

North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame
CHRONOLOGY OF ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS
From 1995 Founding through December 2019

1995

January 1995 -A community meeting to assess interest in a North Dakota Rodeo Hall of Fame was held Saturday, January 21st at the German-Hungarian Lodge in Dickinson, N.D. Leading the discussions were Phil Baird of Mandan and Evelyn Neuens of Bismarck. Twenty-two people attended the first public meeting for the Hall.

February 1995 - A second gathering for the North Dakota Rodeo Hall of Fame was held Saturday afternoon, February 11th at the Lonesome Dove in Mandan, N.D. Thirty-three people attended the community meeting. Most folks aspired for a project that also encompassed ranching and Native American cultures.

February 25, 1995-The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame was formally established with a board of directors during an organizational meeting on Saturday, February 25th at the Eagle's Club in Dickinson. Selected as board officers were Evelyn Neuens, Bismarck - president; Phil Baird, Mandan - vice president; and Sherry Plummer, Dickinson - secretary/treasurer. Other board members were Dr. George Christensen, Minot; Virginia Eck, Bismarck; Ray Morrell, Mandan; Kaye Nelson, Grassy Butte; Winston Satran, Sentinel Butte; Willard Schnell, Dickinson; and Robert Tibor, Hebron. Bismarck lawyer Jim Rausch was appointed to provide legal assistance to charter a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

March 1995 - The North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame was officially incorporated in the state. At its Medora, N.D., meeting on Saturday, March 25th, the Hall board approved a fund-raising plan, committee structure, and a logo contest. The first draft of bylaws was presented to the board. Discussion on site selection criteria was initiated. The Hall received its first \$1,000 donation from an anonymous donor.

April 1995 - The North Dakota communities of Watford City, Bowman, Medora, and Belfield expressed a strong interest as potential Hall sites. Additional work was done on the draft of NDCHF bylaws.

May 1995 - At the May 6th meeting in Watford City, the NDCHF board approved a charter contribution drive for Phase One fund-raising purposes. The board also approved its first vision statement along with its bylaws. The Hall's application for 501(c)(3) status as a non-profit organization was filed with the Internal Revenue Service. Arlen Sommers of Valley City became the newest board appointee.

May 18, 1995 - Selecting the official Hall logo was the primary business of the May 18th NDCHF board meeting held in Hebron., N.D. The computer art design by Dave Kallstrom of Bismarck

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was picked as the winner from among 72 logo contest entries. The Hall board continued planning for summer promotional activities.

June 1995 - The NDCHF board of directors held its June 10th meeting during the annual 1995 N.D. Stockmen's Association convention at the Jamestown Civic Center. A site selection committee was officially established. Promotional buttons for the Hall were sold at a convention booth and later made available at the N.D. High School Rodeo Finals in Bowman, courtesy of Dakota Community Bank. Don Hart of West Fargo was confirmed as the newest NDCHF board member.

June 14, 1995 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame received its first major corporation donation in the amount of \$10,000 from the U.S. Tobacco Company. The funds were used for promotional materials including information brochures, letterhead, decals, buttons, and arena banners.

July 1995 - Promotional activities for the Cowboy Hall of Fame were organized at the annual Taylor Horsefest and at various rodeo events in the state. The July 1995 edition of the North Dakota magazine Going Places had a feature article written by Colette Knutson Gjermundson about the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame.

August 1995 - In early August, the North Dakota Stockmen's Association presented a Hall donation of \$1,000 during the annual Home on the Range Champions Ride at Sentinel Butte. The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame hosted a breakfast reception prior to Brad Gjermundson's induction into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame on Saturday morning, August 12th, at Colorado Springs, Colorado. Plummer Ranches co-sponsored the event which was attended by over 70 North Dakotans.

September 1995 -The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame received official IRS approval of its non-profit 501(c)(3) status for tax-deductible contributions. At the September 2nd meeting convened during the NDRA Finals at Dickinson, representatives from Beach made a formal request to be considered as a proposed Hall site. The board acknowledged the \$1,000 donation from Gen Rotzien.

October 1995 - Site selection criteria were discussed in depth at the October 7th NDCHF board meeting held during the 41st annual Minot Ys Men PRCA rodeo at the All Seasons Arena. The board finalized year-end plans for a direct mail fund-raising campaign. The Minot Ys Men rodeo committee sponsored hospitality meals, arena promotions, and complimentary rodeo tickets for Hall board members.

November 1995 - The Stark County Development Corporation voted to support Belfield as a proposed home site for the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame. The list of interested communities now included Beach, Belfield, Beulah, Bismarck, Bowman, Dickinson, Killdeer, Mandan, Medora, Minot, Towner, Watford City and Williston.

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December 1995 - After finalizing site selection criteria and the official information packet, the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame board began the search for a permanent Hall site. The deadline for Hall site proposals was set for February 9, 1996. The board also scheduled its first anniversary meeting and dinner in mid-February 1996 at Killdeer.

January 1996 - The NDCHF board of directors discussed plans for an official Hall newsletter, "The Cowboy Chronicle," during the January 20th meeting held at the Evelyn Neuens residence in Bismarck. Annual Hall memberships were established as part of the Phase Two fund-raising plan. Procedures were reviewed for the Hall site selection process. Planning continued for the Hall's first anniversary celebration to be held the following month at Killdeer.

February 1996 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame received official site proposals from nine (9) North Dakota communities after the February 9th deadline. Preparations were finalized for the Hall's first anniversary meetings and dinner at Killdeer, N.D.

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February 17, 1996 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame celebrated its first anniversary with a public meeting, reception, and dinner on Saturday, February 17th at the Killdeer American Legion Hall. The events were coordinated by long-time rodeo supporters Norman "Peg" and Phyllis O'Neil. Co-sponsors of the dinner were the Killdeer Town Criers with financial support from the Killdeer Lions Club. After the dinner, the Hall board acknowledged the donated time, services, and resources provided to the Hall project the past year by 28 individuals and organizations. Founding Vice President Phil Baird of Mandan became the NDCHF president.

May 1996 - At the Seven Seas in Mandan, the NDCHF board of directors heard oral presentations on May 4th from the groups representing the nine North Dakota towns vying to become the home site of the Hall.

June 1996 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame published and distributed the first edition of the NDCHF Cowboy Chronicle, developed by media consultant Colette "Koko" Gjermundson of Richardton, N.D. A second edition was published later in the Fall.

October 1996 - After receiving site proposals from nine North Dakota communities, the NDCHF board of directors selected four finalists - Mandan, Medora, Towner, and Watford City. Press conferences were held October 30th at Bismarck, Minot, and Dickinson to make the announcement.

November 1996 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame kicked off its first direct mail fund-raising campaign with the assistance of consultant Jeri Dobrowski.

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February 19, 1997 - With a February 19th press conference at the North Dakota Stockmen's Association office, the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame announced that the town of Medora was selected as the future home site of the Hall. The Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation proposed that the Hall become the centerpiece of the "Center of the American West" project.

March 1, 1997 - The second annual membership meeting of the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame was held March 1st at the Eagle's Club in Dickinson. The late Ted Cornell of Medora was honored with the Hall's first North Dakota Distinguished Western Artist award. Walter Piehl, Jr. of Minot and Sandy Luger, Fort Yates joined the NDCHF board of directors.

April 1997 - NDSU professor Russ Danielson of Fargo and local rancher Laura Griffin of Medora became the newest members of the NDCHF board of directors.

June 1997 - The NDCHF board of directors conducted visioning and strategic planning sessions at its June 19th meeting in Medora.

September 1997 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame held a September 27th press conference at Neuens Western Shop in Bismarck, announcing that Regent, N.D., native Darrell Dorgan was hired as the Hall's first Executive Director.

October 1997 - The administrative office of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame was officially established at 1000 College Drive in Bismarck, N.D.

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January 1998 - The NDCHF board of directors accepted the archive collection of the Westerners at its January 17th meeting. In conjunction with the North Dakota Humanities Council, the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame also began a state-wide series of history seminars with co-sponsorship by the KX Television network.

April 4, 1998 - The initial organizational meeting of the NDCHF trustees was conducted in conjunction with the third annual membership meeting banquet held April 4th at the Seven Seas in Mandan. Rex Cook of Dickinson was elected the first chair of the NDCHF trustees. Earl Northrup of West Fargo was honored at the banquet, recognizing his 30+ years of serving state and national high school rodeo.

July 1998 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame entered into an agreement with S&S Promotional Group for the marketing and sale of a special NDCHF limited edition commemorative 30-30 rifle.

August 1, 1998 - With a special appearance by western music star Michael Martin Murphy, the first induction ceremonies of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame were held August 1st in Medora. The first NDCHF inductees included: Rodeo - Alvin Nelson, Jim and Tom Tescher, Duane Howard; Ranching - Angus Kennedy, Jr., John Leakey, A.C. Huidekoper, Vic Christensen; Arts & Entertainment - Louis L'Amour, Jamestown; Special Achievement - 75th Annual Killdeer Mountains Roundup Rodeo.

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January 1999 - A special NDCHF 1999 calendar was produced and made available to the public. Ralph and Sue Northrup donated a Texas longhorn steer to the Hall. Taxidermist Dennis Chaner, Mandan, eventually created an award-winning mount of the steer's head to be placed in the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame.

February 27, 1999 - Former Dallas Cowboys professional football player Walt Garrison was the keynote speaker at the fourth annual membership meeting and banquet held February 27th at the Seven Seas in Mandan.

April 1999 - Eddy County rancher Jim Langley donated a special western saddle collection to the Hall.

