



VOLUME 53

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ISSUE 3



Highland Spring

THE HIGHLAND *HoofBeat*

NCHCA 2018 Elected Officers and Board of Directors

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President's Message – *Randi Johnson, President*

For many of us, calving season is done or winding down for a while. The weather continues to be a challenge for us all, but here's hoping better days are ahead.

The last few months have included some controversy for the American Highland Cattle Association and a former regional association. Your board of directors has followed this closely and wants to assure you as members that the North Central Highland Cattle Association is, as stated in our by-laws, a regional association of the American Highland Cattle Association. We support the mission of the national association and the AHCA herd book as the official registry for the breed. The mission of our association is to protect the integrity and sustainability of the Highland breed by promoting education and social interactions of our members. This mission guides the board as we make decisions, and we bring all major decisions to the membership at the annual meeting.

The Hoofbeat is our primary means of communicating with you, but we also try to keep our website and Facebook pages current. As members, we hope you always feel free to contact any member of the board with your concerns or ideas.

It has been a busy time for our Association. The juniors held a Cattleman's Camp in May at Flatland Farm in Elkton, Minnesota. It was a fun day of learning and was well attended. Let's hope the juniors find a way to make this an annual event.

The Third Annual Production Sale had an excellent line up of animals with consignments from farms near and far. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Larson and Gruenert families of Four T Acres for hosting the sale.

– *Continued on page 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.*

President's Message

– Continued from page 1

The Third Annual Production Sale had an excellent line up of animals with consignments from farms near and far. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Larson and Gruenert families of Four T Acres for hosting the sale. This is one of our Association's signature events, and we continue to see high quality animals and a growing customer base, including online sales.

Upcoming in July, Highland Spring Farms in Fitchberg and Oregon, Wisconsin will be the sites for pasture walks featuring Jim Gerrish, well known grazing lands consultant, columnist for The Stockman Grass-Farmer, and author of books on grazing and ranch management. NCHCA members are welcome but registration is required; hope you can make it.

Fair season is starting and the annual show in Austin will be here before you know it. We look forward to seeing many of you in the weeks ahead.

– *Randi Johnson*



Mcpeak's Be a Champ Camp

The AHCA Juniors award two scholarships for the Mcpeak's Be a Champ Camp annually. This year's recipients were Maryn and Lauren Cowell of Beyond Hope Farm. Multiple other AHCA juniors attended the camp June 12-15th. Avery Bailey is also one of the juniors who had the opportunity to make the trip to Mcpeak's Be a Champ Camp, 2019.



Maryn: I was selected as one of the 2019 Mcpeak's Be a Champ Camp scholarship recipients. It was held at Connors State University, in Warner, Oklahoma. I attended the second week of beef cattle camp, June 12th-16th.

The first day was relatively relaxed. At arrival we were shown where to find our rental calves and were expected to have them washed, watered and bedded down quickly. Soon afterwards, we gathered in the arena for group

assignments and had our first session. We learned about how to properly wash a calf, daily hair care and how to work the hair to get max growth. After our sessions were completed, we fed and watered our calves and went back to our dorms.

The second day was all about clipping! After feeding and watering our calves, we gathered in our groups for a brief showmanship session. At the conclusion of the session, we were called to the arena and began a clipping session on head and tail clipping. We had a set amount of time to practice head and tail clipping our calves before we gathered for a flank and leg clipping demonstration. We worked to get our calves legs and belly line clipped while also learning new clipping techniques in the process.

After finishing up our clipping sessions, we concluded the day with another showmanship session, focusing on your show presence and posture. I particularly enjoyed this session as it helped me to dig deeper into showmanship and think more about the small details of showmanship.

The next day was packed with fitting demos and showmanship! We spent a large majority of the day learning to adhesive legs, paint our calves, ball tails and fit tailheads. The other part of the day was spent working hard on our showmanship skills. During those showmanship sessions, we focused on walking your calf into stance, keeping the calf's head up and keeping your poise in the ring. My favorite part of the day was fitting and painting my calf as well as our showmanship sessions.

