



August 2017

The Buffalo Rancher

Official Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Buffalo Association

Important Dates:

2017

August 18-19
RMBA Fall Tour
Carr / Wellington, CO

January 17-20
NBA Winter Conf.
Gold Trophy Show & Sale

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Rocky Mountain Buffalo Association
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Denver, CO 80209

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RMBA Spring Conference A Success

The 21st annual Spring Conference was again held in Loveland, Colorado at the Embassy Suites on March 17th and 18th. It was meeting of the seasoned and the new, along with some prospective buffalo ranchers.

The first business at hand was the board meeting which was followed by the general membership meeting, where members were updated on old and new business, treasures report and the voting in of new board members. Nichole Jeffries and Ace Ward were unanimously voted onto the board to fill the positions of outgoing members Dave Hayes and Boyd Meyer. Jennifer Graves was also elected to the newly created secretary position (see pg. 3 for new board bios).

With all the business completed, Mack Graves, President, Latigo Management and Marketing Services presented a fascinating session on Niche Marketing, by enlightening attendees on the various methods of marketing and the building of a brand that could help those develop their own marketing strategies.

A social hour followed with hors d'oeuvres from Continental Sausage. Dinner featured delicious filets from Rocky Mountain Natural Meats.



A educational and fun bison bingo was played and the last person standing was Jen Graves. Followed by a lively Fun Auction which was led by Ron Bradeen, an assortment of bison related items were sold to the highest bidders raising money for the association.



photos courtesy of Greg Nott

Continued on page 3



*2017
Board of
Directors*

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CU Ralphie Mascot
Program
303/887-9677*

VICE PRESIDENT

*Debbie Thieman
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*Ace Ward
970/488-0003*

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*Nicole Jeffries
303/995-2783*

DIRECTOR

*Tom Stelmach
Peak to Peak Ranch
303/774-0562*

DIRECTOR

*Kyle Stodola
Sun Rise Ranch
720/364-0835*

*RMBA Official Web Site:
buffaloranchers.com*

**All RMBA meeting minutes
and financials are available from
Secretary-Jennifer Graves**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are now right in the middle of summer. As I write this it is the summer solstice and currently 96 degrees outside, which is why I am inside writing this message. From talking to our members, and of course seeing all the pictures on social media, calving season has come and gone and was successful, for the most part.

For whatever reason, in our region it seems, more ranchers have ended up with more bottle babies than normal. Rick and Lindsay Forepaugh ended up with two bottle babies. Make sure you read their great write up on calving and bottle babies in this newsletter.

The abundant moisture we had across much of our region in May greatly helped with the green up of pastures to nourish both moms and calves.

With calving season, for the most part over, ranchers are now looking towards breeding season and before you know it, it will be time for the round up. Now is a good time to check nutritional levels in your grazing pastures, as well as the nutrition of hay that you might have purchased or recently put up.

Each year's grasses and hay can vary in nutrient levels, so monitoring exactly what your buffalo are getting ensures that they are getting the right stuff all the time.

Proper body condition score of your cow herd is important heading into breeding season, but more importantly is the conditioning of your bulls. Bulls expend huge amounts of energy during breeding season, sometimes more concerned about other bulls and breeding than taking the time to eat.

Having your cows and bulls in good condition going into breeding season will help with higher levels of breed up and a better calf crop.

Here in the Rocky Mountain Region and most western states, you can usually find a buffalo burger on the menu of just about any restaurant. This is great

news, and soon you will be able to find more steaks and other cuts of buffalo on menus. When my wife and I



go out to eat we usually always ask for the buffalo and the chefs are doing a better job of preparing the buffalo correctly.

As buffalo becomes more mainstream more consumers are enjoying buffalo for the first time, but still do not know much about it. The other day I heard someone ask how much milk buffalo produce for use in buffalo mozzarella and if it is hard to milk a buffalo since they are so mean. Well, they are confusing water buffalo with our American buffalo (bison).

We should not get annoyed by these comments or when a chef cooks buffalo for the first time and does it incorrectly, we must take advantage of the situation and continue to educate everyone about our great animal and product.

