



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

BRODIE LIMPert

BUFFALO, SD • (605) 866-4480

slimbuttes@hotmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

PERRY HANDYSIDE

EATON, CO • (970) 222-5858

perry.handyside@gmail.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER

MORITZ ESPY

HERMOSA, SD • (605) 430-7471

moritz@777bisonranch.com

DIRECTOR

BOYD MEYER

WINDSOR CO • (970) 396-2249

boyd.meyer44@gmail.com

DIRECTOR

MARIELLE HEWITT

RICE LAKE, WI • (715) 651-8624

marielle@northstarbison.com

DIRECTOR

DAVID LAUTT

HARVEY, ND • (701) 693-5741

lauttsfeed@gondtc.com

DTBA OFFICE

RAPID CITY, SD • (605) 519-1326

info@dakotabuffalo.com

Restoring An Icon Through Profitable Ranching

By Karen Conley

In just a few short months, it will be time for our 21st Annual Winter Conference. The conference will take place at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City on Friday and Saturday, February 3 and 4, 2017 with our live auction taking place at the Central State Fairgrounds on Sunday, February 5. A room block has been reserved at the Ramkota Hotel and you can make reservations by calling them at (605) 343-8550 and asking for the DTBA room block.

The Winter Conference committee has been working diligently to secure our main speaker and begin the planning process. The first step in planning was to create a theme. With the combination of our main speaker and bison being named the National Mammal earlier this year, our theme was pretty easy to come up with.

"Restoring an Icon Through Profitable Ranching"

That pretty well sums up what our conference will be about in 2017. We are very excited about how things are coming together for our annual celebration.

Our main speaker will be Dave Pratt with Ranch Management



Consultants in Fairfield, California. Pratt is one of the most sought after speakers and respected authorities on sustainable ranching in North America. He's earned a reputation for innovative teaching with a practical edge and has helped hundreds of farmers and ranchers develop and implement strategies to improve their land, strengthen their relationships

and increase profit. His programs, which include the Ranching For Profit School and Executive Link, have benefited thousands of families and millions of acres.

Dave's new book, *Healthy Land, Happy Families and Profitable Businesses* has received high acclaim from industry leaders. Joel Salatin said, "This book delivers more meaningful advice in one small space than I've ever seen."

Wayne Fahsholtz, former President and CEO of Padlock Ranch advised, "If you are serious about wanting your ranch to be successful/sustainable, then this is an important read."

Stan Parsons called it, "...the best book ever written about ranching anywhere."

On Saturday, February 4, Pratt will lead our attendees through his presentation, "The 3 Secrets For Increasing Profit". The basic outline of his presentation is below and Pratt will be tailoring it to the buffalo industry, but this will give an overview of what we can expect from this top-notch speaker!



Ranching For Profit: The 3 Secrets For Increasing Profit

Setting the Stage

- Do you own a business or just a pile of assets and a bunch of jobs?
- Conventional wisdom is right, conventional ranching isn't profitable. We continue only because we subsidize ourselves.
- Why ranching isn't profitable
- Are we efficient or effective? (Doing things right or doing the right things)
- Working In The Business v. Working On The Business (Knowing how to raise livestock is completely different than knowing how to build and run a business that raises livestock)

continued on page 2

October 2016





Notes From The President - Brodie Limpert

Hello again! I hope everyone's summer went well. It was rather hot and dry for most of the summer here in Harding County but we had some decent moisture and it's leading into a nice fall. I know hay prices are on everyone's mind, as there was definitely a shortage of it in our area this year but it seems that prices are going to stay reasonable and most people won't have to travel too far to find good hay.

On a brighter note, the bison industry is stronger than ever. The demand in the meat market is on the up and so are the prices. Not only is the meat flying off the shelves, but the breeding market is also looking very strong leading into the fall.

Our executive director and our board of directors have been working very hard this year. We are currently having monthly board calls to keep our association up to date with this evolving industry and we have had a very productive year so far. One of our goals as a board this year was to really ramp up the marketing and promotion for the performance tested classes. I hope everyone got a chance to see the summer flyer that was mailed out in August. The Young Guns and the Girlz Gone Wild animals are looking better than ever and you can look forward to another performance flyer later in the fall with updated pictures and data on each class.

Our DTBA Facebook page and our new You Tube link are

being updated with pictures, videos and information on each class, so stay tuned into that as well. We are also in the middle of developing a new and improved DTBA website that should be ready to go online after the first of the year. This will give our buyers and members the ability to do things such as pay membership dues and conference registration fees online with a credit card. We are very excited about this new project and will continue to work on it throughout the fall and winter.

Our upcoming winter conference agenda is already falling into place. The winter conference committee has secured our keynote speaker (see the front page of this newsletter for details) and they are working hard on the rest of the logistics for our event. The show and sale committee is also putting the pieces in place for another great sale. Based off of last year's success, the Girlz Gone Wild heifers will be sold via video auction

again and the Young Gun bulls will be sold through the live animal ring.

I hope everyone has a great fall, I am definitely looking forward to some cooler weather as well as the excitement of working our herd here on the ranch and helping many of you during roundup time.

~ Brodie



VISION

The vision of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association is to perpetuate buffalo as the great North American native animal.

MISSION

The mission of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association is to promote buffalo and furnish a positive forum for creativity and camaraderie among a diverse membership.

