

THE CORRAL

The latest news and updates from the world of Beefalo



A letter from the President

IN THIS ISSUE

**BREEDER SPOTLIGHT:
DOUG COULON**

**INCENTIVE PROGRAM
HIGHLIGHTS**

MY STORY

BY: LEO MUEHR

**RECIPE FOR CHIPOTLE
BEEFALO & STUFFED
SHELLS**

by: *Brian Miller*

Hello Everyone! This year has been so crazy from right after we left the Kentucky Beef Expo to now its been so hard to keep up with so many changes! In our family alone we went from being at school all day everyday to doing Distance Learning from home and only going out when we needed groceries! We as a board of Directors have had our own beasts to tackle in that we as an organization voted to purchase a new computer and printer for our Registration Person, little did we all know that the need for technology for everyone working from home with school and their jobs would create a problem with getting the machinery that we needed in a timely manner.

continued page 2



Breeder Spotlight: Doug Coulon

By: Dan Stricker

Doug Coulon, along with his parents, have raised Beefalo on their Delores, Colorado ranch since the mid 80's and currently run approximately 60 head in their cow/calf operation. Doug is happy with the results of his herd too, particularly as it pertains to how they fair in comparison to another breed on his ranch, Angus. Doug states that he has been raising both breeds side by side for years as he breeds up or down his Beefalo. He uses three bulls on his operation. He describes both breeds to be comparable and that the weaning weights are about the same, but the Beefalo are born smaller and with less problems and are definitely more vibrant compared to Angus.

One challenge that Doug faces is finding good bulls near him as he often has to make 9-12 hour trips into Oklahoma or Texas to find what he's looking for. One main reason for this is the lack of other ABA members close to his ranch. Upon diving into this issue a little deeper we agreed that Doug is able to recruit new members who often buy his bull or heifer calves. then he would have closer options in his proximity. New members and increased registrations and transfers are the life blood of the ABA. We all know that the Beefalo breed is the best breed but as members, we all need to do our part in selling ABA in addition to the animals we sell.

continued from page 1

With the high demand of computers and printers our needs were added to list with everyone else, in what seemed to be the WORLD! This affected us by putting a definite delay on registrations, transfers, and testing. We sincerely apologize for the delay and are looking forward to more efficient times! I am happy to report the new system is up and running and our Registrar is working hard to catch up. We definitely appreciate the grace we have received throughout this process. Our board is diligently working to continually improve. Please reach out to one of us with questions or concerns and we will try our hardest to get that taken care of for you!





Doug is looking forward to taking advantage of the incentive program to get more of his herd registered. He understands by doing so, he will be more able to recruit members as he sells registered animals which can easily be transferred. And, it just so happens that Doug's first recruit may be his niece who has recently expressed an interest in a couple heifers.

In the future, Doug will continue to carefully select his replacement heifers based, on how they perform in his high-altitude climate. He is also motivated to start his AI program to diversify his herd.

In closing, I would like the members to know that the board members are here for you. Please let us know how we can most effectively help you! And in turn, please hear from this board member, that the best way you can help the ABA is to register your animals and recruit new members. The revenue the ABA collects from this goes directly back into growing our breed and providing extra services to all members and/or purchasing new equipment allowing for better customer service. So let's take advantage of the incentive program and make our very talented registrar, Marcia Kropf, really busy!

The ABA is set up nicely for rapid growth with the completion of a state of the art computer system, and a newly created incentive program! First, and a big THANK YOU to Andrew Hammer for his work in delivering the computer software upgrades and to Brian Miller who worked extra to oversee the progress. Another Thank You to board members, Lytton Bastian and Jeff Hawk, who along with myself, created and presented the incentive program, which passed unanimously. Please see the other article highlighting the Incentive Program.





