

Important Dues Information!

As of this newsletter, we have a number of members who have not paid their dues for the year 2000. If you are unsure about the status of your dues, please check your mailing label on the front of this newsletter. If your mailing label has a "OO" on it, you are current and paid up. If the label shows a "99", you need to submit your \$25 for dues immediately. Remember, this is for the year 2000.

According to the bylaws of the DTBA, all dues are renewed by January 1 of each year. This means you need to pay your dues for the year 2001 by the first of the year. We are working on either a mailing or including the dues payment with the 2001 Winter Conference registration packet in an effort to remind members to pay their dues.

If your dues are delinquent and payment is not received by August 15, you will be dropped from the association listing. Please remember that if you want to consign animals to any of the new consignment sales, enter animals in the Black Hills Buffalo Classic or be included in the new Membership Directory, you must be current on your dues. Take a moment and check your label and send in your check for \$25 if you are not current.

If you have any questions regarding the status of your dues, please call the DTBA at 605-923-6383.

Thanks To Our Members

On behalf of the membership of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association, we would like to extend a big "THANK YOU!" to the hosts and ranch tour hosts for the DTBA's Summer Conference held this past June in Sioux Falls, SD.

The Ed and Deanna Nolz and family were the hosts for this year. Along with doing much of the planning for the conference, they opened up their ranches to tours for the group. Orrin Geide and John and Jeanne Bowron also hosted ranch tours throughout the weekend.

Additionally, this conference featured a panel of producers who have feedlot operations and our thanks goes out to: John Bowron, Orrin Geide, Chris Kremer and Tom Cink for participating in the panel. It was very informative and enjoyed by all. A New Producer Seminar featured speakers Greg Smeenk, Sandy Limpert, Scott Peterson and Steve Schmitz. Thanks goes to them for sharing their experiences with all those attending.

The DTBA recently hosted a New Producer Seminar in Mobridge, SD. The hosts for this event were Tom and Nancy Hepper and Adolph and Laverne Hepper. Tom and Nancy graciously opened their Flying H Ranch to the attendees and nearly 30 people took the time to attend. Almost all of those 30 were people new to the industry or considering getting into the bison industry and looking for more information.

Speakers included Greg Smeenk, Scott Peterson, Kim Pederson and Adolph Hepper. Along with the speakers, there was a tour of the Hepper's bison herd and working facilities. There were numerous comments about the fantastic tour and how good it was to be able to see the working facilities and ask questions. The seminar was very successful and everyone in attendance was or is now a DTBA member.

Nancy and Laverne Hepper are to be commended on the fantastic lunch they cooked and served. It was worth the trip to Mobridge for the fantastic food!!

Our thanks goes to all the Heppers for this opportunity to share with new and prospective producers. This seminar was very successful and the association is looking for other producers interested in hosting New Producer Seminars at their ranch. Being able to talk about and then show these new people a good working facility and operation, is extremely valuable and makes for a very interesting event.



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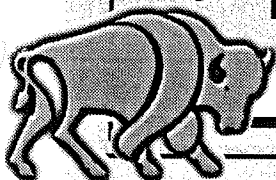
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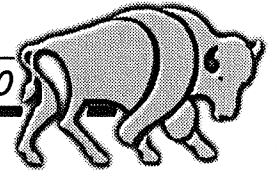
(605) 923-6383

PHONE OR FAX



Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Newsletter

July, 2000



From The President



The DTBA Summer Conference in Sioux Falls had a very good attendance and was enjoyed by all. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Ed Nolz Family, Orrin Geide, and John Bowren for allowing us to tour their farms and see how they have made their operations successful. Each time I visit a particular farm or ranch I come away having learned something to improve my operation. I think that is why the tours

are so popular. We can always find something we think would work on our own place. Seeing good quality animals also gives us confidence this industry is headed in the right direction.

I also attended the Montana Bison Association Summer Conference as well as the North Dakota Buffalo Association Summer Conference. Traveling around the country and visiting with people has given me a first hand look at a lot of different farms and ranches and a lot of different ways of doing things. There are almost as many opinions on how to do things as there are places I visited. And that is an excellent way to learn. We all have to take these ideas and adapt them to our particular situation.

The one common thread that I see in all of this is the undying belief in the buffalo industry itself. To a person, everyone is very positive about the long term prospects for this industry. When a group of enthusiastic, progressive people are working toward a common goal it will ultimately be successful.

I recently spoke with Senator Tom Daschle in Rapid City. He informed me that bison meat had been served in the White House to the entire U.S. Senate at a dinner that he had hosted just two weeks ago. He reported it was a resounding success and that he received many compliments about the meat. That is tremendous exposure for our industry. I don't know if we could afford to buy advertising like that!

