



2023-24 Board of Directors



Cal White

cal@fwssr.com

Cal is the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo Rodeo Director and a resident of Decatur, Texas. He is married to his beautiful wife, Vianey – with whom they have two sons and a daughter, Ryett (9 years old), Ryder (5 years old) and Gracie (3 years old). After 13 years of riding bulls, he obtained a Bachelor of General Studies and Master of Communications degrees from West Texas A&M University in Canyon, TX.

In his spare time, he owns and operates a sprinkler repair and backflow testing business and runs a small cow/calf operation with his father in Wise County, TX.



Justin Watada

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Justin has held multiple positions during his 19 years with the Greeley Stampede and currently serves as the CEO. He oversees the daily operations, finance, marketing, sales and sponsorships while reporting to a Board of Directors, working with a working Committee, leading a full-time staff, and coordinating hundreds of top-notch volunteers.

He has been a member of the Association of Rodeo Committees Board of Directors since 2018. Justin enjoys leading Colorado's premier western summer celebration while giving back to the community.



Elaine Gall

dodgecityroundup.elaine@hotmail.com

Elaine is a life-long resident of Dodge City and began volunteering at Dodge City Roundup in 2002. She was elected to the board in 2010 and served briefly as Treasurer before being employed full-time as the Office Manager in 2012. She is currently an active member of the local Tourism Coalition and chairs the Convention & Visitors Bureau advisory board. She has served as co-chair of ARC's Global Rodeo Conference for the last 3 years. Elaine loves promoting Dodge City wherever she goes, and is proud to be a part of Kansas' Richest Rodeo. In her spare time, she enjoys playing in pool leagues, spending time with her four young grandsons and traveling with friends.



Jim Williams

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Jim has been a member of Canby Rodeo for more than 30 years and currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Canby Rodeo Association.

He is a life member of the PRCA as a Gold Card member. Jim has held numerous positions on the ARC board and has been the Treasurer for the past 7 years.



Wes Allison

wes@hotfair.com

Wes is President and CEO for the Extraco Events Center Home of the Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo and has served in his current role since 2002. Currently, the Events Center host over 225 events per year ranging from large equine event to sports events to concerts. The annual Heart O' Texas Fair & Rodeo has an attendance of 235,000 and awards over \$500,000 per year in scholarships and premiums to Texas Youth. Wes has also served as the president for the North American Livestock Show & Rodeo Managers Association, the Texas Association of Fair & Events and the Executive Committee of the Texas 4-H Foundation Board of Directors.



Tim Baldwin

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Tim Baldwin has volunteered at the California Rodeo for over 20 years. He started on the Track Committee moving flying gates and later served on the Coordinating Committee and chaired the Credentials and Carnival Committees.. He is currently the Chairman of the California Rodeo's Livestock Welfare Committee and was selected as the PRCA's 2022 John Justin Standard of the West Committeeman of the Year. Tim is a partner in the law firm of Noland, Hamerly, Etienne and Hoss with his practice focusing on business and real estate transactions, specializing in agricultural enterprises. im has helped the Rodeo on a pro-bono basis with various legal matters.



Craig Downie

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Craig is a fourth generation Nevadan who was born and raised in Reno. He runs an office furniture installation business and has been a volunteer with Reno Rodeo since 1990. Craig served on numerous Reno Rodeo committees over the years from public parking to the Arena Director and served as Reno Rodeo President for 2020 and 2021. He has 3 sons that also are part of the Reno Rodeo and serve on the Reno Rodeo Board of Directors.



Julie Graber

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Julie Graber grew up in Pretty Prairie on the same farm where the rodeo was started before it moved to town in 1936 to later become Kansas Largest Night Rodeo. In addition to her being the Executive Secretary of the organization that produces Kansas Largest Night Rodeo, she is also the secretary and treasurer of the Prairie ProRodeo Circuit, a member of the Risk Management Association Board in Wichita, and serves on the Commercial Lending Committee of the Schools of Banking. Julie is the Commercial Relationship Manager in the Commodities and Correspondent Department at Intrust Bank. A die-hard Wildcat, she graduated from K-State with a B.S. in Business Management.



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Tom Hirsig

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Tom Hirsig is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Cheyenne Frontier Days (CFD). A Wyoming native, Hirsig grew up on his family's cattle ranch north of Cheyenne. He attended the University of Wyoming on a rodeo scholarship, where he qualified for the College National Finals three times, and earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business. A member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), Hirsig is a three-time Mountain States PRCA Champion Steer Roper. He finished sixth in the world standings in 1987, and was the 1987 Pendleton Round-Up Steer Roping Champion. He won the CFD Steer Roping Championship in 2002.



