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DTBA OFFICE

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Reserve Rooms For Winter Conference

Our host hotel for our Winter Conference will be the Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City. Show animals can be brought in starting on Thursday, February 5 and on Friday afternoon, February 6, we will have a board meeting, consignor meeting and our welcoming reception at Prairie Edge. Saturday, February 7 is conference day and awards banquet that evening and our auctions will be held on Sunday, February 8. Please make your hotel reservations accordingly. **Ask for the DTBA block when you make reservations. The hotel number is (605) 343-8550.** The hotel sells out this weekend every year., so call today!

There are a number of alternate hotels within walking distance or a very short drive to the Ramkota. Please call early as rooms do sell out during the stock show weekends.

Country Inn & Suites - (605) 394-0017

AmericInn - (605) 343-8424

Super 8 - (605) 348-8070

Holiday Inn Express - (605) 355-9090

Quality Inn - (605) 342-3322

Econo Lodge - (605) 342-6400

Grand Gateway Hotel - (605) 342-1300

If you are having problems finding a room, please contact Karen Conley at (605) 381-3738 and she will do what she can to assist you.

Finding Our New Sale Location

For those of you who may not know where our show/sale venue is, here's the scoop!

The Pennington County Events Center is located at the intersection of Cambell Street and E. Centre Street in Rapid City, SD. The Events Center is located on the grounds of the Central States Fairgrounds.

From I-90: Take Exit 59 and turn south onto LaCrosse Street. Follow LaCrosse Street south through the intersections of E. North Street and Omaha Streets. Continue south until you reach the four-way stop at E. Centre Street. Turn left (east) on E. Centre Street. You will see a large tan building on your right. The annex is on the west end of the building and buffalo will be penned directly south of the Event Center building.

From Highway 79: Follow Cambell Street (Highway 79 as you enter Rapid City from the south) until you reach E. Centre Street. Turn left (west) onto E. Centre Street. The Event Center is the first building on the left. The annex is located on the west end of the building.

Winter Conference Registration

There is a conference registration insert inside this newsletter. Many of you have already registered - THANK YOU! If you have not yet registered, please fill out and return ASAP. You can fax it to (605) 923-5154, leave a message at (605) 923-6383 or email info@dakotabuffalo.com with the details. We need a good head count for meals and breaks by Wednesday, February 4. You are welcome to pay upon arrival, but please let Karen know if you will be attending.





Notes From The President - Chad Kremer

Wow!!!!!! What a year 2008 was!! What started as a dry winter and spring, progressed to the best I've seen in seven years of living in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

I personally purposed to have a positive outlook for 2008. I told folks that as soon as widespread moisture returned to the region that we should have a rebounding market. It appeared a bit gloomy up until May. Here in the Hills we had a dry winter and early spring. I had an opportunity to take in a beautiful group of 30+ cows on shares. The pasture lease was all negotiated; the carry over forage was adequate until spring green up, everything looked to be in place. Except; what would Mother Nature deal us with the season at hand? After deliberating for several days and attempting to convince myself that yes, I could take the whole lot in, roll the dice, take that chance that the rains will come. I conservatively decided that NO, there was too much risk in taking the chance, that it could be a dry summer again and grass would be short. Our "business plan" was that I would not purchase hay for supplementing. I had decided quite sometime ago that I was going to run a year round grazing operation with little to no supplementing. It just wasn't part of my overall plan to take the risk. Well as they say, "To make a long story short," I decided that 14 head added to the existing 4 would even be pushing the available acreage if it were dry again. So that is the plan we went with.

Alas, as early May rolled around a few rains, then June with some more. The temperatures were also cooler than the previous years. July and August brought additional rainfall. To sum it up, the Good Lord blessed us with a return to more normal conditions. The only question now was, "Will the market begin its rebound?" Will producers near and far have confidence in the years ahead? As the rumbling in the country began folks were optimistic. The prairies were beautiful!

