

Lots of Activities On Tap For DTBA

As spring approaches, the DTBA is gearing up for another busy season of activities. Right below this note, you'll find information about a Summer Ranch Tour and Meeting that will be held with the Montana Bison Association and the North Dakota Buffalo Association. This event will kick off the summer season.

At our winter meeting this past January, the topic of discussion was strategic planning. Many of you who participated tossed out some excellent ideas that the board will be implementing throughout this year. All of these things are meant to keep the DTBA in the forefront of the fast-paced buffalo industry. Inside, you will find information about the winter meeting and a synopsis of the strategic planning sessions.

One of the things that came out of our winter meeting was the need for the association to get back to being "producer-oriented" and to enhance our efforts in the areas of member education, membership retention and recruitment of new members. More details about these topics are included within this newsletter. Please take time to read this newsletter, as there is some very important information about YOUR association.

Membership/Dues Information

January 1 marked the beginning of the new year for DTBA. Dues go from January 1 through December 31. Many of you have already paid for 2004 and are current with your membership dues. Check the label on the mailer portion of this newsletter and you will see when your dues are paid through. The year on there indicates dues paid through the end of the year shown.

Additionally, if you are NOT paid up for 2004, you will find a membership application inside this packet. Please fill it out and return with payment so we can keep your records updated and current. We are doing a lot of e-mail notes and mailings and need your current contact information to keep you informed. This information also goes on our web site and in the membership directory.

If you have any questions regarding your membership status, please contact the office.

Summer Ranch Tour And Meeting

The Montana Bison Association is planning a summer ranch tour and meeting for the weekend of Friday and Saturday, June 11 and 12. The event will be held at Chris and Jan Michal's XIT Ranch near Volborg, MT.

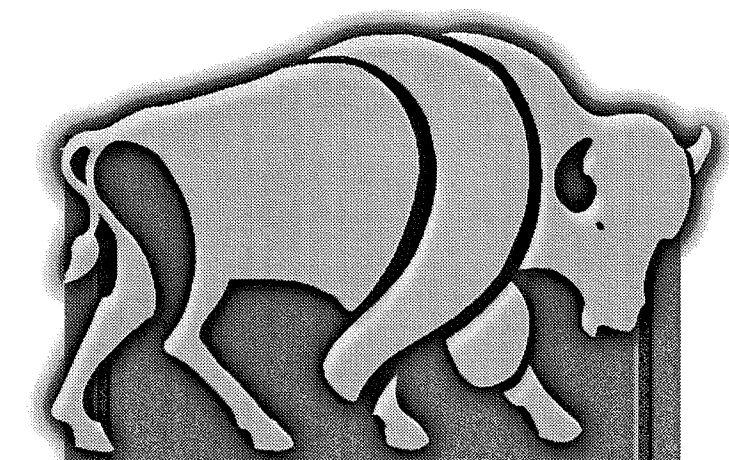
The MBA is also inviting members of the North Dakota Buffalo Association and the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association to join in with them for a long overdue good time! The DTBA board of directors is encouraging everyone to make plans to attend this event.

Chris and Jan, and most of you know all about that pair, already have some entertainment (other than themselves) lined up and are busy making plans for a great summer bash. They will be sure to offer something for everyone.

The cost will be \$25 per person, \$10 for children. Inside this newsletter, you will find a registration form. You are encouraged to fill it out and return it as soon as possible so Chris and Jan can plan the party.

There will also be a Fun Auction in conjunction with this event, so put on your thinking caps and pull out all the stops to bring some great items. These Fun Auctions are a fund raiser for the associations, so the more unique the item, the more money it will bring! Be creative and unique and see who can bring the highest selling item.

Be checking on the MBA web site for updates and details about this summer meeting. They will also have directions to the ranch on there, for those of you who have never been to the XIT Ranch. You can find their site at: www.montanabison.org.



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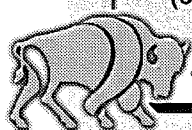
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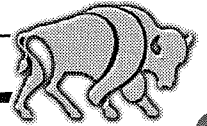
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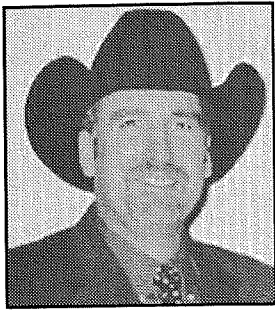


Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Newsletter

May 2004



Remarks From The President: Scott Peterson



For those of you who were unable to attend our winter conference, you missed a great time! Our Tatanka Tours were fun and we accomplished a lot of work that will go towards keeping the DTBA running at top speed.

During the membership meeting and our bus tours, there was a lot of valuable input from members about a variety of topics. I would personally like to thank each one of you who attended and took time to bring fresh

ideas and suggestions to the table. That is what makes this association work...the members! Your input was taken to heart and we will be focusing our efforts to get many of those suggestions implemented throughout the year.

You might also note that our roster for the board of directors looks familiar. During our elections this year, both Jud Seaman and Steve Schmitz opted to run again and they both were re-elected. The board then decided to leave the current officers in place for the coming year. Things have been running smoothly as is and we wanted to continue with some continuity during this period of refocusing. Thank you to all who participated in the election process and to the other members who were also on the ballot.

You will see on the front page of this issue that we are having a joint summer meeting with our neighboring associations. The Montana group cordially invited all of the DTBA members to

join in on their summer meeting and ranch tour. If you've never been to Chris and Jan's place, you are in for a treat. If you have been, you'll know why you don't want to miss out! I would encourage all of our members to make the time to attend this event. It will be a great time and by working with our sister organizations, so much can be accomplished.

Finally, please take the time to read through the minutes from the March 22 Board of Director's meeting. There are a number of changes that will be taking place for our 2005 show and sale and I want to make sure everyone is aware of those changes well in advance. Many of the changes were brought about due to the need to update our rules and regulations to reflect changes in the industry over the past few years. Other changes were made out of a concern for the safety of our members working in the pens and the animals themselves.

As always, please contact myself or any of the board members to discuss concerns, questions or comments that you might have about the association or anything in the newsletter. That's what we are here for.

Oh, did I forget to mention the REALLY exciting news? Rapid City and the DTBA have been selected as hosts for the 2007 International Bison Conference. Please see page 3 for all the details on this exciting event. I hope each and every one of you will participate in this fantastic opportunity. We will be gearing up for this over the summer and will have more information available in future newsletters and via e-mail. And yes, we will need EVERYONE'S help!

Raffle Winners Announced

As a fund raiser this past year, the DTBA board gave approval to raffle off the final rifle in the DTBA's limited edition series Sharps Buffalo Rifle. The gun was number 20 of 25 and was the final gun available in the series.

This raffle was very successful. With ticket sales of nearly 650, competition was fierce for the rifle. It drew much attention everywhere it was on display and lots of folks, both in the industry and those outside of it, took a chance on winning this beautiful firearm. The drawing was held at the conclusion of the Black Hills Stock Show in early February and tickets were sold right up to the last minute before the drawing.

We had Elton Bierman draw out the winner for us. Many of you will recall that Elton was our Buffalo Leather Chair winner in last year's drawing, so he had the honor of drawing out this year's winner.

Esther Singleton of Rapid City, SD was the big winner of the rifle. Her ticket was purchased in September at the Custer State Park Arts Festival. Esther decided she didn't have much use for the rifle, but knew someone who did. She gave the rifle to her son-in-law, Ron Conrad, also of Rapid City.

Now comes the best part...Ron has a few head of buffalo and many of you locals have seen or met him at the Custer auction or

other local buffalo events. Ron was thrilled to take home the rifle, but before he did, Karen managed to sign him up as a new member of the DTBA. Way to go, Ron! So, not only did we have a new rifle owner, but we garnered a new member as well. Congratulations to both Esther and Ron on winning the rifle.

At the conclusion of the stock show, we also drew two more raffle winners in our 100 pound buffalo meat bundle raffle. Although we didn't sell as many tickets for this as hoped, it was our first time to try it and we have lots of ideas on how to make it more successful next year. The meat was from our Reality-Based Carcass class winners.

Thank goodness we had someone other than Elton do this drawing. The winners were Elton Bierman, Rapid City and Todd Whitaker, also of Rapid City. Someone needs to rub Elton's head for luck, as he has been very successful in his raffle ventures with the DTBA! Maybe we need to take him to Deadwood!

