



# Clovis Rodeo Association

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## Clovis Rodeo to be Inducted into ProRodeo Hall of Fame

### *Celebrating 100 Years of An American Cowboy Tradition Clovis Rodeo 1914 - 2014*

**(Clovis, CA):** The Clovis Rodeo is set to be inducted into the ProRodeo Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Colorado Springs, Colorado, at the headquarters for professional rodeo, on August 6, 2014. Amongst a field of world champion cowboys and world champion bucking stock the Clovis Rodeo Committee will be honored for their contributions to the sport of rodeo as they celebrate their centennial year.

The PRCA committees selected for enshrinement this year are among the PRCA's longest-standing and most respected rodeos. Clovis, part of the Wrangler Million Dollar Tour, is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary later this month. Nampa will have its centenary rodeo next year, while Hayward is in its 93<sup>rd</sup> year and Greeley in its 92<sup>nd</sup>.

ProRodeo Hall of Fame inductees are selected by a committee of former contestants and rodeo experts. More than 100 individuals are nominated each year and selection is based on contributions to the sport of professional rodeo in any one of seven categories: contestant, stock contractor, contract personnel, rodeo committees, livestock, media and notables/lifetime achievement. Including this year's inductees, 236 people, 28 animals and 22 rodeo committees have been selected for enshrinement in Colorado Springs since the Hall opened in 1979.

The Clovis Rodeo will celebrate their Centennial year and 100 years of An American Cowboy Tradition April 24-27.. One of the oldest rodeos in America it was begun in 1914 by the Clovis Women's Club as a way of bringing friends together to celebrate their community. Recognizing the deep roots the rodeo holds in Clovis' Western Heritage and American history, the Rodeo Association has been hard at work planning an extra special year to highlight the milestone.

One of the most exciting parts of the yearlong celebration to date has been the installation of a fourteen foot bronze statue entitled *Challenge of the Champions* that depicts legendary, world-champion bull rider Lane Frost's 1988 ride on the equally legendary and world champion bucking bull Red Rock on the Old Town Trail at the entrance to the rodeo grounds. The Clovis Rodeo Foundation commissioned Central Coast artist and Fresno State graduate Jim Stuckenberg to create the bronze likeness of Lane Frost's 1988 attempt to ride the unriden bull Red Rock at the Clovis Rodeo during the Challenge of Champions; an event that now holds a significant place in the history of rodeo. The statue will be officially dedicated at a ceremony on Wednesday, April 23 with Lane Frost's parents, Clyde and Elsie Frost and Lane's good friend and owner of Red Rock, stock contractor John Growney in attendance.

There is a legend that says rodeo got its start when "one ranch said they had a horse that couldn't be rode, and another ranch said they had a cowboy that couldn't be thrown." The sport of rodeo has been a part of America history for more than 100 years. The oldest rodeo in the United States is held in Prescott, Arizona. Prescott Frontier Days will be celebrating their 127<sup>th</sup> year in 2014. California Rodeo Salinas is the oldest rodeo in California and celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> in 2011. The Clovis Rodeo is the second rodeo in California to celebrate the Centennial milestone.

Tickets for the 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Clovis Rodeo to be held April 24-27, 2014 can be purchased by going to [clovisrodeo.com](http://clovisrodeo.com), visiting the ticket office at the rodeo grounds or calling 559-299-5203.

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*The all-volunteer, not-for-profit Clovis Rodeo Association (CRA) has 700 members. In excess of \$150,000 in proceeds from the Clovis Rodeo and related events coordinated by CRA members benefit local charities annually, including 4-H, FFA, Clovis Schools, Clovis Police Activities League, California High School Rodeo Foundation, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Break the Barriers, Boy Scouts of America, Clovis Community Hospital and the Central California Blood Center.*

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