

Hilby Family Barn



Welcome Book with Helpful Instructions

Welcome to the Hilby Family Barn



We're sure happy to have you here as our guest. We hope you will enjoy this corner of God's creation as much as we do. We've put together some information to help you have the best experience possible:

- **History of the barn and the family that built it.** – This barn was built at the turn of the last century by true pioneers of this area. The Hilbys moved here from California after the gold rush looking for a better life. This was two years *after* Custer's Last Stand at little Big Horn (Montana). Our region had its wars with the Native Americans as well.....P. 3
- **Description of our renovation** - We wanted to give a sense of what the barn originally looked like and how it came to be as you see it now. We were not sure if we should tear it down or repair it, but once we found out the history and the age, we *had* to fix it up. The vision evolved as we went, and it is still evolving.P. 5
- **House Rules & General property info** - just some guidelines on how to get the most out of your stay here. We promise it does not include “Close the door! Were you born in a barn?!”.P. 9
- **Food ideas and suggestions** – You can always order food to be delivered, but we think it's more fun to experience the local establishments and the people that run them.....P. 14
- **Recreation opportunities in the area** – If you're not from around these parts, we wanted to give you a short list of things to do as well as some fun you can have right here without leaving the property.....P. 16
- **About your hosts and how to get ahold of us** -P. 18

History

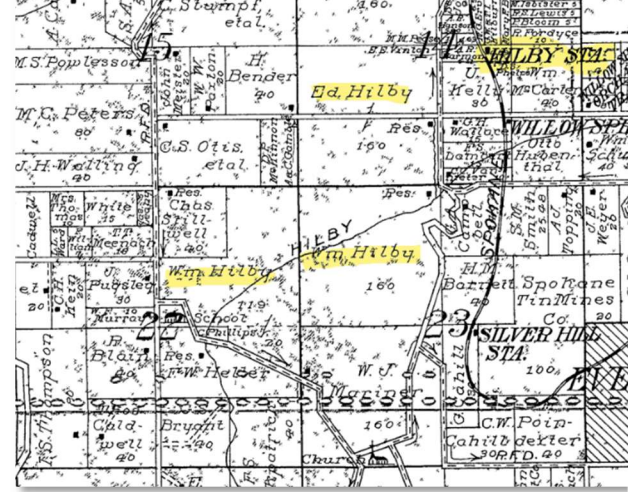
You are currently standing in a space once inhabited by pioneers. These were adventurous folk who came to this region seeking new lives in the promise of the new West. This barn was integrally involved in the history of this entire region. It is truly a monument and one we have tried to preserve by restoring it. It is now listed on the Washington State Registry of Historic Barns but one must go back to the beginning to really appreciate it. The story of this barn begins with the Hilby Family which is extensive. We've even met one who is a professional Santa Claus living in Louisiana! There are more than a few Hilby family members still living in Spokane and the impact of this family is still very evident today. For instance, we live on Hilby Road. We purchased our current residence from a Hilby granddaughter, Rita Hansen. The Hilby Station Apartments on Palouse Highway are named after a stop on the Inland Empire Electric Railway which existed from the 1890's to 1936 and had tracks that traveled across the eastern edge of our property.

So how did all of these things come to be? Who were the Hilbys?

There were three brothers who moved to the Northwest from Calaveras County, CA in 1878: John, William, and Edward Hilby. They came with their father, Johannes Hilby who had immigrated from Switzerland and then to California during the gold rush of 1849. Spokane was about to be incorporated as a city in 1881 but was rapidly growing due to its strategic location on the Spokane River. As the family traveled north, they reportedly observed the trees of the Moran Prairie from atop Steptoe Butte just south of Spokane and decided to settle here. The three brothers each homesteaded a quarter section of the Moran Prairie in the late 1800's.

William Tell Hilby, the middle of the three brothers, married Blanche Kirby in 1885. Blanche was truly a Pioneer and Matron of the region. Her parents arrived in this area in 1872 six years before the Hilbys when she was 12. At the time of her arrival there was only a sawmill, two houses at the falls and few scattered homesteads around the area. Her family had come to Spokane from Minnesota. They came by train to San Francisco, then by boat to Portland, then by steamboat up the Columbia to Wallula and by freight wagon to Walla Walla where there was a military fort and trading post to buy supplies and a wagon. After arriving in Spokane their father, Phillip Kirby, built the third house in the area that would become incorporated as Spokane Falls a year later.

Washington territory had just been established in 1851. The subsequent years were filled with conflict between the incoming settlers and the Native Americans here as was the case all throughout the west. By 1858 there was open hostility and war between the US military and the native inhabitants of this area. Colonel Steptoe, who was the commander of Ft. Walla Walla, was enroute to negotiate with the Colville tribe when a skirmish broke out and he was embarrassingly defeated just south of here at Steptoe Butte where the Hilbys would later get their first glimpse of their future homestead. Even closer, the Yakima nation and the Coeur d'Alene tribes were engaged in outright war with the US military. And in retaliation for reported killing white settlers, Colonel George Wright ordered the hanging of Qualchan, the son of Chief Owhi of the Yakima tribe at their