Thanks to everyone who sold tickets for the raffles and to those who purchased them. Thanks to your efforts, we raised more than \$2,000 for the association. That's profit, over and above the expenses of the raffles. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Be watching for a new raffle this summer.

Welcome New DTBA Members!

Meilon Hildebrant
Pine Hills Bison, Beach, ND

Dennis & Lisa Johnson
Rusty Wire Bison Ranch, Clark, SD

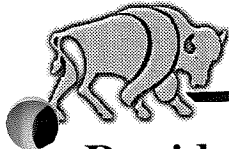
Jerry and Fae Johnston
Johnston Buffalo, Interior, SD

Wayne Holzwarth
Holzwarth Sales and Service, Inc., Gettysburg, SD

Ron and Danelle Conrad
Rapid City, SD

Cheryl Feist
Pamplin Hills Buffalo Ranch, Selfridge, ND

Ernie Wright
Hunter Bison, Four Corners, WY



Rapid City and DTBA To Host 2007 International Bison Conference

While 2007 may seem like it's a long way out, members of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (DTBA) are already hitting high gear with plans for the International Bison Conference (IBC) in 2007.

For a number of years, the DTBA has been planning to put in a bid to host this event in their home territory of Rapid City, SD. Members had talked about bidding for a summer National Bison Association conference, but opted to put their efforts into making a run at the International conference. These IBC events are held every seven years, alternating between the United States and Canada. They are a joint effort of the National Bison Association (NBA) and the Canadian Bison Association (CBA). The first event was held in LaCrosse, WI in 1993 and the most recent IBC event was held in Edmonton, Alberta in 2000.

A number of cities began the quest for the IBC a couple of years ago. However, in the past year or two, the national associations have found that these events are much easier to put on with the help of a local buffalo association working in conjunction with them. Given that criteria, the field was narrowed down to five finalist, with Rapid City being one of them. Late last summer, DTBA got word that the list had been shortened to two candidates, Rapid City, SD and Louisville, KY.

Working in conjunction with the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce, members of the DTBA began planning presentations that would be made to the Board of Directors of both the CBA and the NBA. It had already been decided that Custer State Park would be the "host ranch" for an IBC event, should it be held in Rapid City. Rapid City, Custer State Park and DTBA members put together a presentation to take to Regina, Canada for the CBA meeting last November.

DTBA President, Scott Peterson, Executive Director, Karen Conley and Custer State Park Resource Manager, Ron Walker, made the frigid trip to Regina to make their pitch to the Canadian board. The focus of the presentation was the beauty of the Black Hills, the variety of events and activities for the whole family to enjoy and mostly, the ties with Custer State Park and their world famous herd of buffalo. Walker's presentation about the park included a "coming home" theme, as many will remember that the park is considered the birthplace of the buffalo industry as we know it today.

The reception in Canada was wonderful and plenty of questions were asked and answered. Despite all the obstacles facing

Membership Directory Available

Included in this mailing, you will find the new DTBA Membership Directory. It was printed in late January and distributed at our winter conference and the Black Hills Stock Show booth.

If you already have a copy, please share this one with someone interested in the industry or in becoming a producer.

New this year, you will find a listing of resources in the back of the directory. That information came from the membership forms you LOVE to fill out every year. See, we do use that information, so it's important to keep it current and to fill out those forms.

The listings are designed to help you, the members, sell your products and services to potential customers. This same information is available on our web site, enhancing your exposure to a much broader audience.

The membership directories will be distributed at the DTBA booth outings, new producer seminars and any other applicable places. If you would some extra copies to distribute, please contact the office and arrangements can be made to do so. Thank you to all of the advertisers for supporting this important project.

Canadian buffalo producers at this time, they took time out of their schedule to take in the presentation and their interest was most welcome. DTBA members left Regina on a positive note, hoping for their favorable consideration.

More meetings ensued and the group spiced up their presentation and headed to Denver, CO in mid-January for the National Bison Association conference. This time, the original group was joined by DTBA Vice-President, Jud Seaman, DTBA Secretary/Treasurer, Jacki Limpert and Rapid City Convention and Visitor's Bureau Sales and Servicing Manager, Sandy Heintz. Another presentation was made to the NBA group, more questions were asked and answers given. The group held their breath as they awaited the outcome of voting from the two national organizations.

A yes vote from both the NBA and the CBA has given Rapid City and the DTBA the go-ahead to begin planning for the 2007 event. Members are excited about this opportunity and the entire Rapid City and Black Hills area will be involved in showing our visitors what Dakota hospitality is all about.

"Rapid City put together an outstanding proposal that will help the international bison community celebrate the heritage—as well as the future—of our industry," said Dave Carter, executive director of the National Bison Association.


"It will be a great opportunity for the industry to share knowledge, evaluate the last two decades of progress and share the industry vision" said Mark Silzer, president of the Canadian Bison Association.

"We are excited to be able to host this event in our backyard," commented DTBA President, Scott Peterson. "The DTBA, along with Rapid City and Custer State Park, has the ability and the resources to make this an event that attendees won't soon forget. We appreciate all that Rapid City has done to support this bid and everyone at Custer State Park has given us 100 percent as well. Our members are already stepping up to form committees and tackle projects and there will much more activity in the near future."

"We want to invite everyone to keep the week of July 23 through July 28, 2007 open on their calendars," said Peterson. "There will be family activities and learning opportunities. Working with the national organizations, we are striving to offer something for everyone and it will be an event you won't want to miss."

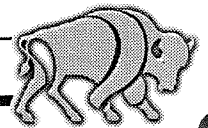
DID YOU KNOW...

Thanks to YOUR support of the DTBA/NDBA cookbook project, the association has, at the end of 2003, raised well over \$4,000 in profit from this project. Keep up the good work! More cookbooks are still available!



*Our Thanks to:
Larry and Linda Rolfstad,
Rocking R Bison Leather, for the
buffalo leather vest they donated
for a drawing at the Dakota
Territory Buffalo Association
Conference. The vest is absolutely
beautiful and we sincerely thank
the Rolfstad's for their generous donation.*

*Brad and Connie Beavers,
Beaver Creek Buffalo Company, Jefferson, SD*



Please Participate In The Census

Late last year, the board of directors began the steps to initiate an animal census in the state of South Dakota. Many of our members filled out the census questionnaire at the winter conference. Since then, other members have been contacted and have filled out the information and returned it to the office. However, we are still lacking data from many of our members as well as non-members who are raising buffalo in South Dakota.

Enclosed in your packet, please find the Census questionnaire. Take a few minutes to fill it out and return to the DTBA office. You can mail, fax or even e-mail your information. Please put your last name on the form, so we know who has and has not filled it out. Karen will be compiling the data, so confidentiality will not be an issue. When the information is released, it will contain only numbers. No individuals will be named and no identifying factors will be used.

The census is important for a number of reasons. With our industry in a state of flux, we are constantly being asked for animal information. Additionally, there are people looking for animals and this will be a good way to identify what is available in our state. We would like to conduct the census on a regular basis so our members and producers can be better informed about the state of the industry.

For those of you who have already filled out the information, thank you. Use your copy of the survey to encourage a non-member to fill one out. If you know of folks who raise buffalo but are not DTBA members, please forward their contact information (phone number or mailing address) and Karen will contact them about participating in the survey.

We'll be compiling the data as soon as their is enough received to begin working on. Please try to have data into the office no later than June 1, 2004.

News From The SD Dept. Of Ag

Members of the South Dakota agriculture industry, are you aware of www.dakotaflavor.com?

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture is encouraging you to tell the world who you are via a computer interface. This listing is free to those who take part. If you have access to the internet, go to www.dakotaflavor.com and view the site. See your neighbors, customers, suppliers and the resources available in the ag industry. Determine where you fit in and then add or update your listing directly. There is even room for an image.

No internet access? Call the Department of Agriculture at 1-800-228-5254 and then we will enter you in Dakota Flavor. We will ask for a name and contact information. You tell us what you do. It's that simple. Any questions, please contact us.

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture offers numerous financial assistance programs for small and beginning farmers and ranchers.

The Department of Agriculture and the SD Value Added Finance Authority offer programs such as: Beginning Farmer Bond; Agribusiness Bond; Livestock Nutrient Management Bond; Value-Added Agribusiness Loan; VALU Guaranty; Livestock Loan Participation; Ag Loan Participation and Coop Stock Guaranty.

