



# Fort Bennett to Fort Pierre: The Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride

August 10-14, 2009

\*\*\*Application\*\*\*

*A Verendrye Museum Inc.  
Trail Ride*

PO Box 665  
Fort Pierre, SD 57532  
605-223-7761  
nadines@fortpierre.com  
[www.fortpierredeadwoodtrail.com](http://www.fortpierredeadwoodtrail.com)

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## Dear Trail Rider:

The Verendrye Museum is pleased to announce the authorization of the *Fort Bennett to Fort Pierre: The Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride* in conjunction with the grand opening of the Casey Tibbs South Dakota Rodeo Center in historic Fort Pierre, South Dakota. Building on the success of last year's Fort Pierre to Deadwood trail ride, this event will be a tribute to Casey Tibbs, a world champion bronc rider in the 1950's. Casey was born about 60 miles northwest of Fort Pierre.

The trail riders will assemble on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> northeast of Mission Ridge, near the site of the old Fort Bennett. The ride will transit for 4 days, arriving at the new Casey Tibbs South Dakota Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre on Friday noon, August 14<sup>th</sup>. The Rodeo Center will have its grand opening on August 14, 15 and 16, 2009.

Casey Duane Tibbs was born on March 5, 1929 and was an American cowboy, rodeo performer, and actor. At 14 years of age, Casey started riding in rodeos in South Dakota. In 1949, at age 19, Casey became the youngest man ever to win the National Saddle Bronc Riding Crown. He also won a crown in 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, and 1959. Casey held the "World All-Around Rodeo Champion" twice in 1951 and 1955. In addition, he won the World Bareback Bronc Riding Championship in 1951. In later life, Casey wrote a syndicated newspaper column "Let'er Buck" for *Rodeo Sports News*. He also wrote, produced and starred in the movies "Born to Buck" and "Young Rounders", and starred in the movie "Bronc Busters" plus many other westerns. Casey was one of the founders of the Rodeo Cowboys Association, dedicated to improving the image of cowboys and professional rodeo. Casey died of cancer on January 28, 1990 and is buried in the Scotty Philip Cemetery, South Dakota.

The Cheyenne River Indian Agency was established in 1869 on the west bank of the Missouri River below the mouth of the Big Cheyenne River. The agency headquarters was comprised of store houses, lodging quarters, schools, and other buildings. In 1878, a military headquarters was established and the 17th Infantry occupied the newly named Fort Bennett. Upon South Dakota achieving statehood in 1889, the agency headquarters at Fort Bennett was closed and relocated north of the Cheyenne River, opposite the Little Cheyenne. The military abandoned Fort Bennett in 1891. St. John's Episcopal Mission at Fort Bennett continued to operate on 160 acres at old Fort Bennett until 1904. Water, not dust, however, was to be the ultimate end of old Fort Bennett. Construction of Oahe Dam began in 1948 and the flat occupied by Fort Bennett was completely submerged by 1962.

The ride will transit across approximately 60 miles of Missouri River breaks and some of the most beautiful prairie in the world. Highlights will include the world famous Triple U Ranch, home to one of the largest buffalo herds in the world, and location of filming of some of the movie "Dances With Wolves". As was the policy for the Fort Pierre to Deadwood Trail Ride, no motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail, but please bring your buggy, wagon, stagecoach, horse, mule, donkey or just your walking boots.

**The Casey Tibbs Memorial Trail Ride is limited to 300 participants, so get your application in early. Riders' fees are due with the application. The organization reserves the right to deny any and all applications not accompanied with payment.** Please make checks payable to *Verendrye Museum*. The cost is \$125.00 per adult and \$75 for youth under 10 before June 1, 2009 and \$150/\$75 thereafter. Your admission fee will include the wagon master led trail ride, participation in the arrival parade, a free evening meal upon arrival in Fort Pierre, entry into the Hughes/Stanley County Fair Bull-O-Rama at the Stanley County Fairgrounds, a free overnight parking area at the Fairgrounds for Friday and Saturday nights, free entry into the Verendrye Museum, and entry into the Friday night street dance in historic downtown Fort Pierre. As in the Fort Pierre to Deadwood Ride, button badges will identify paid participants.

Please note that the Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride is sponsored by the Fort Pierre Verendrye Museum. The Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center Grand Opening is sponsored by the Casey Tibbs Foundation. The two organization are working together to ensure a great week of memorable events.

If you have questions, please call event co-chairmen Darby Nutter at 605-222-6071, or Gary Grittner at 605-223-3255. Information and additional applications can also be obtained from Nadine Sterling at 605-223-7761. Nadine is available at the Fort Pierre Development Corporation office from 9AM to 12PM weekdays. You can email the event at [nadines@fortpierre.com](mailto:nadines@fortpierre.com) and find additional information at [www.fortpierreadwoodtrail.com](http://www.fortpierreadwoodtrail.com). More information concerning registration location, a map and GPS coordinates of the ride route, other historic sites to visit in and around Fort Pierre, and available trail merchandise will be provided in a later mailing to registrants.

