**Life’s Character Building Rules**

I think these three statements offer a series of rule or examples for children both young and older.
These following three statements by Roy Rogers, Gene Autry and Troy Marshall define or relate to high character traits we desire to see in sons and daughters.

**Goals of Roy Rogers Riders Club:**
 1. Be neat and clean
 2. Be courteous and polite
 3. Always obey your parents
 4. Protect the weak and help them
 5. Be brave but never take chances
 6. Study hard and learn all you can
 7. Be kind to animals and care for them
 8. Eat all your food and never waste any
 9. Love God and go to Sunday School regularly
10. Always respect our flag and our country
    May the good Lord take a liken’ to you

**Happy Trails to you.**

  **The Cowboy’s Code by Gene Autry**

1. A cowboy must never shoot first, hit a smaller man, or take unfair advantage.
2. He must never go back on his word or a trust confided in him.
3. He must always tell the truth.
4. He must be gentle with children, the elderly and animals.
5. He must not advocate or possess radical or religious intolerant ideas.
6. He must help people in distress.
7. He must be a good worker.
8. He must keep himself clean in thought, speech, action and personal habits.
9. He must respect women, parents and his nation’s laws.
10. The cowboy is a Patriot.
written by Gene Autry in 1939. Gene’s desire to be a good role model was the reason he formulated “The Cowboy Code”.

**Ten Reasons Why I Hope My Daughter Meets a Cowboy**
1. A cowboy takes risks everyday, but they are calculated risk backed by a skill set. A boy takes unnecessary risks.
2. A cowboy will own up to his mistakes. A boy will make excuses for them.
3. A cowboy will extend you respect until you prove you don’t deserve it. A boy respects only those who offer something in return.
4. A cowboy will do whatever it takes to support his family and take care of the land and the animals in which he has      been entrusted.   A boy looks for others to take care of him.
5. A cowboy takes the long view. A boy lives in the moment.
6. A cowboy is always looking to earn the respect of others. A boy is looking to gain attention from others.
7. A cowboy is firm in his belief and values, regardless of the situation. A boy changes his belief based on those he is around.
8. A cowboy has integrity. A boy makes promises he knows he won’t keep; he writes checks he knows he can’t cash.
9. A cowboy is always willing to learn. A boy thinks he knows everything.
10. A cowboy looks for quality, whatever it’s in cattle, horses or women. A boy looks for something that he thinks will make him look good.
A cowboy knows he must take responsibility for his family and his actions. He understands that God has entrusted him with his family, the land and the animals under his care, and its his job to protect and serve them.  And to set an example for them.  A cowboy isn’t blameless, but he learns form his mistakes and walks with integrity. He understands and has a relationship with his maker and seeks to honor that relationship and the special calling he has been given. A cowboy is courageous and works everyday to fulfill his purpose in life.

by Troy Marshall 12-19-2013 contributing editor of Beef Magazine.

**I think these could easily be 10 reasons I want my son to meet a cowgirl.**
For those who may not know Roy Rogers and Gene Autry. Roy Rogers was the “king of the cowboys” and Gene Autry was “the singing cowboy”. Roy Rogers and Dale Evans (his wife) had their own TV show, Roy’s horse was Trigger and Dale’s was Buttermilk. They had a large family of children who were mostly adopted.
Gene Autry is the original recording artist of “Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer” and later owner of the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team and his horse was Champion.
To see some of their early western movies tune into Marshall Andy’s Silver Screen on PBS TV on Saturday mornings.