In 1876, four years *after* Blanche and her family arrived in Spokane, General Custer was famously defeated in Southern Montana by Chief Crazy Horse and an alliance of tribes including the Lakotas & Cheyennes. Just a year later, in June 1877 Chief Joseph of the peaceful Nez Perce tribe of

[illegible]

Blanche and William lived on his homestead which included this property on Moran Prairie for the next 60 years raising 9 children and 23 grandchildren. They were both very active in the community. In 1948 the Hilby farm which had grown to 300 acres was sold. Phillip Hilby, one of William's six sons, owned this particular 10-acre parcel. He built our home in 1958 (his name is inscribed in the concrete of our garage & dated 1952), but unfortunately, he died in 1959. His wife Grace continued to live here with their son Clarence until her death in 1985. Clarence Blain Hilby died in 1997. He was the Grandson of William Tell Hilby, Swedish immigrant from California and was the last direct descendant to live on this property.

Renovation

While we knew bits and pieces of the history of this barn From Rita Hansen, a Hilby granddaughter from whom we purchased this land in 2010, trying to discover exactly *when* it was built was difficult. It started with researching the family. Being a genealogy geek, Dale tracked down all of the Hilby descendants so he could begin to understand who was who. This was no easy task as there were a LOT of Hilbys! After a couple of trips to the NW room at the library and the Washington State Archives in Cheney and lastly a stop at the NW Museum of Arts and Culture, the picture was becoming clearer. However, we were still unsure of the exact age of the barn and if it was actually worth saving. It had fallen into disrepair, and we needed to either take it down or fix it up.

One day while pondering this question and poking around inside the barn, Dale happened to look up and found the proverbial break we were looking for. The page at right from the Spokesman Review is glued to the underside of the roof sheathing. It is dated May 6, 1906. We covered it in plexiglass and left it there. You can see it above the door to the winery.



This gave us an 'at least as old as' date. Based on the ages of the ancestors at that time, it had to be built by William even though we're not sure they actually lived there since then. We also believe the home was originally built as a simple gable roof home with the shed roof addition to the south being added in that 1906 time frame so it is likely the home was built prior to that date. I'd like to think this picture of William is him sitting in the door of his home, our future Barnery!



'before' pic; beginning to peel siding(note the newspaper discovered on the sheathing; now hanging inside)



After learning all of this, we HAD to renovate and keep this beautiful old barn.

Since it was originally a residence, a portion would become a 'bunk house' for our property and an event space for any soirees our small home could not accommodate. Lastly, it could provide a place for Dale to conduct his mad experiments into wine making.

We became aware of potential restoration funds available through the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The first step was to get the barn registered on the Heritage Barn Registry which we did in 2019. To receive any funds however, we would not have been able to change any of the features of the barn or use it as we had intended. In early 2021 we started 'peeling the onion'.

We began gently peeling the siding off the sides we were going to modify in March of 2021. The first big task was to raise the SW corner as it had sunk over a foot. After getting a couple of siding boards off, we discovered more newspapers, all dated 1906.

Once we got to jacking up the corner, we discovered just how tiny the 'foundation' was and decided we would need to pour another footing and foundation around the three downhill sides of the barn and an interior floor as well. The winery addition plans also began to take shape.



Winery addition

Over the Summer and Fall of 2021, framing began on the winery addition with the help of some good friends. We were able to insulate on top of the roof framing before adding a new roof to preserve the interior as original. Our goal was to re-use as much of the original materials as possible as we opened up the south side for a garage door/deck and repositioned the doors. After sandblasting and painting the exterior. We started in on the roof in a race against the weather as winter was coming. Fortunately, snow held off and we were able to get the roof on and the final pieces of siding on the winery addition as the first snow began to fall!

During the winter and spring of 2022, we worked on the interior. We reused the old exterior siding we pulled off as interior wall finishes. The old tin roof became the wainscoting. (The transition trim pieces came from our neighbor's barn that he replaced a few years ago and we had stored in this barn -yes we are packrats!) Two of the light fixtures were made from an old block & tackle and some horse team rigging that we found in the attic of the barn.

In the bunk house, the walls, ceilings, and floors are original, except in the bathroom. We thought about restoring an authentic outhouse, but County Health Department, and common sense dictated otherwise.

The kitchen range is not original to this space, but it is close to the age. We found it in Wenatchee, WA and brought it here to live and hopefully will be restored to working condition. The same is true of the old radio which was a gift from Cheryl's brother Andy from Vancouver, WA.

We found many things while under construction in addition to the newspaper clippings. Inside the walls we found some treasures that are prominently displayed around the space including the vintage Campbell's Soup can & cocoa box on the microwave. Hanging on the outside of the bathroom walls are more clippings from a newspaper dated later that we found stuffed into the wall between the bunk house and the current winery. There is also the lid to an old board game that had slipped from the attic down into the wall cavity. In addition to those, we found a fishing lure, playing cards, and a children's conductor figurine that are all now in the library. Above the radio are some old pictures we found in the barn. Of note was an old painting of Yosemite National Park which would have been very close to where the Hilby's grew up in California.

