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Buffalo Season Is In Full Swing

As the winter season approaches, there are a great many things on tap for both the DTBA and its members. Please take the time to read this newsletter thoroughly. There is a great deal of information contained inside.

A couple of things need your immediate attention. We have made arrangements with two sale barns in South Dakota to host open consignment auctions. One will be held in St. Onge and one in Yankton. Consignment deadlines are approaching, so please read the enclosed information about the auctions. There is an entry form for each sale. Please use these if you wish to consign animals. If you have any questions, there are contact numbers for each sale barn or you can call the office.

Additionally, entries are still open for the 2005 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale in January. There are still spots available in the Carcass Class as well. Please get your entries in as soon as possible so we can get ear tags ordered and shipped to consignors in a timely manner.

Membership renewals for 2005 can be taken care of at any time. The cost will remain at \$50 per year and dues are good from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year. In the December newsletter, conference registration forms will be available and you may renew your dues at that time or you may fill out the form inserted in this newsletter and send your dues in now. It really helps out when you renew as early as possible.

Get busy reading...there's lots to catch up on!

Sponsors Needed For 2005 Events

It's that time of year again! We are in the process of calling for sponsorships for the 2005 Winter Conference and also for Black Hills Buffalo Classic trophies. If you sponsored something last year, you will have the first chance to sponsor the same again for our 2005 event. We have had great participation in the past with our sponsorships and hope this round will produce the same results!

If you did not sponsor anything in the past but are interested in doing so this year, please contact the DTBA office and we will make arrangements for your sponsorship. An event this size is not possible without the generous donations of our sponsors and donors and we thank each and every one of you for your contributions to help ensure a successful event.

Two Board Positions Available

Wanted! New Board Members for the DTBA. There will be two positions available and they will be for three year terms. The election will be held during the DTBA Winter Conference the end of January.

What's needed? Fresh ideas. Enthusiasm. Time to donate to the organization.

If you are interested in volunteering for this important role, please contact our nominating committee chairman, Rod Sather, at (605) 683-4120 or Karen Conley at (605) 923-6383.

There are still openings in both the 2005 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show in all classes and in the Carcass Class. If you are interested in entering, please do so as soon as possible. Entry forms can be downloaded on our website under the "Current News and Information" button on the left-hand side.





Remarks From The President: Scott Peterson



As the fall sale season approaches, I hope you will all have the opportunity to attend some of the regional sales and events. Like many of you, I am hoping for strong sales this fall and the early sales indicate that this just might be the case. The prices continue to gain momentum, but they are not running away. That is good news for all of us in this industry.

Summer came and went this year and it's hard to believe our winter conference and show and sale activities are just around the corner. I hope many of you will take the opportunity to enter our new classes this year. Your board of directors has worked very hard to continue to ensure that our show and sale offers something for all of our members. We are working to keep it producer-oriented and user friendly, so I encourage you to bring some animals to the show and use the classes as a way to measure your program and gather ideas for improvement or change.

Plans are well underway for the conference this year. Some of our time will be devoted to planning for the 2007 International Bison Conference. This exciting opportunity will need a lot of work done between now and then and we will need the input and assistance of each and every member of our association to ensure the success of this event. We are hoping the conference in 2007 will bring at least 1,000 visitors to our region. If things continue to improve, perhaps that number will increase as well. Please make it a point to attend our winter conference this year, as the IBC will be an important part of our gatherings for the next cou-

ple of years.

Another new event, thanks to your input from our last conference, is the open consignment sales this fall. We are working with St. Onge Livestock out here in the western part of the state and Yankton Livestock Auction Market in the eastern part of the state to create an outlet for animals and to develop a new market for buyers. Interest in both of these sales has been very good, so please take a look at the informational inserts in this newsletter. Whether you are looking to consign or purchase animals, these two sales present a great opportunity to develop new outlets for our animals in South Dakota. Please support both of these auction facilities as they work with us on this project. The success and future of these events depends solely on getting enough animals to have a good sale and having plenty of buyers in the seats on sale day.

Additionally, at both auctions, the association will be hosting informational seminars. If you know of someone who might be interested in learning more about the buffalo business or if you are new to us and looking for more information, please make plans to attend the seminars just prior to the sale. We will have experienced producers on hand to answer questions and visit and we will also have DTBA information and merchandise available for purchase. I hope to see you there!

There are other changes that your association has made this past year. Please take the time to read this newsletter thoroughly and read through the minutes from the board of director meetings. As the times have changed, so has the focus and direction of our organization. With that in mind, we are looking forward to a bright future. I hope you will join us on the journey.

Give Your Time And Talents To Help Take Care Of The Buffalo!

