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Benny Reynolds

Benny Reynolds: A Montana rodeo legend remembered

[By Scott Mansch;, Tribune Sports Editor; Published 9:54 p.m. MT Feb. 23, 2014](#)

(Photo: PRCA photo)

He was the John Wayne of Montana, a larger-than-life figure who found fame aboard horseback. But Benny Reynolds was no movie-star, make-believe cowboy.

He was the real thing.

They're burying him today down near the Ruby and Big Hole Rivers in southwestern Montana.

“There’s gonna be a lotta cowboys in Twin Bridges, Montana. I’ll guarantee that,” said Jesse Peterson. “They’re coming from all over the country.”

REYNOLDS, a pro rodeo Hall-of-Famer who in 1961 was the all-around cowboy world champion, died of an apparent massive heart attack on Feb. 14. He was 77.

Benny Reynolds died with his boots on.

“It was extremely unexpected,” said Peterson, who is married to Reynolds’ daughter Jenny. “I know a lot of the old cowboys are having some trouble with it. Because it’s like Superman dying, you know?”

ACCORDING to a PRCA press release, Reynolds won more than 360 championship buckles during a rodeo career that four decades. He qualified 11 times for the National Finals Rodeo and several times earned berths in multiple events.

“You talk about legends, Benny Reynolds was the legend of all times in all our eyes,” said Jim Croff, president of the Montana Pro Rodeo Circuit. “He was really something.”

In 1993 at the age of 57, Reynolds stopped riding bucking horses. But only after suffering a broken neck. He competed in Senior Rodeos thereafter in the steer wrestling and team roping.

And he worked. Reynolds and his boy Rooster raised longhorns on a ranch near Twin Bridges. They were busy loading hay when Benny died.

“One thing that everybody says is that Benny was the perfect mold of a man,” Peterson said. “He was 6-2, 190 pounds. And he was ripped. He was a man. I think when a lot of us wanted to be a cowboy, it’s because we wanted to look like Benny Reynolds. The truth is there’s very, very few that have the grit.”

THE STORIES. Oh, the stories.

“I’m really gonna miss the guy. He was just so cool,” Peterson said. “You know, it never failed when I was rodeoing. You’d run into some old-timer and they’d say ‘where you from?’ I’d say Dillon, Montana, and they’d say ‘Oh, you ever heard of Benny Reynolds?’ And I’d say yes. As a matter of fact I married his daughter. And they’d be like ‘Ohmygosh.’ Everybody knew Benny Reynolds.”

Born in Melrose on March 5, 1936, Benny grew up to be a cowboy. His rodeo prowess took him all over the country, to huge rodeos in New York, Dallas and Los Angeles.

But he never left Montana for long.

When Jesse Peterson was a like buckaroo growing up in Helena with buddies like Shannon Blixt, they’d pretend to be riding bucking horses.

“While one of us was riding, the other would yell ‘hook ’em Benny, hook ’em Benny.’ Just from being at rodeos and listening behind the chutes and stuff,” Jesse said. “He was an idol to a lot of people. As the years went on I was equally as proud that I married Rooster and Louis John’s sister. Because they’re top-notch people. I consider them brothers.”

Peterson became a star steer wrestler in Montana and beyond. His amazing horse “Gunner” remains a fixture at the NFR and has carried many a bulldogger to the winner’s circle. These days, Peterson is a family man living in Dillon.

Today he’s mourning the loss of a Montana legend.

“Benny had so much charisma. But it was just pure toughness,” said Peterson. “There was no excuse for him not to compete. He would tear a knee up, and it didn’t matter. He would break an arm, and it wouldn’t matter. And being old was never an excuse. He was never too sick and never too hurt. Just a tough, tough guy.”

BENNY LIKED to throw back a few. He liked a good fight, too. Once, he even got crossways with his future son-in-law.

“There was one time,” Peterson said with a laugh. “Jenny and I were dating and we were all there at the house at Christmas. People were probably drinking a little more than they should. We ended up in a broomball game on the pond at Twin Bridges and about 1 in the morning it was just Jenny and Benny and I going back to the ranch. Jenny went straight in to bed, but Benny wanted to pull arms. So he pulled both of mine with no problems and made me drink a little more with him. And I was ready to go to bed and he says ‘Not with my daughter, you ain’t.’ And I said, don’t worry, I’m going to Rooster’s room.”

“Benny was a physical presence, even in his 60s. He was raised tough. That just doesn’t happen these these days.”

BENNY AND his wife, Mary, had two sons, Benjamin and Louis John, and daughter Jenny. Oldest boy Benjamin was a chip off the old block. Soon he became called Rooster.

“He always had little rooster tail on the back of his head,” Peterson said of his brother-in-law’s hairdo. “Rooster idolized Benny and they say Rooster used to follow Benny and would try to get his attention (with a rooster call). It just stuck. He’s always been known as Rooster.”

Rooster Reynolds was no slouch in the rodeo arena himself. He qualified for the NFR in 1995 and won the average in the steer wrestling. They had a bit of a love-hate relationship like, you know, many fathers and sons.

“Louis John said it best,” Jesse said. “Rooster wanted to be good like Benny and Benny wanted to be young like Rooster.”

ONE STORY comes to mind. It’s about longhorns and fights and false teeth and whatnot.

“Well, a few years ago they were in the barn,” Peterson said with a laugh. “Benny had false teeth, you know. All of them false on both top and bottom. Rooster and Benny were arguing about cutting steers out for a roping, and there wasn’t no alcohol involved. Both of ’em got tempers and pretty soon Benny must’ve snapped and told Rooster ‘By God’ and Rooster says, quote unquote, ‘Old man, I’m fixin’ to scatter your teeth all over this barn.’

“And Benny just reached into his mouth, took his teeth out and put ’em on the fence post, put his fists up and said ‘Come on.’ ”

Jesse paused.

“Rooster started laughing and gave Benny a big hug. He really loved his Dad. They were like best friends.”

FOR SURE, Benny was always as rank as a bucking horse.

“He was the old-fashioned cowboy. I mean he was tough and rough,” Croff said. “That’s exactly what he was. Just tough, that’s all there is to it. He was all cowboy. Probably the kind of guy who could whip about anybody in his prime. But he didn’t go around doing that. He wasn’t that way at all.”

Montana has had many rodeo superstars. Benny Reynolds is at the top of the list. The best ever from Big Sky Country?

“I would sure say so,” Croff said.

RYAN MAPSTON, one of the state’s best bronc riders of all-time with 10 trips to the National Finals Rodeo, knew Reynolds well. From 1987 to last December, Benny regularly came to Las Vegas to help work the arena gates at the NFR.

“Every year I went to the Finals during the grand entry you’d go do the circle and then when we was loping out of the arena, Benny was always there and had his hand out wanting a high-five from the Montana boys,” Mapston said. “Benny loved rodeo. He was all in.”

And he was all cowboy.

“Benny was a great champion,” said Mapston. “And Rooster followed in his footsteps. They set the bar high for a lot of us in Montana. They really left their mark on the rodeo world.”

MANY SAID the only thing bigger than Benny’s heart were his hands. We know.

About 30 years ago, a young sportswriter was in Helena covering a college rodeo that featured teenagers like Peterson, Blixt and Rooster. Benny was helping produce the event and, we recall, on a Sunday night after the rodeo the old cowboy was in a Helena saloon having a few. The sportswriter, a former college athlete himself in decent shape, introduced himself.

Benny’s grip was so strong and his hands so large that we’ve never forgotten. He bought the youngster a whiskey, then a few minutes later we recall him spinning a few young ladies on the dance floor with a gentle manner that was just the opposite of that firm handshake.

Jesse Peterson said he didn’t doubt it. Everybody, he said, has a Benny Reynolds story.

“Ty Murray,” Peterson said, referring to the great rodeo all-around champion, “he told Benny I don’t know how many years ago at the NFR ... Benny, he says, you’ve got the biggest, strongest, gnarliest hands I’ve ever seen in my life. When you die, can I have your hands to make a pair of boots?”

Jesse Peterson chuckled softly.

“Benny had a big heart, especially these last couple of years,” he said. “He always had a smile. This has been so surprising. I wish I’d spent more time just talking to him, or going out to the ranch and having coffee. We just didn’t see this coming.”

ONE LAST memory of Montana’s John Wayne lingers.

It was perhaps 15 years ago at the Montana State Fair Rodeo in Great Falls and Dan Mortensen was once again riding high in the world standings. We recall tracking down Benny Reynolds behind the bucking chutes. He was sipping on a cold one when we asked for a comment about Mortensen.

“Danny, he just floats them horses,” Benny told us with a smile. “Him and Ryan Mapston ride so good. I’m proud of them boys.”

And now our best cowboy has floated away. The Montana rodeo arena won’t ever be the same.

1997 Inductees

Bill Brewer

Sam Morgan

Jack Finnerty

Ed LeTourneau

Joe Cavanaugh

Wanda Cagliari

Horace Rankin

1998 Inductees

Kay Gore

R.B. Warren

Dennis Reiners

Gene Ray Ward

1999 Inductees

Bob Blackwood

R.K. West

Dean Gulley

Leta Rasco

2000 Inductees

Kay Gore

Boone Weber

Bud Rasco

C.T. Jones

2001 Inductees



Alma Evetts



Alma Evetts was born in Canute, Oklahoma in 1916. She married Hoke Evetts and moved to California in the 1930's.

This was the start of an exciting life that included raising three wonderful children, Charlene, Tonja and H.P. Alma was involved with the family business, The Overland Stockyards, and also owned Alma's Flea Market.

Alma was not blessed with a rodeo background, but her family became involved with rodeo, so she decided..."If you can't beat em', join em'."

In 1965, at the young age of 49, Alma decided to give rodeo a try. She won the Barrel Racing at the California State Rodeo Salinas in 1974 and made that her passion over the years, still competing at the Cow Palace at age 83.

She loved to rodeo and made many great friends on the Senior Pro Rodeo tour. Alma was a sharp dresser in the rodeo arena and loved a flamboyant look.

You could always count on seeing lots of sequins, rhinestones, rubies and diamonds when she raced her barrel horse into the arena. Alma Evetts was an inspiration to all who knew her.

She was the true symbol of heart and hope!



Bill Stewart



Fred Gladstone



Bob Ragsdale

2002 Inductees

Kenny McLean

Albert Matthews

John Herl

Dan Stringari

Teresa Pearl Benson

2003 Inductees

Dave Eastlake



Dave Eastlake was born in Pennsylvania and was raised in Arizona. At an early age he was enthralled with rodeo.

He got his first horse as an eighth-grade graduation gift from his Dad and hasn't been without one since.

Dave graduated from Arizona State University with an agricultural degree. His first taste of winning came at the age of 12 in ribbon roping, with Dave as the runner.

Dave rode broncs and bulls in the Junior Rodeos throughout college. After graduating, roping became a part of his every-day life.

He was a member of the Arizona Rodeo Association and the Professional Cowboys Rodeo Association. He joined the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association in 1979, when it was known as the National Old Timers Rodeo Association.

Dave has qualified for every Senior National Finals Rodeo since he joined. He has served the NSPRA on the Executive Board as President, Vice President and as an Event Director. Dave has won the Calf Roping World Championship five times.

He was also a Team Roping and Ribbon Roper World Champion. He was Reserve All Around Champion in 1998 and was the Champion at Finals three times in three separate events.

Dave's dedication to the sport of rodeo and his continuing dedication to the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association show why he's been elected to the Hall of Fame.

Jan Spencer



Jan Spencer was born in Western Kansas and was brought up in Eastern Colorado where her family raised wheat and cattle.

She graduated from high school in Lamar, Colorado and attended Colorado State University.

Jan was a ranch girl, but didn't get to barrel race until later in her life. Keeping track of her two boys, Lee and Wayne, kept her hands full.

She discovered the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association when it came to Broadus, Montana in 1986, and from that point forward a wonderful partnership grew.

Jan started photographing the NSPRA rodeos in 1986, donating her photographs to the Association's publications. She hasn't stopped either!

She is the only well-known female photographer to compete in rodeo events and photograph at the same time. She's been the photographer for the Cheyenne Frontier Days since 1968—the only living photographer to have achieved this continuous record.

Jan's photos have graced the Association's newspapers and magazines for the past 16 years.

Jan has qualified for the NSPRA Finals 16 straight years in ribbon roping, and finished second numerous times.

In both 2001 & 2002, Jan finished in the top 10 in the Women's All Around and the Ladies Barrel Championship races. Jan's love for rodeo and her family is what makes her so special!

She is a great ambassador for the NSPRA, and we welcome her into the Hall of Fame!



Effie Simpson



Effie Simpson was born in Calgary, Alberta, Canada on October 27, 1934.

She learned to ride horses bareback while growing up on a farm close to Calgary. She started barrel racing in the early 1960's in Canada.

Effie became a driving force in the formation of the Canadian Girls Rodeo Association and the Canadian Senior Pro Rodeo Association.

She holds the record for steer undecorating from a rodeo in Hythe, Alberta in 1977. Effie's regular rodeo events included team roping, goat tying, barrel racing, steer undecorating and ribbon running.

Effie has won her share of titles over the years and has qualified for the Senior National Finals Rodeo every year since she joined the Association.