OCTOBER 2020

CHIPOTLE BEEFALO & STUFFED SHELLS

From the kitchen of Penny Knuckles



Ingredients:

16 JUMBO PASTA SHELLS
1 3/4 CUP MARINARA SAUCE
2 T. CHIPOTLE IN ADOBO
1 T OLIVE OIL
1 MEDIUM TO LARGE ONION
3/4 LB GROUND BEEFALO
1 CAN PETITE DICED
TOMATOES WITH GREEN
CHILES(SPICY AS YOU LIKE)
1 TSP. GROUND CUMIN
1/4 TSP GROUND
CINNAMON
1 C CHOPPED FRESH
CILANTRO
1/2 C GRATED SHARP
CHEDDER CHEESE
2 T. FRESH LIME JUICE

COOKING DIRECTIONS:

1. Heat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Cook jumbo shells according to package directions. Drain and rinse under cool water.
3. Combine marinara sauce with chipotle in adobo and spread on the bottom of a large broiler-proof baking dish.
4. Heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Saute' onion until very tender, 10-12 minutes. Stir in garlic and cook for 1 minute. Increase heat to medium-high, add beefalo and cook, breaking it up with a spoon, until browned, 3 to 4 minutes. Stir in petite dices tomatoes with green chiles, ground cumin, and ground cinnamon and cook for 3 minutes. Remove from heat and fold in fresh cilantro and grated sharp Cheddar.
5. Spoon the mixture into the shells (about 1/4 cup each) and place on top of the sauce. Sprinkle with graded sharp Cheddar. Cover with foil and bake until shells are heated through, 12-15 minutes.
6. Heat broiler. Uncover, and broil until the cheese begins to brown, 2-3 minutes. Squeeze fresh lime juice over shells; serve with chopped cilantro and lime wedges, if desired.

The ABA now offers 6 advertising options that have big rewards!

—We have seen an influx in inquiries so we encourage you to take advantage—

■ BASIC ADVERTISING

The ABA receives outside inquiries from possible new customers inquiring on where they can purchase Beefalo Livestock and USDA packaged Beefalo meat local to them. Signing up for Basic Advertising will allow us to directly link your product to the customer on a more local level thus increasing your longterm sales relationships.

■ Option 1 - Beefalo Livestock - \$25 annually

■ Option 2 - USDA Beefalo Meat - \$25 annually

■ LIVESTOCK ADVERTISING - \$40 per animal, per quarter

■ FEATURED FARM ADVERTISING - \$25 per farm, per quarter

■ SEMEN ADVERTISING - \$40 per advertisement, per quarter

■ COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING - \$100 per advertisement, per quarter

For additional details and explanation on each advertising option or HOW TO SIGN UP: Please visit: www.AmericanBeefaloAssociation.com/advertising-options

13 Cows & 3 Purple Camels

by: Leo Muehr

Hello All,

My name is Leonard (Leo) Muehr. I was born and raised in Texas. I am currently the Vice President of the American Beefalo Association. Here is just a little about me and my thoughts.

When I was born my grandparents gave me a heifer calf. I was allowed to keep the heifers calves for cows, but the bull calves were sold for pasture rent. So, I have had cows since the day I was born. I have always dreamed of owning several hundred head of cows and doing that full time. God has a way of changing your plans. I am still working toward having a large Beefalo operation, but it has not fully matured yet. Anyone who has ever known me, will tell you that when talking to me the conversation will eventually end up talking about cows. Now that I am more involved with Beefalo, the conversation will quickly go to Beefalo and the nutritional value they provide. Someone is always asking me about my Beefalo. Mostly because it is different and I don't think they truly understand it, no matter how matter how many different ways I try to explain it. They think I own buffalo and when I tell them I don't, they ask how I got my Beefalo. I then explain that it is an established breed just like any other.