As we gear up for our annual show and sale, our sale chairman, Chad Kremer, is once again asking for volunteers to help work animals and also to feed and water them each day. Any of our DTBA members are welcome to come and help...you don't have to be participating in the activities. This is an excellent opportunity to pitch in and help with a major part of our association. Last year, a number of new folks stepped forward to help with this and Chad and the rest of the crew really appreciated their help and expertise. It's a fun and interesting experience! Even if you can only help for one feeding, we appreciate your assistance and you are welcome to come and help.

There are a few minor changes to last year's schedule, but this is a rough idea of the help that will be needed for the 2005 event. The times are approximate and if you can only help for a couple of hours, that's fine.

Friday, January 28, 2005: 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - will need five or six people. They will assist in the unloading and penning of show animals and also begin watering and feeding as the animals arrive.

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - need three people to help the judges move animals and do the evening feed and water.

Welcome New DTBA Members!

Jerome and Geralyn Malsom • Hillsview Bison
Eureka, SD

Doug Paulson • Heart River Bison • Manning, ND

Bob Mahoney • Fargo, ND

Dan Whitted • Custom Welding Rol-Oyl • Lincoln, NE

Saturday, January 29: 7:00 a.m. to noon - need two or three people to assist the judges and do the morning feed and water. 12 noon to 6 p.m. - need two or three people to assist the judges and do the evening feed and water.

Sunday, January 30: 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - need two to three people to feed and water. 10:00 a.m. until the end of the sale - need two or three people to assist Steve Sutton's crew with the sale. End of the sale: need people to help with load out and to feed and water the remaining animals.

Monday, January 31: 7:00 a.m. until noon - need one or two people to assist with final load out. All animals need to be off the civic center grounds by noon on Monday.

Chad says he could use a number of people on Friday, as we are doing all the unloading of show animals on that day only. He is willing to work around anyone's scheduling arrangements. Your help is greatly needed and much appreciated. Thank you!

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Chad Kremer at (605) 255-5636 or e-mail: kremer@blackhills.com. You can also contact Karen at (605) 923-6383 or info@dakotabuffalo.com.

Thank you in advance for your great work.

DTBA Members In The News

Congratulations to **Scott Peterson** on being selected as the National Bison Association's Region 5 Director. Scott will begin his new position in January of 2005...**Harold and Darla Loewen** were featured in not one, but two, articles in the Huron Daily Plainsman earlier this year. The articles spotlighted buffalo meat, cooking with buffalo and the Loewen's bed and breakfast near Carpenter, SD...**Laura Lee Brown**, wife of DTBA member and NBA President, Steve Wilson, was selected for the 2005 Leadership Louisville class.



“Bison, The Thunder Grows” Is Theme For 2007 IBC Event

The wheels have begun to turn and planning is starting to come together for the International Bison Conference slated for July 2007 in Rapid City, SD.

A September planning session involved members of the National Bison Association and the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association. The main purpose of the meeting was to establish responsibilities and brainstorm for ideas. The one goal of the meeting was to come away with a theme so that conference planning could begin.

A call went out to members of both associations to help establish a theme. Jerry Mardian, a DTBA member from Mina, South Dakota, put in a suggestion for “Bison, the thunder rolls”. Many of the committee members liked the idea, but were concerned about it being too close to a song with a similar title. After some thought and a little tweaking, the group adopted “Bison, the Thunder Grows” as the theme for the conference.

There is speculation that there could be close to one million buffalo by the year 2007, which led the group to the growth-oriented theme. Of course, hopes are that the industry will be well on the way to growing and prospering by that time, so the group wanted a theme that would reflect all those things.

Other ideas that came out of the planning session included opening ceremonies at Mt. Rushmore National Monument;

motorcycle tours through the Black Hills; something involving Crazy Horse monument; a buffalo run down the main street of Deadwood, SD and other ideas that are still being kicked around.

One of the highlights of the conference will be a wagon trek of sorts through Custer State Park. Ron Walker, the Resource Manager for the park, has been busy lining this event out and he has a solid plan already in place.

In addition to event planning, there are a number of ideas for fundraising that will soon be underway. Be on the lookout for a commemorative motorcycle raffle that might be part of our fundraising activity.

Other ideas that are being investigated include a major concert and even website advertising and commemorative items for the event.

For now, the next course of action is to select a logo for the IBC. With the theme in place, the committee is asking for anyone interested to submit a logo, or logos, that could be considered for the event. It could be worth your time, as the winner will take home a \$500 prize if his or her logo is selected to represent the IBC.

The contest is open to anyone wishing to enter. The winning logo will be selected by January 1, 2005 and the award will be presented at the 2005 NBA Winter Conference in Denver. Please see the accompanying information box for details about the contest.

