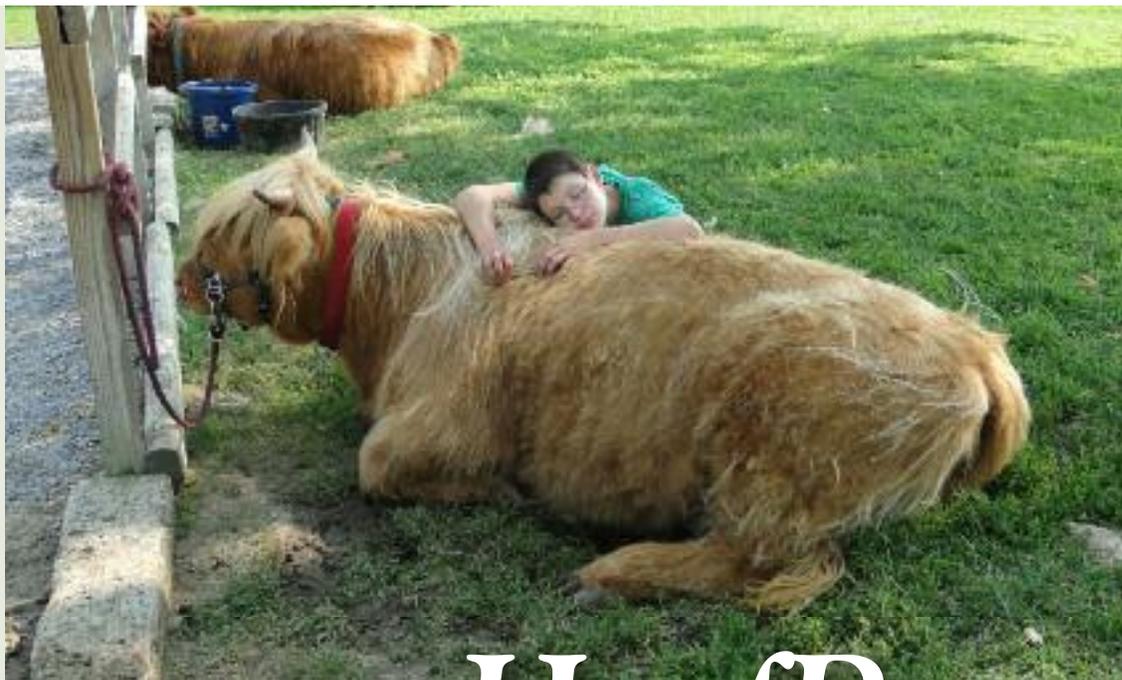




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ISSUE 3



THE HIGHLAND *HoofBeat*

NCHCA 2014 Elected Officers and Board of Directors

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A National Convention to Remember...

President's Message – Mark Schulz, President

The national convention has come and gone. I think that the North Central has a lot to be proud of. If people didn't know that we were a strong regional association, they do now. We put on a top notch convention that included something for everyone. Quoting the Midwest Highland Cattle Association's website, "The Annual Meeting of the AHCA took place on June 12-14, 2014, in Duluth, Minnesota, hosted by the North Central Highland Cattle Association. The entire event was a first class affair, starting from the choice hotel location on Lake Superior, right down to the finely detailed nametags that kept track of our individual choices in program offerings. In between, was a selection of educational programs, tourist events and dining choices that were all top notch. The speakers all presented high caliber information in an understandable and useful format. The judging seminar was exemplary, a hands-on

demonstration of handling techniques was exceptional, and the joint session about ruminant anatomy and nutrition was incredibly well done (if ever so slightly cold-the weather on Saturday felt like the witch of November come stealing.)

The annual conventions just keep getting better and better; each setting a higher bar for the next to reach. If you have the opportunity to attend, it is a highly recommended experience which includes good educational seminars, camaraderie and a great selection of Highland cattle related items available to the highest bidder during and following the banquet".

We showed that we are a cohesive group that is bound by passion for our cattle and fellow members. Not to say that we don't disagree once in a while about the details of an issue or how to go about something, but

Continued on pg 2

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.

A National Convention to Remember...President's Message continued from front page

once a decision has been made our members rally around each other to get the job done. This type of atmosphere makes my job as President very easy and also very exciting.