The final day was show day! We washed, fit and showed our calves in showmanship classes and were placed like a real show. I was fortunate enough to

be placed third out of 24 kids in group seven, the oldest group. It was awesome that we were able to get the feel of a real show while still bettering our showmanship skills. I had an amazing experience and learned so much at Mcpeak's! I would love to go again next year and recommend it to any kid looking to learn a bunch and have a great time!

I would like to thank Jerry and Veda Mcpeak for their hard work and dedication that goes into this camp. They do an amazing job! I would also like to thank the staff for their selfless giving of their time and skills. All of them are so amazing to learn from and are so passionate about showing.

Avery: I enjoyed the intensity of the camp and how much there was to learn. Since this is only my second year showing, I didn't know much beforehand. I worked hard, paid attention, and learned quite a bit! From how to ball a tail to what angle your hand should be on the halter during showmanship. The staff was amazing with sharing tips and tricks for both fitting and showmanship. It was a



bunch of fun and I am looking forward to going back.

Lauren: This year I was chosen as one of the Be a Champ Camp scholarship recipients.

The camp was held at Connors State College in Warner Oklahoma. The camp was held from June 12th through 16th.

On the first day of camp we learned about washing, working hair and clipping the heads and tails of the animals. I especially enjoyed the clipping portion of the demonstrations. After feeding the cows, we had a brief showmanship session and then headed back to the dorms.



On the second day of camp was more intensive showmanship sessions and clipping demonstrations. We started the day off by feeding our animals and a showmanship session. After concluding the showmanship we had a body clipping demonstration, including belly, legs

and flank. When the demonstration concluded we had a portion of time to experiment on our animals with the clipping information we had just learned. At the conclusion of our clipping practice we had an extended showmanship session. After the showmanship session concluded, we fed our animals and played some fun games. My favorite thing of the day was our showmanship.

On the third day of camp we learned about fitting our animals, including how to fit an animal well, what products work most affectively and last minute touch ups.



We started the day by feeding our animals and a short showmanship session. In showmanship we learned about keeping your eyes on the judge, keeping your stance, and walking your cattle into stance. When showmanship concluded we had a fitting demonstration in which we were shown how to fit legs, tail head, balling the tails and painting correctly. After the demonstration concluded, we had a portion of time to fit our animals. After breaking the paint down on our animals, we fed them and had a brief showmanship session. When showmanship concluded we had a hypnotist come to the camp and entertain us by hypnotizing 12 campers. My favorite part of the day was fitting my animal.

The fourth day was SHOW DAY! We started the day by feeding our animals and a showmanship session. After showmanship concluded we spot washed our animals and started fitting our animals for the show. When show time came we all got our last minute touch ups done and went to the staging area. The show was showmanship only. After the show we all gathered in the stands for the reward ceremony. There were rewards given out for fitting, showmanship and effort.

I learned a lot about how to clip the heads of the animals, tails, front legs, fitting the legs and blending. In showmanship I learned about keeping my stance, walking my cattle into stance, keeping my eye on the judge and being confident.

I would like to thank the AHCA juniors for rewarding scholarships for kids who want to learn more about showmanship and fitting. I am also grateful for Jerry and Veda Mcpeak and the staff for their time and passion for showing cattle.

Summer AHCA Director's Report – Jamie Schulz

As everyone is aware, the last three months have been full of activity and buzz. Every AHCA member received a letter in the mail detailing what happened with the Heartland Regional Association. Those that have email addresses on file with AHCA also received an email. That email was sent out April 17 with a subject line of "Message from AHCA President". If you did not receive the email, I would first recommend you check your junk mail, and if there isn't anything there contact the AHCA office to add your email address to their list. I just want to be clear that the email/letter was sent to everyone who is a member of AHCA. I know there were mixed messages going around. If you ever have a question about AHCA communications don't hesitate to contact me.