Once the logo is selected, a web site, www.IBC2007.com) will be launched and more committees will be formed at the NBA conference and the DTBA conference, both held in January. From there, the sky is the limit as fundraising and serious planning will get underway.

We hope you will be able to join in this momentous event. It will certainly be one you won't want to miss.

BISON, THE THUNDER GROWS LOGO CONTEST

The contest is open to anyone wishing to participate. You may enter multiple times, but only one logo will be selected. Entries must be a completed design, either computer-generated or hand-drawn. There is no specific size requirement, but make sure your entry can be enlarged or reduced to accommodate various medias and uses.

The design should elaborate on the theme, but you do not have to include the year in the design. Submissions can be in black and white or color, but should be kept simple, as elaborate designs or photographs typically do not work well for logo usage.

Entry deadline is: December 1, 2004

Send entries, along with your name and contact information, to: National Bison Association, 1400 W. 122nd Ave., Suite 106, Westminster, CO 80234.

If you have any questions about the contest, contact the NBA at (303) 292-2833 or DTBA at (605) 923-6383.

At the mention of the buffalo run, there were a few concerns raised among members of the NBA. However, rest assured that the committee is not interested in having them chase people through the streets nor are they going to do anything that would harm animals, people or in general, wreak havoc. Should this event occur, it will be handled by professionals who have done this same thing before and the utmost of care will be taken to ensure the safety of everyone and everything involved.

The event will take place the weekend before the official start of the conference and will involve both horseback riders and wagons for those who don't want to ride. A nice, leisurely ride through the park is what it's all about and for those of you who have never been off the roads in Custer State Park, this event is one you won't want to miss. Some of the most spectacular scenery in the region will be on display for our visitors. This is sure to be one of the highlights of the entire week.

Buffalo Calendars Make A Great Holiday Gift! Order Yours Today

The National Bison Association is once again offering buffalo calendars for sale.

The calendar project was coordinated by Gail Griffin through the Minnesota Buffalo Association. Members of the group sponsored pages in the 16 month calendar in exchange for advertising space for the ranch, products and/or services related to the buffalo industry.

The project was brought about as a way to help reduce the costs of attending the 2005 NBA Summer Conference which will be held in Rochester, Minnesota from July 28 through July 30, 2005. The Minnesota group is co-hosting the conference with ranch hosts, Mark and Kathy Gehl, Gehl's Buffalo Hill Ranch.

The calendar will debut at the upcoming NBA Summer Conference in Ogden, Utah where it will be available to purchase. Complete with buffalo photos, buffalo meat recipes and

industry event dates, the calendars would make fantastic gifts for friends, family and customers.

The calendars are available from the National Bison Association. The cost is \$12 each, \$11 each if you purchase five or more and \$10 each if you purchase 10 or more. Additional discounts are available for bulk purchases for retail outlets.

Calendars will also be available from the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association and the Minnesota Buffalo Association.

You can find purchase information on the NBA website at: www.bisoncentral.com or call them at (303) 292-2833. DTBA can be reached at (605) 923-6383 or info@dakotabuffalo.com and MnBA can be contacted at (507) 454-2828 or info@mnbison.org.

Get yours today. They will be THE GIFT this holiday season!



No BHSS Booth For DTBA

During the July Board of Directors telephone conference, the decision was made to NOT participate in the 2005 Black Hills Stock Show trade show. DTBA has had a booth there for many years, but it has been a chore to line up volunteers and man the booth for ten hours a day for ten days, especially during our conference.

With that in mind, the board studied the cost versus our gain with the booth and the decision was made to not have a booth. We receive very little in the way of feedback or monetary compensation to the association. The board felt it was no longer in the best interest of the association to spend the ever-increasing booth space fees when it does not directly benefit the association. Unless we have a raffle of some sort, there is really very little to offer the general public.

At this time, we would like to thank all the volunteers who have stepped forward to help out with setting up and manning the booth over the years. Your efforts have been most appreciated and it does not go unnoticed.

The board of directors will be looking at other venues for the DTBA to participate in. If anyone has any suggestions or thoughts, please feel free to share them with any board member or call Karen in the office.

Need To Relax? Join Us At The Spa!

Okay, ladies. You're heading to the DTBA conference in Rapid City. What are you going to do when you get to the city? SHOP! And then what? You'll be tired and worn-out after some power shopping, right? Well, rest easy. We've lined up just the thing to make your weekend complete!

Susan Peterson and Jacki Limpert are working to put together a Spa Day for the ladies attending our conference. All the details are not quite finalized, but we wanted to let you in on this great event so they can finish planning.

