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ISSUE 2

THE HIGHLAND *HoofBeat*

2013 Elected Officers and Board of Directors

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info@flatlandfarm.com

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Vice President (13-14)
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info@creachangleann.com

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507-582-1073
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651-457-4449
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AHCA Director:
Dave Larson (11-13)
262-539-3257
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2013 Board of Directors

Jan Larson (13-15)
262-539-3257
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Jim Anderson (13-15)
715-483-9283
janderson043@centurytel.net

Josh Krenz (13-14)
262-617-4232
info@windlandflats.com

President's Message

– *Mark Schulz, President*

First of all I would like to thank our outgoing President Anne Proctor for her leadership as President the last 2 years. Anne and her family lead by example – not only promoting the Highland cattle we love, but also promoting strong values such as fairness, generosity, strong friendship, and grace. Even though Anne will no longer be President you will continue to see her and her family heavily involved in our association.

For those of you who don't know me, I am Mark Schulz your new NCHCA President for the next two years. My wife, Jamie, and I live near Elkton, MN, down on the Minnesota/Iowa border about 18 miles straight east of Austin, MN. We got into Highland cattle in 2007 after purchasing our farm in 2001. We had been looking at Highlands since we were in college, and just dating, back in the early 90's. Sometime you have to wait until the conditions are right! We have grown our fold slowly and learned a lot along the way. Most of the learning has come from mentors in our association (I will refrain from naming names since it would be a long list).

I hope to continue the momentum of this organization that has been generated in the last few years. I believe we are one of the strongest regional Highland Associations within the National organization and that is for one reason – the people. Non-profit organizations do not run themselves and we need as many people involved as possible. We have a great group of active member's, but we also have a large number of members that we never hear from. My goal over the next two years is to find out what members are looking for in their association and what it would take to get them more involved. I will do my best to understand your views and work with our board to deliver what you are looking for. No better time than now to let me know what is on your mind!

Mark Schulz cell: 507-481-7367 • E-mail: mark@flatlandfarm.com

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.*

ALMOSTA FARM



REGISTERED HIGHLAND CATTLE
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P.O. BOX 27, 101 WEST STREET
MAGNET, NE 68749
402-586-2631
SUE@ALMOSTAFARMHIGHLANDS.COM
WWW.ALMOETAFARMHIGHLANDS.COM

FOUR T ACRES

Scottish Highland Cattle

The Gruenerts
Jean, Rich and Randy
8670 Fishman Road
Burlington, WI 53105
262-539-2725
greencarth@wi.rr.com

The Larsons
David and Janet
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Burlington, WI 53105
262-539-3257
ftacres@tds.net

www.fourtacres.com



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651-457-4449
dalriada@comcast.net



Charles & Karen Kerr

W4451 River Road, Hwy A
Watertown, Wisconsin 53094
(920) 261-9174

Email: KarenHolly19116@gmail.com



Highland Events 2013

April

4/13 & 4/14 **Minnesota Junior Spring Classic**
Austin, MN

MAY

5/4 **MN Scottish Fair and Highland Games**
Farmington, MN

JUNE

6/15 **Summer Picnic at Drunken Cows**
Duluth, MN

JULY

7/9-7/11 **Wisconsin Farm Technology Days**
Barron County, WI

7/20 **Summer Farm Picnic at Schön Boden**
Osceloa, WI

7/25-7/29 **Racine County Fair**
Union Grove, WI

AUGUST

8/1-8/11 **Wisconsin State Fair**
West Allis, WI

8/6 - 8/11 **Mower County Fair**
Austin, MN

8/17 **Summer Farm Picnic at Four T Acres**
Burlington, WI

8/26-9/2 **Minnesota State Fair**
St. Paul, MN

8/28-9/2 **Walworth County Fair**
Elkhorn, WI

SEPTEMBER

9/21 **North Central Highland Cattle Show**
Austin, MN

For more information about these events
check the NCHCA website or contact
Jamie Schulz at info@flatlandfarm.com

Committee Members Needed!