The AHCA Governance Committee has a number of ongoing efforts to make association operations clearer for members. They are working on an orientation plan for AHCA directors to help them as they come onto the board. This will help new directors understand how the Board and committee structure works within the association. They are also assembling a packet to assist groups with formation of a new AHCA Regional Association. Committees continue to work on developing charters. This helps define the "who, how, when and what" for a committee and document reportability within the association.

The AHCA website is undergoing an update. The site is now mobile friendly!! They have sent out notices through email as the changes occur – so be sure your email address on file is up to date. Look to the Bagpipe for more information on this effort.

The next AHCA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting is on July 16th. If anyone has any concerns/comments please let me know. I always bring them up at the meeting or share them with the appropriate people.

My three year term is coming to a close this year, and a new AHCA director will be elected at the 2020 NCHCA Annual meeting. I have enjoyed my term as a director as it allowed me to learn how the national association operates. Please be thinking about who you want to represent the association for the next three years. As I look around at the existing AHCA BOD I see members who show or who have shown. I show cattle. Everyone does other things such as sell cattle or beef, but almost all current directors (or their farm) show cattle. I think we need to start looking at the diversity of the membership and reflect that in the BOD. My understanding about our AHCA membership is this: The majority of members have small herds. The majority of members do not show. We need that majority to be seen on the BOD. We need this majority to become active.

I am not saying that the current directors don't represent membership well. But opinions have been voiced in the past that the only thing AHCA cares about is showing. I can definitely say that is NOT true. Just look at the wonderful marketing materials that the marketing committee created and provided to membership as just one example. Perhaps a more diversified BOD would negate the perception that showing is the only concern of AHCA. "Perception is reality. If you are perceived to be something, you might as well be it because that's the truth in people's minds." - Steve Young

I was unsure when I started as a director because I didn't know how things worked at the national level. But I knew I was there representing the regional association. I spoke up when I thought it was needed to be sure our voice was heard. That is all that is required. You don't need to know everything. I have called people to see what their views were and hopefully made it clear in these updates that I always welcome input. It doesn't need to be a one person show. Feel confident that you can count on the NCHCA members to support you as the AHCA director. Step forward to represent the membership of NCHCA. Please consider being a nominee for the director position. Self-nomination is allowed and encouraged – you can even do it ahead of the Annual meeting!

AHCA Director requirements:

- **4 meetings per year.** 2 of these are by phone, 2 are in-person. In-person attendance at 1 in-person meeting per year is required, but both are encouraged. This year I didn't attend the Denver meeting knowing I wanted to see what the fall meeting in Reno with the Angus Association would be like. That was accepted without a problem. For me, vacation time away from work is an issue.
 - The NCHCA has generously provided the AHCA Director with a reimbursement of \$250 per trip to help defer the costs of travel for the director. Calendar sales fund this reimbursement. That amount has generally been enough to cover the airfare cost to Denver.
- **Membership on 1 committee.** You can choose the committee you would like to be part of.

If you have questions about being a director please give call me. Volunteer run organizations depend on the generosity of its members to give of their time. Both our regional and national associations depend on volunteers. Please considering giving of your time and talent to represent your fellow members.

NCHCA Pays Tribute to Dan Stewart

Dan Stewart passed away on May 27, 2019. He left behind his wife, Cheri, three grown children and five grandchildren. Dan purchased his first Highland Cattle from Roger and Cindy Weideman in 2011. The fold included several females and a bull he renamed "Eddie" (pictured with Dan). Dan spent hours brushing, feeding treats and loving-up on his cattle. Shortly after purchasing his cattle and becoming a NCHCA member, Dan went to work on helping the NCHCA association. Dan gave NCHCA a sense of professionalism. He took a tired looking brand and Hoofbeat newsletter and breathed new life into them. He made tools and expertise in printing and promotion easily accessible and elevated



