



# DAKOTA TERRITORY

BUFFALO ASSOCIATION

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## Make Hotel Reservations TODAY!

Once again our location for our 2008 conference and show, scheduled for Friday, February 1 through Sunday, February 3, 2008 will be the Best Western Ramkota Hotel, located just off I-90, exit 59 at the northeast edge of Rapid City.

When you are making hotel reservations, please ask for the room block for Dakota Territory Buffalo Association. They have put together a special price of \$84 per night for our group and a block of rooms has been set aside. The hotel phone number is (605) 343-8550. Call today and make your reservations NOW.

**YOU NEED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS EARLY!** Our conference will be on the final weekend of the Black Hills Stock Show this year and the Ramkota sells out the entire weekend every year. This is their biggest weekend of the stock show, so you need to reserve your room now to ensure a great place to stay during the conference. If you wait too long, you will not be able to get a room at this hotel and nearby ones fill up as well as this is a big weekend in Rapid City.

## DTBA - Change Is In The Air!

ChChChChanges!! Isn't that how the song goes? Well, it's been a busy year here at DTBA and we've made plenty of changes to just about everything we can change!

Your Board of Directors has been meeting regularly, along with the Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show Chairman and Sale Committee. President Chad Kremer got the ball rolling early this year by setting up meetings with the Black Hills Stock Show to see about changing the location of our show and sale. That was the beginning of what has turned out to be a total revamping of our conference and show/sale! It's so exciting to finally be able to share all the details with you!

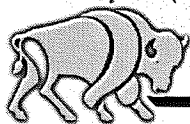
The first major change you'll notice is the date of our event. We will begin unloading animals for the show on Thursday, January 31, 2008. Our conference activities will take place at the Ramkota Hotel on Friday, February 1 and Saturday, February 2. Our sale will be held on Sunday, February 3. These dates will be the FINAL weekend of the Black Hills Stock Show, so you'll still be able to take in many of the stock show events while you're in town for the buffalo fun.

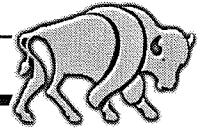
The next change is in the location of our show and sale. After much thought and planning, the board has made the decision to move the show and sale to the Pennington County Events Center, which is located on the Central States Fairgrounds. Many of the stock show horse activities take place at this venue and there will be plenty of room for our buffalo and the auction. Even better news...with the change in location, we can expand our days to accommodate earlier arrival and unloading; you can leave your trailers right on site at the Events Center; there is much less congestion than at the Civic Center; more space means room for more animals; larger pens and more of them; once you are done unloading, you just hop in the pickup, turn onto LaCrosse street and head north to the Ramkota. It's a straight shot right up the road a few miles. No more going through downtown Rapid City with a trailer full of animals! There are so many positive things it's hard to know where to begin!

Now here's another big change for you to think about. After many meetings, much discussion and starting at point A and ending up at point M, the board and show/sale committee has made a few changes to our class lineup. This is really getting exciting, isn't it?

The new classes being offered this year feature a few "industry firsts"...you know, the stuff DTBA is known for? Always finding something new to try and being a leader in the industry, that's what the DTBA is all about. In looking at the industry today and

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## Notes From The President - Chad Kremer

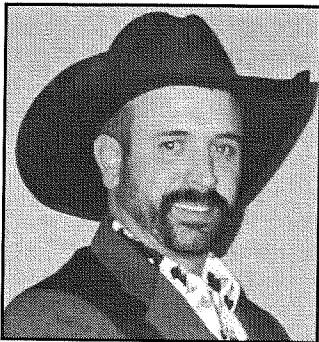
Hello everyone,

I hope this message finds you enjoying the fall weather and waiting for snow or rain as anxiously as I am! It will take quite a bit of wet weather to bring Custer State Park back up to normal

and we are not as worse off as some others in the region. Speaking of this on going drought, the last I reviewed the long term forecast it still does not look promising for a very snowy winter, however the forecasters have been known to be wrong a time or two.

Thinking about the future of the buffalo industry, my personal opinion is that, as soon as the rains and grass return, this buffalo market will rebound swiftly. Females will become valuable property as

producers look to expand their herds. Here at CSP, last year was a pivotal year in that our herd structure numbers are at a possibly all time low. It has become a fine balancing act to try and guess the weather turn around and still position our cow herd numbers to rebound when the time comes. We don't have the opportunity



to go out and purchase additional cows when the grass returns since we operate as a closed herd.

Our big event of the summer for DTBA was to help co-host the International Bison Conference this past July. I would like to personally thank Karen Conley, Scott Peterson, Jacki Limpert, Bruce Anderson, Mimi Hillenbrand, John Flocchini, Susan Maass and everyone else who I may have overlooked! They were all instrumental in locally lining up parts of this great event that came together to make for a very memorable event for all. Many of our members were in attendance and some were even featured as speakers and presenters. With more than 600 buffalo enthusiasts attending from all over the globe, the event was a huge success. So many volunteers pitched in to help and it was much appreciated by everyone. This event was nearly four years in the making, but it was well worth the effort.

You'll want to make sure and review all the information about our BHBC Show and Sale and Winter Conference. We have made many significant changes, everything from the date and location to the class lineup. Please find more information in the pages of this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you at the fall sales and events and also would like to extend an open invitation to all members to contact me with any questions or concerns about your association. The Producer's Association.

Chad

## Calendar Of Buffalo Events

**November 24** - Minnesota Buffalo Assn. Legends of the Fall Show and Sale and Minnesota's Harvest Production Sale. Central Livestock, Albany, MN. (507) 454-2828.

**December 1** - Western Bison Assn. Wild West Buffalo Stampede Show and Sale. Golden Spike Event Center, Ogden, UT. (505) 770-7751.

**December 8** - North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Fall Consignment Auction. KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. (701) 252-1122.

**December 29** - Comanche Buffalo Co. Premier Buffalo Auction. At the ranch, Lawton, OK. (580) 248-4419 or (580) 678-5222.

**January 5, 2008** - Flying H Buffalo Ranch 9th Annual Production Auction. At the ranch, 10 miles west of Mobridge, SD. (605) 845-3705.

**January 7 - January 11** - Custer State Park Internet Auction. (605) 255-4515.

**January 23 - January 25** - National Bison Assn. Winter Conference. Westin Westminster, Westminster, CO. (303) 292-2833.

**January 26** - National Bison Assn. Gold Trophy Show and Sale. National Western Stock Show Livestock Center Auction Arena, Denver, CO. (303) 292-2833.

**February 1 - February 2** - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference. Ramkota Hotel, Rapid City, SD. (605) 923-6383.

**February 3** - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale. Pennington County Events Center at the Central States Fairgrounds, Rapid City, SD. (605) 923-6383.

**February 15** - North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference. Best Western Seven Seas, Mandan, ND. (701) 252-1122.