The Annual Custer State Park auction rolled around and both new and seasoned veterans arrived to a gorgeous day. The crowd was ready. The auction began, it was a bit of a slow start, but when the dust settled at the end of the day, I think it would be safe to say that; everyone was very pleased with the outcome. Most all classes had prices steady to stronger than the previous year. So began the sale season. As it progressed I heard that quite a few animals were trading in the country as they did last year. Bull



prices continued to be strong, heifers were working their way up. All in all the sun was shining.

As we progressed through the fall your DTBA Board and Show and Sale Committee was working diligently on a plan to offer a new venue for you, our members, to showcase your production stock. Several variations and ideas were kicked around. When the dust settled, it was agreed upon to host a Premium Calf Auction that coincided with the DTBA Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show & Sale. A separate venue but yet convenient for everyone to attend, and hopefully participate in, while they were in Rapid City for the winter conference and Black Hills Stock Show. This new Premium Calf Auction will immediately follow the Classic Show & Sale. The idea is to bring a group of calves, 10 - 20 head, which is representative of your production. We will offer an opportunity to voice your operation and hopefully connect seller and buyer to "close the deal" on the rest of them back home. This is not about the shiniest calf in the pen, that's what the Classic is for. This about the chance to offer a large number of consignors the opportunity to advertise their production! Words in print are considered advertising, however as we all know, pictures are worth a thousand words! Well consider this, what is a LIVE picture worth? As I write this we have increased from approximately 40 head of entries between both venues combined to 157 head in five days time. I would gather to say that confidence is growing! We currently have six entries for the new Premium Calf Auction but, there is still time to take more. If you are looking for a marketing venue, give us a call.

In closing, I would like to say "Thanks" to the Board, Show and Sale Committee, and Karen for their combined efforts to drive your association; "The Producers Association" to the next level. We have been through some trying times, but there will always be that sunrise tomorrow to start anew. Oh yeah, if you are still wondering where the story ended on the cows? The rain came, the grass grew, and yeah I could have gambled and taken in that whole lot of cows, but only one person knew what was in store for us, and He left it to faith. Faith that making your decision and sticking to the Plan was the right decision. The Plan started long before the opportunity ever came along. There will be other opportunities that come along, but we need to stick with our plans and decisions and move forward. As my bride reminds me when I start rattling on, "You had no idea that the rain would come, you only knew the current conditions and you made the correct decision". That, my friends, is why she is the Whoa gal and I'm the GO, GO, GO guy; and she is the WHOA gal! I am truly blessed!

Happy Trails!!!

Welcome New DTBA Members!

Sam & Jane Antholz, J. Antholz Bison, York, NE
Ryan Homelvig, Ken Mar Buffalo Ranch, Sheyenne, ND
Ray & Debbie Thieman, Prairie Ridge Buffalo, Limon, CO

Thoughts And Prayers Needed

Please keep **Rick Christman** in your thoughts and prayers in the days to come. Rick, a fellow DTBA member and brother of Nancy Hepper, was recently diagnosed with lymphoma cancer and is currently undergoing test to figure out his course of treatment. As you will recall, Rick has been so generous these past few years to provide Rick's Salt at our banquet and for many to take home and enjoy. We'll pass along updates on his condition as they are received.

Calendar Of Buffalo Events

February 6 - February 8 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference. Ramkota Hotel, Rapid City, SD and Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale and Premium Calf Auction. Pennington County Events Center at the Central States Fairgrounds, Rapid City, SD. (605) 923-6383.

February 20 - North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference. Best Western Seven Seas, Mandan, ND. (701) 252-1122.

February 21 - North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Winter Consignment Auction. KIST Livestock, Mandan, ND. (701) 252-1122.

March 13 - 14 - Rocky Mountain Buffalo Assn. Peak to Peak Buffalo Show and Sale. National Western Stock Yards, Denver, Co. (303) 243-0900.

April 3 - 5 - Minnesota Buffalo Assn. 16th Annual Educational Conference. Detroit Lakes, MN. (507) 454-2828.



DTBA 2009 Winter Conference & BHBC Lineup Announced

We've been busy planning for the 2009 show and sale events and things are pretty much in order as our conference and the Classic are just around the corner! The events begin on Friday, February 6 and conclude on Sunday, February 8 with the live animal auctions.

