



THE HIGHLAND *HoofBeat*

NCHCA 2020 Elected Officers and Board of Directors

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262-539-3257
president@nchca.org

Melinda Cowell
Vice President (21-23)
507-213-0235
we5cowells@gmail.com

Anne Proctor
Secretary
715-600-4200
secretary@nchca.org

Josh Krenz
Treasurer
763-260-1001
treasurer@nchca.org

AHCA Board:
Mark Schulz (20-22)
507-481-7367
info@flatlandfarm.com

NCHCA Directors
Katie Baker (21-23)
214-772-2050
gloryoaksfarm@gmail.com

Kevin Opperman (20-22)
414-659-2676
HighlandSpringFarm@gmail.com

Jonathan Carlson (21-23)
218-843-5172
britt.slusar@park.edu

President's Message

– Jan Larson, President

Fall has turned into winter and the winds of change are certainly blowing.

Looking back, and reflecting on this year, in terms of our Association, things have been steadily moving forward despite the pandemic we are contending with. Our members and I are so lucky to have a smart, amazing, and enthusiastic board guiding the NCHCA, as well as so many hardworking people to help out. I encourage all of our members not just to read the HoofBeat, but to visit our website, look at the opportunities open to you, contact other members, and to participate in our organization. Our new adult scholarship program has been worked up and refined this year and is open to all members, zoom educational meetings have been in the planning stages and will begin in 2022, and our Annual Meeting is being organized as we speak. 2022 will bring openings on our board for anyone who has ideas they would like to share or implement in our association as well as opportunities to join committees, meet people, and enjoy a bit of "cow chat". Each of these things is very important to the well being of any organization, and its members. It is important to keep meeting new people, to keep looking at different ideas, and, most of all, to keep learning.

On behalf of the NCHCA Board, we would like to thank you for supporting us as we continue to try to come up with ways to help you, help our beautiful breed.

On behalf of myself, and my family, we would like to wish you all a very happy holiday season, and a blessed and joyful 2022.

MISSION STATEMENT: North Central Highland Cattle Association shall protect the integrity and sustainability of the Highland breed by promoting education and social interactions of its members.

**NCHCA Annual Meeting
SIGN UP NOW!!
IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**

**Saturday, February 5th and
Sunday February 6th, 2022**



**Three Bears Resort
701 Yogi Circle
Warens, WI 54666**

Check out
www.nchca.org/annual-meeting
for more information and registration.

Register Deadline was December 31, 2021

Deadline extended!

See you there!

**The 2022
Calendars
Are Still
Available!**

Support our
Association by
purchasing calendars. They can be
purchased at the NCHCA website,
nchca.org, or at NCHCA events.



Mark, Randi & Joe Johnson
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Member Spotlight

Melinda Cowell Board Member

Board member Melinda Cowell resides at Beyond Hope Farm near Ellendale, Minnesota. Melinda is wife to Shawn, mother to Maryn, Ethan, Lauren, and Shaelyn, as well as caregiver to two dogs (Killian and Tillie), two sheep, lots of cats, and of course to their beloved highlands and sovereign cattle.

Melinda's background includes a BS in Education with a minor in Spanish and dyslexia education. A background that places her in a perfect position for home schooling the younger family members.

When Melinda isn't caring for her family, she is managing their farm with the help of her daughters. She is also currently the Vice President of NCHCA, manages the NCHCA Regional Show, and was on the Junior Committee for four years. Additionally, she is frequently playing taxi driver for kids to classes at the local Christian School and volunteering for Toys for Tots. When she does have a few quiet moments, she likes to quilt, sew, cross stitch, and do fabric projects.

The Cowells bought their first Highlands in 2011. Unfortunately, the animals were unregistered and unable to be handled. The family learned a hard lesson when one of these first highlands got a nail in her hoof. After loads of tranquilizer and a very dangerous situation, with a vet who would not return to help them ... they made the decision to cull the first four (for a good deal actually). Undaunted by this first experience, they started over.

They then carefully selected new members to their herd and began showing Highlands in 2012. Melinda's daughters enjoy showing and this is evident with their earning showmanship awards.



While all of the girls are hands on with fitting and animal show preparation, Maryn has developed a specialty in AI, and Lauren is very detail oriented. Shae, the youngest, is learning from her older sisters and is key in feeding and care giving when Melinda and the older two travel to highland events. As we all know, in a family it takes everyone's efforts and son Ethan contributes by being the all around fix it guy - he can repair anything!