**February 16** - North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Winter Consignment Auction. KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. (701) 252-1122.

**March 15** - Rocky Mountain Buffalo Assn. 4th Annual Peak to Peak Show and Sale. National Western Livestock Arena, Denver, CO. (303) 243-0900.

## New Board Members Needed

There will be two positions available for the Board of Directors and they will be for three year terms. The election will be held during the DTBA Winter Conference.

If you are interested in volunteering for this important role, please contact a current board member or the DTBA office.

## Welcome New DTBA Members!

**Gaylynn Wagner**, Blue Skies Ranch. Helena, MT

**Lyle, Ryan and Carla Wall**, Five Diamonds Bison Ranch, Wolf Point, MT

**Dr. Kevin Weiland and Laurie Weisensee**, Piedmont, SD

**Martin Waage III**, Mosquito Park Enterprises, Vivian, SD

**Dieter Pape**, North American Bison Cooperative, Minneapolis, MN

**Tom and Kris Martin**, K Bar T Bison Ranch, Maiden Rock, WI

**Rick Christman**, Rick's Cafe/Rick's Salt, Mobridge, SD

**Jim Lutter**, Buffalo County Buffalo, Gann Valley, SD

**Jerry and Rita Farlee**, Cheyenne River, Eagle Butte, SD

**Michael Hagan**, Cou Rouge Farm, Louisville, KY,

**Blake Allard**, Elk Point, SD

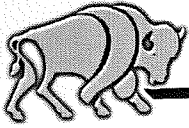
**John Black Feather**, Black Feather's Buffalo Ranch, Pine Ridge, SD

**MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS TODAY!**

**Call the Ramkota Hotel at**

**(605) 343-8550**

**Ask for the DTBA Room Rate of \$84 (+ tax)  
Winter Conference • February 1 - 3, 2008**



## Sponsorships Needed For 2008

With our 2008 events right around the corner, we are still in need of sponsorships. There are trophy sponsorships available at this time. We are also looking for cash sponsors for our Carcass Class, as the entry fees do not cover the entire amount of the awards. Coffee Breaks are also available for sponsorships.

Anyone interested in sponsoring other specific items, such as conference folders, signage for our sponsors, etc. is more than welcome to do so. Thank you to those of you who have so graciously stepped forward to sponsor and/or donate up to this point. Your efforts help us to provide a full slate of activities for a reasonable price for our conference participants.

For more information on sponsorships, contact Karen at (605) 923-6383 or email to: info@dakotabuffalo.com.

## Our Volunteers Are The BEST!

The DTBA could not function, nor could it be the success that it is without the continued help and support from our members. We had many volunteers who stepped up to help with our Winter Conference and taking care of the animals at the show. There was also a key group that helped out with many of the tasks for the International Bison Conference this past summer.

At the risk of leaving anyone out, we have compiled a list of volunteers that we'd like to thank for their help! It's a sure bet we'll overlook someone and if we do, please let the office know so we can properly thank you for a job well done!

Without the assistance of each and every member of this organization, we could not function. Your efforts are appreciated each and every day and no task is too small to help shoulder the load.

This association is like a family and that has never been truer than in the past year and a half. Your input, assistance and ability to help out your fellow members in need has never wavered and we are very lucky to have such an outstanding organization.

### A BIG THANK YOU TO THESE VOLUNTEERS!

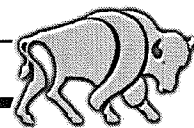
Chad & Suzi Kremer  
 Scott & Susan Peterson  
 Mimi Hillenbrand  
 Dave Schroth  
 Nancy Hepper  
 Larry Carr & Renee Foltz  
 Bruce Anderson  
 Zane Holcomb  
 Custer State Park Crew  
 Susan Maass  
 Jud Seaman  
 Ron Bradeen  
 Roy Liedtke  
 Mike Stone  
 Larry & Linda Rolfstad  
 Rod Sather

Tom LeFaive  
 Bob Paulson  
 Gaylynn Wagner  
 Sandy & Jacki Limpert  
 Doug & Darnell Woodall  
 Stan & Linda Savelkoul  
 Dan & Theresa Meyer  
 Wayne & LeAnn Buchholz  
 Felicia Sargeant  
 Todd & Mike Goetz  
 Gail Griffin  
 John Bowron  
 John Flocchini  
 Heath Peterson  
 Jim Lutter  
 Boyd Meyer

**FLYING H RANCH**  
*9th Annual Production Sale*  
**Saturday,**  
**January 5, 2008**  
**1:00 P.M. CST**  
 At the ranch located 10 miles west of Mobridge, SD  
**Selling 450 Head of Excellent Bull and Heifer Calves.**  
**Also selling 15 head of fall yearlings.**  
**Followed by a video auction from some of the top buffalo producers in the area.**  
*Our Reputation is YOUR Guarantee! Buyers return year after year because they appreciate the consistent quality of our buffalo. Customer satisfaction has been and will continue to be our priority...quality you can count on.*

*Visitors Always Welcome!*

**For more information on the live sale, video auction or to consign to the video sale, contact Tom Hepper, Mobridge SD (605) 845-3705 or hepper@westriv.com**



## Changes Made To The DTBA Show and Sale Lineup For 2008

*Continued from page 1*

thinking about what our members need and want, both from the point of view of a buyer or a seller, the consensus was that many of our producers are in more of a commercial mode, which is really in tune with what the industry today is about. That's not to say they don't have show quality animals, as many of them do. What it tells us is that producers are looking to pick up larger quantities of animals and ideally, from the same producer. Many of those animals will go into a breeding herd with most of the offspring going into a feedlot while a few select individuals go back into a breeding herd. So, what if we offered producers the opportunity to purchase larger groups of animals from one producer? What if we offered the consignor the opportunity to put his reputation out there for the public and show the buyers what he has to offer and brings a good representation of his animals to town? Well, we're about to find out what will happen!

**Beginning with the 2008 Black Hills Buffalo Classic, the following classes will be offered:**

- Single Heifer Calves
- Pen of 10 Heifer Calves
- Single Bull Calves
- Pen of 5 Bull Calves
- Single Yearling Heifer
- Single Yearling Bull
- Single Two Year Old Bred Heifer
- Bull Carcass
- Heifer Carcass

How are we doing? Are we making enough changes for everyone? It's a known fact that we really needed to look at our former location and do something different. The Civic Center location has been wonderful, but has also presented more than a few problems the past few years. Along with that, think back 12 years to the first show and sale. Think about where the industry was then and where it is now. It's not even close to the same thing. More than a decade has passed and many changes have come about in that time and the board felt it was time we changed to accommodate the needs of today's producer. If we don't change with the times, we become stagnant and cease to grow and thrive. That

## National Bison Association Offers Free Online Training

Now's your chance to learn how to raise American bison, also known as buffalo. And for free!