She was the Finals Champion in Ribbon Roping in 1994 and 2002. She also won "Cowgirl of the Year" three times with the Canadian Cowgirls Association and a Canadian Senior Pro Rodeo Championship in Ribbon Running. Rodeo has been in Effie's blood for a long time and she has served rodeo well all over Canada and the United States.

Her contributions over the last 20 years to the NSPRA and the CSPRA has earned Effie Simpson a coveted place in the National Senior Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame.



Kedo Olson



Kedo Olson was born in Walnut Creek, California, on July 22, 1949.

His brother entered him in his first rodeo when he was 14 years old, and he learned to rope while working on the family ranch.

He continued to rope with his brother at rodeos in California and Nevada, becoming an accomplished Team Roping Heeler.

In the mid-80's Kedo had moved to Oregon and joined a rodeo committee in Roseburg where he was the arena director for 10 years.

From his committee experience, he found himself doing more interviews on the radio, then on television, and eventually doing television specials.

He turned down his first offer to announce a rodeo, but a few years later was asked again and this time he agreed to help out. Well, that was the start of quite a career!

Kedo won three buckles for being the IPRA Western Region Announcer of the year. He was also the announcer seven times at the CCPRA Finals.

But the whole NSPRA family knows him best for his work at our Senior National Finals, five years as the announcer.

Kedo is also known and loved by the NSPRA for his work with the Redmond, Oregon Senior Pro Rodeo Committee. Kedo doesn't limit himself to the U.S.A. for his announcing.

He's had three trips to New Zealand, twice announcing their NFR. Kedo Olson has given so much back to the sport of rodeo that he so loves, and the NSPRA Hall of Fame is proud to have him as one of their newest members!



Gene McLaughlin



Gene was born in Chester, Pennsylvania in 1929. His father worked for Gene Autry when he was on the touring circuit.

When Gene was 3 years old, he started trick roping in an act with his brother Don, 5. They trick roped for 12 consecutive years for rodeos held at Madison Square Gardens in New York City.

Gene and Don were named World Champion Juvenile trick ropers in 1936. As Gene got older, he still trick roped with his brother, but started roping calves at rodeos and later added Steer Wrestling.

While in the Army, Gene met and married his wife Betty. They had two children, Valerie and Clifford, and eventually settled in Southern California where Gene worked at Disneyland until he got in the movie business doing stunts.

Both of Gene's children have followed in his footsteps as trick ropers.

Gene joined the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association more than 20 years ago and has made it to the finals every year since 1983, and he won the Reserve World Championship in Calf Roping in 1990.

Gene still works part-time in the movie business as a stuntman and still trick ropes at parties and in the movies. Gene and his son bought an avocado farm where they both reside with their families.

They keep their horses, cattle and a full rodeo arena there to practice and train stars and other stuntmen.

His first love has always been roping, and we're glad Gene continues to show us his "tricks" out on the rodeo circuit.

2004 Inductees

Dale Motley

Born in Bowie, Texas, Dale has lived all but the first 13 years of his life in Colorado.

Developing a love for horses and rodeo early in his childhood, Dale always knew he wanted to be a “good cowboy.” Competing successfully in Little Britches, high school, and amateur associations, Dale acquired his PRCA card in 1967.

Balancing his desire to rodeo with a 36 year-long career as a Denver Firefighter 1st Grade, Dale was never able to travel extensively.

Nevertheless, he placed at top rodeos including Cheyenne, Houston, Denver, Forth Worth, San Antonio, Albuquerque, Greeley, etc.

Dale qualified many times for the Mountain States Circuit Finals and served as Circuit Manager for three years. In 1983, Dale joined the NSPRA.

Competing in calf roping, ribbon roping, team roping, and steer wrestling, Dale has qualified for the Senior National Finals Rodeo in all events every year.

With limited hauling, Dale earned two Reserve World Champion Calf Roper titles. Not a man to “go along for the ride”, he served on the NSPRA Board of Directors for 10 years and as President from 1997-1999.

Dale met his wife, Jody, at a Little Britches rodeo, and throughout the years, they have shared their love of rodeo with each other as well as with their two children, Josh and Laura. Without doubt, Dale Motley has achieved his goal to be a “good cowboy”!

And in his quest to be a good cowboy, he lived admirably—as a husband, father, firefighter, friend, leader, and cowboy!

Carol Young

Carol Young was born in Long Beach, California. She moved to Mackay, Idaho at the age of 7 and lived there through her high school years.

She was born with a love for horses and riding and dreamed of being a cowgirl from a very young age. She was the Mackay, Idaho Rodeo Queen in 1957, and was the Senior Pro Rodeo Queen at Mackay many years later!

When Carol was young, her hero was Sammie Thurman and it was while she lived with Sammie that she started running barrels.

She joined the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association in 1980 and became “hooked”. She’s been a member ever since.

Carol is very proud to be a member of the NSPRA. She enjoys competing and really loves all the people she’s met. They have become her extended family.

Carol’s hard work promoting the NSPRA over the years is one of the many reasons why she has been chosen to be inducted into the NSPRA Hall of Fame.



Bob Stoddard



Gail Stoddard



Gail was born in Mott, North Dakota, on July 7, 1943. She was a city slicker until she moved to a ranch in Eastern Wyoming, at the age of 10.

She helped on the ranch until she graduated from high school in Douglas, Wyoming. She then attended one year at Casper College.

She married Bob in 1964 and has since been involved as a full-time partner and ranch wife, mother to Stacy and Noel, and grandmother to Skeeter, Skye, and Skobee. Bob has kept her involved in rodeo throughout their 41 years of marriage. She has timed at the NSPRA Finals. She secretaries the Douglas Senior Pro Rodeos, and she secretaries many other rodeos as well.

She was involved in team ropings throughout Wyoming as a timer and/or co-producer. At the age of 60, Gail started her ribbon-roping career.

Gail’s main job in life is to keep Bob organized, and she is always there to help wherever and whenever it’s needed.

2005 Inductees

Ernest Forsberg

Ernest was born February 20, 1943, to Ernest & Edith Forsberg in Yuma, Arizona.

He moved to California in 1946. At the age of 6, he went to his first horse show. When Ernest was 8, he learned to rope from his Uncle, Jess Todd.

At 14, he moved in with his Uncle Jess and practiced his team roping and calf roping every day. At 16, he competed in his first PRCA rodeo at Palm Springs, CA. Ernest met his wife, Candy, at a team roping in Castic and were married in 1990.

They share a common love of horses and rodeo and compete together whenever they can.

Ernest has two children, Johnene Rodgers and Todd Forsberg and is the proud grandfather of 4 wonderful boys, Tyler, Tate, Kyle & Justin.

Ernest competed at the NFR in 1966 as a team roping header and in 1964, 68, 69 & 70 as a calf roper.

In 1984, he joined the NSPRA. He was Reserve Champion All Around Cowboy in 1999, 2001 and 2002; Ribbon Roping Champion in 1999 and 2001; Reserve Ribbon Roping Champion in 2000 & 2002;

Reserve Team Roping Champion 1999, 2003 & 2004; Finals Champion Calf Roper in 2003 & 2004. Ernest has served on the NSPRA Board of Directors for ___ years and served as President from 2001-2005. Ernest has been a farrier all his life and is a hard working, loveable and respected man.

He has been blessed to live his dream his whole life and is surrounded by family and friends with the same goals and dreams.

Kent From

He should have been born a cowboy in the 1880's, but instead Kent From was born in Lincoln, NE in 1950. He was raised on a farm and ranching operation with his family south of Lodgepole.

There was always a good supply of horses or cows that Kent tried to see if they would buck. After graduation Kent went to work on a construction crew and began his rodeo career of riding saddle broncs and bulls.

He married his wife, Vickie, in 1970. They have 2 daughters, Tami and Dusty, 2 sons-in-law, Mark and Curtis, and 6 grandchildren.

Kent has been a PRCA cardholder since 1976. He served as saddle bronc director for the Nebraska State Rodeo Association for many years.

Kent was the Nebraska State Champion Bronc Rider 5 times; Nebraska State Bull Riding Champion twice; and an All Around Cowboy, too. Kent joined the NSPRA in 1990 and was the saddle bronc champion in 1990, 1991, and 1995-2001; and reserve champion in 1994.

He was also the finals champion in 1990, 1991, and 1994. Kent also won the Canadian Senior Pro Saddle Bronc in 1998 and 2001. He served as an NSPRA event director in the bronc riding from 2000-2002.

Kent was the rough stock riders “champion” constantly striving to make the sport of rodeo better. He always had time to help a friend down the road, give advice or help them out of the chute and then cheer them on.

He is a man that stands tall in the world of rodeo as a true cowboy and saddle bronc rider and is a mentor to many young competitors. Kent is a true cowboy in every sense of the word.



Arlyn Simms



Arlyn Simms grew up in the small central Montana town of Malta. His family owned a ranch where he had many responsibilities. Growing up on a ranch, Arlyn had a love for horses and cattle and an interest in rodeo.

He was able to qualify for and compete in the National High School Rodeo Assn. Finals held in Harrison, Nebraska. While working to make a living and provide for his five children, rodeo continued to be a dream.

He was able to attend some team roping jackpots near home and then qualified for his first NSPRA finals as a team roper.

Bob Ragsdale asked him why he was not roping calves and Arlyn told him it was too late to start now—but with Rags’ encouragement of, “It’s never too late!”

He set off on a quest to become the best rodeo cowboy he could be. He drove 90 miles, one way, several times a week to practice his roping skills.

In 1997, Arlyn competed full time and won the NSPRA Calf Roping, Team Roping, and All Around titles. Total titles to date include 5 All Around, 1 Calf Roping, 5 Team Roping

and 6 Ribbon Roping. He also won Reserve titles and Finals Championships. Arlyn credits Carol Stevenson for much of his success.

He also gives credit to Richard Carpenter for help in calf roping and to Bob Schall for teaching him how to rodeo. Arlyn has contribution time and money in support of the NSPRA. He served two years as team roping director and helped with calf sorting for many years.

His dedication, competitive spirit, leadership, and love for the sport have earned him a spot in the NSPRA Hall of Fame.



Ginni & Gerre Mason



A mere 21 years ago this sister team from La Junta, Colorado was asked to help with a National Old Timers Rodeo in Trinidad, Colorado. Needless to say, this began a very long and fulfilling relationship.

Since 1984, the “Girls”, they’re referred to, have been involved with the Seniors in some way; taking entries before the Association had an entry system, timing, and providing secretarial services at Senior rodeos in nine states and the finals in Amarillo, Texas; Reno, Nevada; and Winnemucca, Nevada. Also to their rodeo credit, they served as secretaries for the North American Rodeo Commission Finals held in El Paso, Texas and Charleston, South Carolina, a total of ten years.

During the span of “on the Road with Rodeo”, both have had full-time jobs. Ginni, 25 years in accounting with the Rural Electric Cooperative in La Junta; and Gerre, 13-1/2 years as a Sheriff’s Deputy in Otero County. Vacation, holidays, and any just-because-days were used to be available for rodeo. Their relationship with the NSPRA family is high on their priority list.

Even after all the sleepless nights, miles driven, and mountains of paperwork, their goal remains the same: Provide professional service with a personalized touch. Gerre was quoted as saying, “Cowboys and Cowgirls may have had rank stock and rough draws, but our ride with the Seniors is the ultimate adrenalin rush!”

The “Girls” are a wonderful addition to our NSPRA Hall of Fame.



Carol Stevenson



Carol was born near Houston, Texas. She began riding at a young age and began barrel racing in her teens.

After competing in high school rodeos, she attended Sam Houston State University and was a member of the NIRA Championship Girl’s Team of 1965.

She continued to compete in barrel racing on a limited basis over the next 20 years as she helped run a business and raise a son. She then joined the Texas Senior Pro Rodeo Association and was later able to compete in the NSPRA. Carol served as the Ribbon Roping Director for 4 years. During her terms on the board, she developed a policy and procedure manual for the NSPRA and served as chairman of the finance committee.

In addition she served as chairman for the rules committee and was instrumental in updating our current rule book. Carol won the barrel racing finals average in 1997 and 1999 and the 50's Barrel Racing Championship for the years 2000-2004.

Other titles include Championships in Ribbon Running in 2002 and 2003, and All Around 5 times in 2000-2004. Carol thanks Arlyn Simms for his encouragement and support and gives credit to Ed and Martha Wright for their help with the training of her barrel horses.

2006 Inductees

Bud Benson

One of the last of the real cowboys, Bud's knowledge of horses and cattle is derived from a lifetime of experience. When he was only 13 years old, Bud took his first job as a cowboy and eventually put together his own ranch.

From "outside" cowboy to "arena" cowboy was a natural transition as Bud always raised and rode good horses. Although full-time jobs kept Bud close to home throughout most of his rodeo career, he competed in as many nearby rodeos that he could get to.

His main event was steer wrestling, but he was also able to throw a rope as quick and as far as any man. In his early forties, he joined NSPRA and traveled to as many approved rodeos that his job as Superintendent for Peabody Coal Co. would permit. He served on the NSPRA Board as Steer Wrestling Director from 1988 to 1997. During the late 80's through the late 90's, Bud was a familiar figure at every NSPRA rodeo he could possibly attend.

During this period, he won numerous championships and left a legacy as a director. His sense of humor, jokes and stories distinguished him as a rough cut cowboy poet.