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform the membership of the intent of two of our members to run for openings on the National Bison Association Board this coming January. We are pleased to announce that Monte Allen of Mandan, ND and Jud Seaman of Rapid City, SD have both expressed an interest in working for the industry through the national board. We hope that you will support them in their efforts to help the entire bison industry.

Greg

Research Committee Wants Your Input And Ideas

Submitted by Annette Smith, DTBA Board Member

I am requesting input from the general membership to get your opinions on research and information that will be useful to you as a bison producer.

As we all learned from the last newsletter and Greg's update at Summer Conference, there is a strong possibility that \$2 million may become available for bison research through an appropriation requested by Senator Tom Daschle. If the funding is received, the research will be headquartered jointly at SDSU and NDSU creating the Bison Integrated Resource Consortium (BIRC). The consortium will collaborate research with the tribal colleges of the Northern Plains Bison Education Network.

Some of us on the committee feel strongly that there is a need for research using animals in their on-site management situation in addition to projects conducted in the traditional controlled research environment.

A couple of ideas for research on the ranch include feeding and parasite control. Your input to this committee to identify areas to be researched either on-site or by traditional methods are of vital importance. Any research conducted on the ranch will

require participants with a strong commitment to provide accurate and timely data.

Please contact a member of the research committee to give us feedback on your thoughts and needs concerning bison research. Committee members are Annette Smith (307-663-7645), Sandy Limpert (605-866-4846, Mark Linde (605-892-0626), Wayne Buchholz (701-279-6630) and Rod Sather (605-683-4120).

This situation affords an opportunity and a challenge to give strong producer-oriented leadership for bison research. My personal opinion is that we need to try to get information that can be applied in a practical way in our own operations. I feel all of us will benefit by knowing more about the health and nutritional needs of our animals. Genetics is important to all of us seeking the animals which perform the best in our own environment. My personal concern is that we must be sure we don't compromise the advantage of the animal's natural immune system and general hardiness by adopting a one-size-fits-all approach that fails to consider factors such as climate, environment, and handling and management practices. Please give this committee your feedback!

Get On The Bus For The NBA Winter Conference And GTSS

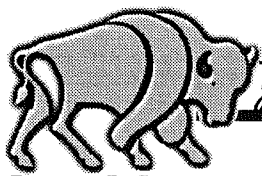
The Dakota Territory Buffalo Association and the North Dakota Buffalo Association are working together to plan a bus trip to the National Bison Association Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale in January of 2001. The purpose of the bus trip is to make it more convenient and cost effective for our members to attend this important event. The dates for this year's conference in Denver, CO are Wednesday, January 17 through Saturday, January 20.

At this time, the plans are for the bus or buses to leave from key points along the route to Denver, Colorado on Wednesday, January 17 and to leave Denver for home on Sunday, January 21. That would have us arriving in Denver later on Wednesday and leaving early on Sunday morning.

If you think you might be interested in riding the bus to Denver, please call Karen Conley at the DTBA office at

605-923-6383 or you may send an e-mail to: tgkc@gwtc.net. All we are looking for right now is an idea of how many people would be interested in riding the bus so we can plan for how many buses we will need. At a future time, you will be asked to commit to the bus trip by sending in a monetary deposit. We plan to keep the expenses to a minimum, but need enough people to ride the bus in order to cover the cost and we need to eliminate cancellations unless there is a valid reason.

This is an excellent opportunity to have some fun and make the long trip to Denver a lot shorter and meet new some new friends. No worries about driving in bad weather and the like. No chance for getting lost in Denver or stuck in a traffic jam. Parking is not a problem, either. Just get on the bus and have fun. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in this trip. More information will be available in the next newsletter.



Looking For Something To Do This Season?

Tuesday, August 1 through Friday, August 4:

International Bison Conference, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Register on-line at www.bison2000.com or call 780-986-4100.

Saturday, August 12 through Tuesday, August 15:

Intertribal Bison Cooperative Third Annual National Conference, New Mexico. Host hotel TBA. For more information, contact the ITBC at 605-394-9730.

Saturday, August 26:

DTBA fun day at Croft's TeePee Creek Buffalo Ranch, Deadwood, SD. Look for invites in your mailbox soon.

Tuesday, September 12:

Custer State Park Sealed Bid Calf Sale (for March delivery), Custer, SD., Custer State Park, Park Office - 605-255-4515.

Wednesday, September 13:

Blue Mounds State Park, Luverne, MN. For more information, contact Rick White at 507-283-1307

Saturday, September 30 through Thursday, October 5:

Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup and Arts Festival, Custer State Park, SD. For information, contact the park at 605-255-4515 or email: craigp@gfp-cu.state.sd.us.