These programs are designed to assist farmers and ranchers in obtaining capital for their operations at a lower rate of interest. The programs include loan guarantees, which provide added security for a lender; low-interest loan participation, which spreads the risk for a lender at a reduced interest rate to the farmer; and bonds, which provide a reduced interest rate to the farmer.

Information about the various programs is available at the following site: www.state.sd.us/da/ag_dev/loan.htm or by contacting the Department of Ag at (605) 773-5436.

Billboard Sponsors Promote All

Many of you know that the association has had advertising billboards up for several years now. The billboards promote buffalo meat and also feature our web site, so as to give interested folks a way to find meat or other buffalo by-products. The billboards have generated a lot of interest and even sales for our members.

The cost of these billboards, for the past two years, have been sponsored by members of the association. We would like to recognize those who have stepped forward to defray the costs of this important project.

In 2003, the sponsors included: Mark and Sharon Stime, Harmony Hills Bison; Monte and Nancy Allen, Cannonball Ranch; Jerry and Bev Austin, Two Heart Buffalo Ranch; Roy Liedtke, Wendy Hutchinson and Kelly Hardy, Longreach Buffalo Company; Ralph and Mary Mahoney, Mahoney Buffalo Ranch; Bruce Anderson, Western Buffalo Company; Steve and Gail Schmitz, Brad and Connie Beavers, David and Jeanne Staum, Mike Allard and Steve Allard, Dakota Bison Meats; Ron Bradeen and Jud Seaman, Bradeen Auctions; Sandy and Jacki Limpert, Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch; Rick and Brian Knobe, Lazy RRse Buffalo Ranch; North Dakota Buffalo Association and Kim Sealine, Tom and Jenny Trople, Spirited Winds Tatanka Ranch.

In 2004, the sponsors include: Monte and Nancy Allen, Cannonball Ranch; Ron Bradeen and Jud Seaman, Bradeen Auctions; Sandy and Jacki Limpert, Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch; Kim Sealine, Tom and Jenny Trople, Spirited Winds Tatanka Ranch; Laurence Carr, Rafter K Bar; Joe Painter and family, Painter Ranch; Scott and Susan Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch and Blue Valley Ranch.

Our billboard contract will expire late this fall. The board has made the decision to not renew our contract for another billboard at this time. They will be looking into a new project to work on. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please feel free to contact one of the board members or the office.

Thank you again to our generous sponsors that have enabled us to continue promoting buffalo and our organization.

Consignment Auctions On Tap

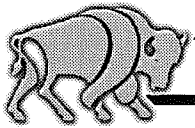
You've asked for it and your board of directors has responded. Beginning this fall, the DTBA will once again be hosting consignment auctions as a way of bringing buyers and sellers together for the benefit of our members.

There will be one auction in the western part of the state and one in the eastern part. As of this newsletter, the eastern one has not been finalized yet, but plans are in place for an auction in the western area. On Saturday, December 4, we will have an auction at St. Onge Livestock in St. Onge, SD. For those of you not familiar with the area, St. Onge is located between Whitewood and Belle Fourche on Highway 34. They have an excellent sale facility and are excited about working with our association on these auctions. The sale is set to begin at 1:30 p.m.

When a date and location for the eastern auction become available, we'll let you know right away. It will most likely be held in December, too.

The board of directors is hoping to conduct, in conjunction with these auctions, new producer seminars. The seminars would be held in the morning at the auction site, allowing seasoned producers to lend some helpful insight for those interested in the industry.

For more information on the auctions, please contact the DTBA office at (605) 923-6383 or e-mail to: info@dakotabuffalo.com. Please let us know if you are interested in buying or consigning so we can make sure you receive information as soon as it's available.



Results From The 2004 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show And Sale



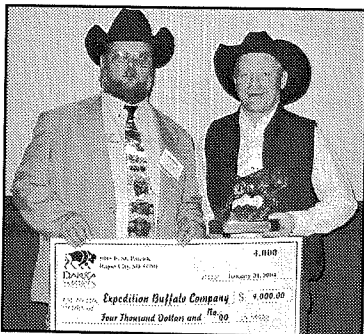
Kathleen and Michael Gear, right, accept the Producer of the Year trophy from sponsors, Rex and Ronda Snyder.



Casey (far right) and Jamie (far left) Byrd accept the Grand Champion Bull trophy from sponsors Jacki and Sandy Limpert.



Jamie and Casey Byrd, center, took home the Reserve Grand Champion Bull trophy, sponsored by Kathleen and Michael Gear.



Perry Handyside, right, took top honors for his carcass bull. Rod Sather was the trophy sponsor.

Producer of the Year: Red Canyon Ranch, Michael and Kathleen Gear, Thermopolis, WY.

Rookie of the Year: North Slope Buffalo Ranch, Corey Snyder, Lyman, WY.

Grand Champion Male: A yearling bull from Buffalo Dance Bison, Casey and Jamie Byrd, Ridgeview, SD. Purchased by Snyder Land and Development, Rex and Ronda Snyder for \$6,750.

Reserve Champion Male: A two year old bull from Buffalo Dance Bison.

Grand Champion Female: A yearling heifer from Red Canyon Ranch. Purchased by Flying H Ranch, Adolph Hepper, Mobridge, SD for \$2,200.

Reserve Champion Female: A two year old bred heifer from Red Canyon Ranch. Purchased by Flying H Ranch for \$2,000.

Bull Calves: 1. Snyder Land and Development, Rex and Ronda Snyder, Lyman, WY; 2. Red Canyon Ranch; 3. Nolz Poor Farm Bison, Ed and Deanna Nolz, Sioux Falls, SD.

Yearling Bulls: 1. Buffalo Dance Bison; 2. North Slope Buffalo Ranch; 3. Diamond Tail Ranch, Mike Duncan, Jelms, WY. Honorable Mention: Snyder Land and Development.

Two Year Old Bulls: 1. Buffalo Dance Bison.

Heifer Calves: 1. Nolz Poor Farm Bison; 2. Mosquito Park Enterprises, Rod and Emily Sather, Vivian, SD; 3. Sage Creek Bison, Vince and Lori Hayes, Alder, MT. Honorable Mention: Double Diamond Buffalo, Bill Melius, Faulkton, SD.

Pen of Three Heifer Calves: 1. Nolz Poor Farm Bison; 2. Mosquito Park Enterprises; 3. Double Diamond Buffalo.

Yearling Heifers: 1. Red Canyon Ranch; 2. North Slope Buffalo Ranch; 3. Horse Creek Bison Company, Steve and Roxann McFarland, Hettinger, ND. Honorable Mention: Snyder Land and Development.

Pen of Two Yearling Heifers: 1. Snyder Land and Development; 2. Buffalo Dance Bison; 3. Horse Creek Bison Company.

Two Year Old Bred Heifers: 1. Red Canyon Ranch; 2. Snyder Land and Development; 3. Diamond Tail Ranch. Honorable Mention: Red Canyon Ranch.

Sale Results:

Bull Calves: 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$400 to \$2,900 with an average of \$885 per head.

Yearling Bulls: 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$750 to \$6,750 with an average of \$1,980 per head.

Two Year Old Bulls: 1 head sold. Price was \$2,400.

Heifer Calves: 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$350 to \$1,500 with an average of \$680 per head.

Pen of Three Heifer Calves: 18 head sold. Prices ranged from \$400 to \$850 with an average of \$554 per head.

Yearling Heifers: 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$500 to \$2,200 with an average of \$1,000 per head.

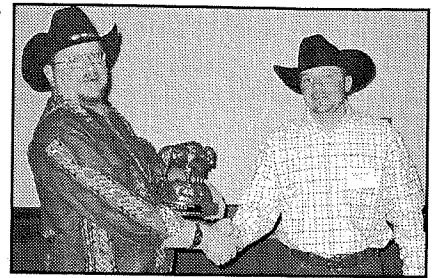
Pen of Two Yearling Heifers: 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$450 to \$1,250 with an average of \$880 per head.

Two Year Old Bred Heifers: 7 head sold. Prices ranged from \$600 to \$2,400 with an average of \$1,614 per head.

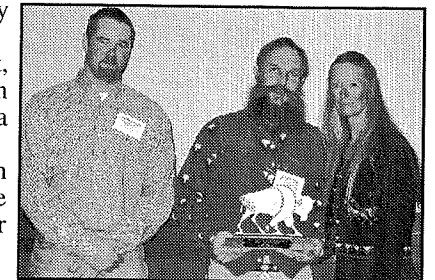
Reality Based Carcass Class

Bulls: 1. Expedition Buffalo Company, Perry and Susan Handyside, Kremmling, CO; 2. Beaver Creek Buffalo Company, Brad and Connie Beavers, Jefferson, SD; 3. Nolz Poor Farm Bison, Ed and Deanna Nolz, Sioux Falls, SD.