August 7, 1999 - The 2nd annual NDCHF Induction ceremonies were held Saturday, August 7th at Medora. 1999 Honorees included: Rodeo - Dean Armstrong, Emanuel Chase, Joe Chase, Pete Fredericks. Ranching - Paige Baker, Sr., John Goodall, Frank Keogh; Ranch - Cannon Ball Ranch; Special Achievement - Dickinson Match of Champions; Arts & Entertainment - Ted Cornell; Great Westerner - Theodore Roosevelt.

September 1999 - The American State Bank and Trust Company of Dickinson donated the Binek Cafe western photo collection to the Hall.

November 1999 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation finalized a 100-year lease agreement, paving the way for the Museum of the Badlands in Medora to be developed by the Hall for the Center of Western Heritage and Cultures: Native American, Ranching and Rodeo.

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2000

January 2000 - The field survey work and platting requirements for the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame project was completed by Kadrmas, Lee, and Jackson.

February 25, 2000 - Native American flutist and recording artist Keith Bear of New Town was the featured speaker at the fifth annual membership meeting and banquet of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame held Saturday, February 25th at the Seven Seas in Mandan.

March 2000 -Western artist and Belfield native Kaye (Hecker) Burian of Manning, N.D. was selected to the NDCHF board of directors.

June 2000 -On June 20th, the Medora Planning and Zoning Commission approved the building plans for the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage and Cultures: Native American, Ranching and Rodeo.

July 2000 - After the NDCHF submitted a \$500,000 grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State Historical Society of North Dakota indicated its approval of modified building plans for the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage and Cultures: Native American, Ranching, and Rodeo.

August 5, 2000 - Canadian cowboy poet and singer Ian Tyson opened the third annual NDCHF Induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 5th at Medora. 2000 honorees included: Rodeo - Louis Pelissier, Gene McCormick, Bob Aber's rodeo saddle bronc #22 Old Shep, and Fettig Bros. Rodeo Company; Ranching - William "Bill" Follis, Ben Bird, Ole Solberg; Ranch - Eaton Bros. Custer Trail Ranch; Special Achievement - Home on the Range Champions Ride; Arts & Entertainment - James "Cy" Taillon; Great Westerner- Former N.D. Lt. Governor Ray Schnell.

September 2000 - Founding NDCHF board member Dr. George Christensen, 80, of Minot passed away on September 9, 2000.

October 2000 - During an October 7th meeting held in conjunction with the Edge of the West PRCA rodeo in Bismarck, the NDCHF board of directors entertained three proposals for exhibit design work at the Center of Western Heritage and Cultures. The board also began the development of a long-range strategic plan.

December 2000 - At the December 9th meeting in Washburn, the NDCHF board of directors added a new category, "Leaders of Ranching and Rodeo," to be considered for the 2001 Hall of Fame inductions.

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January 2001 - Senate Bill 2195 was introduced in the N.D. State Legislature, seeking approval of a \$100,000 grant to the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame through the N.D. Tourism Department. A Senate Appropriations Committee hearing was held January 25th at the State Capitol.

February 25, 2001 - North Dakota cowboy poet Rodney Nelson of Almont provided the featured entertainment for the sixth annual NDCHF membership meeting and banquet held Saturday, February 25th at the Seven Seas in Mandan. A rotational cycle for Hall of Fame induction categories was introduced by NDCHF President Phil Baird.

March 2001 - The House Appropriations Committee held a March 14th hearing on SB 2195. Former Miss Rodeo North Dakota Robyn Nelson of Pembina joined the NDCHF board of directors.

April 2001 - The N.D. State Legislature unanimously approved S.B. 2195 and authorized a \$100,000 appropriation to fund a tourism grant for the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame. With an April 24th press conference with the NDCHF, N.D. Governor John Hoeven and Cloverdale Food Co. introduced the "N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame Beef Frank." The North Dakota Rodeo Association designated the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame as the official NDRA archives.

June 2001 - North Dakota native Vern Krinke made a commitment to donate a fully-restored Studebaker chuck wagon to the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame.

August 4, 2001 - U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan was the keynote speaker of the fourth annual NDCHF Inductions Ceremonies held Saturday, August 4th at Medora. There was also a memorial tribute of the late Father William J. Fahnlander, former superintendent of the Home on the Range, who passed away March 27th. 2001 inductees included: Great Westerner[®] Sacagewea; Rodeo - Elmer Clark, George Defender, Wilfred "Sonny" Ehr, Jr., Delvin Reich, rodeo producer J.C. Stevenson, and John Steen's rodeo saddle bronc #22 01' Fitzgerald. Ranching - Jay N. Grantier, Andrew Voigt, Frank Kubik, Jr., and the Eaton Ranch of Towner. Special Achievement - Sanish Rodeo. Arts & Entertainment - Frank Bennett Fiske. Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - Dr. George Christensen & Earl Northrup.

September 2001 - The NDCHF was notified by Economic Development Administration of tentative approval of a \$750,000 challenge grant. A news stand fee was established for the Cowboy Chronicle. The NDCHF Board of Directors engaged American Cities Bureau to conduct fund-raising feasibility assessment to raise \$3.0 million for the construction of the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures: Native American, Ranching and Rodeo.

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October 2001 - The Billings County Commission made a financial commitment of \$250,000 to the construction of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame. The City Council of Medora made a similar commitment of \$100,000.

December 2001 - The Hall board moved forward with creating an NDCHF website and prepared to update professional accounting services. NDCHF President Phil Baird developed an updated draft of the organization's long-range strategic plan. Donations from Stockmen's Livestock Auction and Stark County Development were acknowledged.

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2002

January 2002 - Split Rock Studios of Minneapolis, MN presented a plan to begin designing the exhibits for the Cowboy Hall of Fame.

February 23, 2002 - North Dakota native Gerard Baker was the featured guest at the seventh annual membership meeting and banquet of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame held Saturday, February 23rd at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D. Results of a Development Study were presented by American City Bureau with a tentative timetable presented for the construction of the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures: Native American, Ranching & Rodeo. The Hall board approved a marketing concept proposal for a new NDCHF sausage to be produced by Cloverdale Foods. The board also finalized a 2001-2005 organizational long-range strategic plan.

April 2002 - In collaboration with the Roosevelt-Custer Regional Council, the Hall received a major grant (\$750,000) from the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

June 2002 - The organization of the NDCHF Capital Campaign was presented by ACB representative Walter Rachinski and approved by the board. A grant proposal submitted to the N.D. Highway Department for \$250,000 was approved. A standardized nomination form for NDCHF inductions was approved. The NDCHF website became operational.

August 3, 2002 - Clay Jenkinson was the keynote speaker at the fifth annual NDCHF Induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 3rd, in Medora and overheard live on six radio stations. 2002 inductees included: Pre-1940 Rodeo - George Bruington & Scott Gore; Contemporary Rodeo - Dale Jorgenson, Watford City; Rodeo Livestock- Fettig's rodeo saddle bronc #4 Figure Four; Pre-1940 Ranching - Freida Bohnsack & William "Bill" Taylor; Contemporary Ranching - Harris Goldsberry; Ranch- Birdhead Ranch; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - Pearl Cullen, Hensler. The day before the ceremonies, the Hall's board approved a Cowboy Hall of Fame commemorative pistol to be produced and offered for sale by S&S Promotions.

October 2002 - After being developed by NDCHF supporters based near Fargo, N.D. group, a new N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame cookbook was published and released for sale to the public. The NDCHF Capital Campaign was re-organized under the direction of Executive Director Darrell Dorgan. Cloverdale Foods Co. CEO T.J. Russell was named as campaign chairman and former North Dakota governor Arthur Link agreed to serve as honorary chairman.

December 2002 - The Bush Foundation conducted a site visit to Medora and visited with NDCHF board members about the Hall's grant proposal to support exhibit design work. Another exhibit design firm, Exhibitory Plus of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was invited to submit a proposal. NDCHF board member Lydia Sage-Chase of New Town, representing the N.D. Historical Society, conducted a Tribal blessing of the Hall's site. On December 11th, a press conference was held in

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Bismarck with N.D. Governor John Hoeven and Cloverdale Foods Co. CEO T.J. Russell announcing the introduction of a new Cowboy Hall of Fame sausage.

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2003

January 2003 - A raffle proposal offering a registered quarter horse with tack by the Iver Tveidt family of Forbes was introduced. A state Community Development Block grant in the amount of \$150,000 was awarded to the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame.

February 22, 2003 - The 8th annual NDCHF membership meeting and banquet featuring historian Dr. Gerry Groenewold was held Saturday, February 22, 2003 in Mandan. The concept of MIDA bond financing for building construction was introduced to the NDCHF board by the firm of Cook, Wegner & Wike, PLLP.

April 2003 - Shirley Meyer of Dickinson joined the NDCHF board of directors, replacing Kaye Burian of Manning. The sale of a NDCHF 1860 Colt 44 cal. commemorative pistol was initiated by S&S Promotions.

July 2003 -The NDCHF chuck wagon donated by the late Vern Krinke was introduced to the public at a Fourth of July pit-cooked beef barbeque held in Dickinson, N.D.

August 2, 2003 -North Dakota Governor John Hoeven was the keynote speaker at the sixth annual NDCHF induction ceremonies on August 2nd at the Tjaden Terrace in Medora. 2003 inductees: Pre-1940 Rodeo - Alex LaSotta and Lyndon "Frank" Marshall; Rodeo Producer - George Gardner; Contemporary Rodeo - Franklin "Tex" Appledoorn, Gladstone; Ranching - Theodore "Ted" Albers, Margaret Barr Roberts and Brooks Keogh; Ranch - Nelson Sunrise Ranch; Special Achievement - Minot Y's Men PRCA rodeo. The day before the ceremonies, the NDCHF board took action to authorize its Building Committee to initiate bid-letting for the construction of the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures: Native American, Ranching, and Rodeo.