Everyone knew Bud. Although injuries have kept him out of the arena the past few years, Bud has maintained his involvement with NSPRA. He hauls wife, Teresa, wherever she wants to go and remains active in steer wrestling—hazing, coaching, and encouraging his bulldogger friends.

If a job needs doing, he pitches in. His cowboy poet abilities have only been enhanced by age and he continues to entertain everyone he talks to with his sense of humor and quick wit.

True to his cowboy heritage, Bud still says, "All I want to do is be a cowboy."

Hoggan Rodeo Company

Hoggan Rodeo Company originated in 1961 with Max Hoggan in Dubois, Idaho.

Carl and Elaine Hoggan and family helped with the rodeo duties until the sudden passing of Max in 1982.

From then on out the Carl Hoggan family took over the operation of the company, buying horses and making a special trip to Fort Worth, Texas to get bulls. Over the years, they have developed an extensive born-to-buck breeding program in which they raise many of their own top horses and bulls.

Hoggan Rodeo also prides themselves for their timed event stock, taking special care to ensure quality on both ends of the arena.

Hoggan Rodeo produces a wide range of rodeos throughout the year from the National Senior Pro Rodeos, the Idaho Junior Rodeo Association, and everything in between throughout Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada.

After Carl's passing in 2005, David Hoggan is now at the helm of the rodeo company, partnered with his mother, Elaine.

However, it is not a one-man show, as it takes the whole rodeo family and crew of sons, daughters, grandkids, in-laws, and outlaws to keep Hoggan Rodeo traveling down the rodeo trail.



Susan Grant



Susan was born in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada December 24, 1948. She has 5 siblings, 4 sisters and a brother. They are survived by their mother Ruth Grant.

Susan was raised on a dairy farm and was accustomed to hard work all her years at home. She shared a passion with her father Charlie for the animals but especially the horses. She spent many years in showing and riding competitions.

She also excelled in track and field events in High School, primarily long distance running. After leaving home, she became impassioned with traveling, and learning the cultures of people all over the world.

To this day, it is still a very strong passion. Susan never started her rodeo career until she was 42 years old.

Her sister Kathryn was barrel racing at the time and introduced her to the world of speed and rodeo. Kathryn now rides a mare that Susan raised from her very first barrel horse, Lily.

She acquired a wonderful gelding named "Private" and the rest is history. This animal paid all her rodeo expenses and more. He is now retired at the age of 24.

Susan became Vice President of one of the largest Amateur Rodeo Associations in Alberta, Canada, and following those 3 years, President of the CSPRA for 6 years. She has also served on the Board of Directors for the NSPRA for the past 6 years.

She has 3 Canadian barrel racing championships, 2 ribbon running championships, ladies reserve champion all around for the world, two time Frank Sissons Tour winner, first recipient of the Kenny McLean Cowboy of the year buckle, first recipient of the Anne Bowers Memorial Buckle.



Wes Hertzog



Wes was born on December 9, 1951 to Paul and Rosemary Hertzog in Hayden, Colorado. That's where he made his last bronc ride on August 21, 2005. He had three sisters, Devona, Sharon and Gail and four brothers, Gary, Bill, Bryan and Tel.

He was raised in Maybell, Colorado where at a young age he washed dishes at a restaurant making \$8 a week. He decided to get on a calf when he was 13 years old and won \$13 that day. Washing dishes went by the wayside and his love of riding calves and later bulls and broncs became his life.

Traveling with his brother Bill, also a saddle bronc rider, he became the Rookie of the Year in the PRCA in 1975. In 1976, he broke his neck in an automobile accident that left him paralyzed from the neck down.

He was told he would never walk again but two years later, with a lot of heart, he was back on a saddle bronc. Wes was the 1992, 1993 and 1994 NSPRA saddle bronc champion.

In 1995, not only did he ride broncs but bulls and did some team roping and became the All-Around Champion. Back on the rodeo trail hard again he became the Saddle Bronc Champion in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

In the NSPRA he was 5-time Final's Champion. Wes served as the Saddle Bronc Director for many years for the NSPRA. Wes had twin daughters Rachel and Robyn, a son Evan and his pride and joy was his grandson Thayne Wesley whom was born during the Finals in 2004.

He is also survived by his long time, loving companion and traveling partner Terry House and her son J.D.

2007 Inductees

Lenard Walker

Lenard Paul Walker was born 75 years ago in a little town in northeast Colorado. He had a pony and a team of work horses he followed in the field. He has been involved with horses ever since, but graduated to a tractor before he was old enough for school.

His love was equipment, and he continued to operate ever larger pieces in the Air Force and through to retirement in 1995. To this day, he enjoys operating his backhoe with "Poochy" beside him.

Lenard started roping in the PRCA when he came back from Okanawa, and got out of the Air Force.

All of his free time was spent in an arena, first in Tucson, where many of you met and roped with him, then on to Flagstaff, where he held round robins and ropings, and now in Casa Grande, where neighbors and friends come to perfect their skills, learn how to rope, or just have fun.

He has taught many young people and helped anyone who wanted to practice. Since 1995, Lenard has rodeoed with the NSPRA fulltime, joining when it was NOTRA. Throughout these years, he has helped in any way he might be needed, from fixing brakes to building a workable arena.

Due to Lenard's efforts, the American flag has never failed to fly at any NSPRA rodeo, no matter the conditions or the number of spectators.

He is a living example of a proud American vet and a cowboy through and through.

Patsy Terry

Patsy Terry was born and raised in Cleburne, Texas, and still resides there. While growing up in Texas, Patsy enjoyed many wins competing in the arena.

As an adult, Patsy joined the NSPRA and was a strong competitor in the Ribbon Roping, winning the Reserve World title twice.

In addition to her successes in the arena, Patsy demonstrated the extent of her skills and personality when she took on the task of coordinating the Fashion Show at the Senior National Finals in Reno, Nevada.

With incredible energy and foresight, she took a function at the SNFR and made it the "hottest ticket in town". She not only put on the Fashion Show, but held a benefit auction that has raised tens of thousands of dollars for the NSPRA during her tenure of coordinating the event.

This money went to the Cowboy Crisis Fund and to the purse money of the SNFR. Patsy's success with the Fashion Show and Auction helped sponsors and other important people to realize the impact of the NSPRA on the town of Reno.

Patsy's knack for creative themes and decorations and for enlisting the help of the right "key" people was "magic"! Patsy coordinated the Fashion Show and Auction for six years, and her event grew bigger and better every year.

This creative pathfinder's shoes will be hard to fill as she has raised more money for the NSPRA than any other single fundraiser.

Patsy Terry is an "original" and truly will never be replaced!



Gary MacKay

Gary Mackay was born February 14, 1943 in Provo, Utah. Although he spent some of his youth growing up in Provo, he favored spending time on his family's ranch in southern Utah where he was first introduced to livestock.

His early experiences on the family ranch developed Gary's lifelong appreciation for horses and livestock.

After high school, Gary went to work on a cattle ranch in southern Oregon and later pursued a career as an ironworker. In 1969, he married his wife, Judy. They have one daughter, Gayle, and three grandkids.

In 1969, Gary moved to Yakima, Washington, and that is where his rodeo volunteering began. He helped put on the all Indian rodeos, which was the link to his lifelong commitment to rodeo volunteering.

After relocating to Reno, Nevada, Gary began helping with the junior rodeos, gymkhanas, and high school rodeos in 1973. In addition, he volunteers for the Reno Cattle Drive and the Reno Rodeo.

Gary joined the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association in the mid 1990's when their finals were located in Reno and has been helping with their rodeos since that time.

Gary enjoys the challenges of sorting the animals, seeing that every cowboy has his drawn stock in the proper sequence, and feeding and caring for the animals.

Whatever chore Gary commits to will be done! He especially enjoys the friendships he has made with the cowboys and others involved with the senior rodeos.

Gary's motto is: "COUNTRY LIFE IS THE BEST OF THE BEST."

2008 Inductees

Bob Shedeed

Born in 1943 in Colome, SD, Bob was raised in South Dakota. At age twelve, he began hiring out to neighboring ranchers and farmers, and later worked as a lineman for electric companies.

In 1966, Bob married Donna Armstrong from Gordon, NE. They have one daughter, Denelle, four sons, Stacy, Troy, Cory, and David Dunn, plus fifteen grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. They always kept horses for the kids and took them to play days and gymkhanas.

Bob and Donna moved to Rushville, NE, in 1969 and bought a hardware store, which they ran for 30 years.

They built an indoor barn and an outdoor arena on their property outside of town and hosted numerous rodeos and jackpots throughout the years, including NSPRA rodeos in 1985 and 1986. They also owned a 320 acre farm.

In 1983, Bob and Donna started the Christian Community Center, a church in Rushville. This led naturally to their involvement with “cowboy church”, and for 14 years they held church services at the rodeos.

Bob learned to rope at age 30. He says Donna taught him how to coil his rope and Butch Terrill taught him how to rope. Obviously, Bob was a natural, and was soon roping competitively.

He joined NSPRA in 1983, and in 1993 won ribbon roping saddles for Donna and himself. Winning those first saddles is still a special memory.

Once Bob began to travel, he accumulated an impressive list of titles:

NSPRA World Champion All Around in 1994 and 2005, Reserve World Champion All Around in 2003, World Champion Ribbon Roper in 1993 and 1994, Reserve World Champion Ribbon Roper in 2003, World Champion Calf Roper in 1994, Reserve World Champion Calf Roper in 2001, 2003, 2004, and 2005, World Champion Team Roper in 1994, Finals Calf Roping Champion in 1993, Canadian AA Champion in 2003, Champion Team Roper in 2003, and Champion Ribbon Roper in 2004.

Bob has enjoyed the travel opportunities and the many good friends he has made rodeoing. The highlight of his rodeo experiences was 2005 when both he and Donna won All Around titles.

Donna Shedeed



Born in 1936 in Rushville, Nebraska, Donna was raised on a farm west of Gordon. She always loved horses and after high school, started barrel racing and roping.

In 1965, she met Bob and a year later they married. They raised a daughter, Denell, and four sons, Stacy, Troy, Cory, and David Dunn. In addition, they have fifteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In 1969, Bob and Donna moved their family to Rushville, NE, and bought a Coast to Coast store, which they later converted to a True Value store.

They spent 30 years in the hardware business.

In addition, they bought 115 acres just outside of town and built an indoor barn and outdoor arena, in which they hosted numerous rodeos and jackpots, including two NSPRA rodeos in 1985 and 1986. They also owned a 320 acre farm.

In 1983, Bob and Donna purchased a building and started a church, The Christian Community Center. This led them to a new adventure in their lives – cowboy church services – which they organized at NSPRA rodeos for 14 years.

Donna joined NSPRA, then known as NOTRA, in 1978. She and Bob began traveling extensively during the 90's.

After retiring from the hardware business and moving to Hermosa, SD in 2000, they began following the senior rodeos across the western United States and into Canada. Donna capitalized on the opportunity to travel, winning numerous titles including:

1993 and 1994 World Champion Ribbon Runner, 2003 Reserve Champion Ribbon Runner, 2002 and 2004 Reserve World Champion Barrel Racer, 2001, 2003 and 2005 World Champion All Around. 2004 Reserve World Champion All Around, 2006 Frontier Circuit Champion Barrel Racer and Champion Heeler in 2007, Canadian Reserve Champion Ribbon Runner in 2003 and Champion Ribbon Runner in 2004. Donna also served six years as Barrel Racing Director.

Donna credits NSPRA with giving them the opportunity to make many friends and to travel to places that they never would have gone otherwise. She is most proud of winning the All Around title in 2005, the same year that Bob won his AA title.

Nancy Tatum



Born in Albuquerque, NM, on November 5, 1944, to CY and Mary Axtell, Nancy is the fifth of five girls.

The only person in the family to develop an interest in rodeo, Nancy was active in junior and high school rodeo, winning numerous barrel racing and all around titles.

Nancy gives heartfelt thanks to her parents for the horse and the opportunity to pursue the sport of rodeo in her childhood as that experience ultimately provided her with a lifetime of enjoyment.

In 1964, she married PRCA NFR bullfighter John Tatum, with whom she has one son, Shane.

In addition to traveling the rodeo circuit with John, Nancy clerked a cattle sale for twenty years and founded Tatum Hay Sales, which has been a successful family business for 32 years.

Today, Nancy and Shane run the business together with the able assistance of long time employee, Ricardo Portillo, who, according to Nancy, is the real reason for the longevity and success of Tatum Hay Sales.

Nancy joined NSPRA in 1991 and quickly made her mark in the ribbon roping and barrel racing events. Teamed up with the great roper, Lawrence Coffee, she won three World Champion Ribbon Runner titles.

Mounted on her “wonderful” mare, Natalie, she won a World Champion Barrel Racer title. Her success in the two events led to winning two World Champion All Around titles and one reserve title.

Always a strong supporter of NSPRA, Nancy has donated untold amounts of time and money – often behind the scenes – to the Association.

From 2000-2006, she was the prime force behind the implementation of the NSPRA Circuit System, an accomplishment she is especially proud of. Nancy is currently involved in a new venture, the production of the NSPRA Auction and Luncheon.

Nancy credits Shane Tatum, Ricardo Portillo, Dan Stringari, Lawrence Coffee, Bill Nevill, and others too numerous to mention, for making her rodeo travels and successes possible.



