

HIGHLANDS OF THE HEARTLAND

Spring 2009
Issue 1



Heartland Highland Cattle Association, 976 State Highway 65, Tunas, MO 65764
<http://www.heartlandhighlandcattleassociation.org/> 417.345.0575

Hello from the HHCA President

By David Embury

I'd like to thank everyone who came to Branson, MO, for the annual HHCA meeting on 7 March 2009.

This year we had a speaker from H&R Block on farm taxes. This presentation turned out to be very interesting and many questions were asked on a variety of subjects. The time went fast and many questions didn't get asked and answered due to our time constraints. It was voted to bring the H&R Block representative to the 2010 meeting so the unasked questions can be answered.

There were many ideas for fundraisers, calendars of HHCA member's farms/Highland cattle, a Lee Wolfgang fund in his honor to help kids starting in Highland cattle, a steak cook off, meat donations, taking pictures of kids and families with Highland cattle.

One thing I'd like to touch on is the passion that the HHCA members have, not only for their Highlands, but for each member. It seems every time you meet a new member, there are hugs, hand shakes, pictures shared of their Highlands, and stories about their cattle. It makes a new member feel like they are among family right from the beginning.

Dear HHCA Members: A Sincere, Heartfelt "Thank You"

By Gloria Asmussen

Words will never express the wonderful feeling I have towards all the HHCA members. Your love, compassion, kindness and generosity during the loss of my husband, Lee Wolfgang, will never be forgotten. The outpouring of support from the Highland family at his Memorial and afterwards was overwhelming. I could truly see Lee was loved and respected by all.

It was very emotional for me to attend the HHCA annual meeting, but again, everyone showed their support and kindness. I was so honored when the membership, Board of Directors, and Officers spoke about Lee as the Founder of the Association. The

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At the 2008 HHCA annual meeting it was voted to accept donations to pay for our Regional Director to attend the yearly AHCA convention. The convention this year is in Bozeman, MT, and the registration is \$160. I want to remind everyone to donate if you can and to thank those who have already made a donation. When the Regional Director attends the annual convention, he is representing us as a group. He is our voice. If we donate the cost of one takeout meal, it will help and be greatly appreciated. We voted for this representation, now let's do it—please show your support for our voice. Thank you!

presentation of the engraved crystal vase in honor of the founder of the HHCA was greatly appreciated. I wish Lee could have been alive to receive this presentation himself; as co-founder, I truly appreciate the honor.

I know in my heart that the HHCA will continue to grow and be a very sound networking regional Highland association. The leaders we have in the association will go forward with new ideas and promotions. Lee's legacy, of promoting and educating people about the Highland breed, will carry on.

Thank you all, Gloria

Lyons College Scottish Festival

By Gloria Asmussen

Red Willow Ranch was invited to the Lyons College Scottish Festival at Batesville, AR, on April 18.

Returning to the festival after four years was very exciting. Even with a rainy start in the morning, people came to see the Highland heifer and bull on display and thanked us for bringing them. From all the questions about the breed, we found that there is a lot of interest in Highland cattle in Arkansas.

Our appreciation goes to Greg Roberts, who helped with the display by talking to all the people. This event opened up another avenue of new, interested breeders.



Respiratory Problems?

By Gary Diguseppe, OFN

When it comes to Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex, it's important to use all the weapons at our disposal, because the bugs have got you outnumbered.

"There are four different viruses—IBR, BVD, P13 and BRSV—that cause problems with respiratory disease in cattle," Dr. Jeremy Powell, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Veterinarian and Professor of Animal Science, said. "And then, there are about five different bacteria."

Calves are susceptible when environmental stress—weather or recent handling, for instance—lowers their natural defenses; this creates an opening for a viral infection that can eventually lead to bacterial pneumonia, which Powell said, "can cause some real severe issues, and even death in calves."

The clinical signs are generalized to start with. Powell said among them are lethargy, weakness and poor appetite; that's accompanied by a fever of 104 degrees or greater, and an increased respiratory rate. "And you'll also see a depressed appearance to the animal," he said. "They'll have a lowered head and ears; they may be showing some nasal discharge or 'snotty nose,' and some soft coughing may be apparent, too."