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My dad LA Muehr, heard about Beefalo and went to California to see Bud Basolo's cross breeding operation. He liked what he saw and bought several ampules of semen of Basolo's bulls. He started AI'ing his crossbred cows. He then joined the World Beefalo Registry and got involved with the Texas-Oklahoma Beefalo Association. I was very young then. I would watch our cows at home and let him know when there were cows ready for artificial insemination. Then things kinda fell away and we stopped AI'ing our cows. I did not know what happened. We later bought some registered cows and I even showed a few of the heifers at our county fair. No one knew what they were and they didn't do well against the Exotic breeds everyone else showed but I really like my Beefalo heifers. We have had several breeds of bulls, but at least one of them was always a Beefalo. My grandpa even bought some from time to time.

When I joined the Army in 1992 I thought I would only stay in for 4 years, get out, and go to Veterinary School. I always wanted to and still would like to be a Veterinarian, but with cows being my specialty. Well I ended up staying in the Army for 22 years! I retired in 2014. I met my wife, Priya while I was stationed in Germany, my mother-in-law told her friends that whoever married her daughter would have to give her 13 cows and 3 purple camels. Well I owned exactly 13 cows but purple camels were a different story! I started carving camels out of wood, and making camels out of coat hangers, and clay. When I went to ask Priya's parents for permission to marry their daughter, I presented them with about 7 different purple camels. My mother-in-law loved them! She picked out three. One of the camels caused me to get seven stitches on my ring finger. I was carving a piece of Cedar from my parent's place, and wanted to use the center heart, which is very hard, the knife slipped and sliced my finger open pretty good! Of course that was the first one she picked! We got married in 2002 in Germany, my whole family made it to the wedding. We have four daughters, Pazia, Solana, Zorina, and Hikari. yes those are unique names, we wanted our children to have very special and not common names.

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When I took over most of the cows in 2005, I needed a new bull and Dad wasn't sure we could find a new Beefalo bull, the person where the last had come from had since passed. And as far as he knew there weren't any other breeders in the area. I decided to go to the internet and found the Beefalo website, and started calling people. I found Larry Hacker, drove 9 hours and picked up a Purebred bull and Dad ended up buying a Full Blood bull. I joined the ABWR and started breeding my crossbred cows with a Registered Beefalo bull, none of my cows were registered. I started registering my heifers and worked toward Purebred status. Since I was still in the Army it was hard to keep up with. When I met Larry Hacker he stated there was more than one organization and he hoped they would merge to have a stronger influence on the cattle market.

He understood the importance of working together as a team. He told me then the down-fall of the Beefalo breeders was that everyone has their own opinion and could not agree on what Beefalo should be. Some only want to register animals that have Bison markers and that Full bloods should not be registered as such, if they don't have Bison markers. He mentioned several different problems, that at the time I didn't fully grasp, now that I'm a board member and more active in the breed I see what he was saying. Everyone wants the others to run their programs like they do if that doesn't happen they try to discredit them. This is a hard concept for me because in the Army we were taught and it was understood coming together for the common good was the best, lots of different backgrounds, all together, and that was the goal. If the Beefalo Breed is going to grow and improve it will take all types of breeders. Folks who raise half-bloods, full bloods, and Purebreds. I think that its funny to hear someone complaining because another breeder is selling a half blood Bull as breeding stock, that same complainer is also the same person who is selling purebred and full bloods to folks who don't register the offspring or don't join the association. What's the difference? Who is to say that the person who starts out with a half blood bull likes what he sees and joins the organization and starts increasing the Beefalo percentage in his herd and registering the offspring.

My plan when I was elected to the ABA Board was to improve the the communication between the members and the Board, to shorten the registration process, and grow the social media presence. I also wanted to take back control of our website and make it more user friendly. I know there are some members who don't use the internet or social media, my dad being one of them. I believe that social media is the new way to market and promote our breed. Several years ago showing animals was the number one way to promote the breed, now people are going online and doing a Google search for Beefalo. In order to move forward we need to embrace this. I want to see the Nutritional Value of Beefalo advertised, still as healthy today as when we started, I would love for folks to be able to go to the USDA website and find Beefalo with accurate data listed there. I would like to see our Beefalo in stores and using local breeders to stock their coolers. This could in turn lead to local breeders possibly meeting the needs for the local meat industry and hopefully growing the breed by recruiting new ranchers to raise Beefalo. Breeders should want to come up with new bloodlines and we could work to develop testing to see how much Bison content there is in our animals. I want to work to have Beefalo recognized and be a respected breed, making us a sought after in the industry. This would take all breeders working together and respecting each others' differences.