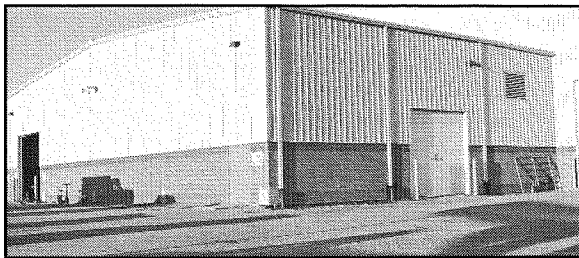
The National Bison Association (NBA), in conjunction with the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA), will offer its new Online Bison Training to anyone interested in raising bison. The free course is aimed at educating both potential and existing bison ranchers the basics of raising the animal. The course is divided into three modules covering the history of the animal and the industry, the basics of managing bison, and how to avert risk in raising bison.

The National Bison Association board of director's recently voted unanimously to offer the course free of charge after a project pilot was offered to a three-state region for the past six months. NBA executive director Dave Carter noted "it's important for us to reach out to the general public and offer farmers and ranchers interested in raising bison a starting point to learn about the industry and what's involved. As consumer demand for deli-

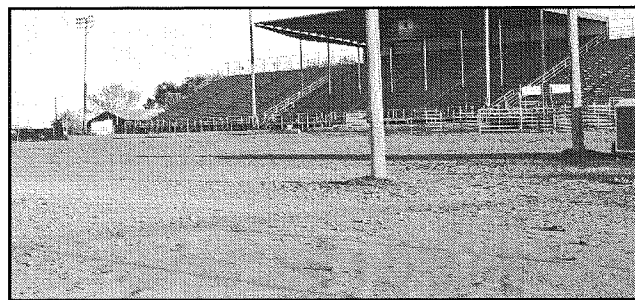
was the driving force behind many of these changes.

The staff at the Central State Fair is very excited to host our show and sale. They have many ideas and plans to hopefully make the whole weekend centered around the buffalo. They are forward thinkers and are willing to work and grow with us. This will be a huge boost to our association and the members.

Along with the new classes being offered, we have a lot more room at our new location. With that in mind, the class sizes have increased considerably. In the single animal classes, we will accept up to 30 head of animals, with each consignor being able to bring two head per class up to the first entry deadline and then one more animal per class if room permits and on a first come, first serve basis. In the pen classes, we will take up to 20 entries per class, with each consignor being allowed one entry per pen class up to the first entry deadline and then one additional pen entry if room



*This is the outside of the Event Center Annex, which is where the auction will be held. The overhead door on the right is where animals will enter and exit the sale ring.*



*This area is where the animal pens will be set up, load in and load out will take place and trailers can be parked. This is the outdoor rodeo grounds at the fairgrounds and it sits adjacent to the Events Center. Lots of room!*

permits, again on a first come, first serve basis.

We will have much more information on the show and sale offerings in the next newsletter. That will mail around the first of December and will contain all the show and sale entry information, deadlines and forms.

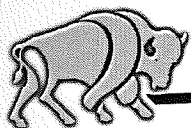
ciously healthy bison meat continues to soar, so does the need for increased supply."

Through a grant from the USDA RMA St. Paul office, the National Bison Association is targeting both existing and potential bison producers to educate them about bison production and risk management. The bison industry is among the fastest growing sectors in the meat industry, with growth exceeding 20% in 2006 and an estimated 25% increase in demand in 2007.

NBA assistant director, Jim Matheson, said of the project, "We're excited to offer the industry the first-ever online training that busy farmers and ranchers can take in their spare time, at their own pace, without having to travel to a seminar or a workshop." If you have access to the internet and have an interest in learning more about bison, then the course is open to you.

Anyone interested in registering for the course can do so by emailing Jim Matheson at [jim@bisoncentral.com](mailto:jim@bisoncentral.com). Please include your name, hometown, and email address.





## Show Chairman Says Be On The Lookout For Your BHBC Show Entries!

*Contributed by Zane Holcomb, BHBC Show Chairman*

Now that it's getting time to work animals, I figured it was a good chance to get your attention. This is the time ALL of you should be looking for those special animals that you think could take home a trophy. Be looking in that feedlot and out in the pasture and get down to the business of choosing what you want the world to see.

There have been many positive and exciting changes in the future of the DTBA and our show and sale. The first change was moving the date of the Black Hills Buffalo Classic to the second weekend of the Black Hills Stock Show. This important move will benefit everyone, as it will keep our events from ever overlapping the NBA's Gold Trophy Show and Sale and it will give producers much needed time to go home, regroup and bring their absolute best and finest to Rapid City. Another huge positive is moving the show to the Event Center at the Central States Fairgrounds. Not only are the pens bigger, but we could get back to having large numbers of show animals. And another HUGE bonus is it will allow us more time for bringing animals in and loading out. I think this has nothing but positive aspects, no matter how one looks at it.

In the very near future, I will be sending letters and emails, making phone calls and for some of you, I will rattle your cage! For years, we beat the GTSS and, although 2007 was not a banner year, I am going to do what I can to bring the animals, the people and the excitement back to the BHBC. We have the chance to be the premiere event in the entire industry and there is no reason why we shouldn't. The DTBA, being the Producers Association, is foundation of what is best for the business. Everyone needs animals that will go to work for them. Whether it is a bred two year old that won't lose 200 pounds when she hits grass, or the yearlings and calves that will pack on the pounds no matter if it is grass or grain. The animals of the DTBA produce! That straight and simple fact is something everyone can be proud of.

There was some talk of being able to have show only animals. I will say that may have merits elsewhere, but the plain and sim-

ple truth is that the DTBA has NEVER allowed show only animals. The reason behind this is simple. Every person walking into the BHBC Show and Sale has the same opportunity to buy any animal they want. This is just one of the reasons the BHBC is above and beyond other shows. Another reason is even more simple... the minute you start having show only animals is about 2 minutes and 27 seconds before you just lost your first buyer.