Here's what we have so far. On Friday, January 28 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., The Mystic Edge at 509 7th Street in Rapid City will be catering to our buffalo gals. This will be a first-come, first-serve type of event. There will be a variety of treatments available, but you don't even have to have one. You are welcome to just join the group for some socializing, beverages (wine, champagne and non-alcoholic) and hors d'oeuvres.

The following services will be available and the spa has indicated that they can accommodate around 30 patrons throughout the afternoon. Much of it depends on who would like to do what, so if you think you might be interested in participating, let us know.

A 30 minute massage is \$40; a one hour manicure is \$30; a one hour pedicure is \$40; there are various body wrap treatments available for \$45 for a 45 minute session; a 25 minute hydro-tub session is \$30. There is a sauna available at the spa and there is no charge to use it.

The refreshments and beverages are already sponsored and we are working to line up a babysitter for the afternoon (at no charge) so you can relax and get geared up for the conference activities. Both Susan and Jacki are working diligently to line up a sponsor for some of the services, but that has not yet been finalized, so the prices above are what you will be charged unless we can garner some sponsorships to help with the costs.

If you think you might be interested in participating, please contact Susan, Jacki or the office and let us know what you'd like to do. The sooner we can a head count, the better organized the afternoon will be. For information on the services offered, call Susan or Jacki. Karen doesn't know anything about spas or manicures! She can probably help with wine selections, though.

Susan Peterson - (605) 892-4466; Jacki Limpert - (605) 866-4846 or the DTBA office - (605) 923-6383.

Requests For Buffalo Meat Sources

Earlier this fall, the DTBA office received a request from the Governor's Office of Economic Development. The request was from a party on the east coast who was looking for buffalo meat sources in South Dakota. Specifically, this person wanted to know where they could find buffalo meat on restaurant menus.

When the request was received, a note was sent from the DTBA office via e-mail (just one more reason to send us your e-mail address!) for members to share with us where buffalo meat was available in their areas. We requested both retail and restaurant sources.

The feedback was great. To date, we have compiled a listing of restaurants and stores that actively carry/serve buffalo meat. However, knowing that not all of our members have e-mail, we would like to request the same information from the rest of the membership. It does not necessarily have to be restaurants or stores that you supply meat to, but any business in your area that is doing so should be included on the list.

When sending your information, please be as complete as possible. The name of the restaurant/grocery store, an address, city, state and even a phone number are all beneficial for this listing. You can mail or e-mail your information to the DTBA office.

Once the information is compiled, we would like to be able to include it in our next membership directory as well as create a place on our web site for it. Even if you don't live in South Dakota, please share the information. People travel all over and they have to go through some state to get to South Dakota!

As an example, some of the preliminary information was shared with customers at our booth during the Custer State Park Arts Festival. Hopefully this type of information will ultimately benefit you, the members and producers.

Great Christmas Idea!
16-Month Bison Calendar
 Buffalo Photos • Facts • Recipes • Event Dates



\$12 each (includes shipping)

Special discounts for bulk purchases of 5 or more.

Proceeds from sales of this calendar will assist the NBA in offering lower registration fees for the 2005 NBA Summer Conference to be held in Rochester, MN

To order Contact: Dakota Territory Buffalo Association
P.O. Box 4104 • Rapid City, SD 57709
(605) 923-6383 phone/fax



DTBA Sends Delegate To Washington D.C. With NBA Group

In a first-time venture for the buffalo industry, a delegation of 27 National Bison Association members from 14 states made themselves heard in Washington D.C. in early July.

Representatives from Colorado (Dave Carter, Bob Dineen, Mike Duncan, Del Hensel, Boyd Meyer), Kentucky (Steve Wilson), Maryland (Bill Edwards), Missouri (Dan Reedy, Skip Sayers), Nebraska (Lance and Tahma Kuck), New York (Jill Johnson-Bolkelberg), North Dakota (Monte Allen, Wayne Buchholz), Ohio (Jim Buckmaster), South Dakota (Bruce Anderson, Sandy Limpert, Jud Seaman), Utah (Bodin Breinholt), Virginia (Paul Darby), Wisconsin (Mark Gehl, Lee Graese) and Wyoming (Bob Pickering, Ron Thiel) were on hand to visit with their respective legislators about issues facing the buffalo industry.

Topics on the agenda for these meetings included meat inspection, trade and regulatory issues - specifically the Canadian border, animal identification and the restoration of the buffalo nickel. Jud Seaman, leader of the South Dakota delegation, felt the trip was a success from start to finish and well worth the time spent by delegates.

"The NBA did an excellent job of organizing this trip," noted Seaman. "Dave Carter had everything ready for us, including pamphlets with our position statements on the various issues. It was very well organized and I think the people we met with appreciated that."