We should try to work together for the growth and betterment of the our organization and breed, otherwise we will never see growth either way. I think we can all contribute the 13 cows but we have to look harder for the purple camels to make this relationship work. What are you assets; your purple camels, you bring to the organization? You see each of us brings something good to the breed, its only when we give a little of ourselves, in my case almost cutting my finger off, do we get rewarded with the good stuff, for me it was my wife, for us as an association its a renewal of the Breed. Let's work together and showcase more than 13 cows, let's get them all in the ring and lets definitely work on bringing our all the purple camels we have to make this organization strong and long lasting.

THE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Presented by Board Members: Dan Stricker, Lytton Bastian, & Jeff Hawk



THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL INCLUDES PARTS THAT IN ORDER FOR A MEMBER TO QUALIFY THEY MUST:

BE IN GOOD STANDING(DUES PAID AND CURRENT)

Part 1: [For every 5 animals registered, receive a \\$25 credit](#)

- a. Cannot be refunded in cash.
- b. Credits expire December 31st, 2021
- c. Retroactively begins on January 1, 2020 and ends December 31,2021.
- d. Credits can be applied toward Dues, Registrations, Meat Tags, or Advertising.

Part 2: [Refer a new Lifetime Member in 2020\(retroactively begins January 1, 2020\)](#)

- a. 1st referral earns member **\$25 for 2021 annual dues.**
- b. 2nd referral earns member **1 free animal ad on the ABA website.**
- c. Each additional referral earns the member a **free breeder or Meat Producer ad on the ABA website.**
- d. **Expires December 31, 2020**

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Incentive Program Continued...

Part 3: [Random Farm drawing each month](#)

- a. The BOD will use a Random Number Generator that chooses a number between 1 and number of Active members.
- b. Chosen farm will be called by a Board Member and have two options:
 1. **Receive 1 month free advertising as Featured Farm by either linking their website or file of pictures from their farm.**
 2. **Receive an article in the The Corral written by a board member or Operations Manager.**
- c. **Board Members are excluded.**
- d. **Expires December 31, 2020**

American Beefalo Association Board of Directors

President: [Brian Miller \(Ohio\)](#)

(330)495-9978

redturbo1066@yahoo.com

Vice President: [Leo Muehr \(Texas\)](#)

(281)923-8549

RockinCamelRanch@gmail.com

Treasurer: [David McCoy\(Missouri\)](#)

(660)347-5448

4MFarms@socket.net

Board Member: [Dan Stricker\(Tennessee\)](#)

(615)294-8585

Secretary: [Lytton Bastian\(Idaho\)](#)

(208)251-1992

Board Member: [Penny Knuckles\(Arkansas\)](#)

(979)481-0243

Board Member: [Bret Green\(Michigan\)](#)

GreensMMBeefalo@yahoo.com

Operations: Operations.AmericanBeefalo@gmail.com



Mark Your Calendars

What you can look forward to in the Beefalo World

Spring Beefalo Showcase

With the current climate of larger shows being cancelled the Board of Directors has discussed and voted on having our national show that is typically held in Louisville, Kentucky, at a private farm outside of Nashville, Tennessee. There will be the annual meeting with the election of directors as well. This event will include a show and sale. We look forward to seeing everyone and having some fellowship. More information will be in the Winter Edition of the Corral.

December 2020

Winter Edition of the *The Corral*

- To include Bios of Board Nominees

January 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

April 2020

Spring Beefalo Showcase

-Located in Tennessee (more details in the Winter Corral)

Annual Membership Meeting

-To be held at the Showcase and includes the Election of Directors