## Fort Bennett to Fort Pierre: The Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride

Join us on this second trail ride sponsored by the Verendrye Museum incorporated, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, and ride horses, mules, and wagons on *Fort Bennett to Fort Pierre: The Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride!*

Expected daily traveling distance Tuesday through Thursday will be 16.5 miles per day, and eight miles on Friday. Arrival in Fort Pierre will be on August 14, 2009 with a parade through Fort Pierre and an assembly at downtown Fort Pierre. Entertainment will be provided and historians will present history on the segments of the trail.

### General Rules of the Road

1. Be aware of the terms of your application and release.
2. You must display your Trail Button at all times in order to precipitate
3. Horses, mules, donkeys, and people should all be shod.
4. Animals should be in working condition and able to travel a 20 mile day.
5. Old and young livestock, as well as mares with colts, are not suitable for the ride. No stallions allowed.
6. Be prepared to combat horse flies. A rag under the chin with diesel fuel on it works well.
7. Wagons must carry five gallons of water with a lid and burlap bags for firefighting.
8. Wagon brakes are recommended.
9. If your wagon has air filled tires, bring several cans of fix-a-flat.
10. Dogs are allowed if leashed and well-behaved.
11. People, too, should be in working condition. August is typically hot in Dakota.
12. Be prepared to travel in the rain.
13. Your team must fit your wagon; your total load should not exceed 75% of your team's weight. Be prepared for pulling up steep river breaks.
14. Ensure that your equipment fits your animals correctly. Small mistakes make for sore animals.
15. Participants are responsible for care of their animals and must bring their own veterinary supplies. A little salve goes a long way.
16. No one will be issued a Trail Button without signing an application and release. If you plan to share a Trail Button with another person, that person is also required to register and sign a release.
17. If you desire insurance, you must maintain your own at your own expense. Verendrye Museum is carrying liability coverage but this does not include coverage for riders or equipment.
18. By signing the application and release, you are releasing Verendrye Museum and its volunteers, as well as the land owners, from any liability.
19. Participants are not allowed to use motorized vehicles on the trail.

### Activities and Amenities Provided

1. Water for animals
2. Free Friday Supper
3. Designated photographer
4. Easements to cross the land
5. Street Dance on Friday night
6. Toilets at noon & evening stops
7. Parade upon arrival in Fort Pierre
8. The wagon master to lead the wagon train
9. Outriders to help with livestock if necessary
10. Free ticket to the Hughes/Stanley Counties Bull-O-Rama
11. Entertainment at evening stops including discussions on local history
12. Bus to move vehicles each morning to the projected evening stop
13. Limited mechanical and veterinary assistance may be available
14. Riders must supply their own equipment, animals, food, and other necessities

**We look forward to meeting you and riding through a historic part of South Dakota!**



*Grand Opening Celebration*  
*Casey Tibbs South Dakota Rodeo Center*  
*&*  
*Mattie Goff-Newcomb Conference Center*  
*August 14-16, 2009*

*It's Western, It's Country, It's the famous South Dakota Rodeo Cowboy Lifestyle*

**Friday, August 14**

- ☆ 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Vendor Showcase at Rodeo Center
- ☆ Live musical entertainment, kid's activities and contests, cowboy poets, wagon rides, rodeo queens, and champion cowboys photo and autograph sessions throughout the day
- ☆ 11:30 – 2:00 PM: Lunch
- ☆ Rodeo center tours throughout the day
- ☆ 12:00 PM: *Fort Bennett to Fort Pierre: The Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride* wagon train arrives into Fort Pierre Wagon Train parade
- ☆ 4-H Achievement Days at Fairgrounds including a Northern bull riding tour event
- ☆ 5:00 – 7:30 PM: Outdoor Cowboy Supper sponsored by Community & Youth Involved Center
- ☆ 5:30 – 7:30 PM: Tribute Honoree and donor reception with unveiling of bronze statues
- ☆ 9:00 PM: Street dance on Deadwood Avenue in Fort Pierre

**Saturday, August 15**

- ☆ 7:00 AM: Cowboy Breakfast
- ☆ 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Vendor Showcase
- ☆ Rodeo center tours, live musical entertainment, kids activities and contests, cowboy poets, wagon rides, rodeo queens, and champion cowboy photo and autograph sessions throughout the day

**Saturday, August 15 Evening**

- ☆ *"Born to Buck"* Champion's Dinner /honoring the seventeen South Dakota professional rodeo competitors who have been recognized as world champions beginning in 1929.
- ☆ Company Cowboys musical entertainment
- ☆ Silent and Live Auction

**Sunday, August 16**

- ☆ 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM: Vendor Showcase
- ☆ 10:00 AM: Cowboy Church
- ☆ Rodeo Center tours, live musical entertainment, kids activities and contests, cowboy poets, rodeo queens, and champion cowboy photo and autograph sessions throughout the day
- ☆ 1:00 PM: Cowboy Golf Tournament at the Dunes Golf Course in Fort Pierre