While looking to see just how close to Yosemite they lived, I ran across towns called, "Bummerville", and "Tragedy Springs". No wonder they traveled north! There was also a town called Willow Springs..... hmm... a coincidence? I think not.



plumbing under the bunkhouse

The rest of the things you'll find are from us adding our own touches.; our fondness of books, cold beer and the dog prints in the finished concrete over by the wood stove are good examples.



Interior Finishing - winter of '21/'22

House rules and general property info

What, were you born in a barn?!!

Key codes to the door- Your private and secure unique entry codes will be given to you upon confirmation of your reservation.

Hot water – We have an on demand hot water system which has a delay in the hot water reaching the tap. Be patient, it feels like forever, but could take up to 15 seconds to get to the bathroom.

WiFi – The network name is “Barnery”. Password: “ranchondude”

TV’s passwords, Apps, etc- You are welcome to log in to any apps on the smart TV’s with your own login credentials. Don’t forget to log out when you leave or we’ll stock up our pay-per-view library after you’ve gone! We also have 5 dvd’s under the bar which are required viewing! (8 hrs) Descriptions are at the back of this book.

Appliances – Most important - a Keurig coffee maker w/ a variety of flavors (we are not heathens). We also have a glass French press for the purists, but you supply the coffee. We have a complete kitchen with microwave, and fridge (w/ small freezer). Please no food waste in the sink, however. Our vintage range was too tricky to rewire so we went with a two burner induction cooktop and air/fryer toaster oven rather than risk a barn fire! There is also a propane grill onsite for larger cooking. There is a washer/dryer with supplies in the cabinet to its left. You are welcome to help yourself to anything in the cupboards. We have the fridge stocked with basic condiments & have an assortment of spices, oils & balsamic.

Sofa Bed- The grey couch is a queen-sized, pull-out bed. We have bedding and pillows under the pew nearest the winery and a mattress topper under the main bed for extra comfort. There’s also a twin airbed with sheets under the main bed if needed. Roll down shade for garage door is operated by the hand crank hanging next to the dart board.

Candle “fireplace” heater - can be turned on just for ambiance or if it’s chilly it can take the edge off. Use the black remote under the small tv.

Heat/cooling – both the upper and lower spaces of the barn are separately conditioned by two mini-split units with their labeled respective white remote controls. You are welcome to adjust these as you like for your comfort. You’re also welcome to open the windows or the garage door for fresh air. The ceiling fan over the bed is controlled by the small white remote under the TV in the bedroom.

Wood stove - You are welcome to make yourself a fire in the wood stove if the weather or mood dictates. It has a finicky draft and can be a bit of a challenge for even an Eagle scout, so use a LOT of paper and small kindling. There's plenty more firewood on the North side of barn, and we'll even let you split some – no extra charge!

Property animals – We share this ranch with two dogs. Roxy and Finn who are sister & brother, Lab mixes and *extremely* friendly. They will greet you and shepherd you to your parking space with Roxy (on the right) most likely dropping something inside your car door for you to throw, (pro tip: don't do it! You'll be doing it for the next 4-6 hours). We also have Whisky, Sunday, and Frankie, our cats that meander around and chase mice, sort of.



***It has come to the attention of management,** that certain of our four-legged creatures have coerced/charmed their entry into the Barnery. While we have worked to train them not to do this, they may tell you it's ok. DO NOT LISTEN! They can be very convincing (and cute!) but don't let them fool you. They're welcome to join you on the deck if you wish but the garage door threshold is their boundary, so please tell them so. A stern "No. Outside!" usually does the trick. If stronger measures are required please contact management and we'll bring the big deep voice, aka "The Muscle". Thank You, The Management.

PS - The big black dogs usually listen very well. The cat's don't listen to anybody, they're cats. Anything else, then you're on your own as it's a wild animal and you should run for your lives.

Chickens - Chicken Coop 3.0 is finally complete. After losing too many chickens to predators over the last few years we decided to take action. Plus the old coop area was looking decidedly hillbilly, even for us.

Our staff includes:

- 2-Midnight Majesty Marans; "Pepper" and "Mustache" (black & white speckled)
- 2-Speckled Sussex; "Walter" and "Daisy" (brown and white speckled)
- 2-bantam Silkies, "Silky Smooth"(our black rooster), and "Fluffy" (grey/white)
- 1-Lavender Orpington; "Lavender Girl" (light grey)
- 1-Prarie Bluebell Egger; "Esther" (brown)
- 2-"Turkens" Technically they are "Transylvania Naked Neck" Chickens. Ugly! Right?!
- 1-Buff Orpington

And Molly (The Unsinkable Molly Brown) is our last surviving OG chicken - 3 yrs old. You're encouraged to go say hello & help yourself to some eggs! PS-They love anything green to munch on (grass blades, weeds, leftovers.)

Honey Bees – These are fascinating creatures and Dale would be happy to give you a tour of the hive. You're welcome to go watch them in the orchard on your own too. They are very docile. Safest viewing is from behind or to the side of the opening to the hive to not interfere with their coming and going. Move slowly and you can get quite close as they are focused on their work and could care less about gawking humans. We harvested our first Funky D Bee Honey in Aug/'24. The yellow jackets are the ones we hate (notice all the traps)!

Games, Books, and toys, oh my – We have Cribbage, backgammon, Clue, Settlers of Cattan, chess and checkers. By all means, enjoy any of the books in our library. There are even some throw toys for Roxy, but you have already been warned.