VALUES & GUIDING PRINCIPALS

To practice integrity and be ethical in all our dealings.
To be visionary and proactive for the bison industry.
To help our members be successful.

Restoring An Icon Through Profitable Ranching

continued from page 1

The Three Secrets for Increasing Profit

- Starting a business from scratch (participants and I will work as partners to start a livestock business from scratch to identify the 3 things you can do to increase profit.
- Looking for "dead wood"

Crunching The Numbers (the planning process)

- Projecting profit or loss
 - Setting a profit target and working backwards to achieve it
- What do the numbers mean?
- What are benchmarks?
 - Using the Ranching For Profit benchmarks to find profit drivers and dead wood.

Wealthy on the Balance Sheet but Broke at the Bank

- Where is your money? (The biggest financial problem in agriculture: the misallocation of capital between fixed assets & working capital)
- Capitalizing and Concessionizing
- Examples

We hope you will make plans to join us in February for a dynamic conference, lots of fun and fellowship and an outstanding auction featuring our Young Guns Yearling Breeding Bull Challenge and the Girlz Gone Wild Two Year Old Bred Heifer Challenge. Details and information will be in our December newsletter, on our website and our Facebook page.

Welcome New Members!

David Beckman
Washburn, ND



Calendar Of Buffalo Events

November 19: 51st Annual Custer State Park Fall Classic Bison Auction. Custer State Park. (605) 255-4515 or <http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/custer/>

November 19: 2nd Annual 777 Ranch Buffalo Production Auction. Hotel Alex Johnson Ballroom, Rapid City, SD. Contact Moritz Espy at (605) 430-7471 or moritz@777bisonranch.com or Mimi Hillenbrand at mimi@777bisonranch.com.

November 20 - 22: Canadian Bison Association's 33rd Annual Convention. Delta Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan. Agenda and registration can be found at canadianbison.ca/producer/index.htm or call the CBA at (306) 522-4766.

November 25 - 26: Minnesota Buffalo Assn. Annual Legends of the Fall Bison Auction and Bison Fundamentals Education Class. Central Livestock Sale Barn, Albany, MN. (507) 454-2828 or www.mnbison.org.

November 27: Prairie Sky Ranch Annual Production Auction. At the ranch, 11983 Dry Lake Road, Sisseton, SD. Contact Bruce Prins at (701) 866-8485 or www.bradeenauction.com for updates and information.

November 28: Brownotter Buffalo Ranch Annual Production Auction. Grand River Casino, Mobridge, SD. Contact Ron Brownotter at (605) 848-2623 or www.bradeenauction.com for updates and information.

December 1 - 3: Western Bison Assn. Wild West Buffalo Stampede meeting and show and sale. Golden Spike Events Center, Ogden, UT. www.westernbison.org.

December 3: Kansas Buffalo Assn. 27th Annual Fall Buffalo Auction. Farmers and Ranchers Livestock Commission Company, Salina, KS. (620) 345-6526 or www.kansasbuffalo.org.

December 8: Missouri Bison Assn. Fall Sale. Lolli Brothers Sale Barn, Macon, MO. www.mobisonassoc.org.

January 13 - 14, 2017: North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Annual Meeting and Buffalo Auction. Napoleon, ND. www.ndbuffalo.com or (701) 340-6282.

January 18 - 20: National Bison Assn. Winter Conference, Denver, CO. (303) 292-2833 or www.bisoncentral.com.

January 21: National Bison Assn. Gold Trophy Show and Sale. National Western Livestock Auction Center, Denver, CO. (303) 292-2833 or www.bisoncentral.com.

February 3 - 4: Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference. Best Western Ramkota Hotel, Rapid City, SD. (605) 519-1326 or info@dakotabuffalo.com.

February 5: Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale, Central States Fairgrounds, Rapid City, SD. (605) 519-1326 or info@dakotabuffalo.com.

March 31 - April 2: Minnesota Buffalo Assn. Annual Spring Conference. Mahanomen, MN. www.mnbison.org.

July 4 - 7: 5th International Bison Conference. Big Sky, MT. www.bisoncentral.com.

Potential Host Ranches Sought

At the request of the DTBA Show and Sale Committee, the office is asking for names of anyone who might be interested in participating as a host ranch for one of our performance classes, Girlz Gone Wild Two Year Old Bred Heifer Challenge or the Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge.

We are looking to compile a list for future years. On page 9 in this newsletter, you'll find a "job description" and some information from previous host ranches so anyone interested can get an idea of what to expect and what is needed from a host ranch, both overall and with respect to each class of animals.

The job descriptions may look a bit intimidating at first, but rest assured there are plenty of previous host ranches on hand to assist with answering questions and doing ranch visits to make sure any new host ranches keep things running smoothly for both animals and caretakers.

These two performance-tested classes are taking off and creating quite a splash in the buffalo world and not only is it a benefit for the producers who consign animals, it can certainly be a huge benefit for the host ranch. What better way to showcase your operation than to prove it by bringing first class breeding bull prospects to our sale or putting your best bulls on a group of young heifers that will be purchased by buyers around the country.

This is a great opportunity for everyone involved and in order to continue to grow these classes and take the lead in the industry, we need more people willing to host the classes at their ranch.

For more information or to add your name to the list of potential host ranches (no obligation, just to show interest), please call or email the office. Call (605) 519-1326 or email info@dakotabuffalo.com.