The Black Hills Buffalo Classic (BHBC) Show and Sale will offer the following live animal classes: single heifer and bull calves; Top Ten heifer calves (pens of 10) and Top Five bull calves (pens of 5); single yearling bulls and heifers and single two year old bred heifers. The Reality Based Carcass Class is also on tap with classes for both bulls and heifers.

There is also a new consignment auction featuring calves, the Premium Calf Auction. These animals will not be judged, but merely sold immediately after the show animal auction. The thought is to have producers bring in a representative sample of their calf crop and put it in front of as many buyers as possible. There are many buffalo ranchers in our area who produce an excellent buffalo, but who are not interested in show and sale. This auction is for them.

There are several unique aspects of this auction. First, it is a calf-only sale. Calves are easier to handle at auction. Calves are the most traded class of buffalo. Calves are a great indication of the quality of the rest of the animals a consignor wishes to sell. There is less stress on calves for loading, sorting, and selling. Secondly, there is a limit on how many can be consigned. The association is not looking for sheer numbers of animals. The intent is to put together buyers and sellers. It is hard for buyers to know all the animals and all the buffalo ranchers. It is hard for producers to know who all the buyers are in our area. It is the association's idea that buyers can see what a producer has and if that producer has more animals at home, they

can establish value. The DTBA sale committee also felt that the auction method is a superior way to establish value.

Plans are also underway for the annual conference that is held in conjunction with the show and sale. The theme of this year's conference will be a living history, featuring families that have been in the buffalo industry in this region for many years and even decades. These families will share the stories of how their ranches and businesses got started in the buffalo business and give attendees a glimpse of how it was to raise buffalo in the early days. While the group is still lining up participants, some of the confirmed speakers include Jim Butler, Faith; John Flocchini, Gillette, Wyoming; the Hepper family, Moberge; Darrel Hoar, Piedmont; Duane Lammers, Rapid City; Ralph Mahoney, Fulton; representatives of the Triple U Ranch, Ft. Pierre and hopefully the list will grow by conference time. This will truly be a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hear the history of the area's buffalo industry from many of the pioneers who paved the way for today's producers.

Additionally, the group will hear animal health updates from South Dakota State Veterinarian, Dr. Sam Holland, as well as glean some information on marketing using the auction method, with auctioneer Ron Bradeen from Custer, one of the industries leading buffalo auctioneers.

Dates for the 2009 DTBA Winter Conference are February 6 and 7. The conference will be held at the Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City. The Black Hills Buffalo Classic Sale and Premium Calf Auction will be held at the Pennington County Events Center in Rapid City on Sunday, February 8 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Consignment information is available on the association website at www.dakotabuffalo.com or by calling 605.923.6383.

North Dakota Buffalo Association Winter Meeting In Mid-February

Make plans now to attend the 17th Annual North Dakota Buffalo Association Winter Conference in Mandan, ND on February 20. As part of the new format, this year's conference will be condensed from previous years and will be held in one evening.

The conference kicks off Friday evening with registration and social beginning at 5:30 p.m. Back by popular demand will be a buffalo dinner, salad and all the fixings. The night's program will begin with special entertainment that is sure to be a crowd pleaser. President Doug Woodall will start the membership meeting shortly after dinner. Followed by updates on NBA activities, the National Buffalo Museum, North American Bison Cooperative, and an RMA workshop on finances.

Sponsors are needed for the evening events on Friday. The

three levels of sponsorships available are Gold \$300, Silver \$200 and Bronze \$100. In order to get a more accurate head count for the meal, please notify the office at 701-252-1122 if you plan to attend or if you are interested in sponsoring a portion of the conference.

On Saturday, February 21, the NDBA will conduct their winter consignment auction at KIST Livestock in Mandan, ND. The sale will begin at 11 a.m. CDT and is an open consignment auction. All animals must be listed on health papers, have a permanent metal ID tag and NDBA dangle tag. There are currently 250 animals consigned with more consignments coming in on a daily basis. For more information on the consignment auction, call the NDBA office at (701) 252-1122 or visit the NDBA website at www.ndbuffalo.net.