Don't be surprised if you can't detect the problem at first glance. "Cattle for the most part are very good at hiding physical signs of illness," said Powell. "Because

they are a herd animal, and do not want to stand out from the other cattle, they've evolved to hide symptoms of illness. Sometimes disease has progressed two or three days before we start to see some of these negative symptoms." That means you're already behind schedule as far as treatment.

Powell said that usually involves a prescription antibiotic; he recommended against over-the-counter drugs like penicillin, oxytetracycline or sulfa. "Those drugs are less effective for treating respiratory disease," he said, "and you don't want to make the mistake and think by purchasing those drugs, which are typically less expensive, that you're going to do the animal justice using those medications."

It's best to go ahead and get a prescription product from your veterinarian. At U of A's stocker cattle unit, which often sees calves that are seriously ill, they may use a multiple antibiotic regimen. After the initial treatment, the calf is evaluated over the next 48 hours; Powell said 80-85 percent of the animals respond to the first treatment and is turned back onto pasture. "If they're not better," he said, "we use a treatment regime of two additional antibiotics. They are going to get a second antibiotic injected approximately 48-72 hours after the first one, depending on the time frame based on the indications on the label of the first antibiotic that

Please see *Respiratory Problems?* on page 5

Round Hay Bale Storage

By Ray Bisek

Plan Now: The best ways to stack wrap, store and preserve your round bales next hay season.

Although round baleage is becoming a popular method of harvesting and storing forages for dairy and beef producers, dry round bales is still a common method of handling and store dry forages. Improperly stored round bales can result in substantial losses for the producer. Outside, uncovered storage of round bales is common. Many times, bales are stored along a fence row. While this method avoids the cost of a storage structure or site preparation, forage losses can be very high. The amount of forage lost during outside storage depends upon several factors, including the duration of storage, precipitation, site drainage, bale density and bale dimensions. Dry matter loss can range from five percent to more than 40 percent. In the Midwest, with storage periods often exceeding several months, forage loss is seldom below 15 percent.

There are rare situations where farmers are better off to “take their losses” than worry about protecting bales. In these cases, stacking bales end-to-end in a north-



south direction, away from trees, and leaving approximately three feet between rows allows enough sunlight and wind movement to keep the bales dry.

A base to keep the bales off of moisture-retaining soil will give the producer an even bigger pay back. Examples of bases include pallets, gravel, rocks and railroad ties. The purpose is to decrease wicking and absorption of moisture by the bale from the soil and also allow drainage after rains or snow melt. Losses only multiply if bales are piled closely together and/or stacked in multiple layers without a cover.

Please see *Round Hay Bale Storage* on page 4

Tartan Day Celebration

By Gloria Asmussen

Perfect weather and setting for the 7th annual Tartan Day Celebration held at Scotland Farms of Louisiana. Dr. Alan and Sharon Cameron hosted the event again this year in Minden, LA on April 4. This year had the largest attendance with new activities and more music performers on the stage. New activities included a booth with Bagpipe instructors. These Pipers showed attendees who were interested how to play the pipes, and there certainly were interested attendees.

Another new activity was the amateur athletic Highland games. All ages tried throwing the caber and sheath. Other activities included the Clan booths, vendor booths, Border Collie herding demonstrations (herding Highland cattle), dog show, marching Bagpipe band, Celtic music on stage, and the famous hay ride through the pastures to see the Highland's grazing, plus additional booths and presentations. The HHCA booth was the center of attention for people

wanting a taste of the Highland beef stick and information on the Highland breed.

Best of all, everyone ate like the Queen of England, as they enjoyed their lunch of Highland Beef burgers. This is a great family event that everyone should try to attend next year.



Round Hay Bale Storage from page 3

In-barn hay storage can drastically reduce storage losses. Due to respiring microorganisms in hay, some losses will inevitably occur, but in-barn storage can reduce losses to about four percent. The total cost for in-barn storage is usually \$18 to \$22 per ton and includes the structure, extra machinery and extra labor. When comparing outside, uncovered storage to in-barn safely. Machinery probably amounts to less than 25 percent of the total storage cost, but it should be considered. Also, additional labor will be needed to transport the hay to the barn, stack it and later remove it. Extra labor probably amounts to less than 15 percent of the total cost for in-barn storage.

