

## Steps Being Taken To Grow The Herd

Westminster, CO - With growing consumer demand outpacing the available supply of bison meat, the commercial marketers in the National Bison Association and Canadian Bison Association have released a joint statement outlining the steps now being taken to work with ranchers in both countries to "grow the herds" of buffalo in North America.

The group developed the joint statement to help inform various participants in the marketplace that the industry is dedicated to expanding available supply, but will not compromise on the protocols that distinguish bison as a natural meat product.

### *Statement of the North American Bison Industry*

Barely more than a century ago, the North American Bison teetered on the precipice of extinction, with fewer than 1,000 animals left in existence. Today's bison herd is nearing half million animals thanks in part to retailers and restaurants introducing the American public to the great taste, nutritional attributes, and rich story of bison.

The NBA and CBA have quipped-somewhat tongue-in-cheek-that the best way to save bison was to eat them. That is a fact. The exploding demand for bison meat has helped spur the restoration of bison on the prairies and pastures of North America. Demand is now outstripping our current supply, which creates significant challenges for our partners in the retail, restaurant, and distribution channels.

Ranchers, processors and marketers want to supply the marketplace with every ounce of bison products requested by your customers. But we also face some challenges that will require patience from everyone as we move forward:

- Bison is not a commodity like poultry or beef. These commodity species have been selectively bred for rapid growth and yield. Bison were perfected by nature into a species that thrives in the ecosystem of our part of the world. We're not going to tinker with that. However, this also means that it will take time for our producers to increase production to meet the demand.

- Even though bison processing has reached record levels, we are still a very small industry. The 92,000 head of bison processed in North America last year doubled the level of 2005, but still represent less than one day's processing of cattle in the U.S.

- Bison will continue to be a premium protein product. The very nature of the animal and the production protocols of our industry create a quality, nutritious product that is sustainably raised. We can't cut corners on that one.

- We know that the prices have increased sharply. That's because bison processors have had to increase the prices they are paying for slaughter-ready bison by 40% over the past four years. Fortunately the prices paid to producers are sending a signal for ranchers to build their herds.

Our associations today are working to "grow the herd" of bison across North America by reaching out to producers who are wearying of being a part of commodity agriculture. We are conducting workshops across the country on bison production, producing new materials to assist ranchers in making a transition, reaching out to lenders to finance bison operations, and even working with groups like the National FFA to foster a new generation of bison producers.

We cannot address the supply shortage overnight, but we want to work with everyone in the marketplace-producers, processors, distributors, retailers and restaurateurs-as we navigate through these market challenges. Please stay with us as we work through this.

We have always considered ourselves partners with retailers and foodservice operators. We value that partnership, and invite your thoughts and suggestions as we move forward to continue building a market-and rebuild a species-based upon adherence to uncompromising principles.



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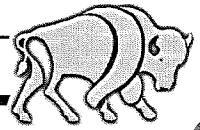
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## Notes From The President - Bruce Anderson



And now we get to the fun part for buffalo ranchers. The part where buffalo are high priced and everybody wants more. The part where everybody wishes they had owned a few more cows/calves/yearlings/finished animals. Take your pick, it is all good property. This price run-up is extraordinary. It has been caused by the huge demand for ground buffalo. To have this much demand for the ground product indicates that we have

developed a wide customer base. A wide customer base is just what this industry needs.

On the other hand for a processor/marketer now comes the really difficult part. Marketing buffalo is not brain surgery. Find a good market, show a quality product, work hard and get out of the way. It has taken some time, but the product has always been popular in the right venue. But to hold onto this market share through shrinking supplies for five years or longer will be challenging. Most of the marketers agree that it will be more challenging than developing market has been. If we cannot hold onto the core part of the market we have developed we will only be

setting ourselves up for the boom/bust scenario that is so devastating for the buffalo industry.

Okay, all good and well, but what can we do together to make this happen? **DO NOT KILL BRED ANIMALS.** As bad as processors need animals, we do not need them bad enough to kill anything that will have a calf. Sure, if she is a terrible old cow or if she slips through the cracks, it will happen. There is a higher market waiting out there for bred animals. If you don't want her there will be someone who does. **ANY QUALITY 2009 HEIFERS THAT DID NOT GO TO FEEDLOTS WILL HAVE MORE VALUE AS BREEDING STOCK THAN THEY WILL AS FEEDERS.** The ratio of fed bulls being killed vs. fed heifers indicates that this is already going on. If you want to sell these animals there will be buyers. If you want to raise her yourself, you will make money from her. **ACTIVELY MARKET QUALITY 2010 HEIFER CALVES.** Vaccinate them as if they will sell for breeding stock. Get them into the herd.

The difference between today and the last early 90s buffalo boom is experience. If we use this experience we can do a better job of managing the cycle. We are a small industry. That will work for us as we all try to attain the same goal, making buffalo ranching a profitable endeavor. The thing that we all have going for us is that buffalo meat is a superior product. That fact alone can make all this happen.

## Calendar Of Buffalo Auctions, Meetings and Events of Interest!

**November 20:** Custer State Park Fall Classic Annual Live Public Auction. Call (605) 255-4515, or visit [www.custerstatepark.info](http://www.custerstatepark.info).

**November 21:** Fort Robinson Bison Auction. Crawford Livestock Market, Crawford, NE. Contact Ft. Robinson State Park at (308) 665-2900.

**November 21:** Canadian Bison Assn. Annual Show and Sale and Conference will be held November 21-23 at Agribition in Regina, SK. See [www.canadianbison.ca](http://www.canadianbison.ca) for information.

**November 23:** Canadian Bison Assn. National Bison Sale. Agribition, Regina, SK. [www.canadianbison.ca](http://www.canadianbison.ca) for information.

**November 27:** Minnesota Buffalo Assn. 14th Annual Legends of the Fall Show and Sale, Albany, MN.. Visit [www.mnbison.org](http://www.mnbison.org) or (507) 454-2828.

**December 4:** Kansas Buffalo Assn. Fall Auction, Farmers & Ranchers Livestock Commission Co., Salina KS. Contact Dick Gehring at (620) 345-6526.

**December 4:** Western Bison Assn. Annual Sale at 12:00 P.M. Golden Spike Events Center, Ogden, Utah. For more information, [www.westernbison.org](http://www.westernbison.org) or (575) 770-7751.

**December 9:** Missouri Bison Assn. Fall Sale. Lolli Bros. Livestock Market, Macon, MO. (417) 491-4825.

**December 11:** North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Fall Consignment Sale, KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. Call the NDBA office at (701) 252-1122.

**January 3 - 7, 2011:** Custer State Park Internet calf auction. Call Custer State Park at (605) 255-4515 or [chad.kremer@state.sd.us](mailto:chad.kremer@state.sd.us).

**January 19 - 21:** The National Bison Assn. Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale, Renaissance Hotel and NWSS Auction Arena, Denver, CO. For more information, (303) 292-2833 or [www.bisoncentral.com](http://www.bisoncentral.com).

**February 1 - 4:** Discover the Keys to Successful Bison and Land Management Seminar. Durham Ranch, Wright, WY. Contact Roland Kroos at (406) 522-3862.

**February 4 - 5:** Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference, Ramkota Hotel, Rapid City, SD. (605) 923-6383 or [www.dakotabuffalo.com](http://www.dakotabuffalo.com).

**February 6:** DTBA's Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale and Premium Calf and Yearling Sale. Jim Kjerstad Events Center, Rapid City, SD. (605) 923-6383 or [www.dakotabuffalo.com](http://www.dakotabuffalo.com).

**February 19:** Cold Creek Buffalo Company and Diamond Tail Ranch Performance Tested Bull Sale. Terry Bison Ranch, Cheyenne, WY. Contact Boyd Meyer at (970) 369-2249.

**March 12:** Rocky Mountain Buffalo Assn. Spring Conference and Peak to Peak Bison Show and Sale. National Western Complex, Denver, CO. (303) 243-0900.

