The Hyup Ranch

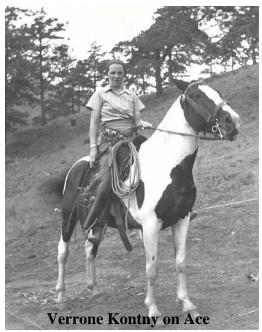
By Steve Plutt. Copyright June 1, 2021. All Rights Reserved.



The Hyup Ranch was a dude ranch atop Bald Mountain on the Rampart Range Road above Woodland Park. It was owned and operated by Jack and Verrone Kontny.

John "Jack" Kontny Jr. was born December 31, 1901 in Chicago, Illinois. His wife Verrone was born June 14, 1905 in Evanston, Illinois.

In the mid-1930s the Kontny's would spend the summer vacationing at the Armentrout cabins in Green Mountain



Falls. In the late 30s they started staying at G.G. Gayler's K.I.E. Guest Ranch, also in Green Mountain. Then, in the winter of 1939/40, Jack and Verrone traveled to Green Mountain and



ACCOMODATIONS: Boys and Girls are placed in groups of four in clean, well-kept rooms having comfortable bunk beds, with toilet facilities and shower. All the rooms are located in one new lodge, located in a group of aspens and pines, with a splendid view of Pike's Peak. Delicious home-cooked meals, prepared in a modern kitchen, are served 'Family Style'...just the way the young 'Cowhands' like it.

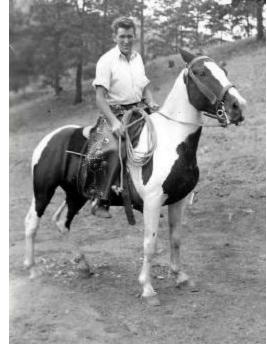
Lots of Fun for Everyone Horse Back Riding — Sightseeing Trips — Tours Around The Mountains — Also Family Accomodations — And Such Reasonable Rates: 4 WEEKS only \$250 8 WEEKS only \$450 (Which includes transportation to Hyup Ranch) For Further Information — Wire, write or phone JOHN KONTNY Jr. Director - Hyup Ranch P. O. Box 104 Woodland Park, Colorado or phone MU. 7-9069

was coed with boys in one wing and the girls in another and the lodge was situated in a group of aspens and pines, all facing Pikes Peak. Home cooked meals were prepared in a modern kitchen and were served "family style", just the way the young "cowhands" liked it.

bought the 160 acre "Mitts Ranch" on Bald Mountain from Garland Gayler and Jack and Verrone with their 3 children moved to Colorado from Evanston in July of 1940. Upon arrival in Colorado, they built, owned and operated "Hyup Ranch". In 1947 daughter Joyce was born. At 9,000 feet in elevation the dude ranch had a unrivaled view of what appeared to be a magnified Pike's Peak from the Main Lodge.

While at the ranch, campers were placed in groups of

four in clean, wellkept rooms having comfortable bunk beds with toilet facilities and a shower. This ranch



The main activities at Hyup Dude Ranch were all centered around horses. Each guests was giving riding lesson by well experienced and trained wranglers. For many kids, this was the thrill of a lifetime and would never be forgotten.

Other activities were sports and recreation. Field trips were made to Cripple Creek including a tour of the Molly Kathleen Gold Mine. Overnight pack trips, breakfast rides, picnics, basketball, hiking over the ranches beautiful trails, horseshoe pitching, baseball, square dancing, shuffle board and just plain loafing if you felt like it were all a part of the program at Hyup. They even had a private lake for anyone who felt like fishing that was always stocked with trout.

Hyup started out in the beginning as a dude ranch for both adults and kids. Then they switched to kids only, both boys and girls. At the end, it was reduced to a camp for boys only. Hyup shut its doors for good in the early 1960s. In the mid 1970's Jack and Veronne, along with their sons, Jack and James and daughter Arlene moved to the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado. Verrone Kontny died in 1990 and Jack in 1998.