The only way our industry continues to stay strong is to promote it and educate everyone about the American Buffalo. Both how they are raised and how to enjoy the great health benefits of bison (buffalo) meat.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we will see you all at a fantastic Fall Ranch Tour.

John Graves



Meet Your New RMBA Board Members

Ace Ward:

ace@brushmeatprocessors.com
970-488-0003

I was recently elected to be on the board of the RMBA and therefore asked to write an introduction about myself.

I have been around bison in some capacity for most of my life. I grew up on a bison ranch in Southern Colorado, later joined a meat business catering to bison, and now manage a bison harvest facility in Eastern Colorado. While working in the bison meat business I have been involved with meat production, sales, and marketing. This has allowed me to understand cuts of meat, how to package them and the markets in which they sell. Recently, I have been working to increase the standards of bison carcass quality through animal handling and welfare. This has also enabled me to better comprehend the pure importance of bison handling. I have come to recognize that good handling techniques throughout an animal's life, including the duration at a harvest facility, is very important because it creates better tasting meat for the consumer. While managing a harvest facility, I have worked with many bison from many different producers. Working with various producers has given me the ability to recognize good upstream handling practices which also creates a better bison carcass.

The bison business has a lot of growth potential if we all work together to build on the legacy of the bison itself. I am honored to be part of the RMBA team and will do whatever I can to further my knowledge of the bison business and grow within this unique industry that we are each a part of.

Nicole Jeffries:

nicole.jeffries@aol.com
303-995-2783

I am a lifetime member of the RMBA and NBA, a lifelong bison enthusiast, and have been raising bison since middle school under the watchful eye of my parents. We recently "upgraded" our family ranch to more acreage and further out from Denver. It's an amazing experience to relive building bison facilities, fencing, etc from scratch all over again since our move to our new ranch location. I enjoy riding one of my horses around the property or on an adventure in the mountains accompanied by my two dogs. Outside of the "bison lifestyle" I work for a local family owned Bank as a personal banker.



Jennifer Graves:

Jennifer.nmn.gray@gmail.com
720-891-9360



I am so excited to help RMBA as the new secretary. I hope that I can help the board and the members of the association by being one more helping hand. I also have experience taking notes and being a task manager as a former board secretary for the City of Boulder. While I don't have near the bison experience as everyone else, I've been on the sideline for a few years, attending conferences, touring ranches, and learning a lot about the animal and the industry. It doesn't hurt that I spend my weekends and football season with Ralphie (our beloved bison) and have learned more than I ever thought I would about meat processing, pasture management, and ruminant stomachs while at the dinner table.

A Special Thanks to Dave Hayes and Boyd Meyer for their many years of service as RMBA Board members.

Two of our hard working board members have left the board (at least for the time being) after many years of committed dedication to the members of the RMBA.



Dave Hayes was first elected to the board in 2003 as Secretary-Treasurer, serving in that position until 2007 when he was elected as President. He was President until 2010 and after his presidency; he went back to being a board member until 2017. Dave has also served as the Membership Chairman for many years and helped to organize several of the RMBA conferences.

Boyd Meyer was first elected to the board in 2004, served as Vice President from 2005 to 2009 and then back on the board until 2017. Boyd also served as Peak to Peak Show and Sale Chairman and hosted the 2009 Fall Conference which was the first Bison Advantage Workshop. Boyd also took the lead in organizing the Meat Tasting event that RMBA sponsored at the Colorado State Fair.

The members of RMBA extend a hearty **Thank You** to them both for all their time and effort and countless hours toward the success of the RMBA over the years.

Spring Conference, *cont. from pg 1*

Saturday was another full day of sessions. Kyle Stodola led off with a discussion on Farmers Markets and Direct Marketing.



Next, Mark Otterman from Ottermans Meat Processing gave an interesting talk on the different cuts of buffalo and how to prepare them.



The technology session was about Drones In Agriculture. The founders of Colorado Unmanned, Mark Burrows and Steve Rogers, discussed the many possibilities and the regulations governing the use of drones.



