

THE CORRAL

WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE WORLD OF BEEFALO



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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY: LEONARD MUEHR

Hello Fellow Beefalo Breeders!

I am Leo Muehr your newly elected American Beefalo Association President. I am married to my lovely bride, Priya, and we have four girls, Pazia, Solana, Zorina, and Hikari. I have raised cattle all my life, starting with my father on and off from the late 70s. In 2005 I needed to buy the next bull because I owned most of the cattle. I went to the internet and found a Beefalo bull. Dad was surprised that Beefalo still existed! I retired from the Army in 2014, and started focusing my attention on improving my herd and being more involved with the ABA. I have made the trip (1100 miles one way) bringing my animals to the National Beefalo Show and Sale every year since 2016.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY: LEONARD MUEHR

Continued...

This past year or so has been very challenging. In the middle of 2019, we found out that our Non-Profit status was not being filed as it was supposed to be and our status with the IRS was revoked. This caused some disruption in how our registrations and operations were handled. There still is some contention as to how this was "handled" it has caused some hurt feelings and negative outbursts. And just like in other aspects of your life, Covid-19 also messed with our association. At the 2020 annual meeting held on 5 March in Louisville, Kentucky, the decision was made to update and upgrade our registration and had a very old operating system that could not be upgraded any longer. We mailed the old computer to the software tech upgrading and transferring our data onto the new computer. Due to Covid-19, the new computer ended up on back order for over 5 months, not the 30-40 days max we had anticipated. This past year, we had two board members resign due to differences of opinion or actions by other board members. Due to all the incidents listed above, we are in more of a rebuild status than we would like to be.

HERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS! As of late October, the newly upgraded computer has been returned to the registrar and they are actively working to get registrations caught up. She has been dealing with some medical issues that slow down the process. We have someone keeping the ABA website and the ABS Facebook page current. In my opinion, she is doing a really good job since she never had worked with a webpage before trying to tackle the ABA site has been challenging. We have also sent the needed paperwork to get us back in good standing and reinstate our Non-Profit status. Once we get confirmation of this, we are going to make sure it is done yearly like it should have been before. Things are not perfect but we are doing the best we can to get back to a positive working environment.

If there are members out there who have requested registrations, transfers, or any variety of services and have not been taken care of please feel free to call me directly (282-923-8549) or send me an email(rockincamelranch@gmail.com). My information is also listed with the Board of Directors' information on the ABA website. I truly want to hear from you and do everything I can to help correct our short comings and improve our services. You, the members of our association, are what makes our breed what it is and will be. I want to help bridge the gap that has been caused over the years and improve the relationship between our members and the board.

MY GOALS FOR THE ABA:

CONTINUALLY IMPROVE
COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS.
UPDATED CONTACTS ON 1-800-
BEEFALO

PRINT THE CORRAL QUARTERLY WITH
THE HOPE OF MONTHLY (AND HAVE
ENOUGH ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS TO
DO SO) RIGHT NOW IT IS QUITE
EXPENSIVE TO PRINT AND WE
WOULD LIKE MORE AFFORDABLE
WAYS TO HAVE THEM PRINTED AND
SENT OUT. AS MEMBERS WE WOULD
LIKE YOU TO SIGN UP TO RECIEVE IT
VIA EMAIL.

ENCOURAGE MORE ACTIVITY ON OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE. WE WILL BE
TAKING POST SUBMISSIONS FOR
NEWS WORTHY POSTS.

AND OUR LAST GOAL IS TO GET AN
UPDATED NUTRITIONAL STUDY DONE
ON VARIOUS PERCENTAGES, TO
CONFIRM WHAT WE HAVE BEEN
ADVERTISING.



Board Member

Spotlight: John Fowler

Fowler Beefalo is made up of John and Karen Fowler.

The Fowlers were introduced to Beefalo at a presentation at the La Monte, Missouri school gym. Mr. Fowler's father won some semen and bought more and with the help of a local vet they had Beefalo on the ground in 1969. Using the vet for AI got to be too expensive and they were able to buy a bull for the man the semen came from. He was a 15/16th. In the early 1970s a full blood was very rare. While visiting family in Iowa Mr. Fowler's father heard of a Beefalo breeder in Iowa, Don Grim. Mr. Fowler's father ended up buying a full blood bull and some cows from him. He, then learned of the ABA . Back then, before computers, word of mouth was all they had.

Mr. Fowler has had the privilege to serve on several boards, I was first elected president of the newly formed American Beefalo International (a merger of IBF and ABA). During this time with the help of MO breeders and Larry Hacker we formed the MO Beefalo Association, which is now MABA. The MBA had animals on display at the Missouri state fair for 14 years.

The Corral

BEEFALO STORIES

from: John Fowler

I was working over at Dad's when Karen called and told me my dispay bull, Mellow Yellow, was in the pasture fighting another bull. Both of these bulls weighed a ton. I came home got Mellow Yellow haltered and put him back in the barn. I went back and finished my projects with dad and then went home. I went to check out Mellow Yellow, and sweat was running down his sides like a waterfall. The temperature was below freezing so a blow dryer was worthless. Karen and I put him in front of a propane heater to get him dry. She asked after the other bull, it was dark but we were able to find him. The bull was laying against a hay bale and cows were gathered around him. The next morning the, he had a small stripe of frost on his back, how did they know what to do?



