



National Bison Association

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Weekly Update from the National Bison Association

A news and update service *exclusively* for members of the National Bison Association.
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October 26, 2018

NBA Connects with Students, Advisors at FFA Convention

The NBA connected this week with many of the 60,000 students and Ag Advisors attending the annual FFA National Convention in Indianapolis, IN.

Executive Director Dave Carter, Assistant Director Jim Matheson, member Don “Doc” Woerner of Montana, and “Ernie,” the bison skeletal model, hosted the NBA booth at the FFA convention trade show and provided students and advisors with information on developing careers in the bison business.

“Our major priority is to connect with the ag advisors to provide them with encouragement and information on incorporating bison into their classroom curriculum,” Carter said. “We always receive a positive response, and now have advisors purposely visiting our booth each year for updated information.”

Following the FFA conference this year, the NBA will be hosting a series of one-hour webinars for ag advisors. Those webinars will provide the advisors with information and resources that can be utilized in the classroom.

“We had a tremendous response from the advisors visiting our booth regarding their interest in participating in the webinars. That will help us continue to build a connection with the advisors throughout the year,” Carter said.

NBA Member Seeks State Senate Seat in Montana

Editor's Note: As mentioned in last week's Weekly Update, we will provide our readers on information on all NBA members running for state or national elected office. The NBA cannot endorse candidates for public office but would like to inform our members of their fellow producers who are seeking elected office. Members seeking office are invited to submit a brief summary of their campaign for inclusion in Weekly Update. Here is information from Mary Stange, NBA member from Montana.

I'm Mary Stange, and my husband Doug and I are NBA members and operators of the Crazy Woman Bison Ranch in Ekalaka, Montana, where we have been ranching for thirty years.

This year, in the spirit of giving back to the community that I love to call home, I decided to run, as the Democratic candidate for the Montana State Senate, District 19. This district in eastern Montana is the largest, and wildest, in the state: a place where the buffalo are roaming in increasing numbers.

Ranchers here are coping with the ever-increasing challenges of rural living, and addressing those challenges is the central message of my Progressive Democratic campaign. My motto is "Unity through Community," and I am proud to have the endorsement of several prominent civic and social organizations. For more info on our operation and my campaign, please check out our web site--www.crazywomanbison.com--and my Facebook page, Mary Stange for SD 19

What Do You Have Planned for National Bison Day?

National Bison Day is Saturday, November 3rd and NBA Members are Encouraged to plan events that will help connect the public with our National Mammal.

And, let us know next week of any activities you have planned so that we can include it in next Friday's Weekly Update and share on our social media platforms.

Email Karen@bisoncentral.com with your plans

2019 Winter Conference Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the 2019 NBA Winter Conference. With a theme of "Gaining Ground", the conference features three jam-packed days of education, fun and networking. The culmination of the week will be the Gold Trophy Show and Sale.

Why should you attend the conference? There are plenty of reasons. Our main speaker this year will be Dave Pratt sharing his *Ranching for Profit* presentation, more than a dozen bison-specific presenters and sessions on tap and five amazing bison feasts, including the Best Bison Stew Recipe contest! Networking, spending time with friends and checking out the trade show are other perks of attending this annual event.

A tentative agenda has been posted on our website at <https://bisoncentral.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/WCAgenda9.28.18.pdf>. Register online at <https://bisoncentral.com/2019-nba-winter-conference-registration-form/> or call the NBA office at (303) 292-2833 to register by phone. Registration deadline is January 4, 2019.

Our host hotel will be the Renaissance-Stapleton Hotel on Quebec Street. Call the hotel at (303) 399-7500 and request the National Bison Association block for discounted room rates of \$133/night or \$138/night which includes a hot buffet breakfast. The room reservation deadline is January 2, 2019.

Submit Youth Photo Contest Entries Now Through January 4, 2019

It's time to have the kids get out their cameras and start taking photographs of the bison! Contest organizers have finalized plans for the 2019 Gaining Ground Bison Photo Contest and it should be a lot of fun for everyone.