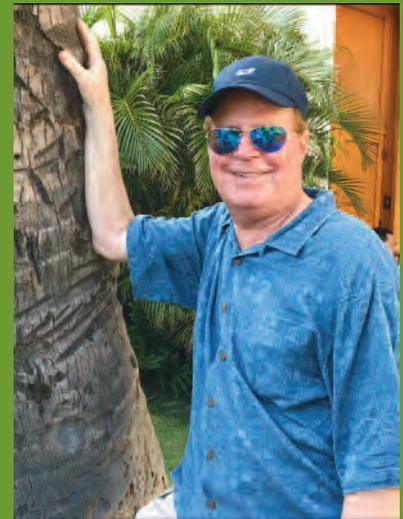
the services NCHCA offers our members.

The North Central Highland Cattle Association Family will forever be better

because Dan shared

his talents and passion with all of us. He touched so many people, not only with his sense of humor and warm heart, but his willingness to give far more to our association than he will ever even know. As a Memorial, the NCHCA donated a gift to the Multiple Myeloma Foundation in Dan's name.

www.myeloma.org



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NCHCA Cow Camp Recap

2019 North Central Highland Cattle Association's Junior Cattleman's Camp.



The juniors cattleman's camp was held at Flatland Farm in Elkton Minnesota, hosted by Mark and Jamie Schulz, and was held from 9:00am to 4:30pm with 26 campers present.

The day began with a scavenger hunt for an ice breaker. The kids had a lot of fun meeting new juniors and working together to finish their list for the scavenger hunt. One of the tasks to complete in the scavenger hunt was taking a selfie with Mark, all of the kids enjoyed it very much.

Following that, Mark began the first session on nutrition. He talked about what makes a healthy diet, specifically about hay, minerals, clean water, grain, and silage. Feed analysis was next, we talked about how much water and hay a cow needs according to the age and if the cow is nursing a calf or not. Cost of feed concluded the first session.



In the second session Mark gave a demonstration about hay testing, testing grass for sugar, and a brix meter demonstration. Everyone was very interested in trying the brix meter, which measures the amount of sugar in the pasture grass.

The third session was based on non-traditional agriculture careers, where Mark demonstrated how he does food science research and quality control for Hormel foods in Austin, Minnesota.

Once the third session concluded we took a break and had a healthy and nutritious lunch.

After lunch Mark and Sue Dyke held a showmanship clinic. Mark brought out some of his animals to use for the demonstration where we practiced some of our showmanship skills: walking animals around the arena, walking animals into show stance and discussing appropriate apparel for the show ring.



Safety first! In the fifth session we talked about farm equipment safety. We watched a video about safety around PTOs and Augers.

After the fifth session we took a tasty snack break.

Once the snack break concluded we played an equipment matching game. The highlight of the game was we got to take a quiz after.

The last thing we did was market steer evaluation. We looked at some of Mark's quality steers and discussed some of the things about raising and

finishing steers, including approximately what age grass fed steers should go to market, knowing signs of a finished steer, and what an ideal steer should look like.

We want to thank Mark Schultz and Sue Dyke for their time and expertise. A big thanks to the junior committee for sponsoring and planning this event. We are looking forward to planning another junior event soon.

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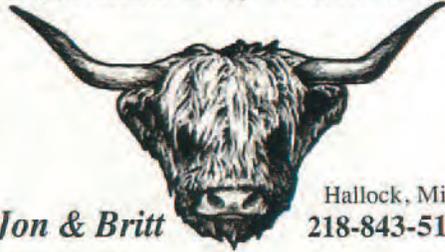
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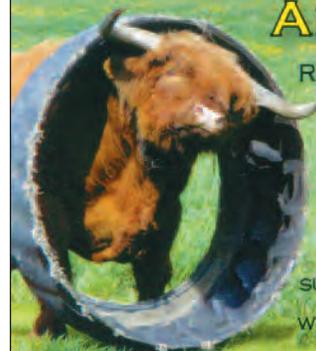
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BREEDERS OF QUALITY
HIGHLAND CATTLE