Of course Shawn is supportive of their country life and enjoys seeing the girls pursue their "cow love" as he works as a pharmacist.

Currently the Cowell herd has eight producing cows, six steers, and one bull calf. Beyond Hope Farm has won many regional show awards, have nine ROE recognized animals, and won Reserve Champion Cow/Calf at the NWSS.

Melinda is quick to state how very grateful she is for all of the experiences she and her girls have had with the Highland community and for the many wonderful people they have met. Her favorite thing about Highland cattle is the people they have met. Because this has been such a special experience, she loves helping and mentoring new breeders, often telling them *"we all start at the beginning"*. She says, *"We made tons of mistakes when we started and hope we can help new breeders avoid some of our early mistakes!"* Melinda further stated how grateful she and her family are to the mentors, fellow breeders, friends, and family who have walked this Highland adventure with them. *"We know that we would not be where we are without them."*

Highland Production Sale Committee

The North Central Highland Cattle Association held two sales in 2021. One sale was in March and the other was in June.

March Sale Averages:

Average Female Price: \$6,431

Average Male Price: \$2,434

June Sale Averages:

Average Cow/Calf: \$8,290

Average Female: \$6,166

Average Bull: \$2,657

The quality and demand for Highland Cattle drove record prices in many categories. The overall average for both sales was almost \$3,000 higher per animal, compared to the June 2020 sale average. Thank you to all of the consignors for consigning the great quality of animals. A special thank you to all of the bidders.

The NCHCA gives all buyers, who are not current NCHCA members, a free year of membership, which helped grow our membership significantly.

For 2022, one Highland Production Sale is planned for June 11, 2022. The consignment deadline will be May 1, 2022. This will be an online only sale with the same format as the two sales held in 2021.

As we prepare for 2022, the Sale Committee welcomes your comments and suggestions. Please reach out to any member of the Sale Committee to express your input.

The NCHCA Highland Production
Sale Committee

Josh Krenz (Chair) / Heather Bailey

Rich & Jean Gruenert / Randi Johnson

Kevin Oppermann / Anne Proctor

Highland Cattle Production Sale



presented by



ANNUAL SUMMER SALE Saturday, June 11, 2022

Online Bidding Only

Cattle will ship directly from the consignor's farm.
Consignments will open soon and will be open until May 1st.

Save the Date!



- Selling quality, registered Highland and Sovereign Cattle & Genetics
- Representing the top farms and breeders from throughout the country
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North Central Highland Cattle Association Website Committee Report Annual Meeting February, 2022

Committee Membership

Randi Johnson, Chair, Josh Krenz, Jan Larson, Kevin Opperman, Jamie Schulz, Daniel Webster

Committee activities in 2021

Website Traffic

Traffic on the NCHCA.org website increased dramatically in 2020. Unique visits increased to close to 10,500 in 2021. Referrals are coming mainly from Google searches. This may be due to increased use of social media, as well as the overall increase in interest in highland cattle. The sale website (highlandsale.org) had close to 15,000 unique visits in 2021, up significantly from prior years, likely due to the addition of a second sale in March.

Website Enhancements

Entries for the annual show, membership and the annual meeting were done electronically, and payments were done using Square and a shopping cart. Square is included in the website annual fee with no additional cost for most association needs. Paypal will continue to be used for the calendar, to avoid additional charges.

Social Media

The committee has expanded active use of social media for promoting the association. In addition to the Facebook group, the association has a Facebook page managed by members of this committee. The Facebook group has close to 800 members, and the page has over 2,400 followers. Targeted paid advertising through Facebook has been used in past years for the production sale, the annual show, and the annual meeting with positive results. The committee has also created an Instagram account, nchcahighlands.

Classified Advertising

The NCHCA board expanded this membership benefits to include unlimited classified advertising on the

website at no cost for members as part of the annual membership fee. Each classified ad includes a post to the Facebook group and an email to active members. The volume of classified ads has increased significantly in 2021. Many members using classified ads have reported success in sales. The classified ads are one of the highest traffic pages on the NCHCA website.

Semen Directory

The website has a semen directory with free listings for members. This directory is starting slowly, and members with semen to sell are encouraged to take advantage by listing their available sires.