Sunday, October 1:

Custer State Park Buffalo Wallow Chili Cook-off, held in conjunction with the Buffalo Roundup and Arts Festival, Custer State Park, SD. Contact the park at 605-255-4515 for details.

Friday, October 13:

Ft. Niobrara-Valentine National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Valentine, NE. Contact Royce Huber at 403-376-3789.

Saturday, October 28:

Old West Buffalo Ranch Bison Auction, at the ranch, Onida, SD. Call Steve Sutton at 605-258-2863 or 605-258-2596.

Wednesday, November 1:

Antelope Creek Bison Ranch Auction, Dickinson, ND. Call Doug or Keith Candee at 701-225-8884 or 701-225-2280.

Friday, November 17:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Consignment Auction, Seven Down Arenas, Spearfish, SD. Call the DTBA at 605-923-6383 or sale chairman, Jerry Croft at 605-578-3228.

Saturday, November 18 through Tuesday, November 21:

Canadian Bison Association Annual Convention and National Bison Show and Sale, Regina, Saskatchewan. Call the association at 306-522-4766 for more information. Host hotel is Delta Regina. Call 306-525-5255 for reservations.

Saturday, November 18:

Custer State Park Bison Auction, Custer State Park Buffalo Corrals. Call the park office at 605-255-4515.

Sunday, November 19:

Milliron Bison Ranch Production Sale. At the ranch, Buffalo Gap, SD. Contact Kevin Casey at 605-355-9453 or 605-484-1303

Sunday, November 19:

Nation's Premier Buffalo Auction sponsored by Nebraska State Buffalo Association. Valentine Livestock Co., Valentine, NE. Contact sale chairman, Randy Miller, at 402-488-3351.

Saturday, November 25:

Minnesota Buffalo Association presents Minnesota's Harvest Fall Buffalo Auction, Central Livestock Sales, Albany, MN. Sale chairman Dan Meyer at 320-352-3036 or email to: hbr@saukherald.com for more information.

Tuesday, November 28:

Sheyenne River Bison Production Sale, at the ranch, Anamoose, ND. Contact Dave Laultt at 701-324-2289.

Friday, December 1:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Consignment Auction, Seven Down Arenas, Spearfish, SD. Call the DTBA at 605-923-6383 or sale chairman, Jerry Croft at 605-578-3228.

Friday, December 1 through Sunday, December 3:

Second Annual Midwest Premier Bison Show and Sale. Eau Claire/Altoona, Wisconsin. Hosted by the Wisconsin Bison Producers Association. Call Lee Graese at 715-234-9085.

Saturday, December 2:

Montana Bison Association Bison Auction, Miles City Livestock Center, Miles City, MT. Call 406-627-2417 for details.

Saturday, December 9:

North Dakota Buffalo Association Fall Sale, KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. Contact Greg Maddock at 701-438-2503.

Monday, December 11:

Big Sky Ranch Production Auction, Rugby, ND. Call Doug Woodall at 701-728-6744 for information.

Friday, December 15:

Thunder Canyon Buffalo and Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch Production Auctions, Seven Down Arenas, Spearfish, SD. Call Greg Smeenk, Thunder Canyon Buffalo at 605-748-2410 or Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch at 605-892-4466.

Saturday, December 16:

Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch Annual Performance Tested Yearling Bull and Performance Tested Yearling Heifer Sale, at the ranch, Buffalo, SD. Call Sandy or Jacki Limpert at 605-866-4846.

Saturday, January 6, 2001:

Flying H Ranches Production Sale. Mobridge Livestock Auction, Mobridge, SD. Call Tom Hepper at 605-845-3705, Adolph Hepper at 605-845-2225 or Curt Hepper at 701-597-3632.

Wednesday, January 17 through Saturday, January 20:

National Bison Association Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale, Denver, CO. Contact the association at 303-292-2833 for details.

Thursday, January 25 through Saturday, January 27:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Winter Conference and Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, Rapid City, SD. Call the association at 605-923-6383.

Friday, February 9:

Jamestown Area Bison Producers Auction, Jamestown, ND.

Saturday, February 10:

Benson County Bison Producers Auction, location TBA, North Dakota. Call Greg Maddock at 701-428-2503 or Mark Ivesdal at 701-996-2923.

Friday, February 16:

North Dakota Buffalo Association Winter Conference, Mandan, ND. Call the association at 877-898-4019 for more information.

Saturday, February 17:

The North Dakota Buffalo Association presents Dakota Thunder, KIST Livestock Auction, Mandan, ND. Call Greg Maddock at 701-438-2503 for information.

Friday, March 16:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Consignment Auction, featuring an offering from Custer State Park. Seven Down Arenas, Spearfish, SD. Call the DTBA at 605-923-6383 or sale chairman, Jerry Croft at 605-578-3228 for more information.