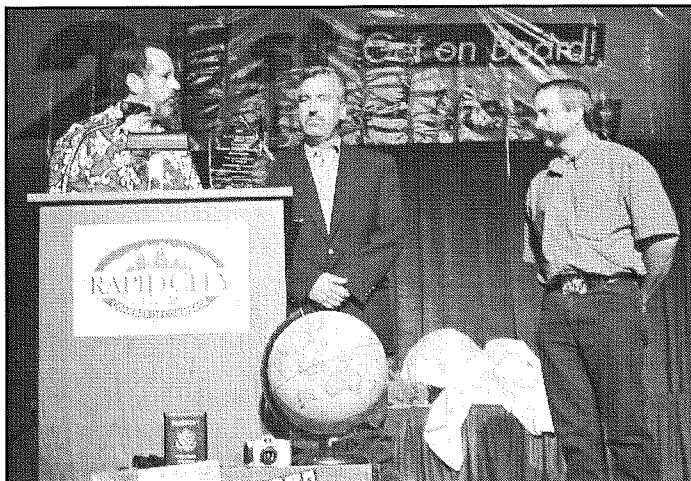
Another issue brought to my attention was the fact that some individuals didn't feel that their animals genetics/bloodlines were advertised enough. Karen sends out, with the entire show and sale package, a form for each producer to compose a short paragraph that the auctioneers read at the time those particular animals sell. Now if this isn't enough, I think the simplest way would be to advertise. This seems so simple to me, you have all year to let the world know how your animals came to be. It is not, in my opinion, the duty of the DTBA to do your advertising for you. Some long time producers do tend to get top dollar for their buffalo. There is a pure and certain truth for this; they have won many trophies, bought top breeding buffalo and continue to win trophies consistently. If they get top dollar for their buffalo, it is purely because they have top quality buffalo and they have paid their dues. Newer producers who want that notoriety need to travel the same path. Take home two or more trophies a year from the BHBC for a few years running and you will be rewarded for your work and diligence.

In closing, I want to extend my thanks to the entire family of Courtney Limpert. I called a friend who does not know any of the family, but five minutes of me telling Courtney tales and he stopped me and expressed how he wished he could have known her. Even someone 700 miles away could tell how unique Courtney was. Whether it was a reason, a season, or a lifetime, those who were privileged enough to meet the family could leave with a purer sense of what true living is. The purest of human spirits knows no limitations and Courtney was here to remind us all of that fact. For that, I thank the entire family.

## DTBA Named 2007 "Black Hills Hero" By Local Tourism Group

This past September, DTBA was honored to be named the Black Hills Hero by the Rapid City Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB). The award was presented during the group's annual meeting and banquet in Rapid City.

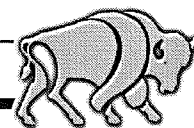
The award is presented annually to an individual or group that goes the extra mile to promote the Rapid City and Black Hills area. The DTBA was selected in part for their role in bringing the 2007 International Bison Conference to Rapid City this past July and also for hosting their annual Winter Conference in Rapid City for the past eleven years. The CVB recognized the impact the group has had in bringing visitors to the area for more than a decade. The International Bison Conference was attended by nearly 600 bison enthusiasts from the United States, Canada, Germany, Russia, Denmark, Sweden and Great Britain. The annual Winter Conference typically brings around 200 participants to the area.



*Rapid City Mayor, Alan Hanks, left, presents the 2007 Rapid City Convention and Visitor's Bureau Black Hills Hero Award to Scott Peterson and Chad Kremer from the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association.*

Accepting the award on behalf of the association was association President, Chad Kremer and IBC Chairman, Scott Peterson. They both thanked the CVB and the Rapid City area for embracing the buffalo producers and helping to promote the industry in general. Both men noted that the CVB played a large role in helping to land the IBC event and assisting organizers in choosing locations and venues for the attendees to take in during the nearly week-long event. DTBA has a good working relationship with the CVB staff and the partnership is a good one for both parties.

It was a great honor for our association to be recognized in front of a very large and significant crowd and we are pleased to be able to help promote such a fantastic area. Every member of this association can pat themselves on the back, as each one of you is a hero in your own right!



## Annette Smith On The Mend From Accident Earlier This Year

As many of you will recall, around the second week of February, the DTBA office received notice from member Claudia Swanson that another good friend and member, Annette Smith, had been seriously injured in a house explosion on their ranch. Their home and belongings were destroyed in what was determined to be a propane explosion. Annette was in the basement at the time of the explosion and her husband, Claude, was out feeding the buffalo. According to news reports, Claude heard the explosion and saw smoke and immediately headed for the house. Claude went to a neighbor's house for help and with assistance from neighbors, they located Annette in the debris and Claude put her in the pickup and headed down the road to meet the ambulance. She was taken to the hospital in Newcastle and later transferred to the Greeley Burn Center.

The explosion was determined to most likely be a flash explosion from an old heater that Annette had been attempting to light. Annette happened to be at the center of the explosion, which may not seem lucky but it was. The force of the explosion gained strength as it spread out and had she been further out from the blast, the outcome could have been much different.

In the days following the explosion, friends and neighbors helped go through the debris to salvage what they could. They found pictures in fairly good condition, books and even unbroken mirrors. Debris from the house was found 1000 yards to the north and east of the house site.

Just as so many of you always respond when one of our members is in need, this was no different. Annette was so thankful to hear from friends near and far and she asked that we share her thanks to all of you.

Annette and Claude were at the IBC event in Rapid City in late July for a day and she is gaining strength and stamina and looking wonderful. Please continue to keep her and Claude in your

thoughts as they continue the long recovery/rebuilding process.

Dear Dakota Territory Friends,

Thank you so much for your concern for us after our home exploded and burned February 2, 2007. Although the house and almost all of our belongings were a total loss, we are so grateful to the Lord that I survived. We are also so thankful for friends and neighbors like you folks who kept me in their prayers, sent cards and gifts and contributions to help us start over. It was so nice of Claudia Swanson and Karen and Jud to keep people posted on our situation.

I spent only 17 days in the Greeley Burn Center, which sure beat their estimate of at least two months when I arrived. We stayed with Claude's sister in Rapid City for about six weeks while I was recovering. (Claude has proven himself to be an excellent burn nurse and a very competent bandage man and physical therapy coach.) We are at home now in a small, but very comfortable trailer house at the ranch. We have the same address, phone number and email address so hope to hear from you. If you are in the area, we are located right alongside the county road now so it isn't even out of your way to stop for coffee.

Thanks again for your support!

Annette and Claude Smith

## A Hearty Congratulations To The Following DTBA Members!

**Doug and Sandy Stukel**, Lucas, South Dakota on the birth of their daughter, Adyson Kay Stukel, who was born on Thursday, May 24. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19 inches long. She joins big brothers Nick and Scott and big sister, Bridget.

**Boyd Meyer**, Cold Creek Buffalo Co., Windsor, Colorado, for being named the top recruiter of new members for the National Bison Association. Boyd was recognized at the NBA's Winter Conference this past January.

**Mike Duncan**, Denver, Colorado; **Gail Griffin**, Winona, Minnesota and **John Flocchini**, Gillette, Wyoming, for being re-elected to the board of the National Bison Association this past January.

**Blue Valley Ranch**, Perry Handyside and Tim Peterson, Kremmling, Colorado, for picking up the Colorado Ranching Conservationist of the Year. The award was presented to the ranch by the Colorado Association of Conservation Districts. The award is presented each year to a ranch that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to resource stewardship.

**Ron Bradeen**, Custer, South Dakota, for a first place win in the National Auctioneers Association 2007 Marketing Contest. Ron's entry in the full color livestock brochure category took the top honors in that division. His entry was the brochure from the 2006 Custer State Park Buffalo Auction.