Kevin Jordan

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Kevin has been a volunteer for the Pendleton Round-Up for numerous years before joining the Board of Directors in late 2018. He is currently the Association Treasurer and Director of Office/Retail/Ticketing functions.

When not at work for the Pendleton Round-Up, he is the SVP/CCO for a Commercial Loan Team with a NE Oregon based Credit Union.



Matt Matthews

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Matt has been a member of the Sikeston Jaycee Bootheel rodeo for 30 plus year. Former Board of Directors for 10 years and has served as Chairman of the Rodeo in 2009. He has been Rodeo Arena Director for 7 years with past role with grounds pens and chutes.

He is employed at Greenway Equipment for the past 2 1/2 years. Matt is married and enjoys spending time with his two children and grandson.



Kent Meshishnek

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Kent is a former member of the Lewiston Roundup board of directors, where he served for 19 years, several of those years as an executive board member. Now a member of the Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days Rodeo Committee. Kent joined the ARC in 2001.

A native of Lewiston, Idaho area, Kent graduated from Lewiston High School. Now retired for 3 years after delivering mail for the US Postal Service for 39 years. Married to his wife Patti for 44 years, Kent has one son, one grandson and new granddaughter.



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Johnny Philipello

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Johnny is President & CEO of the Buccaneer Commission (Rodeo Corpus Christi). He has served in this role since 2015. Buc Days, the event that Johnny produces annually, host Rodeo Corpus Christi, PBR's Velocity Tour Finals, Wings Over South Texas featuring the Blue Angels and a variety of attractions, such as live music, shopping and parades. Prior to his current role, Johnny was Chief Operating Officer for Rodeo Austin. He has been an active Board Member of the Association of Rodeo Committees since 2016.

Johnny also serves on the Visit Corpus Christi Board of Directors and is a Board Member for the Texas 4-H Foundation.



Cody Tharp

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Cody Tharp has been with the San Antonio Stock show and Rodeo since 2014 and is currently the Rodeo Officer. During this time Cody has managed many aspects of rodeo production. Some of these include arena set-up and tear down as well as all aspects of dirt and ground management.

He attended Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas and graduated in 2001 with a degree in Agriculture Business. He worked for numerous cattle ranches while in Alpine where he enjoyed being a working cowboy and participating in ranch rodeos. Cody is married and currently lives in Blanco, Texas with his beautiful wife Dana of 20 years and three children



Leon Vick

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After 21-year career competing in professional rodeo, Leon joined the NWSS Staff in 2005. Leon managed sponsorships for National Western before taking on rodeo production in 2013. Now the VP of Rodeo, Horse and Livestock Operations Leon oversees the Rodeo, Horse Show, The Super Bowl of Livestock Shows and an additional 13-ticketed events during the 16 day National Western.

Leon and his wife, Taleen, hail from Byers, Colorado and have two adult children who both compete in rodeo.



Kynan Vine

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As a second generation rodeo bullfighter and rodeo producer Kynan Vine has spent a lifetime honing his craft and working within the rodeo industry. For over a decade now Kynan has combined his business education and his vast knowledge for the rodeo industry to build a career on the business side of the sport. Kynan produced his first ever bull riding event when he was 16 and now 20 years later has worked for the CPRA, the Calgary Stampede, Canadian Finals Rodeo and The American. In 2021 Kynan started his own contracting and consulting company and is currently working with events such as the Lethbridge Pro Rodeo and the Canadian Finals Rodeo as their Executive Producer.



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Doug Corey

dgcdvm@gmail.com

Doug is the Veterinarian Chairman and a member of the PRCA Livestock Committee. He has been involved with PRCA Livestock since 1981.



Randy Bracher

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Randy is a 5th generation farmer and rancher on a diversified operation North of Pendleton, Oregon. They raise wheat, cattle, and a variety of irrigated crops. He is married to a leather artisan (Char) and have 2 children, Sydney (19) and Blair (17).

He enjoys the sport of rodeo, and improving it with an emphasis on livestock and production entertainment value. Randy has served on open rodeo and college rodeo boards prior to joining the Pendleton Round Up Board of Directors in 2013. He served as Livestock Director for 7 years and President on 2020 and 2021. He is a past chairman of Association of Rodeo Committees.



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