans says Nimmons was always very proud of his affiliation with Babbitts. "He ran a tight ship. He could be joyful but also stern. In his position he had to keep on top of things."

"Bob was probably one of the most loyal people you'd ever meet," said Bobby D'Mura, a member of the Babbitt Ranches Board of Directors. "I rode out to the ranch with him for many years. He always added in his head, never used a calculator."

Nimmons was an active mem-

ber of the Flagstaff Elks Lodge and served as president of the Arizona State Elks Association in 1972. The Elks, and Nimmons personally, supported medical research to find cures for children's

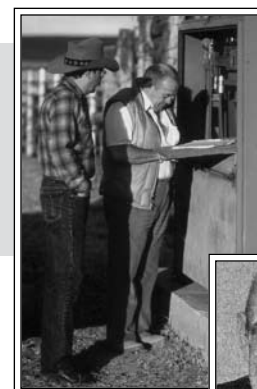
illnesses, giving to the University of Arizona's Steele Memorial Children's Research Center.

In addition, Nimmons loved the outdoors. "I used to go turkey and deer hunting with him," said Babbitt. "We'd go up near the Grand Canyon and camp out on the CO Bar

Ranch. We always had a most enjoyable time. Bob loved the fellowship, cooking the meals,

Mutual esteem, respect and devotion are the ingredients of an enduring friendship. Like marriage, it must not be taken for granted but requires a joint effort.

### Article III Cowboy Essence Section 3. Friendship



Bobby D'Mura and Bob Nimmons weighed cattle at the scale together for many years.



**ROBERT  
"BOB" NIMMONS**

playing cards in the evening, and hunting also."

Nimmons was a U.S. Army Air Force pilot in World War II. During his service he met and married his wife, Cora, in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Nimmons died Jan. 31. He is survived by his wife of 62 years; his son, Kim (Nancy) Nimmons of Huntington Beach, Calif.; daughter, Candy (Bruce) Birt of Las Vegas; his grandson, Kevin (Janelle) Nimmons of Syracuse, N.Y.; his granddaughters, Nicole (Paul) Bandas of Boise, Idaho and Noel (Ryan) Clancy of Huntington Beach, Calif.

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