As I look toward the last months of my term as President, I see an association that is filled with stability, excitement and drive to take care of what comes next. I know this is almost seven months away, but start thinking of getting involved in the leadership of our association. We will be electing a new Vice President as Ben Schmidtke moves

into the role of President. Although we have two strong North Central members on the AHCA board, from a leadership prospective, I would like to see our association take a more active role at the national level. There are a number of committee's that I think we could make a positive impact on. Having said this, my cell is always on for input from you! Give me a call!

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

Highland Events 2014

AUGUST 21 - SEPTEMBER 1

Minnesota State Fair

We are looking for members and other Highland enthusiasts to help out over these twelve days by interacting with the public and answering questions. Moo Booth is open from 8 am to 8 pm and we will need people during these hours.

SEPTEMBER 20

2014 Regional Highland Cattle Show

See page 3.

SEPTEMBER 26-28

World Beef Expo

See page 7.

Please contact Mark Schulz

mark@flatlandfarm.com or 507-481-7367

to get the Highland or general cattle events in your area listed. The members of our association have expressed interest in knowing about events in all areas of the region. Thanks!

Aug. 21-Labor Day, Sept. 1, 2014

MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

2014 Minnesota State Fair Showcase Beef Breed!

For the second year in a row Highlands will be the showcase beef breed at the Minnesota State Fair. We will be in the coveted area of the barn, the moo booth, for the entire 12 days of the fair – August 21- September 1. ***We are looking for members and other Highland enthusiast to help out over these twelve days by interacting with the public and answering questions.*** I will be setting up a schedule, but impromptu visits are welcome also. Even if you can stop by and help for an hour is an appreciated break for someone to have a bite to eat and some down time. ***Please contact Mark Schulz at 507-481-7367 or mark@flatlandfarm.com to let me know you will help out!*** You need not be and expert on Highlands as many of the questions are very basic. I look forward to seeing you at the ***"Great Minnesota Get Together"!***



2014 Regional Highland Cattle Show

Mower County Fairgrounds • 700 12th Street SW • Austin, MN 55912

Saturday, September 20, 2014

9 am – Junior Show / 12 pm – Open Show w/Bagpiper

- Breeding Heifers and Bulls
- Cow / Calf and Group Classes
- Junior Show
- Prospect, Feeder and Market Classes
- Costume Class following Open Show

Questions? Contact:

Mark Schulz, 507-481-7367, mark@flatlandfarm.com or

Mary Schmidtke, 608-348-4047, info@creachanngleann.com

Full information can be found on the North Central Highland Cattle Association website at NCHCA.org



RE • fest

A Celebration of Green Living & Clean Energy



RE • think



RE • new



RE • store

www.refest.org

RE fest is a celebration of green living and renewable energy focusing on the positive impact individual actions can have on the environment and reduction of carbon emissions.

The goals of RE fest are:

- **Educate** participants about the current issues regarding carbon emissions and the impact they have on the environment. Participants will learn what green living and sustainability are all about.
- **Motivate** participants to take action at home that will contribute toward the reduction of carbon emissions.
- **Encourage** participants to volunteer locally in organizations that support sustainability.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014 MOWER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
A Celebration of Clean Living & Clean Energy



AHCA 2014 National Convention in Duluth

“A Convention to Remember” was what we promised in February, 2013, when the NCHCA membership voted to host the 2014 AHCA National Convention. And what a convention it was!

Our home base was at the Inn on Lake Superior in Duluth, just a stone’s throw from the shore of the largest fresh water lake in the world. All that was between the hotel and the lake was a small patch of lawn and a boardwalk. Although the water was cold, I know several people who crossed ‘put hand in Lake Superior’ off their bucket lists! From the hotel windows, guests could watch ships entering and leaving Duluth Harbor, one of the busiest shipping ports on the Great Lakes. There were many small shops and restaurants within walking distance of the hotel for those with a few minutes to spare. But, with all the items available at the trade show, you didn’t even need to leave the building for those hard to find gifts featuring Highland Cattle. As we promised in the pre-conference flyers, Duluth “boasts a great city atmosphere, but also has the feel that you are not too far from the country.”

And into the country we went with visits to the North Shore, Grass Meadows Highland Farm and the South Saint Louis County Fairgrounds. Those members wanting to enjoy the beautiful lakeshore north of Duluth took an afternoon bus tour. They had the pleasure of seeing Gooseberry Falls, considered the gateway to the North Shore and known for its spectacular waterfalls and gorges. The historic Split Rock Lighthouse, one of Minnesota’s best known landmarks, was a second destination. The lighthouse was built following the shipwrecks of 1905 and has been restored to its 1920s appearance. Guests could look out over Lake Superior and imagine what it was like to be on a ship in a storm with only

a light to guide you.