3831 N. Deadwood Ave.
Rapid City, SD 57702
Exit 55 & I-90 N 1/2 Mile

DONNA MALONEY



Toll Free: 800-788-0341
Phone: 605-348-1212
Cell: 605-209-5008
Fax: 605-348-6625
dmaloney@dakotarv.com
www.dakotarv.com

Sales Manager



DIESEL MACHINERY, INC.

MARK BARRY
BRANCH MANAGER

(605) 348-7438
3801 N. Deadwood Ave.
Rapid City, SD 57702
mbarry@dieselmachinery.com

Mobile: 391-2789
Fax: 348-0370
Home: 342-1767



CAMMACK RANCH SUPPLY, INC.

PO BOX 100
UNION CENTER, SD 57787

1-800-828-2829
605-985-5591

www.cammackranchsupply.com



The Summer Was Full of Ranch Tours and Good Times!

By Karen Conley

It was a busy summer for a couple of our sister associations and some of our members, as they hosted tours and conferences in our area.

In June, the Minnesota Buffalo Association (MnBA) hosted the National Bison Association conference near the Twin Cities. The host ranch was DTBA member Snake River Farm, owned by Tom Barthel and Gail Wilkinson. The MnBA, as always, did an outstanding job executing the conference and Tom and Gail were the gracious hosts at their farm. Snake River Farm is compact but it packs A LOT into a small space.

The entire conference was great fun and the visit to the farm was very enlightening. Tom and Gail are masters at diversity and Snake River Farm reflects that. I truly enjoyed the visit to their place and was envious of the lush, green everywhere! The night I arrived at the conference site, it poured rain so

hard I couldn't see to drive...dry as a bone at home, of course!

The other big event of the summer was the North Dakota Buffalo Association's 25th Anniversary bus tour that took place in early August. The one day tour found us visiting The Leier family's Heartland Bison Ranch near Rugby, ND, then on to Ryan Homelvig's KenMar Buffalo Ranch near New Rockford and the final stop was the North American Bison Cooperative plant, also near New Rockford. All of the above are also DTBA members, so it was great to see our members answering the call to open up their operations to visitors.

I truly enjoyed all the stops on the bus tour and we got to spend some time with the Girlz Gone Wild herd at Heartland Bison Ranch. The weather was perfect and all three places were gracious hosts, answering lots of questions and taking us all around their operations. On the bus ride back to Jamestown late that afternoon, it did occur to me how different this bus tour was than the last one NDBA did back in 2001. This time, by afternoon, most of the participants were snoozing on the bus instead of partying!

Capping off a day of ranch tours, the NDBA brought in Senator John Hoeven, who was a co-sponsor for the National Bison Legacy Act. Hoeven spoke to that during his address and was then presented with a painted buffalo skull to commemorate his participation in the bipartisan legislation as well as to thank him for his continued support of the buffalo industry.

All in all, it was a very fun summer and the activities were thoroughly enjoyed. We are fortunate to have active sister associations and members who work for the betterment of all!



Best Western Ramkota Hotel

2111 North LaCrosse Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
(605) 343-8550 Fax (605) 343-5086
Direct (605) 737-5656

www.rapidcity.ramkota.com
For Reservations Call 1-800-528-1234



**CUSTER
STATE PARK
RESORT**

13389 US Hwy 16A
Custer, SD 57730
T: 605-255-4672
F: 605-255-4706
www.CusterResorts.com

Gina Konechne
Director of Sales

gkonechne@custerresorts.com



**CUSTOM BUTCHERING & CURING
WILD GAME PROCESSING**
Beef Sides & Quarters, Beef Sticks
Beef Jerky, Gas, Groceries

RENNER CORNER LOCKER

Dean & Sandy Sorum

25797 - 475th Ave.
Renner, SD 57055

Phone: (605) 332-0214

IF YOU
PRINT, REPRINT, PRESENT, COPY, USE
COLOR, TYPESET, DESIGN, DESKTOP
PUBLISH, ADVERTISE, ANNOUNCE,
INVITE, INFORM, SELL, WRITE, EDIT,
PROOF, TRANSMIT, TRAIN, INSTRUCT,
ADVISE, BRIEF, BULLETIN, INFORM, ISSUE,
REISSUE, REPORT, PLACARD, STICK-ON,
POST, PROMOTE, EXHIBIT, DISPLAY, MAIL,
DISTRIBUTE, HAND OUT BUSINESS
CARDS, INVOICE, STUFF ENVELOPES,
CREATE, CALCULATE, CORRESPOND OR
COMMUNICATE ON PAPER...
CALL US.



THE PRINT SHOP®

If you've got a minute... we can print it!

401 Main Street • Rapid City, SD 57701
(605) 342-2679 • FAX (605) 342-1857
www.littleprint.com



Changes To Challenge Class Entries For 2017 - Important...Please Read!

The DTBA Show and Sale committee has been working diligently this past summer to refine our challenge classes and ensure we are doing the best possible job at scoring these animals and ensuring every consignor that is interested has the opportunity to participate.

To that end, the committee made a number of recommendations to the board and those were approved in entirety by the board. Because some of the changes will affect our entry process for the classes, we are including the new rules in this newsletter to give our current and potential consignors a head's up as they begin the process of going through their herds and selecting animals to enter.

As of this time, it looks like we will be returning the Girlz Gone Wild heifers to the Leier's Heartland Bison Ranch in Rugby, ND. Additionally, it looks like the Young Guns bulls will be returning to Carr's Rafter K Bar Ranch at Prairie City, SD. We cannot thank these ranches enough for stepping up and hosting these classes again.

