

Dittmann roams from Buffalo home

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Life is good for Randy Dittmann '79 of Tulsa, OK. Even though it's a long way from Randy's early years on a dairy farm in Marilla, NY, near Buffalo, he has daily reminders of his roots as owner/founder/president of Buffalo Land Abstract Co., a title and abstract service with dealings throughout the state. He also owns Logan County Abstract Co., Guthrie, OK; Oklahoma OneStop, Tulsa; Coal County Abstract Co., Coalgate, OK; and Buffalo Holding, Oklahoma City. Randy's trip to the pinnacle of the abstract playing field began shortly after graduation from AU. In 1980, Randy's brother Bruce, who had moved to Oklahoma, introduced him to the title business. From there, Randy became what is known as a "landman," someone who does research into land "mineral" ownership. Two years later he made the transition into "surface" real estate (in Oklahoma, mineral and surface ownership are two completely different issues). By 1986, Randy had moved into the position of office manager with the title company; by 1990 he owned 50 percent of the company. Not long after, he bought his partner out. In 1994, Randy purchased Johnston Abstract Co. and then proceeded to merge it with his statewide title company. Two years later, he bought another abstract company. While he was trying to come up with a name for the newly merged businesses, Sandi, his wife of 20 years, suggested "Buffalo." And that's how Buffalo Land Abstract Co. was born. Randy offers an easy explanation of the work of abstract companies: "You've heard the old expression, 'Making sure all the Is are dotted and the Ts are crossed.' It's just a way of saying that all the details in an agreement are fully understood and accounted for. No one likes surprises, especially in matters that could easily involve significant amounts of money and substantial personal liability. In transactions involving real estate, your abstract company is the key to eliminating any potential problems." An abstract is the culmination of all the documents that have been filed pertaining to a specific piece of property. "Brother Bruce is executive vice president of Buffalo Land Abstract Co. Step-daughter Lisa Burn, who started working in the office while she was still in high school, is executive vice president. Most recently, Randy and Sandi completed a different sort of land project when they opened the Cedar Rock Inn Bed and Breakfast and event center on a 48-acre parcel called Redberry Farm, right next to their home in West Tulsa. A wilderness area and walking trail surround the inn. Cedar Rock was originally a house built in 1890. The Dittmanns spent six years renovating the property; every effort was made to use recycled materials in the reconstruction. native materials. Randy's professional affiliations include serving as a director of the Oklahoma Land Title Association, the Metropolitan Board of Realtors in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa, as a member of the Metropolitan Tulsa Chamber of Commerce and as an Oklahoma Association of Realtors Continuing Education instructor. In the community, Randy is a member of the board of directors of the Southwest Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, board member of the Tulsa Rugby Foundation, owner of Cedar Rock Inn, a bed and breakfast and event center; member of the Tulsa Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee; and a member of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber Advisory Board.