**March 10 - 12:** Eastern Bison Association 15th Annual Winter Conference and Show and Sale. Harrisburg, PA. (302) 349-5334.

**April 8 - 10:** Minnesota Buffalo Assn. annual Educational Conference. (507) 454-2828 or [www.mnbison.org](http://www.mnbison.org).

## Welcome New DTBA Members!

Rodney Bakken, Bakken Bison Ranch, Devils Lake, ND  
Ty Hotchkiss, Reva, SD

Ken Klemm, The Buffalo Guys, Goodland, KS

Robert Penn, Las Vegas, NV

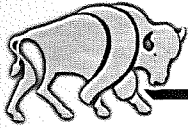
Ray and Susan Anderson

Ashland Hills Buffalo Company, Ashland, OR

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# Got Buffalo/Bison? By Jud Seaman, NBA Region 3 Director



If you have animals I'm sure your phone has been ringing and the field reps have been stopping to see you as the demand for all classes of animals is way out of sight. With the current market conditions and no relief in site, the producer is in the driver's seat, feeders and packers/marketers are frantically looking for sources. So what should the producer do?

(1) Consider all options, don't commit to the first offer. While it may sound better than any you have heard of I think it warrants some shopping around. I'm sure if they know your around the calls will be coming.

(2) Look to your association for assistance. Most associations have a marketing avenue for you to consider. Auctions, Shows, and For Sale classifieds are options for your consideration that are there for your use. While it may cost something the end results may well be worth it. Also don't forget to consider the bison check off for the National Bison Association.

### Install Auctioneer Hat

In years past, there have been several producers that make it a point not to market animals before a certain time of the year, (after Custer State Park auction, after your state association auction, or after the GTSS and BHBC auction). While this makes logical sense, the other thing to think about is, if it wasn't for the auctions, what would we have to determine market?

Auctions are used to determine value because the price is

determined by arms length transactions and competitive bidding open to the public. Having said all that, if the number of animals are in short supply the market may become slanted. Buyers need substantial numbers to travel to purchase animals. So consider sending some or all your animals to auction to help establish prices for the industry. By sending your animals to a show and sale auction it also shows the buyers what quality you have at home and they may be interested in more of them. While yes, there is a cost to marketing at auction, it may be minimal compared to what you would have receive on the farm. It only takes a bid or two on a draft of animals to offset the cost on the entire consignment.

In the heyday of the 90s I saw time and again producers who thought they had sold for a good price at home, leave from the auctions realizing that they had left substantial amounts of money on the table. Auctions set the market in both good and poor conditions.

### Remove Auctioneer Hat

As your National Bison Association Director, I would encourage every one of you to consider attending an upcoming event. November 19 is The Bison Advantage Workshop in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota in conjunction with the 45th annual Custer State Park Auction. Consider attending the National Bison Association Winter Conference, January 19 to 22 in Denver, Colorado or your state/regional association conference this winter. I plan to attend as many as possible and would love to visit with you about your concerns about this wonderful industry we are all a part of.

See you down the buffalo trail!!!!

## Members In The News

It seems that lately, not only are the buffalo getting plenty of press and time in the spotlight, but so are some of the humans that work with them. **Dave Schroth**, manager of the 777 Ranch near Hermosa, was one of ten people featured in the newly released book, *I Am South Dakota*, by photographer Toby Brusseau. There are some spectacular shots of Dave working on the ranch and a great write up to go along with it. On the cover of the book are more South Dakota faces, including our own **Chad Kremer**, Herd Manager at Custer State Park. Visit [www.iamssouthdakota.net](http://www.iamssouthdakota.net) for more information on the book.

Speaking of the 777 Ranch, owner **Mimi Hillenbrand** was recently featured in the local magazine, *Black Hills Faces*. Not only did Mimi score six pages in the full color magazine, she was also the cover girl for that issue! Spectacular photos and more great press for the buffalo and people who love 'em! Check out the cover of the magazine at [www.blackhillsfaces.com](http://www.blackhillsfaces.com). It was great reading about both Dave and Mimi and the photography in both stories was fantastic.

## Noteworthy Happenings...

Our condolences go out to the **Barry and Nancy Bishop family**, Lemmon, SD, on the passing of Barry's mother, Vallie Bishop on October 6.

Katheryne "Kate" Christman passed away on October 8 in Mobridge, SD. She was the mother of **Nancy Hepper and Rick Christman**, Mobridge. Our condolences to the Hepper and Christman families.

Congratulations go out to **John and Melanie Cammack**, Union Center, SD, on the birth of their daughter, Shanni Ray, this past June. Shanni joins two sisters and a brother. Welcome to the buffalo family, Shanni!

And a big congratulations to **Roy Liedtke and Amy Kowalsky** on their wedding this past June. They were married in Texas, where they now reside. Roy reports that life is good down south! Please welcome Amy to the wonderful world of buffalo! We are planning to see them at the winter conference? Hint, hint!



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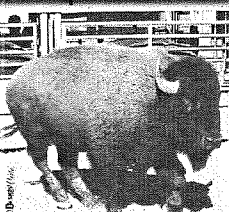
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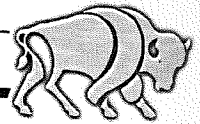
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## Changes on Tap For Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale

Ever mindful of the challenges of hosting a show and sale that offers something for everyone, the DTBA Board of Directors took a look at some of the challenges, suggestions and comments noted and received following the 2010 event last February.

The new classes appear to be creating excitement among consignors and buyers alike and the board agreed to leave the existing class lineup in place with one minor change. There were a number of requests from consignors to downsize the Top 10 Heifer Calf class. Numerous producers noted that it was difficult for them to come up with a group of ten heifer calves that were structurally similar and for some, they just do not have enough animals available to put together ten head for one class. On the other hand, buyers noted they appreciated the opportunity to purchase ten head from one producer at one time. The board discussed the issue and decided to offer a Top Five Heifer Calf Class in lieu of the current Top Ten class. Producers that have enough animals will still be able to bring up to ten head, as they will be allowed to have two entries in the Top Five class. The board felt this would be the best move to balance out the desires of both consignors and buyers.

The other hot button topic the past few years has been the required Anaplasmosis test. This has caused plenty of headaches for consignors and show/sale management. After doing extensive research on the topic, talking to a number of veterinarians and producers who have been affected by this testing requirement, the board voted to do away with the Anaplasmosis testing requirement for the 2011 show and sale.

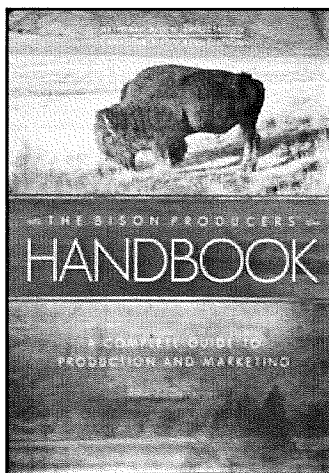
While all agreed that more testing is better from a buyer's point

## Wendy Hutchinson In Power Commercials

Roy Liedtke shared this about our Treasurer, Wendy Hutchinson. She and her husband, Kelly Hardy, are ranch partners with Roy over near Weston, Wyoming. Their ranch is Longreach Buffalo Co., LLC.

As you may know, Wendy is also the Regulatory Affairs Manager for Thunder Basin Coal Company in Gillette, Wyoming. An organization called America's Power recently did a commercial/videos about Wendy and others at the mine. As the website says "Electricity is essential to living and working in the modern world, and it is important to understand where America gets its electricity."

Some of the short clips have been played as commercials on national television. The longer versions (2 - 3 minutes) are available on the website. The majority of Wendy's video was filmed at the ranch and includes some good buffalo footage. Go to: [www.americaspower.org](http://www.americaspower.org). Then click on "Wendy".