Friday, March 23:

Mosquito Park Enterprises Bison Ranch Production Sale, Seven Down Arenas, Spearfish, SD. Call Rod Sather at 605-683-4120.

Friday, March 30 through Sunday, April 1:

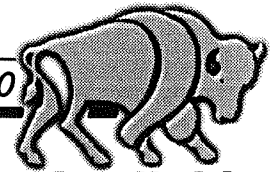
Minnesota Buffalo Association Annual Spring Meeting, Jackpot Junction Casino, Sanborn, MN. Host David Geis 507-648-3265.

Saturday, April 7:

North Dakota Buffalo Association Spring Sale, KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. Contact Greg Maddock at 701-438-2503.

Friday, April 20:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Consignment Auction, Seven Down Arenas, Spearfish, SD. Call the DTBA at 605-923-6383 or sale chairman, Jerry Croft at 605-578-3228.



Carcass Class Information 2001 Sponsorships Available

The Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (DTBA) recently announced plans to hold a Carcass Class in conjunction with the 2001 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale held each January in Rapid City, SD. More plans have been finalized and the call for entries is going out to interested producers who are members of the association.

The Carcass Class will offer another dimension to the DTBA's already successful live animal show and sale. Through this new class, the association hopes to bring focus and attention to the driving force of the bison industry, quality meat production.

Bison ranchers produce some of the healthiest, appetizing red meat in the world and consumers can and will continue to demand this meat product. With that in mind, the DTBA hopes this carcass class will help to educate producers on the economic benefits of taking their bull calves all the way to slaughter weight.

The 2001 Carcass Class will be limited to 15 head, with trophies awarded for the first three places. There will also be a \$10,000 cash prize for the first place carcass.

As the DTBA would like this class to be a learning tool for its members to measure their breeding programs, those interested in participating in this class are highly encouraged to bring entries that were bred and raised on their ranch and through their respective program.

For more information on the new Carcass Class, contact chairman, Sandy Limpert at (605) 866-4846 or email to: sbbuff@rapidnet.com.

At this time, we have several sponsorships that need to be filled before our winter conference and show. There is a need for a sponsor for the Reserve Champion Bull trophy. The cost for that sponsorship is \$250. For the new Carcass Class we need a Silver Trophy sponsor for \$200 and a Bronze Trophy sponsor for \$100. There are also sponsorship opportunities available for our Winter Conference in 2001. Those would include coffee breaks and other assorted items. If you are interested in any of the above sponsorships, please contact Conference Chair, Jacki Limpert, at 605-866-4846 or e-mail her at: sbbuff@rapidnet.com.

Payments Due For 2000 Membership Directory

In the last newsletter, many of our members received a billing statement for advertising in the 2000 Membership Directory as well as any sponsorships they had expressed an interest in for the 2001 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show. Thanks to those that have responded and sent in their payments. We appreciate it. In the upcoming Membership Directory, slated to be published in October of this year, anyone with an outstanding bill will not be allowed to advertise until their payment for the 2000 directory has been received. Please make sure your payments are up to date so you won't be left out of this exciting opportunity. If you are unsure if you need to pay on a billing, contact the DTBA office at 605-923-6383.

2001 Membership Directory Deadline Approaching

In order to make the Membership Directory a more valuable tool for the advertisers as well as to encourage more people to advertise and utilize the directory, the board has approved a change in the publication date. The book will now be available for distribution in early October. This change will allow more members to advertise sales and to make our directory available to distribute at many of the sales and conventions throughout the season. It will also allow us to have directories available at the National Bison Association Winter Conference in Denver.

In order to accommodate the change in the publication date, the deadline for submitting advertisements has been moved back to August 15, 2000. The book will again be printed by Simpson Printing in Rapid City, SD and will be produced by DesignWrite under the direction of the DTBA Board of Directors. The prices for advertising will be the same as last year (see below) and we are hoping to see many new advertisers this year!

The contact for information regarding the directory or to reserve an ad spot, is Karen Conley - DesignWrite. You may call her at (605) 923-7755; fax at (605) 923-5154; email to: tgkc@gwtc.net or write to: 15290 225th St., Box Elder, SD 57719.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Karen. We need to start planning for the

ND Buffalo Foundation Fund Raising Auction Successful

The North Dakota Buffalo Foundation recently held their annual Fund raising Auction. This is the only fund raising event for the organization and the proceeds go to defray the operating costs of the National Buffalo Museum and Buffalo Herd located in Jamestown, ND.

Museum Director, Donna Zimmerman, reports that the auction went very well this year and was well attended.

The Fund raiser consists of a Bison meat meal, beer and wine testing and a live auction.