September 2003 - The services of Starview Ranch Enterprises (Deane Fay and Sally Jeppson) were engaged for the exhibit design work of the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage and Cultures.

December 16, 2003 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame secured MIDA-bonds to support the construction of the Hall's 15,000 sq. ft building in Medora. Other funding sources included a Bush Foundation grant and contributions by several banks in Dickinson and Williston. Bids were opened on December 9th and the board ceremonially broke ground in Medora on December 16th.

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2004

January 2004 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame again co-sponsored a series of history symposia with the N.D. Humanities Council.

February 21, 2004 - North Dakota author Doug Wick was the featured guest at the ninth annual NDCHF membership meeting and banquet held Saturday, February 21 at the Seven Seas in Mandan. The board took action to modify the exhibit design, relocating the proposed Hall of Honorees to the second level of the building. Dickinson ranchers Dean and Shirley Meyer donated a yearling quarter horse filly for a NDCHF raffle fund-raiser.

April 2004 - The first contractors meeting was convened by NDCHF architect Arnie Hanson in Medora, kicking off the construction of the two-story NDCHF interpretive center.

June 2004 - Rex and Lola Breneman of Montana donated 97 pieces of their Bob Sriver sculpture collection to the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame. Dickinson State University agreed to provide storage for the collection. NDCHF founding board member Don Hart of West Fargo passed away. Jim Rausch, the Bismarck attorney who helped organize the legal foundation of the NDCHF as a non-profit entity, also passed on.

August 7, 2004 - U.S. Senator Conrad Burns of Montana was the keynote speaker at the seventh annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 7th at Medora. The 2004 honorees were Pre-1940 Rodeo - William "Badlands Bill" McCarty and Walt Neuens of Medora; Contemporary Rodeo - Jim Johnston, Grassy Butte; Ranching - Earl Henderson and Jack Dahl; Ranch - Long X Ranch, McKenzie Co.; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - Bill Hamann; Arts & Entertainment - Einar Olstad.

September 2004 - At his newly-established foundry, North Dakota sculptor Arnie Addicott of Stanley poured the first molds for the half-sized western-theme sculptures that will be placed at the front entrance of the NDCHF building. The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame was one of five co-sponsors for a North Dakota reception that preceded the grand opening of the new Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

October 2004 - The North Dakota Geological Survey group announced the donation of a skeleton cast and fossil remains of a Mesohippus, a prehistoric small horse that lived in western North Dakota 30 million years ago. A display created with private donations will be showcased at the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame.

December 2004 - Construction activities were underway for the Cowboy Hall of Fame.

January 2005 - Two-time NFR qualifier and NDCHF inductee Joe Chase, 71, passed away on January 7th at his home in Loveland, Colorado.

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2005

February 26, 2005 - The Bismarck Century High School "Strolling Strings" group provided the featured entertainment for the 10th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame membership meeting held February 26, 2005 at the Seven Seas in Mandan. Forty-four nominations were considered for 2005 inductions. A construction update was presented to the trustees. Cathy Langemo of Bismarck took over duties for the production of the Cowboy Chronicle. Former N.D. governor Art Link offered the initial cash donation to start an endowment fund, establishing the NDCHF Foundation.

March 2005 - Pam Reinarts, daughter of former DSU rodeo team coach Dale Hewson, was hired as the operations manager for the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures. Western artwork by J.A. Kirkpatrick and Kenneth Wyatt were donated to the Hall. The production of the Hall's theatre presentation was completed.

April 2005 - Deane Fay and Sally Jeppson of Starview Enterprises began the exhibit design work at the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures. Additional staff were hired for the Hall's operations. Loretta Tescher, wife of the NDCHF inductee Jim Tescher, donated a colt for a raffle to jointly benefit the Hall and the Home on the Range.

May 2005 - The National board of directors of the Fraternal Order of Eagles met at the Hall on May 4th, becoming the first group to use the conference room of the Center of Western Heritage & Cultures. A preview of the new Center of Western Heritage & Cultures was held Saturday, May 28th, coinciding with Medora's annual Cowboy Poet Gathering.

June 2005 - Offered as an exhibit loan by Sitting Bull College, the headdress of Hunkpapa Lakota chief Sitting Bull was transported and placed on display at the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures in Medora.

July 2005 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame celebrated the first National Day of the Cowboy on July 23rd with a proclamation by North Dakota Governor John Hoeven. The commemorative was established by U.S. Congress through the initial efforts of the American Cowboy magazine. The NDCHF was featured in the N.D. Horizons magazine.

August 6, 2005 - Founding NDCHF President Evelyn Neuens of Bismarck was recognized with the first NDCHF Legacy award at the eighth annual NDCHF Induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 6th in Medora. Other inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Edward S. Hall, Mountrail County; Modern Era Ranching - Raymond "Butch" Luger, Fort Yates; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Joe Wicks, Cannon Ball; Modern Era Rodeo - Alvin Gabbert, Lefor; Rodeo Producer - Frank Wetzstein, Mandan and Leslie "Jim" Barnhart, Medora; Great Westerner- Hunkpapa Lakota leader Sitting Bull. Guest speaker was Hal Rosenbluth, former chairperson and CEO of Rosenbluth International. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Hall's grand opening followed

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later in the afternoon.

September 2005 - Professional rodeo cowboy and NDCHF inductee Dean Armstrong, 75, of Sentinel Butte, passed away on September 13th. A special memorial was held at the Center of Western Heritage & Cultures on Saturday, September 24th, honoring Justin and Casey Jacobson and Brandon Klein of Bowman. The three young rodeo cowboys were killed in a car accident returning from the White Earth NDRA rodeo in June.

October 2005 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame officially requested an exhibit loan of the original 1862 Homestead Act from the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

December 2005 - The Thomas and Frances Leach Foundation of Bismarck announced a donation of \$250,000 for the theatre at the Center of Western Heritage & Cultures. The founding secretary of the North Dakota Rodeo Association and NDCHF inductee, Pearl Cullen, 95, passed away December 1st in Mandan.

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2006

January 2006 - The NDCHF Building Committee met in Medora on January 14th to discuss and plan exhibit design changes and upgrades.

February 25, 2006 - A new induction category, the NDCHF Cowboy Long Rider award, was introduced at the 11th annual NDCHF membership meeting held Saturday, February 25th at the Seven Seas in Mandan. State legislator and trick roper Ryan Taylor was the featured keynote speaker. Ross Rolshoven of Grand Forks was introduced as the newest NDCHF board member. Phil Baird was elected to his 11th year as NDCHF President. Rod and Kathy Froelich of Selfridge donated a blue roan filly for the 2006 raffle. The idea of customized NDCHF car license plates was discussed by the trustees. NDCHF Executive Director Darrell Dorgan was honored with an NDCHF Commemorative 30-30 rifle (#2).

April 2006 - The NDCHF board and staff began developing evaluation protocols for the operation of the Center of Western Heritage & Cultures. Renovations and exhibits are updated for the theatre, hall of honorees, and rodeo wing.

May 2006 - The NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures opened for its first full season. A first-ever "Wild West" events series (ranch rodeo, showdeo, team roping, barrel racing) were held during the first half of the season. The outstanding artwork of the late North Dakota artist Gary Miller was featured in the special exhibit gallery.

July 2006 - The 2006 NDCHF inductees are announced just before the Fourth of July weekend. The NDCHF celebrated the 2nd annual National Day of the Cowboy on Saturday, July 22nd with a day-long program of western heritage events. The NDCHF was featured in the REC's North Dakota Living magazine.

August 5, 2006 -The late Don Hart of Fargo was recognized with the first NDCHF Cowboy Long Rider award at the ninth annual NDCHF induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 5th in Medora. Other inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Andrew Johnston, Modern-era Ranching - Leonard Davis; Ranch-VVV Ranch; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Robert McLeod; Modern-era Rodeo - John "Jack" Chase; Rodeo Livestock - Berger's #61 Little Yellow Jacket; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - James P. "Jim" Jefferies; Special Achievement - Mandan Rodeo. Grand Forks Herald editor and Pulitzer-prize winner Mike Forbes was the featured keynote speaker.

September 2006 - The first NDCHF Wild West Art Show was held on Friday-Saturday, September 8-9th.

December 2006 - While the NDCHF and community of Medora was enjoying the annual Cowboy Christmas festivities, Miss Rodeo North Dakota Ashley Andrews of Bowman was

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selected as the 2007 Miss Rodeo America in Las Vegas.

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2007

February 24, 2007 - Author Douglas A. Wick and Miss Rodeo America Ashley Andrews of Bowman, N.D., were the featured speakers of the 13th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame membership meeting and banquet held Saturday, February 24, 2007 at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D. The only other North Dakotan to hold the MIA title, Brenda Lee Bonogofsky, couldn't attend the event as planned due to adverse weather conditions at the Denver Airport. The 2007 slate of nominees for induction: Pre-1940 Ranching - Charles E. Schafer, McKenzie Co. and Don Stevenson, Morton Co.; Contemporary Ranching - Alick Dvirnak, Dunn Co. and Jake Larson, Almont; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Reuben DeCamp, Morton Co. and John Quilliam, Killdeer; Contemporary Rodeo - Henry "Almit" Breuer, Emmet; Bob Christophersen, Grassy Butte; Ralph Klein, Dickinson and Harry Olson, Killdeer; Rodeo Producer - Pete Pelissier, Billings Co. and Sam Rhoades, Killdeer; Arts & Entertainment - The Tibor Bros., Hebron and James Kilpatrick, Jamestown.