Lunch was a burger buffet with the ground provided by Sunrise Bison Ranch.



Grain where Kristin Stodola and Boyd Meyer gave their differing positions on the benefits each type of feeding program.

The final session addressed the age-old question of Grass or



In amongst all the presentations and socializing, time was made to celebrate Patty Smiths' birthday. Buffalo people just know where to spend their birthday's!

Happy Birthday Patty from all of us at RMBA!



A Tribute to Del Hensel

July 28, 2017

by Laurie Dineen

It is with sincere sadness that I am having to share the news of the passing of our dear friend Del.

Del and Cam began their journey in the Buffalo industry in 1979.

They were members of the National Buffalo Association and the American Buffalo Association - which Del presided as President in 1984. They were members of many state and regional associations around the U.S and Canada, and Del was also one of the Founding members of RMBA.

Dels' involvement in the Bison Industry was huge and he was instrumental in the 1995 merger of the two associations that is now the National Bison Association and served as president for the NBA in 1998. He was also the director of the Dr Ken Throlson American Bison Foundation since its inception.

Del and Cam traveled extensively attending buffalo conferences and meetings, meeting producers and visiting ranches throughout the U.S., Canada and other countries. They were true ambassadors of the bison industry.

I first met Del and Cam in 1984 when Bob and I went to our first ABA meeting. We quickly became friends and when I went to work for the ABA, I realized how much Del was respected by all in the industry. I learned a great deal from both Del and Cam and have fond memories of both of them that I will forever cherish.

Del truly loved the buffalo and the people in the industry. He will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

Details on his funeral/memorial have not been scheduled as of the printing of this article. We will be sure to post this information on the RMBA website as soon as available.



NBA Update

Bison 1 Million Campaign Launched at International Bison Conference



The IBC in Montana last month brought together the largest gathering of the international bison community in at least 17 years. Most of the participants came from across the United States and Canada, but there were a handful of producers from Australia and Europe as well.

Dave Carter, executive director of the National Bison Association, told the audience, "Six years ago, many of us came together in the successful campaign to establish bison as the National Mammal of the United States. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to continue to work together to restore bison in commercial, conservation and cultural herds across North America."

And so the Bison 1 Million Campaign begins. One million bison, one continent and one cohesive commitment to bison herd restoration.

"Bison Hump Day"

Bison Hump Day is part of an overall goal to increase the bison population in North America to 1 million in the next 10 years. Including both wild and domestic herds, there are currently about 500,000 bison.



Dave Carter hopes the hump day campaign will be far-reaching, not only to increase people's awareness of bison health benefits (bison meat contains almost 50 percent less fat than beef), but to restore an important cultural and religious part in the lives of Native Americans.

Restoring bison herds also has a positive ecological impact, according to Carter. "We think that more bison on the land is a good thing, not only for people that love to eat bison and people who love to raise bison, but for the land itself. This is the animal that helped shape the ecosystem of North America. We think that bringing more bison back helps restore acres of native grasslands and range lands," he said.

Those interested in taking part in Bison Hump Day can find information on local producers and restaurants that serve bison products can check out

NBA's website or download NBA's new Bison Finder app.

Washington Roundup Planned September 19-22, 2017

With the dust settling from the 2017 International Bison Conference, the National Bison Association is turning its attention toward the next significant upcoming event: the 2017 Policy Roundup in Washington, D.C., scheduled for September 19-22.

This roundup comes at a key time for the bison business," said Dave Carter, executive director for the National Bison Association. "With a new administration settling in, we need to make sure that the key policy makers at USDA and Department of Interior are brought up to speed on the priorities for our producers and marketers. At the same time, lawmakers on Capitol Hill are starting to work on the framework for the next Farm Bill, so we need to put our priorities in front of them as well."

Key issues on the agenda for this year's roundup include:

- USDA research priorities impacting bison herd health;
- Proposals to alleviate barriers for small and very small meat processing plants;
- Trade priorities, including NAFTA, tariffs on exports to the European Union, and opening Asian markets for bison;
- Farm Bill proposals to encourage expansion of bison production;
- Increased interagency cooperation among the USDA and Department of Interior

More information will be available on bisoncentral.com. If you are interested in participating in this event, contact the NBA office at 303/292-2833.