Below are the changes that will be effective with the 2017 entries (animals being consigned and going to the host ranches in March of 2017 and brought back for the February 2018 auction).

- Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge and Girlz Gone Wild Two Year Old Bred Heifer Challenge entries must be post-marked by January 21, 2017 to qualify for the class. Payment in full must accompany the entry form.

- Entry limits will be designated by each host ranch and in the case of too many entries in a class, each consignor (based

on entry form postmark – latest to earliest) will be asked to drop one animal until there is room for all interested consignors to have at least one animal entered per class. Refunds on entry fees will be given to those consignors that are asked to scale back their entries based on class size.

- Entry fees are considered non-refundable except in the case of overflow entries. Any other requests for a refund would be looked at on a case-by-case basis and would only be considered in the case of circumstances out of the consignor's control (accident, etc).

- ALL animals delivered to the host ranch will have health paperwork that meets all the testing criteria and each animal will have a metal ID and corresponding dangle tag listed on the health certificate. Any animals that do not have health papers or meet all the health requirements will not be unloaded at the host ranch and will forfeit their entry fee and spot in the class. A copy of all health papers will be provided to the DTBA office by the host ranch or the consignor.

- Delivery time frames need to be set by each host ranch, but the time frames need to be tightened up to a 10-14 day window. No animals will be accepted outside the stated delivery times.

- Incentives (as determined by the board of directors) will be given for volume buyers at the auction in both Young Guns and Girlz Gone Wild classes.

Complete rules and entry forms will be available in our December newsletter and on our website.

November 19: Custer State Park Fall Classic, Custer State Park, SD
November 19: 777 Ranch 2nd Annual Production Auction, Rapid City, SD
November 26: Minnesota Buffalo Assn. Legends of the Fall Show & Sale, Albany, MN
November 27: Prairie Sky Ranch 3rd Annual Buffalo Auction, Sisseton, SD
November 28: Brownotter Buffalo Ranch Production Auction, Mobridge, SD
December 3: Western Bison Assn. Wild West Buffalo Stampede Show & Sale, Ogden, UT

Complete listings and details at www.bradeenauction.com and on our Facebook page



Available nationwide for state & regional association auctions, private herd production or liquidation auctions and online auctions.

BRADEEN
REAL ESTATE & AUCTIONS
605-673-2629
www.bradeenauction.com • Custer, SD
Auctioneers: Ron Bradeen, Jud Seaman & Jeff Storm
"Auctioneers of the Great American Bison"



Meet the Young Guns 2016/2017 Host Ranch - Rafter K Bar

By Kevin Leier

Photos by Karen Conley

If you have been around the DTBA for any length of time, chances are you have had the opportunity to meet this individual. Larry Carr has been an active bison producer and DTBA supporter for many years.



Larry out feeding "the boys" a little cake in the pasture.

Larry, along with his wife Renee, own and operate Rafter K Bar ranch right on the north edge of Prairie City, South Dakota. It is here at their ranch that the 2016/2017 DTBA Young Guns Performance Tested Yearling Bull Challenge is in full swing. Larry and Renee stepped up to the task and took on this year's host ranch responsibilities in order for the performance class to continue moving forward.

What a lot of you might not know is that in order to do that, Larry and Renee had to cull down some of their own herd and construct a large amount of new fence and corral in order to make a home for these bulls. To that end, construction is still going on this fall as Larry works to put in more improvements at the ranch, everything from corrals, permanent working facilities, water lines, feeders...the list is endless! It has been a work in progress, but Larry and Renee have more than stepped up to the task and

Slim Buttes Receives Award

Information and photo provided by Larry Carr and Roxann McFarland

Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo, SD, was the recipient of the 2016 Harding County Conservation District Conservation Award. Sandy and Jacki Limpert, along with son Brodie and his wife, Samantha and their children Zoey, Zaylee and Roman, were chosen to receive the award for their outstanding management and willingness to be leaders in conservation.

The ranch runs approximately 1,100 buffalo in more than 30 pastures that are anywhere from 600 to 800 acres in size. They have five tire tanks and at least one dam in each pasture. The buffalo are rotated into fresh pastures about every 7 to 9 days. Each pasture is usually grazed one time during the growing season and up to one time in the dormant time of year. The season of use is changed yearly on each pasture.

Over the past 10 to 15 years, the Limperts have worked to create the infrastructure required for this management system. They have installed over 30 miles of pipeline and 180 tanks. Coupled with intensive pasture rotation, this is increased the productivity of their pastures.

Congratulations to the Limpert family on this honor.



are determined to do right by these bulls, knowing that all this work will be invaluable to their own program in future years.

This type of commitment to the DTBA is what makes the Carrs such invaluable people in our association. The importance of our host ranch can't be overstated and the DTBA is happy to have Larry and Renee taking on this challenge to once again bring some of the best bulls in the United States, with the data to prove it, to Rapid City in February.

On a side note, many other DTBA members have been lending a hand at Rafter K Bar as they are able. Everything from helping build corrals, giving advice, working animals and stopping by to check on the progress. We would like to thank Sandy and Brodie Limpert, Jud Seaman, Zane Holcomb, Steve McFarland, Bob Penn, Todd Goetz, Karen Conley...there are many more and to each one of you, a big thank you for all you do! A big thanks to Larry's mother, Marilyn, (and Renee, too!) for some outstanding meals and goodies anytime folks arrive to help out.