Member Use of Profiles

A separate profile page is created for each member farm with its contact information. Additional information can be added if desired by members, up to 500 words and three photos as a free member benefit. There are only a limited number of members who take advantage of the option to send in additional information, but promotion will continue. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this member benefit.

Beef Producer Listing

The number of farms that have asked to be included on the beef producer page has remained stable in 2021. There is a question on the membership form about being included in the listing, but a member can request to be added at any time by contacting website@nchca.org

Goals for 2022

1. Expand website functionality to enhance electronic submissions
2. Continue to expand use of social media for promotion
3. Continue to promote use of member benefits available through the website

Action plan: Discuss at the annual meeting, feature in future Hoofbeat articles, utilize Facebook, Instagram, and email to promote association benefits and expand membership.

Calendar Committee Report

By Larry Sassen

The Calendar Committee will gather 2023 calendar photos as they did last year starting after the first of the new year. All photos must be submitted by March 15th so they may be checked for print quality and prepared for member voting. We have had only 40 calendars ordered by December 9th and this is below shipment from a year ago, according to Mary and Dan Webster. Some calendars were available at NCHCA events and I have not received a total of those sales.



Photo Requests for the 2023 NCHCA Calendar

We hope those shutters have been clicking on your camera or phone all year long to provide us another great selection of photos for the 2023 calendar. We have a shorter submittal time period so that the membership can vote for their favorites for each season, the cover, and the flap.

Let's see those beautiful highlands!

North Central Highland Cattle Association 2023 Calendar Guidelines

Submissions for the North Central Highland Cattle Association 2023 calendar will be accepted through March 15th at midnight CST. This year photos will be selected through a membership vote to be conducted electronically. Photos will be selected to provide a variety of seasons and an attempt will be made to limit the number of photos from the same farm.

Who May Enter

Members of the NCHCA may submit photos for consideration.

What to Enter

The Calendar Committee will be looking for photos that represent the Scottish Highland breed. Photos should not include people or other animals. Photos from different seasons are preferred.

Use these guidelines when taking, editing and submitting your photos:

- Photos must be in JPG/JPEG format
- Image files should be no larger than 15MB
- Camera images of 8MP (3264 X 2448) or higher (300 dpi or more)
- Images must be in horizontal (landscape) orientation
- If using a cellphone, verify that the photo meets the specifications before submitting
- Label the file with your name, farm name, or farm initials
- Photos that do not meet the guidelines will not be included in the membership vote

How to Enter

Submit your photos using the upload form on the NCHCA website by March 31st or send a paper photograph to TJ Associates, Attn: Linda Keifer, 6441 140th Court NW, Ramsey, MN 55303.

Selection

This year photos will be chosen after a vote by the membership. Members will receive an email with instructions on how to participate in the vote in early April and voting will be open until April 15th. Photos not chosen for the calendar may be used in other publications of the NCHCA including The HoofBeat, website, promotional materials, etc.

Questions

The Calendar Committee membership

Larry Sassen, Chair, Randi Johnson, Jan Larson, Cindy Sassen, Mary Webster

NOTICE: By submitting photos, members grant rights to the NCHCA to use the entries for any purpose, including publication not only in the calendar, but also on the website, in newsletters, in promotional materials, or any other association related purpose. Farms will be given credit for the photographs when used.

Cornhusker Classic

Hey All,

Greetings from Beautiful and Sunny York, Nebraska! I wouldn't normally start out that way in the second week of December, but our weather this fall has been incredible!! Speaking of incredible, that is just one of the many words I can use to describe the 14th Annual Dr. David Demuth Memorial Cornhusker State Highland Classic held October 30th in York, NE!! We are extremely blessed and humbled to host such a wonderful Highland event that continues to grow in attendance each and every year. This year, Highland enthusiasts traveled from 14 different states to bring their beautiful Highland Cattle to York. Over thirty farms were representing the astonishing 90 Head of Cattle on Display!! Along with a wonderful turnout of "Senior" exhibitors, we were blessed with approximately 30 Junior exhibitors! AWESOME!! As a committee we have already begun to plan our 15th Annual Show next October (date to be finalized soon). If you have never made the trip to York, we welcome EVERYONE and hope to have our Biggest and Best Show Yet. Thank You to ALL that have supported our show and continue to do so!!

Happy Holidays!