As a group, the NBA representatives met with officials from USDA. Their purpose was to educate the officials and to also take home to producers information from the USDA with regard to the buffalo industry. It was similar to a "what can we do to help each other" exchange of ideas and information.

The group then split into three separate groups designed to cover the geographical layout of the United States. The delegates

from South Dakota, North Dakota and Wisconsin formed a single group that met with legislators, senators or their representatives, from Iowa, North Dakota, Minnesota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

"Every congressional delegate was impressed with our knowledge of the industry and the issues facing it," explained Seaman. "They also appreciated that we came to them with a plan to accomplish our mission and that we came en masse."

Seaman noted that everyone they talked to was willing to work with the buffalo industry to make the beef/buffalo Canadian border issue a top priority. "Monte Allen made a point that the border closure is shutting the buffalo industry down because of a beef cow. If the reverse were true, officials would not shut down the beef industry because of a buffalo. That statement really had an impact on these people and helped drive the point home that the buffalo industry needs to be separated from the beef industry," explained Seaman.

"I think this trip was well worth our time," he said. "I firmly believe that we should do this every other year. I think every year might be too repetitious, but I can see that every couple of years, a visit to Washington, D.C. would be beneficial."

With regard to the topic of meat inspection, the delegates were seeking to have the cost of federal inspection eliminated but still allowing buffalo meat to be shipped interstate when approved by state-inspected plants. The animal identification issue was discussed with the hope of allowing some of the funding toward a mandatory program to be used by producers to help offset the costs of implementing the system.

NBA officials noted that this trip was merely the first step in an effort to bring the buffalo industry presence to Washington, D.C.

USDA Census Numbers Show South Dakota Top Buffalo Producer

In June of this year, the United States Department of Agriculture released figures from the 2002 Census of Agriculture. As many of you will recall, 2002 marked the first time buffalo were included as their own category in the census.

It was no surprise when the figures came out that South Dakota ranked as the top buffalo producing state with 40,168 head being reported. North Dakota ranked second with 30,856 animals and Montana was third with 19,515 head.

Rounding out the top ten buffalo producing states were: Nebraska with 14,436 head; Oklahoma with 13,414 head; Wyoming with 12,580 head; Minnesota with 12,335 head; Colorado with 12,227 head; Kansas with 8,767 head and Wisconsin with 8,315 head.

Between these top ten states, they produce nearly 75 percent of the buffalo in the United States. South Dakota represents about 20 percent of the farms producing animals and approximately 17 percent of the animals being raised.

Overall, the number of animals reported in the United States in 2002 was 231,950 head. There was a total of 4,132 farms that reported raising buffalo at that time.

Texas reported the largest number of farms raising buffalo, with 392. Minnesota had the next largest amount of farms with

269; Wisconsin had 236; North Dakota had 230; Colorado had 211; South Dakota had 204; Montana had 190; Oklahoma had 183; Missouri had 177 and Kansas had 171.

On the other end of the spectrum, Hawaii and Rhode Island both had one farm reporting buffalo, while Delaware reported two and Vermont reported three.

South Dakota also reported the most number of animals sold, with 11,057 reported. North Dakota was second with 7,765 and Montana was third with 6,068 reported sold.

To find out information about state levels of buffalo, check out the following web site: http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/census02/volume1/us/st99_2_022_022.pdf.

Just recently, Carter Anderson, the Director of the South Dakota Agricultural Statistics office in Sioux Falls, announced that the buffalo census numbers have been added to their annual bulletin at the following location:

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/sd/bulletin/AB04109a.pdf>.

Take the time to look over these numbers and information. It's quite an honor for South Dakota, as well as many of our neighboring states, to be in the top ranks of the buffalo producing states.

USDA Now Posting Monthly Wholesale Buffalo Prices On Web

Working in cooperation and at the request of the National Bison Association, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently announced that they are now posting monthly wholesale prices for buffalo on the USDA website. This is in response to the strengthening demand for American buffalo.

Producers, marketers, and buyers wanting to log onto the new

monthly report simply need to click on: www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/nw_ls526.txt

This new reporting service was developed in cooperation with the NBA Commercial Marketers Committee. There is talk of creating a similar report for grass-finished animals.



Minutes from the May 10, 2004 Board Teleconference

President Scott Peterson called the meeting to order. Board members present were Jacki Limpert, Jud Seaman and Lorene Bender. Executive Director, Karen Conley was also present. National Bison Association Regional Representative, Monte Allen, joined us at the beginning of the meeting to address some NBA issues.

