

Saddle & Sirloin

The Outrider



PRESENTED BY
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY



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Agriculturalist
99th
of the
Year

Dr. Gerald Stokka

Dr. Gerald Stokka grew up on his family's farm near Cooperstown, North Dakota. After graduating high school from Cooperstown, Stokka attended the University of North Dakota for two years before finishing his bachelor's degree in animal sciences at North Dakota State University. Following his completion at NDSU, Stokka continued his education at Iowa State University, graduating with a doctoral degree in veterinary medicine. Soon after, Stokka moved back to the Cooperstown area to operate a private practice at the Cooperstown Veterinary Clinic for the next seven years.

Following his time practicing private medicine, Stokka obtained a master's degree of production medicine from Kansas State University. Soon after, Stokka held a feedlot medicine position at Kansas State in 1995, and then a role within the Kansas State extension service from 1995-2001. During this time, Stokka traveled to multiple countries including Ukraine, South Africa, Costa Rica, Brazil, and Uruguay providing outreach services within the cattle production and veterinary sector. Following his time in Kansas, Dr. Stokka took on a new role with Pfizer Animal Health as part of the veterinary operations tech team. Stokka held this position from 2001-2012. In 2012, Stokka joined North Dakota State University's Animal Science department as an associate professor of livestock stewardship. While at NDSU, Stokka worked with issues regarding animal stewardship and welfare through outreach and learning experiences. Dr. Stokka was a part of the animal science department till the summer of 2024.

Dr. Gerald Stokka, and his wife of more than 50 years, Connie have lived in Cooperstown most of their lives. They have four children, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Aside from his professional veterinary career, Dr. Stokka and his brother Murray have operated a purebred/commercial herd of Red Angus cattle for the last 20 years, striving for longevity and fertility within his cattle.

Dr. Gerald Stokka advocates for the importance of continued service during one's lifetime. Currently, Dr. Stokka is the President of the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame board, where his tasks include operating the board, accepting nominations for the Hall of Fame, and other various activities around the state. He serves time on his church's board, having the title of chairman for many years. Stokka has served as the President of the Academy of Veterinary Consultant board and is a lifetime member of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners board, the American Veterinary Medical Association, North Dakota Veterinary's Association, North Dakota's Stockmen's Association, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, and the American Society of Animal Sciences.

Stokkas' dedication to animal husbandry, to veterinary medicine, to his community, and to the great state of North Dakota is apparent in his life's work and makes him well suited for the title of 99th Little International Agriculturist of the Year.

Congratulations

Dr. Gerald Stokka!

FROM THE 2024-2025 SADDLE & SIRLOIN MEMBERS

ADVISOR GREETINGS



|SKIP ANDERSON| |ERIC BERG| |KENDALL SWANSON|

Welcome from The Advisors

Greetings alumni, friends, and family of the NDSU Saddle and Sirloin Club! This is the time of year that we reflect on our past and look to the future. Do you remember the goals that you set for 2024? Did you achieve them? The theme of this year's Little International is "Growing Dreams, Harvesting Success." As advisors, it is our privilege to hear firsthand the dreams and goals that students set for themselves after graduating from NDSU. One of the best parts of being an S/S advisor is when those students return to campus and share how their experience at NDSU helped them to achieve their goals and grow, and even expand on their dreams.

All of us who remain here at NDSU look forward to you returning to campus and officially invite you to come to Fargo on Friday, February 14, 2025 and help us honor Dr. Gerald Stokka as the Agriculturalist of the Year. The social will begin at 5:00 pm and the banquet will be at 6:00 pm at the Avalon Event Center. Dinner tickets are \$25 general admission and \$20 K-12 and NDSU students and can be reserved by calling the Animal Sciences Department at 701-231-7641.

This year our Alumni lunch will be held at the new Peltier Complex immediately after the morning show on Saturday February 15. Along with a great lunch from Carnivore Catering, we will offer informal tours of the brand-new Meat Lab! Please plan on attending.

On behalf of the Club, we appreciate your support and attendance. Manager Kiley Kvamme and the rest of the students have been working incredibly hard and diligently to make sure that the 99th Little International will be the best one yet.

See you soon!