Many times, an existing barn can be used to store hay. However, at prices of only \$5 to \$10 per square foot, special structures for storing hay can usually be justified. An enclosed building, or one with an open south-facing wall, will help keep rain and snow out of the storage area. Hay storage structures should have ample height (the structure should leave two or three feet above the bales for stacking room), proper ventilation to avoid moisture buildup and sufficiently strong walls to hold the bale load. Even though it is more difficult, stacking the bales on end is

recommended for indoor storage because the barn walls will not have to withstand the weight of the hay stack. It also makes better use of the total space available.

Group covering of a large stack of round bales is a good alternative to in-barn storage. A heavy tarp can reduce weather damage. Many times bales are stacked in a triangular shape, with three bales forming the triangle base. (The average height of the stack is then two bale lengths.) The tarp used to cover the stack should be about five feet wide for each foot of bale diameter. For example, a 25 foot wide tarp will cover five-foot diameter bales that are stacked three high in a triangular formation.

It is important to prepare the storage site for proper drainage. One to three inch stones laid about four to eight inches deep will work well, as would pallets or old tires. Try to locate the storage on a site with few wind gusts, and make sure the tarp is adequately fastened to the bales. It is probably best to keep the stack ends open for ventilation. Some stakes or small posts may be needed to keep the stack from rolling apart. Losses in a well-constructed group covering will be considerable less than those incurred with outside

Please see *Round Hay Bale Storage* on page 5

Thank You Members

By Debbie Jenkins

We would like to thank everyone in the HHCA who came to the Annual Meeting and also to those who sent kind words of encouragement for Gloria. John and I received some very nice letters. If you were not able to attend the annual meeting, we presented the crystal vase to Gloria and I felt she was very touched. We spent time talking about our stories of Gloria and Lee and we ended up going over on the meeting. It was a very emotional afternoon, to say the least.

During dinner that evening, we were presented with \$100 from a member wishing to set up a memorial fund in Lee's name. John and I added another \$100 and yet another member stated they wish to contribute as well. A committee will be formed to decide how best to handle this fund and set some ground rules.

We also spoke on the traveling award in Lee's honor. This too will require a committee to decide how a

member qualifies and the design of the award itself. We have collected \$115 over and above the costs for the vase and engraving. This will be forwarded to Gloria to put towards the purchase of the traveling award. We have received some information from the National Association with the name of the company they use for their awards.

If anyone would like to contribute, you may send it to Gloria at the Association address. Please be sure to add a note to let her know where you would like the funds to go, traveling award or memorial fund.

We are very proud of our members; you are everything Lee and Gloria had hope for when they started HHCA. Our Association is the fastest growing and our members are the reason. Thank you for all you do and all you have done.

John and Debbie Jenkins, Oz Highland Farm

Respiratory Problems? from page 2

we used. If they're coming along nicely and improving, then they go back to pasture; if they don't, then they get a third and final antibiotic injection at that point." If you don't get an 80-85 % response to that first treatment, said Powell, "then you're probably not identifying the sick cattle early enough, and treating early enough. The faster you get antibiotic therapy into them, the more likely you're going to have successful recovery from the disease."

Powell said it's common to inoculate animals against the complex of respiratory viruses, in fact, IBR and BVD can also cause abortion, so vaccinate mature cows as well. He added, "And we also recommend that you come back and vaccinate your calves at about 3-4 months of age with a respiratory virus, and two types of BVD are contained in the vaccine."

Round Hay Bale Storage from page 4

storage, but they will be higher than in-barn storage losses. Generally, a loss of seven percent is unavoidable. The total cost of a group covering system lies in the neighborhood for \$10 per ton. The covering material accounts for about 25 percent of the cost, the added labor another 25 percent, the machinery 40 percent, and site preparation 10 percent.