## New Bison Producers' Handbook Available

The all new Bison Producers' Handbook is now available! Over 250 pages of new information from the industry's leading veterans and professionals. More than 30 industry experts have collaborated to develop the useful, readable information on all aspects of bison marketing and production. It is available through the National Bison Association.

\$40 for non-NBA members, \$20 for current NBA members, or FREE with a new Active, Life or Allied Industry membership!

Order yours today to learn everything you need to know about the American bison and how to started, or grow, in this great business! Better yet, join the NBA today and we'll send you a copy for FREE with your new member packet!

A National Bison Association membership is the gift that keeps on giving all year long with the most up to date information and resources in the buffalo business.

Take advantage of this offer by ordering, or joining the NBA at [www.bisoncentral.com](http://www.bisoncentral.com) in the online store, or call the NBA office at 303-292-2833.

of view, the lack of a reliable Anaplasmosis test in interpretation makes it difficult and places a largely unnecessary burden on the consignor. The show and sale committee will continue to urge consignors to do three or four way testing of their animals, but the only required tests now will be Brucellosis and TB. More information on the testing requirements will be available in December when entry packets are available.

The show and sale committee is also working to create a more user friendly and streamlined entry packet. With the addition of new classes over the past few years, they felt the entry process was getting too complicated and unwieldy.

The group is also looking to formulate a new scoring system for the Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge. Board members Chad Kremer and Wendy Hutchinson will be working on developing a formula that will take into consideration more of the data collected on the bulls throughout the testing period. Additionally, it was agreed that the bulls should be ultrasounded when they are worked for the show and that data should be incorporated into the scoring system. We are working with the host ranch to get the ultrasounding set up for this year.

There will be a full slate of classes for the 2011 Classic, including the Reality Based Carcass Class Heifers and Bulls, Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge, Top Five Bull and Heifer Calves, Top Five Yearling Heifers and single classes for bull calves, heifer calves, bull and yearling heifers and two year old bred heifers.

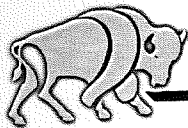
Show and sale entry information will be available in December.

## Bison Management Seminar Offered

On February 1 - 4, 2011 the Durham Ranch will be hosting a seminar titled Discover the Keys to Successful Bison and Land Management. At this seminar you will learn how to improve profitability, herd health, quality of life and create healthy landscapes. Being held at the Durham Ranch in Wright, Wyoming, you will see firsthand some of the changes they have experienced using this approach. This seminar will be limited to 15 participants. Register early! For more information or to register, contact Roland Kroos at (406) 522-3862 or e-mail [kroosing@msn.com](mailto:kroosing@msn.com).

The Durham Ranch has been practicing Holistic Management for almost 25 years. John Flocchini (ranch manager) and Pat Thomson (bison herd manager) will be available to answer questions and describe their experiences. Roland Kroos, the instructor for this seminar has been involved with holistic management for 25 years and has taught numerous seminars in Wyoming and other parts of the country.





### Anyone Interested in Trailerpooling?

Well, we've all heard of carpooling, but how about trailerpooling? Looking to cruise in the fast lane with your buffalo or just needing a ride for your critters, the time has come for us to create some sort of organized trailerpool!

We have had several producers ask about working together to get animals to Rapid City for our Reality Based Carcass Class and the Young Guns Yearling Bull Futurity. For some, it's not a justifiable cost of time and fuel to haul one or maybe two animals from somewhere like central Colorado or eastern Minnesota all the way up to Rapid City to drop them off. We have had some producers already doing this for the carcass class, but we'd like to make it more widely available to others that are interested in entering animals but need assistance to get them delivered.

We would like to establish one or two locations in each direction that would be willing to be a drop off point for animals. Then someone would load up all the animals and bring them the remainder of the trip to Rapid City. It's a pretty sure bet those taking advantage of the service would be willing to share costs of fuel and ideally it would be minimal for everyone.

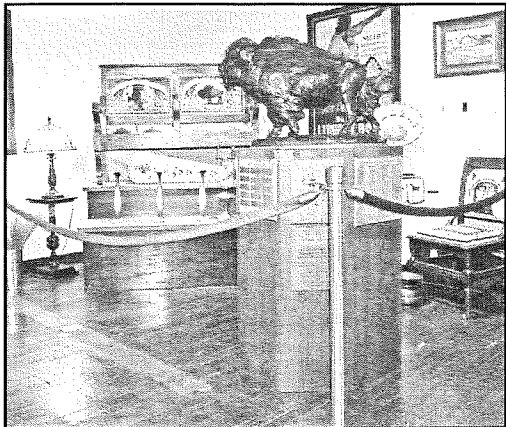
If you are interested in finding out more or would be willing to be a drop off location or driver, please contact the Karen in the DTBA office. There are people interested in entering the contests for the upcoming events, so we need to get this moving! Thank you for helping your association and the members!

### The Sovereign Finds A New Home

By Susan Maass

If you are in the Rapid City area and have the opportunity to visit downtown, you must make a stop at Prairie Edge Trading Company and Gallery. It is a truly unique establishment of western art and artifacts. There is a special corner filled with antiques and also the Tony Heim Perpetual Memorial Award for Producer of the Year for the Gold Trophy Show held annually in Denver. For those of you that may not have had the opportunity to visit Rapid City, Prairie Edge is a landmark to this region for several reasons. Mimi Hillenbrand, owner of 777 Buffalo Ranch, owns Prairie Edge. Her father started the establishment years ago in an old mercantile building in downtown Rapid City. The building is awesome. It houses the largest and oldest bead collection in the USA, Indian artifacts, and a gallery of Native American work using buffalo, deer, and most pieces replicate anything the indians made or used in the past.

After the 2010 Gold Trophy Show, "The Sovereign" bronze, so titled by sculptor Dan Ostermiller, that stands atop the award, was needing a new location and the folks at Prairie Edge kindly allowed the piece to "live" there for the time being. Much to our surprise but with typical Prairie Edge aplomb, the Sovereign is beautifully displayed within a roped off corner with antiques from the Hillenbrand collection that include a shoe shine chair done in buffalo leather and Indian beadwork, old posters advertising Liberty Bonds, antique lamps and an antique megaphone. It's lovely. Thank You Prairie Edge!



### Industry Loses Long Time Friend



Marland and Glenda...and company...at the Western Bison Assn. meeting this past June at Susan and Merle Maass' Colorado Bison Company.

Services were recently held in Spokane, WA for Marland Ray, one of the true pioneers of the buffalo industry, who recently passed away following a cardiac arrest.

Marland and his wife, Glenda, began their buffalo ranching career in Mead, WA in 1988, and the couple has been a strong presence in the development of the bison business over the past two decades, through the Northwest Bison Association and more recently, the Western Bison Association.

A former teacher, Marland and Glenda Haack became life-long partners in 1976 and moved to Spokane in 1978. Marland established Ray Turf Farms, which he opened in 1977 in Spokane. In 1988 he went into ranching, raising the beautiful buffalo.

Memorials in his memory may be made to Western Bison Association Jr. Judging program or a memorial of one's choice. Please mail contributions to the WBA Junior Judging program to: Western Bison Association, 10711 N Market St., Mead, WA 99021.

Marland was a true friend to many and will be deeply missed.