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Rapid City, SD 57702
Exit 55 & I-90 N 1/2 Mile

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Phone: 605-348-1212

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2510 N Plaza Dr, Rapid City, SD 57702-6222



2009 WINTER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2009

12:00 noon to 4:30 p.m. - Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale entries arrive and unload at the Pennington County Events Center.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon - Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale entries arrive and unload at the Pennington County Events Center.

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Board of Directors Meeting. Open to the membership. Will be held at the Ramkota Hotel in the Executive Lounge.

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Ladies Spa Day at Mystique Edge, 509 7th St. in Rapid City. Have a treatment or just join the group for refreshments and fun.

3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Consignor's Meeting. Will be held at the Ramkota Hotel in the Executive Lounge.

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Welcoming Party at Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries, 606 Main St., Rapid City, SD.

Sponsored by Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries, Triple Seven Ranch and Western Buffalo Company.

7:30 p.m. - ??????? - Black Hills Stock Show PRCA Rodeo, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Arena. Evening on your own. The hospitality room will be open in the Executive Lounge at the Ramkota Hotel.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2009

7:30 a.m. - Registration - Foyer area of the Washington Room (Convention Center I).

7:30 a.m. - Trade show booths open. Foyer area of the Washington Room.

7:45 a.m. - Continental Breakfast available in the Washington Room. Assorted donuts, rolls and beverages.

8:30 a.m. - DTBA Business Meeting begins in Washington Room. Call to order, introductions, secretary's report, treasurer's report, old business, nominations of directors and new business. Call for election of new officers.

9:45 a.m. - Coffee Break, sponsored by

10:00 a.m. - "Marketing Buffalo Using the Auction Method" Ron Bradeen. Presented by the National Bison Association and Risk Management Agency.

10:45 a.m. - Update on the National Bison Association. NBA President Gail Griffin or Executive Director Dave Carter.

11:00 a.m. - "Looking Back - Reflecting on the Past While We Plan Our Future" Washington Room.

12:00 p.m. - Barbecue Brisket Lunch - Rushmore Room. Speaker: Dr. Sam Holland, South Dakota State Veterinarian - Update on animal health issues affecting the buffalo industry.

1:15 p.m. - "Looking Back - Reflecting on the Past While We Plan Our Future" Washington Room.

2:15 p.m. - Coffee Break, sponsored by Prorate 48.

2:30 p.m. - "Looking Back - Reflecting on the Past While We Plan Our Future" Washington Room.

3:30 p.m. - Election of new DTBA board members and conclusion of business meeting. Washington Room.

5:00 p.m. - Social with cash bar, held in the Rushmore Room.

6:00 p.m. - Buffalo Ribeye Steak banquet. Rushmore Room.

7:00 p.m. - Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show awards presented.

7:30 p.m. - FUN AUCTION!!

10:00 p.m. - Hospitality Room open in the Executive Lounge immediately after the Fun Auction.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2009

Breakfast on your own.

7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. - Animal viewing in the pens on the south side of the Pennington County Events Center. Judges will be available to discuss any comments or questions you may have regarding the animals.

10:00 a.m. - Black Hills Buffalo Classic Sale, followed by the Premier Calf Auction, Pennington County Events Center.

Throughout the weekend, the Ramkota Hotel offers a free, hourly shuttle service running between the hotel and the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center.

Make sure and visit our vendors while attending the conference.

Vendors include: *Dakota Territory Buffalo Association*,
The National Buffalo Museum and Rocking R Bison Leather



Prairie Edge Will Host Reception

Once again, Prairie Edge Trading Company and Galleries will open their doors to members attending the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Winter Conference. The store, along with Triple Seven Ranch and Western Buffalo Company, will be hosting the welcoming reception and social. The activities will be held at the Prairie Edge store located on the corner of Sixth and Main Streets in downtown Rapid City.

The reception will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, February 6 and last until 7:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served and the chance to visit with fellow buffalo enthusiasts while doing a little shopping will be the highlight of the evening. Please make plans to join us for a fun and entertaining evening sponsored by these gracious hosts.

Not A Member? No Problem!

