



### **Mike Beers (Timed Event Cowboy/Cowgirl)**

Mike is from Post, Oregon and is a past St. Paul Rodeo Champion. In 1987, he won our Calf Roping and All-Around titles. Mike has qualified for the National Finals Rodeo an impressive 24 times in his 30-year PRCA career. Still active, he most recently qualified for the NFR in team roping with his son Brandon. He also stages team roping schools in Canada for most of the summer. Mike says that St. Paul has always been a favorite rodeo, due to its unique traditional arena (with arborvitae) and the energy of the Board to grow with the PRCA – by joining the Gold Tour and going back-to-back in timed events. On many July mornings, Mike gets up before 6 a.m. to brag on SPR for the Portland TV remote broadcasts about this “great big rodeo in the little bitty town.”



### **Bill Nelson (Riding Event Cowboy)**

Bill, originally of San Francisco, is now a ranch foreman in the foothills east of Redding at Whitmore, CA. Bill won our SPR Bull Riding event in 1972 & 1976 and was SPR Bronc Riding champion in 1980. He also claimed our All-Around in '76 & '80. Bill was the 1971 Bull Riding Champion of the World. Some might remember that in 1976 a picture of Bill, under a bull in St. Paul, was the Oregon Sports photo of the year. This shot was picked up by the AP and later appeared in the “National Enquirer.” Bill spent much of his life in Eastern Oregon at Juntura. His son William rode broncs in the PRCA for awhile and is now married, living in Caldwell, ID.



### **Jason and Buck Smith of The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (Contract Personnel)**

As long as anyone can remember (circa 1940), the Warm Springs Indians have furnished the wild horses for St. Paul Rodeo's feature event – the Wild Horse Race. Long-time SPR folks remember weekend trips to the reservation each spring to negotiate the deal and smoke the peace pipe. SPR founders Ray Manegre & J.G. McKillip were in on most of these trips. Since 1986, Buck & Jason Smith, of the Wasco Tribe, have been in charge of the horse contracting operation. They first competed together here in 1984 and Jason's team has won the event 16 or 17 times. At age 50, in 1988, Buck beat Jason with another partner. We honor them, along with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.



### **Carl J. Smith (deceased) (St. Paul Rodeo Officers/Directors)**

Carl was as a lifelong resident of St. Paul and one of the eight founders of St. Paul Rodeo in 1936. He sat on the Board of Directors from 1936 to 1954 and served as Secretary/Treasurer for ten of those years. He and his wife Anne (1998 inductee) worked diligently on most all phases of the rodeo in the early years and were instrumental in getting it off the ground. A true rodeo family – daughter Maryanne was SPR Queen in 1941, daughter Karen

was Queen in 1960 (our 25th annual), and son Gene served as SPR secretary from 1951 to 1986. The other two boys, Tom and Dick, competed in the Boy's Pony Race at SPR.



### **Mary McKay (Rodeo General Membership)**

Mary is now of St. Paul, Oregon and was Co-Chair of the St. Paul Rodeo Ticket Committee for over 30 years and remains active on various rodeo & community committees. Mary, from nearby Woodburn, married St. Paul native Bob McKay in 1951 and worked in St. Paul, Gervais, and Woodburn schools, retiring after many years with the Woodburn District. Mary & Bob "assigned" their children to volunteer for SPR very early on. Their daughter, Susan, was a SPR Princess in 1972 and another daughter, Karen, was SPR Princess in 1985. Son Bruce "Cope" McKay was a professional bull rider and competed a number of times at St. Paul before his untimely death in 1980. Daughter Nancy and son Dave are longtime SPR members, completing the family legacy.