April 2007 - The NDCHF received the 2007 N.D. Tourist Attraction of the Year award at the annual State Tourism Conference held in Fargo, N.D. NDCHF President Phil Baird and CEO Darrell Dorgan accepted the award. NDCHF board member John Von Rueden of Bismarck passed away April 17, 2007 in Bismarck. Von Rueden served as the board representative for the N.D. State Historical Society.

May 2007 - The NDCHF board of directors took action to approve the 2008-2012 Long-range Strategic Plan. The board also approved the revision of a Hall of Honorees category from "Rodeo Producer" to "Rodeo Arena." The change now allowed other individuals from the rodeo arena to be considered for induction including rodeo announcers, stock contractors, secretaries, clowns and bullfighters. At the end of the month during Memorial Day weekend, the NDCHF kicked off its summer western art show with an artist's reception in Medora on Sunday, May 27.

June 2007 - Kathy Miller of Medora was selected as the new NDCHF operations manager.

July 2007 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame celebrated the 3rd annual National Day of the Cowboy on July 28th.

August 4, 2007 - Fargo Forum editor Jack Zaleski was the keynote speaker at the 10th annual NDCHF induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 4th at the Tjaden Terrace in Medora. 2007 inductees included: Pre-1940 Ranching - Donald Stevenson; Modern-era Ranching - Jake Larson, Almont; Pre-1940 Rodeo - John Quilliam; Modern-era Rodeo - Henry "Almit" Breuer, Emmet and Harry Olson, Killdeer; Rodeo Producer - Sam Rhoades, Killdeer; and Arts & Entertainment - The Tibor Brothers.

September 2007 - The NDCHF hosted a well-received N.D. Cutting Horse Invitational on

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September 22-23rd at the Medora Ranchorama. Well-known cutting horse trainer John Hovde of Williston helped coordinate the competition event.

November 2007 - Representing the N.D. Historical Society, Chet Nelson of Bismarck joined the NDCHF board of directors.

December 2007 -The Tom & Frances Leach Foundation donated \$50,000 to the Hall of Fame as part of its \$250,000 pledge.

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2008

February 22, 2008 - The 14th annual NDCHF annual membership meeting and banquet was held Saturday, February 22nd at Mandan's Seven Seas. Bismarck's Strolling Strings played for special guests and National Cowboy Hall of Fame inductees Alvin Nelson, Duane Howard, and Loretta Tescher representing her late husband, Jim Tescher. 2007 PBR stock contractor of the Year Chad Berger of Mandan was also honored. Nominees for 2008 induction: Pre-1940 Ranching - Christen Burnstad and William Connolly; Modern-Era Ranching - Alick Dvirnak and Alwyn Carus; Ranches - Anchor Ranch and Patterson Ranch; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - Pete Pelissier and Jim Weekes; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Henry Baker and George Charging; Modern-Era Rodeo - Bob Christophersen, Maude Gullickson, Mervel Hall and Lee Selland; Rodeo Livestock - #00 Anchors Aweigh and #V34 Red Pepper; Rodeo Arena - Monica Fettig Hovden and Steve Tomac.

March 2008 - N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame benefactor Rex Breneman, 89, passed away March 14, 2008 at Coram, Montana. He donated nearly 100 pieces of Robert Scriver sculptures from his private collection to the Hall of Fame in 2004.

May 2008 - With a public ceremony on May 1, 2008, the Rotary Club of Dickinson was joined by other Rotary Club organizations in dedicating the Great Western Trail marker at the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame in Medora. The marker commemorated the cattle drives coming into North Dakota in the late 1800s.

June 2008 - Along with the inaugural opening of the Guns of Dakota exhibit, the NDCHF hosted its first annual Gun Show with featured expert, National Firearms Museum curator Doug Wicklund.

August 2, 2008 - University of Mary President Sister Thomas Welder offered an outstanding talk as the keynote speaker for the 11th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame induction ceremonies held Saturday, August 2nd at the Tjaden Terrace in Medora. PRCA rodeo clown Steve Tomac of St. Anthony became the first inductee under the modified category of Rodeo Arena. The other 2008 inductees were: Pre-1940 Ranching - William Connolly; Modern-era Ranching - Alick Dvirnak; Ranches - Anchor Ranch; Pre-WWII Rodeo - George Charging; Contemporary Rodeo - Mervel Hall, Mandaree; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - James "Jim" Weekes; Rodeo Livestock - Fettig's #V34 Red Pepper. Jim Danks of Killdeer, N.D. won the NDCHF horse raffle, becoming the new owner of a grey Quarter horse filly donated by the Bud Sperry Ranch.

August 2008 - NDCHF founding president Evelyn Neuens passed away early Monday morning, August 11th at age 96. She was buried next to her husband Walter at the Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Bismarck.

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2009

January 2009 - Despite efforts to document its success, the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame was unsuccessful in getting financial support from the N.D. state legislature. A custom saddle featuring a Teddy Roosevelt theme was set up as the 2009 prize of the Hall's annual fund-raising raffle. Robyn Nelson-Werth resigned her board position, relocating to Nebraska.

February 21, 2009 - National Finals Rodeo qualifiers Dusty Hausauer and Shaun Stroh were honored at the 14th annual NDCHF membership and banquet held Saturday, February 21st at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D. The 2008 North Dakota Rodeo Association champions were also recognized. Humanities scholar Clay Jenkinson of Dickinson was the keynote speaker. Nominees for 2009 induction: Cowboy Long Rider - John Hovde and Dean Kuntz; Pre-WWII rodeo - Henry "Hank" Baker and Melvin Griffin; Modern-era rodeo - Angus Fox, Brad Gjermundson, Maude Gullickson, Lee Selland; Special Achievement - N.D. Winter Show Rodeo and 50 Years in the Saddle; Great Westerner - Art Link and Marquis de Mores.

March 2009 - Roxanne Gillespie of York, N.D. accepted to serve on the NDCHF board of directors.

May 2009 - Buffalo Bill Cody's pistol arrived at the NDCHF for its summer exhibition, loaned by the National Archives.

June 2009 - The Hall hosted its 2nd annual Gun Show the week-end of June 13-14th. Featured firearm experts include Doug Wicklund of the National Firearms Museum, private gun collector Gerald Groenewold of Grand Forks, and Mark Halverson of the N.D. Heritage Center.

June 27, 2009 - The 12th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame induction ceremonies were held for the first time in late June, marking a departure from August dates. Former N.D. governor Art Link, 95, of Alexander was recognized with the distinguished Great Westerner award at the event held Saturday afternoon, June 27th at the Tjaden Terrace in Medora, N.D. Founding NDCHF board member Willard Schnell of Dickinson was the second recipient of the NDCHF Legacy award. 2009 Inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Perfecto Fernandez (a.k.a. Georgie Baye); Modern-era Ranching - George Fenton; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Melvin Griffin; Modern-era Rodeo - Angus Fox, New Town and Brad Gjermundson, Marshall; Cowboy Long Rider - John Hovde, Williston; Special Achievement - 50 Years in the Saddle Club.

November 2009 - At the November 7th meeting, the Hall's board of directors approved of a refinancing plan for its MIDA bond debt to adjust to the national economy and anticipated tourism trends. The net impact was to lower annual payments and extend the debt service period.

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2010

February 27, 2010 - U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan provided the keynote address at the 14th annual membership meeting and banquet of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D. Featured entertainment was Greg Hager of Valley City. 2010 induction nominees: Pre-1940 Ranching-Angus Bell & Matt Crowley; Modern-Era Ranching -Pat O'Brien & Russ Shila; Ranch - Buddy Ranch & Taylor Ranch; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Henry Baker and Howard Wanna; Modern-Era Rodeo - Bob Christophersen, John "Buzz" Fredericks, Ralph Klein and Lee Selland; Rodeo Arena - Bob Aber & Monica Fettig Hovden; Rodeo Livestock-Figure Four's #00 Anchors Aweigh & Bob Aber's #08 Double Jeopardy; Arts & Entertainment - Leo Harris and Bob Rindt; Leaders of Ranching and Rodeo - Rex Cook and Pete Pelissier.

March/April 2010 - The NDCHF implemented a membership survey to assess the features and qualities of the organization, including the Cowboy Chronicle. There was also a fund-raising effort to sponsor chairs in the theatre of the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage in Medora.

May 2010 - The Hall opened its new summer season with a new Native American Gallery presentation, "Defending Land & People: Civil War Events of the Dakota/Dakho'tah West." The exhibit featured interpretive information about the Spirit Lake Dakota Indians and historical events in the state related to their arrival and eventual residence on the Fort Totten Indian Reservation. Introduced with this exhibit were U.S. Indian peace medals on loan from NDCHF board member Ross Rolshoven of Grand Forks.

June 2010 - Past North Dakota governor and NDCHF Great Westerner inductee Arthur Link, 96, of Alexander, N.D. passed away Tuesday morning, June 1, 2010 at a Bismarck, N.D. hospital. He served as the honorary chair of the NDCHF's initial capital campaign and established the NDCHF Foundation with an endowment donation of \$10,000. The Board later titled this as the "Art & Grace Link Endowment" in September 2012.

June 26, 2010 - Bismarck State College president Dr. Larry Skogen was the keynote speaker at the 13th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame Induction ceremonies held Saturday, June 26, 2010 at Medora. Honorees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Matt Crowley, Mercer Co.; Modern-era Ranching - Russ Silha, Bowman; Ranches -Taylor Ranch, McHenry Co.; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - Rex Cook, Dickinson; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Howard Wanna, Elbowoods; Modern-era Rodeo - John "Buzz" Fredericks, Jr., Halliday & Lee Selland, Bismarck; Rodeo Arena - Bob Aber, (Abernethy) Beach; Rodeo Livestock - Aber's #08 Double Jeopardy; Arts & Entertainment - Bob Rindt, Sawyer. The Hall also hosted its 4th annual barrel racing competition the same weekend.