Following is a list of committees that are looking for members!
Most committees will use emails or teleconferences for meetings.
If you are interesting in being a member on a committee please
contact Jamie Schulz at info@flatlandfarm.com or 507-582-1073.

Committees:

- 2014 AHCA National Convention Committee
- Juniors Committee
- Regional Show Committee
- Website Committee
- Hoofbeat Committee
- 2014 NCHCA Calendar
- 2014 NCHCA Annual Meeting Committee

2013 Membership Renewals & Sponsored Memberships

If you haven't sent in your renewal please do so as soon as you can. 43 of our total of 103 members have yet to renew their 2013 membership. There was a renewal form sent out in the January issue of the Hoofbeat or you can print it from the website at www.nchca.org. **Please remember that you can sponsor new members for 1/2 price when selling cattle to a farm that isn't currently a NCHCA Member!** This is a great way to help the new Highland Cattle owners and also to help out the association with new enthusiastic members.

NCHCA Junior Auction

The NCHCA juniors would like to thank all the farms that donated or bid on an item at the NCHCA Junior auction. Also a special thanks to...

- **John Proctor** for being the auctioneer throughout the auction.
- **Kate Zander** for putting the junior activities together, such as chaperoning the tubing trip as well as trying to teach the juniors some educational facts about the cattle and the structure of the animals we have.
- **Sue Dyke** for the kind donation for all of the tubing expenses, everyone really enjoyed the activity.

The juniors had a blast and created a deeper friendship with all that attended. We are thankful for the support of the many farms, and people that worked hard to put on such a good meeting and fun weekend for all.

Email Addresses Needed!

In order to help get information out in a timely manner and to help cut down on costs we are communicating more through email. If you haven't been receiving these emails, please send your email address to:

Jamie Schulz at info@flatlandfarm.com

Next Hoofbeat Newsletter

The deadline for our next issue will be **June 15, 2013**. Please submit all articles and photos using the contact information below.

Preferred formats are: Articles – Microsoft Word, Photos/images – PDF format, Tables/graphs – Microsoft Excel. We need original electronic artwork.

Please call if you have any questions. Hoofbeat articles can be submitted from now up until the deadline date.

TJ Associates Attn: Dan Stewart

6441-140th Court NW | Ramsey, MN 55303

T- 763-323-8717 | F- 763-323-8704 | dans@tjassociates.net



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Josh Krenz
Princeton, MN



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www.wetiredacres.com



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20374-223rd Street
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Phone 320-360-3817
lsfarm@brainerd.net

Annual Meeting Recap

Submitted by Anne Proctor

The 2013 NCHCA Annual Meeting was held on February 16-17 in Black River Falls, WI. This was a new location for us and met our needs very well; we will be here again in 2014. Our meeting began on Saturday afternoon with the always popular "Beef Tips" session. It was a little difficult getting people to send in their ideas this year, but once we got going, the spirit of sharing came alive again. We saw several styles of hay feeders that are helping our members save hay and work with horned cattle. The Proctors, Weidemans, Paskos brought pictures to share and talked about why they liked the style feeder they have. The Sassens showed us how they roll out their round bales to feed with almost no waste. We saw some back scratchers that work, and some that don't. Thank Ken and Joan for doing that experiment for us. We learned how some of our members are feeding molasses to help the cows get more nutrients out of the hay this year. Ask Mary Schmidtke if you want to know how to use liquid molasses from the feed mill on your round bales. John Sawle will tell you how the lick tubs work for his herd. As always, there were lots of great ideas shared!

Our featured speakers this year were from our own membership. The team from Fitger's Brewhouse in Duluth, MN, shared their story with us. What began as a few friends with a love of beer has grown to a multi faceted business and a Duluth destination. Their primary business is brewing beer and they produce more than 100 kinds and 2500 barrels of handcrafted beer. That results in a whole lot of brewers grains as a byproduct! Their success with the brewhouse led them to Highland Cattle as a means to turn the spent grains into beef. They raise Highland Cattle on a balanced diet containing brewers grains and feature the beef in their restaurants. If you were not with us, you missed a great story!