If you are reading this newsletter but are not a current member of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association, not to worry. If you would like to attend our conference and show/sale, you do not need to be a member to attend these events and your conference costs will be the same.

Our hope is that once you join in on our activities, you'll find our members to be helpful and friendly and the information you'll learn to be important.

We hope that you will join us for the conference and better yet, like what you see and become a member of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association, The Producer's Association. Yearly dues are only \$50 and are good from January through December each year. Benefits include our newsletter, inclusion in the Membership Directory, listings and free ads on our web-site...the list goes on and on!

Please contact the DTBA office for more information on becoming a member or about our events.

Fun Auction To Benefit DTBA

Don't forget to bring your Fun Auction items with you to the DTBA Winter Conference. The Fun Auction is slated to begin after the awards banquet on Saturday evening, February 7. Be creative and dare to be different!

The Fun Auction has traditionally been one of the largest fund-raising events for this association and we are encouraging members to keep that in mind, not only when you bring items, but also as you participate in the auction. Through the generosity of our members, we are able to keep membership costs to a minimum and still accomplish many goals.

Remember those Fun Auction items!

BUFFALO FOR SALE

GREAT STARTER HERD!

Small, Mixed Herd • Great Potential

(1) 5 Year Old Bull

(3) 2008 Calves

Young Cows - mixed ages

These animals are from the late Orville Smith's herd.

For more information about the animals , please call

DARLENE JORGENSEN (605) 879-2532

ANIMALS ARE LOCATED NEAR WITTEN, SOUTH DAKOTA

Spa Day for the Ladies: Reserve Now

It's back by popular demand! For you gals that need a little pampering during your "vacation" in Rapid City, rest easy. Susan Peterson has once again put together a Spa Day for the ladies attending our conference. Everyone who went last year had an awesome time with a lot of laughs and plenty of "me" time.

On Friday, February 6 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., The Mystique 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, cheeses and sweets.

There are a variety of services and price ranges available. Check out their web site for details: www.mystiqueedge.com.

If you think you might be interested in participating, please contact Susan at (605) 892-4466 or (605) 641-4466. For information on the services offered, call Susan or visit the web site shown above. Appointments need to be made by February 2, so don't wait...call today!

MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS TODAY!

Call the Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City at
(605) 343-8550

Ask for the DTBA Room Block
Winter Conference • February 6 - 8, 2009

BUFFALO PANELS FOR SALE

- (8) - 9 Foot Panels
- (5) - 10 Foot Panels
- (15) - 12 Foot Panels
- (9) - 9 Foot Panels w/Swing Gates

All panels are 7 foot tall,
extra heavy-duty and
in good condition.
\$7,800

Please see Scott Peterson
for more information or
call him at 605.641.7268



Presenting...Marketing Your Buffalo Using The Auction Method

The Risk Management Agency and National Bison Association (NBA), in conjunction with the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association, are pleased to present a workshop on marketing your animals using the auction method. Ron Bradeen of Bradeen Auctions in Custer, SD will lead the workshop. Bradeen, along with partner Jud Seaman, calls most of the buffalo auctions around the country and has many years of experience, not only in selling buffalo, but in the auction industry itself.

Bradeen will provide valuable data on the successful marketing of your animals using the auction method. Participants will be able to ask questions and glean information about what makes an auction work and the advantages of using the auction method to sell livestock as well as other items.

According to the National Auctioneers Association, more than half of the population has attended a live auction? In 2004, the value of all goods and services sold alive auction in the U.S. was approximately \$202.7 billion. This figure is up 6.8% over 2003 and translates into a huge number of satisfied buyers and sellers of goods.



These figures come from a comprehensive research study commissioned by the National Auctioneers Association. The study as a whole shows that the auction industry is on the rise. More and more consumers are seeing the advantages of buying by the auction method. In addition, consumers find auctions fun because they're a rewarding activity for the whole family to enjoy. On average, consumers are willing to drive 1.3 hours to attend a live auction, with 75% bringing the family when they go.

