President's Message



Randy Schmitt, President
Rugby

Greetings from the Schmitt Ranch!

It's hard to believe how quickly these past two years have gone by. There have been plenty of meetings, phone calls, travel, policy discussions and more than a few conversations that continued long after the meeting was supposed to be over.

Serving as president has been one of the greatest honors of my time in the cattle industry. I'm grateful for the opportunity to represent an organization made up of people who care deeply about cattle, their communities and the future of our industry.

During my time as your president, I've seen firsthand the work that goes into representing North Dakota cattle producers and, if there's one thing I'm certain of, the strength of the NDSA doesn't come from the president or the board alone, it comes from our members. I sincerely thank the NDSA membership for the confidence you placed in me. It has been a privilege I will always appreciate.



NDSA Immediate Past President addresses attendees at the NDSA's 97th Annual Convention & Trade Show in Bismarck in September.

I also want to thank our board of directors. It has been a privilege to work alongside people willing to give their time and energy to the future of our industry.

I also want to thank Julie Ellingson, our NDSA executive vice president, and the entire staff. Julie has been such an incredible support throughout my two years as president. Her knowledge, dedication and commitment to our industry and to the NDSA are truly appreciated. Julie's commitment doesn't end when the office closes for the day. As many of our board members and I can attest, it is a pretty common occurrence to receive an e-mail, a phone call or some other communication from Julie well after normal business hours. That says a lot about the commitment she has to this organization and the people it represents. I've valued her guidance, her willingness to help and the friendship we've developed along the way.

Also, to the entire NDSA staff, thank you for everything you do behind the scenes to keep this organization moving forward. So much happens because of the hard work, dedication and teamwork of the people on the team. I'm truly grateful for each of you and for the support you've given me throughout these two years.

There is one thank-you I especially want to make as I finish my term as president, and that is to my family. Serving meant time away from the ranch, long days, travel, meetings and plenty of phone calls. When I was away, my family picked up the slack, supported me and never made me feel guilty

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PAST PRESIDENTS

1988-90:
Roger Stuber • Bowman • (701) 523-5371

1992-94:
Dean Meyer • Dickinson • (701) 225-2736

1998-2000:
Richard C. Tokach • St. Anthony
(701) 445-7390

2000-02:
Gene Harris • Killdeer • (701) 863-6695

2002-04:
Jeff Dahl • Gackle • (701) 485-3762

2004-06:
Melvin Leland • Sidney, Mont.
(701) 565-2347

2006-08:
Mark Huseth • McLeod • (701) 439-2385

2012-14:
Jason Zahn • Towner • (701) 720-7247

2014-16:
Steve Brooks • Bowman • (701) 523-6732

2016-18:
Warren Zenker • Gackle • (701) 320-2585

2018-20:
Dan Rorvig • McVille • (701) 797-7338

2020-22:
Jeff Schafer • New Rockford • (701) 947-2568

2022-24:
Jason Leiseth • Arnegard • (701) 770-1129