Pat Turk



Pat was born an athlete, starting with bobby-sox soft ball, progressing to high school soft ball and on to local traveling leagues. She always played the highest action positions, shortstop or third base, on competitive teams that won many championships.

Later in life, she took up bowling and spent 20 years on local teams, competing at local, state and national tournaments, and won numerous team and individual awards. Then, along came golf. A “mention” is all it gets.

Pat started her rodeo career with the NSPRA in 1996 at the age of sixty. For years, she had followed her husband, Tom, to numerous rodeos. Finally, Tom challenged her to try ribbon roping with his team roping partner, Bob Ragsdale.

He bought her membership, and Pat and Rags entered the Scottsdale, Arizona rodeo. They were 9 flat and won the rodeo. All Tom could say was, “I just created a monster”. That year, Pat and Rags won the world.

Since then, Pat has won a total of eight NSPRA world championships, two reserve world championships, five NSPRA finals’ championships, and two Canadian finals’ championships.

Pat also served a two year term on the NSPRA Board as the ribbon roping director. Pat has been married to Tom for 40 years. They raised three daughters, have six grandsons and ten great-grandchildren. Pat works as a secretary to a large farming organization for 47 years.

Tom spent 30 years in law enforcement and retired as the Undersheriff.

Together, they own a farm where they grow almonds.

Still running strong at 73 years young, Pat credits Tom and a series of outstanding ropers, Bob Ragsdale, Bill Kelly, Bob Wiley, E.P. Birkhead, Phil Rawlins, Arlyn Simms, Ernest Forsberg, and Leo Camarillo, for her exceptional success as a ribbon runner.



Ervin Carlson



Ervin Carlson was born on March 20, 1918, at Mackay, Idaho. He first began entering rodeos in the 1940’s, competing in the team roping and calf roping events.

Calf roping remained his true love throughout his rodeo lifetime. He also had a love for training horses for calf roping.

In 1960, Ervin and his wife, May, now deceased, moved to Vaughn, Montana, where Ervin still lives.

They raised one son, Blaine. Erv and May built an indoor arena at their residence outside of Vaughn in 1970 and spent many years putting on calf roping and team roping events at their arena until the late 1990's.

Ervin competed on the senior rodeo circuit in the United States and Canada up until the middle of the 1990's. He won NSPRA world championships in 1982, 1984, and 1985.

In 1982, he also won the NSPRA world championship in team roping. In 1989, he won the finals' championship in team roping at Reno, Nevada.

In 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, and 1993, he won Canadian titles. In 1991, he was awarded the Bill Ullery Memorial in Canada.

In the early years of this Association, Ervin was instrumental in promoting and producing an outstanding senior pro rodeo in Great Falls, Montana, and has continued to promote the sport of rodeo in numerous ways throughout his life.

He was the leading force in getting NSPRA rodeos to Florence and Harlowtown, Montana, and he helped Bob Robinson structure the CSPRA.

An outstanding all around cowboy, Ervin won numerous titles in both the United States and Canada, but claims to be most proud to have made so many great friends throughout his rodeo career.

2009 Inductees

Danny Cantrell

Born and raised in Erath County, Texas, Danny Cantrell now resides in Cleburne. While growing up in Texas, Danny naturally started rodeoing at the early age of eight years old and has been involved in rodeo for 48 of his 59 years.

He was fortunate to have been taught by one of the best – his Dad, Odell Cantrell. Odell was from the old school of “do it ‘till you get it right”, and Danny credits his Dad’s practice ethics with his success in the roping arena. After many years of amateur rodeo competition and the additional help of his cousin, Joe, Danny learned how to win.

Danny joined the SPRA in Oklahoma and enjoyed much success rodeoing with that Association. In 1991, Danny joined the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association, and for the next 12 years, rodeoed as hard as his print shop business would allow him to.

Competing in calf roping, ribbon roping and team roping, Danny won two consecutive World Champion Ribbon Roper titles – 1999 and 2000 - and numerous finals awards. He also won saddles rodeoing with the Southwestern Conversions Association.

Not only was Danny an outstanding competitor, he was always willing to give back to his sport and pitched in wherever needed.

When the Board of Directors changed the name of the Association from NOTRA to NSPRA, Danny facilitated the effort to create a new logo, donating his artist’s work for free and printing new decals at cost.

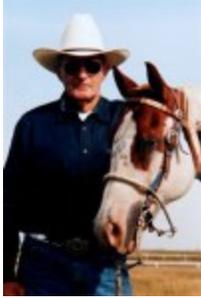
Each year, he took on the formidable task of hauling a trailer load of auction items to Reno and later, to Winnemucca, for the NSPRA Auction.

Danny has been a major sponsor of the Meals on Wheels Benefit Rodeo and the NSPRA Luncheon and Auction. He was never too busy to help a young roper and often hauled his protégées himself so they could compete.

For seven years, Danny served on the NSPRA Board of Directors as Calf Roping Director.

Danny says, “I did what I did ‘cause I could and ‘cause I wanted to. This Association’s given me lots of good memories!”

Clint Martin



Clint was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, and grew up on a ranch north of Malta, MT. He has spent his entire life in the livestock business, ranching, and served 12 years as Executive Manager of the Lewistown Livestock Auction.

He and his wife, Sharon, ranch in Lewiston, MT, where they have lived and worked for 37 years. They have two children, Bruce and Brenda, and nine wonderful grandchildren, with whom they enjoy an unusually close knit extended family relationship.

Clint has been involved in rodeo for 60+ years, roping and rodeoing whenever he could get away from the ranch. He also judged many rodeos along the way. He joined NSPRA in the 80's at the first NOTRA rodeo held in Roundup, MT, and qualified for the finals every year that he rodeoed with the Association. He joined CSPRA in 1992 and has qualified for their finals every year since then.

A highlight of his career with NSPRA was winning the SNFR Average in the team roping with Benny Reynolds in 1996.

As a committee of two, Clint and Sharon put on the NSPRA Rodeo in Lewistown, MT, in 2000, and have continued to support and work for the Association in numerous ways every year since.

Together, Clint and Sharon have donated 18 championship saddles and two buckles to NSPRA. Because of Clint's calm, quiet support in the background, Sharon made a major contribution to the success of numerous NSPRA rodeo benefit calcutta's over the years.

Always willing to help, Clint did anything needed to promote his sport and Association, from carting boxes up two flights of stairs, to selling raffle tickets on a trailer, to working all night, to digging deep in his pocket to make donations and sponsor rodeos.

Clint truly values the wonderful friends he has made and the team roping partners he has had throughout the years of rodeoing with the NSPRA.

As a silent partner in Sharon's extensive contribution to rodeo and to the NSPRA, Clint never received the recognition and the thanks that he deserved – until now!



Sharon Martin



Sharon was born in Havre, MT, and raised on a cattle ranch in the Bear Paw Mountains.

She married Clint in 1956 and has spent 53 years in partnership with him as parent, rancher, rodeo participant, and promoter of rodeo.

This exceptional couple have ranched near Lewiston, MT, for the past 37 years and enjoy a close extended family relationship with son, Bruce, daughter, Brenda, and nine wonderful grandchildren.

In her younger years, Sharon competed in barrels, breakaway, ribbon roping and team roping, but her interest and expertise soon led her into the rodeo office where she has served in all capacities.

Beginning as a timer and rodeo secretary back in the days before calculators and computers, her ability soon earned her prestigious jobs, such as secretarizing NARC rodeos in Denver, CO, and Gallup, NM.

Sharon was the MT State High School Rodeo Secretary for twelve years, the Executive Secretary of the NRA for four years, and has timed and secretaried numerous college rodeos.

She timed and secretaried for the NSPRA Finals Rodeo in Reno, twice for free, and for the past 10 years has done the computer payoff at the CSPRA Finals. She frequently put on secretary and timer schools at the request of committees and associations.

Eventually, Sharon's extensive experience in all facets of the rodeo office led her to form Big Sky Central Entry, and she spent the next 25 years taking entries for NSPRA and the NRA.

She often assists rodeo committees for free, doing everything from writing receipts to the computer payoff.

In addition to her work behind the scenes, Sharon and Clint donated 18 Championship saddles and two buckles to NSPRA, and when she can attend, Sharon is a major factor in the success of benefit calcuttas.

Sharon has been recognized as Central Mt Outstanding Person, as NRA Personality of the Year, as CSPRA Volunteer of the Year, and she and Clint are honored annually as dignitary guests at the MT Wall of Fame Ceremony.

Sharon truly cherishes all the friends she has made through her life in rodeo.



Bobby Jones



A 1927 model of the great American Cowboy, Bobby hails from Salinas, CA. By working as a ranch and feedlot cowboy and rodeoing professionally, Bobby provided for a family of seven, two boys and five girls.

An outstanding RCA roper, Bobby competed with the best of them from 1946-1963 and qualified for the NFR in team roping five times. During the 50's, Bobby was among the best ropers, ranking no lower than third in the world from 1955-57.

In 1955, he won the team roping at the Salinas Rodeo with Olin Sims.

Setting a record that few will ever equal, Bobby returned to the Salinas Rodeo arena in 2008 - 53 years later at the age of 82 - to rope with son, Jeff.

In 1963, he retired from professional rodeo to raise his family, but when the last of his seven children left home, he returned to the arena on the NSPRA circuit.

Although he never thought he'd go back to rodeo, he did it to keep himself occupied and to see guys he competed with years ago. Both of Bobby's sons are excellent ropers. Greg team ropes, and Jeff, who ropes calves, is currently in contention for the NSPRA 40+ Calf Roping title as well as the 40+ All Around title.

After coming out of retirement and joining NSPRA in 1990, Bobby began racking up titles once again, winning the 1993 Western Region Calf Roping Championship, the 1993 NSPRA Team Roping Finals Championship, the 1995 Western Region Reserve Team Roping Championship, and the 1995 Western Region Finals Team Roping Championship.

Bobby was also actively involved in the production of many good California NSPRA rodeos in the early 90's.

Known for his great sense of humor, Bobby always had a smile on his face and never had a problem or a complaint. He was just real glad to be there.

Bobby is another one of those good cowboys who did not simply retire to reminisce about the good old days – he relived them, rodeoing with the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association.



Cindy Reynolds



Born February, 1953, in a Wyoming blizzard, Cindy was raised on the family ranch west of Douglas, Wyoming.

Although neither of her parents had an interest in rodeo, they always supported Cindy's interest, and Cindy began competing in high school and college. From there, she progressed into the Wyoming Rodeo Association and the WPRA.

In 1976, Cindy married Jeff Reynolds, PRCA gold card holder, and simply moved north of Douglas to continue her ranching lifestyle, helping Jeff work his family ranch, the Duck Creek Ranch, for the past 33 years.

Both the Burks' ranch and the Reynolds' ranch have been in the respective families for three generations, with the Burks' ranch being a Wyoming Centennial Ranch.

An accomplished horsewoman, Cindy trains her own barrel horses, spending as much time gathering and trailing steers on them as she does in the arena. She is especially proud of the fact that she has trained and run five different horses to win NSPRA titles.

Upon joining NSPRA in 1995, Cindy quickly made herself known as a formidable competitor, winning numerous saddles and buckles in both barrel racing and ribbon roping.

Cindy earned World Champion Barrel Racer titles in 1997, 2000, 2001, 2005, and 2007, World Champion Ribbon Runner titles in 2000, 2001, 2005, and 2008, World Champion All Around titles in 2000, 2001, 2005, and 2008, Reserve World Champion Barrel Racer in 2003 and 2008, Reserve World Champion Ribbon Runner in 2006, and Reserve Champion All Around in 2007.

In addition, she was the SNFR Barrel Racing Champion in 2000, 2007, and 2008, the SNFR Ribbon Runner Champion in 2000, 2002, 2004, and 2008, and the SNFR All Around Champion in 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2008.

Cindy cites highlights as being: Jeff, her folks, and her sister were at the finals when she won her first World Championship; Lark, a black Kelpie, aka Rodeo Rose, traveled with her all these years; Two awesome ropers were her main partners – Jerold and Leo Camarillo.

Cindy has served six years on the NSPRA Executive Board and is currently Sanction Committee Chairman.

2010 Inductees

Karen Goemmer

Karen is a ranch born and raised cowgirl. Originally from Douglas, Wyoming, she calls Willard, NM, home. She spend her childhood horseback, following her grandparents around the ranch and tagging along to trade labor with neighbors.

Truly a product of a family history of ranching and rodeo, Karen boasts grandparents who built a successful ranch in Wyoming. Her grandfather judged numerous early day rodeos such as Cheyenne and Belle Fourche. Her parents were also successful ranchers, and her father became well known politically.

Karen high school rodeoed, helped form the first barrel racing association in Wyoming, was on the U of A rodeo team and later, the CSU team.

Taking her Grandma's advice to marry a cowboy, she married Lowell, a fellow CSU team member and a rancher from La Veta, CO. Together, they have run cattle in OK, NE, WY, CO, NM, AZ, and NV.

Two sons, Shawn, his wife Mindy, daughters, Dally and Riata of Battle Mountain, NV and Shane, his wife, Sherri, twins, Fallon and Kade, and daughter Makenna of Willard, NM, continue in the family tradition of ranching and rodeo.

Shawn, Mindy and Shane have all joined NSPRA, and Dally and Riata sing the National Anthem at many NSPRA rodeos.