NCHCA Production Sale

On July 22nd, 2019 NCHCA held their Production Sale at Four T Acres, LLC in Burlington, WI

After a week of ominous predictions of rain and chilly weather, the day dawned with the sun shining, minimal clouds in the sky, and warm temperatures. The sale began rolling promptly at 1pm with 31 lots of high quality cattle, and four lots of some of the very best semen packages available in the United States, each one selling quickly and smoothly.

High selling cow/calf, LiTerra Bess with her twin calves, Bonnie and Betty consigned by LiTerra Farm, Grove City, PA sold for \$5100

High selling heifer, FTA Nansaidh Nora, consigned by Four T Acres, LLC in Burlington, WI sold for \$4800

High selling bull, Schön Boden's Damon, consigned by Schön Boden Farm, Osceola WI sold for \$2400

The average sale price this year was \$2400, and was above the average price from our 2017 sale of \$2100. The sale committee is not using the statistics from 2018 for comparison, due to hosting the AHCA Gathering and having more spaces for lots that year.

We would like to thank our sponsors: NCHCA, American Livestock Magazine, Climbing Stump Farm, Cobblestone Farm, Elkhorn Veterinary Clinic, Four T Acres, Heather Valley Cattle Co., Pat's Sanitary Services, Rural Mutual Insurance, TJ Associates, Town Bank, and Windland Flats.

Thank you to our consignors: Albee Cattle Co., East Troy, WI, Cheesehead Highlands, Burlington, WI, Climbing Stump Farm, Harris, MN, Cobblestone Farm, East Troy, WI, Dundonald Highlands, Three Rivers, MI, Four T Acres, LLC, Burlington, WI, Husker Show Cattle LLC, York, NE, LEA-

White Farm, Charlotte, MI, LiTerra Farm, Grove City, PA, Little Partridge Ranch, Merrill, WI, Osceola Highlands, Reed City, MI, Round Tuit Farm, Austin, MN, Schön Boden Farm, Osceola, WI, Snowland Livestock, Chassel, MI, Spring Mountain Farm, Lindsey, NY, Bull Run Farm, Lehighton, PA, Stagecoach Farms, Draper, VA, Windemere Farm, Junction City, WI, and Windland Flats, Princeton, MN.

A big thank you also to all the buyers from all over the United States. Some were in person, some were online, and some were over the telephone. They ranged from one coast to the other and really made our sale amazing! Thank you also to all of the volunteers who gave their time, hard work, and energy to help make this sale possible. This sale is just one effort of the association to help provide our members an outlet to grow, expand their knowledge, genetics, and provide an opportunity to network with breeders from all over the United States. Without our volunteers, this undertaking would be extremely difficult and impossible to accomplish.

Overall, the committee is happy with the outcome this year and are already working on preparations, as well as a date for next year. So keep an eye out for all that information and get ready to decide which of your farm's very best animals you want to list in 2020!

**Randi Johnson, Josh Krenz, Heather Bailey
Rich and Jean Gruenert, Jan and David Larson**
Sale Committee

2019 NCHCA Junior of the Year

Applications will be available online at www.nchca.org starting August 1. Nominations will be accepted through Sept 10, 2019. The junior must be a member in good standing of the NCHCA juniors. They must be younger than 21 years of age and have not received the award in a previous year. We are looking for individuals who are involved not only in our Highland Community but also in their schools and communities at home. Please consider nominating an outstanding junior in our organization!