Pickle Ball – The net, line markers & paddles are all under the pew nearest the winery. We leave the net frame assembled outside.

Bocce ball - Balls are in a black case under the pews nearest the front door. Put on your fedora, grab a cigar and glass of port. Enjoy!

Oh, and Don't look in the hidey hole! (What hidey hole?)



Sauna – Did you know.... Saunas can improve your mood, reduce the risk of Alzheimer's, improve cardiovascular health, AND reduce your risk of all cause mortality? Get in there, it could save your life! Also, sauna bathing has been proven to mimic the effects of a moderate intensity exercise session. This is our kind of workout! Just drink lots of fluids before and after your bath. For more info, scan QR at right for an extensive discussion of benefits of sauna bathing: (See the detailed instructions for use at back of the book-p.19)



Swim Spa – we keep ours at 82 degrees even in the winter. Use our fur lined crocs to get you to and fro in chilly weather. (See detailed instructions for use at back of book-p.20)

Hot tub – the cover just flips up and leans against the sauna.

Please use silicone drinkware for safety when out in the sauna, hot tub, or swim spa

We're happy to talk winemaking – Dale is always happy to give you a tour of the winery & his winemaking; sure to bore you with more stories than you bargained for.

Sounds to expect – You will most likely hear our chickens in the early hours of the morning. Sorry/not sorry. Finn and Roxy will also sound off around 6:30am as they finish breakfast and sprint up the hillsides to chase any critters available. Occasional Lawn mower/power tool as we are a working farm (pfsh right! 'working'!) Coyotes are frequent voices in the night. In the Spring especially, you'll also hear wild turkeys, quail, pheasant, and Mourning Dove which can sound a lot like an owl. The Great Horned Owl has a longer, slower hoot hoot and usually when it's darker. Maybe our favorite, however, is the shriek of the Red Tail Hawk as they sail on the thermals.

Wander! You are welcome to wander around our farm! Pick anything fresh out of the garden that you'd like: fresh berries for your oatmeal; Sprigs of lavender to take home; Or even a pumpkin to carve! Take a stroll down to the pond to look for frogs, or up to the top of the property for a bit of a workout and a great view. While you wander, be aware of the beauty of this land. We hope you'll enjoy the Flora and Fauna – of this place. You'll see a lot of things but here are some notables to be on the lookout for (besides Sasquatch!):

Fauna:

Red tail Hawk - The most frequent(almost daily), largest, bird in our skies. It can be recognized by its lazy circles high in the sky and it's distinctive shrieking cry.

Great Blue Herron- Less frequent, but they will help themselves to our fish and frogs.

White tail deer – Usually passing in our neighbor's pasture to the north or up the hillside to the east. The 8' tall fence around our ranch is to keep them out of our vineyard!

Moose – Very infrequent, but stunning. Just keep your distance.

Owls – You may hear the Great Horned owl with their iconic “hoo, hoo, hoot” call. We are also trying to attract Barn owls to our property to hunt gophers and rodents. They have a distinctive single screech as their call. See if you can spot our owl box.

Bats – did you know bats can eat their body weight in insects *every night*?! We used to have bats nesting in our barn before its restoration so we have put up a bat box on the winery addition to attract them back.

<https://www.batcon.org/about-bats/bats-101/>



Flora:

Cattails – Go weave a basket, we dare ya. I have some already dried in the shop :-)

Cow parsnip – those Jurassic looking things by the creek.

Grape Vines – we're growing Marquette in our vineyard which is a deep red, Pinot Noir/Merlot hybrid. Also a few Pinot Gris and soon to have some Zweigelt.

Christmas trees – We're slowly growing 120 Nordman fir trees. (bit of a sore topic)

Absynthe Wormwood – the bane of our existence. It is a constant battle, but Dale learned it can be distilled, so.... Hmm...

Stinging Nettle – Can make a wonderful tea but should not be touched with bare hands. Will cause a pretty itchy/stingy rash. Lots of this down by the creek.

<https://www.healthline.com/health/food-nutrition/nettle-tea>

Here is the boundary of our property, so as you wonder, be on the lookout. We have heard of sasquatch sightings....

For those who enjoy adventure,.. maybe you can help solve a mystery we uncovered during our renovation of the barn. We found this cryptic scrap of parchment hidden in a wall

(we left it close to where we found it behind the wood stove, tucked in the coat rack)

“Tolstoy, P. 30”? Is it a clue? Why was it hidden? Are there more clues? What were they hiding? Maybe this is why the Hilby’s came to this place?!! Is there something still here to find?!?!



Upon your departure –

- Please wash any dishes used and leave them in the rack.
- Please leave laundry for us.
- Please keep all food waste in the kitchen garbage. Recycling is by the bar.
- Sign our guest book!
- This is an old barn so please let us know if you discover anything that needs attention (light bulb out, leaky faucet, or ROUS (rodents of unusual size).

We hope to see you again soon!



