President's Message



Tim Erbele, President
Streeter

Greetings, NDSA members! As you may have noticed, it is no longer Randy Schmitt's mugshot you see at the top of this page. I am your newly elected NDSA president, Tim Erbele, and I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself and my family.

My family and I ranch, feed cattle and operate a feed dealership eight miles south of Streeter in Logan County. My bride of 33 years, Ronda, is a social worker with hospice, and we have three children.

Our daughter, Miranda, is married to Andy Hagen, and they reside in Flowery Branch, Ga., where she works in human resources. Dr. Andy works as a neuroscience researcher at Emory University. They will be making us grandparents in March. Woo-hoo! We have heard from many of you what an awesome experience that is, and we are super excited.

Our daughter, Addyson, is a senior at Napoleon High School, where she serves as president of her FFA chapter. She is enrolled to attend Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va., next fall to major in psychology, with aspirations of becoming a Christian counselor.

Our oldest, Cassidy, was 9 years old when he left this earth in 2003 as the result of a farm accident. He now resides in heaven. We thank God every day for his life, for the plan of salvation and for the assurance that this earthly separation is only temporary. This kid's passion for ranch life is still an inspiration to our family.

We are fortunate to be on the place my parents, Ray and Carol, bought the year I was born — 1969. We certainly could not have had the opportunities we have today without their love, support and guidance along this journey.

Another important member of our team is Keith Schlecht, who has been with us for 12 years. Without his help and willingness to pick up the slack, there is no way I could fulfill the honor of serving as your president. I don't even like calling him our hired man, as he has truly become more of a partner and part of the family. He and his wife Melissa have three children and are expecting no. 4 in February. Thanks for all you do, Keith!

Our family is much like yours. We understand that farming and ranching are about more than making a living. It's a calling, a passion and a God-given privilege. It's a way of life that shapes our families, teaches our children the value of hard work and connects us to the land and livestock we care for every day.

That's why I feel so humbled and honored to serve as the president of the NDSA. I don't take this responsibility lightly, and I recognize that I am following in the footsteps of many who have helped build this organization into what it is today.

To our leaders and staff, past and present, thank you for the countless hours, dedication and hard work you have invested in this association. The programs, events and opportunities we enjoy today are the result of years of commitment to our members and our industry.

To our members, thanks for your involvement, support and willingness to stand up for agriculture. You are the heart and foundation of this organization.

I don't look at this role as simply representing cattle producers across North Dakota. You are my neighbors, my friends, my mentors and fellow stewards of a way of life that is woven into each of us and into the heart

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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

2024-26:
Randy Schmitt • Rugby • (701) 537-3440