Collin Demuth, Cornhusker State Highland Classic Chair

Cornhusker Classic Show Results

Junior Show

Intermediate Heifer Calf

(Born January 1, 2021 or later)

Reserve Champion: CBS Ella

Owner: Cobblestone Farms Breeder: Cobblestone Farms

Champion: MES Mayday

Owner: Mathias Schulte Breeder: Mathias Schulte

Senior Heifer Calf

(Born January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)

Reserve Champion: Bennachie's Emma Frost

Owner: Mathias Schulte Breeder: Mathias Schulte

Champion: Silva's Special Bazel

Owner: Easton Silva Breeder: Silva's Highlands

Senior Heifer

(Born January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

Champion Junior Breeding Heifer: Black Watch Missy

Owner: Howling Springs Farm Breeder: Black Watch Farms

Reserve Junior Breeding Heifer: Trinity's Alita

Owner: Trinity Farms LTD Breeder: LEA-White Farms

Market Animal Show

Crossbred Prospect Animal

(Born January 1, 2021 – September 1, 2021)

Champion Crossbred Prospect: Beyond Hope Wild Child

Owner: Maryn Cowell Breeder: Beyond Hope Farm

Reserve Champion Crossbred Prospect:

Highland Acres Thunder

Owner: Highland Acres Breeder: Highland Acres

Purebred Feeder Animal

(Born March 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)

Champion Purebred Feeder: Almosta Farm's Baxter

Owner: Lauren Cowell Breeder: Almosta Farm

Reserve Champion Purebred Feeder: BRJ Oliver

Owner: Brylee Sherer Breeder: Brylee Sherer

Crossbred Feeder Animal

(Born March 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)

Champion Crossbred Feeder Animal: Silva's Tomcat

Owner: Silva's Highlands Breeder: Silva's Highlands

Reserve Champion Feeder Animal: Silva's Snowball

Owner: Silva's Highlands Breeder: Silva's Highlands

Grand Champion Market Animal: Silva's Tomcat

Owner: Silva's Highlands Breeder: Silva's Highlands

Reserve Grand Champion Market Animal: Silva's Snowball

Owner: Silva's Highlands Breeder: Silva's Highlands

Sovereign Class

Grand Champion: RTH Kora

Owner: Rocking T Highlands / Spencer Reetz

Breeder: Rocking T Highlands

Showmanship

Champion Junior Showman: Eva Brown

Reserve Champion Junior Showman: Sophia Elizondo

Champion Intermediate Showman: Lauren Cowell

Reserve Champion Intermediate Showman: Olivia Moore

Champion Senior Showman: Kaitlyn Edwards

Reserve Champion Senior Showman: Maryn Cowell

Open Cattle Show

Intermediate Heifer Calf

(Born May 1, 2021 or later)

Grand Champion: RLC Willow

Owner: Ritz Land & Cattle Breeder: Ritz Land & Cattle

Junior Heifer Calf

(Born January 1, 2021 – April 30, 2021)

Champion Junior Heifer Calf: CBS Ella

Owner: Cobblestone Farms Breeder: Cobblestone Farms

Reserve Champion Junior Heifer Calf: HVC'S Lady Luck

Owner & Breeder: Heather Valley Cattle Co.

Senior Heifer Calf

(Born September 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)

Grand Champion Senior Heifer Calf: Silva's Buttercup

Owner: Silva's Highlands Breeder: Silva's Highlands

Reserve Grand Champion Heifer Calf:

Eleven M Ranch Stacie

Owner: Eleven M Ranch Breeder: Eleven M Ranch

Intermediate Yearling Heifer

(Born May 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020)

Champion Intermediate Yearling Heifer Calf:

STR Black Pearl

Owner: Star Lake Cattle Co. Breeder: Star Lake Cattle Co.