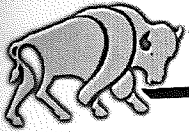
**Jud Seaman**, Rapid City, South Dakota, on winning the 2007 South Dakota Auctioneers Association Bid Calling Championship. Jud competed against 12 other auctioneers to claim the title this past September at the South Dakota State Fair.

**Nancy Hepper**, Moberge, South Dakota, on taking first place in the "Animals" division of the Farm Forum photo contest. Her picture of their pet deer, Johnny and their cat, Tiger, all snuggled up together on the deck took top honors in that class. Nancy says the two were raised together and are both about a year and a half old. An odd couple, for sure, but a very striking photo!

**Chad Kremer**, Custer State Park Buffalo Herd Manager, who was given the Award of Appreciation from the South Dakota Division of Parks and Recreation. Chad was recognized for his role in bringing the International Bison Conference to Rapid City and Custer State Park.

**Scott Peterson**, Belle Fourche, South Dakota, was recently featured in the pages of the national magazine, American Bagger. The motorcycle magazine featured "Reader Rides" in the October 2007 issue and Scott's 1999 FLHT Harley-Davidson motorcycle, fully customized and, of course, red in color, landed three pages in the issue. Titled "Gearhead Bagger" the story goes through the customization process of the bike and featured numerous photos of the bike's custom gear and paint.

**The Sutton family** of Onida, South Dakota, scored a feature article in the November 2007 issue of Western Horseman magazine. Jim Sutton was the focal point of the article in his role as the head of Sutton Rodeo. The article had some fantastic shots of the Sutton horses, bucking bulls and surprisingly, a nice photo of a buffalo cow and calf, part of the buffalo herd that calls the Sutton ranch home. There was even a little history about how the buffalo came to be on the ranch. Most of the article dealt with the history of the family and their involvement in breeding horses, cattle and rodeo rough-stock. A great read on a family rich in history!



## A Letter Of Thanks From Our Hearts...The Limpert Family

Just a little over a year ago, Courtney Limpert underwent yet another surgery, a very serious one this time. She had a brain aneurysm and it put her life in danger. During the long and arduous surgery, Courtney suffered a stroke and nearly lost her fight right then and there. Many of you will recall the email messages that went out for our buffalo family to keep Courtney and her family in prayers and thoughts. It was absolutely amazing how that family responded. So many emails and phone calls were sent to Sandy and Jacki and prayers and well wishes for Courtney...it is truly a testament to the character of the buffalo and the people around them...when one is in need, the others respond and that's exactly what all of you did for Courtney.

Being away from home and family and friends was very tough on the Limperts. Courtney's surgery took place in Boston and that's a long way from Harding County, South Dakota. But so many people took the time to send an email or a card and it was so appreciated. Sandy and Jacki both commented time and again how much they appreciated the support and prayers and how amazing it was to see just how many lives Courtney had touched. Through some very dark and trying times, your support meant the world to this family.

As Courtney continued to fight back from the affects of her stroke, she was able to be moved to a hospital in Denver. Through email updates and phone calls, word got around and everyone rallied around Courtney. She continued to improve and gain some much needed strength. There was assistance at the ranch back home so Sandy and Jacki could stay with Courtney during these times. Again, a blessing to have such wonderful family and friends in a time of need. The emails and cards continued and through it all, Jacki kept Courtney updated on how much everyone was pulling for her.

Another milestone was reached when just before Christmas of 2006, Courtney was able to transfer to the hospital in Rapid City. So much closer to home and family and back in familiar surroundings. Another blessing to count. Courtney continued to improve bit by bit. Of course there were setbacks and tenuous moments, but overall, she was making progress and doing a little better each day. She spent Christmas with her family and even had a little buffalo prime rib to celebrate the special day. Her room overflowed with Christmas decorations and gifts from near and far.

Shortly after the first of the year, Courtney was doing well enough to move to the Rehab facility in Rapid City. Another milestone and another joyous occasion. Shortly before this, a plan had been put in place by several DTBA members to do a fund raiser for Courtney during the Winter Conference. About a dozen large items were donated and auctioned off, including the pick of several breeding bulls and a spot in the 2007 Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup. Others that didn't purchase an auction item just walked by and dropped off a check, not needing or wanting anything in return. Opening their hearts, the people in attendance that special night raised over \$26,000 for Courtney's Medical Fund. It was a truly amazing gift to the family and one that was very much unexpected. If nothing else, DTBA members are great at keeping secrets!

Jacki had shared details about this special night with Courtney when she returned to the rehab facility later that night. Courtney was absolutely touched by what her friends had done. She told her mom she wanted to come to the conference next year and thank everyone in person for what they had done for her. Mom agreed that would be a wonderful thing to do and the deal was sealed!

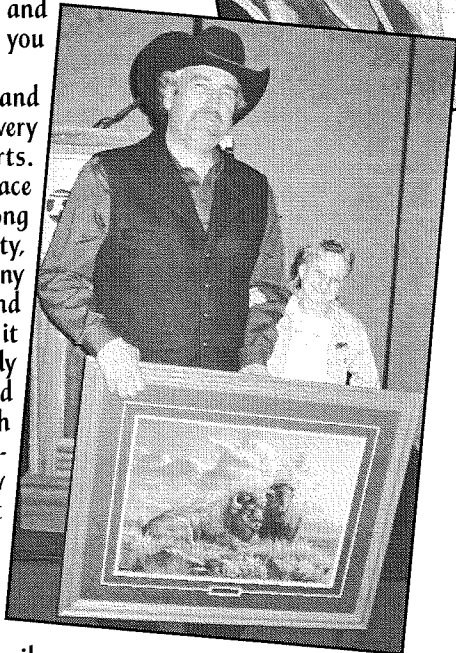
Shortly after that, Courtney was released from the rehab facility. She went to Belle Fourche to Grandma Judy and Grandpa Jerry's house where she and Jacki stayed while she continued her rehab as an outpatient. She was doing great and she talked about really going home to the ranch in the very near future. It had been over four months since Courtney had been home.

Another bump cropped up in the road when Courtney became sick not too long after leaving rehab. Sandy and Jacki took her back to the hospital in Rapid City where she was admitted. She became very ill and continued to lose precious ground. Her doctors wanted her to return to the hospital in Denver where they felt she could obtain a better diagnosis of the problems she was encountering. The family returned to Denver and Courtney continued to fight but she lost a little bit of ground with each passing day. On April 1, just a little over a month away from her 18th birthday, Courtney had finally had enough fighting and she left the world surrounded by family and friends.

That email that had the sad news was a hard one to write and send, but once again, the outpouring of love and support was phenomenal. The celebration of Courtney's life was awesome and along with the tears, there was plenty of laughter and Courtney would not have wanted it any other way.