In addition to all kinds of bison-related items and artwork, the

directory now, so that it will be printed on time and we can make it a useful tool to promote the DTBA and its members. Remember the early deadlines when your thinking about photographs and sale dates, etc.

Another change will involve the billing for Directory ads. As soon as you have a contract to place an ad in the directory, you will be sent a billing statement for that ad to be paid to the DTBA. In the past, the association has paid for the book and then collected the ad revenue and this year, we'd like to have the money available for the book ahead of time and then it will be taken care of for the year. If you should incur any expenses for production of your advertisement, those will be billed upon completion of the book.

DTBA 2001 Membership Directory

Published: October 2000 (first or second week)

Deadline for advertisements: August 15

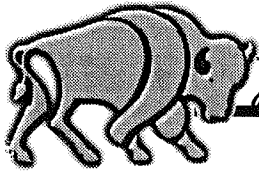
Prices: (all prices are set up for full color advertisements and based on camera-ready submissions)

- Full page: \$460
- Half page: \$295
- Quarter page: \$195
- Inside front cover: \$510
- Inside back cover: \$510
- Outside back cover: \$610

live auction offers a bull calf from the Museum's herd of bison. This year, they were able to auction off a heifer calf as well. Sandy Limpert of Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo, SD, purchased the bull calf and David Lault of Sheyenne River Bison, Harvey, ND, purchased the heifer calf.

Zimmerman wants to thank everyone who attended the fund raiser and purchased tickets for the evening's festivities.

For more information on the National Buffalo Museum or the North Dakota Buffalo Foundation, contact the Museum at 701-252-8648.



DTBA Consignment Auctions At Seven Down Arenas

The DTBA has announced that beginning this fall, they will host a series of four consignment auctions. The auctions will be held at the new Seven Down Indoor Arenas just southeast of Spearfish, SD. To reach the arena, take exit 17 (the Deadwood exit) off of I-90 and go 1.5 miles south and then turn and go 1.5 miles east.

The auction consignments will be open to all current DTBA members. Immediate seating around the sale ring will accommodate approximately 700 spectators and the entire indoor arena has seating for up to 3,500. The dates for the 2000 - 2001 DTBA Consignment Auctions will be Friday, November 17; Friday, December 1; Friday, March 16 and Friday, April 20. Each sale will be limited to 300 animals and there will be no limit to the number of animals a person can consign. The March 16 sale will feature animals from Custer State Park.

The DTBA Auction Committee is headed by Scott Peterson. Jerry Croft will be the sale chairman with Scott Lister acting as vice-chairman. Shane Croft will be the yard foreman and Greg Smeenk and Sandy Limpert are also on the committee. The sales will be called by Ron Bradeen and Jud Seaman of Bradeen Auctions, Custer, SD.

The committee is working hard to ensure that these consignment sales will be of the highest quality and standards. Consignors are urged to bring their best animals and reminded that top quality animals will bring top dollar in the sale ring.

The Belle Fourche (SD) Veterinary Clinic has agreed to go over all the health papers prior to the sale and to have a veterinarian on site sale day in case of any health-related problems. This will be a plus for all involved. If they find

something amiss on the paperwork, they can call the veterinarian who wrote the health papers and clarify any questions or test information. Yard personnel will also benefit as they will be given a list of consignments that can be unloaded and won't have to sift through all the paperwork when someone arrives, cutting down on the unloading time.

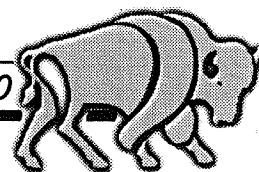
With a limit of 300 animals for each sale, consignments will be taken on a first come, first serve basis with the post date of entry forms being the determining criteria. If one sale fills up, the entries left over will have the first option to consign the animals to the next sale date. Classes of animals accepted will include: bull calves, yearling bulls, two year old bulls, heifer calves, yearling heifers and two year old bred heifers.

In order to consign animals to these sales, you must be a current member in good standing with the association. This means your dues for the year must be current and any monies owed to the association must be paid in full in order for you to be a part of these sales. If you have any questions regarding your status in the DTBA, please call the association at (605) 923-6383 for further information. Also, please note the address to mail your entries to as it differs from the regular association address. Be sure and postmark your entries no earlier than the selected date or they will be returned.

In the September newsletter, DTBA members will find consignment forms for the first two sales and further details and information. If you have any questions regarding the sales, you may contact any of the committee members or sale chairman, Jerry Croft at (605) 578-3228.