Reserve Champion Yearling Heifer Calf:

New River Princess Beatrice

Owner: New River Highland Cattle Breeder: Ledyard Farms

Junior Yearling Heifer

(Born January 1, 2020 – April 30, 2020)

Champion Junior Yearling Heifer:

Circle V Ruthless Rose

Owner: Circle V Cattle Co Breeder: Circle V Cattle Co

Reserve Champion Junior Yearling Heifer:

Howling Springs Dream Whip

Owner: Howling Springs Farm Breeder: Howling Springs Farm

Senior Heifer

(Born January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

Champion Senior Heifer: HS Hibiscus Rose

Owner: Star Lake Cattle Co. Breeder: Highland Spice

Reserve Champion Senior Heifer: Black Watch Missy

Owner: Howling Springs Farm Breeder: Black Watch Farms

Grand Champion Female: HS Hibiscus Rose

Owner: Star Lake Cattle Co. Breeder: Highland Spice

Reserve Grand Champion Female: Circle V Ruthless Rose

Owner: Circle V Cattle Co Breeder: Circle V Cattle Co

Cow/Calf - Cow

(Born prior to December 31, 2019)

Grand Champion Cow/Calf: Bennachie's

Gwendolyne/MES Stacy

Owner: Mathias Schulte Breeder: Mathias Schulte

Reserve Champion Cow/Calf: STR

Symphony/ Windemere Kingsmark

Owner: Windemere Farm Breeder: Windemere Farm

Intermediate Bull Calf (Born May 1, 2021 or later)

Champion Intermediate Bull Calf: Windemere Kingsmark

Owner: Windemere Farm Breeder: Windemere Farm

Reserve Champion Intermediate Bull Calf: SA Kody

Owner: Sandy Acres Breeder: Sandy Acres

Junior Bull Calf (Born January 1, 2021 – April 30, 2021)

Champion Junior Bull Calf: Beyond Hope RW'S Seamus

Owner: Maryn Cowell Breeder: Beyond Hope Farm

Reserve Champion Junior Bull Calf:

Highland Acres Blackjack

Owner: Highland Acres Breeder: Highland Acres

Senior Bull Calf

(Born September 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020)

Champion Senior Bull Calf: RTH Jefferson

Owner: Rocking T Highlands /Spencer Reetz

Breeder: Rocking T Highlands

Reserve Champion Senior Bull Calf: SA Jesse

Owner: Sandy Acres Breeder: Sandy Acres

Intermediate Yearling Bull

(Born May 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020)

Champion Intermediate Yearling Bull: SWM Swipe Right

Owner: Double LL Farm Breeder: Seawind Meadows LLC

Junior Yearling Bull (Born January 1, 2020 – April 30, 2020)

Champion Junior Yearling Bull: HSC Jorge

Owner: Husker Show Cattle /Seawind Meadows LLC

Breeder: Husker Show Cattle

Reserve Champion Junior Yearling Bull: STR Homeland

Owner: Ritz Land & Cattle

Breeder: Star Lake Cattle Co.

Senior Bull (Born January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019)

Champion Senior Bull: HS Hickory

Owner: Highland Spice / Star Lake Cattle Co.

Breeder: Highland Spice

Reserve Champion Senior Bull:

Howling Spring's King Maker

Owner: Howling Springs Breeder: Star Lake Cattle Co.

Grand Champion Bull: HS Hickory

Owner: Highland Spice / Star Lake Cattle Co.

Breeder: Highland Spice

Reserve Grand Champion Bull:

Howling Spring's King Maker

Owner: Howling Springs Breeder: Star Lake Cattle Co.

Purebred Get of Sire

Champion Get of Sire: Mid-Lakes Highlands

Produce of Dam

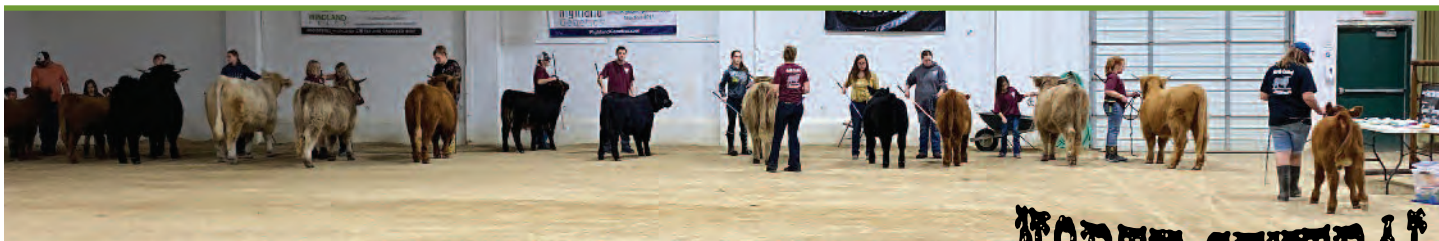
Champion Produce of Dam: Mathias Schulte GCF Fiona Jane

Breeders Herd

Champion Breeders Herd: Seawind Meadows

Premiere Breeder: Star Lake Cattle Co.