Karen has been an NSPRA competitor in her 40's, 50's and 60's. Aboard her mare, Sally, Karen won the 2003 NSPRA World Champion Barrel Racer title. She was the 2007 Reserve World Champion and wont the 2008 NSPRA finals. She served two years as barrel racing director and is currently serving on the Executive Board. She and Lowell have donated numerous buckles throughout the years.

An excellent advocate for NSPRA, Karen always speaks highly of the Association. She says, "NSPRA is good horses, good friends, and lots of travel."

Dale Rising

Born in 1949 in Crawford, NE, Dale competed in his first rodeo at the age of six, and from that day forth, he was hooked. He steer wrestled and rode bulls and barebacks at Little Britches rodeos, winning the 1967 NLBRA finals in steer wrestling.

While he was in the army, he competed in the first German rodeo ever held, riding bucking horses from Hungary.

Once out of the army, Dale took a job with Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. Although working fulltime, he rodeoed every weekend and found time to attend Jerome Robinson's bull riding school.

Out of 77 students, Dale won the gold buckle. Invited to travel with Jerome, Dale declined, choosing instead to take care of his job and family, who in return have supported his rodeoing throughout the years.

Dale's association with the NSPRA dates back to the first NOTRA rodeo ever held at Hyannis, NE. Although too young to compete, his father and uncle were entered, and Dale was there, savoring a piece of NSPRA history that few existing members of NSPRA can claim to have done.

Totally committed to rodeo, especially senior rodeo, Dale was instrumental in putting on the Crawford and Lusk rodeos for years.

Once he began competing with NSPRA, Dale has been three times Runnerup World Champion Steer Wrestler, two times SNFR Average winner, and has placed in the top four of the steer wrestling standings the past 15 years.

He also has won the CSPRA Runnerup Year End four times, as well as the 2009 CSPRA Finals Average.

Dale served on the NSPRA Board for three years, stands in as SW Director when necessary, and judges throughout the US and Canada. Dale is totally devoted to NSPRA, both as a contestant and as a support person.



Doug Hough

Doug earned his reputation as an outstanding roper back in the 60's, winning the 1996 Reserve College Tie down Roper title and helping the Casper College Men's Rodeo Team earn the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association Championship that same year.

He continued his winning ways in the amateur ranks, the PRCA, and finally the NSPRA. Doug joined the NSPRA 15 years ago at the urging of good friend, Dale Motley.

His roping ability earned him the 1999 and 2001 NSPRA Reserve World Champion 50+ Tie Down Roper titles, and the 2000 and 2002 NSPRA World Champion 50+ Tie Down Roper titles.

Although he now hails from Giddings, TX, Doug farmed and ranched in Fort Morgan and Cope, CO, for many years, moving to Giddings after selling the farms and ranches in 2004.

His daughter Paige is married to Justin Maass, a top PRCA calf roper and NFR qualifier. Paige and Justin have a three year old daughter, Addy.

Doug is deservedly proud of his calf horse, Jesse, which carried him to his NSPRA titles. Several years later Jesse went to the NFR with Doug's son-in-law, Justin, and on to Calgary where he carried both Justin and Scott Kormos to the pay window for approximately \$50,000.

An active supporter of the NSPRA during the years Doug competed regularly; he served on the NSPRA Board of Directors several times and was always willing to do whatever needed doing at the rodeos. He supported the benefit auctions and donated a number of year end awards to the Association. Doug was an outstanding NSPRA member as well as an outstanding roper.

Today, he hangs out close to home and ropes with the USCRA, winning a 2008 Championship. Doug says he will see everyone at the Texas NSPRA rodeos!



Clovis Muston

Clovis Muston was born in 1917 at Edna, TX. His father was a minister and moved the family back and forth between California and Texas until finally settling in California. Clovis took the Texans' love of horses with him.

In California, he met and married Rachel. They were married for 61 years, until his death in 2005, and raised 3 daughters and 27 grand/great grandchildren.

Many family members have followed in their footsteps, participating in rodeos, ropings and various horse events.

While in California, Clovis and Rachel owned a ranch and started the C-C Riding Club. They held numerous ropings, gymkhanas, and even horse racing events. After two of their daughters moved to Idaho, they followed in 1972.

In 1980 they purchased the Rayne and Seale Arena in Nampa, ID, renaming it the Nampa Sports Arena. Clovis supported rodeo by having several Indian and Mexican rodeos and ropings at this arena.

In 1986, they sold the property and started wintering in Arizona. There, they re-connected with their California friends, playing cards and roping during the winters.

Around 1991, they joined NSPRA with the encouragement of Les Hirdes and other friends. Clovis and Rachel roped together and also with different partners.

He was the post for the ribbon roping event, regardless of the weather. Clovis belonged to the Northwest Old Timer's Association and continued to rope until he was 86, winning several buckles and awards.

In 1998, with the help of family, Clovis and Rachel put together and NSPRA rodeo in Caldwell, ID, this was named rodeo of the year.

Truly supportive of each other and the sport of rodeo throughout their lives, he and Rachel were a good example of the cowboy way of life. They loved anything that included horses and people.

He also has won the CSPRA Runnerup Year End four times, as well as the 2009 CSPRA Finals Average.

Dale served on the NSPRA Board for three years, stands in as SW Director when necessary, and judges throughout the US and Canada. Dale is totally devoted to NSPRA, both as a contestant and as a support person.



Chuck Melin

Born in Calmar, Alberta, Canada, in February of 1951, Chuck has two daughters: Allison, who is married and lives in Southbend, Indiana, and Tayler, who lives with him. When not on the road, Chuck supplies liquid nitrogen to medical facilities.

He is married to Ruth who lives in Douglas, WY, and is a registered nurse. Chuck and Ruth met at the Douglas NSPRA Rodeo.

Chuck began rodeoing in 1969, competing in several amateur associations in the steer wrestling. He joined both the CSPRA and NSPRA in 2002. Since then, he has won the CSPRA SW Season Leader seven times and was the CSPRA 50+ SW Champion six times.

In addition, he won the 2005 Kenny McLean Memorial Cowboy of the Year buckle. Chuck won the 2005 and 2006 NSPRA World Champion 50+ SW and has been Reserve Champion 50+ SW several times. Several years ago he began team roping.

As strong as he has been as a contestant, Chuck deserves credit for being equally strong as a supporter of both Associations.

He has served as SW director, committee representative, President of CSPRA, and Canadian Rep on the NSPRA Board. In addition, Chuck judges rodeos whenever needed.

Everyone who knows Chuck gives him credit for the way he pitches in at every rodeo he goes to, in all events: rough stock, timed event, barrel race.

Chuck is always there to pull the barrier, to flag the rough stock, to set the barrel pattern, to run the gat, or to do whatever needs doing.

Although Chuck will soon be 60 years old, he is fit and healthy, and rodeo is his life. His friends and fellow competitors expect him to continue to be competitive and supportive for many years to come.



Rachel Muston

Rachel Muston was born in 1925 in Bokchito, OK. Growing up on the farm, Rachel was riding before she was walking. She rode a horse to school five miles everyday until she was in the 8th grade.

She later moved to California where she was a welder in the shipyards and met the love of her life, Clovis. They have 3 daughters.

While living in Modesto, CA, Clovis and Rachel owned the C-C Ranch and produced many ropings and gymkhanas.

Rachel even rode their race horses at the Salinas and Livermore race tracks. Always willing to help where needed, she supported Clovis in all of his activities.

While in California, Clovis and Rachel owned a ranch and started the C-C Riding Club. They held numerous ropings, gymkhanas, and even horse racing events. After two of their daughters moved to Idaho, they followed in 1972.

In 1980 they purchased the Rayne and Seale Arena in Nampa, ID, renaming it the Nampa Sports Arena. Clovis supported rodeo by having several Indian and Mexican rodeos and ropings at this arena.

Rachel joined NSPRA in 1991 and competed in team roping and ribbon roping. She was named Woman of the Year in 1996 at the Blackfoot Senior Pro Rodeo and was secretary for the Idaho Cowboys Association.

In 1982, she won the Idaho All Girls Association in team roping as a heeler. Clovis and Rachel roped in the Northwest Old Timer's Association. She was always ready to run when a ribbon roper needed a partner.

One of Rachel's partners, Bob Kennedy, once said, "She is always happy and real easy to rope for. She never gets upset if I miss."

When Rachel wasn't roping or warming up Clovis' horses for him, she could be found baking pies, cooking, sewing, or working with wood in their shop. Many of her rodeo friends were treated to Rachel's cooking while on the road.

Rachel would still be riding and roping today except for the loss of her eye sight at age 77.

Over the years, Clovis and Rachel Muston made many lasting friendships and have always supported the rodeo world.

2011 Inductees

Paula Jo McLean

Paula Jo McLean was born December 1955 to Gerald and Patsy Davis of Newcastle, Wyoming. Both parents were RCA members. Gerald roped calves, bulldogged, and rode bareback horses. Patsy was a trick rider. Paula Jo had one older sister, Shari. Both girls were raised on ranches riding and working cows. In 1960 Gerald lost his battle with cancer. Patsy continued trick riding until re-marrying Texas calf roper Bobby Seals. The family relocated to Texas.

Paula Jo completed high school and college rodeos in goat-tying, barrel racing and breakaway roping. In 4-H she showed horses. In 1980 Paula Jo acquired Bar O Top Sail; AKA: Spot, the sorrel paint stallion with four socks. Spot was successfully campaigned on the horse show circuit in Texas and Oklahoma to become an APHA Champion with numerous ROM'S to his credit.

In 1987 Paula Jo, daughter Dee and Spot moved to British Columbia., Canada to marry Kenny McLean. They worked on a ranch and began raising horses.

In the late 1990's the couple began to go and compete in Senior Rodeo's in Canada as well as putting rodeos on in British Columbia. Early in 2000 the McLean's moved to Montana. It was during this time they rodeoed full time at Senior Rodeos making the finals in calf roping, team roping, ribbon roping and barrel racing.

For several years Paula Jo was Reserve Champion in barrels and ribbon roping runner.

Finally in 2002 she won the coveted title of World Champion Barrel racing, Ribbon Runner and All-Around. She also won the Canadian Barrel Racing Champion this year. Sadly it was during this year she lost her beloved husband, friend and coach before winning the titles.

Paula Jo repeated success in 2005 to win the World Champion Barrel Racing title. She won these titles on her paint mare, Last Wish that was raised by her and Kenny and trained to run barrels by Kenny. Wish won Barrel Horse of the Year in 2002.

Today Paula Jo lives in Arkansas still riding horses and enjoying her grandchildren.

Reta Birkhead

Reta Burnett Birkhead was born in Fisher County, Texas on March 10, 1940. She grew up on the family Polled Hereford stock farm and graduated from Hobbs High School in Hobbs, TX in 1958.

Reta attended and graduated from Sul Ross State University in Alpine Texas in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education. She met and married E.P. Birkhead Jr. a calf roper, at Sul Ross. Rodeo became a big part of her life. Reta and

E.P. have one son, James and one grandson, Weston. They live In Midland, Texas and own Birkhead Feed Store.

Reta was a school teacher for 33 years. She taught in Odessa, Texas for 31 years and San Antonio Texas for two years. She taught first, second, and third grades, gifted and talented classed third through sixth grades, and was a supervisor for the student teachers of University of Texas Permian Basin.

Reta entered ribbon roping when she was 45 years old in Fort Worth, Texas, placing third in the event. That changed her life.

Reta was elected NSPRA Ribbon Roping Director in 1994 and served until 2000. Reta and E.P. enjoyed rodeoing in so many states and Canada, and making life-long friends.

Reta treasures her varied roles in life a wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, ribbon-runner, and NSPRA Ribbon Roping Director.



Bob Williamson

Bob Williamson's pro rodeo career began in 1954 when he joined Cliff Claggetts Traveling Rodeo. He rode broncs, steer, and bulls, out rode for chuck wagon as well as drove both big and pony chuck wagons. This is where he met Fay Claggett. Bob and Faye worked together rodeoing for many years.

Bob retired from rough stock in 1960 and bought a rope horse.

In 1971 he built an indoor building 30 wide x 180 long where he practiced and taught his two sons, grandchildren and many others to enjoy roping

Over the years Bob had been instrumental in starting the Senior Pro Rodeo in Canada as well as serving on the board of the Foothills Cowboy Association and many local rodeo committees.

He competed in the calf roping at the F.C.A. finals along with both sons Tim and cliff. Over 37 years bob was successful at many rodeos, finals and jackpots, where he competed in calf roping and team roping and along with Faye at the ribbon roping.

Bob's horses were always a subject of pride. His horsemanship and love of horses he shared with many.

It was for the love of roping he continued to travel and compete until his accidental death in 1997.

37 years of roping, he loved it all.



Mario Cicucci

Mario Ciucci was born in Sacramento, California on October 23, 1942. He grew up in the country. At 11 years old he started working on a 1000 acre cattle ranch in Thornton, California.

In 1961-1969 Mario joined the California cowboys Association and began his passion to ride bareback horses. He participated in the Jim shoulders bareback riding school in 1962.

In 1969-1975 Mario joined the RCA (Rodeo Cowboys Association-now known as the PRCA.) rodeos, while managing a 2500 head cattle ranch in Clements, California.