2018 Gold Trophy Show and Sale - January 20, 2018

2018 Consignment forms and rules/regulations will be posted in September. Please reference 2017 forms for the time being, as changes will be minimal.

The 38th annual Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS) will offer premium breeding stock as well as carcass/market animals to buyers. Don't miss out on this excellent opportunity to sell some of your premium breeding stock, or to take home top-performing bison.

The deadline to consign animals is December 15th. Those who consign by December 7th, however, receive 10% off of their consignment fees, and if you consign 7 or more animals, you receive a free conference registration to the NBA's annual Winter Conference that same week.

Market Class consignors can expect to get top dollar for their carcass animals, while gaining great exposure to the industry.

Another great way to gain enduring exposure is to sponsor a 2018 GTSS trophy. Whole class sponsorships (1st through 3rd plus honorable mention) are available for \$500 and include beautiful trophies for the top winners. Contact the NBA for sponsorship availability at 303-292-2833 or jim@bisoncentral.com.

RMBA — Classified —

TRANSPORTATION

Dan Martin will haul your buffalo. No distance too far. Call: 970-629-2859.

BUFFALO GAL YARNS

Jill Klawonn at High Point Bison has four different buffalo yarns available. We offer fine hand-knit garments or you can create a one of a kind piece. Call 970-895-3303 or email me at: hpbison@ncolcomm.com

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!

RMBA Members, call to place your FREE ad before the next issue! Call 303/857-9306.

RATES:

Classifieds —

Each RMBA member receives one **FREE** ad/issue.

Business Cards —

Advertising in the RMBA newsletter costs just \$40 for the entire year (4 issues) or just \$10/issue for Members.

All ads must be pre-paid. Contact Laurie Dineen to place your ad today!

laurie@greatrangebison.com

Classified
- Advertising Pays -
especially when it's
FREE!

"Knowing a few things, from seeing a few things!"

The Perfect Automatic Water System - or not

by Deb Thieman

Installing the "perfect" automatic water system in our pasture was an important goal for us at Prairie Ridge Buffalo Ranch. We wanted one that would not freeze in the winter and would be low maintenance throughout the year. After several months of searching, we thought we had found the perfect system. We discovered a company that cuts tire tanks from large rubber tires with four 12"x15" openings in the sidewalls. Those openings were then lined, so air could not flow into the tank. Placing a cap over the center hole made a sealed tank that worked like a cistern. An underground pipeline on a float maintained the water level. Indeed, this system worked great. We never had to break ice all winter long, and the animals had plenty to drink.

Then came spring and our buffalo cows began calving. Ray observed a cow with a missing calf hanging around the water tank. He drove by the tank but couldn't see anything out of the ordinary. He assumed the cow had lost her calf in the pasture. Later that evening as we watched our grandsons play baseball, Ray told me about the cow missing her calf.

When we arrived home after the games, I immediately went to check on the cow. She was standing in the corner of the pasture staring at our house like she was waiting for us when we pulled in the drive. She ran to the water tank as soon I drove in the pasture. The cow would not leave the tank, and I knew that something was definitely wrong. I thought the calf had probably drowned in the tank, and the cow knew its calf was still in there.

However, I wondered how a 40 pound calf could fit through such a small opening. Quickly, I climbed on the tire and began looking in the four openings as the cow circled the tank. Both the cow and I were making a lot of grunting noises. I was hoping that if the calf was alive, it would answer



back. Suddenly, I heard an anxious grunt responding to us from inside the tank. I was so relieved to know that the calf was alive and quickly drove back to the house to find Ray. Ray and I rushed back to the pasture. Cautiously, I moved the cow out of the pasture and shut the gate; knowing then we could grab the calf out of the tank without interference from its mother. Ray removed the tire cover by cutting the latches. We drug the cover off, and the calf popped up out of the water. It was completely soaked! Quickly, I grabbed the calf's front legs to pull it out of the water tank. The young calf darted through the fence and began to nurse its mother. How the calf got through that 12"x15" opening will always be a mystery to me. After the fact, I concluded the herd must have crowded around the tank and pushed the calf into one of the four small openings. Ray decided to leave the tire cover off the center of the tank to allow us to better observe if a calf were to fall in again.