Monte Allen gave the board an update about the NBA and some pertinent issues before them. Monte asked for input from the DTBA with regard to the NBA seeking BSE testing on all buffalo and also a Congressional Inquiry about the USDA's handling of the BSE issue in the United States. Monte, as an NBA representative, is opposed to these measures and sought input from the DTBA. Following discussion, Jud Seaman made a motion that the DTBA draft a position statement against BSE testing and forward it to the NBA and any other state or regional associations. Jacki Limpert seconded the motion. Motion carried. Karen will draft a letter for the board to review. At this time, Monte Allen left the meeting.

The board went over current financial statements provided by the treasurer. Jud Seaman made a motion to accept the financials and Lorene Bender seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed the upcoming consignment auctions slated for this fall. Scott Peterson has lined up one sale in St. Onge, SD for December 4 at 1:30 p.m. MT. We will have a producer seminar prior to the auction and then serve a lunch. Scott will work with the staff at St. Onge Livestock to plan for sale workers and help with the animals. He will also investigate various commission rates and a decision about commissions, fees and such will be decided at the next board meeting.

Steve Schmitz has been working on a sale in the eastern part of the state, but had not had any final plans in place by our meeting date. He was working with Ralph Mahoney to see if they could line up a sale at the Mitchell sale barn. Jud will be in the area the day after this meeting, so he will stop at the sale barn and get in touch with Ralph to see what they can work out. The date of December 18 was mentioned as a possible sale date for the eastern sale. Jud will let the board know what he finds out.

The MBA Summer Conference was discussed. Not sure how many of our members will attend the event at Chris and Jan Michal's, but we will continue to encourage our members to do so. Several of the board members are planning to attend. Karen will check with Dean Reddig about an agenda and any plans they have so she can inform our members and they can plan for the weekend. The board also discussed the NBA Summer Conference in Ogden, UT in August. Not sure how many of our members will be in attendance, but we will encourage them to support the conference and provide information as it becomes available.

None of the board members had received any feedback from the recent newsletter that went out. There was detailed information about the changes for the 2005 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale, but to date, no feedback from the members.

The board discussed the next fund raising project. Karen had previously sent an e-mail photo of some bronze buffalo bookends designed by TR Chytka. The bookends are very nice, but we will want to have another prize or two for the raffle. Karen will look into some other suggestions for raffle prizes. Jud Seaman made a motion to purchase the bookends from TR Chytka for the price of \$800 for the pair. Lorene Bender seconded. Motion carried. We would like to have another raffle under way as soon as possible.

Karen asked about the buffalo census and if there were any other forms out at this time. Lorene will be sending ones that she has filled out for her area. Karen noted that census forms went out with the most recent newsletter and some were being returned. She will wait a week or two and then go through the forms to see who has not filled them out yet. She will then contact Joe Painter, the chair of this committee and they will work out a plan to contact the remaining members and also follow up on non-members so we can obtain an accurate count. Karen will also contact Judi Wood to see how she is progressing on getting information from the tribes in South Dakota.

Karen asked if there was any interest in doing a ranch tour/pro-

ducer seminar this summer. She felt the ranch tours really gave a "hands-on" opportunity for new people to experience the industry. The last one of these seminars was held at Tom and Nancy Hepper's ranch near Mobridge and it was noted that a number of people joined the association at that time and many of them are still members. Rod Sather's name was mentioned as a possible host, since he is centrally located and near the interstate. Karen will contact Rod and see if he would be interested in hosting a seminar.

The association newsletter was discussed. There have been several requests to have advertising in the newsletter. Scott would like to see advertisements, however, Jud noted that he did not. Karen suggested doing only business card ads or something along those lines. This could be a revenue source for the association as well as a member service. Karen will put together some preliminary costs and ideas and present it to the board. There was also a mention about doing ranch profiles or member profiles in the newsletters and all were in agreement that it is a good idea. Karen noted that Minnesota does this by putting business cards in a box at their annual meeting and cards are drawn out from there and those people will have a ranch profile in the next years' newsletters. The board agreed this was a fair way to handle it and Karen will make the arrangements to take care of this at our next membership meeting.

Plans for the International Bison Conference were discussed. Jacki is checking into the possibility of having a welcoming reception at Mt. Rushmore. She is working through various people at this time and will continue to pursue this and report back to the board about progress. Ron Walker is working on lining up a mini-wagon trek/trail ride. Karen will check with him on his progress. Jud recommended that we proceed with naming committees and chairpersons and have that lined out and ready to go so it can be presented to the NBA Board at their meeting in Ogden this August. All agreed. Would like to have this taken care of by our next board meeting.

With their being no further business, Jacki Limpert made the motion to adjourn. Jud Seaman seconded. Meeting adjourned.