On behalf of the DTBA we would like to thank Larry and Renee for their hard work and commitment to hosting this exceptional group of animals. If you get a chance, make sure you say thanks to Larry and Renee and also our past Young Guns host ranches, Mosquito Park Enterprises, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch and Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, for building this program into what it is today.



Renee helping work the chutes.



Dave Reyelts, Needles View Ranch, visits with FFA instructors.

State FFA Instructors Tour Ranches

In mid-July, Dave Reyelts, Needles View Ranch and Moritz Espy and Mimi Hillenbrand, 777 Ranch, hosted a group of FFA instructors at their respective ranches. The educators were able to tour both operations, have some lunch and there was plenty of time for questions about buffalo production and each ranch.

We appreciate our members taking the initiative and opening their ranches to these kinds of groups. In visiting with the group, they were eager to learn more about raising buffalo and how they can share that information with their FFA students. There is a growing interest from these young, potentially future producers, about the industry and the animals. We were able to provide each instructor with materials about the DTBA, the buffalo industry and a copy of the Bison Producers Handbook. We will be following up with these instructors to ensure we answer all of their questions and take advantage of any opportunities to reach out to them and their students.



Meet the Girlz Gone Wild 2016/2017 Host Ranch - Heartland Bison Ranch

By Kevin Leier and Karen Conley

Photos by Karen Conley

Kevin Leier and his Father, LeeAllen, own and operate Heartland Bison Ranch 20 miles south of Rugby, ND. It is here that the DTBA's Girlz Gone Wild Performance Tested Two Year Old Bred Heifer Challenge is being hosted for the second year in a row. The Leier family is a big supporter of the DTBA and continue to show that support by hosting this performance class. Since the class has moved to the Leier's operation, we have been fortunate to expand the number of animals that are entering the class. Last year, 41 of the 43 entries were bred and 39 of those heifers were in Rapid City for the sale. This year, with 49 heifers in the class, we are hoping to bring even more heifers back to Rapid City for the auction.

If you have had a chance to talk with Kevin, you know he is a big supporter of filming the heifers for the sale to minimize their stress and he actually did all the filming and editing for the class at last year's sale. This new format was a welcome change for the heifers and was well received by the consignors, buyers and onlookers. That positive feedback has led us to the decision to do the same thing again this year, with the heifers being on site for the auction, but being sold via video in the auction ring.

Reports from Heartland Bison have been excellent, with both Kevin and LeeAllen agreeing that the overall quality of this group of heifers looks like it will exceed last year's group. Kevin believes there is no doubt these will be some of the finest quality bred females ranchers will have access to this sale season. Best of all, the data will be there to drive this point home.

DTBA Caps And Jackets Available

We have a nice selection of the new DTBA jackets available, along with some fancy new caps!

The jackets are all black with red trim and the DTBA logo on the left chest in red. On the back, in between the shoulders, we have been putting the Young Guns and Girlz Gone Wild logos in their respective colors. Jackets can be done with all of the above or just the DTBA logo on the front. Cost is \$65 for a front logo jacket and \$70 for the front and back logos.

The ball caps are all black with Young Guns and Girlz Gone Wild in their respective colors and DTBA on the back of the cap in the same blue or pink. Caps are \$10 each.

We will have these items available at our Winter Conference in February, but if you'd like to get them early, let Karen know in the DTBA office and we'll get your items put together for you and most likely delivered at the next buffalo event!



The Leier family ranch was one of the stops on the North Dakota Buffalo Association's 25th Anniversary bus tour this past August. Kevin made sure to showcase the Girlz Gone Wild heifers during the tour stop and for that we are very appreciative! The ranch is stunning and the improvements the Leier family has

made to the handling facilities is nothing short of awesome. There are two separate facilities that they use and both are designed to minimize stress on the animals and handlers alike. It's a pretty sure bet that Kevin spends every waking hour thinking about improvements and better ways to do even the day to day very impressive we are fortunate Girlz being hosted family.

tasks. It was a operation and to have the by the Leier

This class some of the market for and host ranches both past and present are what make this happen. We would like to extend a big thank you to Cammack Buffalo Ranch for getting the class off the ground and running, to Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch for helping us over the "hump" so to speak and hosting an interim year and to Heartland Bison Ranch for continuing it forward the past two years.

We should also mention that Heartland Bison Ranch has agreed to host once again for the 2017/2018 Girlz Gone Wild Class.



Above, the main ranch's handling facilities are located in the large barn in the center of the photo, with corrals to the right. This view is from the main house.

At right, Kevin talks about the Girlz Gone Wild heifers during the NDAB bus tour.



**MAKE WINTER CONFERENCE
HOTEL RESERVATIONS TODAY!**
Call the Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City at
(605) 343-8550
Ask for the DTBA Room Block
Winter Conference • February 3 - 5, 2017

**Scranton
Equity**

Feed Division • Diamond S Feeds

Highway 67
PO Box 127
Scranton, ND 58653

WATTS 1-800-422-0583
PHONE (701) 275-8102

www.scrantonequity.org



International Bison Conference Set for July 4-8, 2017 In Big Sky, Montana

From the National Bison Association/IBC 2017

The once-every-5-year International Bison Conference (IBC) is a celebration of the American bison and typically draws nearly 500 attendees from around the world! Most attendees hail from North America, but all are welcome. The 2017 IBC will be an exceptional event in part due to its location, just one hour outside of Yellowstone National Park and just 30 minutes from Ted Turner's famed Flying D bison ranch, both of which we'll tour as part of the conference. Please mark your calendars for this special event that is not to be missed!