The next afternoon our daughter and grandsons were driving by our pasture. Once again a cow was frantically circling the tire water tank. We had told them the calf experience from the day before, so they knew they had better check things out. This time a calf had fallen into the tire tank through the center hole, and had its head stuck in one of the 12"x15" openings. One of the boys

stripped down to his underwear and jumped into the tank. The brothers pulled the calf's head out of the opening and then lifted the calf out of the tank.

The next morning we moved the herd to another pasture. The tank in that pasture is the old steel, bottomless kind. It is a tank that I know my calves can jump out of if they get knocked into it. It is also one that has more space for the animals to drink from when they are crowding around it. The two calves, which are now named "Soggy" and "Survivor," are both healthy and doing great!

I know a few things because I have seen a few things, and this one is to be added to the list in buffalo ranching experiences. The "perfect" tank may not always be the "perfect" tank.

Editors Note: If you have learned something by knowing something, please share it with us! Contact one of the RMBA board members or Laurie Dineen and we will help share your experience with our members.

**RMBA Fall
Ranch Tour
August 18-19**



**Sign up today!
Registration
Deadline
August 11**



Rockie's Story

by Rick and Lindsay Forepaugh,
Owners of Rocky Hollow Buffalo
Company

The morning of April 8, 2017, dawned clear and cold on the Monkey Ranch, home to Rocky Hollow Buffalo Co., when our skills as new bison ranchers were put to the test. Although we had been gifted with numerous articles, files, and discussions about bison and bison knowledge, courtesy of Vance Forepaugh and Jill Crotty's twenty years of research and experience, we had little idea of what it actually would be like to raise a bottle calf.

We thought we were as prepared as possible for the situation we were about to face since we had a nursing bottle, a nipple, colostrum, and a week's worth of lamb's milk replacer on hand. What else could we need? More experience.

For nearly two decades on the ranch, the first calf had always been born on or after April 15th. So, beginning in late March, the process of removing all bulls from the main herd began. Moving them to a separate, non-adjacent pasture far from where the cows were going to calve was an annual Spring task. By the first day of April, only two long-yearling bulls still remained in the main herd. Even though we wanted them out of the main herd during calving, we were not too concerned about immediately rounding up the two laggards. After all, history was on our side: long-yearling bulls had never been a problem for the ranch in the past, and the ranches history of calving on or after April 15th was in our favor. We still had two weeks to get the last two bulls out of the pasture. We could not have been more wrong.

It was almost a deadly miscalculation for 2017's first calf.

Everything at the Monkey Ranch changed the morning of April 8th. Coffee mugs filled, we loaded up the

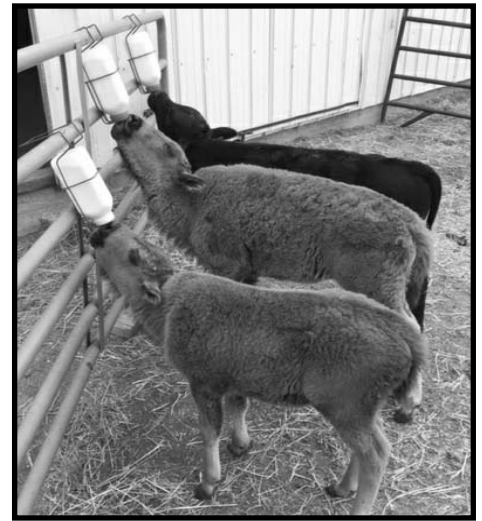
side-by-side, and headed out to check fence and the herds welfare. If we could round-up one or both of the remaining bulls in the process that would be a bonus.

Within minutes of being in the pasture we quickly noticed that the first calf of 2017 had been born early and soon after we realized we had a serious problem. Our newly acquired long-yearling bull, which was still with the main herd, was attempting to mount the cow. In this situation her new calf was getting the short end of "Mother Nature's stick."