Food ideas and suggestions

There are many good options all within a 20 minute drive or you can always call Door Dash, Uber Eats, or your favorite delivery service. These are the locals & only our opinions. We don't get any kickback from any of these establishments.....yet. 😊

Closest grocery is Safeway (3010 E. 57th) or Trader Joe's (2975 E. 29th)

Coffee: (you can't throw a rock and not hit a Starbucks or a drive thru shack, but these are locals)

Revel 77 –(3223 E. 57th) pour over artists. <https://www.revel77.com/>

Thomas Hammer (3173 S. Grand) Local roasters

Indaba – (3 locations) <https://www.indabacoffee.com/visit>

Breakfast: (OK we love a good breakfast joint) aside from these check out Morty's & Poole's under Pub/Bistros below.

Chalet (2918 S. Grand) Grandma's diner complete with liver & onions.

<https://www.darkhorserestaurantgroup.com/the-chalet-restaurant>

Hogans (2977 E. 29th) Classic 50's diner <https://www.yelp.com/biz/hogans-diner-spokane>

Satellite Diner (425 W Sprague) open all day & all good! <https://www.satellitediner.com/>

Barbeque:

Betty Jeans BBQ: (2926 E. 29th) Carolina style. <https://bettyjeansbbq.com/>

Fresh Soul (3029 E. 5th) Red beans & greens <https://www.facebook.com/FreshSoulR/>

*** Now that we've got the three essential categories covered, here are some others to consider ***

Sushi:

Izumi (4334 S. Regal) closest to us <https://www.izumi-spokane.com/>

Chef Lu's (2915 E. 29th) tasty Chow mein too! <https://www.luasianbistro.com/>

South Hill Grill (2911 E. 57th) **best overall menu** <https://www.facebook.com/southhillgrill>

Mexican:

DeLeon's (2718 E. 57th) better than street tacos, very authentic. Good Tequilla (Our go to)

<https://www.deleonstacoandbar.com/>

Rancho Viejo (3209 E. 57th) classic Abuela's place. Rice and beans baby!

<https://www.ranchoviejomexican.net/>

Asian:

India House (4410 S. Regal St.) Between a barber shop & ACE Hardware (yikes!) Took us awhile before we tried but after a guest recommended, it is now one of our favorites!

<https://indiahouse.us/>

Thai bamboo (2215 E. 29th) <https://thaibamboorestaurant.com/locations/thai-south-hill/>

Fancy:

Luna (5620 S. Perry) <http://www.lunaspokane.com/>

Remedy (3809 S. Grand) <https://remedyspokane.com/>

Twigs – (4320 S. Regal) <https://twigsbistro.com/>

Breweries – Taprooms:

YaYa Brewing (11712 E. Montgomery) local boys! <https://yayabrewing.com/>

Four Eyed Guys (910 W. Indiana) <https://www.facebook.com/FourEyedGuys/>

NoLi (1003 E. Trent) great outdoor spot next to the river.

<https://www.nolibrewhouse.com/home>

Burgers:

Wisconsin Burger (916 S. Hatch) best. <https://wisconsinburger.com/index.html>
Dicks (10 E. 3rd) an institution! <https://www.facebook.com/dickshamburgers/>
Incrediburger (909 W. 1st) interesting. <https://incrediburgerandeggs.com/>

Pub/Bistro:

Morty's (5517 S. Regal)– our place for wings and the game <https://mortystapandgrille.com/>
Poole's Public house (5620 S. Regal) Scotch eggs anyone? <https://poolespublichouse.com/>
Waddells (4318 S. Regal) great fish and chips. <https://waddellspubandgrill.com/>
Jack and Dan's (1226 N. Hamilton) John Stockton's dad's bar. Go Zags!

Pizza:

South Perry Pizza (1011 S. Perry) <https://southperrypizzaspokane.com/>
Zeeks (1414 N. Hamilton) a Seattle icon, fantastic dough. <https://zeekspizza.com/>
Versailia (1333 West Summit Pkwy) <https://www.versaliapizza.com/>

Steaks:

Churchills (165 S. Post St) Best steak in town. <https://www.churchillssteakhouse.com/>
Spencer's (322 N. Spokane Falls Ct) <https://www.facebook.com/SpencersSteaksSpokane/>

A little farther for more interesting....

Mary Hill Winery Tasting Room– Spokane Natives that have come back to open a tasting room and bistro in Spokane's Kendall Yards Neighborhood that is worth a visit! It is located along the Spokane River with stunning views of the river, and the "Benny & Joon" House (What? you've never seen Johnny Depp's movie filmed here in Spokane?)
<https://www.facebook.com/maryhillspokane/> If you can make it on a Wednesday night be sure to catch the night market 5-8pm May -Sept. <http://kendallnightmarket.org/>.

Winescape Winery – (6011 E. 32nd) A local winery located just 11 minutes away with a small tasting room in the winery. These guys are after my own heart! We wish we were as cool as the Butterfields! Tell 'em howdy from us! Light on snacks (you can bring your own), but GREAT wine. <https://winescapewines.com/>

Durkins (415 W. Main) "A natty upscale diner with an intimate basement bar." This prohibition style eatery with Speakeasy craft style drinks is a fun stop. Menu includes Oysters, roasted bone marrow and fried bologna sandwich! <https://durkinsliquorbar.com/>

South Perry District – a two block neighborhood containing South Perry Pizza, Perry Street Brewing, south Perry Lantern Tap House and Thursday market, Worth a visit!
<https://www.facebook.com/ThursdayMarketInSouthPerry/>

Dinner downtown & stroll though Riverfront Park - If you're truly 'not from around here' then you should visit this park. It is the site of our 1974 World's Fair and has activities going on all of the time. Dissected by the Spokane River with quiet flowing water and roaring falls in Spring it is immediately adjacent to our downtown core with its endless dining options. <https://my.spokanecity.org/riverfrontspokane/>

Recreation Opportunities in the area

Here is the Chamber of Commerce version: www.visitSpokane.com



But here is our take:

Walking! OK, the cool people call it hiking but we don't quibble....