Josh Krenz was an MBA student when he began to develop the plan for Windland Flats, now a group of farms providing meat and eggs to consumers in the greater Twin Cities market. What makes Josh unique is his background in business and marketing. Windland Flats began as a group project to fulfill a requirement for the MBA. Armed with an idea for a sustainable business, they set out to determine who the customer is and why the customer buys from a particular vendor. It was fascinating to learn who buys

locally produced grassfed beef, why they buy and what brings them back time and again. This session was an eye opener for anyone new to the business of selling beef!

The group then spent some time brainstorming. Our parent organization, AHCA, has a national convention every year and our turn is coming up. We came up with several potential locations as well as ideas for activities in each location. A committee was formed to further explore these options and report back to the board. On Sunday, the membership voted to host the 2014 AHCA Convention, so the committee is actively working on this project. Watch for more details in future Hoofbeats.

We finished the afternoon with committee reports. Our members promote Highland cattle at many events throughout our region every year. The coordinator for each event took a few minutes to talk about the event and plans for 2013. The calendar committee shared an update of sales for the 2013 calendar and plans for 2014. There are only a few calendars left, so get yours now if you want one and... PLEASE send pictures in for the 2014 calendar.

There were two farm tours in 2013, both of which were well attended and much enjoyed. There will be 3 farm tours in the summer of 2013 - see details elsewhere in the Hoofbeat. The juniors spent the afternoon tubing at a local hill, but the adults on the committee gave an update. They have a lot planned for 2013!

Our day wound down with a banquet and some unscheduled time for visiting. The juniors had a 'white elephant' auction. There were lots of laughs as the juniors promoted the items and the winners got a surprise. Thanks to all of you who brought items and bought items to support our junior program. Next year's meeting will be held on February 15 & 16 in Black River Falls, WI.

EXCITING NEWS!!
NCHCA to host
American Highland Cattle Association
National Convention
June 2014 – Duluth, MN
Watch future Hoofbeats and website for more information.

FYI...The meeting minutes for the 2013 Annual Meeting held February 16 & 17 in Black River Falls, WI were emailed out on March 3rd, to members who have e-mails on file. If you do not have email available and would like a hardcopy mailed to you please contact Jamie Schulz at 507-582-1073 and a copy will be mailed to you.

2014 NCHCA calendar Send in Your Photos!

We're getting started on the 2014 calendar early enough that it will be available in time for our upcoming events and holiday gift-giving. Photos must be submitted by May 1, 2013.

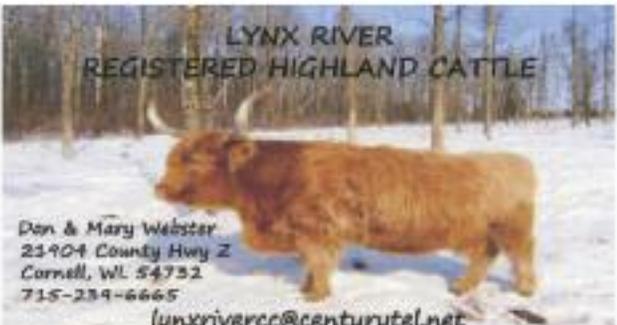
Photos should be glossy prints if snail-mailed to:

TJ Associates – Dan Stewart
6441-140th Court NW
Ramsey MN 55303

If emailed, upload photos (digital) as 300 dpi in .jpg or pdf format to www.tjassociates.com.