## You're Passionate About Your Business

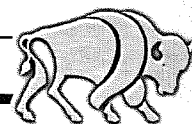


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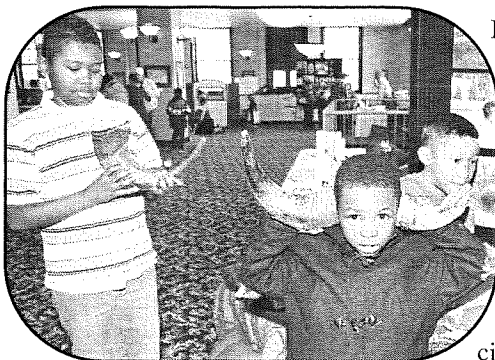


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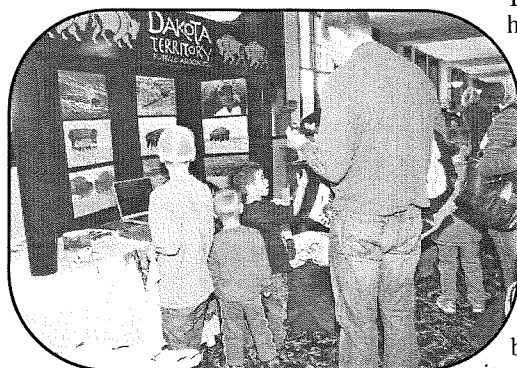
# DTBA Keeps Busy Year Round Hosting Events and Educating



*Kids and parents alike enjoyed the DTBA booth at the Ag Day event in Sioux Falls. A large assortment of buffalo horns was the big hit of the day and the horns got a workout the entire time, as did the booth sitter!*

Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (DTBA) is gearing up to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale. The event will be held in Rapid City, SD from February 4 - 6, 2011 and will coincide with the group's

annual Winter Conference. The show and sale has grown tremendously the past few years, with the addition of several new and innovative classes as well as a calf and yearling auction.



The association has been very busy this spring and summer with various events. They participated in the Ag Day event this spring in Sioux Falls, SD with an informational/hands on booth and exhibit. The group also made arrangements for a group of Ag in the Classroom teachers and support staff to tour a buffalo ranch and spend the day learning about buffalo and sampling a variety of buffalo dishes for lunch. Due to weather problems, the group ended up touring



*A group of Ag in the Classroom instructors, above, enjoyed a home cooked meal of buffalo entrees and dessert and then headed down to Custer State Park where Chad Kremer, Herd Manager, took them on a tour of the park's herd and answered LOTS of questions. The teachers were from around the country and most had never seen buffalo before. The group was lucky enough to spot one of the season's first calves!*

Custer State Park, but they were able to see the buffalo in the park and even saw some of the first buffalo babies of the spring!

In June, DTBA helped host Temple Grandin at the 777 Ranch. Grandin did a presentation on low stress handling with more than 200 attendees on hand at the ranch. Most recently, the association, along with the 777 Ranch, hosted another Kirk Gadzia Holistic Management workshop at Custer State Park.

This fall, DTBA partnered with the NBA to have an informational booth at the Custer State Park Arts Festival and Buffalo Roundup. We have also been busy helping to plan the Bison Advantage Workshop.

For more information about the DTBA and any of the events, contact them at (605) 923-6383 or visit the website at [www.dakotabuffalo.com](http://www.dakotabuffalo.com). Information on the Bison Advantage workshop can be found at [www.bisonadvantage.com](http://www.bisonadvantage.com).

## November 13, 2010- Antelope Island State Park 6th Annual Live Bison Auction- Antelope Island State Park, UT

Group	Animals Sold	High \$	Low \$	Average \$	2009 Average \$	Average Weight	Price/lb.
2 Year Bull	30	\$2,250.00	\$1,650.00	\$2,001.67	\$1,293.10	1085	\$1.85
Cull Cow	25	\$1,650.00	\$1,050.00	\$1,402.00	\$926.92	931	\$1.51
Yearling Bull	7	\$1,800.00	\$1,450.00	\$1,635.71	\$909.09	726	\$2.25
Yearling Heifer	30	\$2,000.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,690.00	\$735.00	642	\$2.63
Bull Calf	52	\$1,550.00	\$900.00	\$1,303.85	\$577.78	375	\$3.48
Heifer Calf	52	\$1,450.00	\$900.00	\$1,234.62	\$560.58	351	\$3.51

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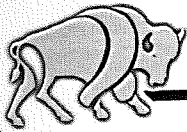
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# Buffalo Rifle Fundraiser Raffle Now Through February 5, 2011

The Dakota Territory Buffalo Association is gearing up to celebrate their 15th anniversary in February of 2011. One of the key parts of the celebration will be the drawing for the Limited Edition Sharps Buffalo Rifle. The rifle is a Sharps LoGrade Buffalo Rifle in a 45-70 caliber. This is absolutely the final gun in the series, as it is the artist proof rifle! Back in 1998, the association had the rifles commissioned by A & A Engraving in Rapid City. There were 20 numbered guns, plus the proof gun. The final gun in the regular series, #20, was raffled off in 2004. The board of directors had opted to keep the artist proof rifle, saving it for a special occasion and it was decided that this anniversary celebration was it!

The rifle features ornate artwork and the original DTBA logo, so it is truly a collector's piece. This rifle is finished with 24k

gold on the artwork panels and is valued at \$4,500.

The raffle will consist of only 750 tickets. Cost for a ticket is \$25. There are no discounts for multiple ticket purchases since the number of tickets is capped.

To see a poster with photos of the rifle, go to [www.dakotabuffalo.com](http://www.dakotabuffalo.com) and click on the Sharps Buffalo Rifle Raffle button on the left side of the page. There will be a pdf file you can download with photos and more information. The rifle will also be on display and tickets will be sold at various buffalo sales, meetings and events between now and the drawing date of February 5, 2011.

To order tickets or for more information, contact the DTBA at 605-923-6383 or mail payment and number of tickets desired to: DTBA, PO Box 4104, Rapid City, SD 57709.

## Upholding The Tradition

By Roy Liedtke

I wanted to let you know that Amy and I attended the Texas Bison Association (TBA) spring meeting in Fort Worth. It was a good and interesting meeting; however, the TBA is much smaller and less mature than the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association. We've done a good job over the years at the DTBA and it was obvious the buffalo producers in Texas are aware of that. They are familiar with the DTBA and were eager for input.

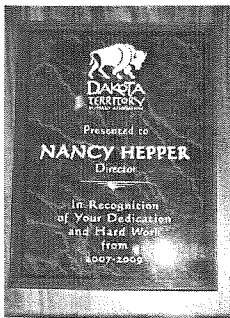
The meeting started Saturday afternoon with the Farmers Market workshop by Jim Matheson of the NBA. There were about 20 attendees. We then toured the buffalo working facility at the Fort Worth Nature Center and learned how they manage their herd of 18 head! Even though it's a completely different scale than we are used to dealing with, it was still interesting. That evening was the 1st Annual Banquet and fun auction with about 50 people in attendance. The Texas Ag Commissioner (head of the state dept of ag) spoke at the banquet and was very optimistic about the buffalo industry. I thought their fun auction was successful as it seemed to raise a fair amount of money.

And.....on "Upholding the Tradition".....they sold raffle tickets for a very nice bison hair rug, which I managed to win!!.... and..... Amy and I were the last ones to leave the bar. In fact, as I remember, we helped the bar tender dismantle his temporary bar and also helped him out by taking leftover whiskey home so he wouldn't have to pack it out!! Whew!

*Editor's Note:*Just in case you are wondering, Roy has got to be one of the luckiest people when it comes to buffalo association raffles. He was the winner of the custom made buffalo saddle for the International Bison Conference. And he wasn't even there to pick it up! And as for being the last one out of the bar, well, all I can say Roy is that you learned from the best! Keep up the good work!




Roy Liedtke, formerly of Gillette, Wyoming and now residing in Texas, was getting ready to move earlier this summer when he caught his dog, Jesse waiting in the U-Haul. Roy mentioned that he never realized just how smart the dog was until he noted that she had packed the cooler with beer and ice and was loaded up and ready to head south!



Our outgoing board member, Nancy Hepper, was not able to attend the winter conference and receive the recognition due for her service to the association. However, we wanted to make sure she knew how much we appreciated her dedication and time on the board and to that end, sent her this plaque. If you happen to see Nancy somewhere, make sure to thank her and let her know we all appreciate her!