Heifers: 1. Beaver Creek Buffalo Company; 2. Blue Valley Ranch, Perry Handyside, Mgr., Kremmling, Co; 3. Nolz Poor Farm Bison.



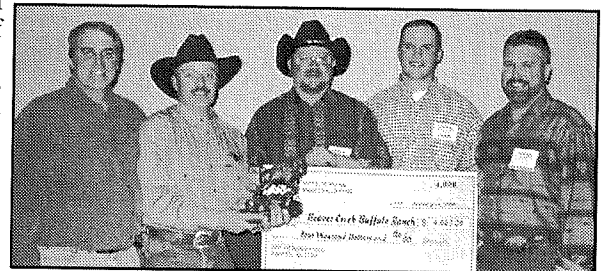
Corey Snyder, right, accepts the Rookie of the Year trophy from sponsor Brad Beavers.



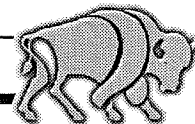
Tim Robertson, left, sponsored the Grand Champion Female trophy awarded to Michael and Kathleen Gear.



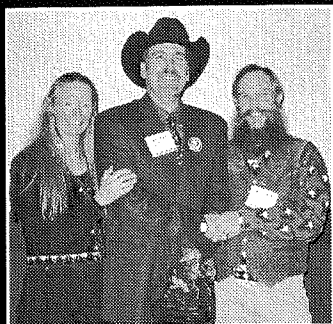
Kathleen and Michael Gear, left, accept the Reserve Grand Champion Female trophy sponsored by Evie, Chad and Amy Heim. Jacki Limpert stepped in for the Heim family.



Brad Beavers, center, had the top entry in the heifer carcass class. Trophy sponsor was Dakota Bison Meats, Steve Allard, Steve Schmitz, Brad Beavers and Dave Staum. To the right of Beavers is his ranch manager, Brad Adams.



Results From The 2004 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show And Sale



Scott Peterson, center, presents Kathleen and Michael Gear with the Gold trophy for their Yearling Heifer entry. Gale and Patti Stevens sponsored the award.



Scott Butcher, right, manager for Diamond Tail Ranch, took home the Bronze trophy for their Two Year Old Bred Heifer entry. Scott Peterson presented the trophy on behalf of sponsors David and Gail Griffin.



Above, trophy sponsors, Jerry and Judy Johnson, left, present Deanna and Ed Nolz with the Bronze trophy for their heifer entry in the Reality Based Carcass Class.

Below, trophy sponsor, Todd Goetz, representing The Buffalo Heard, left, present Deanna and Ed Nolz with the Bronze trophy for their bull entry in the Reality Based Carcass Class.



Arnie Becker, representing trophy sponsor North Dakota Buffalo Association, presented the Gold trophy for Pen of Two Yearling Heifers to Ronda and Rex Snyder.



Todd Goetz, representing sponsor The Buffalo Heard, awarded the Bronze trophy to Roxanne and Steve McFarland in the Pen of Two Yearling Heifer class.



Jamie and Casey Byrd, center, accept the Two Year Old Bull Gold trophy from sponsors Kathleen and Michael Gear.



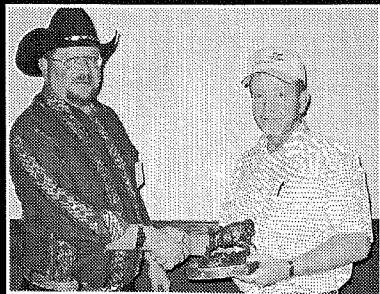
Kathleen and Michael Gear, center, accept the Gold Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy from sponsors Scott and Susan Peterson.



Tim Robertson, with Blue Valley Ranch, presented Jamie and Casey Byrd with the Silver trophy for their Pen of Two Yearling Heifer entry.



Jacki Limpert, representing the DTBA, presents Corey Snyder with the Silver trophy for his Yearling Heifer entry.



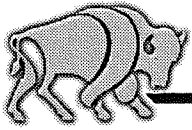
Brad Beavers, left, accepts the Silver trophy for his bull entry in the Reality Based Carcass Class. Representing sponsor Scranton Equity Feeds is Kelly Schumacher.



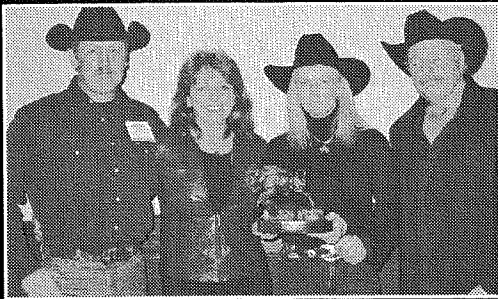
Roxanne and Steve McFarland, center and right, were awarded the Bronze trophy for their Yearling Heifer. Jacki Limpert presented the trophy on behalf of sponsor, Lowdon Heller.



Curt Hepper, representing trophy sponsor Floyd Johnson, awards the Silver trophy for the Two Year Old Bred Heifer to Ronda and Rex Snyder.



Results From The 2004 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show And Sale



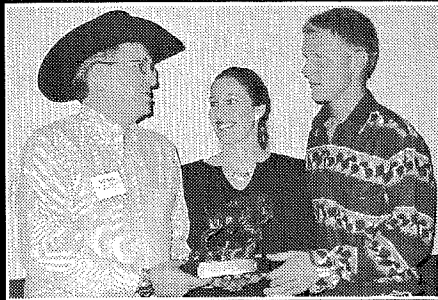
Monte and Nancy Allen, left, sponsored the Gold Bull Calf trophy, which was awarded to Ronda and Rex Snyder.



Jacki Limpert, center, representing the DTBA, awarded the Silver Bull Calf trophy to Kathleen and Michael Gear.



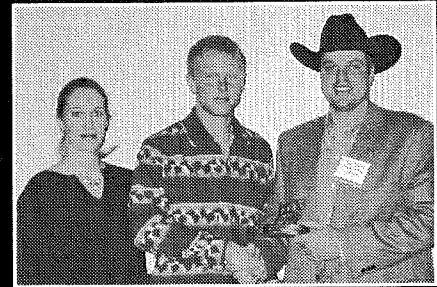
Deanna and Ed Nolz took home the Bronze Bull Calf trophy, sponsored by Vigortone Ag Products. Jacki Limpert stepped in for the sponsor.



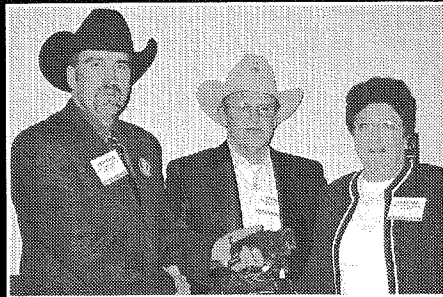
Rick Knobe, representing sponsor Valley Banks of Eastern SD, presents the Gold Yearling Bull trophy to Jamie and Casey Byrd.



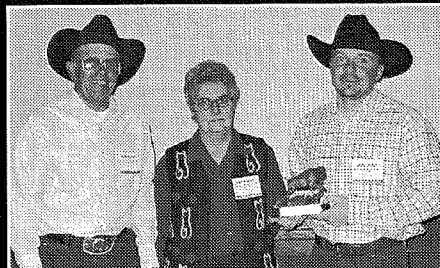
Rick Knobe, representing trophy sponsor, First National Bank of Sioux Falls, awards the Gold Heifer Calf trophy to Deanna and Ed Nolz.



Jamie and Casey Byrd sponsored the Bronze Yearling Bull trophy, awarded to Scott Butcher, manager for Diamond Tail Ranch.



Not only did they sponsor the trophy, they also won it! Ed and Deanna Nolz are congratulated by Scott Peterson for picking up the Gold Pen of Three Heifer Calves trophy.



Ralph and Mary Mahoney sponsored the Silver Yearling Bull trophy, awarded to Corey Snyder.



Rod Sather, left, accepts the Silver trophy for his Heifer Calf entry. Scott Peterson, center, awarded the trophy for sponsors Doug and Sandy Stukel. Manager Tom Junk is on the right.