Those wanting to see cattle boarded the bus for a tour of a large grassfed Highland farm, Grass Meadows. Jake Grass is a man who likes numbers and runs his farm as a business. He told of how he discovered that Highland Cattle were more efficient and cost effective than some other breeds in converting grass to beef and shared some of the lessons he has learned as he has purchased cattle to build a herd of Highland mama cows. There was plenty of time for questions and Jake was very candid with the information he shared.



On the bus ride, guests watched the Temple Grandin movie. Temple has revolutionized our knowledge of cattle behavior and handling and the movie provided some background and a great introduction to one of the educational sessions held on Saturday. Kate Zander, an NCHCA member and now herdsman at Bennachie Farms, shared the latest information on cattle



behavior and did a live demonstration of cattle handling. Guests had the opportunity to try out their skills by working with the cattle with Kate's guidance. The skills she taught will make handling cattle a much easier task.



On the other side of the arena, Kyle Rozebaum, a cattle judge evaluated animals of various ages and discussed their good and not-so-good conformational traits. While he did translate the phrases that you hear at cattle shows but may not have fully understood, he also talked about functionality and how conformation affects performance of a breeding animal. Even seasoned veterans found new information in his session.



In the beef barn, Dr. Anne Proctor, PhD, and Dr. Charlie Woodward, DVM, looked at nutrition from the perspective of providing nutrients to the rumen microbes rather than the cow. We feed the rumen; the rumen microbes feed the cow. They were assisted by a Highland cow with a permanent rumen cannula that enables people to see what is happening in the rumen of a live cow. Some of the braver guests even put their hand inside the rumen, a once in a lifetime event for most.

“If I had known that Highland people were so much fun, I would have started coming to the convention years ago!”

Many of those attending Highland Cattle gatherings seem to enjoy consuming a fermented beverage of some sort. This convention was no exception and beer was showcased in several ways. Fitger's Brewery made a



special brew for the convention – Highland Fling Scottish Ale, an '80 schilling' style malty Scottish Ale. This and other microbrews were enjoyed at several after-hours gatherings in the historic Tycoons Alehouse. The 'Fitger's guys' gave a daytime tour of the brewery showing how grain is turned to beer and talked about their Highland Cattle





enterprise in which the cattle are fed a diet including the spent grains. Coming full circle, the beef is then featured in their restaurants. We had the pleasure of consuming some of that Highland beef and several of their specialty brews at the Beer & Beef Dinner. Fitger's catered most of the meals at the convention and the food was outstanding!



The only rain came, quite literally, on Saturday afternoon. The skies opened up, the rain came down and the temperature

plummeted. By the end of the educational sessions, people were hopping up and down to stay warm. Steam was spewing from the open rumen. A quick thinking member of the organizing committee located a big heater and by the time the sessions were done, the banquet hall was warm enough for people to shed a few layers. The farmers among us know that we can't control Mother Nature and she made sure to add her own session to our agenda this year!



As always, the formal festivities concluded with the awards banquet and an auction, another great place to find unique items for your collection. Pat White was inducted into the Highland Hall of Fame in recognition of her years of dedication and service to the Highland breed. Sue Dyke was

honored as the Member of the Year and Nathan Larson received the Junior Allegiance Award. Those participating in the auction were very generous and went home with new treasures.

For those of us on the organizing committee, the banquet came too soon. To those who were there to share the memories with us, thank you for coming. We hope you enjoyed your time in Duluth and went home with new ideas and new friends. If you were not able to join us this year, we hope to see you next year. A first time attendee summed it up well:

"If I had known that Highland people were so much fun, I would have started coming to the convention years ago!" While our convention is behind us, there is another one in the planning stages and we are certain that the next one will be as good as the last one. We'll see you there!





Plan to attend the
World Beef Expo

22nd Annual



SEPTEMBER 26 - 28, 2014

Wisconsin State Fairgrounds-Milwaukee, WI

Come join the 22nd Anniversary World Beef Expo show and the
Highland Roll of Excellence Point Show
September 26th-28th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin!

