

EWS RELEASE

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Buford Ranch Earns Champion Honors at OCA's 33rd Annual Range Round-Up

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK. August 28, 2016 – After the dust settled and the scores were tallied last Saturday night at the Lazy E Arena, the Buford Ranch was named the winners of the 33rd Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association's (OCA) Range Round-Up.

The OCA Range Round-Up is a ranch rodeo that features twelve teams of 'real ranch' cowboys from Oklahoma ranches. The Buford Ranch is a family owned operation, headquartered in Hominy, Okla. The Buford cowboys secured the champion honors by placing in the top 3 in the Team Branding and Team Penning events.

"We participate because we enjoy the comradery. I also love the opportunity to educate and entertain the general public by showcasing some real ranch activities," said Doug Branch, team member of the Buford Ranch team. "When you add in the fact that a large portion of the proceeds are given to charity, it makes the event very worthwhile."

Over the years, the Range Round-Up has affectionately been called, 'Cowboys Helping Kids'. 2017 is the 21st year that the selected charity has been the Children's Hospital Foundation and in that time, the OCA has donated more than \$456,000.00.

Before the final performance on Saturday, several children and their families who have been helped from the funds raised by the OCA for the Children's Hospital Foundation were invited to spend some time with the cowboys and horses. Some of those families stayed to watch the performance on Saturday evening.

Many folks view cowboys as rough and tough, but meeting those children brings out the soft side.

"I have a family of my own and I can't imagine the tough times that many of those children and their families have been through," Branch said. Meeting children who have reaped the benefits of the funds raised from OCA's Range Round-Up was humbling and meaningful."

"We take a lot of pride in this event and we appreciate the ranches, sponsors, fans, volunteers and trade show venders who help us with the important mission of raising funds to help Oklahoma children," continued Branch.

At the conclusion of two performances, Range Round-Up event standings were as follows. Saddle Bronc Riding: 1st– Treadwell Land & Cattle/McPhail Land & Cattle; 2nd– Stuart Ranch; 3rd place –Kelly Ranch. Stray Gathering: 1st – McCoy Ranch/Beebe Livestock; 2nd Stuart Ranch; 3rd – Kelly Ranch. Wild Cow Milking: 1st – Stierwalt Ranch; 2nd – Stuart Ranch; 3rd – Kelly Ranch. Team Branding: 1st –Buford Ranch; 2nd – McCoy Ranch/Beebe Livestock; 3rd – Treadwell Land & Cattle Company/McPhail Ranch. Team Penning: 1st – Buford Ranch; 2nd – Stuart Ranch; 3rd – Alfalfa Land & Cattle.

Robert Forst, representing the Stuart Ranch team, rode the horse that was selected for the Top Horse Award and the AQHA Top Horse Award. Robert was also recognized as the Top Hand. The Tuff Hand award went to Tyler Bode of Alfalfa Land and Cattle.

Oklahoma Ford Dealers have been the presenting sponsor of Range Round-Up since the beginning of the event, in 1985. The OCA credits much of the event's success to the Oklahoma Ford Dealers.

Many other generous sponsors help offset cost of the event in turn increasing the amount of money that the Range Round-Up can give to charity. These sponsors include: Priefert Ranch Equipment, Circle M Trailers, Edmond Convention & Visitors Bureau/Edmond – Chamber, Little Joe's, Baker Vet Supply, Box Inc., Merck Animal Health, Oklahoma Farm Bureau, BancFirst, Oklahoma National Stockyards, Campbell Bits & Spurs, National Livestock Credit Corp, Trae Gray, BCr8tive Designs LLC, 3C Feeders, Buffalo Feeders, Farm Credit of Western OK, Mid America Feeds, Triangle Serum Co., Stillwater Milling, Farm Credit of Oklahoma, Hargrove Ranch Insurance, Rabo AgriFinance, OKC West Livestock Auction, Zoetis and LongRange.

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