Health Requirements For DTBA Consignment Auctions

1. Negative Tuberculosis test (caudal fold) on all animals. Test must have been done within 25 days of sale date.
2. Negative Brucellosis test on all animals. Test must have been done within 25 days of sale date.
3. Negative Anaplasmosis test on all animals. Test must have been done within 25 days of sale date.
4. Negative Blue Tongue test on all animals. Test must have been done within 25 days of sale date.
5. All females must be calfhood vaccinated for Brucellosis. Show tag numbers, metal tag numbers and BV tattoo numbers must correctly coincide on the Health Certificate.
6. All animals must be treated with INJECTABLE ivermec. IMPORTANT: Animals coming from south of the southern Wyoming-Nebraska-Iowa borders must be injected within 10 days of the sale date. Animals coming from north of these southern borders must be injected within 25 days of the sale date.
7. ALL yearling and two year old bulls MUST be semen checked and certified fertile.
8. All two year old heifers must be certified in season pregnant.
9. Three copies must be furnished with the original health certificate. Separate health certificates are required for each animal. Belle Fourche Veterinary Clinic reserves the right to refuse animals.
10. Animals WILL NOT be unloaded if the health certificates do not meet ALL of the above requirements. NO EXCEPTIONS! Pregnancy test, semen test, ivermec and mouthing must be written across the bottom of each health certificate with the date and signature of your veterinarian. Keep your test paperwork with you in case it may be needed.
11. Sale tags, metal vaccine/tag and registration button are the only tags accepted to be in the buffalo's ear. Consignors will be responsible for applying the sale tags in the LEFT ear. This must be done before the animals will be allowed to unload. Any animal that shows up with an extra tag will be charged \$50 to remove the tag. Registered NBA buttons are allowed. Tags will be mailed out to all consignors. A \$5 per tag fee will be charged for unused tags.
12. Animals that are older than two years old will not be allowed. Two year old breeding bulls or two year old bred heifers will be accepted. Older animals will not be allowed to unload at the facility.
13. Arrival of animals will begin at 12 noon on Thursday, the day before the sale.
14. Animals need to be loaded out by 12 noon on Saturday, the day after the sale.
15. A five percent commission on all animals will be charged on the selling price. Owners of no sale animals will be charged five percent of the last bid. You must be a current Dakota Territory Buffalo Association member in good standing to sell animals at these sales.
16. Tags will be mailed out to all consignors after the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association receives a \$10 per head consignment fee. This fee will be subtracted from the commission when the animal sells.
17. Consignments will be taken on a first come, first serve basis by post date of entry. If one sale fills up, left over animals will have the first option for the next sale date.



DTBA Hosts Bus Trip To North American Bison Co-op

Focusing on educating a wide variety of people involved in the bison industry, the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (DTBA) hosted a bus trip to the North American Bison Cooperative (NABC) facility in New Rockford, ND in early May. Along with some seasoned producers and NABC members, a number of bankers, producers interested in becoming NABC members and even some state officials, boarded the bus and headed north to visit the plant and find out more about this hub of the bison meat industry. Among the group, five states were represented and there were three regional and state bison association presidents on board.

The bus stopped in Jamestown, ND for the night where a social was planned at the nearby National Buffalo Museum. Museum Director, Donna Zimmerman, met the group outside and gave a brief history of how the museum came about and a little about the museum's own herd of buffalo. The museum is overseen by the North Dakota Buffalo Foundation and nearly all the board members of that group were on hand to greet visitors at the museum.

When everyone loaded up to head to New Rockford for the tour of the NABC the next morning, there was much talk about the plant and its operations. Upon arrival at the NABC, tour participants were greeted by NABC's chief operating officer, Dennis Sexhus. He briefly filled the group in about the formation of the plant and the current mission of the plant. Sexhus also had a video that explained in more detail about the plant and after that was viewed, he answered questions.

The group was able to tour the facility, although there was no actual work going on at the time. Due to strict regulations and the large size of the group, it's difficult to tour the plant during operational hours. Members of the tour were able to inspect the

facility and ask questions about all aspects of the NABC and after splitting into three small groups, were led on a detailed tour of the plant, beginning with the drop off area for the live animals.

After the tour, the group was given samples of a new product, bison summer sausage. A number of people made purchases of bison meat products and then the group loaded up and headed out for the long ride home. During the trip, a number of questions about the plant arose, thanks to more discussion and more thought about the facility. Members of the NABC were able to answer the questions and help those outside of the industry to understand more about it. There were many comments, especially from the bankers, that they were much more comfortable with the co-op and the idea behind it now that they had a chance to see the facility and to learn more about it.

The purpose of an educational trip such as this one is so valuable. To educate and inform are tools that we all need to learn to wield. The DTBA took it upon themselves to organize this tour in an effort to introduce the NABC to potential members and to educate those who might be outside the industry, but in reality, are involved to some extent. If your banker understands more about the industry from start to finish and about the basis for the entire bison business, the meat industry, he or she is more apt to be willing to work with you in obtaining funds for purchasing animals or shares in the NABC or for whatever your bison-related needs might be. If they don't know, how can we expect them to understand the unique needs of those involved in raising bison.