The ranch made him an offer, he put rodeo on hold for the next 16 years to ranch full time.

In 1971 Mario ran a bucking horses riding school with John Hawkins (1963 world champion bareback rider). One of the best students to graduate the school was Pat Parelli.

Pat went on to the PRCA and is now nationally known for his natural horsemanship clinics. In 1978 Mario moved to Nevada. In 1993 the Senior Finals Rodeo was in Reno and he was a spectator. After the finals, the NSPRA card was bought and the fun started again with his friends!

Reta treasures her varied roles in life a wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, ribbon-runner, and NSPRA Ribbon Roping Director.

One of his greatest achievements today is his two daughters and five granddaughters.

Mario is currently working with local high school students in the bareback riding event.

Two of his students are brothers who hold the 1st and 2nd seat in bareback riding event in Nevada high school rodeo standings. The brothers are headed to the high school national finals.



Ron McNare

Ron was born in 1955 at Douglas, Wyoming and has lived there every since.

He has two children; son Chad and daughter Bridget Stinson, both living in Douglas Wyoming and seven grandchildren. He has been in the general contracting business for 35 years.

He has been involved in NSPRA for the last 15 years with the Douglas Senior Pro Rodeo committee, also involved with the Wyoming State High School State Finals for the last 10 years. Although not a competitor in the senior in Senior Pro Rodeo he is very active in producing the Douglas Senior Pro Rodeo.

He is very community oriented and appreciates the benefits the NSPRA brings to Douglas and the surrounding area. He also stays very busy following the grandkids in football, wrestling, baseball and 4-H.

The Douglas Wyoming Senior Pro rodeo is one of the most outstanding rodeos on the tour and Bob Stoddard says they would not have the rodeo if Ron was not involved.

The work ethic and dedication to NSPRA is why Ron has been selected to the Hall of Fame.

2012 Inductees

John South

John South was born at Canadian, Hemphill County, Texas on November 24, 1942. His parents, Toots and Lazelle South, worked on the Lazy B Ranch at the time of his birth. The family moved to the Frank Chambers Ranch in Roberts County, Texas when he was 2 years old.

John and his younger brother, Jim, were cowboys before they knew about any other occupations. They learned cowboy skills... riding, roping, building fence, fixing water gaps and wind mills at an early age.

Work was the first priority, but there was time to play also.

The most fun was playing "rodeo cowboy" taking the identity of Casey Tibbs, Jim Shoulders, Harry Tompkins, John Farris, Toots Mansfield and other top hands while performing at Cheyenne, Fort Worth, Madison Square Garden and other famous rodeos.

The Chambers Ranch was 25 miles from Miami and the school bus, a Chevrolet Coupe, was the mode of transportation. Often the bus driver took time out to chase a herd of antelope should they cross the road in front of him. Another brother, Lloyd, joined the family in 1951. The South's moved to Downtown Miami in 1959. This move allowed participation in football, 6-man one year and 8-man the next, basketball and other sports. John, and thirteen classmates, graduated in 1961.

John's uncle, John O. Stovall, took him to a Texas A&M football game when he was 12 years old. That single experience instilled the desire to attend college at Texas A&M. In 1961 Texas A&M was a military school and all students had to participate in ROTC for two years.

Soon after arriving on campus John learned of the upcoming All Aggie Rodeo and managed to get entered in the bareback riding. A hometown buddy got him connected with cowboys who loaned him a rigging, spurs and some much needed instruction. The third place finish was a thrill and began a love of competition lasting for over fifty years.

When the two year ROTC sentence was completed the primary goal at college became making the rodeo team representing Texas A&M at NIRA rodeos. Events entered were expanded to include bronc riding, steer wrestling, calf roping and ribbon roping.

Making a 1.0 GPR was necessary to rodeo and was probably the key to graduating on schedule in 1965. The lessons learned and contacts made in rodeo have served John well.

John taught school in Buckholts, Central Texas, for three years before deciding there must be a better way to starve to death. He went back to Texas A&M for a Masters Degree obtained in 1970.

By chance he learned of interviews for Assistant County Extension Agent positions and was hired to go to Denton County in North Texas. He served there three years, moved to Decatur, in Wise County, serving there fourteen years and retired after fourteen years in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, in 2001. In addition to being a job he loved, Extension allowed time to hone cowboy skills after work, on weekends and vacations.

Although he rodeoed on weekends throughout his career, retirement opened new opportunities for John. He had participated in Senior Pro rodeos when they came to Texas, so deciding to follow the childhood dream of rodeoing full time in pursuit of a world championship was an easy decision. He began the 2001 rodeo season at Longmont, CO and participated in the remaining rodeos and SNFR that year.

The 2002 season began with John following F.W. Lynch to the April rodeos in Nevada. When F.W. went home in June, he traveled with Doug Hough and later in the year with Carol Stevenson and Arlyn Simms. Guidance from these seasoned pros resulted in John realizing his dream of winning a world championship in tie down roping. And, as a bonus, he and Carol won the ribbon roping championship.

Since then he has been blessed with six additional tie down championships, another ribbon roping championship and year end titles in tie down, ribbon roping and team roping in the Canadian Senior Pro Rodeo Association. John is quick to give credit to God for being blessed with some good horses...Doc, Fish, Paint, Fred and Smarty, and safe travel.

Because Senior Pro Rodeo has meant so much to him, John has tried to give back to the association. He served as Judging Coordinator, then served five and a half years on the Executive Board and four and a half years as General Manager.

The friendships made, miles traveled, sights seen and good times enjoyed in Senior Pro Rodeo far and away exceeded any "speed bumps" incurred along the way.

John gives thanks to his wife, Sandra, his children, DeDe, Bill, Sonja, Holly, Christine and Lauren, and his friends for their contributions to his success.



Butch Terrell



Butch Terrell was raised on a farm/ranch in Western Nebraska. He graduated from the University of Nebraska with a degree in Ag Economics and Animal Science.

Butch worked for USDA in ag finance for 15 years and owned and operated several businesses. He is currently in wellness business for the past 18 years and ranching for the past 14 years at Wheatland, WY.

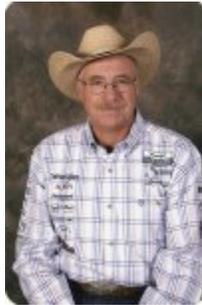
Butch started rodeoing in college and entered all 6 standard events throughout college. He decided to drop saddle broncs and bulls after college.

He was blessed with considerable success in bareback riding for 20 years and steer wrestling for 45 years. He has won a couple of World Championships in the NSPRA. "I praise God for all my blessings and especially the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for paying my entry fees into Heaven. I pray God will help me to be the Christian example and witness to encourage others to receive Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior!"

~Butch Terrell



Brad Remer



Brad was born on June 15, 1949 to Clarence E. and Elizabeth Ilene Remer in Townsend, Montana. From the time he was born, his Grandma Elbert nicknamed him "The Cowboy" so I guess you could say he was destined to rodeo.

He grew up and lived in numerous places around Montana and Idaho because his father was an ironworker and needed to be where the work was. They eventually settled in Twin Falls, Idaho where his love for rodeo bloomed.

Brad had a love and compassion for animals, especially horses. While going to high school Brad worked for a local stock contractor, Jake Pope, which hooked him on the sport of rodeo. In high school Brad rode bulls, roped calves, and bulldogged.

His mom wasn't willing to sign permission slips for him to ride bulls so he conned his mom's best friend to sign the permission slips instead so he could ride each weekend. He was burned out with team roping early on because he turned out steer after steer for Jake. He eventually started team roping again after he got a call from a good friend, Buck LaRocque.

He married Pam in 1973 and hung up his bull rope. He quickly picked the calf rope back up as he thought it better suited a married man's lifestyle. His family supported him with whatever he did from that moment on and he lived and breathed roping.

If it could be roped he wanted to rope it! He was even known to rope his kids and grandkids on a trampoline.

He was president of the Atomic Days Rodeo, in his hometown of Arco, Idaho, for over 20 years. In the early 90's Brad joined the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association, which he enjoyed very much. He loved going to Senior Pro Rodeos in Arizona, Nevada and Montana.

Along with being a NSPRA member, he was previously a member of the PRCA, ICA (Idaho Cowboys Association), the EIRA (Eastern Idaho Rodeo Association) and the ImPRA (Intermountain Professional Rodeo Assoc.)

In 1996 he was acknowledged as the oldest competitor at the ImPRA finals. He served as the calf roping director for the ImPRA and later as the NSPRA calf roping director from 2007 to 2009. His dedication to the sport of rodeo was evident as he was just as content behind the calf roping chutes as he was in the arena.

He would never miss an opportunity to help a young roper trying to get started. One of his favorite sayings was, "do as I say, not as I do".

The family of Brad Remer considers it to be a great honor for him to be inducted into the National Senior Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame.



Alan Capuro



I, Allen Capurro, was born as one of the 4th generation of farmers/ranchers, to my parents, Louis and Gen Capurro. I was raised on a ranch that originally helped to supply the Comstock Mining area of Virginia City with fresh vegetables, hay, grain, meat and dairy products around the outlying areas of south Reno, Nevada.

I was educated in Reno schools and the University of Nevada before entering the U. S. Army Reserve. My youthful years were spent on every aspect of farming and ranching. I milked cows from age 15 until I was 40.

My cousin and I took over operations of the existing ranch and a few years later, with another childhood friend, we established a potato growing and packing business north of Reno.

I participated in the Nevada State Farm Bureau organization and served three terms as our county president. Me and my wife, Carol, raised three children: Steven, Clint and Suzanne and have enjoyed their spouses and the many grandchildren they gave us. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary this year.

Throughout my life, I have joined many local and state team roping groups. I have been a member of the PRCA since 1962, but my rodeos entered were limited because of ranching duties. I was very fortunate to be fairly competitive and placed at many that I entered.

After my semi retirement, I joined the NSPRA (NOTRA) and traveled intensely for several years, winning three World Championships and one Canadian Senior Title in team roping. During this time we saw much of our beautiful country, met many fine people and made life long friends and memories, as far east as Alabama, north into Canada, south into Arizona and all the states between them.

I still rodeo as a PRCA Gold Card Member in the Gold Card Competition and am fortunate to be healthy enough to rope at many jackpots around the country.

I am honored to be a long time Charro Camp member of the Ranchero Visitadores.

We live in Reno in late spring, summer and fall, but Arizona's team roping atmosphere is our home in the winter. I enjoy spending time with my wife, our family, my horse, competing at many team roping events and fishing with sons, son in law and grandsons.

We enjoy being outside in northern Nevada or central Arizona and are always anxious for the changes that each area has to offer.

2013 Inductees

Chuck Rex

Chuck was born in Safford, Arizona in 1950 and has lived in Arizona his entire life. He attended Central Arizona College where he met Deanna, his wife of 39 years, and subsequently moved to Tucson where they still reside.

From PRCA Bareback Champion of the Turquoise Circuit to 4 time Senior Pro Rodeo Bareback Champion, Chuck achieved his life-long dream when he won the All Around title for the first time in 1993 and duplicated his goal in 1994 & 1998.

Like so many of the other future rodeo contestants, Chuck started riding calves when he was a boy. He continued to ride and at age 18, he entered serious competition. He joined the PRCA in 1973. He won the Bareback Championship in the Turquoise Circuit in 1983 at the age of 33.

Chuck became a member of the NSPRA in 1990 and went on to win the Bareback title as a rookie in the Seniors. After picking up numerous titles over the next four years, a freak accident on a bareback horse at the PRCA rodeo in Scottsdale, Arizona in 1994 put him in a life threatening situation.

A split pelvis and multiple internal injuries conjured up thoughts that he might not ever compete again. He spent several days in intensive care and two months using a walker; gradually he was able to get around with the use of a cane.

He stayed out of competition the entire 1995 season and made sure he was absolutely ready before he attempted a comeback.

Showing a lot of guts and grit he jumped out in 1996 and proved to the world the kind of stuff he's made of. He went hard all year and won the Bareback title.

Aside from 1995, Chuck qualified for every Senior National Finals from 1990 to 1998. It was also in 1996 that his wife, Deanna, joined him on the Senior Pro tour with winnings of her own.

He felt truly honored to be able to rodeo with the great legends of the sport who have been his idols since he was a kid. He enjoyed the willingness of everyone to help and the close relationship of the members of the rodeo association.

Rusty Garret

I, Russell D. Garrett was born January 5, 1955 in Ashland, Missouri. Known as "Rusty" to my friends, I attended twelve years of school in the South Boone County School system. I worked on my uncle's farm and ranch but the best job I had was working for my father in his construction company. He built homes.

I learned a great deal about the construction industry but the most important thing I learned was how to make a living for myself. After a while I moved into the city and worked for 3M. It did not take me long to figure out that this country boy needed space and green grass and I did not like working for the "other fellow", I wanted to be my own boss.

As a young man, I always had my own horses and belonged to a local saddle club. My horses were my best friends. I trained them myself and learned to care for them, just as I do now. I did not learn to rope, my family was not into the rodeo scene.

I moved to Tucson, AZ with my late wife, Chella McNiece in 1982 and fell in love with the Southwest. We met several "rodeo" people and we got interested in Senior Rodeo, in 1990 we became Sponsors and to this day I have committed myself to this organization. I received my Gold Card and membership in 2000.