Scott Peterson, center, awards the Silver Pen of Three Heifer Calves trophy to Rod Sather, left and manager Tom Junk, right. The trophy was sponsored by Tedd and Carmen Thompsen.



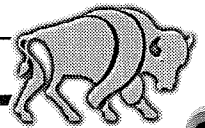
Robert and Colleen Burrows sponsored the Bronze Pen of Three Heifer Calves trophy, awarded to Bill Melius. Scott Peterson stepped in for the Burrows.



At right, trophy sponsor, Perry Handyside, left, presents the Silver trophy for the heifer entry in the Reality Based Carcass Class, to Tim Robertson of Blue Valley Ranch.

The Bronze Heifer Calf trophy is presented to Vince Hayes, right, by Scott Peterson. The trophy was sponsored by John Painter.





Thank You To Everyone Who Helps Make Our Events A Success!

As many of you well know, it takes a lot of time, manpower and planning to put on our winter conference and live animal show and sale every year. In addition to sponsors, there are a lot of volunteer hours that go into this event every year. At the risk of leaving someone out (and if we do, please let Karen know so we can acknowledge you in the next newsletter), we'd like to publicly thank everyone who helped at the event this year.

First off, thank you to our winter conference chairperson, Jacki Limpert. She spends a lot of time on the phone lining up speakers, the hotel details and talking with Karen to make sure everything is taken care of and runs smoothly. Jacki does a great job and we appreciate all that she does to make our conferences top notch. She also helps line up trophy and conference sponsors.

At the beginning of January, we hold the Reality Based Carcass Class. Thanks to Bruce Anderson, owner of Western Buffalo Company, for letting us come in and take over his plant for however long is needed to do our contest. Bruce also spends a lot of time plugging in numbers and formulating the data that you receive each year. Al Holzer, the plant manager, spends his time helping unload animals, making sure the carcasses are handled properly, instructing the contest judges and keeping the contest running smoothly. A big thank you to contest chairman, Sandy Limpert, who has to get up mighty early to be in Rapid City by sunup...at Al's request, of course! And finally, thanks to everyone at Western Buffalo Company for pitching in and helping us with the contest each year and making room for Karen to set up shop for the duration.

Dixie Byrd has helped out for a number of years as well. She helps call and line up sponsors for the trophies and has come up with several new sponsors and some great ideas about prizes and the like. Thank you, Dixie, for pitching in and helping us out.

Helping with the show and sale animals, of course, a big thanks to our show chairman, Chad Kremer. Conditions were a bit chilly this year, but Chad and crew did a great job taking care of the animals out back. Helping Chad was Jay Torgerson, Zane Holcomb, Brian Knobe, Cynthia Peske, Wayne Moser, Tom LeFaive and Larry Rolfstad. Steve Sutton's crew also helped out throughout the weekend. Steve acts as our sale chairman and again, he puts in numerous hours getting ear tags and mailing them out, putting together the pens and show ring. We couldn't have our show without Steve and his crew, so a big thank you to all involved in making that happen.

At this year's conference, we took a bit of a twist and went on a bus trip in the afternoon. Well, you can't have a trip without snacks and prizes! Rob and LeeAnn Trynoski donated a bunch of roasted almonds for everyone to munch on. LeeAnn also donated several handmade blankets for us to use as drawings on the bus trip. They were beautiful!

Susan Peterson also lined up a number of prizes and snacks for us to use. She was able to get a SD food goodie basket from Doris Liesinger at the Pierre Street Emporium in Pierre; 3 packages of buffalo note cards from Spearfish artist, Kathy Sigle; Lueders Food Center, Belle Fourche, Dave Kutz, manager, donated a BIG box of snacks for us...many of which we enjoyed in the Saturday night hospitality room as well; and artist Sis-Kreuter-Nelson of Belle Fourche, donated a buffalo art print that we auctioned off in the Fun Auction. Thanks, Susan, for lining up some great gifts.

Our host hotel, the Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn, also donated a free night's stay as one of our raffle prizes. Thank you to Amy Rank, our contact at the hotel, for donating this great prize.

We also had vendors at our conference, something kind of new for us. All of the vendors donated items, either for the raffles or the fun auction. Thanks to Felecia Sargent from that National Buffalo Museum in Jamestown, ND; Estella Young, Growing Blue Flowers, Oakdale, MN; Steve Mohr, Dakota Wood Design, Pierre, SD and Larry and Linda Rolfstad, Rocking R Bison Leather, Rapid City, SD.

The Rolfstads again donated a beautiful buffalo leather trimmed vest for our Early Bird Registration raffle. Connie Beavers from Jefferson, SD, was the lucky winner of the vest. Many thanks to Larry and Linda for their generosity in helping us encourage folks to register early for the conference.

There were plenty of other folks who helped out at the conference, including Arlie and Lorene Bender, Rick Knobe, Merle and Susan Maass, Todd Goetz, Mike Goetz, Nancy Allen, Roy Liedtke, Dave Kalil, Jud Seaman, Ron Bradeen, Steve Schmitz, Scott Peterson, Suzi Kremer ...and at the risk of forgetting someone, we'll stop there. If you held a door, loaded boxes in or out, watched the registration desk, loaded the buses with food or helped find something Karen lost, brought items for the fun auction or purchased items at the fun auction, just know that your efforts are greatly appreciated. We could not do an event this big without your help and thanks to you, it happens.

Another "little" project that we tackle each year is the DTBA booth at the Black Hills Stock Show. This is no small task, as the booth operates for ten hours a day for ten days, with a couple of exceptions.

A number of our members helped out and took a turn watching the booth. Thanks to Ken Schuster, Judi Wood, Kim Sealine, Rod Sather, Tom Trople, Bruce Anderson and John Preston for taking their time to help spread the message about the DTBA.

However, the biggest thank you goes to the booth guru's, Paul and Barb Conley. Although they are not official members of the association, they donate countless hours of their time to watch the booth every year, help out stuffing conference folders,

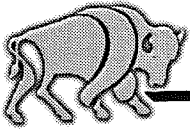
run to the print shop to pick up last minute items and are generally anywhere we need them to be. Without their help, we would be hard pressed to find enough volunteers to man our stock show booth.

Finally, one of the events that makes our DTBA conference so unique is our Welcoming Reception at Prairie Edge Trading Company and Gallery. We can't begin to thank them enough for opening their downtown store for us and providing the food and beverages for our reception. Duane Lammers spearheads this project every year and, with help from Colleen Miller at Prairie Edge, Triple 7 Ranch and Dakota Mill and Grain, makes it a fun, exciting event. There are people who talk about this reception and look forward to it all year long. We appreciate this unique opportunity and thank these folks for their hospitality.

For those of you who were unable to attend this year, ask someone who did about the "Fun to be in the DTBA" song brought to us by the board of directors. With virtually no rehearsing, the board drummed up a great little show, complete with costumes and verbiage. What a hoot. Thanks to Jacki Limpert for dreaming up this idea. Who knows what we'll have in store for next year...



Connie Beavers, center, was the lucky winner of the Early Bird Registration Raffle. Larry and Linda Rolfstad donated a buffalo leather trimmed vest as the prize for this raffle.



The Tatanka Tours Offered Opportunity For Member Input

The theme of the winter conference this year was "The Tatanka Tours." And tour we did! Members who attended had the opportunity to visit the Tatanka: Story of the Bison attraction near Deadwood, SD and then the High Plains Western Heritage Center near Spearfish. Even though it was winter, the weather cooperated and we had a great day on our field trip.

The real purpose of the bus trip was to allow time for strategic planning for our association. Organizers decided that we needed to have something to do in addition to the planning and that's where the bus tours came in. We enjoyed the morning at the hotel, going over the past year's activities and attending to the business of the association, including election of directors. South Dakota State Veterinarian, Dr. Sam Holland, then gave an update on disease surveillance and issues, including BSE.

After concluding the morning activities, we loaded up on the buses and headed north, all the while enjoying sack lunches and lots of fun on the buses. On each of the two buses, three of the board members discussed a variety of issues and topics, including association finances, activities, promotional ideas, conference suggestions, show and sale and carcass class input and any other ideas that might have come up on the spur of the moment. Many of the attendees had some great ideas and you are already seeing some of the ideas, such as the consignment auctions, being implemented.

