

izes...."phttt phttt hhtttt puttthhhhhhiittt...." Cowboy spitting up snow-ball....."You're... phtttt.... going down.... Fffiitttt..... now city boy" as Cowboy cuts off the now exiting John from Dallas and rolls him in the snow. Curtains pulled back now as Sarah and Celine watch in to tears laughter..... Watching two grown men roll in the snow like two kids laughing as John from Dallas finally escapes. Everyone now in tears laughing as John from Dallas offers a hand up to Old Cowboy. Laughing the two brush off and go inside and replay everything over a cup of coffee. Of course each got the best of the other.....

Everything looked and smelled wonderful. Celine and Sarah, standing and admiring everything; Celine expresses how wonderful and special Old Cowboy and Sarah were. John from Dallas, with a breaking voice, adding "Can't tell you enough" "OK" Old cowboy breaks in "We are loving this" "Please, our pleasure"

Celine and John from Dallas head upstairs to be with the kids. Old Cowboy goes out to bring in more wood as Sarah finds her way to the guest bedroom. She takes a shower and gets out a final cry from the emotional day. As she sits and combs her hair she can't help but think what a day. She sighs and thinks about in 7 plus years she hadn't seen this side of Old Cowboy. She just knew that she would always remember this Christmas. She would not have expectations as she knew full well the old Old Cowboy could overtake new Old Cowboy in his sleep. But for now this feeling was the best and she would hang onto it for dear life.

Old Cowboy, though it was cold and still snowing, had his moment out by the stump before going inside and adding wood to the fire for the night. Cleaned up and went to bed and thought of Sarah. Each saw the other in a

totally different light.

In one day they learned more about the other than in the entire 7 years. She's a special one that Sarah he thought as Old Cowboy rolls over and Dog jumps into his spot at the foot of the bed. At the same time Sarah is thinking of him too. He's such a special person that Old Cowboy is, as Cat claws his way up the leg of the cedar logged poster bed and curls up.

He thought of her pain and how courageous she was and how he wanted to help her. It occurred to him all the animals on this place that he had helped and he had not done enough to help someone that deep down meant so much to him and was hurting. She thought of his heartache and wondered how anyone could be so callous. Would not be the first night she lied awake wondering how in some way to get through to him. She was also concerned about the phone calls.....

Christmas Eve night finds a full moon creating a day like brilliance against the snow. Shining down on so many here touched by the seemingly hard, leathered Cowboy..... Horse, warm in his stall,.... Dog at the foot of his bed,.... Cat on Sarah's bed all cozy.....Crow, crow full and safe in the rafters, Bob burrowed into a brush pile Old Cowboy kept just for him..... Goat, in a bed of hay...Donkey well, Donkey didn't know night or day so he was always ok..... Red



Santa and his elves at Bronte Health & Rehab Center

and the chickens, most brought to him that were extras in the shipment of other birds, to be cast out, now, bed down for the night... Countless deer, orphans that he'd bottle fed..... And now, a family upstairs, that this morning didn't have a clue; now, waiting on Santa to come. One sided it would seem but each and every one had paid back in full and then some. For as much as Old Cowboy took care of them so did they to him.

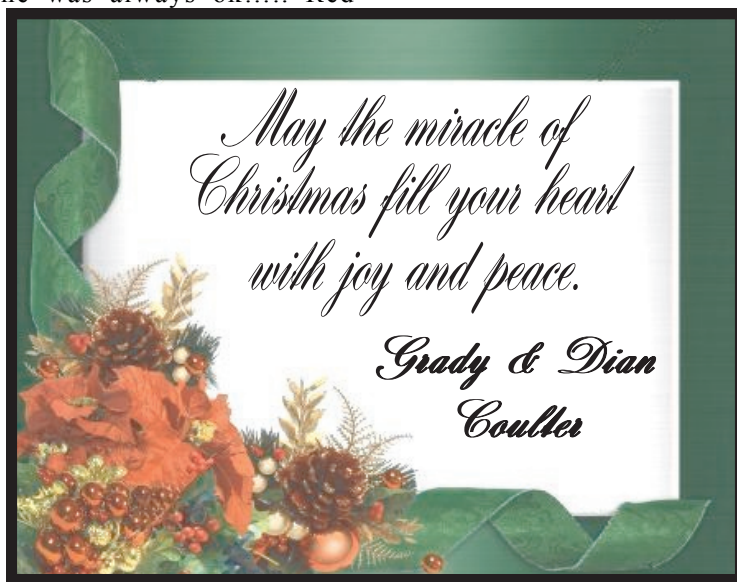
Christmas Morning

Old Cowboy as usual up and at em at the crack of dawn and like it was programmed into him starts the Christmas Day ritual as if he'd done it a 1000 times. He took his boots and got ashes on them and made foot prints to the Tree. Drank the now cold cocoa and ate the cookies. Wrote on the back of the note, that was left for Santa. By now Sarah had joined him and lending a hand. Hoping John from Dallas was keeping a lid on

the anticipation upstairs.

They just stood there for a minute taking it all in. She wondered which cowboy would show today. And for a moment it didn't matter. She walked up to him, took his face in her hands and with a look you could borrow money on says, "I just love you"..... "I love you too Sarah" he said. She wondered if her poor heart could take this. This, her Christmas present for all time for Santa had apparently taken old Old Cowboy with him....

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Wishing all a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

BRONTE Chamber of Commerce

Don't forget to shop at home this holiday season!