I met my wife Mary L. Garrett in 1998 at the Hall of Fame Introduction party in Reno, NV and we have been together since the night we met. We wonder what and where we would be today without each other.

I have inherited Mary's children and grandchildren, I have never had children before and it is a very different situation being a parent and grandparent. I'm so proud when I am called Papa Rusty.. I feel funny and think "they are really talking to me"... I am Papa Rusty.

I am president of Garrett Holding,LLC and PP# Real- Estate Company located in Tucson, AZ. My wife, Mary, is owner and operator of a cattle ranch located in the Blackfeet Reservation in Browning, MT. We work hand and hand together and keep our business out of our daily lives. I believe that is what helps to make our marriage so strong and respectful.

We are both passionate individuals about serving our communities and having empathy for children and the elderly individuals who may not be fortunate to have the everyday needs of food, clothing, shelter and health care.

We support many organizations and programs for the young and old alike in Arizona and Montana, I'm a believer in giving back; you never know when you may need help in some capacity or another.

I enjoy the Rodeo Circuit and I support and am also a member of the National Senior Pro Rodeo and the Indian National Finals Rodeo, Youth rodeos, and open Rodeos. We live a very full life. Our hobbies consist of horseback riding for charities, boating and fishing in Montana and we love Arizona sporting teams.

Life is full for me and I wouldn't have it any other way. Enjoy while you can!!



Deanna Rex

Deanna was born in Tucson, Arizona in 1955. Her mother was from a ranching family in North Dakota and her father was born and raised in Tucson and was a bull rider himself.

They met while attending a rodeo. Out of 5 kids, 4 of them would go on to compete in rodeos.

Deanna attended Central Arizona College on a rodeo scholarship. This is where she met Chuck Rex, her future husband. Subsequently they moved to Tucson and married, some 39 years ago today.

During Deanna's career she has been a member of the AJRA, NIRA, LERA, WPRCA and the NSPRA associations.

One thing Deanna's mother could never understand was her longing to turn 40. This is when Deanna knew she could finally join the Senior Pro tours.

Unfortunately she only rode one Senior rodeo before suffering a broken leg at the following one. This did allow her to recoup along with Chuck and then accompany him during his comeback in 1996.

When Deanna returned she won three significant titles and her special grey mare won Horse of the Year. Deanna really cherishes all the wonderful relationships they made and places she visited on the Senior Pro Tour.

Deanna has once again started training on a new horse and hopes to be back again very soon.



Mary Garret

My name is Mary Louise Garrett, born January 6, 1949, on the Black Feet Indian Reservation. My great grandfather was awarded the legacy award as a historical figure that had great impact on Montana's western heritage. He was an Italian immigrant and my great grandmother was a full-blooded Black Feet Indian.

Horses have played an important part of our lives living on the reservation; either it was our transportation, enjoyment or competition. My father was a jockey; my uncle and aunt were Bronc riders so I have had a background of western ways from birth.

My education was in the Browning Public School system and Reservation Boarding Schools. I attended smaller colleges and later Arizona State University. I have worked in the area of Social Work off and on at the Reservation and other areas throughout Indian country. Being involved with this work has always brought me pleasure while helping the Indian community.

My life changed when I met William "Bill" Deveraux and became a rodeo wife. We farmed ranched and went to numerous rodeos. I competed and helped with rodeos but my claim to fame was ribbons.

My first introduction the National Old Timers Rodeo Association was at their first finals, 1979, in Las Vegas. Of course that year I could only warm up the horses and sit in the stands and watch. I was never so happy in my life when I finally turned forty. My first partner was Arnie Johnson from cut Bank, MT. our first year, 1990, we won the Canadian Championship. In 1991 I was Reserve Champion in the U.S.

In 1993 I was crowned the Ambassador for Senior Pro Rodeo. By this time I was well acquainted with most of our members and took my position very serious. If I was at a rodeo and did not have my own horse, there was always someone there that would loan me a horse for the arena work.

I developed the flag presentations, I either had a person from their state purchase one or I would buy it. I carried the flags with me to every rodeo or my friend, Mary Stetler would take them. During my reign as the Ambassador, I worked the Canadian Senior Pro as well. We had cowboy Church Service and I accompanied the fellowship person.

We had a lot more members in those years and people volunteered their services to help make our rodeos a success.

Our rodeo and ranch life went on great until 1998, when I lost my husband from a long illness. Just when I thought my life was virtually over I met the most amazing man. They say destiny is just around the corner and it was.

A true love transpired. I met Russell Garrett or "Rusty" as he is known in our Senior Pro Rodeo life. We were both attending the Senior Pro rodeo finals in Reno, NV. We have been together ever since.

He has been very good to my children and grandchildren. We live in Tucson, AZ where his work is and we manage to get back to the ranch on the Blackfeet Reservation in Browning, MT whenever possible.

We both enjoy sponsoring the Senior Pro Rodeo and the past Canadian Senior Pro Rodeos. We have also supported the Indian National Finals, Tucson Rodeo, Open Rodeo's, Youth Rodeo's, and the College Rodeo in Tucson. Not only are we passionate about rodeo, we also love the communities we are associated with and support the many programs they have that are in need.

We are so blessed to have the life we have and the positive people we associate with.

2014 Inductees

Bob Hunt

I was born in Phoenix, AZ on June 24, 1938, attended elementary schools in Phoenix and graduated from Peoria High School in 1956. I was always active in sports, mainly football and basketball.

I became interested in horses when my first cousin, Gene Johnson, took me to the north Phoenix Western Saddle Club when I was 12 or 13 and my equine enthusiasm took off from there.

After high school, I attended ASU where I was active in Rodeo Club and competed in NIRA as a team roper. I graduated with a BS in Agronomy in 1963.

I continued my rodeo interest with the ARA for several years then joined the NSPRA in Las Vegas in 1979 and competed in the team roping throughout the Southwest. I have a wonderful family; wife of 54 years (Jane), 2 sons (Steve and John), 6 grandkids and 4 great-grandkids. They are my life support team!

My NSPRA activities included some wins and places. I won the 50-60 team roping at the AZ Livestock Show with Al Eli of Montana. That put us in the Finals in 1991 with a go-around win.

I won circuit champions with Danny Mundall in 2003 and 2004. I sponsored several luncheons at Buckeye for the NOTRA judging schools and had fun doing it.

In 1990, I chaired the Buckeye Valley Hellzapoppin Rodeo Committee for the Main Street Bravo organization. In 1991, I moved on with the Buckeye Valley Chamber of Commerce under Rodeo Chairmen, Jay Broadbent and Ron Noble where I acted as the Liaison to the NSPRA and stock contractors until my retirement in 2004 when I was honored with the Hellzapoppin Top Hand Award for my 14 years of service.

The Sr Pro rodeo which began in Buckeye in 1990 still continues and I was honored for my long term service again in 2013.

I have enjoyed my position and the people that I met along the way. Thanks very much for the honor and I know I will be in with some top PRCA cowboys. I appreciate the honor.

Perry M. Di Loreto

Perry M. Di Loreto - A symbol of determination, perseverance, excellence and commitment to family, community and country.

At 47 years old, a time when most worry about pulled muscles and extended recovery times, Perry took up the sport of rodeo.

He earned his Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association card at the age of 55, and went on to win both the Senior Pro Rodeo National Finals in 1997 and the “One Day - \$1 million” Reno Rodeo Invitational Team Roping title in 2005.

Over the years, Perry had the opportunity to assist special needs children and give them the experience of riding as a therapy and he raised funds and built the Therapeutic Indoor Riding Arena at Marvin Piccolo School.

Perry was also the driving force behind the Indoor Activity Center at the Kids Cottage that is operated in conjunction with the Children’s Cabinet. Both of these projects were in Reno, Nevada.

But there is one enduring commitment to a special group of Nevadans that is foremost in Perry’s heart.

Perry founded the Nevada Patriot Fund and rebranded as the Nevada Military Support Alliance, the NMSA’s mission is to assist Nevada service members and their families when and where they need assistance most.

In recognition of his commitment and contributions on behalf of our Military, Perry was recently awarded the “Patrick Henry Award”, which is the civilian equivalent of the Distinguished Service Medal, by the National Guard Association of the United States. Perry has been recognized by 2012 Multiple Sclerosis Champion of Champions and the 2012 Raymond I. Smith Civic Leader of the Year Award presented by The Reno/Sparks Chamber of Commerce.

Other awards Perry has received are Builder of the Year 1987 & 2011, American Lung Association Honoree 2002, City of Reno Outstanding Service provided to the City of Reno 2007, Inducted into the Home Builders “Hall of Fame” 2012 and Inducted into the Junior Achievement Business Leaders Hall of Fame 2013.



Tom Collins



Tom “Commish” Collins was born in San Francisco and moved to Southern Nevada when he was two years old. He began his rodeo career in the Little Britches Rodeo Association and then the Las Vegas High School Rodeo Association where he was a National Qualifier in Bull Riding.

After graduating from Western High School, he received a scholarship to rodeo for Midwestern University and later for Texas Tech, competing in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association.

After college Tom moved back to Southern Nevada and began working in construction before joining the IBEW apprenticeship program to eventually become a Journeyman Lineman for Nevada Power installing power lines for 18+ years and later started his own company, Collins Power Services.

Always one to give back to the community in which he lives, Tom spent many hours mentoring and encouraging youth as a baseball coach from Little League to American Legion, a Pop Warner football coach, a youth basketball coach and is still a member of the Boy Scouts of America Las Vegas Area Council.

Tom served on the North Las Vegas Planning Commission for 7 years, retiring as Chairman. His strong commitment to public service prompted him to run for Nevada State Assembly in 1992. He won and was elected to the first of 5 terms in the Nevada State Legislature. In 2004 he ran for the Clark County Commission and was elected to his first of three terms.

Currently serving in his final term as Clark County Commissioner, Tom sits on many boards and committees. He is the Chairman of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA), a board member for Las Vegas Events and is a member of the NFR Committee.

“Commish” was involved in the discussions between the PRCA and Las Vegas Events to keep the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas for the next 10 years. Tom also serves on the NACO Executive Committee, the NACO Board of Directors, the Nevada Legislative Committee on Public Lands, the AB227 Nevada Land Management Task Force and many others.

Tom has remained active in rodeo and the agricultural lifestyle in many capacities during his political career. He continued competing in rodeo in bareback, saddle bronc, team roping, steer wrestling and bull riding over the years through his memberships in various amateur associations, the RCA and PRCA.

He joined the NSPRA in 1993 and was a NSPRA Bareback Qualifier in 1994 & 1995. He has been a devoted supporter and friend to the UNLV Rodeo team for many years. He is an avid supporter and contributor to the Las Vegas High School Rodeo Association and Junior High Rodeo Association, as well as many high school and junior high rodeo clubs throughout the state of Nevada,

He formerly raised beef cattle and currently raises bucking stock that is used in many levels of rodeo, including the Nevada Junior High Finals, Nevada High School Finals, West Coast Regional Collegiate Finals and many other amateur rodeos and jackpots.

Through his concern for agriculture and the western way of life, Tom is also a member of the Nevada Horse Council, Nevada Cattleman’s Association, Clark County Junior Livestock Association, Elks Las Vegas #1468, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, is a Lifetime Member of the Fraternity of the Desert Bighorn and continues to be involved in various political and non-profit organizations.

2015 Inductees

Butch and Sandy Schara

Buster Webb

Mike Brewer

2016 Inductees

Terry Sills

Born on a family farm in Shawnee, OK, Terry worked at a nearby race horse barn as a boy and snuck out occasionally to ride bulls at local amateur rodeos.

His family moved to Phoenix in 1968 where he attended both high school and college. On his 22nd birthday, he joined the Phoenix Police Department and spent the next 36 years with the department, the last 31 of which he served as a motorcycle officer.

An outstanding officer, he received numerous commendations and certificates of recognition for dedicated service. He became a motor instructor, a nationally recognized expert on impaired driving, a lobbyist for the police department with the state legislature, and spent the last few years in the Traffic Education and Safety Unit.

When Terry joined the NSPRA in 1992, he brought with him the same dedication and hard work ethic that made him a highly decorated police officer.

Although his career as a police officer and his devotion to his family kept Terry from rodeoing full time, he did make a run for the TR title in 2011, going into the SNFR in first and ending up third for the year.

Terry also rodeoed with the Law Enforcement Rodeo Association for over 20 years, winning numerous championships in TR and CR.

Although he didn't know what he was getting himself into at the time, he volunteered to be Stall & RV Boss at the SNFR in LV. Working all day and half the night for most of finals' week, Terry fulfilled his duties with utmost composure and professionalism, doing his best to accommodate everyone's needs and requests.

In addition, he took on the job of SNFR slack announcer, another difficult and time consuming job requiring patience, rodeo savvy, and commitment to the total production.

In spite of the long hours and the numerous demands, requests and questions which he dealt with throughout the week long SNFR, Terry was always polite, cheerful, positive, and efficient. He performed these duties for NSPRA for five years.

Terry and his wife, Cheryl, have three daughters, two son-in-laws, and three grandkids that are still active in the rodeo way of life. Although Terry was unable to compete continuously in NSPRA, he truly loves the organization and the people who make it so great!

Cowboy Connection Ministry

Raised in a large family back in Michigan, Jerry developed a strong work ethic early in life. He soon knew he wanted to be a cowboy, and at 22 years of age, he began roping calves under the tutelage of Gerald Kummer.

