



## A.J. "Bock" Aberle

By El Deano

Gene Aberle was raised in South Dakota on a ranch and rode and broke green horses as a youth. He started going to the local rodeos and took a liking to the bareback horse event. Soon at around the age of eighteen, he started getting in some of the area rodeos in the bareback riding and found out that he could ride them.

He already had that previous experience of breaking green horses which helped prepare him for the bucking horse events. He started contesting around 1949 and soon found out that he liked and did better on the saddle broncs. He joined the RCA in 1951 and traveled all over the U.S. competing in saddle broncs, steer wrestling and bareback at times. He won the all-around at Kissimmee, Florida during his competing years in saddle broncs and dogging. He went to France with the Bobby

Estes rodeo circa 1951.

In 1961, during his last year of competition, he followed Foy Reynolds and the Kinney Brothers. In the saddle bronc event, he ended up in second place for the year during 1961 following the Kinney Bros. rodeos for that year.

Mr. Aberle is friends with Roy Huffaker, father of Frances Nix, whose husband is Jerry.