THE HORNED COW

by: John Fowler

When I came home from work, dad had called and told Karen there were two new calves to weigh and tag. I hooked up the scale and off to the pasture I went. As I weighed and tagged the first calf the mamas ran off over the hill. When I got to the second calf the mamas came running back, with the only cow we had with horns in the lead! That was the fastest ear tagging and weighing I ever did! How did she know to get the horned cow?



THE SPRING BEEFALO SHOWCASE & SALE

by: Dan Stricker



What a pleasure it was for Hidden Trace Farm to host the 2021 Spring National Beefalo Showcase! As a member of our Board of Directors, I offered up the farm in a board meeting last fall as a fail safe against the potential of the Louisville Beef Expo being cancelled and after weeks of deliberation we, as a board, decided to go with this option. During this time, Brian Miller had placed multiple phone calls to the Louisville Beef Expo in an attempt to see whether they knew anything regarding the event potentially being cancelled, but, unfortunately, they never returned his calls. We then observed other similar events being cancelled and added the fact that the Kentucky Governor and Louisville Mayor likely had a higher propensity to cancel events like this, so we hedged our bets and decided to take complete control of our show and sale!

The motivation that I had in offering up the farm is an extension of Amy's generosity as far as bringing communities together and allowing these communities to use the farm to forward their mission. As a father of three young children, I had grown sick tired of things that they were looking forward to, being canceled by over reaching arms of governments, and I really wanted for all of our 4H kids and FFA kids to be able to experience the show and the sale in a safe environment, all while being able to show off all of their hard work! Perhaps the biggest "worth it" moment for me was watching these kids and the smiles on their faces as the judge positioned them around the ring, critiquing their animals and complementing their stewardship.

The banquet and annual meeting inside the barn went off without a hitch on Friday night and all seem to be going as planned. There were a few new faces present as well as excellent barbecue from Jim and Nick's. Saturday, however, had a couple curveballs for me to hit! We knew that there was a chance of rain for the day but we were not too concerned as the show and sale was primarily under a covered pavilion. There were some severe pop-up thunderstorms around the farm during the day but nothing more than a typical shower for us on Saturday. Unfortunately, the caterer of the event saw these severe pop-up thunderstorms and decided to cancel last minute on us. With the help of friends coming in and volunteering to make beefalo burgers for everyone, we managed to escape that potential disaster just fine. A quick note: Amy's secret ingredient for her beefalo burgers is cracking one egg for every two pounds of burgers being made.





It was after lunch that I received a notification from the Tennessee Army Corps of Engineers with an alert that the Harpeth River would flood overnight. For those who did not attend the sale, the Harpeth River sits at the bottom of Lawrence Rd., and is the only road to the farm. Ordinarily, this would not have been a big deal but several breeders were planning on staying at the farm overnight, so we had to hustle to get everybody out safely with their animals and moved them elsewhere for the night. Without hesitation, I observed breeder after breeder helping each other out and together we got the job done quickly. Wow, this community is so impressive, especially if we are all in it together!

Some of the positive feedback I received was that the overall atmosphere at the farm was very laid-back and relaxing and parents did not have to worry about their children wandering off. Also, since we were not subject to anybody else's schedule, we were able to create some flexibility which seemed to bring the stress level down of those showing animals. Some more positives was also the fact that we were not subject to a minimum number of animals being brought to the show and we even brought non-show animals, or field animals, and sold them right out of the pens! And even better, was that some of these animals were sold to new breeders who joined the ABA!

In closing, I would be happy to host a Beefalo show or sale at Hidden Trace Farm again. As a matter of fact, prior to any pandemic, I was thinking about hosting a sale at my farm, and this experience was kind of like a baptism by fire! Even though I did not travel from Texas, Michigan or any other far away state and nor did I have to pay for gas, airfare, or hotels, I believe I spent more time and money just preparing for the show and sale than anyone else spent traveling to and from. Although it was more work than I thought, it certainly was a gift to me and Amy that we had the honor to host the American Beefalo Association!



UPDATED 2021

THE INCENTIVE PROGRAM



BY: DAN STRICKER

IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR ANY PART OF THIS PROGRAM, MEMBERS MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING BY HAVING THEIR DUES CURRENT AND PAID.

Part #1- For every 5 animals registered, receive a \$25 credit.

- CANNOT be refunded in cash.
- Credits expire **DECEMBER 31, 2022**
- Retroactively begins on January 1st, 2021 and ends on December 31, 2021.
- Meat tag registrations **DO NOT** apply to animal registrations.
- Credits can be applied towards Dues, Registrations, Meat Tags, or Advertising.

Part #2- Refer a **NEW** Lifetime Member in 2021 (retroactively begins January 1st, 2021)

- 1st referral earns member \$25 for 2022 annual dues.
- 2nd referral earns member 1 free animal ad on ABA website.
- For each additional referral earns member Free Breeder *OR* Meat Producer ad on ABA website.
- Member name must be listed on application in order to be properly credited
- Expires **DECEMBER 31ST, 2021**

Part #3- For every 9 Meat tags purchased, receive the 10th one free.

- Retroactively begins January 1, 2021. and ends December 31st, 2021.

*American Beefalo Association
Board of Directors*

Advertising with the ABA

Begin by heading to the website:

www.americanbeefaloassociation.com

Option 1- Livestock Producer- \$25 annually

Option 2- Meat Producer-\$25 annually

Individual Animal Ad- \$40 quarterly/animal

Featured Farm Ad-\$25 per farm/\$100 annually

Semen Advertisement-\$40/quarter per ad

Commercial Advertisement-\$100/ad per quarter

To sign up follow the prompts on the website or email

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