Stevens Creek Trail head (9102 S Stevens Creek Rd) gives you access to the Dishman Hills Conservancy, A series of interconnected trails. Including the Rocks of Sharon and it's star, 'Big Rock', a 230' hunk of rock rising out of the hillside. This area was a popular day trip for early Spokanites in the 1920's as they could ride the electric rail to this area for a picnic and enjoy views of the Palouse and Steptoe Butte. It is walking distance from our barn but it'll take you an hour and a half to get to the trail head of the 3.3 mile loop. Or hop in the car and you're there in 11 min! The QR code at right is a great guided tour.



Golf- Spokane has 8 public courses offering some of the best golf in the Northwest at very affordable rates. Latah Creek Golf Course (3 min away!) , The Creek at Qualchan (8 min away!), Downriver, Indian Canyon, MeadowWood, Esmerelda, Liberty Lake, and don't forget the Coeur d'Alene Resort with it's floating green.



Spokane County Water Park – (3724 E. 61st) Very family friendly with Basketball and pickleball courts (8 min away).



Manito Park – (1702 S. Grand) One of eight major parks in Spokane, you could spend an entire day in this park alone. Dale's personal favorite place to hide is the Gaiser Conservatory.



Cycling – On almost any day you’ll see members of the two local cycling clubs out on our Palouse highway. If you’re more adventurous check out the Hiawatha Trail.



Silverwood Theme Park – (60 min away) Our “Mini Knotts Berry Farm” with an awesome water park.



Snow Skiing - (60 min away) For your winter fun, Mt Spokane is only 45 min drive and offers 1700+ acres of country skiing, terrain park, sledding hill, 52 groomed runs & 7 lifts. <https://www.mtspokane.com/> Schweitzer, 49 Degrees North, and Silver Mountain offer some of the best in the US.

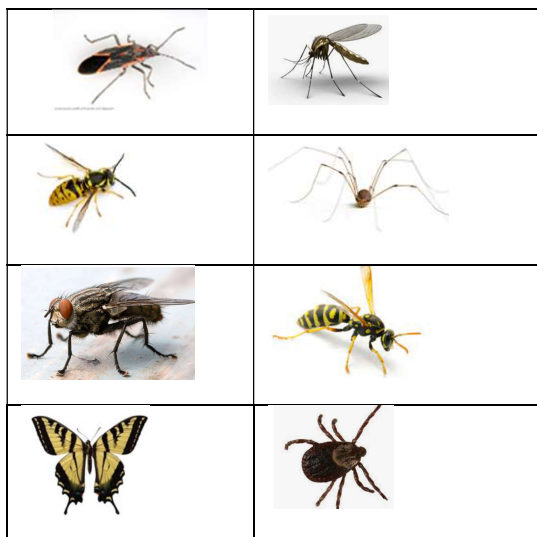


Coeur d’Alene Lake – (45 min away) Many have described Coeur ‘d Alene as the ‘Tahoe of the Northwest’. Summer offers lake cruises, parasailing, beautiful public beach and park, sea plane rides, vibrant downtown restaurants and shops just one block off the water. Tubbs Hill offers a beautiful hike and view of the lake. Or visit the Centennial trail. November through February offer some of the best Bald Eagle watching anywhere in the world!



Play Critter Bingo!

Match these bugs (many of which you’ll find here!) with their correct name:



Box Elder	Mosquito
Horse Fly	Paper wasp
SwallowTail	Daddy long leg
Deer tick	Yellow Jacket

❖ Did you discover the meaning of our Mystery Parchment? (see P.13)

Your Hosts

Dale And Cheryl DuPree have been embarking on their adventures together for the last thirteen years. Both enjoy taking something old, fixing it up and making it beautiful again. Renovating homes has become a passion, but we don't call it "flipping", because we're way too slow at it and Cheryl hates that term.

Dale is a born and raised Spokaneite, retired from a sales career. Cheryl is a CA hippie transplant, retired from natural child birth and children's ministry positions. We have seven children between us. Although being retired, loving all our kids plus three grandchildren, and building out our little farm keeps us plenty busy.

We bought this property in 2010. The first 5 years were spent gutting and refinishing our 1950's era home. We then turned our attention outside and began planting/caring for the land. Just in the last couple of years have we restored the old Hilby Family Barn and have begun to implement permaculture techniques of water management, and organic farming. While we don't have a traditional farm (or as we recently were told, "Admitting you're a farmer is the first step."), we are members of the [South Spokane Farm Corridor](#) and until a clearer path toward that end appears, we will continue to wander along doing the next thing.