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Minutes from the July 26, 2004 Board Teleconference

President Scott Peterson called the meeting to order. Board members present were Jacki Limpert, Jud Seaman, Steve Schmitz, Rick Knobe and Lorene Bender. Executive Director, Karen Conley was also present.

The minutes from the May 10, 2004 teleconference were read and Schmitz made a motion to accept them. Knobe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There was an informal review of the financials. All seem to be in order and okayed by the board members.

The upcoming 2005 show and sale was discussed. For the show, Chad Kremer has again agreed to be our show chairman. Chad was also asked to begin looking for a show chairman for future years so he can work with that person this year. Peterson will talk to Steve Sutton about being the sale chairman again. The DTBA office will handle the show entries and the mailing out of ear tags this year. Ear tags will begin mailing on December 26, 2004.

There was discussion regarding the class changes for the show and sale. All members agreed to uphold the changes discussed in the March 2004 meeting. A variety of class options were discussed and the board came up with the following: Bull Calf; Pen of 3 Bull Calves; Yearling Bulls; Heifer Calf; Pen of 3 Heifer Calves; Yearling Heifer; Pen of 2 Yearling Heifers; Two Year Old Bred Heifer; Pen of 2 Two Year Old Bred Heifers. Seaman made a motion to accept this listing as the classes for the 2005 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale. Limpert seconded the motion. Motion carried. Entry fees for the classes will remain the same as in the past.

The Reality-Based Carcass Class was brought up for discussion. There was some concern about lightweight animals winning the class and that it does not reflect a reality-type scenario. All board members agreed that some changes need to be made to the class to bring it into line with current market conditions. One idea was to establish a minimum carcass weight. Schmitz made a motion to recommend to the Carcass Class Chairman (Sandy Limpert) and Bruce Anderson that the minimum weight for heifer carcasses be 450 pounds. Seaman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Seaman made a motion to recommend that the minimum carcass weight for bulls be 550 pounds. Knobe seconded the motion. Motion carried. These recommendations will be forwarded to Limpert and Anderson for their consideration. We also need to establish how we will handle entries that don't meet the minimum requirements. At this time, the board recommend that there will be no refunds on those entries. We will check with Bruce Anderson to see if he will still purchase those carcasses.

For the 2005 Reality Based Carcass Class, we will have the same entry fee as in the past. However, this year, DTBA will pay prize money to three places in both classes, as per suggestion from the membership.

Discussion about the consignment auction scheduled for December 4, 2004 at St. Onge Livestock in St. Onge, SD. DTBA will endorse the auction, but the crew at the auction barn will be responsible for everything else. Peterson has visited with the people at the facility and they are willing to work with us in this capacity to hold the auction. St. Onge will be responsible for taking consignments, identifying them, conducting the auction and all the clerking duties. DTBA will provide an experienced crew to help out back and we will advertise the sale through our newsletters and on our web site. The board will recommend the auction barn that animals should be tested for TB and Brucellosis and we will encourage those bringing animals to also do an Anaplasmosis test. Classes of animals recommended to be offered include bull and heifer calves, yearling bulls and heifers, two year old bulls and heifers and cows. Arrangements have been made to have buffalo burgers available in the sale barn cafe on sale day and DTBA will have a merchandise booth set up as well. If response is good, we will look at having a Producer Seminar at the sale barn on the morning of the sale.

There was discussion about having a sale in the east river area of the state on December 18. Knobe offered to visit with the people at the Sioux Falls Stockyards and Bender noted that Hub City Livestock in Aberdeen would most likely be willing to hold an auction. Seaman was asked to talk to the sale barn in Huron and see if they would be willing to hold an auction there.

Seaman was then asked to report on his trip to Washington, D.C.

He attended a meeting set up by the National Bison Association to familiarize politicians with the buffalo industry and to help educate them about the industry needs and to create an awareness. Nearly 30 NBA members attended this event and the response was very good. Seaman reported that he felt the trip was very worthwhile and that his group was able to meet personally with senators and representatives from South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

President Peterson then asked the board to consider reimbursing Seaman's expenses for the Washington trip. Seaman noted that his airfare and hotel cost in excess of \$1,000. He also recommended that we make this amount available in our yearly budget for someone to attend this function. The NBA is looking at going to Washington on an every-other-year basis and we need to be prepared to send someone to represent our membership. Limpert also asked that Seaman give a report on this trip to our membership at the annual conference in January. Seaman agreed. Schmitz then made a motion to reimburse Seaman \$1,000 to help cover the costs of the Washington D.C. trip. Limpert seconded the motion. Seaman excused himself from the final vote. Motion carried.

