

THE CORRAL

WINTER 2024

WWW.AMERICANBEEFALOASSOCIATION.COM



ELECTION 24

- CANDIDATE BIOS
- ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS
- BALLOT
- REGISTRY UPDATE

ANNUAL MEETING

OUR ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024. WE WILL BE IN THE BEAUTIFUL MEETING ROOM OF THE GASTOF AMISH VILLAGE RESTAURANT AND INN IN MONTGOMERY INDIANA. PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BUFFET TYPE MEAL WITH A FUN AUCTION AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING. COME PREPARED TO ENJOY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND BEEFALO! GET YOUR TICKETS THROUGH OUR WEBSITE AND BOOK YOUR ROOM TODAY!



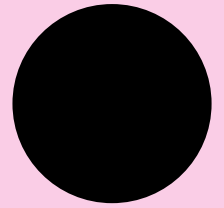
SPRING SHOW & SALE

OUR SPRING SHOW AND SALE IS FAST APPROACHING AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR SHOW SPONSORS AS WELL AS ENTRIES. OUR SHOW AND SALE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS THIS YEAR! WE WILL HAVE STALLING OPTIONS, WASH RACK, AND AN EAT STAND MANNED BY LOCAL 4-HERS! GET YOUR ENTRIES IN TODAY, WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL!



REGISTRAR *update*

operations.americanbeefalo@gmail.com



Postage Update

Once work is recieved in our Operations Office, expect a 10-14 day turn around on NON-DNA work. Postage is typically done on Saturdays. the USPS is taking 3-5 days from date of posting.

UC Davis Update

Please check your email for the communication from VGL support for your testing kit. If you do not have access to a printer please annotate that on your application. You can print your kit from your email and send the hair sample. We are not responsible for sending the hair sample to UC Davis at the Operations, Registry, or Office level.



Reminders

Please remember to include all important information on applications!



2024 Board of Directors Ballot

CHOOSE THREE PLEASE

☐

David Ernst(IL)

☐

Leonard Muehr(Texas)

☐

Mark Borgman(MO)

☐

Write In Candidate

Ranch or Member Name:_____

Member Number:_____(include the letter)

Address:_____ **City:**_____

State:_____ **Zip:**_____

Phone:_____

Mail to Operations:

14481 Millersburg Rd. SW, Navarre OH 44662

NO BALLOTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER

4/04/2024

candidate bios

Leonard "Leo"
Muehr



Hello fellow Beefalo Breeders! My name is Leonard (Leo) Muehr. I am married to my lovely wife Priya Muehr, and we have 5 daughters (Pazia, Solana, Zorina, Hikari, and Lenci). We live in Texas, where we raise our Beefalo with my dad and brothers. As a family we have over one hundred head of registered Beefalo. My daughter is raising one of our Beefalo steers and will show him in our local fair this year.

I have been around Beefalo almost all of my life. I finally got serious about raising and registering my herd in 2005 when I bought my first Purebred bull and joined at the time of the ABWR. Since then all of the beefalo associations have merged into the American Beefalo Association. I retired from the US Army in 2014 and have been very active in trying to promote and grow the association. I made the drive to the Kentucky Beef Expo in 2016 because I wanted to get more involved. I was elected to the ABA Board in 2018 and have served on the board ever since. I served as Vice President for two years and then the President for two years. A lot of changes and improvements have happened over that time. I feel there is still more to do. I have a vision to one day see Beefalo offered at all grocery stores and on all restaurant menus throughout the United States. To get that done I am pushing to get an updated meat study and have it done on a regular basis so that we have something to stand behind. I am also working with an individual in Ireland that wants to get started with Beefalo in Europe. I also feel we can continue to improve our website and our social media presence. There are so many other opportunities out there to promote our breed, we just need to look. I truly believe Beefalo can be as common as Angus, there isn't a reason why it can't be. We must work together as an organization and quit looking for flaws in each other. I believe in teamwork and working together to help each other. I would appreciate your support in upcoming election for another three year term. Thank you in advance.

Mark Borgman



My name is Mark Borgman, I am 62 years old. I have traveled around the world and found the love of my life, my wife, Diane, right back here in Saline County, Missouri! We have four children, five grandchildren, and planning on more. Other than the twelve years I spent in the United States Marine Corps, I have lived in the country my entire life. Even though I consider myself a country boy, I had never had any cattle. I decided about five years ago it was time to change that and started doing research on what kind of cattle I wanted to raise and how. I was interested in doing something other than the traditional cow/calf, buy and sell at the sale barn kind of operation. I became interested in grassfed/grass-finished operations and regenerative farming and the benefits of both of those types of operations. I studied many different breeds such as South Poll, and Red Devon, I then came across Beefalo. After learning about the history, the hardiness, and the many health benefits that Beefalo offers, I was intrigued. I saw the marketable aspect of offering a grassfed/grass-finished product with the heritage of the American Bison. We currently sell our Beefalo through a Farmer's market and custom orders.

I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors for the American Beefalo Association because I believe in Beefalo, and I believe there is a lot of potential growth for the breed. I founded the American Beefalo Facebook group and serve as an administrator for the group. I was also recently elected as the President of the Mid-America Beefalo Association. I know I will never have the knowledge of cattle production or experience that many current and former board members have but, I hope to be able to bring new ideas to help promote the breed and increase awareness of it.

Thank you for your consideration of me as a potential ABA Board member.

Sincerely, Mark Borgman

candidate bios

continued...



David Ernst

David Ernst, co-owner of Ernst Family Farms in New Douglas, IL, is the third generation operating his family's farm. David and his wife Whitney, have two daughters, Aynslie (12), and August (9), who all contribute to the farm. The farm raises corn, soybeans, hay, cattle, and hogs. Originally starting out as a dairy farm by his grandfather in 1945, it continued as a dairy farm by his father until 1996, when dairy cattle were sold and replaced with beef cattle. When his father passed, David took over the farm in 2006 and continued with cattle as the main focus. They keep around 40 head of cows, precondition and background feeder calves, as well as fatten some for direct to consumer sales and meat.

In 2015, David and Whitney became licensed through the state to sell meat from our animals to sell directly to customers in the metro east area of St. Louis. Under the brand name Ernst Family Farms, they sell to different farmers markets, and a storefront at their home. In 2017, after hours of research, they bought their first Beefalo as a way to offer something different from other meat vendors. The Beefalo herd started with three heifers and a handful of steers. The rich flavor, combined with the added health benefits, have really helped market the meat. Since then, David and Whitney have added Beefalo bulls and building their herd as well as processing the steers to grow their customers for the great meat. From a production standpoint, David really likes the Beefalo traits. He likes that Beefalo can thrive in any environment, under any condition, and throw small calves that are hardy on day one. This is ideal for their farm since David has really been focusing on Regenerative farming in the last several years. Adapting practices like no-till, cover crops, and intensive grazing livestock across pasture and cropland have really added to his soil's health. Beefalo, being low maintenance and easy keepers, are great asset in this system.

Beefalo play a major part for David and Ernst Family Farms. They are ideal for the regenerative farming system and creating a specialty meat fan base. Customers often ask to come out and tour the their farm and will leave with a gained respect and knowledge for what the Ernst family does. Ernst Family Farms has provided tours and education for local groups, families, state politicians, and educators. The Ernst family cares about their animals, their family farm, and making sure consumers have the knowledge of their food.