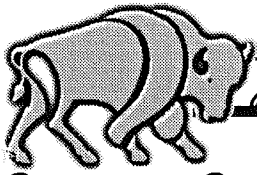
Due to the overwhelming success and positive responses of those involved, the DTBA is considering hosting more bus tours of the NABC in the near future. For more information on the group or if you might be interested in attending a future tour, please call the DTBA at (605) 923-6383.



DTBA Welcomes New Members

- ✓ Mark Barnett, Pierre, SD
- Richard & Carolyn Brobjorg, R and C Buffalo Farm, Pipestone, MN
- Robert & Colleen Burrows, Circle B Bison Ranch, Newton, WI
- Rod & Kathy Coohy, White Water Bison Ranch, Bernard, IA
- ✓ Roy Cordy, Bison Jump Ranch, Pelican Rapids, MN
- Al Deck, North Fork Bison Ranch, Harvey, ND
- Jay & Gloria Flattom, Lofton Ridge Deer and Bison Farm, Chisago City, MN
- Scott Goolsby, Milnor, ND
- David & Gail Griffin, Rockie Hill Bison, Winona, MN
- ✓ Frank & Lyla Griffin, Double G Ranch, Inc., Woodville, WI
- Roy Sr., Roy Jr., & William Gross, Rolling Thunder Ranch, Hines, MN
- ✓ Doug & Wendi Hatlewick, Hatlewick Ranch, Leola, SD
- Bob & Nancy Jackson, Jackson's Buffalo, Omaha, NE
- ✓ Philip & Jill Jerde, Peggy Creek Ranch, Reva, SD
- Rick Knobe, Sioux Falls, SD
- Harold Loewen, Hofer-Loewen Bison, Carpenter, SD
- Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule, SD
- Joe & Rosanne Malsom, Aberdeen, SD
- Sam & Della Rae Mickelson, Mickelson Buffalo Ranch, Faith, SD
- Gerald Miller, Williston, ND
- Dan McKay, McKay Ranch, Clear Lake, SD
- Robert, James & John Preston, Black Hills Buffalo, Hermosa, SD
- Mike & Bonnie Romero, Sacred Hills Bison Ranch, Edgemont, SD
- John & Marlene Sandaker, Bonetrail Bison Ranch, Williston, ND
- ✓ Mike Sarazin, Sandlake Bison Inc., Onalaska, WI
- Stanley Savelkoul, Tatonka Buffalo Ranch, Lansford, ND
- Mark Schuenecker, Hope Well Bison Ranch, Richmond, MN
- ✓ Tracy Settle, Black Hills Bison Company, Rapid City, SD
- Tom & June Sowle, Platte River Bison, North Platte, NE
- ✓ Gate Stevens, Nebraska Buffalo Co., Hordville, NE
- ✓ Mark & Sharon Stime, Harmony Hills Bison Ranch, Arlington, SD
- H. Neal Wedeking, Wedeking's Buffalo Farm, Clarksville, IA

* need packet



Summer Conference A Big Success

Eastern South Dakota was the setting for the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (DTBA) 2000 Summer Conference. The event was held in Sioux Falls, SD and the hosts for this year's meeting were the Ed and David Nolz families of Sioux Falls. Nearly 100 people attended the weekend conference and enjoyed the activities and ranch tours that were offered.

The conference got underway on Friday afternoon with a New Producer's Seminar. On Saturday morning, the group met for breakfast and a general membership meeting. New items that came up for discussion and are on tap for the association are the addition of a Carcass Class to the Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale held in Rapid City in January and a possible purchase of a portable chute to assist members of the association in working their animals. The DTBA will also be hosting a series of four consignment auctions, beginning in November of this year and the members were filled in on the details of the auctions and how they will be run.

A feedlot panel consisting of producers from South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota, ran participants through their feeding operations and answered questions from the audience about their specific practices. Panel members, Chris Kremer, John Bowron, Orrin Geide and Tom Cink spurred the discussion and two particular areas were brought into the spotlight. One item of interest

was the feeding of heifers for slaughter. While this has not been a common practice in the past, many producers are investigating the possibility of culling females and feeding them out. Another topic that brought about quite a bit of discussion was the practice of feeding alfalfa to bison.

After the feedlot panel, the group then left for a series of ranch tours. The first stop on the tour was Falls Park in Sioux Falls. A large, granite buffalo statue graces the park and it was much admired among the producers. Entitled "Monarch of the Plains", the statue depicts a buffalo laying down and the detail is beautiful throughout the sculpture.