Here are some of the other reasons why consumers love attending auctions: 83% think auctions are an exciting way to get good deals; 51% think they offer a great value on items; 65% think auctions offer exciting items they wouldn't otherwise purchase; 53% like the excitement of getting a good price.

These are just a few of the fun and interesting things you'll learn about marketing using the auction method when you attend this mini-workshop. If you have any questions about auctions or marketing through auctions, be sure and bring them along and the answers might surprise you!

Triple U Buffalo Ranch First Annual Production Auction Saturday, January 10, 2009 • At the ranch, Ft. Pierre, SD

Red Bull Calves - 5 head sold. Price was \$175 per head

Red Heifer Calves - 5 head sold. Price was \$175 per head.

Light Heifer Calves - 28 head sold. Average weight 366 pounds. Average price was \$350 per head or \$.96 per pound.

Middle Heifer Calves - 160 head sold. Average weight was 390 pounds. Average price was \$460 per head or \$1.18 per pound.

Heavy Heifer Calves - 28 head sold. Average weight was 424 pounds. Average price was \$450 per head or \$1.06 per pound.

Light Bull Calves - 43 head sold. Average weight was 328 pounds. Average price was \$375 per head or \$1.14 per pound.

Middle Bull Calves - 177 head sold. Average weight was 408 pounds. Average price was \$520 per head or 1.27 per pound.

Heavy Bull Calves - 15 head sold. Average weight was 457 pounds. Average price was \$600 per head or \$1.31 per pound.

Light Yearling Heifers - 18 head sold. Average weight was 517 pounds. Average price was \$603 per head or \$1.17.

Middle Yearling Heifers - 93 head sold. Average weight was 552 pounds. Average price was \$640 per head or \$1.16 per pound.

Heavy Yearling Heifers - 69 head sold. Average weight was 604 pounds. Average price was \$715 per head or \$1.18 per pound.

Light Yearling Bulls - 17 head sold. Average weight was 537 pounds. Average price was \$675 per head or \$1.26 per pound.

Middle Yearling Bulls - 85 head sold. Average weight was 583 pounds. Average price was \$756 per head or \$1.30 per pound.

Heavy Yearling Bulls - 27 head sold. Average weight was 647 pounds. Average price was \$800 per head or \$1.24 per pound.

Mature Open Cows - 98 head sold. Average price was \$487 per head.

Mature Bulls - 39 head sold. Average price was \$925 per head.

Amenable Species Update

At the recent National Bison Association Board Meeting in Denver, the Board of Directors discussed the Amenable Species issue at length. At this time, the Board has directed the NBA staff to not actively pursue the designation, but to monitor the situation and follow accordingly.

During the Winter Conference, a very informative and insightful presentation on the issue was made by South Dakota State Veterinarian, Dr. Sam Holland; North Dakota Secretary of Agriculture, Roger Johnson; and former Undersecretary of Agriculture, USDA, Dr. Richard Raymond. These three gentlemen shed some new light on the subject, answered a host of questions and when pressed by Kathleen Gear, answered her question of "should we pursue this designation" with a resounding no, not at this time. It was very insightful to hear their comments and also very refreshing to have sound, correct information on various scenarios that could happen if buffalo were made amenable. Many attendees commented afterward that they were unaware of some of the potential "side affects" of the designation.

Thank you to the three presenters and to the National Bison Association for having the speakers there to address this timely and very important subject.

2009 Custer State Park Internet Auction - Jan. 5 - 9, 2009

6 Active Bidders • 3 Buyers

Calves approx. 11 months of age at March 2009 delivery.

Bulls' average weight was 364# on 10/31/08

Heifers' average weight was 355# on 10/31/08

Late calves approx. 7-8 months of age at March 2009 delivery.

Late calves approximate weight of 330#?

30 head bull calves @ \$685 average

14 head late bull calves @ \$412 average

33 head heifer calves @ \$452 average

11 head late heifer calves @ \$322 average



Minutes of The December 15, 2008 DTBA Board Meeting

President Chad Kremer called the meeting to order. Present were board members John Cammack, Nancy Hepper, Larry Carr, Mimi Hillenbrand and executive director, Karen Conley. Show Chairman Zane Holcomb was also present. Director Bruce Anderson joined shortly after the meeting began.

