



ALL COWBOY & ARENA CHAMPIONS HALL OF FAME

Curtis Lambert

ACACHOF Honorary Director



Curtis Lambert was born 6/21/48 in Waxahachie, TX. Waxahachie was a baseball hot bed; He always wanted to be a baseball player or professional athlete. His high school team won the Texas State Championship in 1965 defeating Alvin, Texas who had a notable player named Nolan Ryan.

While in high school, he broke horses, played ball and worked for contractors at local rodeos de-rigging and gopher work.

After high school, he played baseball at Hill College and Southwestern.

During this time, he juggled baseball and competed in bull riding at amateur rodeos. In 1968, he had an offer to sign with the Twin Falls Class D Pioneer League but decided to return home and go to work. After trying out for the Cleveland Indians he went to work in Dallas where he met and worked with an “old” 33 year old Rodeo Clown named Billy Jordan. Billy told him about clowning rodeos and the physical challenges of the sport. They formed a partnership and became members of the IRA and CRA. Billy was the barrel clown/bull fighter and Curtis was the clown/ullfighter. Billy owned



a Bucking Ford and had it customized, they created some acts and hit the road working rodeos. The work was very demanding because back then they had to both entertain for the entire performance and work the bull riding. They were a very successful team being voted one of the top Contract Acts and nominated for Contract Act of the Year and worked 3 finals and a couple alternates. Curtis' first pro rodeo was in Marshall, TX. There he learned that "You can turn 'em but you can't our run 'em." One time, Curtis and Billy were working a rodeo and the car died in the arena, Leon and Vickie Adams were also performing. Without missing a beat, Vickie roped the car and pulled it down and out of the arena with her show horse like it was part of the act. Another time the brakes got hot on the Model T while he was chasing Billy and the car ran into the grand stand and sent them flying. Word got around town and the next day there was standing room only. In 1971, they participated in a special rodeo at Hoyt Alexander's that was produced for Prince Rainier of Monaco.

In 1976, Curtis became a member of the Australian Rough Riders (pre-World Cup) and in 1977 became a member of the PRCA and Canadian Rodeo Cowboys Assoc. In those days, when you joined the PRCA, 465 you had to have three members in good standing to sign for you. His signees were World Champion Big Jim Bynum, card #982, Warner Leatherman card #1040 and steer wrestler Tom Almond. Curtis is currently, a member of the Senior Pro Rodeo Association. He has worked as arena judge for Ranch Rodeos and Production Assistant-PBR, Santa Fe. NM.

Over the years (parts of 3 decades), Curits worked with some great people and Stock Contractors including: Wayne Barrett, Curtis Hitt, Bernis Johnson, Bradford Ivey, Buck Steiner, Flip Harmon, Jack Ratjen, Pete Burns, Sutton Rodeo, Honeycutt Rodeo, Sankey Rodeos, Hoss Inman, Roland Reid, Beutler Bros., Mike Cervi, Wayne Vold and others.

He reflected that being around true professionals was a valuable and humbling learning experience. He reiterated that Billy Jordan was one of the most innovative and creative funny men he's worked with not to mention other top professionals: Jim Bob Feller, Hoyt Alexander, Skipper Voss, Buster Moore, David Curry, Bill Wade, Bill Thornton, Lecile Harris, Frank McIlvain, Quail Dobbs and Wilbur Pllaughter. Specialty Acts: Moe Bandey, Mel Lambert (announcer), Clem McSpadden (announcer), Steve Wariner, Ray Price and Leon and Vickie Adams. Curtis, also had some good experi-

ences the worked included: Mineola, Athens, Wills Point, Mexia, Palestine, Marshall, Royse City, Wolfe City, Navosota, Anderson, Kaufman, Fairfield, Bowie, Henrietta, Nacogdoches, Idabel, Hugo, Kamloops, BC., Saskatoon, SK, Ellensburg, WA, Omak Stampede, WA, Toppeniah, WA, Yakima, WA, Hermiston, OR, Klamath Falls, OR, Fort Dalles Days, OR, Cody, WY Night rodeo, Cottonwood, CA, Kernville, CA and Walt Garrison MS Benefit Rodeo.

He has been honored with the Pro-Rodeo Cowboys Association Gold Card.

He is a also member of the Rodeo Cowboy Alumni and Rodeo Clown Reunion. These groups raise funds for scholarships for HS Seniors.

Curtis works with former clowns, current and former rodeo champions at events for “special needs” kids. He and his colleagues donate their skills to minister at Children’s, Veterans Hospitals and Senior Centers.

Curtis is part of a group of current and former rodeo clowns that participate in annual Exceptional Rodeo events for handicap children and adults. These events are sponsored by Wrangler, Justin Boots & Dodge.