Premiere Exhibitor: Star Lake Cattle Co.



2022 NCHCA Junior Report

By Avery Bailey, NCHCA Junior Committee President

This year has been busy for our junior association! In our junior bank account we have \$5,211.39 as of December 1st.

Our previous officer team was as follows: President- Maryn Cowell, Vice President- Olivia Moore, Secretary/ Treasurer- Charli Broderick, and Hoofbeat Reporter- Kaitlin Edwards. At our annual fall show meeting and officer election, we voted for our current officers. Our current officers are as follows: President-Avery Bailey, Vice President- Charli Broderick, Secretary- Addison Bailey, and Hoofbeat Reporter- Lauren Cowell.

In April, 2021 we sponsored our own breed show at the Minnesota Spring Classic, held April 24th and 25th. We had eight junior members in attendance with two steers and 11 heifers exhibited. We spent money on t-shirts and ribbons. In September, 2021 we held our annual fall show in Austin, MN. We had 22 juniors in attendance exhibiting 17 heifers and six market animals. We held a showmanship practice and some of our older juniors helped mentor some of the younger and newer juniors. In addition to hosting a practice, we used some of our funds to purchase t-shirts for our juniors. Our 2021 Junior of the year was Eric DeLuke!

At our annual meeting we awarded the third recipient of our \$500 scholarship. Kaitlin Edwards was our 2021 NCHCA scholarship recipient. We continued with our sweatshirt incentive program, with Maryn Cowell chosen as the design winner. The sweatshirt incentive program encourages juniors to go above and beyond to promote highlands at fairs and events, like local fairs, state fairs, and national shows. At our December meeting, the junior committee decided to look for ways to provide educational sessions for our members. It was proposed to set up an online class for a couple hours and maybe do the cow camp again if we find a farm to host it. We have also continued to use our Facebook page to promote our events and keep the membership informed. As always, we are on the hunt for new ways to responsibly use our funds to help benefit our members in promoting the highland breed.

Respectfully,

Avery Bailey

NCHCA Junior Committee President

NASCO's Gold Circle Reward Program

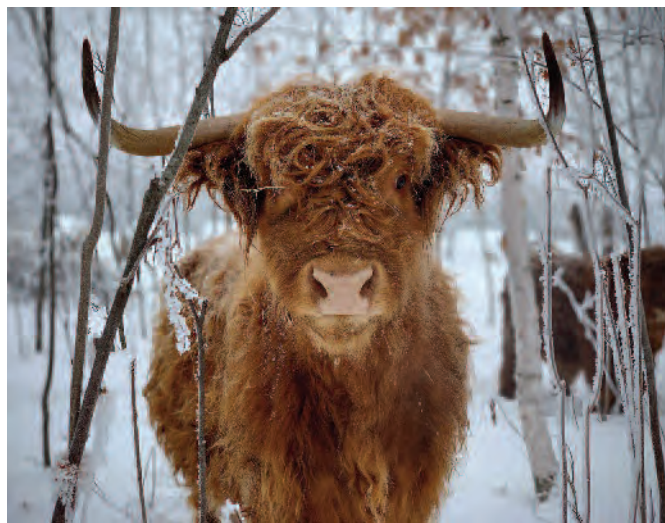
Support NCHCA Juniors when you purchase from NASCO.

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The North Central Highland Cattle Association (NCHCA) was formed in 1982 to promote Scottish Highland Cattle, form a marketing unit for breeders, and to provide a local organization closer to home. The organization has done this and provides opportunities for youth and families to have fun with their Highland cattle. Our association provides networking and educational opportunities for its members, has an active junior program for youth, and provides a local voice to the national organization, the American Highland Cattle Association.



Hidden Ridge Highland Cattle

UPCOMING EVENTS 2022

JANUARY 18-23
AHCA National
Show and Sale
Denver, CO

FEBRUARY 5-6
NCHCA
Annual Meeting
Warens, WI

APRIL, Date TBD
Minnesota Junior
Spring Classic
Austin, MN

Check Out Our Website at [NCHCA.org](https://www.nchca.org) for information on:

Member Listings • Classified Ads • Show Results • Upcoming Events & Much more...