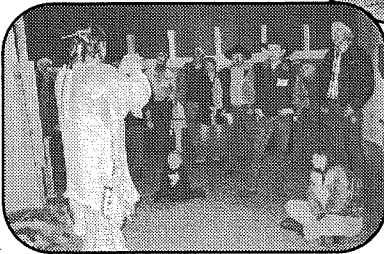
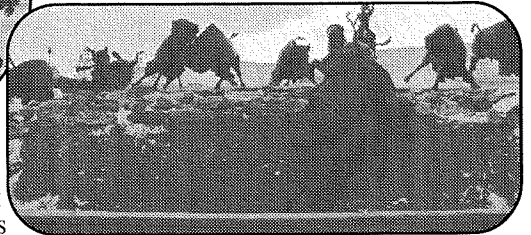
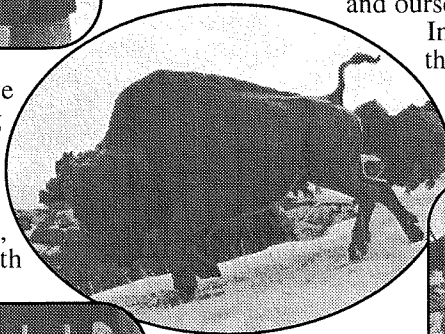
There was talk about increasing membership dues to help fund future activities, lots of suggestions for fund raising ideas, how to better solicit sponsorships for trophies and activities, how to make the carcass class better by dividing the first place money between the top three placings, what kind of activities we should be involved in as an association...the list went on and on!

The DakotaFest event was discussed extensively and throughout the course of the weekend, it was decided that

we would not be doing this event in 2004. There is a lot of work and some felt we were not sending our message to the appropriate crowd. Instead, the board is seeking input on other avenues for the association to use in taking our message to the public. There was also much discussion about whether the association should be in the business of "selling meat" or should we be selling our members

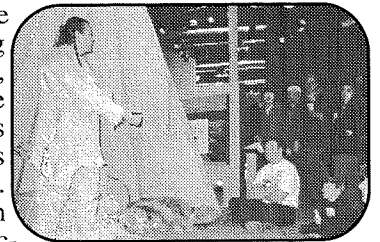
and ourselves.

Included in your packet, there are notes from the bus trip. Please take time to read through them and if you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to contact one of the board members or the office.



Putting business

aside, members enjoyed a great afternoon, visiting Tatanka and the museum. Many of you know that Tatanka is the creation of Kevin Costner and a special treat was in store for attendees as his father was one of our tour guides at the exhibit. Bill Costner, along with his wife, Sharon, recently moved to the Spearfish area and Bill was on hand to tell about his son's latest venture. Attendees also had the run of the gift shop, as the attraction was closed for the winter, but opened up for our group to

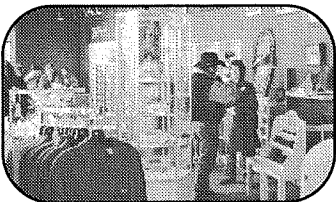
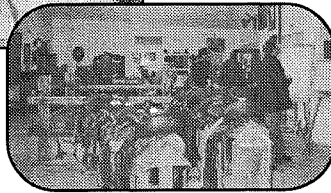


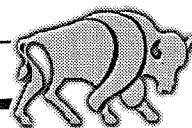
visit. Refreshments were provided and a great time was had by everyone who attended.

Following Tatanka, the buses loaded back up and more discussions were held on the way to Spearfish and the High Plains Heritage Museum.

Director, Peggy Ables, had everything ready for our visit, including the museum's board of directors on hand to greet us! What a great treat. The museum is a wonderful tribute to our western

heritage and many of our members had never been there before, so it was a treat for everyone. Again, sales in the gift shop added up before our departure and trip back to Rapid City. All in all, a good day with lots of input, direction and decisions being made by the members. We certainly appreciate both Tatanka and the museum opening their doors to our group for this special tour.





What Did YOU Accomplish On Our Tatanka Tours? Find Out Here!

Fund Raising Ideas: Rolfstad jackets; Sale of donated animals; Matched Set of Pistols; Animals/perhaps in conjunction with ICB Auction; Hides; Painted Skulls; Prints; Head mounts and Hunts.

Finances: Dues: Raise dues from current \$50.00 to \$75.00. Very few objections from this group on this proposal. They felt that there was no need to "phase in" the increase, just do it.

Sponsorships: Would like to solicit from outside the membership for some of these, i.e. banks, feed companies, equipment dealers, etc. This was a strong recommendation from this group as they felt we are currently using up member resources. They would like to see a Sponsorship Committee formed. Larry Carr said he would serve on such a committee. They also were strong on the idea of a "Sponsor Benefit Package" that outlined the sponsor's requirements and potential benefits. A Point of Sale packet if you will. They would like these packets to be clear, well supplied and consistent. Many of the group did not have a problem with helping to solicit if they had a clear and common approach. They felt that sponsorships for the show and sale should be nailed down by the first of September.

Balance Sheet: They liked the format and the information given to them this year. All felt that the information was adequate. All were comfortable with the \$16,000 in Piper Jaffrey. Many felt we needed that amount if not more in reserve incase of unforeseen circumstances. It was suggested to keep a minimum of two years' expenses in reserve.

Association Attended Events: Many still liked Dakota Fest, but understood the work involved and the type of consumer likely to be at that event. We may be "preaching to the choir" or just plain preaching to deaf ears. There was a suggestion to be at the SD State Fair and the fees involved in that venue. Other suggestions included: Sioux Empire Fair, Central States Fair, and

Antelope Island Is Site For 2004 NBA Conference: WBA Is Host Assoc.

Reprinted with permission from the March 2004 Western Bison Association newsletter.

By Steven Bates, Antelope Island

Come enjoy some fun in the sun! Antelope Island State Park and the Western Bison Association will be hosting the National Bison Association's 2004 Summer Conference in Ogden, Utah on August 12-14. Antelope Island offers a wide array of activities that the entire family will enjoy. Source verification and cutting horse demonstrations, along with visits to the beaches, the visitor center and historic Fielding Garr Ranch, will highlight Ranch Day activities.

Beyond ranch day, we encourage you to come and explore Antelope Island. Over 40 miles of trails are available for exploring the island on foot, by bicycle or from horseback. Take leisure strolls or hike challenging terrain that will take you to breathtaking views from the island's highest peak. Trails pass through the island's rich geologic history. Some of the oldest rocks (estimated 2.7 billion years old) on earth can be found on the southern end of the island, while the northern end consists of recent rock formations 10,000 to 15,000 years of age.

Trails provide corridors for fantastic wildlife viewing opportunities. Most wildlife is active in the early morning and late evening hours, so it is best to plan on starting your hike as soon as the park opens at 7 a.m. or at daylight, if you are camping on the island. During August, the bison are in the heat of the rut and are typically seen on the east side of the island. The bison can be viewed from the east side road or from the Mountain View Trail that stretches for 11 miles from the island's north end to Garr Ranch. Watch for antelope on the flats and for monster mule deer along this shoreline route as well. For a chance to view bighorn sheep, the Frary Peak Trail will take you into their rugged habitat. Binoculars are a must, along with plenty of patience, as you scan the rocks to catch a view of this magnificent animal.

Sturgis Bike Rally. They felt that letting our members who are currently food vendors have the opportunity to sell product at these events with the DTBA assisting in advertising or promoting. It was felt that we need not compete with these individuals when they belong to our association. If we do intend to stay in the vending business, they understood that we need to obtain licensing and food handling training. We discussed the booth at the Stock Show, and the general consensus was to continue with it but to "hire" someone to man it instead of relying on volunteers. The feeling was, if we hire a knowledgeable person or persons, the message in the booth would be consistent. They had no problem with funding such an effort in the range of \$75 per day.

Promotion Ideas: Promo Packs: some members felt that putting together a "Promo Pack" for mailing or distributing to various organizations such as the Food Network or the Emeril Live Show or even local events would be beneficial.

Promotion Fund: A separate line item fund that members could contribute to in addition to their memberships. Those that do not show/sell animals or participate in the carcass class competition could contribute directly to the promo fund. This fund could also be funded annually on a percentage basis by the board.

Convention Speakers: No one came to mind, but we encouraged the membership to be thinking of individuals or groups they would like to hear from.

Other Issues: More Newsletters: Quarterly and an additional newsletter at Stock Show/Annual Meeting time.

Contracting or hiring a Lobbyist. The cost of this was discussed.