PHOTO DETAILS: Please 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
- * Please shoot photos using a digital camera resolution of 3 megapixels or greater
- * Images should be 300 dpi or more
- * Images must be in horizontal orientation
- * Don't forget to label file with your farm name for acknowledgement



LYNX RIVER
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(920) 526-3512





Mark & Jamie Schulz

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For More Information Contact:

Sue Dyke
 Junior Committee Chair
 (402) 586-2631
 almostafarmne@gmail.com

Jan Larson
 Junior Committee Secretary
 262-539-3257
 FTAcres@tds.net

Find us on
Facebook
www.facebook.com/NCHCAJuniors

Follow us on
Twitter
www.twitter.com/NCHCAJuniors

The NCHCA Jr Association provides opportunities for youth who are interested in Highland Cattle to be involved with Scottish Highland cattle. There are educational offerings, networking opportunities (i.e. facebook and twitter, meeting activities), and other experiences offered along with NCHCA activities.

Any youth can be involved. They do not have to own cattle and parents do not need to be members of NCHCA. Membership is free! Youth 21 and under and welcome.

Spring is in the air and with that the NCHCA Jr. Committee is excited to be introducing some new programs.

We feel as an association, we are so blessed to have some fantastic kids and with that we are going to recognize one a year, with the Junior of the Year award. To start the journey, we would like to hear from the adults about these special kids.

We are also introducing a Market Steer program. A Junior will be awarded a steer to finish for slaughter; that has been generously donated by one of the North Central breeders at our fall show in Austin. We feel this has the opportunity to teach a child so many life lessons, in responsibility, marketing and making some money to help further their education. The child will be able to show the steer at the fall show.

We; as a committee are so proud of what our fall show has become for families through the years and have decided to show case our Junior's at that venue. The award and the steer will be given there.

You have read about the Midwest Cow Camp in Morley, MI in the Hoofbeat and this year North Central has decided to join forces with them to offer families a great place to go, for the kids to further their knowledge about the Highlands, and have some fun. The dates are July 12-14, 2013. Transportation is being offered free of charge to the Juniors that want to take their own animal. Pat White is also offering a loaner animal for the weekend for folks that can't take their animals. This is a very hands on weekend, with cattle sessions, art project, swimming, driving lessons for the older kids and some social time for the parents and kids. There is no cost to attend this event. The resort offers discount prices for their cabins and camping. Meals are also included. We are very excited about being involved in their 3rd annual event and we hope to see you there.

This is a brief summary of the programs; for more details and contact information, please check out the North Central website on the Jr. page; go to our JR. Facebook page where Kate Zander is waiting to visit with you; e-mail one of us or give us a call.

They say, it takes a village to raise a child. But, it takes an association to support our Juniors and the breed that we all love.

* | Sue Dyke
 * | Anne Proctor
 * | Jan Larson
 * | Nate Larson : Jr. Representative
 * | Kate Zander
 * | Paige Proctor, Jr. Newsletter editor

Save the Date – NCHCA 2013 Member Picnics

**Saturday,
June 15, 2013**

Hosted by

DRUNKEN COWS
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SCHÖN BODEN FARMS



*Farm tours before and
after lunch depending
on your arrival.*

**Saturday, July 20, 2013
BBQ at 1:00 pm**

Come spend the weekend or day! Plenty of room to camp!
Some rooms available. You may bring your horse(s) and
ride our trails through the farms. Box stalls or pen available.

RSVP by July 6th to rweidema@centureytel.net
715-294-2249 or Facebook Cindy Weideman

Hosted by Roger and Cindy Weideman

SCHÖN BODEN FARMS | 2342 10th Avenue, Oseola, WI 54020

**Saturday,
August 17, 2013**

FOUR T ACRES
Scottish Highland Cattle

Anyone can come down for the day or stay for a weekend. We have plenty of room for campers and/or tents. There may even be a bedroom or two open yet but those are filling up fast. There are also several local hotels that I can give out info for.