The contest is open to all children and grandchildren of NBA and InterTribal Buffalo Council members. Bison-themed photographs need to be submitted by January 4, 2019 to have a chance to be displayed at the Winter Conference and in future *Bison World* magazines. There will be three age groups: Grades 5-6; Grades 7-9 and Grades 10-12. The top three entries from each category will win cash prizes (\$100; \$75 and \$50 respectively). Each first-place winner will be featured in *Bison World* magazine. The print submitted for the contest will be auctioned off during the NBA Winter Conference Benefit Auction with proceeds returned to the photographer.

Children in grades K-4 are welcome to participate and may have a chance to have their photos displayed at the conference but they will not be judged nor have any awards presented.

Entry forms and guidelines are available on www.bisoncentral.com.

NBA 2019 Junior Judging Contest Open for Entries

The 2019 Junior Judging Contest will once again be held in conjunction with the Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale. The competition will take place on Wednesday, January 23 with a tentative starting time at 11 a.m. at the Pepsi Barn on the National Western Stock Show grounds.

There will be two age classes for individual contestants. The Junior class is comprised of participants 8 - 13 years old, with the senior class those 14 to 21 years of age. Additionally, there will be a team competition for the senior age group. Each group will judge various groups of bison, place them accordingly and then give oral reasons to support their placings. Plaques will be awarded to the top three finishers in each age group and the team competition. All individual participants will be eligible to compete for the overall high score awards. The top three overall winners will receive a college scholarship.

Participants do not have to be involved in the bison business to be eligible to participate. The competition is open to any interested youth who meet the age guidelines.

Please contact jim@bisoncentral.com if you would like an electronic copy of the Junior Judging flyer to share with youth in your area, or if you are interested in volunteering to assist judges and scorekeepers or would like to sponsor awards or scholarships.

Those interested in entering the contest can do so by sending an email to jim@bisoncentral.com.

“Going Forth in the North” Theme for 2018 NBA Summer Conference

While the 2019 Winter Conference is looming on the horizon, planning is already underway for the 2019 Summer Conference. Mark your calendars for July 7-9 and join us in Bismarck, ND as we celebrate with our hosts, the North Dakota Buffalo Association (NDBA).

“Having the summer conference in North Dakota shows the industry that our home state is working hard to keep the current momentum moving forward,” notes NDBA Executive Director, Kevin Leier. “North Dakota has a lot to offer with the National Buffalo Museum, a major USDA processing facility, strong federal support from senators John Hoeven and Heidi Heitkamp as well as numerous veteran bison producers and a rich Native American history. We are excited about this opportunity to showcase all that North Dakota has to offer.”

More details will be available in the spring of 2019.

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Bison Listed as One of 7 Most Effective Fat-Burning Foods

(Adapted from MyDomaine.com)

My Domaine magazine has identified bison as one of the seven most effective foods for burning fat. Bison is listed, along with avacadoes, green tea, eggs, chili peppers, ghee, grapefruit, sweet potatoes and bean sprouts.

Here’s what they have to say about bison: “Lean meats have a high thermogenic effect on the body. In fact, 30% of the calories in lean meats are burned up in digestion. Red meat provides essential proteins for building muscle and bone. It also contains immune-boosting zinc and plenty of B12. Bison meat ranks among the highest-quality meats you can consume. Rich in amino acids and CLA (conjugated linoleic acid), bison also contains 35% more protein and less than half of the fat and cholesterol of beef.”

USDA, FDA Tackle Labeling Challenges at Cell-Based Meat Meeting

(From *Meatingplace.com*)

WASHINGTON -- The conversation about cell-based meats shifted from food safety and jurisdiction to the issue of labeling Wednesday at the USDA/FDA Joint Public Meeting on the Use of Cell Culture Technology to Develop Products Derived from Livestock and Poultry.

USDA and FDA officials said truthfulness and transparency in labeling were top of mind as the agencies gather comments on how to best label cell-based meat and poultry products.

"Today's focus is ... on labeling of cell-cultured meat and poultry products and making sure these products are identified according to customer expectations," said Paul Kiecker, Acting

FSIS Administrator, "and that the label doesn't [present] any type of advantage or disadvantage with other products that might be in competition with them."

Throughout the final day of the meeting, FDA and USDA labeling experts presented overviews detailing how each agency currently approaches labeling requirements for regulated food products, including statement of identity, net quantity of contents, and ingredient list content and order.