Hiring or appointing someone to monitor state and regional issues pertaining to the buffalo industry, and relaying those issues to the membership.

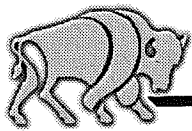
Many thanks to Lorene Bender for compiling this information.

RV and tent camping are available at the Bridger Bay Campground, where pull-through pads make for easy set up. There is no electricity or water hookups at the sites, so make sure your tanks are full before coming out. However, all campsites are close to the north beach areas where showers are available. Camping is \$10 per night. To make advance reservations, call 1-800-322-3770 or visit Utah State Parks on the web at www.stateparks.utah.gov and follow the links to Antelope Island.

If you prefer to spend time sitting back and relaxing, a visit to the northern beaches is in order. The perfectly round sand granules provide a good place to picnic, soak up some sunshine or let the kids can run and dig. Wander into the lake, lean back and let the salty water buoy you up like a cork. Outside showers are available to rinse off. For a refreshment break, our concessionaire offers ice cream and soft drinks at the beach pavilion. The island's rich ranching history can be discovered at the Fielding Garr Ranch. Shortly after the arrival of the Mormon pioneers, a ranch house was erected on the island. Displays and buildings will walk you through the changing faces of agriculture here on the island. A welcoming grove of trees is at the ranch, providing a perfect spot for a picnic.

To reach Antelope Island from the north or south, take exit 335 off of I-15 and head west on Antelope Drive. After seven miles of travel through Layton and Syracuse, you will reach our entrance gate at the beginning of the causeway. It is another seven miles across the causeway to the island. Day use fees are \$8 per vehicle.

Editor's Note: The NBA, along with the Western Bison Assn. and Antelope Island, are working hard to make this conference offer something for everyone. We'll keep you updated throughout the summer as more information becomes available. Please show your support for our national organization and our sister organization. Thanks to the WBA for letting us reprint this information and help them promote this conference.



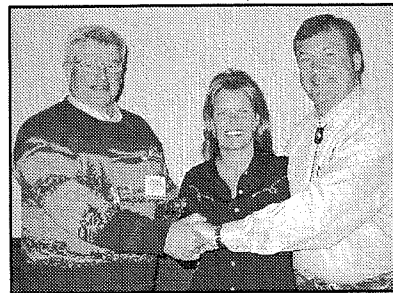
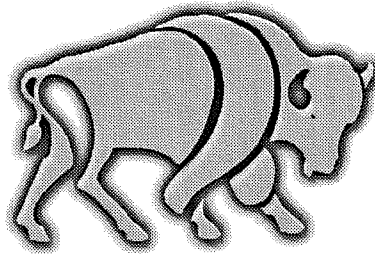
Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Members "In The News"

In early December, **Harold and Darla Loewen**, Hofer-Loewen Farm of Carpenter, SD, worked with a radio station out of Huron and provided shredded buffalo meat for sandwiches in exchange for free radio advertising. After 80 pounds of roast, Darla reports that the feedback was very positive and they even got calls for meat orders...At the NBA's Gold Trophy Show and Sale, a number of DTBA members picked up awards, including, **Michael and Kathleen Gear** (Producer of the Year), **Mike Duncan** (Rookie of the Year), **Casey and Jamie Byrd**, **Larry and Dixie Byrd**, **Rex and Ronda Snyder**, **Spud and Bentley Harper**, **Merle and Susan Maass**, **Mark and Kathy Gehl**, **Steve Wilson and Laura Lee Brown and Don Geyer**...At the NBA Winter Conference, **Steve Wilson** was named the new NBA President, **Mike Duncan** was named Vice-President and **Gail Griffin** was voted in as Secretary/Treasurer for the organization...The Montana Bison Association has announced new officers and they include DTBA members, **Dean Reddig**, President and **Vince Hayes**, Vice-President...The Western Bison Association announced new officers in early December of last year and they include **Susan Maass**, President, **John Painter**, Vice-President, **Mary Adams**, Secretary/Treasurer and board members, **Ronda Snyder**, **Bryan Adams** and **Vince Hayes**...**Gary Allen** was recently named to the Wisconsin Bison Association Board of Directors...The North Dakota Buffalo Association held elections in February and **Steve Weisenberger** was named President and **Nancy Allen** and were elected to the board...**Jud Seaman** has accepted a position with the North American Bison Cooperative in New Rockford, ND. Jud has been hired as the new Field Representative for the cop...At the recent Colorado Bison Association's first ever show

and sale, awards were picked up by the following DTBA members: **Rob and LeeAnn Trynoski**, **Rod Sather**, **Jerry and Duffy Croft**, **the Jonjak family** and **Mike Duncan**...At the Eastern Bison Association show and sale, DTBA members had a good showing, including award winners, **Robert and Colleen Burrows**, **Steve Wilson and Laura Lee Brown and Mark and Kathy Gehl**...NDBA board member, **Nancy Allen**, was recently selected for a trip to Japan and Taiwan as part of a delegation from North Dakota that went on a trading and diplomatic trip...

The **National Buffalo Museum** has announced that their new website is up and running. Find it at www.nationalbuffalomuseum.com...

If you have items you would like to submit to this new section in our newsletter, just e-mail, phone, fax or mail the information to the DTBA office and we'll include it in the next available newsletter.



2004 BHBC judge, **Tom LeFaive**, left, receives a **Tony Chytka** bronze in appreciation of his efforts. **Jil and Ron Bradeen**, along with **Jud Seaman**, sponsored the judge's trophy at the event.

Members Request Donated Meat

A request has been received from member, **Jerry Mardian**, of Mina, SD. Jerry called the office one afternoon to ask if any of the other members might be interested in donating 300 to 350 pounds of buffalo meat. Nothing like coming right to the source!

Anyway, Jerry is working with another member to put this together for the 2004 Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. They have received the nod to go ahead and provide the meat for the Mayor's Ride and Reception and a Sponsor's Reception.

Jerry is looking for meat that can be used for kabobs and meatballs, specifically ground meat and chucks.

If anyone would like more details about this venture, please contact Jerry Mardian at: (605) 226-5467 or send him an e-mail at: jjmardian@abe.midco.net.

Buffalo Meat Processing Jumps Nearly 40 Percent in 2003

Press Release from The National Bison Association, Dave Carter, Executive Director

Buffalo meat processed under federal inspection skyrocketed by nearly 40 percent last year, signaling the movement of the alternative red meat toward the American mainstream, according to Dave Carter, executive director of the National Bison Association.

Carter's comments came as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's final processing figures were compiled for 2003. Those figures indicate that 34,444 buffalo were processed under federal inspection last year, compared to 25,340 in 2002.

Carter noted that the commercial sales of buffalo meat have nearly doubled since 2000, when 17,674 head were processed under federal inspection.

"This is a remarkable increase in demand for deliciously

Hepper Family Auction A Success

Each January, **Tom and Nancy Hepper** and **Adolph and Laverne Hepper**, Moberge, SD, combine forces to host an annual live animal auction. Selling several hundred head in just a few hours, the family will host their sixth annual event in 2005. Nancy submitted the following averages from their 2004 auction.

Heifer Calves, 307 pounds, \$230 per head; Heifer Calves, 400 pounds, \$255 per head; Heifer Calves, 436 pounds, \$330 per head; Bull Calves, 365 pounds, \$300 per head; Bull Calves, 430 pounds, \$338 per head; Bull Calves, 481 pounds, \$375 per head; Fall Heifers, 581 pounds, \$405 per head; Yearling Heifers, 645 pounds, \$470 per head; Yearling Heifers, 700 pounds, \$525 per head; Fall Bulls, 675 pounds, \$470 per head; Yearling Bulls, 735 pounds, \$530 per head.

healthy buffalo meat," Carter said. "We are beginning to move into the mainstream of the American meat marketplace. At the same time, we know our demand is growing because we offer something different, and something unique. That's the best of both worlds."

Carter said that consumers are starting to incorporate buffalo into their diets because the meat combines great taste and nutrition.

"That's the best of both worlds," Carter said.

Steve Wilson, a Kentucky buffalo rancher who serves as president of the National Bison Association, noted, "U.S. Buffalo producers and processors have worked hard over the past decade to bring to the market only the best quality products for the consuming public. We are proud of the great quality and nutritional benefits of our products."

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association
P.O. Box 4104
Rapid City, SD 57709

Mark Your Calendars With These Dates To Remember!