Hosted by

Jean and Rich Gruenert and David and Jan Larson and family

262-539-3257 FTAcres@tds/net

Four T Acres | 8968 Fishman Road, Burlington, Wisconsin



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Dan & Cheri Stewart
1771 261st Avenue NW
Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-6552
stewarthighlands.com



Cobblestone Farm
Registered Highland Cattle
Heather Nelson
Manager

N9281 Nature Rd
East Troy, WI
53120
262-594-2542
Cell: 262-689-7013
tamarlinnorth@aol.com
www.cobblestonefarmhighlandcattle.com

Great website to check out...

Submitted by Anne Proctor

When I'm looking for information specific to Highlands, there's a website I always check. If you have not yet found Dr. Pat White's website, you're missing out! Dr. White is a veterinarian and well known Highland Breeder from LEA White Farm in Charlotte, Michigan. Her website has a wealth of information on herd health and cattle management. Go to www.leawhitefarms.com and look under the tab titled "herd health".

I noticed that she has written an article called "**Handle Highlands Safely**" and thought this was an excellent topic, especially as we are in the midst of calving season and soon to start breeding season. To quote directly from her article: "*As Highland cattle owners, we often have the privilege of bragging to our neighbors, colleagues and new acquaintances (particularly those thinking of getting into the Highland cattle business) that we have the gentlest, quietest cattle in the world. While in fact that very well*

may be true, that doesn't change the fact that these are cattle: large bovine creatures that are herd oriented with the added attraction of horns. Cattle have a mind of their own: we like to think that Highland cattle have larger minds than other breeds, but that mind, regardless of size, is still their own. They don't speak our language, and while we don't officially speak theirs, we can learn and practice handling techniques that utilize commonly known behavioral techniques, body language and positioning to minimize animal-related injuries on the farm or ranch. Understanding animal behavior; why they do what they do, is paramount to learning safety techniques when handling them. People have a habit of giving animals human qualities and forget that our four legged friends can quickly revert to primal reactions when threatened or stressed."

She goes on to provide more information on safe handling. This article serves as a good reminder for breeders old and new. You can find the whole article at <http://www.leawhitefarms.com/handlehighlandssafely.htm>

Bloat and Selenium Deficiency

Submitted by Anne Proctor

For the technical articles in this month's Hoofbeat, I went looking for information on bloat and selenium deficiency, both problems that we tend to see in the spring. I will put links to articles on both topics here in the newsletter and also up on our website www.nchca.org.

Bloat is a condition that can be fatal and often occurs in the spring when cattle transition from hay to pasture. Here's a description taken from the article by Pat White referenced below: "*Bloat is a common cause of sudden death. Cattle that are not observed closely may be found dead. Pasture bloat may develop on the first day on pasture, but may also occur on the second or third day. Affected animals show obvious distention of the rumen, and the left flank becomes so distended that the contour of the paralumber fossa extends above the backbone of the animal. As the bloat continues, the left flank becomes progressively more taut, the skin tightening like a drum (thus also called ruminal tympany). Difficult breathing (including open-mouthed breathing) and grunting are marked, the tongue may protrude, the head*

may be extended and urination is frequent. Vomiting may occur. The rumen will continue to be motile until bloat is severe. If the bloat continues to worsen, the animal will collapse and die. Death may occur within 1 hour of the development of clinical signs but is more common after 3-4 hours." See more on prevention and treatment at

<http://www.leawhitefarms.com/bloat.htm>

Selenium deficiency is another problem that often shows up at calving time. Unlike bloat that is an acute condition, selenium deficiency occurs over a period of time. We tend to become aware of it at calving time when calves are born that are not vigorous. Selenium deficiency causes white muscle disease which is characterized by a lack of coordination. Selenium deficiency is one thing to consider if you have calves that are uncoordinated or unable to stand at birth and/or are unable to suck. Fortunately, selenium deficiency is easy to prevent by feeding a good quality mineral all year round and easy to treat with an injection of vitamin E and selenium (available from your veterinarian).

http://www.sites.ext.vt.edu/newsletter-archive/livestock/aps-06_04/aps-313.html