August 2010 - The first annual NDCHF Day of the Plains Horse People program was held on Saturday, August 21st in Medora. Featured speakers included Phil Baird, Mandan ("Indian

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Rodeo Cowboys of the Dakotas"), Cecil Mashburn ("Beliefs & Traditions of the Cherokee"), Amy Mossett, Twin Buttes ("The Life of Sacagawea"), and Wallace "Butch" Thunderhawk, Bismarck ("The Re-emergence of Native American Ledger Art").

September 9, 2010 - On Thursday evening, September 9, 2010, representatives of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame accepted the National American Cowboy Culture & Heritage award in Lubbock, Texas. Speaking on behalf of the Hall were Phil Baird, president and Darrell Dorgan, executive director. Also attending were Russ & Helen Danielson, Harwood; Roger & Kathy Miller, Medora; Alvin & Kay Nelson, Grassy Butte; Jim Chamley, Colorado Springs; Martin & Vicki Orgaard, Center; and Mike Johnson. Baird and Dorgan also participated in the Western Trails panel presentation held during the 22nd annual National Cowboy Symposium & Celebration, September 9-12th at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.

September 2010 - Founding NDCHF board member and cattle buyer Arlen Sommers, 79, of Valley City passed away on September 22, 2010 in Fargo, N.D. He also served as a long-time member of the N.D. Winter Show Committee and the N.D. Beef Commission.

Fall 2010 - Mildred Hanson of Bismarck provided a major \$100,000 financial contribution to the NDCHF.

November 6, 2010 - At the NDCHF Fall 2010 board of directors meeting, action was taken to establish a North Dakota chapter of the Great West Cattle Trail Association. Board members Bob Tibor and Laura Griffin were designated to co-lead the development of this chapter.

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2011

January 2011 - North Dakota rodeo photographer Howard Bubel of Center donated his rodeo photo collection to the NDCHF.

February 26, 2011 - Oil industry executive Harold Hamm was the keynote speaker at the 15th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame meeting and banquet held Saturday, February 26, 2011 at the Seven Seas in Mandan. Nominees for induction: Long Rider - Dean Kutz and Marie Tyler; Special Achievement - N.D. Winter Show Rodeo & White Earth Valley Saddle Club Rodeo; Pre-1940 Ranching - Angus Bell & Archie Campbell; Pre-1940 Rodeo- Guy Fox and Henry "Hank" Baker; Modern-era Ranching - Leroy "Bud" Perry and Roger Stuber; Modern-era Rodeo - Maude Gullickson, Joan Hecker, Bruce Northrup & Eugene "Pete" Pederson.

February 2011 - White Earth Valley, N.D. native cowboy Jim Chamley of Williston became the newest board member along with Dick Nelson of Valley City.

June 25, 2011 - Cowboy radio personality Trent Loos was the featured speaker at the 14th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame induction ceremonies held Saturday, June 25, 2011 at the Tjaden Terrace in Medora, N.D. Inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Archie Campbell, Wells/Eddie Co.; Modern-era Ranching - Roger Stuber, Bowman; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Guy Fox, Fort Berthold; Modern-era Rodeo - Maude Gullickson, Center & Bruce Northrup, Medora; Cowboy Long Rider - Marie Tyler, Bismarck; Special Achievement - N.D. Winter Show Rodeo.

August 2011 - A meeting of the NDCHF board of directors convened on Saturday, August 6th in Medora with the central topic being the intended retirement of Darrell Dorgan as the Hall's executive director. After 13 years as CEO, he was stepping down sometime during the Fall due to personal health reasons. A search and screening committee was established to begin looking for a successor.

September 4-5, 2011 - The Hall hosted its 5th annual barrel racing competition on Labor Day week-end, September 4-5th in Medora, having changed dates and location due to Missouri River flooding in the Bismarck-Mandan area. The corporate office was relocated to 1315 E. Front A venue in Bismarck.

December 2011 - After consulting with several individuals during the Fall, the Hall's leadership was unsuccessful in filling the executive director position vacated by the retirement of Darrell Dorgan. The November 2011 edition of the Cowboy Chronicle was not published due to the management transition.

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2012

January 2012 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame was notified by American Bank Center that its annual construction bond payment of \$105,000 had not been made. The Hall's leadership organized a Special Friends of the Board campaign and was successful in raising funds to make the payment by the extended deadline of January 31st.

February 24-25, 2012 - At the NDCHF board meetings held February 24-25, 2012 at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D., the NDCHF board interviewed three candidates for the executive director position. No selections were made at that time due to the financial position of the organization. The next day, at the annual NDCHF membership, Hall president Phil Baird facilitated a "Town Hall" meeting and dialogued with members and trustees about the background of the Hall's management transition and status of its financial position. The Hall's board delegated board member Jim Chamley as a new trustee liaison to work with the trustees in updating district leadership and trustee roles, including local fund-raising. Without an executive director, the board divided organizational management responsibilities among board members under the authority of the board president.

February 25, 2012 – Pro-rodeo announcer and radio personality Jim Thompson of Spearfish, S.D. was the banquet speaker at the 16th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame annual membership dinner and fund-raising auction held Saturday evening, February 25th at the Seven Seas in Mandan. Former Miss Rodeo America Ashley Andrews-Alderson of Bowman was the guest of Round-up reception on Friday evening. At the end of the evening, nearly \$35,000 was raised through silent and live auctions along with corporate sponsorships. The following 2012 inductee nominations were announced: Pre-1940 Ranching-Angus Bell and John "Jack" McCrory; Modern-Era Ranching-Melvin Leland and Leroy "Bud" Perry; Ranch - Buddy Ranch and Price Ranch; Pre-1950 Rodeo - Henry Baker and Pete Pelissier; Modern-era Rodeo - Newton Burr, Sr., Bob Christophersen, Gary Graham and Tom Solberg; Rodeo Arena - Clair Cullen and Norman "Peg" O'Neil; Rodeo Livestock - #00 Anchors Aweigh (Figure Four) and #77 Top Hand (Bob Aber); Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo - Andy Moore and Walter Piehl, Sr.

March 2012 - Under the direction of board member Ray Morrell of Mandan, the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame began efforts to retool its communication and marketing capabilities through social media. Betty Grantier of Sidney, Montana provided a special financial contribution which provided a required match for a N.D. Tourism mini-grant award to upgrade the Hall's website.

April 2012 - A promotional arrangement was finalized with Merrill Piepkorn of Prairie Airwaves, Inc. to produce the "NDCHF Moment" radio presentation to be aired during the summer, highlighting inductees of the Hall of Honorees.

May 2012 - Through the leadership of artist/board members Walter Piehl, Jr. of Minot and Ross Rolshoven of Grand Forks, the NDCHF "Cowboys & Indians: Alive and Well Today" art exhibit

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was installed at the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage & Cultures in Medora. The purposes of the exhibit were to provide visibility for invited artists along with fund-raising for the Hall through on-site purchases of the artwork. Exhibit designers Deane Fay and Sally Jeppson of Gackle, N.D. once again provided technical assistance. The NDCHF officially launched its Facebook page.

June 23, 2012 - Former executive director Darrell Dorgan was the keynote speaker at the 15th annual N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame induction ceremonies held Saturday, June 23, 2012 at the Tjaden Terrace in Medora, N.D. 2012 inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching-Angus Bell, Billings, Co.; Modern-Era Ranching-Melvin Leland, McKenzie Co.; Ranches-Price Ranch, Morton Co.; Pre-1950 Rodeo -Pete Pelissier, Billings Co; Modern-era Rodeo -Newton Burr, Sr., New Town and Bob Christophersen, Grassy Butte; Rodeo Arena-Norman "Peg" O'Neil; Rodeo Livestock - #00 Anchors Aweigh (Figure Four); Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo -Walter Piehl, Sr., Marion.

July 1, 2012 - Former NDCHF board member Ray Morrell of Mandan assumed duties as the second NDCHF executive director, succeeding Darrell Dorgan. The corporate office was relocated to 105 3rd Avenue NW in Mandan. Board member and secretary/treasurer Russell Danielson of Harwood retired from his position on July 31st.

August 11, 2012 - Educators from North Dakota's Spirit Lake Nation provided presentations for the 3rd annual NDCHF Day of the Plains Horse People program in Medora, focusing on topics related to the 150th anniversary of the Dak'hota Conflict, also known as the Minnesota Uprising of 1862.

September 21, 2012 - Four-time world saddle bronc champion Brad Gjermundson, 53, of Marshall and NFR qualifier Pete Fredericks, 76, of Halliday, were inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center at Oklahoma City, OK. Both were previously inducted into the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame.

September 2012 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame was featured in the September 28, 2012 edition of the ProRodeo Sports News. Writer Debbie Kelley talked about western heritage museums throughout the country.

September 29, 2012 - Selected as the newest NDCHF board members were Fred Sorenson of White Earth and Steve Tomac of St. Anthony. They were introduced at the NDCHF board meeting held in conjunction with the N.D. Stockmen's Association convention in Fargo.

October 2012 - Founding member Willard Schnell of Dickinson retired from the NDCHF board of directors.

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November 2, 2012 - At the NDCHF board of directors meeting held November 3, 2012 in Bismarck, Dr. Gerald Stokka, DVM, was selected as the newest board member. The board was informed that the annual construction bond payment was made.

December 2012 - Bill Barth Ford of Mandan provided a 2012 Ford F150 truck at a reduced cost for the 2013 NDCHF fund-raising raffle. "Wrap" sponsors included CENEX, Farm Credit Services of Mandan, and Fanners Union Insurance.