It was not panic but adrenaline - and what could be best described as parental instinct - that set in immediately. Both our hearts were pumping and we knew we had to act quickly. Attempts to place ourselves between the bull and the cow failed. Every time we tried to separate the threesome the situation got worse. The bull's behavior became more aggressive toward the calf, and clearly the cow and her calf were becoming exhausted. We have witnessed some pretty troubling things in our lives but nothing quite like the heartache and helplessness of the situation unfolding in front of us. The calf was being run over, head-butted, rolled, and kicked by the bull as he tried to breed the calf's mother.

Our attempts to separate the bull were not making the things better. We backed off, regrouped, began to rethink the situation, and decided we had three options. Option one was do nothing, option two was to shoot the bull we just bought at the Gold Trophy Stock Show, and option three was to try to tranquilize the bull in order to get the animals separated. We decided to go with option three; if that failed, option two would have to suffice. Although ranching is a lifestyle we love we did not, nor do we have, the stomach for option number one. Furthermore, we knew the calf didn't stand a chance if we did nothing.

After nearly four hours of frantic



phone calls to vets, zoos, ranchers, and friends who knew ranchers, we finally tracked down a tranquilizer gun and our vet rushed to the ranch. Our problem then became location. The calf, cow, and bull were a mile from the corrals. It was important to have the bull in a confined area so we could separate the bull from the cow and her calf and then easily move him to the proper pasture.

Time was running out and thankfully things started to fall in place for us and most importantly for the calf. The bull had run the cow very hard all day and she finally made her way to the corral system for water. But she was not alone. The bull, the calf, and a few other cows accompanied her into the corral as well. With the animals in the corral, the vet was able to make a clear shot with the tranquilizer gun. Within five minutes the bull was down in the corral. And in the next five minutes we had the other animals headed back out to the pasture, however, the cow left with them.

Our new problem was a separated calf cowering under the belly of one of the horses, who occupy one half of the corral on the ranch. Our hope that the cow would return to her calf was dashed. After three-hours the cow was nowhere to be seen and our concern that she had abandoned the calf was real. After all the stress the two endured earlier in the



day our problem developed into even more concerns.

Not knowing exactly when in the last 12-16 hours the calf was born, our first concern was colostrum. We assumed she was surely in or about ready to eclipse the 12-hour window of needing colostrum...or was she? Our second concern was whether or not the cow would return after just a little more time. Could we take the chance the calf received colostrum before the bull had gotten involved? Could we just wait a little longer and see if the cow would come back?

We decided on further intervention and pulled the calf from under the horse where it had been hiding since entering the corral hours earlier. We had made the right decision; by night-fall the cow had not returned and the calf was now our responsibility. Our focus turned to colostrum. Thankfully, we were prepared and the next chapter of the story began.

Due to the stress of the day, the calf would not take a bottle. Having absolutely no experience in tube feeding a bison calf, we were not comfortable with pushing a feeding tube down the calf's throat. So we grabbed the soft plastic turkey baster from the kitchen drawer and headed back to the barn where we had bedded the calf in a small, hay-lined horse stall. Gently, but firmly, ounce after ounce we fed colostrum to the calf.

Learning from Moritz Espy that even four ounces was a considerable amount for a newly born bison calf, we took it slowly. Although she did not appreciate our presence (and possibly the turkey baster), she reluctantly swallowed the colostrum.

Every four hours, throughout the night, we headed to the barn and fed her with the turkey baster. She was scared and shaking; her breathing was labored. Each time we entered the stall she tried to get away from us. By 6:00 a.m. on April 9th, we hoped that she had received enough colostrum to be

okay for a few hours while we let her relax.