Cattle exhibitors from 14 states displayed, exhibited or sold cattle at the 2013 World Beef Expo. The junior show had 462 entries and the open show had 542 entries. In addition to the Open and Junior Cattle shows, World Beef Expo offers a wide variety of activities. The Showcase Cattle Sale brings in bidders and spectators on Saturday afternoon and on Saturday night; the Supreme Champion Cattle Drive is a spectacular event showcasing the best of the best. Top-notch educational seminars, an indoor/outdoor tradeshow and a youth sweepstakes contest round out the schedule of activities. The Fall Festival is also hosted on the State Fair Grounds and attracts a huge family based crowd.

Hotel Accommodations:

Country Inn and Suites Milwaukee West/Brookfield
1250 South Moorland Rd
Brookfield, WI 53005
Phone: 262-782-1400

Block of rooms held under 'Highland Cattle Show' September 24- September 28.
Prices are \$99 for a standard room and \$114 for a two-room suite.

Tentative Show Schedule

Thursday evening: Meet and greet Highland breeders gathering in barn. Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Friday: 5pm Highland Point Show

Saturday: Supreme Drive at 7pm where the Grand Champion Heifer, Bull and Cow/Calf will compete for the overall titles.

Sunday: Junior Heifer Show and Junior Showmanship

All entry information and show requirements are listed on the World Beef Expo website:

www.worldbeefexpo.com

Contacts: Heather Bailey 262-689-7013 or Ben Schmitdke 608-348-4047

This is a sanctioned AHCA point show.



For More Information Contact:

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

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

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Junior Spotlight - by Bailey McConnell

My name is Bailey McConnell and this past fall I was chosen as the first recipient of North Central Highland Cattle Association's Junior of the Year for 2013. It was such a honor to be given this award as it was a complete and absolute shock to me! But turns out just about everyone around me, from my dad to my FFA advisor, knew about me being Junior of the Year. It's been a good 7 months and it is still a shock! I would have to say being known as "The Highland Chick" really does have a special meaning now and really paid off!

My farm is located near Balaton, Minnesota in the southwest corner of the state. I will be going into my senior year at Tracy Area Jr.-Sr. High School this fall and I could not be more excited! My future plans for after high school is to hopefully attend South Dakota State University to major in Animal Science.

Highland cattle have been a part of my life for quite a long time. Growing up seeing the older kids at the county fair getting to show their cattle around in the show ring made me want to be just like them, but having a herd of about seven non-registered Highlands was a problem. My dad wanted nothing to do with the showing part of the cattle industry, just the beef. But I wasn't giving up on my dream. I bugged my dad so much, he finally gave in. We sold the whole herd and purchased my first purebred Highland heifer from a woman whom would soon make a huge impact in my life, Sue Dyke. As I went on in my cattle-revolving life, my passion for the Highland breed grew and many people knew that! I soon became "The Highland Chick" because people knew me for my cattle with the long horns and shaggy hair. Throughout the time of my involvement with Highlands, I have definitely gotten people familiar with the breed. Everyone at my school is always wondering how my cattle are doing and then become aware of whenever the date is when the next upcoming show is. From competing in such a big range of show venues to the ups and downs I have had with my cattle experiences to the knowledge I have learned, I will never regret bugging my dad over and over, every waking moment of every day to let me show Highland cattle.

Along with my involvement with Highland cattle, I have a pretty hectic schedule and am usually always busy doing something! I am very active in the local FFA chapter for my school. I am currently on our Livestock Judging team. I have participated in both State and National FFA Conventions, in which both were absolutely amazing experiences! I also am and have been an active member in my county 4H club since the 2nd grade and I am now serving as president. I have taken the job as being an officer for the past three years. In 4H, I have done many different projects but the main three projects I focus on now are rabbits, poultry, and beef. At my county fair, my sister and I introduced and showcased Highlands to our county and they have been a hit ever since! We both have done well

showing at our fair in showmanship, breeding heifer classes and the cow/calf class. Throughout 4H, I have gotten the opportunity to make it to the Minnesota State Fair to exhibit my animals, which is always a big excitement since my years being in 4H are dwindling down to only two years left. Both 4H and FFA have been great impacts in my life and will leave me with skills I will always use in the near and upcoming future!

Being my agricultural organizations are a big importance in my life, I am also involved in softball, spanish club, youth group, band, and choir. Softball is a sport I have played since I was about seven and have always loved the game. In softball I play right field and also pitch. For both band and choir, I have participated in Solo & Ensemble Contest getting a superior rating in both. I have been involved with band since the 5th grade playing the clarinet and bass clarinet.