Skip Anderson, Eric Berg, and Kendall Swanson

Manager Address

Greetings Saddle and Sirloin Alumni!

My name is Kiley Kvamme, and I have the honor and privilege of serving as the 99th Little International manager. This fall, we have been busy planning and preparing for the next edition of Little “I.” We have concluded voting, sent out animal assignments, held animal trainings, and much more that goes on to plan the longest tradition here at NDSU. When students get back from holiday break, we will shift it up a gear to make sure all aspects of Little “I” come together. Showman will begin working with their dairy and beef heifers directly following winter break, with pigs, sheep and goats following shortly after.



The 99th Little International will be held February 14th and 15th, 2025. Our Agriculturalist of the Year Banquet will be held on February 14th with a social beginning at 5 p.m. and the banquet starting at 6 p.m. at the Avalon Events Center in Fargo. This year, our club is honored to present Dr. Gerald Stokka as their Agriculturalist of the Year.

Dr. Stokka has cultivated countless aspirations and guided them toward remarkable achievements. Through his impactful contributions to veterinary medicine and unwavering commitment to the agricultural community, he embodies the spirit of “Growing Dreams, Harvesting Success” that lies at the heart of this year’s theme. He is more than deserving to hang on the Wall of Fame in the foyer of Shepperd Arena. Congratulations, Dr. Gerald Stokka!

All of our S/S members are pleased to demonstrate growing their dreams and harvesting success on February 15th, 2025. The morning show will begin at 8 a.m. Following the morning show, an alumni luncheon will be held. Our night show will begin with opening ceremonies at 5 p.m.

We are excited to be utilizing LiveAuctions.TV to broadcast our event. Although we want to see a large crowd in attendance at Shepperd Arena, we understand that this is a busy time of year and there seem to always be the unpredictability of February weather in North Dakota. We hope everyone that is unable to come in person can check out our livestream!

Follow our Facebook page for the livestream link closer to February 15th.

This semester has flown by, but it’s been amazing to witness the commitment and enthusiasm of our members coming to life. We’ve made significant progress in building everything that makes Little “I” extraordinary, and I’m eager to see the collaboration and camaraderie that will develop as we prepare. Here’s to endless hours, shared laughter, and unforgettable experiences in Shepperd Arena!

I’m excited for the chance to showcase the incredible effort and dedication our club members have poured into the 99th Little International, taking place on February 14th and 15th, 2025!

All My Best,

Kiley Kvamme

99th Little International Manager

Meet the Royalty

JOLIE SANDERS QUEEN



Jolie Sanders is the daughter of Josh and Kyla Sanders. She grew up on a small farm west of New Salem, ND with her four brothers, raising cattle, goats, sheep and pigs. She is a senior in Human Development and Family Sciences minoring in Speech Language and Hearing Sciences and will be graduating in May when she hopes to go onto graduate school to become a Speech Language Pathologist. She has served as Saddle and Sirloin Secretary, the 98th Little "I" Ham Curing Co-Chair, 99th Little "I" Flowers and Special Events Co-Chair, and NDSU Judging Club President for the past two years. She is very excited and honored to serve as the 99th Little International Queen.

CARYN MARTY PRINCESS



Caryn is a junior majoring in industrial engineering and Management. Caryn is the daughter of Jacob and Anita Marty and is from Chokio, MN. She is currently serving as the Student Relations Chair for the club. Along with her involvement in the Society of Women Engineers, Engineering Ambassadors, Kappa Delta Sorority, and Order of Omega.

MADISON MERTENS PRINCESS



Madison Mertens is a sophomore studying Agricultural sciences with an emphasis in Crop Production, Livestock Production, and Extension Education. Madison is the daughter of Matthew and Kristen Mertens and is from Berlin, WI. Madison is currently the Brock and Bridle chair for the club. She is also involved with Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority, and Agriculture Education Society

State of the Union

Greetings from behalf of the North Dakota State University Saddle and Sirloin Club!

My name is Alex Huber, and I am grateful to serve as the 2024-2025 Saddle and Sirloin President. As the weekly meetings stack up, the tradition of the club continues to run deep. Every Wednesday, both new and experienced members have made great efforts to fill the wooden stands of Shepperd. Members have lent a helping hand in all facets of the club, making it very enjoyable for the officer team and myself. With notable engagement of new members this fall, it is safe to say that the future of this club looks bright and will be a staple of NDSU's campus for years to come.