When we returned to the stall later that morning, the calf greeted us with grunts. We returned the greeting - with the best bison grunt we could muster - and were rewarded by her suckling, with a vengeance, directly from a bottle. Over the next three days we were optimistic yet reserved. We knew this timeframe was critical for the calf and we did everything within our power to not become more emotionally attached. We failed miserably. We were already attached.



we noticed that Rockie had some blood in her mouth. After closer inspection, we saw that she was cutting teeth. The next day, we coaxed Rockie onto a scale where she weighed in at a whopping 75 pounds. Based on our experience, we estimate newly born calves from our herd weigh in around 45 to 55 pounds. Rockie was born a big girl.

Having adapted well to a bottle, Rockie began suckling with gusto every six hours; typically consuming between four to eight ounces. Due to the social nature of bison, we had been told it would be best for us to get Rockie a companion. We acquired a Black Angus calf from a friend on April 14th. Although we would have liked a heifer, we received a bull and quickly opted to name him Bullwinkle. So with that naming, we had the Rockie and Bullwinkle Show on the ranch. It took two days for Rockie and Bullwinkle to work out their "brother-sister" relationship. Once they did,

they became inseparable.

Both Rockie and Bullwinkle were two months old and thriving when they were joined by a little sister, Natasha, who was born on April 21st. Natasha was found early in the morning on May 8th, hanging from her hips, upside down in the auto-gate. How Natasha got in the position she was in remains a mystery. Once freed from the auto-gate, it was evident that she was injured and it appeared that she was unable to nurse. After 12 hours of watching the calf struggle and confirmation that she could not nurse, we made the decision to pull her from the herd. After an examination, our vet concluded that Natasha had dislocated her hip and would need to be confined in order for it to develop scar tissue and heal to the best of her ability.

Now a month later, Natasha is doing better but probably will never be able to breed due to her injury. Although she is nearly 90 percent healed, her injury is manageable at current weight of 65 pounds. When she weighs 1,200 pounds, she may have challenging time supporting her own weight, let alone the weight of a 2,000 pound breeding bull. Only time will tell Natasha's future but we remain optimistic.

Throughout this entire process we have learned some valuable lessons. First, always get all of the bulls away from the cows well before they are expected to calve. Second, have lamb's milk replacer, nursing bottles, and different types of nursing nipples available. And third, choose a cartoon show with fewer characters - so Mother Nature doesn't think she needs to provide supporting characters.



2017 RMBA FALL RANCH TOUR

August 18 - 19, 2017

Join us for the RMBA Fall Ranch Tour

Friday, August 18, attendees will be in Carr, Colorado at the Memphis Buffalo Ranch, owned by Greg and Tami Nott, for a ranch and herd tour. Exciting things have been happening here since the inception of becoming Buffalo Ranchers, including the new members of the herd - the 2017 new calf crop.

Hear their story about Big Heart Bison, why an IT guy turns to buffalo ranching and what '22' means.



Enjoy a Shredded Buffalo Taco dinner and participate in a group Buffalo Q & A before wrapping up the day's events.

Saturday, August 19 we will be in Wellington, Colorado and tour the PRPA Rawhide Engery Station and their Buffalo Herd with Tom Chaffin. This will be a very interesting tour of the plant and we will learn the why's and how's of how they produce energy.

PRPA has a long standing reputation of quality buffalo as they consistently receive top honors at the GTSS. A tour of their buffalo and working facilities will be one you won't want to miss.



FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Registration	Big Heart Bison (Directions below) Greg and Tami Nott 10468 County Road 112 Carr, CO 80612
5:30 - 9:00 PM	Dinner provided by Big Heart Bison Shredded Buffalo Taco Buffalo Q&A	4:30 - 5:30 PM Ranch and herd tour

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
8:00 - 8:30 AM	Arrive at PRPA	Rawhide Energy Station Platte River Power Authority (Directions below) Rawhide Energy Station Tom Chaffin 2700 E County Road 82 Wellington, CO 80549
8:30 - 9:00 AM	Welcome and Introduction	
9:00 - 11:00 AM	Power Plant Tour	
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Upper Herd Tour	
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch - Buffalo Burgers	
1:00 - 3:00 PM	Lower Herd and Working Facilities Tour	



2017 RMBA FALL RANCH TOUR



LODGING OPTIONS:

Numerous options are available in the Ft. Collins and Cheyenne region to fit everyone's personal needs.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

Big Heart Bison - Greg Nott: 720-891-5810

From Denver / Fort Collins

- Follow I-25 N to Exit 281 for Owl Canyon Road.
- Turn right onto Owl Canyon Road then immediately turn left onto the Frontage Road.
- In 2 miles turn right onto County Road 74.
- In 2.2 miles continue onto County Road 110.
- In 4 miles turn left onto Country Road 21.
- In 1 mile turn right onto County Road 112.
- In 0.4 miles turn right into the Memphis Buffalo Ranch.