On behalf of Courtney, Sandy, Jacki and Brodie, the words "Thank You" do not begin to do justice to the support, prayers, love and compassion shown by all of you. There is no other way to express the gratitude for all that was done but to thank you all and to tell you it meant so much to the family and they feel blessed to have such wonderful friends.

Thank you, dear friends. Your actions spoke volumes about the impact that Courtney had in her life. She had that special touch and she literally touched the heart and soul of every person she met. Her shoes may not have been very big, but she has left some huge footprints on this earth.





## South Dakota Animal Industry Board Offers Information On Animal ID

*Submitted by Mimi Hillenbrand*

On April 24, I attended a meeting in Pierre, SD with the Animal Industry Board concerning the Premises Program and the Animal ID Program in South Dakota. I was there on behalf of the buffalo producers of South Dakota and the DTBA. Also attending were several different associations, including representatives of the cattle, horse, dairy and elk/deer industries, the South Dakota Brand Board and the South Dakota Livestock Exchange. Many other livestock and industry groups were invited but unable to attend.

What is the Premises Registration Program? This program is a way to locate where animals are born, managed, marketed or exhibited. It is a voluntary program that is open to all livestock producers, livestock exchange markets, vet clinics, packing plants, exhibition facilities, rendering plants and any other places animals are moved to and from. It is a seven digit number assigned to each participant and it contains basic contact information such as name, address and telephone number. All of this information is kept confidential and is only accessible by state and USDA animal officials. The system was developed in case of an infectious disease outbreak. It is a way that health officials would be able to track, respond to and contain a serious health threat to livestock in the state.

There were three speakers on the day's agenda, Dr. Susan Reenders, Dr. Dustin Oedekoven and Dr. Sam Holland. Each speaker is a veterinarian for the state of South Dakota and each one spoke about a different aspect of the Premises Program and Animal ID.

Dr. Reenders spoke about the South Dakota Animal Industry Board projects promoting the premises registration, the voluntary NAIS (National Animal Identification System) and the current status of the NAIS. The NAIS is a system that would allow health officials to track, respond and minimize the impact of infectious disease outbreaks in livestock. What came out of the need for an ID system is the Premises Registration program. Some examples of the projects Dr. Reenders spoke about were some of the livestock exchanges that had renovated their working facilities to accommodate individuals registered in the premises program. I believe there are now five facilities that can scan animals that have an electronic ID tag with the individual animal's information. Dr. Reenders also talked about workshops with SDSU Cooperative Extension, the SD Certified Beef program, the

Feedlot Electronic ID project, the Cull Swine Tag project and the Market Cull Cow project. Each of these individual projects deal with better identification of animals.

Dr. Dustin Oedekoven spoke about the importance of being able to track sick or suspect animals. He gave an example of an animal that was taken to market and was purchased for processing. During the processing, it was discovered that the animal had indications of Tuberculosis, or TB. This animal only had a bangs tag, which led to as many as 135 people needing to be contacted about possible contact with this one animal. If, on the other hand, this animal had been registered with an identification program, maybe only five people would have needed to be contacted and the situation would have been easier to contain. The NAIS and Premises ID are ways we can protect our livestock industries.

Dr. Sam Holland reiterated the importance of a viable ID system to help not only the state health officials, but also livestock producers and people involved in the livestock/agriculture business.

After the speaker presentations, each person in attendance had the opportunity to discuss their opinions and thoughts about the Premises Program/NAIS. When it was my turn, I expressed my feelings about the need to keep the program voluntary. In addition, being that I am registered in the Premises Program and that my animals are Source Verified with the National Bison Association, I expressed that the cost has to come down. The price of tags and the equipment is too high for most bison producers. There has to be a way to have a cost-share program of some type to help make this a feasible program for most producers.

However, in the meantime, I believe that educating people about the program and letting them know why it is important is the first step. I have requested that a "User's Guide Update" be sent to the DTBA office (it has been received and is available) so that anyone interested would be able to read through it. More information is also available through the South Dakota Animal Industry Board in Pierre. Enclosed in this newsletter is a brochure about the Premises Program. If you do not receive one, let the DTBA know and we'll make sure you receive that information.

If anyone has thoughts, ideas, concerns or needs more information about these topics, please let myself or Karen at the DTBA office know. I believe this is something that needs to be looked at as a way to protect our industry.

## Carter Addresses North Dakota Buffalo Association Winter Meeting

*Contributed by Bruce Anderson*

On March 19, 2007 I had the honor of being one of the participants in the National Bison Association's Buffalo Industry Marketers Roundtable. Most of the major marketers in North America were there. It is amazing to see how much interest there is in buffalo. I came away from the meeting with a couple of observations.

1. Demand is growing faster than supply.
2. Marketers are very aware that producers need more money for their livestock.
3. The public is becoming more aware of buffalo meat.
4. The NBA is doing what they can to help the buffalo industry.
5. Quality buffalo will become more important with a rising market.
6. Producers are going to be in a more powerful position.

While it is impossible to say when some of these changes will take place, the industry marketers were in agreement that they

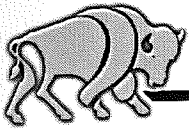
will take place. The NBA is committed to take this message to the producers of the buffalo industry. On a personal note, I want to commend buffalo producers for doing a great job. It never ceases to amaze me how resilient and resourceful buffalo ranchers are. At times they remind me of the buffalo itself, true survivors.

The NBA had this to say about the Industry Roundtable that Bruce participated in:

Bison industry marketing leaders from the United States and Canada gathered to analyze the long-term market growth trends and to begin mapping a strategy to stimulate new production from bison ranchers.

The meeting was called jointly by the U.S. National Bison Association and the Canadian Bison Association to address growing concern among marketers that consumer demand may begin to outpace the supply of market-ready bison in the near future. The 24 marketers participating in the roundtable discussion this week agreed that several steps are needed to help stimulate production and meet anticipated growth of more than 10 percent annual growth in bison meat consumption.





2007 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show & Sale Results
Hosted By Dakota Territory Buffalo Association
January 28, 2007 • Rapid City, SD



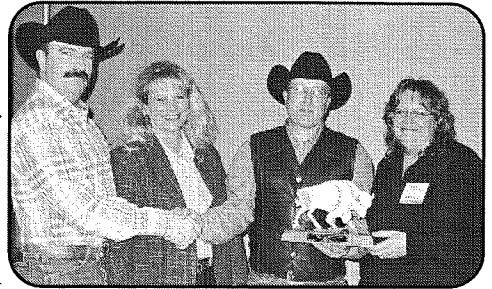
Dixie, center, and Larry Byrd (far right) accept the Producer of the Year trophy from sponsors, (left to right) Rod Sather, Scott Peterson and Susan Peterson.