So far, we have: 1/8 ac. orchard (14 fruit trees, 8 nut trees), 1/8 ac. vineyard, 1/8 ac. Christmas trees, plus a vegetable garden with pumpkin patch, 34 lavender bushes, berry patch with raspberries, blackberries, boysenberries, honey berries, and blueberries, 2 hops vines, a bee hive, laying chickens and plans for much more.

Thanks for joining us on this little adventure!

Cheryl DuPree

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Sauna – The Sauna takes about 30-45 minutes to heat up (maybe an hour in winter). At the very real risk of ‘Mansplaining’, here’s how to operate:

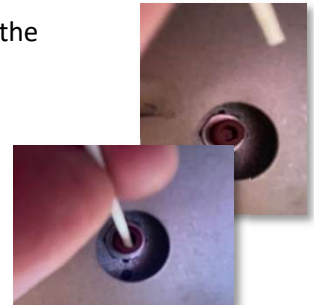
Turn the timer knob (on the lower right) slowly until an audible “Ka-chunk!” is heard. (sauna is now heating). Keep turning the knob further, past the ‘large’ 1, and stop just shy of the ‘small’ 1 (see arrow in pic). The sauna will now operate for 1 hour before shutting off automatically. The timer is silent.



Note! If you set timer past the ‘small’ 1, you’ll hear another “Ka-chunk!” The sauna is now off but will count down and come on when it reaches the ‘small’ 1. The 8-hour time clock is for setting the sauna to heat in a delayed setting. eg., if you set the timer knob at number 3 setting, the Sauna heater will turn on 3 hours later, and will be ready for usage in 3 1/2 hours (allowing for 1/2 hour heat up time). The heater will shut off automatically in another half hour, and if you wish to continue using Sauna, reset the 60 min. timer.

We leave the knob on the left alone, because the max temp setting will get the sauna to 140 deg. Ahhhhhh.... just right.

If you’re not hearing the KA-Chunk of the heater coming on, press the reset button located under the heater. (See picture above) We use a cut Qtip, kept on the floor under the heater but the button is tricky to find so feel free to holler & Dale will do it for you.



We have complimentary robes and fur lined crocs to get you to and from the sauna in comfort. Bring a towel to sit on. There are Turkish towels in a basket by the bedroom candle ‘fireplace’. When in the sauna you may hear the adjacent hot tub heater kick on which is fairly loud (sorry ‘bout that) but don’t be alarmed; it only lasts for a minute or two

Use fresh water only on hot rocks. Hot tub water will destroy the elements - expensive repair. :-)

Pro tip #1: bring in your phone and put it on the floor so you can play your favorite relaxation music and keep track of the time. (It will not get too hot if on the floor)

Pro tip #2: once sauna reaches around 130 degrees stay for 15-20 minutes. Get out and jump in the swim spa for 2-3 minutes to cool off, then back into the sauna for another 15-20 minutes or longer.

Pro tip#3: for a dusk or evening sauna bath bring one of the battery candle lights in with you.

In winter we have found that the condensation from the steam inside will run down and can freeze at the bottom edge of the door eventually building up and preventing the door from closing completely. There’s a little cloth inside to help wipe away this condensation/ice if it becomes an issue; usually only after repeated use.

Swim Spa – Simply roll the cover back from the entry mat end (keep centered). Turn the controls on by pressing the dot in the middle of the four arrows.

You'll see the time and after a bit, the water temp. **Please don't adjust the temperature as it may make it uncomfortable for our next guests.** The jets have multiple speeds as you keep pressing each control button. There are also assorted floaties & exercise bands in the deck storage box for your use.



The stereo controls are located on the outside of the spa just over the edge from the jet controls. The blue tooth pairing name is "PRV-22" & it's range is very low, so leave your phone nearby....in the shade.

When not in use, for even an hour or so, just roll the cover closed. The cover provides safety for little ones, keeps the bugs out & heat loss & evaporation down. If any of the jet controls are too complicated, don't worry, they'll shut off by themselves after a

bit.