With having such a broad range of activities I am involved with and love doing, they all have a special impact in my life that I will help me along in the long run. I don't think there is enough time to thank all the people that have helped me as mentors and served as a guidance throughout my busy life. I am very grateful for them! Being Junior of the Year is something that I will never forget and is something I will definitely treasure for the rest of my life! Thank you to all who contributed in the selection of choosing me to be Junior of the Year for 2013, I cannot put into words how much it means to me!



I was lucky enough to sit down and talk, over the phone, with Daniel and Mary Kay Webster of Lynx River Cattle Company. Daniel and Mary Kay have approximately 15 highlands currently, but range between 15 and 30 on average. They live approximately 4 miles west of Cornell, Wisconsin with the Chippewa and Flambeau Rivers to the north and several small creeks to the south.

They chose to raise highlands because they were looking for a bovine breed with few health issues. They didn't want to use a lot of antibiotics on their animals and they wanted to stay away from using a lot of chemicals on their land, so highlands seem to fit the bill and they began



raising them in 2000. At first they fed some grain but have since changed to pasture and hay feeding. Since they have switched over, Daniel says he has noticed a definite decrease in foot issues and the need to trim hooves. They also supplement the cows' diet with minerals, salt and vitamins to keep their animals healthy and happy.

Lynx River also does some Highland cross breeding. They have Highland/Simmental cross as well as Highland/Hereford crosses. While he likes the Simmental crosses he notices the Hereford crosses seem to be a bit more high strung. When weaning calves he notices that while the purebred highlands seem to settle fairly easy and appreciate the hands on, being handled, brushed and are usually easy to halter train, some of the Hereford crosses don't settle down quite as well, but are still manageable and are good foragers.



Daniel seems to have a very good market for selling stock animals and would enjoy finding someone who would be willing to show his animals or animals purchased from him. He sells bulls as well as heifers to farmers who are also interested in cross breeding their stock as well as those looking for purebred animals. He is, however, looking to find a steady beef market and sells his meat mainly through word of mouth with an occasional advertisement listed somewhere.

– David Larson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Cazzi Wacholz
Wacholz Farm - Hayward, MN

Nathan & Tiffany Briggs
Angora, MN

Randy & Robyn Murrah
RR Highlands - Milaca, MN

Mark & Randi Johnson
Climbing Stump Farm

Creachann Gleann



Ben and Mary Schmitke
7200 Platte Rd
Platteville, WI 53818

Registered Highland Cattle

Phone: (608) 348-4047
Email: info@creachanngleann.com
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Zander Ranch



Kate Zander

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262-539-2725
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www.fourtacres.com

The Larsons
David and Janet
8968 Fishman Road
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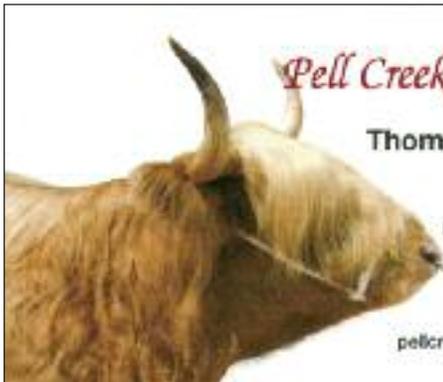
NCHCA 2015 Calendars are available!

2015 North Central Highland Cattle Association Calendars may be purchased for \$20 which includes shipping and handling.

Send check or money order to:

NCHCA
c/o Billy Johnston
Dalriada Highland Farm
2353 105th St E
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

**For more information or questions:
call 651-457-4449 or email:
dalriada@comcast.net**

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Thomas McConnell
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Reg. Highland cattle and beef sales
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East Troy, WI 53120
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October Hoofbeat Newsletter

The deadline for our next issue will be **September 26, 2014**. Please submit all articles and photos using the contact information. **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



6441-140th Court NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

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.

«FIRST NAME» «Last Name»
«FARM NAME»
«ADDRESS»
«TOWN», «ST» «ZIP»

Call for Articles!

The board has reviewed the results of our member survey. There are six topics that the general membership would like to see featured in the Hoofbeat.

The articles should be directly related to the following topics: **nutrition, animal husbandry, animal health, calving, breeding and marketing/sales.**

If you have an article you would like to share, please submit to:

Josh info@windlandflats.com

Mark mark@flatlandfarm.com

Dan dans@tjassociates.net

Preferred formats are: Articles – Microsoft Word, Photos/images – PDF format, Tables/graphs – Microsoft Excel.