Hillenbrand indicated plans have been made for the Welcoming Reception at Prairie Edge for the Friday evening of the conference.

Minutes from the September 30 and October 9 meetings were reviewed. The September minutes had already been approved, so Nancy Hepper made a motion to approve the October 9 meeting minutes as presented. Larry Carr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financials were reviewed. President Kremer asked Conley if she had information from the bank regarding the amount of savings we can carry in that account. Conley had not yet had a chance to do this, but will have the information for the next meeting. Larry Carr made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Mimi Hillenbrand seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The group discussed the selection of the second judge for the 2009 Black Hills Buffalo Classic. Two names were decided upon and Holcomb will make calls and secure the second judge for the event.

It was decided to proceed with the additional calf consignment auction and to call it the Premium Calf Auction. Producers will be encouraged to bring a representation of their calves without having to bring the entire calf crop. The association will do its best to promote these producers and their animals through expanded catalog information and information presented during the auction. There will be a commission fee of 6% on these animals and the only entry fee will be a \$5 per tag fee, which will be applied back toward the commission for all animals that arrive at the auction and are sold. Any entries not arriving at the auction will forfeit the \$5 per tag fee. Anderson has talked to several producers about this new auction and there is interest.

Holcomb will be in charge of the yard crew. President Kremer has been in contact with the Black Hills Stock Show committee and we do have access to a semi-loud out chute, which will be put in place for this year's event.

Mosquito Park Enterprises has again offered to be the host ranch for the 2010 Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge. Tom Junk, ranch manager, did bring up a question about requiring a minimum weight on calves being entered into this contest, as to make it more fair and to give the calves an equal chance to establish themselves in the group. The board discussed the pros and cons of this and decided to bring it to the consignors during the meeting at Winter Conference and let them decide if minimum weights should be imposed.

Trophy and conference sponsorships were reviewed. Conley will send out an updated sponsorship listing and encouraged all

the board members to help line up sponsors. Sponsors will be offered the opportunity to run a business card ad free of charge in all DTBA newsletters as a way to help gain exposure in exchange for their sponsorships. This is especially true for sponsors outside the membership. We will also put up banners in the sale ring area for any sponsors who have them and would like to have us put them up.

Conley asked the group about doing some type of award for former Rapid City Journal reporter Steve Miller. He retired this past spring and was extremely helpful and interested in the buffalo industry. Miller did numerous interviews and stories highlighting the buffalo industry and the people in it. Conley felt it would be a nice gesture to do something to recognize all the positive work that Miller did during his time at the paper. The board agreed and Conley will add this to the banquet awards.

Plans are taking shape for the Winter Conference. It was decided to pursue having a historical perspective on the buffalo industry and we will be lining up speakers to share their experiences with the attendees. Would really like to focus on families that have two or three generations in the business. Anderson and Conley will work on lining up speakers. A number of names were brought up for discussion and will be contacted. This portion of the conference will also be videotaped.

The National Bison Association has been awarded a grant from the RMA to do a presentation at our conference. Conley has been meeting with Jim Matheson about topics and speakers. We will most likely do some type of marketing segment for this.

The group discussed the upcoming election of officers. Bruce Anderson and Mimi Hillenbrand are done with their three-year terms, but both are eligible for re-election to another three-year term. President Kremer indicated Lee Rude had expressed an interest in running for the board.

NBA Regional Director, Scott Peterson, has asked the association to formulate a recommendation on the NBA's amenable species topic. The November newsletter had quite a bit of information, both pro and con, in it for members to review and comment on. Very few comments have been received to date. Conley will once again ask for input in the December newsletter and board members are encouraged to discuss this when talking with other producers. The board will have a recommendation for Peterson before the NBA Winter Conference.

The group discussed the final DTBA rifle, the artist's proof and what to do with it. It was decided we should conduct a raffle for the rifle. Will discuss the timing of the raffle at our next meeting.