The next stop offered a chance to see the real thing. Ed and Deanna Nolz, along with their son, David, operate Nolz's Poor Farm Bison on the northeast edge of Sioux Falls. Ed and Deanna's home ranch is located on the south side of I-90 where it intersects with I-229, a north/south highway. The group enjoyed a bison burger lunch hosted by the Nolz family and then Ed took them on a short tour of the ranch.

The Nolz's run about 90 head of animals. Half of them are located at Ed and Deanna's ranch and the rest of them are pastured near David's ranch on the north side of Sioux Falls. The group also toured David's place later in the afternoon. Ed uses a unique system for his corrals, incorporating I beams as the corner posts with portable panels swinging off the I beams. He feels it gives him the flexibility to adjust the system as needed and he was yet offers the size and strength needed for handling bison.

The animals at the Nolz ranch came in to the corral area just long enough to eat some cake and let everyone look at them. Then they loped back out to the pasture to wait until everyone left. Before the tour arrived, they had been right by the road. Ed says they get a lot of people stopping on the road to look at the bison and a lot of school kids come out to see them.

Many in the group were curious about the ranch name, Nolz's Poor Farm Bison. Ed explained that the Poor Farm name came from the property. Minnehaha County purchased the land in 1880 and in 1889, they built a 32 room house on the "poor farm". When people ran out of money or became destitute, they would be sent to the poor farm to work and earn their keep. Ed said that they ran dairy cattle and farmed on the place and people could earn \$6 per day to work on the farm. In 1972, the county finally shut down the poor farm and the Nolz family purchased the land and structures in 1985 at an auction. They opted to tear the house down and build a new one, but many of the outbuildings on the place today are the original buildings from the poor farm.

After touring David's place on the north end of Sioux Falls, the group headed down the road to Orrin Geide's Circle G Ranch in Hartford, SD. Orrin operates a small feedlot on his property and the group was able to tour his facility and he showed them the feeds that he uses for his animals.

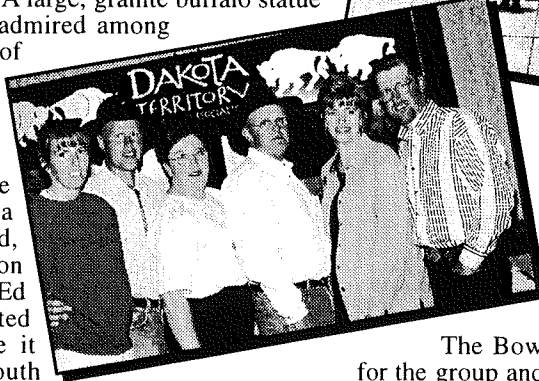
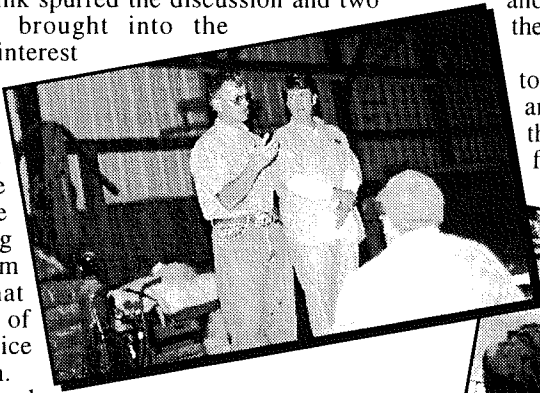
After the ranch tours were complete, everyone returned to the hotel to unwind and then enjoy a roast buffalo meal and fun auction. The fun auction raised nearly \$7,000 for the association and included the Gold Trophy sponsorship for the new Carcass Class at the 2001 DTBA Black Hills Buffalo Classic. Rod Sather of Mosquito Park Enterprises picked up the tab on that sponsorship.

On Sunday, with cloudy skies, brisk winds and a light rain, the group headed east to Luverne, MN to tour the John and Jeanne Bowron ranch. The couple runs Prairie Heights Bison ranch just

north of Luverne and they also give ranch tours and occasionally sell meat. The Bowron's did a wonderful job of changing their plans at the last minute, courtesy of the uncooperative weather. John explained about the bison herd on the ranch and Jeanne told about the ranch tours she heads up.

The Bowron's prepared a wonderful shish kebab lunch for the group and despite the cold weather, everyone enjoyed the tour of the herd and facilities and the hot-off-the-grill lunch. After the tour of the Bowron ranch, most everyone departed for home and some took the opportunity to tour the nearby Blue Mounds State Park bison herd and the Buffalo Days celebration being held in the town.

Plans for the 2001 DTBA Summer Conference are already underway and the ranch tours are lined up. The group will move to western South Dakota and tour Thunder Canyon Buffalo at Newell, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch near Belle Fourche and Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch just south of Buffalo. The conference is tentatively slated to be held in Spearfish.



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