From Cheyenne

- Follow I-25 S to Exit 293 for County Road 126.
- Turn left toward Carr.
- In 3.6 miles turn right onto 2nd Street.
- In 0.9 miles continue onto Country Road 21.
- In 6 miles turn left onto County Road 112.
- In 0.4 miles turn right into the Memphis Buffalo Ranch.

Rawhide Energy Station - Tom Chaffin: 970-217-4308

Rawhide Energy Station is located at 2700 E. CR82 (Buckeye Road), in Wellington, CO. From I-25, take exit 288 (Buckeye Road/CR82) and head west. The Rawhide Energy Station main gate is approximately three miles from the highway on the north side of Buckeye Road. Upon arrival, use the phone to check-in with security.

Security and Safety Guidelines:

Tour group participants are responsible for following all Rawhide security and safety requirements

- One adult for every six children who are at least eight years old or in the 3rd or 4th grade.
- One adult for every 15 children who are at least 10 years old or in the 5th grade.
- Sturdy shoes are required.
- No shorts, skirts or open-toe shoes are allowed.
- Hard hats, safety glasses, and hearing protection will be provided and are required.

Prohibited items:

- Photographs (unless otherwise permitted)
- Purses, bags, fanny-packs, and backpacks
- Firearms or other weapons (law enforcement officers are exempt)

Security Access:

- All tour participants 16 years of age or older must have a photo ID.
- All vehicles must stop at the main gate, pick up the phone and announce their arrival to the security officer.
- All vehicles must stop and check in at the security guardhouse once allowed access at the main gate.
- Parking will be directed by the security officer.
- All persons, vehicles, and baggage are subject to search at any time.

Directions



Direction information:

Rawhide Energy Station is located at 2700 E. CR82 (Buckeye Road), in Wellington, CO. From I-25, take exit 288 (Buckeye Road/CR82) and head west. The Rawhide Energy Station main gate is approximately three miles from the highway on the north side of Buckeye Road. Upon arrival, use the phone to check-in with security. [View Google Map](#)





2017 RMBA FALL RANCH TOUR
REGISTRATION FORM
August 18-19, 2017

— Registration Deadline: August 11, 2017 —

Ranch Name:

Names of all Attendees:

(list additional names on back)

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Registration Fees:

Members:

_____ Adults @ \$55 = _____

_____ Children (17 & under) @ \$25 = _____

Non-Members:

_____ Adults @ \$65 = _____

_____ Children (17 & under) @ \$35 = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Registration fee includes dinner Friday and lunch on Saturday.

REGISTRATION DUE: August 11, 2017

Send to: Rocky Mountain Buffalo Association
303 S Broadway, Suite B522
Denver, CO 80209

Fall Workshop Information: John Graves at 303-887-9677
if you have questions.



303 South Broadway
Suite B522
Denver, Colorado 80209
303/243-0900

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First Class



Membership Application

Memberships New Renewal

- Lifetime Membership - \$1000 once Individual - \$50/yr.
 Dual Membership (couples) - \$85/yr.
 Junior Membership - (20 years old and under) - \$10/yr.

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Select the services you offer (for free advertisement on our website):

- Buffalo Sales Meat Sales Bi-Product Sales Processing Tours
 Absentee Owner Programs Other: _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Ranch/Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Email _____ Website _____

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Mail To:

Rocky Mountain Buffalo Association
303 South Broadway, Suite B522
Denver, Colorado 80209

303/243-0900

info@buffaloranchers.com

www.buffaloranchers.com