The next conference call will be Monday, January 12. There being no further business, Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hepper seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

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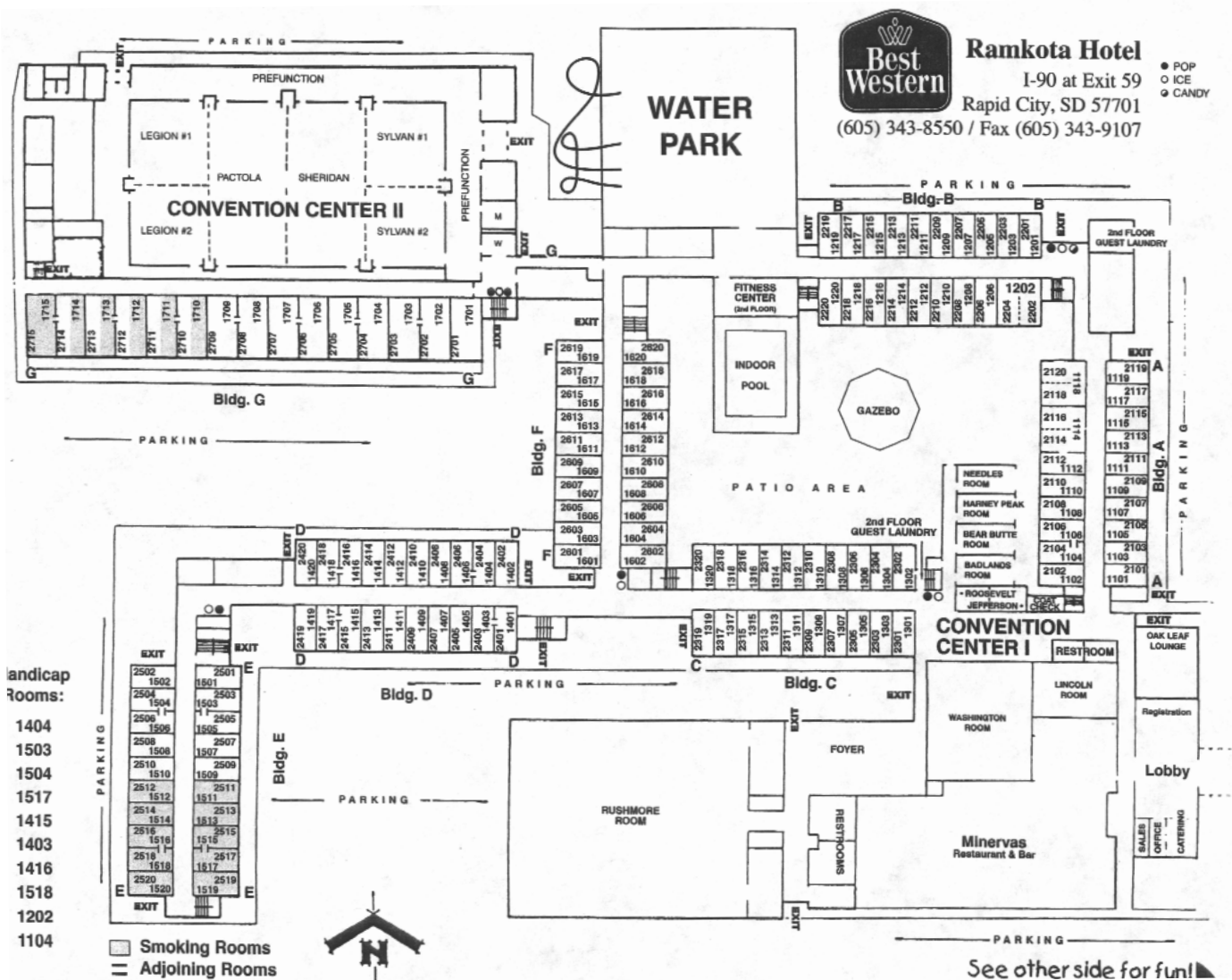
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PLEASE NOTE OUR CONVENTION MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CONVENTION CENTER I AREA OF THE HOTEL THIS YEAR. MEETINGS IN THE WASHINGTON ROOM AND MEALS IN THE RUSHMORE ROOM.



See other side for fun!