W.J. (DUB) Vanneman  
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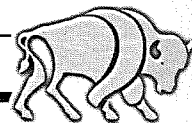
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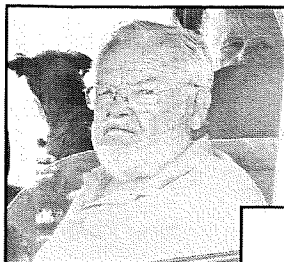


## Montana Bison Association Ranch Tour Takes In The Antlers Ranch

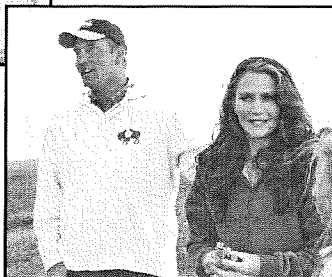
Article and Photos by Susan Maass

Following our Western Bison Association spring rendezvous here in South Dakota, I headed over to the Montana Bison Association (MBA) summer meeting at the Antlers Ranch in Meeteetse, Wyoming. Mike and Lori May and Sam and Tiffanie May, along with their four daughters, were the hosts and hostesses for a marvelous weekend! This ranch may be the most beautiful ranch in the whole country! Sam May manages it perfectly for buffalo and his dad mostly enjoys being retired.

The Antlers Ranch has been in the family since 1896 when Sam May's great, great grandfather homesteaded this awesome ranch. The family has been persistent in acquiring additional lands over the years and the ranch now encompasses 33,000 acres, not including BLM and Forest Service leases that adjoin the ranch. It rests mostly within a beautiful valley between two mountain ranges at an elevation of 7,000 feet. Needless to say, they have pretty serious winter weather. In 1996 a neighbor asked Mike if he ever considered raising buffalo. No he hadn't. But he woke up the next morning wondering why he hadn't thought about buffalo and started his quest to learn more about them. He knew the park at Thermopolis had bison, so off he went. Sid Ainslie was the manager there at the time and he recommended Mike contact Hilda Thomas at the Bar X Ranch at Powell, Wyoming. Mike, much like Hilda, is



Above, Mike May and at right, Sam and Tiffanie.



quite the character. I would love to have been there when those two met. Not long after that meeting, the Antlers ranch had buffalo and Bar X stock populated their foundation herd. Today, Sam has over 500 cows, 54 breeding bulls, including hunt bulls, 200 two year old heifers and they hold over the entire calf crop each year. Most of the yearling bulls go to Boyd Meyer to be raised out and some stay on the ranch to be raised on grass. The ranch sells 100 head of heifers each year for a growing retail business that ships throughout the US, including Alaska. Plans are to increase the herd numbers and the ranch certainly has the capacity and the good grass for more animals.

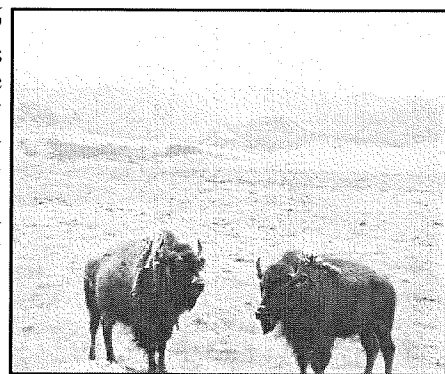
We had a great tour of the ranch. Sam led the way and we were able to see most of the place from a mountainous ledge where we could see for miles and also get a good overview of how and where the animals graze, rotate and funnel into corrals for the fall roundup. Sam has made many improvements on the place. The fencing alone took an enormous amount of time. He is currently replacing all the

flood irrigation with center pivots, removing the bothersome ditches and creating pass-through for the pivots where needed.

After taking in the scenic views, we headed to the corrals where the welding and hydraulics are amazing. Sam says he loves building anything hydraulic and it shows! No one needs to get in the pens with a buffalo and it's made for large numbers of animals. Since the next generation of Mays' are all girls, Sam plans on having the place made easy for any woman to manage and he knows his girls will do just fine.

Next to the tent area where we dined on fabulous meals and topped them off with Lori's fine baking, was a large pasture full of breeding bulls. All of these bulls were awesome! Sam semen tests bulls every year and finds a surprising range of results from year to year, even within a given bull. Fertility has not been a problem, but having been in the cattle business for years, Sam does not want to take any chances. He is also strict about his breeding times because late calves are a

Continued on page 9



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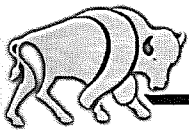
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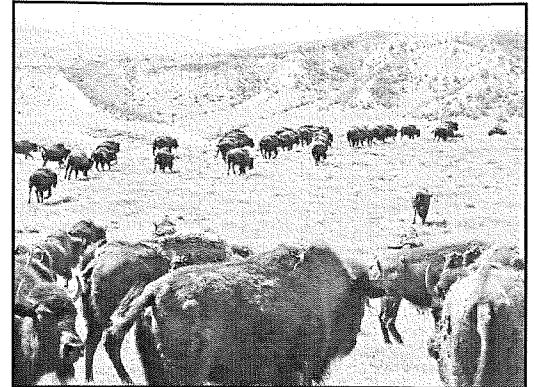


Sales Manager





# Montana Bison Association Ranch Tour Takes In The Antlers Ranch



Continued from page 8  
management problem. Bulls are put out to pasture on July 15 and pulled on September 15.

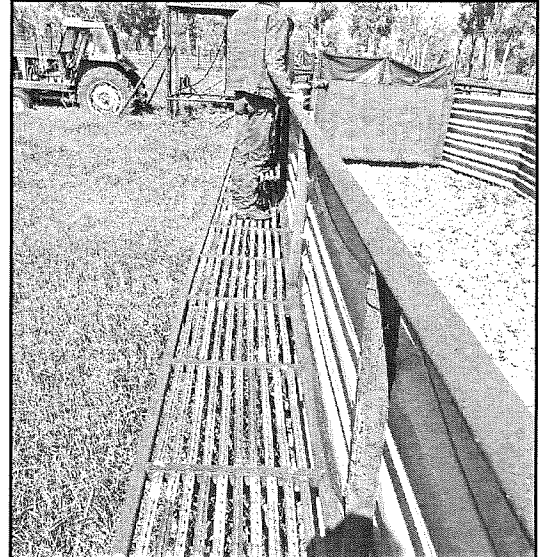
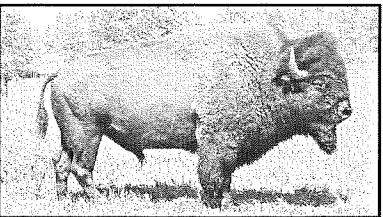
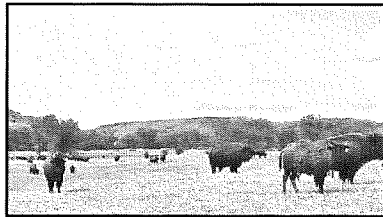
Later in the day, we got to the pasture full of two year olds, some of which would be sorted off for a single sire pasture. 200 beautiful heifers came to check out the crowd. Sam had purchased our yearling pair at the Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS) and also in the group was our People's Choice heifer from GTSS, now owned by Boyd Meyer. When I got out of the pickup those three came directly over to me and gave me a look like they were wondering how I'd found them. Buffalo are so smart. They do remember you.

We also found Harry P in a single sire pasture of beautiful cows. He's a bull from Harry Peterson, who is now out of the buffalo business, but Boyd and Sam especially liked the bull test results on this guy and he wears it well.

It was nice to see producers that I hadn't seen in a very long time. Chris Sullivan is the current MBA president and obviously doing a fine job. MBA was planning on doing a production sale in Billings this December, but due to the tremendous demand for meat they have decided to cancel the sale this year. MBA's website is [montanabison.org](http://montanabison.org) and Julie Reddig, the MBA secretary, with the help of a family member, has redone the website and it is lovely. Chris and Jan Michals were there and while they have sold their ranch and are now in Colorado, they are still very active with MBA. Chris did a great job calling the fun auction and afterwards the Mays had a great band. Doc and Bobbie Woerner were there, despite Doc still recovering from a knee injury. Dan and Ellette Day were there and it was great catching up

with them as well as Dean and Julie Reddig. I met several new people, new to me anyway, and wish I had a list of all those in attendance. More 'Mays' showed up. What a wonderful family!