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2013

January 12, 2013 - The NDCHF board of directors began work on updating its strategic plan at a meeting in Bismarck, N.D., but a snowstorm postponed completion of the task.

February 22-23, 2013 - Three-time PRCA world saddle bronc champion Monty "Hawkeye" Henson of Mesquite, Texas was the celebrity guest at the 2013 NDCHF Western Celebration & Expo on February 22-23rd at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D. The organization inaugurated a children's education program as part of the Expo on Friday, February 22nd. Greg Hager of Valley City provided the Friday evening entertainment along with cowboy poet Rodney Nelson of Almont. At the annual trustees meeting on Saturday, Paul Christensen of Minot assumed the chairmanship role, succeeding Bob Knudsen. Induction nominees included: Pre-1940 Ranching - Lettie Uhlman Kellogg, McKenzie Co. and Steve Weekes, Morton Co. Modern-era Ranching - James Earl Mrnak, Bowman Co. and Leroy "Bud" Perry, Mountrail Co. Pre-1940 Rodeo - Henry "Hank" Baker, Garrison and Kenneth Krueger, Embden. Modern-era Rodeo - Roy Birdbear, New Town; Gary Graham, Ross; Lynn Linseth, Killdeer and Tom Solberg, Grassy Butte. Arts & Entertainment - Leo Harris, Killdeer and William "Bill" Lowman, Sentinel Butte. Great Westerner - Marquis de Mores, Medora and William Vose Wade, Mandan. The NDCHF board also announced that Harold Shaefer, Medora and Russell Danielson, Fargo were the next recipients of the NDCHF Legacy awards. Founding board member Bob Tibor of Hebron resigned from the board of directors. Elected as 2013 board officers were Phil Baird, Mandan (president); Jim Chamley, White Earth (vice president), and Steve Tomac, St. Anthony (secretary/treasurer).

April 30, 2013 - NDCHF Executive Director Ray Morrell unexpectedly resigned from his position. Miss Mandan Rodeo and college student Codi Miller was hired as a part-time events coordinator. With no full-time staff in place, the NDCHF opened the Medora Center on May 8th with Kathy Miller and board member Fred Sorenson of Stanley. Eventually, seasonal staff were hired. The NDCHF Executive Committee assumed responsibilities for administration of all operations in the absence of an Executive Director.

May 2013- Generous benefactors donating to the NDCHF in the Spring of 2013 included Neil & Delilah Bartleson, Bill & Connie Connolly, Betty Grantier, Frank Kubik, Alvin & Kaye Nelson, Carolyn Nelson, and Fred Sorenson. Merrill Piepkorn of Prairie Airwaves, Inc. launched his second season of "NDCHF Moment" radio presentations.

June 22, 2013 - The keynote speaker for the 16th annual NDCHF induction ceremonies was Native American attorney Tom Fredericks, formerly of Halliday, N.D. on Saturday, June 22nd on the Tjaden Terrace in Medora. 2013 inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Lettie Uhlman Kellogg, McKenzie Co. Modern-era Ranching - Leroy "Bud" Perry, Mountrail Co. Pre-1940 Rodeo - Henry "Hank" Baker, Garrison. Modern-era Rodeo - Roy Birdbear, New Town and Lynn Linseth, Killdeer. Arts & Entertainment-Bill Lowman, Sentinel Butte. Great Westerner - Marquis de Mores; Legacies - Gold Seal Co. & TMFR founder Harold Shaefer, Medora and Russell Danielson,

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Harwood.

July 2013 - A mid-summer edition of the NDCHF Cowboy Chronicle was published for the first-time under the editorship of Sheyna Strommen of Fort Rice. Over "Cowboy Christmas," the 2013 NDCHF raffle truck made appearances at the Dickinson, ND and Mandan, ND rodeos.

July 27, 2013 - On the 9th annual National Day of the Cowboy, the name of pro rodeo team roper Stan Hausauer of Dickinson, N.D. was drawn as the winner of the 2013 NDCHF truck raffle at the N.D. State Fair in Minot on Saturday, July 27th. Cowboy poet, author and trick roper Ryan Taylor of Towner was one of the featured entertainers along with western recording artist Greg Hager of Valley City for the program in Medora.

August 10, 2013 - For the 4th annual NDCHF Day of the Plains Horse People program on Saturday, August 10th, Dakota Goodhouse (Standing Rock Sioux Tribe) and Keith Bear (Three Affiliated Tribes) provided Native American presentations at the NDCHF Center of Western Heritage in Medora.

August 2013 - PRCA stock contractor Bob Aber (Abernethy), 78, of Beach, N.D. passed away on Wednesday, August 21, 2013. He competed in rough stock events before engaging his professional rodeo stock contracting business for over four decades. Some of his award-winning WNFR stock included #08 Double Jeopardy (BB), #22 Ol' Shep (SB) and #77 Top Hand (BR). Bob was inducted into the NDCHF in 2010, the same year as Double Jeopardy.

September 12, 2013 - Fifty-six entries participated in the first annual NDCHF "Cowboy Classic" Golf Tournament on Thursday, September 21st at Medora's Bully Pulpit. Four-time world PRCA saddle bronc champion Brad Gjermundson of Marshall, N.D. was the celebrity golfer. Outstanding weather cooperated with sunny skies, mid-70-s temperatures, and a slight breeze. Bowman Ford of Bowman, N.D. sponsored the hole-in-one prize that was nearly won by Malcolm "Speedy" Bruce of New Town, coming within several feet of the #5 tee.

September 28, 2013 - Kevin Holten of Dickinson was selected as the new executive director of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame. He officially began duties on October 1. The estate of the late Wm. "Billie" Rase made a large donation to the Hall.

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2014

January 2014 - Four-time state barrel racing champion and former Miss Rodeo North Dakota Virginia "Ginny" Eck of Bismarck resigned from the NDCHF board of directors, citing health reasons.

February 22, 2014 - Canadian rodeo cowboy and western singer Ivan Daines of Innisfail, Alberta was the featured guest at the 2014 NDCHF Western Expo & banquet held Saturday, February 22nd at the Seven Seas in Mandan, N.D. Board, general membership and trustee meetings were held prior to the event. The 2014 slate of inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Richard Moore and Albert Neidhardt; Modern-era Ranching - Herb Natwick and Stanley Pope; Ranch - Brooks and Buddy; Pre-1940 Rodeo - William Haaden and Kenneth Krueger; Modern-era Rodeo-Gary Graham, Joan Hecker - Lennick, Wayne Herman, and Jerry Weinberger. Rodeo Arena - Emerson Chase, Mandaree and Ray Erhardt, Mandan; Rodeo Livestock - #L2 Centennial (Linseth/Classic ProRodeo) and #77 Top Hand (Aber); Cowboy Long Rider - Dean Kutz and Andy Moore; Special Achievement - Blaisdell Rodeo Club and White Earth Valley Saddle Club.

March 2014-The corporate office of the NDCHF was relocated from Mandan, N.D., to Medora.

May 3, 2014-The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame opened its 2014 season with the "Another Cowboy Moment" video premier on Saturday, May 3rd at the Center of Western Heritage & Cultures: Native American, Ranching & Rodeo. Celebrity guest was western actor Walter "Buck" Taylor of Gunsmoke TV series fame. Members and guests also attended to catch the newly-revamped exhibits for world saddle bronc champions Alvin Nelson and Brad Gjermundson.

June 2014-The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame hosted its first NDRA rodeo on June 6-7th in Medora. Event winners: BB -Logan Berg, Mandan; SB - Dalton Rixen, Richardton; BR - Jay Dunford, Menoken; CR - Justin Scofield, Volga, S.D.; SW - Vance Steedley, Sundance, WY; BAR - Bobbi Jo Grann, Sheyenne; BRKA-Kristy Steffes, Dickinson; TR - Casey Holmes/Joe Painter, Buffalo, S.D.; SrBRKA-Jim Graven, Minot. Kling Bros./Wayne Eckroth stock.

June 21, 2014 - PRCA 1992 world bareback champion Wayne Herman, 50, of Golden Valley, N.D. was inducted into the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame on Saturday, June 21st at Medora, N.D. Keynote speaker of the 2014 annual ceremonies was six-time PRCA world saddle bronc riding champion Dan Mortenson of Billings, Montana. Inductees: Pre-1940 Ranching - Richard Moore; Modern-era Ranching - Stanley Pope; Pre-1940 Rodeo - William Haaden; Modern-era Rodeo - Herman and Jerry Weinberger, Brein; Rodeo Arena - Emerson Chase, Mandaree; Rodeo Livestock - #L2 Centennial (Lynn Linseth/Classic ProRodeo); Special Achievement - Blaisdell Rodeo Club; Cowboy Long Rider - Andy Moore, Blaisdell.

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July 2014 - The N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame hosted its first Bucking Horse Futurity on Saturday, July 19th at the Ranch-o-rama in Medora. The event was sanctioned by the World Class Bucking Horse Association.

August 9, 2014 - For the second time in the same year, 1992 PRCA world bareback riding champion Wayne Herman, 50, of Golden Valley, N.D. was honored with an induction, this time at the ProRodeo Hall of Fame on Saturday, August 9, 2014 at Colorado Springs, CO. Other inductees included Pete Grubb, Miles Hare, Glen O'Neill, and Byron Walker. Big Bend Rodeo's legendary mare, #303 Spring Fling, was also honored as the second animal to win PRCA's year-end bucking horse awards in both the bareback and saddle bronc riding events.

August 2014 - Paul Christensen, 59, of Sawyer, N.D. passed away Sunday, August 24th at his home. He served as chair of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame trustees and was a long-time committee member of the Minot Ys Men Rodeo. Paul's father, Dr. George Christensen, was one of the founding members of the NDCHF board of directors.