The IBC planning committee has announced three very special fund raising raffle prizes available in honor of this once-every-five-years event. Drawings will be on July 7 at the IBC, though you don't need to be present to win.

Yellowstone Bull Raffle

Tickets are \$25 US/\$30 Canadian

A very special opportunity awaits with this Yellowstone yearling bull, donated by Turner Enterprises, Inc. This is a second generation bull directly descended from the from the Yellowstone National Park bison herd.



Shiloh 1874 Sporter No. 3 Rifle Raffle

Tickets are \$20 US/\$25 Canadian

We're also raffling off one commemorative 1874 Sporter No. 3 buffalo rifle from Montana-based Shiloh Rifle Co., of which only 15 will be made. We also have 13 of these rifles for direct-purchase for \$5,000/each. The Shiloh Sharps Gun Co. crafted 15 unique reproduction 1874 Sporter No. 3 rifles specifically for the 2017 IBC. Each 45/70 caliber black powder cartridge rifle has a



30" full heavy octagon barrel, with semi-fancy wood, a traditional steel butt-plate, pewter trip, and full Buckhorn and Blade front. Each rifle is engraved with a full buffalo on the hammer side, and is individually numbered with IBC001 through IBC015.

Sierra Grande Lodge and Spa Stay Raffle

Tickets are \$20 US/\$25 Canadian

Indulge in a 4-night stay for four people at Ted Turner's historic Sierra Grande Lodge and Spa in Truth or Consequences, NM (www.sierragrandelodge.com), along with credit toward The Restaurant at Sierra Grande, The Spa at Sierra Grande, and an adventure tour on one of Ted Turner's ranches. The Sierra Grande is known for its unparalleled combination of luxurious accommodations, rustic charm, amazing food and relaxing spa and mineral baths. As part of this package, you will have a half-day adventure tour for 4 people on either the Armendaris or Ladder Ranches.



More details can be found at www.IBC2017.com. If you are interested in purchasing raffle tickets, contact Karen in the DTBA office, as we have them available. (605) 519-1326 or info@dakotabuffalo.com.

Specifications:

Henry Model 45-70 Rifle

High Polish Nickel with 24K Gold appointments.

Edition limited to 25 Numbered Rifles.

Available Delivery Dates:

June 30

August 30

November 30

Edition will close:

December 31, 2016.

To Order Contact:

Tanya @ AGA Engraving

800.243.4641

tanya@aaengraving.com



NORTH DAKOTA
BUFFALO
Association

Official Silver Anniversary
Membership Rifle



www.aaengraving.com



Young Guns Breeding Bull Challenge Host Ranch Job Description

All animal entries shall be delivered to the host ranch by March 1. The host ranch shall be responsible for keeping records of entry tag numbers with their corresponding ranches. The Executive Director will aid in this process. Both the Executive Director and the Host Ranch should have copies of the health paperwork on each animal to correspond with the animals arriving at the ranch.

As the animals are being delivered, they should all be mixed in a large pen to become acclimated to each other as well as their new environment. Animals should have access to fresh water and free choice quality grass hay. They should also be fed a free choice backgrounding grain pellet with around a 14% protein value. The animals should be left on this backgrounding ration until such a date that the host ranch is ready to start the grass portion of the test.

Before going out to grass, all animals shall be weighed and vaccinated according to the host ranch's vaccination program. It is strongly recommended that the animals receive 7-way, Ivermectin and a respiratory booster such as Pulmaguard. The animals should also be retagged with new DTBA sale tags that coincide with the original consignor tags. A recommended out to grass date would be from April 15 to no later than May 15.

While on grass, the animals should have access to fresh water and a wide variety of native grasses. Depending on the host ranch location and different range conditions, a recommended carrying capacity of around 10 acres per animal is ideal for optimal grass gains. The host ranch is encouraged to occasionally feed a light ration of cake to the animals while on grass. This allows the operator to easily manage and monitor the animal's health and

progress. The animals should remain on their grass test for approximately 100 days. To allow for a 150 day feed test, it is recommended that the animals be brought off of grass no later than September 1 to start the feed portion of their test.

When the animals are brought off of grass, they should all be weighed and vaccinated again and put into a large pen. It is recommended that the animals have no less than 300-400 square feet/head of pen space while on feed. During the feed portion of the test, animals should have access to fresh water and free choice fresh grass hay. They should also be fed a finishing ration grain pellet with no less than a 14% protein value.

After approximately 150 days on feed, the Show and Sale Committee will recommend a window of dates that the animals will need to be worked to coincide with valid health papers and the sale date. All animals are then to be weighed, TB tested, ultrasounded for a ribeye score and semen tested. The animals will be worked 2-3 days later to read back the TB test as well as make the final sort to go to the sale. All animals that make the sale will receive an Ivermectin shot and will be sorted into their own pen where they will remain on their same feed ration until the sale date. All other non-sale animals will receive no shots and will be shipped to slaughter at the host ranch's earliest convenience. The host ranch is responsible for organizing veterinarians needed to work the animals as well as shipping and delivery of sale and slaughter animals.