We asked about wolves and Mike says that there are still enough cattle and sheep in the area for the wolves and that so far, the buffalo have kept the wolves at bay. They only recently lost hunting rights on wolves in the state. That contest continues. We also visited the big cow herd grazing away in gorgeous grass with the rivers running here and there. Three rivers run through this ranch. It's amazing and oh so beautiful. It's even more wonderful to see such great people own and manage this piece of heaven. Thanks to the Montana Bison Association and the Mays for a lovely weekend!




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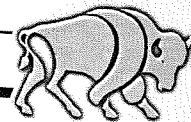
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**2010 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show & Sale Results**

**Hosted By Dakota Territory Buffalo Association • February 7, 2010 • Rapid City, SD**

**Producer of the Year:** Skull Creek Bison, Wayne, LeAnn, Conner & Jenna Buchholz, Rhame, ND



*Wayne, LeAnn, Conner and Jenna Buchholz took home their second Producer of the Year trophy. Sponsors were Scott and Susan Peterson and family and Rod Sather and Lynnette Laird.*

**Rookie of the Year:** Kralicek Farms, Frank Kralicek, Jr., Yankton, SD

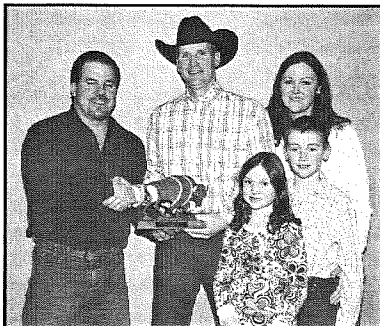
**Grand Champion Male:** Yearling bull from Skull Creek Bison. Purchased by Boyd Meyer, Cold Creek Buffalo Company, Windsor, CO for \$4,750.

**Reserve Champion Male:** Yearling bull from Skull Creek Bison. Purchased by Aaron Calfee, Hollow Hill Farm, Paint Bank, VA for \$4,600.

**Grand Champion Female:** Two Year Old Bred Heifer from Skull Creek Bison. Purchased by Boyd Meyer for \$3,300.

**Reserve Champion Female:** Yearling Heifer from Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Scott, Susan, Jon & Jayme Peterson, Buffalo, SD. Purchased by Wayne Moser, Wind Creek Ranch, Lemmon, SD for \$1,700.

**Heifer Calf:** 1. Nolz Poor Farm Bison, Ed & Deanna Nolz, Sioux Falls, SD; 2. Trails End River Bison, Larry & Dixie Byrd, Presho, SD; 3. Nolz Poor Farm Bison. Honorable Mention: Skull Creek Bison.



*The Buchholz family is presented with the Grand Champion Female trophy, awarded by Boyd Meyer on behalf of sponsors Mike and Kathy Gear.*

**Top 10 Heifer Calves:** 1. Skull Creek Bison; 2. Colorado Bison Co., Merle & Susan Maass, Union Center, SD; 3. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch.

**Yearling Heifer:** 1. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch; 2. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch; 3. Skull Creek Bison. Honorable Mention: Galloway, Inc., Blue Valley Ranch. Perry Handyside, Mgr., Tim Robertson, Livestock Foreman.

**Top Five Yearling Heifers:** 1. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch; 2. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch.

**Two Year Old Bred Heifer:** 1. Skull Creek Bison; 2. Trails End River Bison; 3. Colorado Bison Co.

**Yearling Bulls:** 1. Skull Creek Bison; 2. Skull Creek Bison; 3. Cammack Buffalo Ranch, John, Lane & Mike Cammack, Union Center, SD.

**Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge:** 1. Kralicek Farms; 2. Skull Creek Bison; 3. Cold Creek Buffalo Company.

**Bull Calves:** 1. Northstar Bison, Sean, Renee & Marielle Graese, Rice Lake, WI; 2. Kralicek Farms; 3. Trails End River Bison. **Honorable Mention:** Skull Creek Bison.

**Top 5 Bull Calves:** 1. Northstar Bison; 2. Colorado Bison Co.; 3. Kralicek Farms.

**Carcass Class Bulls:** 1. Cammack Buffalo Ranch; 2. Cammack Buffalo Ranch; 3. Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch.

**Carcass Class Heifers:** 1. Galloway, Inc., Blue Valley Ranch; 2. Kralicek Farms; 3. Kralicek Farms

**Black Hills Buffalo Classic Sale Results**

**Heifer Calves:** 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$625 to \$1,050 with an average of \$773 per head.

**Top Ten Heifer Calves:** 30 head sold. Prices ranged from \$600 to \$950 with an average of \$775 per head.

**Yearling Heifers:** 9 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,150 to \$1,750 with an average of \$1,450 per head.

**Top Five Yearling Heifers:** 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,500 to \$1,550 with an average of \$1,525 per head.

**Two Year Old Bred Heifers:** 8 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,250 to \$3,300 with an average of \$1,944 per head.

**Yearling Bulls:** 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,500 to \$4,750 with an average of \$2,895 per head.

**Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge:** 20 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,200 to \$4,500 with an average of \$2,150 per head.

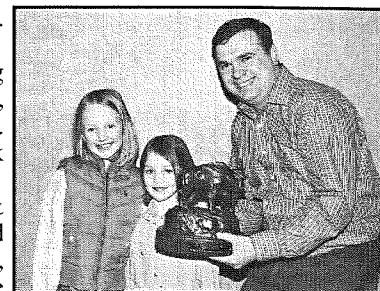
**Bull Calf:** 10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$750 to \$2,500 with an average of \$1,135 per head.

**Top Five Bull Calves:** 30 head sold. Prices ranged from \$700 to \$1,550 with an average of \$950 per head.

**Premium Calf Sale Results**

**Bull Calves:** 28 head sold. Prices ranged from \$700 to \$885 with an average of \$774 per head.

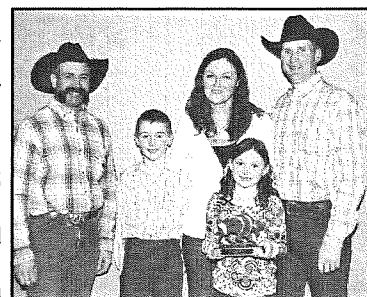
**Heifer Calves:** 19 head sold. Prices ranged from \$540 to \$575 with an average of \$549 per head.

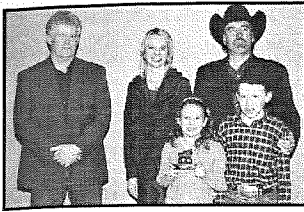
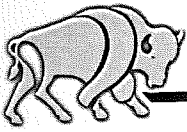


*Frank Kralicek, Jr. was named the Rookie of the Year. The trophy was sponsored by Brad and Connie Beavers.*

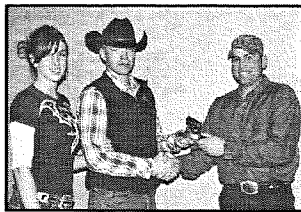


*The Buchholz family also took home the Grand Champion Male trophy, sponsored by Sandy and Jacki Limpert.*

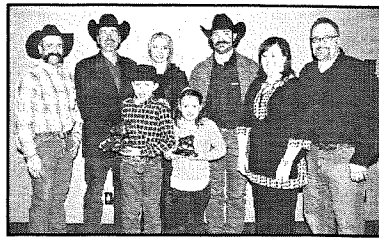




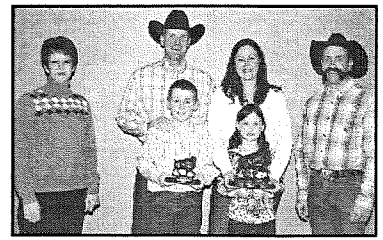
The Peterson family took home the Bronze Top 10 Heifer Calf honors. Sponsored by DMI.