September 2014 - The 2nd annual NDCHF Golf Tournament was held Thursday, September 11th at the Bully Pulpit course in Medora. Four-time world saddle bronc champion Brad Gjermundson again served as the celebrity golfer. A four-person team from the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation won the event.

November 2014 - Through a joint effort, the NDCHF and Lewis & Clark Foundation held a Cowboy & Indian Art Show and live auction on Thursday, November 21st in Washburn, N.D.

December 2014 - Former RCA world saddle bronc riding champion Alvin Nelson, 80, of Grassy Butte, N.D. passed away at the Mayo Clinic on Tuesday, December 23rd after a battle with stomach cancer. The S.D. born-native rose to rodeo fame by winning the state and national high school bronc riding titles (1952), the world title (1957) and the world runner-up title (1960). He qualified for the National Finals Rodeo five times, winning the saddle bronc riding average in 1961 and 1962. Alvin was inducted with the inaugural class of the N.D. Cowboy Hall of Fame in 1998.

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2015

February 21, 2015 - At the 2015 North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame Western Fest event held February 20-21st at the Ramada in Dickinson, N.D., former WNFR qualifier and western humorist Wally Badgett provided the banquet entertainment. 2015 induction nominees included: Pre-1940 Ranching - Christen Burnstad and Thomas Merwood Stevens; Modern-era Ranching - Dorvan Solberg, Williston and James Earl Mrnak, Bowman; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Ben Johnston, Blaisdell and Kenneth Krueger, Verona; Modern-era Rodeo-Doug Hansen, Dunn Center; Joan Hecker-Lennick, Bismarck; Ed Sundby, Williston and Esley Thorton, Sr., New Town. Four-time state barrel racing champion and NDCHF co-founder Virginia Eck of Bismarck was selected to receive the 2015 Legacy Award.

February 22, 2015 - The NDRA board of directors selected former NDCHF president, Phil Baird, as interim Executive Director. Elected as the new NDCHF officers were Jim Chamley, president; Fred Sorenson, vice president and Dr. Gerald Stokka as secretary/ treasurer.

April 11, 2015 - NDCHF board member Fred Sorenson of White Earth offered a donation to cover the renovations and additions for the patio at the Center of Western Heritage & Cultures.

May 2, 2015 - At the second annual Another Cowboy Moment premiere on Saturday evening, May 2nd, the event introduced the two new displays of 1992 PRCA world bareback champion Wayne Herman and PRCA rodeo clown/barrel man Steve Tomac. Featured guest was 1982 PRCA world bull riding champion Charles Sampson of Wickenburg, AZ. Another new display - WNFR Young Guns on the Road - showcased Dusty Hausauer, Ty Breuer and Britany Fleck-Diaz.

June 20, 2015 - On June 20th, Saturday, NDCHF Hall of Honorees induction ceremony was held at Tjaden Terrace in Medora, ND. Keynote speaker for the ceremony was Sylvia Gann Mahoney of Fort Worth, TX. 2015 inductees: Modern-era Rodeo – Joan Hecker-Lennick, Modern-era Rodeo – Doug Hansen, Legacy Award – Virginia Eck. Board of directors and trustee meetings preceded the event.

July 25, 2015 – On the National Day of the Cowboy the name of Byrnae Feight of Bottineau was drawn as the winner of the 2015 NDCHF Parkway Ford Truck Raffle at N.D. State Fair in Minot.

August 7-8, 2015 – Day of the Plains Horse People Program was held at NDCHF on Friday and Saturday, August 7th and 8th. Professor Emeritus of the Arts and NDCHF supporter Wallace “Butch” Thunderhawk of Bismarck shared his knowledge and talents. Visitors attended three different workshop presentations.

September 2015 – Great Western Trail/Medora Golf Tournament was held at Bully Pulpit Golf Course, Medora, ND on September 10th. Event was hosted by 4 times world saddle bronc champion Brad Gjermundson. Winning team: Speedy Bruce, Jarett Eagle, Steve Hall and CJ.

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Whitman. ND Cutting Horse Association Finals was held September 19-20th at Medora Ranch-O-Rama. Winners were Bill Retterath, Center (Open division); Saige Feilmeier, Watford City (Non-pro division); Rebecca Chase, Hazen (Novice horse/non-pro division); and LaVonn Stopplesworth, Gwinner (\$2,000 Limit Rider division).

October 2015 – The last member of the North Dakota rodeo “Six Pack”, Duane Howard, 82, of Minnewaukan, ND passed away on October 1st. All-around rodeo champion Lee Selland, 80, of Bismarck, ND passed away at his home on October 10th. Lee was inducted into NDCHF in 2010.

October 17, 2015 - 1st annual NDCHF “East Greets West” Benefit and live auction was held at the North Dakota State University Harry D. McGovern Alumni Center in Fargo. Event was hosted by NDSU Bison Nation graduate Esley Thorton, one of the outstanding athletes of NDSU’s four-time national college football championship teams. NDCHF board of directors meeting took place prior to event.

November 3, 2015 – Known as one of the toughest cowboys to show up at rodeos, Mervel Hall, 87, of Mandaree, ND passed away. He was inducted into NDCHF in 2008.

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2016

January 9, 2016 – The Board of Directors meeting screened nominations. 2016 induction nominees included: Modern-era Ranching – Fred Eberle, Joseph Schaff; Pre-1940 Ranching – James McEwen Uhlman, Steven P. Weekes; Ranch category – Kennedy Ranch, Oak Coulee Ranch; Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo – Dale B. Greenwood, Jack P. Reich; Western Entertainment and Arts – Audrey Hall-Davy, Leo D. Harris; Modern-era Rodeo – Monty Carson, Lowell Faris, Gary Graham, Ed Sundby; Pre-1940 Rodeo – Arthur Jefferies, Kenneth Krueger; Rodeo Arena – Joe Berger, Marvin Klein; Rodeo Livestock – Dakota Baldy, War Paint.

February 26-27, 2016 – NDCHF Founder’s Day West Fest event was held at the Ramada Grand Dakota Hotel in Dickinson, ND. Special Guest – Jerry Gustafson, Professional Rodeo Photography & Author.

April 30, 2016 – NDCHF opened its 2016 season with Another Cowboy Moment Premiere. Special guests – Buck Taylor and his wife, Goldie. New gun display was showcased.

June 1, 2016 – Rick Thompson named Executive Director of the NDCHF. Suzanne Henry hired as Executive Assistant.

June 17-18, 2016 – Hall of Honorees Induction Ceremonies was held at the Chimney Park. The guest speaker was David Allen, the President and CEO of Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Phil Baird, one of founders of NDCHF and its President for 19 years, was recognized with Legacy Award. Other 2016 inductees: Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo – Dale Greenwood; Rodeo Arena – Joe Berger; Pre-1940 Rodeo - Kenneth Krueger; Modern-era Rodeo – Monty Carson, Ed Sundby; Rodeo Livestock – Bradly Brettin’s # 18 War Paint; Pre-1940 Ranching – A.N. Jefferies; Modern-era Ranching – Joseph S. Schaff, Ranch – Kennedy Ranch; Arts & Entertainment – Audrey Hall.

July 23, 2016 – National Day of the Cowboy event was held at the NDCHF. Musician Greg Hager and Cowboy Poets Fran Armstrong and Jonathan Odermann took part in the event.

July 30, 2016 – NDCHF Parkway Ford Truck Raffle Drawing took place at ND State Fair, All Seasons Arena in Minot. Roger Sundsbak is a winner of drawing.

August 5, 2016 – Past Rodeo Champions and participants were invited to Cowboy Reunion Weekend. Event took place on NDCHF patio, guests were able to visit with the cowboys and learn about North Dakota’s cowboy history. Event was sponsored by USA Energy.

August 12-13, 2016 – Day of the Plains Horse People Program.

September 8, 2016 – Great Western Trail/ Medora Golf Scramble was held at Bully Pulpit Golf Course. Participants of the winning team: Mel Hauck, Ernie Hill, Channing Meduna, Brad Willer.

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September 24-25, 2016 – ND Cutting Horse Assn. State Finals were held at Ranch-O-Rama in Medora, ND. The winners were: Select NP – Valerie Bahm, Minot; 35 NP – Alan Wagner, Wilton; 15 AM – Mikaela Miller, Bismarck; 2000 LR – Nick Price, Pierre, SD.

November 11, 2016 – East Greets West benefit and auction was held at Avalon Event Center West. This year's guest presenter is Steve Stark, award winning political cartoonist and writer from Fargo, ND.

December 7, 2016 – Annual Trustees Gathering at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo took place at the Alexis Park – All Suite Resort, Las Vegas, NV.

December 9-10, 2016 – Annual NDCHF Cowboy Christmas Program as a part of Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas.

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2017

January 6th, 2017 – Annual Board of Directors meeting was held in Bismarck. Unveiling of newly commissioned bronze rendition of the North Dakota Six Pack took place during a press conference prior to the meeting. Artist Dave Kulczyk created this outstanding piece of art and soon will be displayed at the NDCHF. 2017 induction nominees: Great Westerner – Clarence H. Parker; Pre-1940 Ranching – Gordon Olson, Herbert Birdsall; Modern-era Ranching – James L. Connolly, Ralph Murray; Pre-1940 Rodeo – Leo Sorenson; Modern-era Rodeo – Brenda Lee Pickett, Gary Graham, Denver Jorgenson, Nevada Jorgenson; Long Rider – Paul Christiansen, Dorvan Solberg; Special Achievement – Richardton Saddle Club, White Earth Valley Saddle Club.

February 24-25, 2017 – NDCHF Annual Meeting was held at Ramada Grand Dakota Hotel. Keynote speaker – Butch Knowles, Oregon rancher and former PRCA Saddle Bronc Rider.