Any other questions or recommendations should be brought to the Show and Sale committee's attention for further discussion and direction of the program.

Girlz Gone Wild Two Year Old Bred Heifer Challenge Host Ranch Job Description

All animal entries shall be delivered to the host ranch by March 1. The host ranch shall be responsible for keeping records of entry tag numbers with their corresponding ranches. The Executive Director will aid in this process. Both the Executive Director and the Host Ranch should have copies of the health paperwork on each animal to correspond with the animals arriving at the ranch.

As the animals are being delivered, they should all be mixed in a large pen to become acclimated to each other as well as their new environment. Animals should have access to fresh water and free choice quality grass hay. Because of the different feed backgrounds on the heifers arriving, it is important to keep the animals from going backwards during this time. Heifers should receive 3 lbs/hd of 14% protein range cake every other day for the first four weeks the heifers are at the ranch and acclimating to the group. At the end of four weeks, the cake ration should be reduced to once a week until the heifers go out to grass. Heifers should also have access to trace mineral to ensure overall health.

Before going out to grass, all animals shall be weighed and vaccinated according to the host ranch's vaccination program. An injectable ivermectin should be administered to all heifers heading to grass. The animals should also be retagged with new DTBA sale tags that coincide with the original consignor tags. A recommended out to grass date would be from April 15 to no later than May 15. New tag numbers should be updated as soon as possible on the master record sheet so consignors can receive information on their animals as they head to pasture.

While on grass, the animals should have access to fresh water and a wide variety of native grasses and trace mineral. Depending on the host ranch location and different range conditions, a recommended carrying capacity of around 10 acres per animal is ideal for optimal grass gains. The host ranch is encouraged to occasion-

ally feed a light ration of cake to the animals while on grass. This allows the operator to easily manage and monitor the animal's health and progress. Breeding bulls should be introduced to the herd by mid May. It is recommended to have a 10 to 1 ratio of heifers to bulls to maximize breeding coverage.

By mid September, the bulls should be pulled from the group to ensure a closed calving window for pregnancy checking the heifers for the sale. Depending on location of the host ranch, the heifers should be given every chance to stay on grass for as long as possible before being worked for the sale.

Once brought off grass, the heifers should have access to free choice hay and fresh water. The Show and Sale Committee will recommend a window of dates that the animals have to be worked to coincide with valid health papers and the sale date. All animals are then to be weighed, TB tested, brucellosis tested, ultrasounded for a ribeye score, pregnancy tested and pelvic measurements taken. The animals will be worked 2-3 days later to read back the TB test. All pregnant heifers should be worked for the sale line up unless deemed physically unsound. All animals that make the sale will receive an Ivermectin shot and will be sorted into their own pen where they will remain on free choice hay until the sale date. All other non-sale animals will receive no shots and will be shipped to slaughter at the host ranches earliest convenience. The host ranch is responsible for organizing veterinarians needed to work the animals as well as shipping and delivery of sale and slaughter animals.

It is highly recommended that the heifers not be trailered on a semi/cattle pot trailer to ensure health of the animals upon delivery. Any other questions or recommendations should be brought to the Show and Sale committee's attention for further discussion and direction of the program.



National Bison Day Declared for November 5 - Celebrations Planned

From The National Bison Association

The fourth time is the charm for the American bison – our national mammal – as the U.S. Senate for the fourth time in four years agreed to a resolution designating National Bison Day as the first Saturday in November, which falls this year on November 5th.

National Bison Day has become an annual celebration of the ecological, cultural, historical and economic contribution of the U.S. national mammal, the American bison. Similar resolutions were passed in 2013, 2014 and 2015. Native American tribes, bison producers, conservationists, zoos, sportsmen and women, educators and other public and private partners commemorate the National Bison Day by hosting events celebrating bison in their communities in dozens of states and participating on social media.

Earlier this year, President Obama signed the National Bison Legacy Act on May 9, 2016, making the North American bison the official National Mammal of the United States. The signing of that legislation was a milestone for an animal that once faced extinction. The bison has played central role in America's history, helped to shape the ecology of the Great Plains,

contributes to the U.S. economy, and holds cultural and spiritual significance for Native Americans. Today, bison live in all 50 states and serves as a symbol of unity, resilience and healthy lifestyles and communities.

The National Bison Day resolution was led by Sen. Michael Enzi (R-WY) and co-sponsored by a bipartisan group of senators. The effort is supported by the American Bison Coalition, a group of more than 60 organizations and businesses led by the Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council, National Bison Association, and Wildlife Conservation Society.

Said John Calvelli, WCS Executive Vice President of Public Affairs: "There can be no denying that 2016 is a great year for the American Bison, which became the U.S. National Mammal in May and now the U.S. Senate has once again officially declared National Bison Day which will be November 5th this year. At WCS, we are proud to help lead the American Bison Coalition whose members celebrate this magnificent species which once faced extinction but contributes so much to our country."

Keith Aune, WCS Senior Conservationist and Bison Program Director, said: "This year's National

Bison Day will be extra meaningful as we now recognize bison as our national mammal. Bison have been part of the American landscape for many thousands of years and have shaped the ecological function of the Great Plains."

Jim Stone, Executive Director of the Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council, said: "Once again, Indian Country is looking forward to celebrate National Bison Day as a testament to the iconic nature of the bison. Now as a national symbol, the standing of the bison in the eyes of the country is ever increasing and is fulfilling the dreams of tribal communities."