Sebastien LACHAL – Hunt-Cam Fold, France

Highland Cattle Production Sale

presented by
 North Central
Highland Cattle
 ASSOCIATION

Saturday, June 20, 2020

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- See all the cattle lots and more information at HighlandSale.org

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Check Out Our Website at NCHCA.org for information on:

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

NASCO's Gold Circle Reward Program

Support NCHCA Juniors when you purchase from NASCO. The Juniors earn rebates of 5% of net purchases when members purchase from:

- Nasco Farm & Ranch
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Use the **group code 9810011** when you make purchases.

Thank you for your support!



Member Benefits...Classified Ads

Have you ever wondered about the emails you receive with a classified ad? As part of your member benefits, you can have a **FREE 90-day classified ad each year**. Your ad will appear on the association website, **NCHCA.org**, and on the NCHCA Facebook page. A copy will also be sent out in an email to all active members. Cattle, semen, embryos, equipment or anything farm related can be included. The website consistently gets over 500 unique visitors a month, so you can get exposure to more people who are interested in highlands. There is no cost to you, so why not give it a try? Send your advertisement and any photos to classified@nchca.org.



OCTOBER Hoofbeat Newsletter

The deadline for our next issue will be **September 15, 2019**. 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.

Kay Clemans | clemansk@yahoo.com | 630.460.3375

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

Creachann Gleann



Registered Highland Cattle

Ben and Mary Schmitke
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Win a NCHCA Hat!

1. Visit NCHCA.org
2. Answer the following question:

Who are the three member farms represented on the “Highland” Section of the website, NCHCA.org?

All correct answers submitted by August 15th, 2019 will be entered to win a NCHCA Hat. **Submit answers to: Website@nchca.org.**



Member Benefits...Farm Profiles

Many associations have websites to provide information for their members. Did you realize they also exist to provide information to non-members looking for Highland Cattle or more information on Highlands? Did you know that as a member you have access to a free resource to help your farm be noticed by people?

As a membership benefit, you can list a farm profile with up to three photos listed for your farm ... for FREE!!! Did you see that?? It is FREE!! What a great deal! You may be amazed at how much people are willing to read when they are searching for information. Interesting fact: of the 77 farms that are listed, only 20 of them are making use of the free profile; that is less than one-third of our membership.

How can you post your profile? If you click on MEMBERSHIP at the top of the web page, you will be brought to a page on the benefits of membership in the association. I recommend you read through this page, but if you go to #3 and click on PROFILE, it will bring you to a page where you can upload your profile. There are lots of options ... add a map, social media, photos. Check it out!!

Now, you may be wondering what you would write for a profile. I recommend that you check out what others have posted, for a start. Then, think about your farm. What do you consider your “thing”? What makes you different? Is it how you raise your animals? Is it why you raise your animals? Is it the products you offer? Is it the location? People want to know your story. Tell it to them! It doesn’t matter if you have two animals or 200. People are interested and may contact you for more information. We have highlands because we have a passion for the breed. Share that with others!

A red promotional banner for the "Shoot the Bull" event. The text is white and yellow. It includes the date "September 28, 2019", the time "4:00pm – 6:00pm", and the location "WORLD BEEF EXPO TRADE SHOW AREA". It also includes a description of the event and a call to action for RSVP.

Save the Date

Shoot the Bull

SOCIAL & RAFFLE CRAWL

September 28, 2019 | 4:00pm – 6:00pm | WORLD BEEF EXPO TRADE SHOW AREA

The Wisconsin Angus Auxiliary cordially invites you to “Shoot the Bull” with women of all BEEF BREEDS. We’ll provide spirits, enticing desserts, raffle crawl and “People’s Choice Awards”.

~ RSVP to Jan at FTAcres@yahoo.com or 262-539-3257 by August 7 ~



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.

Calendar of Events

A photograph of a farm scene. In the foreground, a field of green grass is filled with several Highland cattle of various colors, including brown, black, and white. In the background, there is a large red barn with a white roof, a tall metal silo, and a white house. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Minnesota State Fair - August 22 - September 2
NCHCA Show - September 21