April 29, 2017 – NDCHF 2017 Season Premiere. Special guests – pro-rodeo legend Dean Oliver, 1983 Miss Rodeo America Brenda Lee Pickett and 2007 Miss Rodeo America Ashley Alderson. NDCHF opened the season with the presentation of new exhibits. North Dakota's "Rodeo Royalty" featuring rodeo queens, was unveiled alongside an exhibit featuring the division of the High School Rodeo Association.

June 23, 2017 – NDCHF Induction ceremony was held at Tjaden Terrace in Medora, ND. 2017 Inductees are: Great Westerner – Clarence H. Parker; Cowboy Long Rider – Paul Christensen, Special Achievement – White Earth Valley Saddle Club; Rodeo Division – pre-1940 Rodeo – Leo Sorenson, modern-era Rodeo – Denver Jorgenson and Brenda Lee Pickett. Ranching Division – pre-1940 Ranching – Herb Birdsall, modern-era Ranching – James Louis Connolly. Guest speaker was Larry Mahan, an 8 time Pro Rodeo World Champion Cowboy with 6 All Around World Championships and 2 Bull Riding World Championships.

July 22, 2017 – National Day of The Cowboy was celebrated at NDCHF. Greg Hager performed western music, Fran Armstrong and Jonathan Odermann entertained the guests with cowboy poetry. Kids Rodeo Activities were hosted by Mandan Rodeo Committee.

July 21-29, 2017 – NDCHF attended North Dakota State Fair at Minot, ND.

August 2017 – 61st Annual Champions Ride Saddle Bronc Match was held at the Home on the Range arena on August 5th. NDCHF hosted a social and Calcutta auction of the cowboys entered in March. NDCHF's patio was renamed in Alvin Nelson's Honor. Dedication was open to public and took place August 4th as a part of HOTR Calcutta.

August 12, 2017 – Day of the Plains Horse People.

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September 7, 2017 – Annual NDCHF Golf Scramble took place at Bully Pulpit Golf Course. Traveling Trophy winners – District 5: Bud Pauley, Ed Sundby, Rick Thompson, Natalie Moen. Overall Winning Team – Don Yellowbird, Steve Hall, Speedy Bruce, Noah Williams.

September 16-17, 2017 – North Dakota Cutting Horse Association State Finals were held at the Medora Ranch-o-Rama Arena. Event featured some of the best horses and hands in the area, including a few NDCHF Honorees, competing for the last of the season's earnings and their place in the year end standings.

October, 2017 – Saddle Raffle Drawing at Badlands Circuit Finals in Minot, ND. Dorry Peterson of Hazen was the winner of the saddle. NDCHF District 5 trustees commissioned Shawn Kramer, owner of Sandhills Saddlery, to make the one of the kind saddle. Money raised supported the efforts of the NDCHF.

November 3, 2017 – East Greets West Benefit Dinner & Auction was held at Fargo Avalon Event Center West. This year's guest speaker – Rodney Nelson, known throughout America as a popular humorist, entertainer and columnist.

December 9, 2017 – NDCHF took part at the Annual Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas. Cowboy Poetry was hosted by Jonathan Odermann at the NDCHF lounge.

December 13, 2017 – NDCHF Annual NFR Trustee Meeting was held at Mandalay Bay Convention Center.

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2018

January 5, 2018 – Meeting of the Board of Directors, Medora.

Nominees in review for induction were:

Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo – Don Neidhardt; Jack Reich

Pre-1940s Ranching – Steve Weekes, Sr.; Charles Franklin Martell

Modern-era Ranching - Gerald Effertz; Ralph Francis Murray

Ranches – Olson Ranch; Black Leg Ranch

Pre-1970s Rodeo – David Dahl; Gary Graham

Modern-era Rodeo – Larry Sandvick; Wade Sundby; Nevada Jorgenson; Darrell Hermanson

Rodeo Arena – Chad Berger; Jim Cook

Rodeo Livestock – 44 Magnum; Top Hand

February 16-17, 2018 – Annual Meeting of the NDCHF held in the conference center of the Sleep Inn, Minot, ND. Keynote Speaker – Deb Greenough, 13x WNFR qualifier, 1990 average winner and 1993 World Champion Bareback Rider.

April 27-28, 2018 – Season Premiere, NDCHF, Medora. Special Guest – Frank Thompson, World Champion Steer Wrestler. New exhibits revealed – 65 Years of the NDRA; 1800's era Native American Headdress (gift of the Lutgen Family); updated Jr High and High School Rodeo exhibits.

June 14 – 15, 2018 – NDCHF Induction Ceremony held at Tjaden Terrace, Medora, ND. Guest Speaker – Stran Smith, World Champion Tie-Down Roper.

2018 Class of NDCHF Inductees:

Leaders of Ranching & Rodeo – Jack Reich

Pre-1940s Ranching – Steve Weekes

Modern-era Ranching – Ralph Murray

Ranches – Olson Ranch

Pre-1970s Rodeo – Dave Dahl

Mordern-era Rodeo – Nevada Jorgenson; Larry Sandvick

Rodeo Arena – Chad Berger

Rodeo Livestock – Top Hand

July 27-28, 2018 – National Day of the Cowboy, NDCHF, Medora. Entertainment provided by Greg Hager, musician; Fran Armstrong and Jonathan Odermann, cowboy poetry.

July 20-28, 2018 – NDCHF participated the ND State Fair and parade in Minot, ND.

August 4, 2018 – NDCHF participated in the 62nd Annual Home On The Range Champions Ride, Sentinel Butte, ND. A social and Calcutta took place on the Alvin Nelson Memorial Arena.

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September 6, 2018 – Annual NDCHF Golf Scramble took place at Bully Pulpit Golf Course in Medora. Traveling Trophy Winners – Bill Butterfield, Brendan Brinkman, Brad Gjermundson, Charlie Pierson. Overall Winning Team – Brad Skachenko, Grayson Arellano, Patrick Rominger.

October 6, 2018 – Commemorative Rifle Drawing at Badlands Circuit Finals, Minot, ND. Winner – Gary Simmons. Funds raised directly supported the efforts of the NDCHF.

November 2, 2018 – East Greets West Benefit Dinner & Auction held at Avalon Events Center, Fargo. Keynote Speaker – Cara Mund, Miss America 2018.

December 7-9, 2018 – The NDCHF participated in Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas.

December 12, 2018 – Annual NDCHF Trustee Gathering was held at The Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, during the week of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo.

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2019

January 2019 – Meeting of the Board of Directors

Nominees in review for induction were:

Pre-1940s Ranching – Vincent Steffan, Sr.; Charles Franklin Martell

Modern-era Ranching - Gerald Effertz; Phillip Baker

Pre-1970s Rodeo – David Dahl; Carroll Johnston

Modern-era Rodeo – Darrell Hermanson; Harvey Billadeau; Rockie Kukla; Bob J. Hansen

Western Arts & Entertainment – Walter Piehl, Jr.; Raymond Erhardt

February 22-23, 2019 – Annual Meeting of the NDCHF held at the Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center, Bismarck, ND. Keynote Speaker – Jim Chamley, NDCHF Board President

May 10-11, 2019 – Season Premiere, NDCHF, Medora. Special Guest – Casey Kramer, Chicago Bears Strength Coach. Renovated Hall of Honorees with newly installed digital kiosk unveiled.

June 14-15, 2019 – NDCHF Induction Ceremony held at Tjaden Terrace, Medora, ND. Guest Speaker – Taylor Brown, Broadcaster/Owner of Northern Broadcasting

2019 Class of NDCHF Inductees:

Pre-1940s Ranching – Charles Franklin Martell

Modern-era Ranching – Gerald Effertz

Pre-1970s Rodeo – Gary Graham

Modern-era Rodeo – Darrell Hermanson; Bob Hansen

Western Arts & Entertainment – Walter Piehl, Jr.

Kaye Nelson was presented with the Legacy Award in honor of her lifetime of devotion to rodeo and the western lifestyle, and decades of support for the NDCHF.

July 19-27, 2019 – NDCHF participated the ND State Fair and parade in Minot, ND.

August, 2019 – “Sacagawea”, a 24x36” acrylic on canvas, painted by Denise Semple was placed on permanent display at the NDCHF. Gift of Dale Myers.

August 3, 2019 – NDCHF participated in the 63rd Annual Home On The Range Champions Ride, Sentinel Butte, ND. A social and Calcutta took place on the Alvin Nelson Memorial Arena.

September 5, 2019 – Annual NDCHF Golf Scramble took place at Bully Pulpit Golf Course in Medora. Champion Women’s Team – Shelley Suelzle, Rondee Hanna, Julie Wisness. Overall Winning Team – Brad Skachenko, Zared Lefor, Tom Wilhelmi, Patrick Rominger.

October 5, 2019 – Commemorative Rifle Drawing at Badlands Circuit Finals, Minot, ND. Winner – Kirby Thomas. Funds raised directly supported the efforts of the NDCHF.

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October 18-19, 2019 – The NDCHF participated in the inaugural Brad Gjermundson Extreme Bronc Riding at 4 Bears Casino & Lodge, New Town, ND.

November 1, 2019 – East Greet West Benefit Dinner & Auction held at Avalon Events Center, Fargo. Keynote Speaker – ND Lt. Governor Brent Sanford.

December 6-7, 2019 – The NDCHF participated in Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas.

December 11, 2019 – Annual NDCHF Trustee Gathering was held at MGM Grand Hotel, Las Vegas, during the week of the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo.

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Researched & Compiled by Phil Baird, Mandan, N.D. through 2015
Updated December 2017 by Rick Thompson
Updated June 2020 by Tess Howie