Show Results

Producer of the Year: Trails End River Bison, Larry and Dixie Byrd, Presho, SD

Grand Champion Male: A bull calf consigned by Horse Creek Bison Co., Steve and Roxann McFarland, Hettinger, ND. Purchased by Elk Pass Ranch, Dan Huber, Steamboat Springs, CO for \$2,100.

Reserve Champion Male: A yearling bull consigned by Antelope Creek Bison Ranch, Doug and Keith Candee, Dickinson, ND. Purchased by Tatanka



Steve and Roxann McFarland, right, accept the Grand Champion Bull trophy from sponsors Jacki and Sandy Limpert.

Hills, Kevin and Joan Stormo, Lake Norden, SD for \$2,400.

Grand Champion Female: A yearling heifer consigned by Horse Creek Bison Co., Steven and Roxann McFarland, Hettinger, ND. Purchased by Trails End River Bison, Larry and Dixie Byrd, Presho, SD for \$1,700.

Reserve Champion Female: A two year old bred heifer consigned by Trails End River Bison, Larry and Dixie Byrd, Presho, SD. Purchased by Antelope Creek Bison Ranch, Doug and Keith Candee, Dickinson, ND.7

Heifer Calf: 1. Cammack Buffalo Ranch, John, Lane and Mike Cammack, Stoneville, SD; 2. Horse Creek Bison Co.; Heart River Ranch.



Lance Kuck sponsored the Reserve Champion Heifer trophy, won by Dixie and Larry Byrd, right.

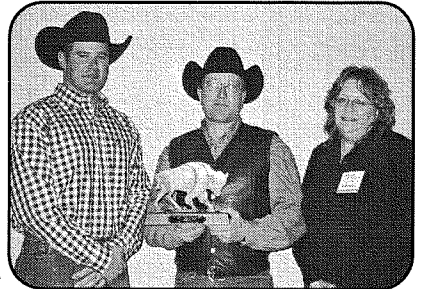
Pen of Three Heifer Calves: 1. Cammack Buffalo Ranch.

Yearling Heifer: 1. Horse Creek Bison Co.; 2. Trails End River Bison; 3. Blue Valley Ranch, Galloway Inc., Perry Handyside, Mgr., Tim Robertson, Livestock Foreman, Kremmling, CO.

Honorable Mentions: Buffalo Dance Bison, Casey Byrd, Presho, SD; Heart River Ranch, Keith Candee and Lori Ries, Temecula, CA.

Pen of Two Yearling Heifers: 1. Trails End River Bison; 2. Antelope Creek Bison Ranch; 3. Heart River Ranch.

Two Year Old Bred Heifer: 1. Trails End River Bison; 2. Elk Pass Ranch, Dan Huber, Steamboat Springs, CO; 3. Laughing Water Ranch, LLC, Lance and Tahma Kuck, Bassett, NE.



Tim Robertson, representing trophy sponsor Blue Valley Ranch, awards the Grand Champion Heifer trophy to Steve and Roxann McFarland.

Pen of Two Two Year Old Bred Heifers: 1. Trails End River Bison; 2. Elk Pass Ranch

Bull Calf: 1. Horse Creek Bison Co.; 2. Antelope Creek Bison Ranch; 3. Cammack Buffalo Ranch.

Pen of Three Bull Calves: 1. Cammack Buffalo Ranch.



Trophy sponsor Lance Kuck, left, awards the Reserve Champion Bull trophy to Gaylynn Wagner and Doug Candee.

Yearling Bull: 1. Antelope Creek Bison Ranch; 2. Tatanka Hills, Kevin and Joan Stormo, Lake Norden, SD; 3. Heart River Ranch. Honorable Mention: Horse Creek Bison Co.

Reality Based Carcass Class Bull: 1. Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Brodie Limpert, Buffalo, SD; 2. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Scott and Susan Peterson, Belle Fourche, SD; 3. Mosquito Park Enterprises, Rod Sather, Vivian, SD.

Reality Based Carcass Class Heifer: 1. Beaver Creek Buffalo Co., Brad and Connie Beavers, Jefferson, SD; 2. Blue Valley Ranch; 3. Mosquito Park Enterprises.

Sale Results:

Heifer Calves: 4 head sold. Prices ranged from \$400 to \$550 with an average of \$506 per head.

Pen of Three Heifer Calves: 3 head sold. Price was \$525 her head.

Yearling Heifers: 7 head sold. Prices ranged from \$800 to \$1,700 with an average of \$1,121 per head.

Pen of Two Yearling Heifers: 6 head sold. Prices ranged from \$700 to \$1,450 with an average of \$1,017 per head.

Two Year Old Bred Heifers: 7 head sold. Prices ranged from \$900 to \$1,800 with an average of \$1,164 per head.

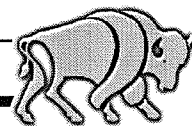
Pen of Two Two Year Old Bred Heifers: 4 head sold. Prices ranged from \$900 to \$1,300 with an average of \$1,100 per head.

Bull Calves: 4 head sold. Prices ranged from \$600 to \$2,000 with an average of \$986 per head.

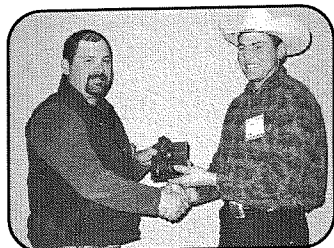
Pen of Three Bull Calves: 3 head sold. Price was \$550 per head.

Yearling Bulls: 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$700 to \$2,400 with an average of \$1,543 per head.

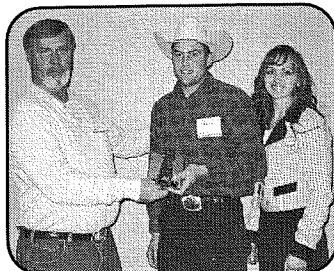
Volume Buyer was Elk Pass Ranch, Dan Huber, Steamboat Springs, CO.



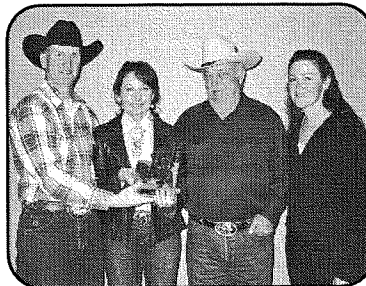
# Scenes From The 2007 BHBC Show & DTBA Winter Conference



Trophy sponsor John Cammack, right, awards the Bronze Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy to Lance Kuck.



Trophy sponsor Dave Griffin presents John and Melanie Cammack the Bronze Bull Calf award.



The Gold Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy went to Dixie and Larry Byrd, center. Sponsors were Wayne and LeAnn Buchholz.



Chad Kremer, left, on behalf of sponsor Dan O'Brien, presents the Gold Heifer Carcass trophy to Brad Beavers.



Rod Sather, Lynette Laird and Tom Junk accept the Bronze Heifer Carcass award which was sponsored by Platte Locker.