**Contact Rodeo Center for further details: (605) 494-1094 or**  
[janice.rodeocenter@midconetwork.com](mailto:janice.rodeocenter@midconetwork.com)

**Make your reservations for a great fun-packed weekend at [www.caseytibbs.com](http://www.caseytibbs.com)**  
*(click on rodeo center, then Grand Opening Reservations off the pull-down menu)*

## APPLICATION AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

The undersigned does hereby apply to ride a horse or team of horses, mules or oxen and wagon on the *Fort Bennett to Fort Pierre: The Casey Tibbs Memorial Ride* to begin at Fort Bennett near the Mouth of the Cheyenne River commencing August 10, 2009 and conclude at Fort Pierre, South Dakota on August 14, 2009.

Fees shall cover: research and guiding along said Trail; water for animals and participants; evening lectures on the history of the surrounding area and Fort Pierre; portable toilets; water for personal cleaning as might be available; motorized transportation from evening camp, returning participants to the point where the day's ride began to allow riders to obtain vehicle, feed, and supplies; participation in celebration in Fort Pierre at conclusion of the ride at the Stanley County Fairgrounds; notification of status of Trail Ride to emergency medical personnel in case care is needed; attempt to have veterinarian services available (no guarantee of such service shall be given on Trail Ride); Trail Ride will attempt to obtain entertainment at some overnight stops; riders to guide and help participants along said Trail, and obtain permission from land owners on said Trail for access and limited grazing at evening stops. Certificates and badges will be given to show participation on the Ride.

Riders shall be responsible for transportation, feed and equipment for their animals, including water buckets, camping equipment, necessary personal items, medication, clothing, and their food. All riders and participants shall wear badges issued to show payment at all times.

Riders shall be required to follow rules that will be determined and announced at the start of each day concerning time of start, smoking, noise, evening time limits, beverages (alcohol restrictions), order of procession, trail to be ridden, and any other necessary restrictions that may be determined by the Trail management. No stallions shall be allowed and all dogs must be contained in wagons or on a leash at all times. Failure to comply with Trail Ride rules will not be tolerated by the Trail Management, who shall be the only authority to make such decisions.

Dismissal from the Trail Ride by Trail Ride Management shall result in forfeiture of any and all fees paid by applicant.



## RELEASE

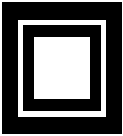
By making this application, the undersigned does hereby agree to the above terms and conditions.

Applicants state and represent that they are experienced horse riders, or mule or horse wagon drivers, are familiar with the terrain of Western South Dakota, which includes washouts, creeks, rivers, hills and valleys, as well as plants and snakes that may constitute danger to animals, people, and equipment. Applicants do hereby agree to assume the risk of such terrain and possible dangers. In consideration of participation, for goods and services to be provided by said Trail Management, applicants do hereby Release and hold harmless Verendrye Museum, Inc, it's Board members, Trail Management and its employees, volunteers/help, and all land owners, agents or lessees, who have granted permission to travel over their land for any injury or damages, whether known or unknown, for all causes or defects that might occur on said Trail Ride.

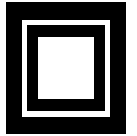
Applicants do hereby state that they have read and understand all terms of this application and releases as set forth herein.

This document contains all of the terms of this Trail Ride, and shall constitute a contract between Applicant, Land Owners, agents, or lessees, Verendrye Museum, Inc, its Board of Directors, Trail Management, employees, and Trail volunteers.

If applicant is under the age of 18, both minor and parent or legal guardian must sign this application and release. In such case, said legal guardian and/or parent does hereby agree to hold Verendrye Museum Inc, Land Owners, agents, or lessees, employees, Trail Management, and Trail volunteers harmless for any claims of said minor(s) and to indemnify them for all claims that might be made by said minor(s) or his/her representatives, including attorney fees and costs of defenses.



# APPLICATION FORM



Please attach additional forms as necessary

Name of Applicant(s) *(please print clearly)*:

Please circle *one*:

_____	Adult	Minor
_____	Adult	Minor
_____	Adult	Minor
_____	Adult	Minor
_____	Adult	Minor
_____	Adult	Minor

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(important trail ride information will be sent to your email address)*

Applicant(s) will travel by: *(circle one)*      Horse      Wagon      Foot

By signing below, all applicants are agreeing and consenting to the stated application terms and release of liability agreement.

_____	Applicant	_____	Date
_____	Applicant	_____	Date
_____	Applicant	_____	Date
_____	Applicant	_____	Date
_____	Parent/Legal Guardian <small>(if minor is applicant)</small>	_____	Date

Please keep me informed on future events via email:	
YES	NO

**PLEASE FILL OUT APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN WITH PAYMENT TO:**

Verendrye Museum, Inc  
PO Box 665  
Fort Pierre, SD 57532  
nadines@fortpierre.com