Dave Carter, Executive Director of the National Bison Association, said: "National Bison Day rightfully honors this magnificent animal, our national mammal, and helps focus attention on the work being done by private ranchers, conservationists and tribal leaders to bring bison back to pastures and rangelands across the country."

National Bison Day Celebration Wind Cave National Park

Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 2:30 PM - Visitor's Center

Hosted by Vidal Davila, Superintendent,
Wind Cave National Park

Keynote Speaker: Congresswoman Kristi Noem

Other Speakers:

NPS Midwest Region Office representative

American Bison Coalition

Wildlife Conservation Society – Kelly Aylward

InterTribal Buffalo Council – Jim Stone, Exec. Director

National Bison Association – Bruce Anderson

Theme:

Origin of Wind Cave National Park Bison and Restoring

Bison to the Landscape

Cultural Aspects:

Blessing or Buffalo Song by Sioux Tribe

Hot Springs High School band plays National Anthem

Lakota Drum Corp will play the Flag Song

Bison mascot in costume from Hot Springs high school

NPS Centennial: Families with 4th graders will enter the park free as part of the Every Kid in a Park initiative

BUFFALO AUCTION

Saturday, January 14 • 11:00 am
Napoleon Livestock, Napoleon, ND

All Classes
of Females,
Bulls up to 2 yrs.
Consign Today!



NORTH DAKOTA
BUFFALO
Association

Entry forms and detailed
information at:

www.ndbuffalo.com

or contact the NDBA
at (701) 340-6282

Paul Crawford, CWSR*
Sales Representative



MATHESON

ask...The Gas Professionals™

1311 East St. Joseph St.
Rapid City, SD 57701

Tel: 605-342-4490

Fax: 605-342-1312

pcrawford@mathesongas.com

www.mathesongas.com

A Taiyo Nippon Sanso Group Company *AWS Certified Welding Sales Representative



Bison Producers Help Celebrate National Mammal Designation

*From the National Bison Association
Photo courtesy of Julie Larsen Maher*

Westminster, CO (June 28, 2016) – Private bison producers were well-represented last week as nearly 30 ranchers joined with Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, congressional leaders, conservationists, and tribal representatives at a special celebration at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. to celebrate the bison's designation as America's National Mammal.

Three bison business leaders were among the speakers addressing the roughly 150 individuals who gathered to celebrate the enactment of the National Bison Legacy Act.

Roy Liedtke, president of the National Bison Association, said, "A combination of conservation leaders and individual ranchers pulled bison back from the brink of extinction in the late 1800's. We are pleased that ranchers, conservationists and tribal leaders today are continuing to work together to restore bison on range-lands and pastures across the country."

Dick Gehring of Kansas represented the National Buffalo Foundation and several bison businesses sponsoring the special reception, and said, "We in the foundation are proud to be a part of the coalition to see that the animal we love was named as the



NBA President, Roy Liedtke, with Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell.

national mammal." He also reported that the foundation is sponsoring a traveling bison history exhibit that will be appearing at museums around the country.

Dr. David Hunter of Turner Enterprises, Inc., represented Ted Turner, owner of the world's largest bison herd, at the event. Hunter said, "He is proud of the fact that he helped restore the North American bison herds." He noted that Turner has helped introduce many consumers to bison meat through the chain of Ted's Montana Grill that Turner launched with George McKerrow in 2002.

The celebration underscored the guiding principles that bison represent as Americans honor this national symbol: unity, resilience

and healthy landscapes and communities. The event also highlighted the diverse interests supporting bison, represented by the more than 60 organizations, tribes, conservation groups and businesses of the Vote Bison Coalition, led by the Inter Tribal Buffalo Council (ITBC), National Bison Association (NBA), and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS).

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, whose department's seal bears the image of a bison, spoke about the bison's enduring legacy on America's public lands, refuges, forests and parks.

If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door ~ Milton Berle



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐
☐

NEW MEMBER

RETURNING MEMBER



First Name _____ Last Name _____

Ranch Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____

Email _____

Website _____

2016 (if not yet paid. See label on this newsletter) DTBA Membership Dues @ \$75 Each _____

☐ I prefer to receive newsletters and communications via email.

☐ I prefer to receive newsletters and communications via postal service.

Total Amount Enclosed _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE DAKOTA TERRITORY BUFFALO ASSOCIATION or DTBA

Mail to: DTBA, PO Box 4104, Rapid City, SD 57709-4104

Checking In With The Young Guns and Girlz Gone Wild!

The 2016/2017 Girlz Gone Wild class is currently out on pasture at Heartland Bison Ranch near Rugby, ND. These heifers are in excellent condition as they roam their pastures and count down the days until we find out if they are bred! There are 49 heifers in the class. The five KenMar bulls were pulled on September 17 to help ensure a uniform calving period for the bred heifers. The heifers come from fourteen different ranches and went out to grass on April 9 with an average weight of 781 pounds.



The Young Guns are in the feed portion of their challenge. There are 59 bulls in the group at this time, with 19 consignors represented. The bulls came off grass on September 10. The average weight off grass was 814 pounds. Average gain was 150 pounds on grass and the average daily gain was 1.25 pounds. Those are some pretty awesome numbers!



Below are recent photos of both groups. You can find more photos on our Facebook page and video on our new YouTube channel. Watch for more updates in the coming weeks.