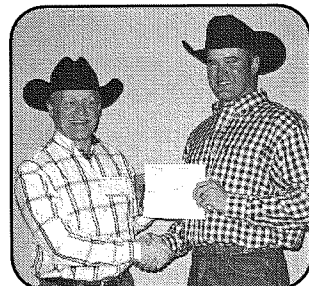
Tom LeFaive awards the Silver Heifer Calf trophy for sponsor Dakota Mill & Grain. The trophy was presented to Steve and Roxann McFarland.



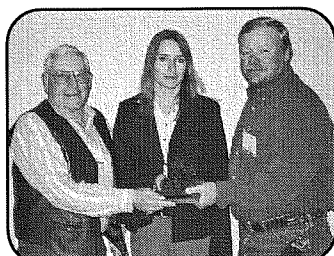
Dixie and Larry Byrd picked up the Silver Yearling Heifer trophy, sponsored by Bob and Laurie Dineen.



Above: Melanie and John Cammack, right, accept the Gold Pen of Three Bull Calves award from sponsors Jim Butler and Veronica Butler.



Perry Handyside, sponsor, presents Tim Robertson of Blue Valley Ranch with the Silver Heifer Carcass award.



Larry Carr, far right, in for sponsor Linweld, presents the Silver Bull Calf award to Doug Candee and Gaylynn Wagner.



Tom LeFaive, in for sponsor Sheyenne River Bison Ranch, presents the Silver Yearling Bull award to Shannon Stormo, who accepted on behalf of Kevin and Joan Stormo.



Trophy sponsor Gary Meyer, second from right, presents the Bronze Bull Carcass trophy to Rod Sather, Lynette Laird and Tom Junk.



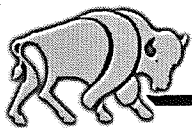
Nancy Hepper, far right, presents the Bronze Yearling Bull trophy for sponsor Four Seasons Sport Center. Accepting are Al and Lisa Heiser on behalf of consignors Keith and Lori Candee.



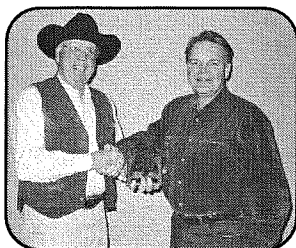
Dan Huber, left, accepts the Silver Pen of Two Two Year Old Bred Heifers trophy from Nancy Hepper who was in for sponsor Dodge Town, Inc.



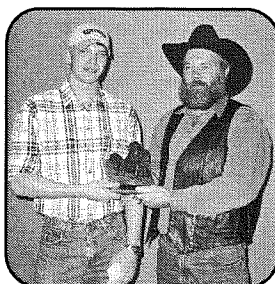
At right, Nancy Hepper, far right, stands in for trophy sponsor Rick Christman and awards the Silver Pen of Two Yearling Heifer trophy to Doug Candee and Gaylynn Wagner.



The Gold Bull Calf trophy was presented to Steve and Roxann McFarland, center, by sponsors Felicia Sargeant and Stan Savelkoul from the NDBA.



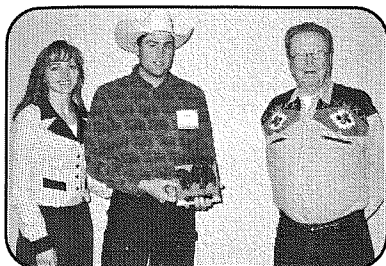
Dan Huber, left, accepts the Silver Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy from sponsor Bob Paulson with the Nature Conservancy.



Brodie Limpert, left, is presented the Gold Carcass Bull trophy from Doug Griller, representing sponsor the North American Bison Cooperative.



Jacki Limpert, on behalf of sponsors Jerry and Judy Johnson, presents the Bronze Pen of Two Yearling Heifer trophy to Al and Lisa Heiser who were standing in for consignors Keith and Lori Candee.



Trophy sponsor Floyd Johnson, right, presents John and Melanie Cammack with the Gold Heifer Calf trophy.



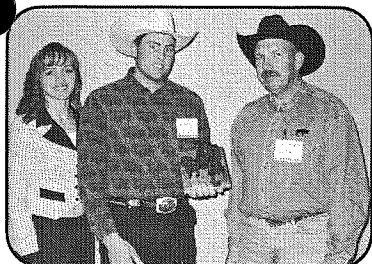
Kelly Schumacher, far right, representing sponsor Scranton Equity Feeds, presents the Silver Bull Carcass trophy to, left to right, Tom and Karen Swan and Susan and Scott Peterson.



Larry Carr, left, in for sponsor Diesel Machinery, Inc., awards the Gold Pen of Two Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy to Larry and Dixie Byrd.



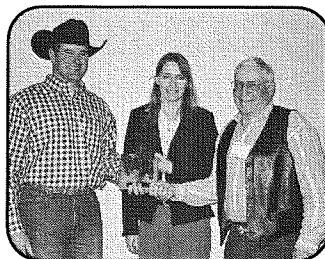
Sponsor Monty Hepper presents the Bronze Yearling Heifer trophy to Tim Robertson.



Bruce Anderson, right, in for sponsor Butler Machinery, presents Melanie and John Cammack with the Gold Pen of Three Heifer Calf award.



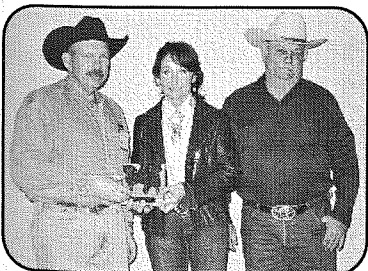
Larry Carr, far right, in for sponsor Dakota Hills Veterinary Clinic, awards the Bronze Heifer Calf trophy to Al and Lisa Heiser, in for consignors Keith and Lori Candee.



Sponsor Tim Robertson awards the Gold Yearling Bull trophy to Gaylynn Wagner and Doug Candee.



New DTBA President, Chad Kremer, right, presents out-going president, Jud Seaman, with a belt buckle in appreciation for his service to the association.



Bruce Anderson, in for sponsor 777 Ranch, presents the Gold Pen of Two Yearling Heifer trophy to Dixie and Larry Byrd.



New DTBA President, Chad Kremer, left, presents out-going board member, Steve Schmitz, with a plaque in appreciation for his service to the association.



Steve and Roxann McFarland accept the Gold Yearling Heifer trophy from sponsors Heath and Danielle Peterson.



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



**DAKOTA**  
**TERRITORY**  
BUFFALO ASSOCIATION

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE SEND IN ONLY IF YOU ARE A NEW MEMBER OR HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2008 DUES!  
Membership dues are valid from January 1 through December 31 of each year . Dues paid at this time will be credited toward the 2008 membership year.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association

P.O. Box 4104

Rapid City, SD 57709

**\$50.**