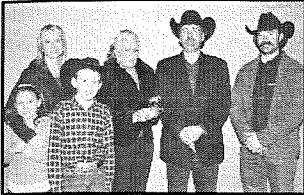
John Cammack accepts the Bronze Yearling Bull trophy from sponsors Sam and Brodie Limpert.



The Peterson family took home the Gold and Silver trophies in the Top Five Yearling Heifer class. Sponsors were the DTBA and Heath and Danielle Peterson.



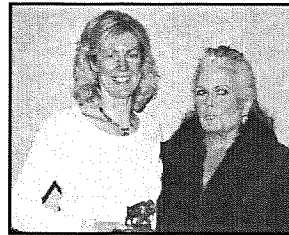
Taking both the Gold and Silver awards in the Yearling Bull class, the Buchholz family accepts the awards from sponsors Fischer Rounds & Assoc. and Dan Huber.



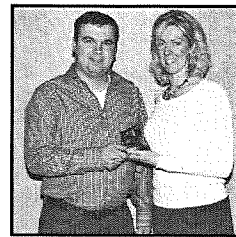
The Peterson family took home the Bronze Bull Carcass trophy presented by sponsor Susan Maass.



Deanna and Ed Nolz were the winners of the Bronze Heifer Calf trophy, sponsored by the North American Bison Coop.



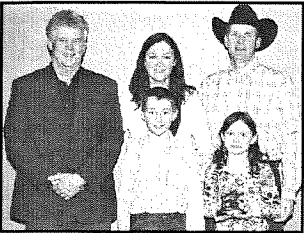
Susan Maass accepts the Bronze trophy for her Two Year Old Bred Heifer entry. Felicia Sargeant was filling in for sponsors David and Diana Lautt.



Frank Kralicek, Jr., accepts the Bronze Top Five Bull Calf trophy from Felicia Sargeant on behalf of the Standing Rock Buffalo Ranch.



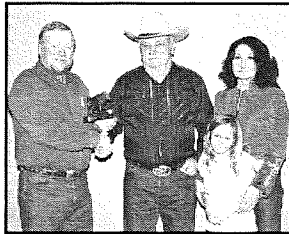
Susan Maass accepts the Silver Top 10 Heifer Calves trophy, sponsored by M i m i Hillenbrand.



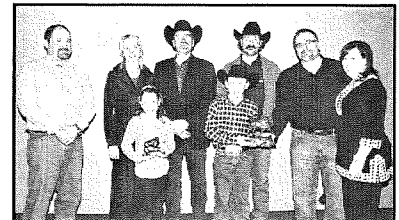
The Buchholz family was awarded the Bronze Yearling Heifer trophy from sponsor Dakota RV



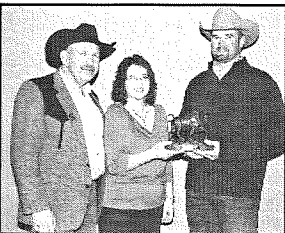
Frank Kralicek, Jr., took home the Silver and Bronze Carcass Heifer awards, sponsored by Renner Corner Locker and Bruce and Martha Anderson.



Larry and Dixie Byrd were presented the Silver Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy from sponsor Larry Carr.



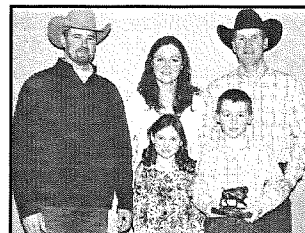
The Peterson family picked up both Gold and Silver in the Yearling Heifer class. Sponsors were Lance Kuck and Heath and Danielle Peterson.



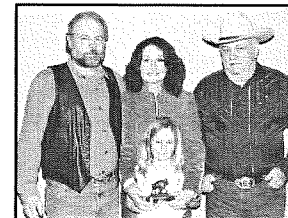
Tim Robertson accepts the Gold Carcass Heifer trophy from sponsors Bruce and Martha Anderson.



John Cammack accepts the Gold and Silver Carcass Bull trophies from gold sponsor Ed Nolz. Scranton Equity Feeds sponsored the silver trophy.



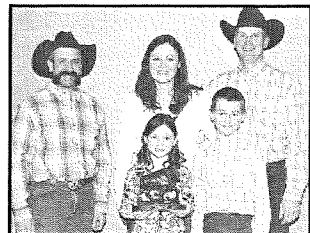
The Buchholz family accepts the Silver Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge award from sponsor Tim Robertson.



Larry and Dixie Byrd took home the Bronze Bull Calf trophy sponsored by the North American Bison Coop.



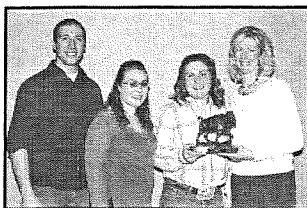
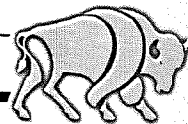
Deanna and Ed Nolz were awarded the Gold Heifer Calf trophy, sponsored by Travis and Haley Mickelson.



The Graese family took home the Gold trophy for their Top Five Bull Calves entry, sponsored by Zane Holcomb.

Custer State Park Resort Company was the sponsor of the Gold Two Year Old Bred Heifer trophy, presented to the Buchholz family.



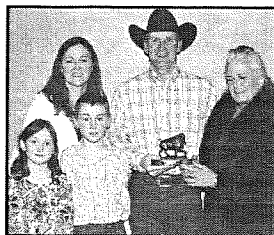


Sean, Renee and Marielle Graese accept the Gold Bull Calf trophy sponsored by the North Dakota Buffalo Assn.



Taking the Gold in the Top Ten Heifer Calf class, the Buchholz family accepts the award from Chad Kremer, in for sponsor Mimi Hillenbrand.

Frank Kralicek, Jr. accepts the Gold Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge trophy from sponsors Travis and Haley Mickelson.



Susan Maass was awarded the Silver Top Five Bull Calves trophy, sponsored by the Buchholz family.



Susan Maass sponsored the Bronze Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge trophy, picked up by Boyd Meyer.



Larry and Dixie Byrd were presented the Silver Heifer Calf trophy from Larry Carr on behalf of Linweld.



Frank Kralicek, Jr. accepts the Silver Bull Calf trophy from sponsor Lance Kuck.

## Reflections On The Past, Looking Forward To The Future!

By Zane "Grizz" Holcomb, BHBC Show Chairman

Well, the weather sure took a swing at us, but through it all the members of the DTBA bowed their necks and showed the world what they are made of. Braving idiot drivers and minimal traveling conditions, all the animals made it in safe and sound. And what animals they were! This year the Black Hills Buffalo Classic averaged \$1189 per head, \$279 per head more than in 2009. That's heifers calves to breed bulls, across the board. \$279. If that isn't a testimony to the quality, then I hope someone can find a better one.

Once again and without fail, Dennis, Brit and the entire crew at the Events Center made it easy for us. And to Scott, Larry, Jeff, Brodie, Chad, and Joe, (please forgive me if I forgot anyone) many thanks for all the help. And I can't forget all those who came a few weeks early to help set up pens, everyone chips in and it all gets done. And what got done was what could be slated as the best buffalo happening of the year. All of you can be proud to be a member of the DTBA, the leader, and still going....

Many thanks to Jim "I woulda been in South America" Butler and Kelly Hardy. You guys rock as judges. Jim, I know what you passed on to support the DTBA and thank you for that. Kelly, who will be our returning judge, thank you for the last minute fill in for Mike Thiel. For those of you who don't know, Mike was injured prior to the show. He found out that a gate you can't fit behind?, well.... you can't fit behind it. Not much worse for wear and healing, we'll get him back to judge in the future, that is a given.