He enjoyed success as a calf roper, qualifying twice for the Mountain States Circuit Finals. An excellent horseman, Jerry trains his own horses and has four of the horses he trained competed on by NFR cowboys.

Married in 1992, Jerry and his wife, Andrea, responded to a strong calling from God and began full time ministry in 1997. Their ministry took them to rodeos in Cheyenne, WY, Dodge City, KS, the New Mexico State Fair, the Mountain States Circuit Finals, and the NFR in Las Vegas, NV.

They have ministered at various rodeo Bible camps, Cowboy Churches, and even at the men's prison in Madras, OR three different times. Cowboy Connection Ministry is a logical, natural merging of Jerry's love of rodeo with his and Andrea's faith in God. In 1995, he joined NSPRA and competed for 21 years, working CR, RR, and TR, and winning the Runner-up Calf Roper Title three times. Once Jerry turned 40, they began traveling extensively with NSPRA and held cowboy church services at many of the rodeos.

They have had funeral services for NSPRA members as well as weddings. For six years, Cowboy Connection has sponsored a church calf roping for any contestant over 40.

A testimony to the strength and power of their faith is Andrea's recovery from a stroke. The care that Jerry gave Andrea, combined with their faith in God, resulted in what many call a miracle. Andrea can now ride a horse and do most of the things she did prior to the stroke. Jerry gives Andrea much of the credit for his success.

Cowboy Connection Ministry Mission Statement: To be a source of encouragement and a demonstration of God's love to every cowboy, cowgirl and rancher.

To provide for them the opportunity to hear the word of God preached at a place they feel comfortable, whether it be the arena, the grandstand, under the awning of a trailer, off a horse, in the barn - any place in the great outdoors.



John Kissel

When John and Karen Kissel married 48 years ago, they not only committed to a long term successful marriage, they also quickly became a well know team of professionals, much in demand for providing judging, flagging, timing and secretarial services.

John, a junior high and high school math teacher for 30 years, joined the PRCA shortly after he and Karen were married in order to rope calves and team rope with his Dad. His teaching position allowed him to travel the rodeo circuit during the summer with Honeycutt Rodeo Company as a pickup man.

In approximately 1989, John joined the NSPRA and placed in the calf roping at four of the five rodeos he entered that summer. Those five rodeos were among NSPRA's biggest and best: Rocky Ford, CO; Longmont, CO; Woodland Park, CO; Henderson,

CO; Douglas, WY. John has always trained his own rope horses and also prefers to flag rodeos on one of his own.

In the late 90s, he began judging PRCA rodeos and naturally worked into judging NSPRA rodeos also. He was selected as pick-up man at the Mountain States Circuit Finals and the Turquoise Circuit Finals several different years. He also judged the NSPRA Finals for ten years. In 2015 John was named Women's Professional Rodeo Association "Judge of the Year".

John has written a monthly article for the Fellowship of Christian Cowboy's newsletter, "The Line Rider", since 2007, and continues to do so today. He and Karen have always been devout Christians, and the way they have lived their lives and performed their jobs is testimony to their faith.

The utmost professional in the performance of his judging duties, John is always at the rodeo early, putting up the barrier, setting barrel markers, helping committees with their preparation, and making sure everything is ready to start on time. His expertise as a judge includes helping the committee to put on a well run rodeo. Always concerned about fairness to contestants and enforcing the rulebook, John has even been known to stop a rodeo to work ground that was unsafe.

Needless to say, when event directors arrive at a rodeo and find out he is judging, they breathe a sigh of relief knowing that John will make sure things are done right!



Karen Kissel

In 1968, Karen Kissel turned 18, graduated from high school and married John, all within eight days. Two and a half years later, their first son, Joe, was born, followed by another son, Dude, two and a half years after Joe.

Starting out the first few years of her adult life as a wife and mother of two, Karen did not, in the beginning, envision herself becoming a professional rodeo secretary.

Instead, she worked part time in a day care center and eventually opened a Licensed Home Day Care of her own which she ran for 10 years.

When John began picking up for Honeycutt Rodeo Company, Karen immediately became involved. She started out timing and learning the secretary system. She had the good fortune to work under the auspices of veteran secretaries, Virginia Honeycutt, Alice Alsbaugh, and Linda Alsbaugh, for five or six years.

During that time, she did everything that needed doing before going to a secretary's school in Colorado Springs and becoming certified. In 1988, Karen began secretarial work on her own, working for other contractors in addition to Honeycutt Rodeo Co. In the past 28 years, she has secretaried numerous rodeos for the PRCA, NSPRA & GCPRA.

Karen was selected to time the WNFR in 2003, and also timed at the National Circuit Finals that same year. She had timed the Mountain States Circuit Finals before that.

She timed the Turquoise Circuit Finals three times and was selected twice as their Finals Rodeo Secretary.

The first year she attended the NSPRA finals in approximately 2004, she sat and watched John rope. The next three years, she served as an official timer, which led to her becoming the NSPRA Finals secretary for 4 years in Winnemucca and another 4 years at Las Vegas.

Karen's expertise as a rodeo secretary is the result of many years of experience. She is knowledgeable about all aspects of rodeo and can answer all questions on the spot. She posts results and pays off accurately and quickly.

Although very focused and businesslike, Karen always takes time to give a big smile and quick hug. She says the neatest part of her job is the one on one relationship with the cowboys and the cowgirls! No wonder contestants love her.

2017 Inductees

Vern Goodman

Vern Goodman was born and raised with a family connection to ranching and farming in Tucson, AZ. He started in rodeo early with Jr. and High School rodeos, when it fit in the schedule with football, baseball and basketball. After a year at Arizona Western College playing football, he transferred to the University of Arizona. While at the U of A, he married Susan, and joined the rodeo club. He served as club president and was a team member during his years there, attending several college rodeo finals. After receiving his degree in Ag Econ, he trained racehorses for 20 years. During that time, Vern and Susan had 4 children, Amy, Joel, Paul and Stephanie, who are great supporters of their Mom and Dad, but have many unique passions of their own. We love keeping up with their lives and lives of our two special grandchildren, Conner and Madison. In 1981, the family moved to Northern Utah and opened the Cache Valley Horseman, which he ran for 27 years.

After the kids went on their various ways, he sold the store and moved back to Arizona and started roping more, joining the NSPRA. This great organization has provided wonderful experiences through rodeo, but mostly friendships to last a lifetime. In 2001, Vern won the championship in the 50s Healing with his great partner and friend, Norm Cotton. He was also Reserve Champion in 1998, 1999, 2002 and 2003. He and Alan Capurro won the Canadian Championship in 2001. Vern served on the NSPRA Executive Board for 3 years and has gained many great memories and friendships from this wonderful group. Thanks for this exceptional honor.

Dick Burge

For Dick Burge, it all started in Lusk, Wyoming, riding calves for a silver dollar at the age of eight or nine. When he was twelve years old, Dick moved to Loveland, Colorado and rode calves in the county fair. Dick attended Lamar Community College on a rodeo scholarship.

While in college he began going to amateur rodeos and got his RCA (PRCA) card in 1971. It was then that Dick began riding Saddle Broncs and also did a little Team Roping on the side. At the age of 50, Dick was able to obtain his PRCA Gold Card, which he still holds today.

In 1986, he became a member of the National Old Timers Rodeo Association, which is now known as the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association. Burge was the Bronc Riding Director for the NSPRA in the late 1980s. He won the Southwest Region Saddle Bronc

Championship in 2002. It was also in 2002 that Dick broke his hip and from that time on concentrated sole on Team Roping.

Dick Burge has been to at least eighteen Senior Pro finals in both Saddle Bronc riding and Team Roping.

2018 Inductees

Jose "Pepe" Tomeu

Jose "Pepe" Tomeu was born in Camaguey, Cuba in 1943, where he was raised on a 9000 acre ranch in southern Cuba. He was a bareback rider and a pasture roper. Life was good for him and his family until Fidel Castro over threw the Batista government and seized the family ranch. He and his family fled to Florida forfeiting everything they owned. In 1961 he and his father joined Brigade 2506. This is a group that was trained by the CIA and go back and over throw Fidel. The battle that ensued became known as the "Bay of Pigs". Pepe was wounded and spent the next 22 years of his life in a POW camp along with his father and about 1100 other Brigade members. In 1962 the United States negotiated a release of the prisoners. Pepe still has his documentation to freedom. Upon his return to the United States he joined the US Army and in 1966 he met the love of his life, Fern. Before they were married he worked for the Sugarland Ranch where the manager taught him to rope competitively and soon a Foy Reynold's bronc named "Thunder" convinced him to stick to calf roping, so he became a one-event cowboy. In 1968 after his discharge from the Army he and Fern married, and he became a US Citizen. He went to work for a fire department in south Florida and took college courses to get certified in EMT and Firefighting. In his spare time when not at the fire house he worked for a pest control company and eventually owned his own company for 35 years in Alachua, FL. Pepe and Fern have two wonderful sons, Joseph and Daniel who married two special ladies, Steph and Trish, and they have four awesome grandchildren; Taylor, 18; Sage, 17; Erin, 10; and Christian, 8. Joseph follows his father's passion for calf roping along with his daughter, Sage.

Pepe has been a member of the NSPRA since 2011. It is a long way from Alachua, Florida., but he and Fern make the trip every year to come to the rodeos. He has been instrumental in bringing the "Tough Enough to Wear Pink" to the NSPRA, has helped announce rodeos in Crawford, NE and is always willing to step in and auction an item or two off at the Hall of Fame Banquet. He is a member of the Florida Cattleman's Association and a Gold Card Member in the PRCA. He has gained many great memories and friendships from this wonderful group of people. "A man who claims he is self-made" forgets he has a mother."

Ron Miller

Ron Miller was born in Casper, WY. Rodeo and roping have been a part of his life since he was 10 years old. At that time in Wyoming there were a few Junior Rodeos and a lot of team ropings. When he started out roping, the team roping was still "hard and fast". Rodeo and the times have changed over the years. In high school rodeo, Ron calf roped and steer wrestled. He won second in the calf roping in the Wyoming State High School Rodeo in 1966. He went to Casper College and rodeos for Dale Stiles. In

1970 he was drafted by the US Army and gave his country two years of service. In 1984 he married Kay. He and Kay had a very successful business with Beltone. Ron has served on the Nebraska and Arizona Board of Hearing. He is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the PRCA.

Ron joined the NSPRA in 1989, card # 4764, and competed for 23 consecutive years. During this time, he won six Reserve World Champions with four different partners, Burt Bilby, Norm Cotton, Danny Costa, and Jake Milton. In 2004 him and Burt won the World Championship. On top of that, he also won three circuit championships. He served on the Board of Directors for three years, serving as the finance chairman. Ron has been absent from the arena the last few years but he is looking forward to the coming year. "This great organization has provided wonderful experiences, but most of all he has developed friendships that will last a lifetime." He looks forward to making more memories.

2019 Inductees



Bill & Elayne Nevill, Card #9540

Bill and Elayne Nevill of Iola, Texas were both born and raised into ranching families. Bill met Elayne in 1961 and were married in 1965. They have been rodeoing together since then. They have one son Scott, one daughter Jo Lyn and five grandchildren. Their son manages the ranching operation so that Bill and Elayne can go play. Bill joined the Texas Senior Pro Association in 1991 and the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association in 1994 and has received numerous awards over ten years. Most notably, Bill won the tie down roping at the 1998 NSPRA Finals and All-Around Champion in 2009 and 2015.

Bill and Elayne's personal passion for rodeo and the NSPRA has resulted in immeasurable benefits to the Association over the years. They have made contributions many times quietly behind the scenes. They have enjoyed being members of the association, feel very blessed to have traveled together to as many rodeos over the years, and have made great friends along the way.

Bill and Elayne are still having fun traveling to the rodeos and Bill feels fortunate that at 73 Years old he is still able to rope calves and steers.



Al and Eva Titchener Associate Members

Al and Eva were both raised in eastern Wyoming, Al in Torrington and Eva in Lusk so rodeo was a common part of their communities activities. They first connected with the Senior Pro through their friendships with two Lusk Sr. Pro Rodeo Committee steer wrestlers, Dale Rising and Ken Keller. Starting as only spectators, Al became a board member for Lusk Senior Pro and Eva helped in the registration trailer. Even after leaving the Lusk board, Al continued to be involved at the local level by helping run arena gates and seeking sponsorships. They have been associate members of the NSPRA for over 20 years attending their first of several NSPR finals in Reno in 1994. When Lusk no longer held a rodeo, they have continued to support the NSPRA by donating to the Crawford rodeo.

In 2003 Al and Eva took over a picnic that the Dale Rising family had hosted for several years. Little did they know that their backyard get-together would become an anticipated part of the Lusk Sr. Pro Rodeo for over 10 years. The first picnic drew about 35 people but word spread and the picnic frequently averaged 100 people with one year's attendance at nearly 150. It wasn't uncommon to see those who came for the meal to be in the kitchen helping with food, washing dishes or helping to clean up.

Lifelong friendships and so many special memories have been made through this association. Al and Eva are amazed that by offering some simple hospitality to an exceptional group of people a High School Teacher and a retired Public Works

Supervisor have been honored to become members of the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association Hall of Fame.