2004

Wednesday, June 9:

National Buffalo Museum 11th Annual Fundraiser. Jamestown Civic Center, Jamestown, ND. 701-252-8648.

Friday, June 11 through Saturday, June 12:

Montana Bison Assn. Summer Ranch Tour. Held in conjunction with DTBA and NDBA. Chris and Jan Michal's XIT Ranch, Volborg MT. 406-392-5321.

Thursday, August 12 through Saturday, August 14:

National Bison Assn. Summer Conference, Ogden, UT. 303-292-2833.

Tuesday, September 14:

Custer State Park Sealed Bid Calf Sale. Contact CSP at 605-255-4515.

Saturday, October 2 and Sunday, October 3:

Custer State Park Arts Festival, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Monday, October 4:

Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Saturday, November 20:

Custer State Park Fall Classic live animal auction, Buffalo Corrals, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Saturday, November 20:

Iowa Bison Assn. Pride of the Heartland Show and Sale, Waverly, IA. 319-483-9857.

Thursday, December 2 through Saturday, December 4:

Western Bison Assn. Wild West Buffalo Stampede Show and Sale, Ogden, UT. 970-535-4200.

Saturday, December 4: Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Open Consignment Auction, St. Onge Livestock, St. Onge, SD. 605-923-6383.

2005

Friday, January 7 through Sunday, January 9:

Wisconsin Bison Producers Assn. Midwest Premier Bison Breeding Stock Show and Sale, Eau Claire, WI. 920-921-8889.

Saturday, January 8:

Flying H Ranch 6th Annual Production Auction, McLaughlin Livestock, McLaughlin, SD. Tom or Nancy Hepper at 605-845-3705 or Adolph Hepper at 605-845-2225.

Wednesday, January 19 through Saturday, January 22:

National Bison Association Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale. Denver, CO. 303-292-2833.

Friday, January 28 through Sunday, January 30:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale and Winter Conference, Rapid City, SD. 605-923-6383.

Thursday, July 28 through Saturday, July 30:

National Bison Assn. Summer Conference, Rochester, MN. 303-292-2833.

Tuesday, September 13:

Custer State Park Sealed Bid Calf Sale. Contact CSP at 605-255-4515.

Saturday, October 1 and Sunday, October 2:

Custer State Park Arts Festival, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Monday, October 3:

Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Saturday, November 19:

Custer State Park Fall Classic live animal auction, Buffalo Corrals, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association

The PRODUCER'S Association

PO Box 4104

Rapid City, SD 57709

Phone/Fax: (605) 923-6383

E-mail: info@dakotabuffalo.com

INVOICE

DATE: May 4, 2004

**To: DTBA members who are delinquent on
2004 membership dues.**

| SALESPERSON | P.O. NUMBER | DATE SHIPPED | SHIPPED VIA | F.O.B. POINT | TERMS |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| | | 5/4/04 | | | Due on Receipt |

| QUANTITY | DESCRIPTION | UNIT PRICE | AMOUNT |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2004 DTBA Membership Dues for Jan. 1, 2004 – Dec. 31, 2004 Please fill out the enclosed Membership Registration form so your records can be updated for the 2004 Membership Directory and our website. Return the form with payment. | \$50.00 | \$50.00 |
| SUBTOTAL | | | \$50.00 |
| SALES TAX | | | |
| SHIPPING & HANDLING | | | |
| TOTAL DUE | | | \$50.00 |

Make all checks payable to: Dakota Territory Buffalo Association or DTBA.

If you have any questions concerning this invoice

call the DTBA office at (605) 923-6383 or e-mail: info@dakotabuffalo.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!



Please fill out and return to: Dakota Territory Buffalo Association
PO Box 4104, Rapid City, SD 57709 or fax to (605) 923-6383 or
e-mail your information to: info@dakotabuffalo.com

2004 South Dakota Buffalo Production Survey Conducted By The Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn.

1. Total number of animals owned:
2. Cull Cows:
3. Mother Cows:
4. Yearling Heifers:
5. Heifer Calves:
6. Mature Breeding Bulls:
7. Yearling Bulls:
8. Bull Calves:
9. Number of animals offering for sale, if any:
10. Do you know of anyone in South Dakota who is raising buffalo but is not a member of the DTBA?
This is so we can contact them to get an accurate count of animals.
11. Would you be interested in a DTBA sponsored consignment auction held in western or eastern SD?
Interested in buying? Consigning?

All information regarding producer names, locations or any other identifying factors will be kept confidential. We are only interested in the number of animals residing in the state.

Board Meeting Minutes for the Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Telephone Conference March 22, 2004 • 6:30 p.m. MT

President Scott Peterson called the meeting to order. All board members, except Lorene Bender, were present and Executive Director, Karen Conley. Sale Chairman, Steve Sutton, also participated in the meeting. Bender joined the call shortly after the meeting was called to order.

Peterson began the meeting by discussing the events from the 2004 show and sale. At the consignor's meeting, input from the consignors suggested opening up the two year old classes to animals with no more than four permanent teeth showing by a certain date, as certified by a veterinarian. Seaman brought up that he felt we should eliminate the two year old bull class. He sees very limited participation in other venues in this class and suggested we discontinue it. Discussion from other board members echoed Seaman's thoughts. Steve Sutton also noted that he was concerned about safety issues if we were to open up the class to bigger and/or older bulls. He feels we do not have adequate facilities to handle the more mature animals.

Following lengthy discussion about the issue, Rick Knobe made a motion to eliminate the two year old bull class at the Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale due to lack of participation and for safety concerns. Jud Seaman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Peterson noted that we would have to find a way to fill that extra space in the show. Some of the ideas discussed included larger pens of animals, such as four to six head in a pen. In talking about expanding some of the pen classes, it was left to the discretion of the show and sale chairmen, Steve Sutton and Chad Kremer, to come up with some ideas about how to best utilize the pen space that we have. Sutton noted that he will work pen space to suit the classes whenever possible. He felt six to eight head of calves or yearlings would work fine in the space we have.

All board members agreed that we need to work to get our show and sale back to a producer-oriented offering. We will be working on ways to entice new producers and new buyers to participate in these new classes, in lieu of the two year old bull class. Board and show and sale committee will come up with solutions and present them to the membership by mid-summer so that participants will have time to plan for the new class(es).

Steve Sutton asked that we make mention to the show participants that it is very important for them to work at home with their pen animals before coming to the show. He sees a number of the pen of two yearling heifers that do not get along in the 12 x 12 pen space at the show and suggested that penning those animals together at home will go a long way toward having them well-adjusted at the show. He noted that many times, the judges won't even look at a pen if the animals are chasing each other or continually fighting.

It was decided to leave the two year old bred heifer class in the show offering. These animals will be accepted into the class with no more than two adult teeth erupted 30 days prior to the show and sale date outlined in the show rules. Teeth will need to be certified by a veterinarian within that time frame.

Jud Seaman motioned the following: Tooth verification on two year old females will be done 60 days prior to sale date, with a veterinarian's affidavit. Animals can not have more than two fully erupted teeth at that time. The judges and the show/sale/sifting committees reserve the right to run any questionable animal through the chute on the show grounds to verify teeth by mouthing the animal. Any animal with four or more fully erupted teeth will be disqualified immediately. All decisions of the judges and/or show/sale/sifting committee are final. Steve Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Peterson then asked for input about animals at our show not being shown at other venues six months prior to showing in our show and sale. There was lengthy discussion about this issue and how to verify whether an animal had been previously shown or not. Peterson noted that when and if source verification and/or the animal id systems become mandatory, that would offer a way to track any animals for this purpose.

Rick Knobe then made a motion to add the following to our show and sale rules: Any animal entered in the Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale can not have entered another show and sale in the six months prior to the Classic. Limpert seconded the motion, motion carried.

Limpert then brought up the issue of show only animals at our event. After some discussion, it was decided to table this issue until after the 2005 event.

Board members were asked for input on adoption of an ethics policy to be included in our show and sale rules. By adopting such, it is hoped that it will discourage participants from buying back their own animals, resulting in a "change of ownership" at the sale. It was decided to have board members and executive director do research on how other organizations handle this and re-visit the subject at our summer board meeting.

After discussing dates and times for the 2005 event with sale chairman Sutton, it appears at this time that we will be able to continue with the Sunday morning sale. Sutton also noted that consignors had suggested more time to bring in and unload animals prior to the judging, but he has very tight time frames with the arena and activities and asked that we again



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