The club voted on the phrase “Growing Dreams, Harvesting Success” as the 99th Little International theme. I have spent quite some time thinking about our theme for this year, and what it means. I concluded that these four words should house a different meaning for each member, and each reader. Dreams and aspirations founded this club, and continued years of hard work have advanced Saddle and Sirloin members. This is the same fabric for local farming communities, the dreams of hardworking agriculturalists have built the cornerstones for the industry that many of us call home.

As we sprint closer to the month of February and all things Little “I”, a special thanks is due for Manager Kiley Kvamme, Assistant Manager Taiton Axtman, the committee chairs/members, and showman. With the diligent work of these individuals, the 99th Little International is slated to be exceptional. Accompanying the show, we will be honoring Dr. Gerald Stokka as this year's Agriculturalist of the Year. His work in animal production, veterinary medicine, animal husbandry, and his community makes him an exemplary candidate for this honor. Congratulations Dr. Stokka! Mark your calendars for February 14th and 15th and join us for the 99th Little International! We are excited to see alumni, family, and friends fill Shepperd!

God Bless,
Alex Huber
Saddle and Sirloin President

Judging Club Update

The NDSU Judging Club has been very busy planning and preparing for this year's 4-H and FFA Livestock Judging contest taking place February 14th in Shepperd Arena. This event is focused on youth developing their skills of Livestock evaluation and prepared speaking skills. This is a long running tradition set the Friday before Little "I."

As we currently do not have a Livestock or Meats judging coach, we do not currently have any teams traveling to competitions, so our efforts have been focused on planning this years Livestock contest and developing a few other opportunities for youth to develop skills in livestock and meats evaluation until a coach can be found to fill these positions. We were very fortunate to be able to hold our annual Heifer Raffle thanks to the generous donation of a Simmental heifer donated by Elliott Livestock of Clifford, ND. Elliott Livestock focuses on producing genetics that excel in carcass traits and maternal merit. Thank you once again, Elliott Livestock. This years heifer raffle drawing will take place at the Little International night show on February 15th. Thank you all for your continued support of this club.

DAIRY CLUB

Dairy club has been very active this past year, with multiply involvement booths. One highlight was having a live calf on the float and giving out bongards cheese sticks during the homecoming parade.

This year's Dairy Judging team has seen success from both senior and junior team. The senior team placed 9th at the All American Dairy Show, 2nd at the Big E (team members for these two contests: Rachel Scott, Morgan Matheson, Reanna Schmidt, Peter Doroff, and Kelsey Hooker). The senior team also placed 12th at the World Dairy Expo (team member: Rachel Scott, Morgan Matheson, Reanna Schmidt, and Peter Doroff) Junior team has competed at the North American International Livestock Expo and placed 12th, and are Judging at Fort Worth Texas, (team member: Jaxon Klegstad, Zachary Rudnik, Andrew Mydral, and Courtney Hassler)

Dairy club us looking forward to attending the Midwest American Dairy Science Association gathering in Iowa.



Member Activities



S/S member Ashlie Mauch competed in Miss. NDSU and was crowned with the title Miss. Money Bags



S/S member Caryn Marty was crowned with the title NDSU Homecoming Court

CONGRATULATIONS ASHLIE AND CARYN!



EVENT SCHEDULE



Wednesday, January 22, 2025

8:00 PM Public Speaking Contest

Friday, February 14, 2025

8:30 AM 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest

8:30 AM 4-H/FFA Hippology Contest (Equine Center)

8:30 AM FFA Agricultural Sales Contest (NDSU memorial union)

8:30 AM 4-H/FFA Crop Judging Contest

8:30 AM FFA Small Animal Care Contest

2:00 PM 4-H/FFA Contest Awards

5:00 PM Hall of Fame Social (Avalon event center)

6:00 PM Hall of Fame Banquet

Saturday, February 15, 2025

8:00 AM Showmanship Preliminaries
Silent Auction

9:00 AM Ag Tech Expo (Fargo Dome)

12:30 PM Alumni Luncheon (Peltier Complex)

5:00 PM Showmanship Finals