Conley brought up the internal animal survey that was started at the 2004 Winter Conference. While many of our members responded to the survey and a number of individuals helped to gather numbers, less than 50 percent of our South Dakota members responded to the survey. Due to lack of participation, the survey numbers will not be released and it is too late at this time to continue with the survey. Conley will include a new survey in the conference registration packets and we will have volunteers in place to contact those who do not respond at that time. The board wishes to encourage members to participate in these surveys, as they are important and the information will assist our organization in a variety of ways.

The booth at the Black Hills Stock Show was then discussed. While we have had a better response from volunteers to man the booth the past two years, Conley is still having a hard time lining up help with this project. For the past several years, Paul and Barb Conley have filled in when needed and have manned the booth the majority of the time. They will be unable to do so at the 2005 Stock Show. There was discussion about what we accomplish with this booth versus the cost of the space. Given all the information and due to a lack of response from the membership for volunteers, the board has elected to withdraw our application for booth space at the show. The membership will be informed of this decision and given the opportunity to step forward to take on this project. If no one does, we will give up our booth space.

There was discussion about the International Bison Conference and planning for the event. The IBC Committee will be meeting in the near future for a planning session. In the very near future, the committee will be calling on the general membership for volunteers to assist in the planning for this event.

President Peterson noted that we also need to be thinking about leadership recruitment, both for the DTBA and the NBA board. Our NBA representative, Monte Allen, will be done with his term in January of 2005 and we need to keep that in mind.

The NBA's Source Verification project was brought up to the board, with Peterson asking for input from board members. Seaman suggested having the NBA SV representatives, Lance and Tahma Kuck, make a presentation at our 2005 conference so as to familiarize our members with the program. Peterson noted that we might consider having a panel discussion on this topic.

The board then moved into a discussion about the costs of the conference calls. Previously, board members stated that they would pick up the costs of the calls personally. However, we have been able to work with a very cost-effective company to host the calls and costs have been minimal. We have also been able to meet more frequently and conduct most of the association business via conference calls. Board members felt that the additional burden of paying for costs would deter others from volunteering for board positions. After further discussion, Seaman made a motion that the DTBA pick up the costs of the conference call fees. Schmitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Schmitz made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seaman seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

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

Calendar of Events Is Getting Full! Make Plans To Attend

Saturday, November 20: Custer State Park Fall Classic live animal auction, Buffalo Corrals, Custer State Park, SD. 605-255-4515.

Saturday, November 20 through Monday, November 22: Canadian Bison Assn. National Convention. Travelodge South Hotel, Regina, SK. 306-522-4766.

Sunday, November 21: Nebraska State Buffalo Assn. Consignment Auction, Valentine Livestock Auction, Valentine, NE. 402-635-2261.

Sunday, November 21: Crawford Livestock Buffalo Auction, featuring Ft. Robinson State Park animals. Crawford Livestock Market, Crawford, NE. 308-665-2220.

Tuesday, November 23: Canadian National Bison Assn. Show and Sale. Regina Exhibition Grounds, Regina, SK. 306-522-4766.

Friday, November 26 and Saturday, November 27: Minnesota Buffalo Assn. Legends of the Fall Show and Sale. Albany, MN. 507-454-2828.

Thursday, December 2 through Saturday, December 4: Western Bison Assn. Wild West Buffalo Stampede Show and Sale, Ogden, UT. 970-535-4200.

Saturday, December 4: Open Consignment Buffalo Auction. St. Onge Livestock, St. Onge, SD. 800-249-1995.

Saturday, December 4: Kansas Buffalo Association Annual Fall Buffalo Auction. Farmers & Ranchers Livestock

Commission Co., Salina, KS. 316-721-0970.

Thursday, December 9: Annual Missouri Bison Assn. Show and Sale, Lolli Bros. Livestock Auction, Macon, MO. 417-491-4825.

Saturday, December 11: North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Consignment Auction. KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. 701-530-1997.

Saturday, December 18: Open Consignment Buffalo Auction. Yankton Livestock Auction Market, Yankton, SD. 605-665-2999.

Monday, January 2 through Friday, January 7, 2005: Custer State Park Fax Auction. Custer, SD. 605-255-4515.

Friday, January 7 through Sunday, January 9: Wisconsin Bison Producers Assn. Midwest Premier Bison Breeding Stock Show and Sale, Eau Claire, WI. 920-921-8889.

Saturday, January 8: Flying H Ranch 6th Annual Production Auction, McLaughlin Livestock, McLaughlin, SD. Tom or Nancy Hepper at 605-845-3705.

Wednesday, January 19 through Saturday, January 22: National Bison Association Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale. Denver, CO. 303-292-2833.

Friday, January 28 through Sunday, January 30: Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale and Winter Conference, Rapid City, SD. 605-923-6383.