If we ever have a blue ribbon for improvement, hands down send it to Mosquito Park. When Scott rolled up the door on his semi and the Young Guns started rolling off to get penned up, I got a big satisfied grin on my face. This was what we were looking for. Dang they were nice. And it showed when 30% of them brought over \$3000 each. Rod, your crew did an amazing turn around and you have set the bar. One can't express enough gratitude for the marked improvement. The Young Guns had a major impact on our sale, the kind of impact that brings smiles to everyone. Good job.

And what a year for rookies! Besides the obvious Rookie of the Year trophy, two rookies took home 5 trophies. Frank Kralicek, of Kralicek Farms, (Rookie of the Year) garnered a gold, silver and bronze. Right on his heels came Northstar Bison with two entries and two golds to show for it. Wow. I hope to see both return in 2011 for our 15th Anniversary. I think they will, besides, Little Miss Marielle has an unfulfilled mission to complete and she strikes as one who will finish the job.

Then what can one say that would fully explain the power and quality of Skull Creek Bison? Taking home their second Producer

of the Year was not only deserved, but it may grow some of Wayne's hair back after he pulled most of it out. Ma Nature, plus the pressure of building a new house, put our North Dakota friends to the test. To all of the Skull Creek crew, I and the DTBA thank you for toughing it out. Guess there is something to say for not backing down, and Skull Creek proved that following through with a good plan pays in the end. Congratulations.

Now I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank Scott and Susan Peterson of Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch. Not only did Scott bring his semi loaded with trophy winning animals to our show, he did more to make things happen than any other single person I know. He drove his semi to Mosquito Park to fetch the Young Guns in very questionable conditions and brought them safely and on time. Then he loaded back up with the 2011 Young Guns to be our host ranch for the year. If this isn't enough, he has, with the NBA, spearheaded a program to help finance new producers in the buffalo industry. The DTBA is very fortunate to have Scott and Susan as members and even though we have to share them with the NBA, they are ours and we won't share with anyone else! Scott and Susan, thank you very much.

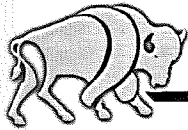
Speaking of the NBA, I myself became a member. I caught Dave Carter and signed up. I have listened to Jud, Sandy, and others long enough to know the importance of the NBA. Now with a copy of Bison World and the weekly email newsletters, I am very happy I did sign up. The information alone is worth the membership, but then realize that the NBA is our watchdog and our power in Washington and other places. I do urge everyone to follow what Jud has been preaching, join the NBA, and join now. You have to be proactive this day in age to protect what you have, and the NBA is our first line of defense.

Welcome Wendy Hardy, who is our new director. I does gets me to thinking, though.... This may be the first time a Judge and a Director of the DTBA live under the same roof. Will Wendy direct Kelly's judging, or will Kelly judge Wendy's directing? Could this be the beginning of a reality show complete with web

All in all, the DTBA can rightfully bill itself as the mover and the shaker in the buffalo industry. Every year sees more animals and better prices. Our consignors bring the best buffalo in the nation, our buyers go home happy knowing this, and we are already moving on with plans and improvements for 2011. Last year I said that anyone in the industry should mark the Black Hills Buffalo Classic as a "must attend". Now I KNOW it.

The leader in industry, the "Producer's Association", the DTBA. Come along for the ride.....





# Minutes From March 5, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting

President Bruce Anderson called the meeting to order. Present were board members John Cammack, Larry Carr, Chad Kremer, Wendy Hutchinson and executive director, Karen Conley.

The minutes of the February 5 meeting were reviewed. Kremer made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cammack seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented and discussed. Conley noted that not all of the 2010 Winter Conference income/expenditures were represented in the financials, as there were still a few invoices that had not been received. Kremer made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Conley outlined some of the difficulties she has been encountering with the DTBA bank, Wells Fargo. She noted that some of their rules and regulations are making it extremely difficult for her to conduct association business. She asked the board for permission to begin looking into other banks, preferably local ones, and see what types of accounts would be available and how they could be structured to better streamline the association's financial business. President Anderson offered to assist Conley in checking out alternative banks. They will report their findings to the board.

The group then discussed a request from South Dakota Ag in the Classroom Executive Director, Lisa Dorschner, to do a teacher's group tour of a buffalo ranch and partake of a buffalo luncheon. Conley had already visited with Dorschner and agreed to put together a tour and lunch for the participants. The event will take place in April and plans are underway to have the group tour the 777 Ranch. Conley will make arrangements for the group's luncheon.

The association will be selling raffle tickets for the Artist's Proof rifle, the last gun in the DTBA series. Conley has the posters and tickets ready to go and will distribute them to board members and other DTBA members who would like to assist in selling them. The drawing will be held in February of 2011 in conjunction with the DTBA 15th anniversary celebration.

The group touched briefly on the topic of the 15th anniversary of the Winter Conference, Black Hills Buffalo Classic. Conley and Anderson encouraged all to be thinking of ways to celebrate the occasion and also be thinking of ideas for the Winter Conference.

The second annual Bison Advantage Workshop will be held in Custer State Park in November, in conjunction with the CSP Buffalo Auction. DTBA has agreed to spearhead the workshop and will be putting together the seminar this year. More information will be available as the workshop dates draw closer.

The group then moved into the show and sale portion of the meeting to discuss and plan for the 2011 Black Hills Buffalo Classic show and sale.

The issue with the required Anaplasmosis test was discussed. While all agreed you can never have too much testing, the issues

that have surfaced with this test are creating more problems than benefits of the test produce. Conley has done quite a bit of research on the topic, visiting with veterinarians and producers and the consensus is the test is not reliable, nor beneficial in most respects. Cammack made a motion to eliminate the Anaplasmosis test from the 2011 show and sale requirements. Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There was discussion about the Top 10 Heifer Calf class. Several producers noted that they did not have enough animals or enough uniform animals, to put together a group of ten head with quality throughout the entire group. Several consignors had asked about downsizing to a Top 5 Heifer Calf class. Producers would be able to bring two pens of 5 animals, thus still bringing the same amount of animals, but in two groups instead of one, if they choose to do so. Others that do not have the animals to select from, would have the opportunity to put together a smaller group to show. Kremer made a motion to change the Top 10 Heifer Calf class to the Top 5 Heifer calf class for the 2011 show and sale. Cammack seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The group then moved to the Young Guns yearling bull class. We need to develop a new scoring system for this class to better reflect the criteria and weight given to each of the criteria in placing the class. We need to get this in place as soon as possible, so the host ranch will know what is expected of them in getting the bulls ready to bring back at the end of their test. One idea brought up at the group discussion on this class was to ultrasound the bulls before they come back to the show and sale and that information would make up part of their overall score. It was agreed that we will ultrasound the bulls this year and that will be part of their score. One scoring suggestion was 1/5 each for grass gain, grain gain, ribeye, live judging and overall gain. Kremer and Hutchinson agreed to work on developing a spreadsheet with the scoring criteria that will best reflect the class. This needs to be in place for the 2011 event.

Conley noted that several producers had asked her about doing some type of caravanning to get animals to the carcass class and to bring calves for the Young Guns contest. Some producers have noted the cost prohibitive nature of bringing just one or two animals to the carcass class and/or a calf or two for the Young Guns class. All agreed this would be a beneficial move for the consignors. Conley will work on putting together some ideas and sending out to the membership to start creating a list of those that would like to help with this idea. Some producers are already doing this on the carcass class. If something could be set up so we have several meeting places with one driver bringing in a group from that area, that would work the best. Conley will work on this idea and hopes to have something in place for the 2011 classes.

There being no further business, Kremer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Cammack seconded the motion. Motion carried.



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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE SEND IN ONLY IF YOU ARE A NEW MEMBER OR HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2011 DUES!  
Membership dues are valid from January 1 through December 31 of each year. Dues paid at this time will be credited toward the 2011 membership year.

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