

Norm Berhorst: Category - Contract Personnel



NORM BERHORST of Sisters Oregon has been a member of St. Paul Rodeo for 60 years. Growing up in St. Paul, his first connection with the Rodeo was as a horse racer. He moved on to compete in our Wild Horse Race with Tex Irwin and Bob Hagenauer. He signed up for membership with SPR President Ray Manegre and spent many years working on the out-gate and unsaddling chute with Gerald Wolfe, Bob Gregory, and John Weiss (SPR Hall of Fame). During Norm's first 15 years as a member, he continued to compete and ride for Loren Obrist and compete in our Wild Horse Race with Bob Hagenauer. Norm spent many years with United Disposal Co. in Woodburn, Harrisburg and Wilsonville. He eventually bought his own business in Harrisburg. Norm and his wife, Janet, have sons Jeff, Robert, Gene, and Scott. Norm says, "St. Paul is the best rodeo in the West, it has meant a lot to me, and I'm proud to be part of it."

Lottie Smith: Category - General Membership



LOTTIE SMITH, St. Paul OREGON, attended SPR with her family during her early years. When she got a horse (in grade school) she talked to Ray Manegre about participating in the Trailride and parade. She participated in those for years and rode her horse several miles each way to the rodeo. Lottie married Mark Smith in 1963, and he joined the rodeo shortly after that. They worked together on the ticket and gate committees and also the Trailride Breakfast and Member Social Parties. Lottie and Mark helped prepare the way for a new Wild West Art Show which opened during the Rodeo in 1995 and continues today. After several years with the Art Show, she worked with the Board of Directors to set up the first internet website for SPR in 1998 and continues today. Nearly 20 years later, Lottie and Cindy Smith have just finished transitioning SPR to Saffire, a new internet provider. Lottie and Mark's daughter, Charlotte, a former princess on the SPR court now chairs the Hall of Fame BBQ for us and her husband, Marc, works alongside. Lottie reminisces "I grew up with SPR as a kid, had horses, and did all the jobs. Now, we just keep working together to improve it and move forward."

Bill Smith: Category - St Paul Rodeo Officers/Directors **Cindy Smith: Category - General Membership**



BILL and CINDY SMITH, St. Paul, Oregon are very close to the heart and soul of St. Paul Rodeo. Bill began with SPR at age five, riding his pony in the SPR Trailride and Fourth of July Parade. By age ten, he was running calves in the arena for his dad, Bill, while his mom, Donna, ran the Ticket Office and eventually became the rodeo's second female Director. Grampa William Smith was the first President of SPR. At age 22, Bill, with his new *permit*, got on his first bareback horse at the St. Paul



Rodeo. He rodeoed in those days with locals Gary Wilmes, Doug Keightley, Matt Weishoff and Fred Coleman. Working on the farm, he was only able to be a “Weekend Warrior” with his riding. Bill’s wife, Cindy, left Oklahoma at the age 20 to “get away from cowboys and country music.” Cindy began a career in accounting in Portland and gradually grew fond of our little town and Bill Smith. They were married in 1985, and Bill says “helping him with SPR was in the prenuptial agreement.” They worked together as SPR members until Bill was elected to our Board of Directors in 1996. Then the Halters that helped Bill’s dad in the arena, especially Bill Halter who was SPR President at the time, handed the new Marketing Committee over to Bill. Cindy was a key part of making that happen. The Board realized that it would be imperative to ramp up our marketing and seek sponsor money if we were to hold up the quality of this fine rodeo. They continue today to ramrod that Committee and have built our annual Sponsor Income to over \$200,000. Their son, Dustin, competed in PRCA and PBR for ten years and daughter Desiree and her husband, Julian, chair the Souvenir Committee for us. Bill’s sister, Cheri and husband, Phil, are longtime SPR members. His sister, Lisa, is also a member and past Princess of SPR. Nephew Dominic rodeoed for 15 years to help keep the family tradition alive at SPR. Cindy says “This rodeo is so full of Tradition. It is a very easy product to sell to sponsors.” She is thankful for all the new friends and connections she has made through SPR. Bill is “proud of what we have done. There is a strong legacy here of five generations, and it doesn’t show any signs of stopping.”

Tex Irwin: Category - Riding Event Cowboy



TEX IRWIN, Shelton WA, never missed a SPR between 1950 and 1970. His first time to the rodeo, at age 13, he hitchhiked from nearby St. Louis. He slept in the hay barn and snuck into every performance. By the end of the week, he had competed and placed two times in the Boy’s Pony Race. At age 15, Tex brought his own horse, and by 17, he was still running arena races. He then began a six year string of mugging in the Wild Horse Race with partner, Norm Berhorst. In 1955, he rode his first bull in a rodeo at Moro, OR. Over the next 15 years, he continued to compete in rodeos all over the west. Tex won a bull riding go-round at Puyallup WA in 1961. In

1962, he went on the road with future World Champion Larry Mahan, and rodeoed all over the west. Tex won the WHR Average at the largest rodeos including twice at Pendleton and once here at St. Paul. He retired from rodeo in 1970 and trained horses for Loren Obrist (SPR Hall of Famer) for a year. For the following 25 years, he trained and shod horses up and down both Coasts. He won the Canadian Derby in Edmonton in 1985. In 1996, Tex and his wife, Lana Rae (Bothum), “settled down” at a West Virginia race track where he continued to train and shoe horses for another 18 years, then they retired to Washington State. A son Brent lives next door. Tex has two grandnephews, Eric and Alex Lee, who compete today in the PRCA and PBR. Lana’s large local family has had many connections to SPR over the years. Her uncle Jim is in this Hall of Fame. Uncle Shirley sculpted our logo bronze for trophies and participated in our Art Show. Cousin, David Bothum, is a cowboy who is involved with the Hermiston Rodeo. Tex remembers that as a kid, “St. Paul was the first place I wanted to be - you would have to tie me down with chains to keep me away from that rodeo.” All that from a guy who was the first one from his family to ever ride a horse!