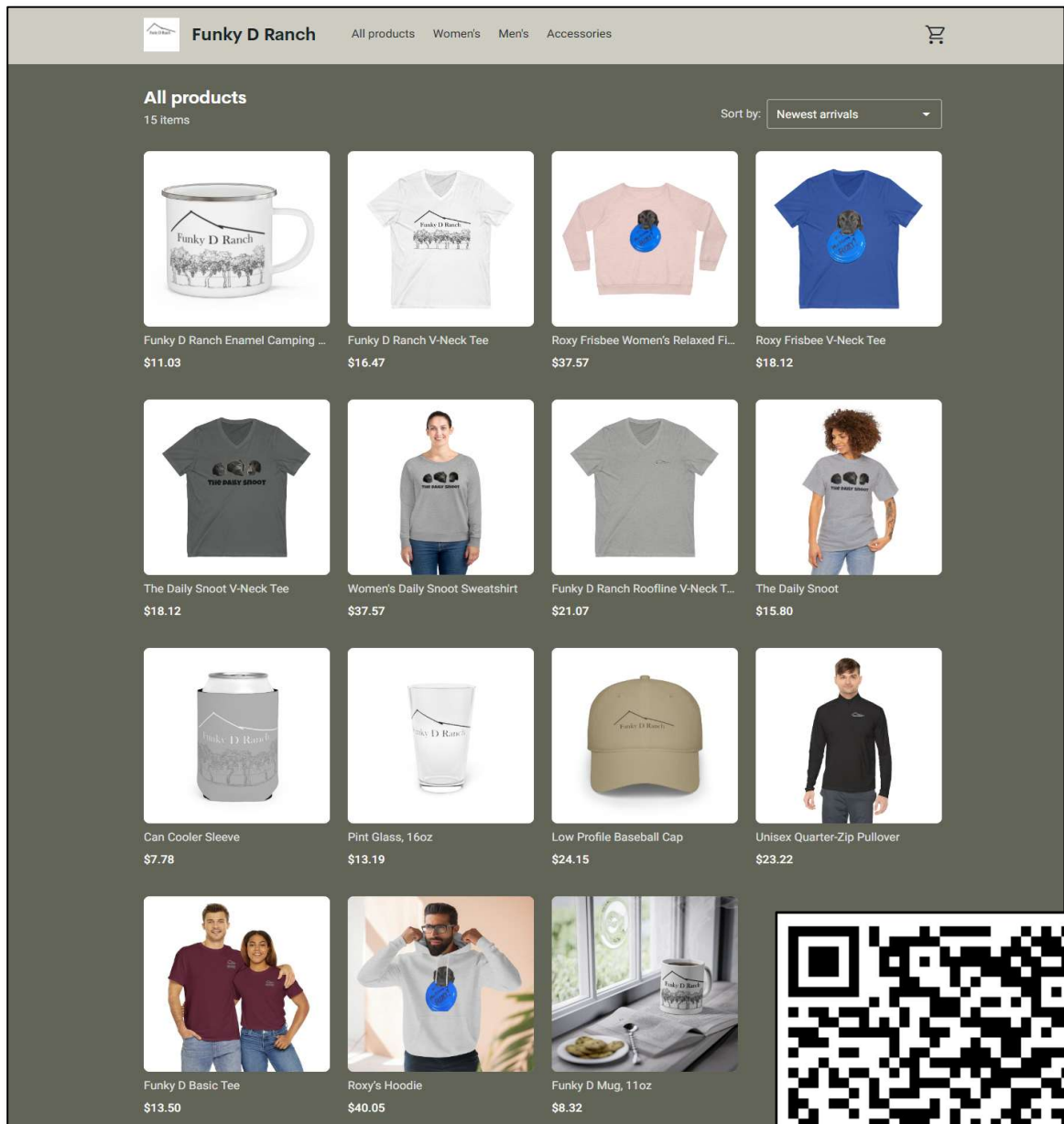
IMPORTANT: When closing, simply roll the cover back(keeping centered) but only use the black nylon loop handle under the cover's edge to pull the cover tight (Otherwise things might tear). This will stand up the ribs of the cover, but it takes a fair amount of oomph. Don't worry if it doesn't look right to you.



Pro Tip: the cover is heavy, but rolling it is fairly easy, just keep it centered on the pool. Easiest is to flip the leading edge up (like the pic above), sit on the edge, put your feet in, and roll it away from you as you get in the pool. Then simply roll it toward you when you want to get out keeping it centered on the pool. Of course this can also be done from the edges. Dale or Cheryl are always happy to help you with any of this, just give us a shout.

Funky D Merch!

Want to order something to remember your stay at the Funky D Ranch? We've got you covered. Scan the QR code below and it'll take you to our store. If there's something not listed, let us know and we'll create it!
You want a Snoot on a pint? Or Roxy on a hat? Again, We've got you covered!!



What to watch on tv?.....

Sure you can probably stream your latest binge worthy show, but how about a suggestion?

We've got 5 DVD's under the bar.

- If you've seen one or some of these movies, then you're OK.
- If you've seen ALL of them, then you're practically family.
- If you haven't seen ANY of them, well then pop some corn, and sit down!



We watch all of these at least annually around here to remind us of what's true, noble, right, excellent, pure and lovely. A pretty good antidote to the news cycle, these days.

You're here for at least another 20 hours, right? ALL FIVE of these will only take less than 10 hours!!! And that's rounding up for some snack & bathroom breaks. At least remember the titles and watch them soon. 😊

- ❖ ***About Time*** – What's really important in life and **how** to enjoy it to its fullest.
- ❖ ***It's a Wonderful Life*** – Everyone's life has purpose and meaning. Dale cries every time, summer or winter. Best Christmas Movie! (right behind Die Hard)
- ❖ ***The Big Lebowski*** – In what manner do we live. Weird, funny, irreverent, and grows on you! After 3-4 viewings it'll become your new cult film. The Dude Abides!
- ❖ ***Brother Where Art Thou*** – Fun take on Homer's "Odyssey" but also an adventure that ultimately leads us to what's important. No, Dale does not use hair jelly.
- ❖ ***Les Misérables*** – Maybe the Best Story ever! 10th Anniversary cast has superior vocal performances, but the movie is no slouch. Redemption, History, Action, Suspense, Comedy; It's got everything! Dale cries at Valjean's death every time (oops, spoiler alert)