Individual wrapping with a bale wrapper can reduce weather losses considerably. It is still important to have excellent drainage at the storage site to avoid water accumulation in the bottom of the bales. If the bales are properly wrapped and the site is well



In addition, if respiratory problems have been a major issue in your operation, you may want to consider vaccinating against Pasteurella bacterin. That's "less common for producers to use," Powell said, "but if you're having problems with the disease, it may be a good idea to put that in your vaccine regimen."

constructed, individual wrapping will result in losses similar to group covering losses. Generally, the cost of bale wrap is higher than the cost of group covering material, but individual wrapping has the convenience of not having to cover many bales at once. What is the best storage option? With several have storage is nearly always better than outside, uncovered storage—even if in-barn storage means building a barn, buying an attachment for handling bales, and hiring someone to do the extra handling. Round bale storage protection to reduce loss will nearly always increase profits.

Newly Elected Officers and Board of Directors

David Embury – President

Tom Thompson – Vice President

Gloria Asmussen – Secretary/Treasurer

Greg Roberts – Board of Director

Jerry Delcour – Board of Director

Alan Cameron – Board of Director

Sondra Simons – Board of Director

Keith Bakeman – Regional Director

Thank you to the past President, John Jenkins, for his years of service as Vice President and President of the HHCA.

Keep your Highland concession stands rolling; the talk and taste of Highland beef will be throughout the United States in no time!

Calendar of Events

<i>When</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Website/Email</i>
30 May (1-4 pm)	Illinois Highland Field Day	Thompson Highland Farm, Pocahtontas, IL	Tom & Theresa Thompson at 618.669.2236	tomteesa55@yahoo.com
12-14 June	KC Scottish Highland Games and Celtic Festival	E.H. Young Park, Riverside, MO		www.kcscottishgames.org
4 July (1-4 pm)	Second Annual Highland Field Day and Picnic	Lightening Ridge Farm, Willow Springs, MO	David & Ruth Embury at 417.469.2411	lighteningridgefarm@socket.net
11 & 12 Sept	7 th Annual Southwest MO Celtic Heritage Festival and Highland Games	Old City Park and Fairgrounds, Buffalo, MO	Gloria Asmussen at 417.345.0575	highlandcattle@centurytel.net
2-4 Oct	Ozark Fall Farm Fest	Ozark Empire Fairgrounds, Springfield, MO	Gloria Asmussen at 417.345.0575	highlandcattle@centurytel.net
17 & 18 Oct	Heritage Days	Harry S. Truman Visitor's Center, Warsaw, MO	Steve Hanson at 660.438.6968 or 660.723.9527	highlandcattle@centurytel.net
5-7 Nov	Small Farm Today Conference	Columbia, MO		highlandcattle@centurytel.net

Cut along line

Renewal or New Membership Application Heartland Highland Cattle Association

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail Address _____

Please remit \$20.00 yearly (12 month) membership dues to:
Heartland Highland Cattle Association
 976 State Hwy. 64
 Tunas, MO 65764

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact the Secretary, Gloria Asmussen at 417.345.0575

2008–2009 Treasurer's Report

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount (\$)</i>	<i>Total (\$)</i>	<i>Balance (\$)</i>
Beginning Balance 1 March 2008			910.34
Income			
Memberships	2,257.00		
2007/2008 Banquet	295.70		
Advertising	570.00		
Fundraiser	1,071.00		
Merchandise sales	178.00		
Donation/misc.	106.00		
Co-share	200.00		
Total Income		4,677.70	
Expenses			
Tartan Day sponsorship	100.00		
Banquet/speakers	574.22		
Office supplies	576.16		
Postage	569.34		
Membership/Association	310.00		
Website	150.00		
Advertising	753.33		
Merchandise/fundraiser	534.37		
Misc.	22.00		
Total Expenses		3,589.42	
Ending Balance 28 February 2009			1,998.62

Board of Directors and Officers' Contact Information

Board of Directors

<i>Year</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>
2010	Jerry Delcour	Crane, MO
2011	Linda Betterton	Choctaw, OK
2011	Sondra Simons	Centerville, TX
2012	Alan Cameron	Minden, LA
2012	Greg Roberts	Marionville, MO

Officers

President	David Embury P.O. Box 465 Willow Springs, MO 65793 417.469.2411 lighteningridgefarm@socket.net
Vice President	Tom Thompson 615 Shompson Lane Pocahontas, IL 62275 618.669.2236 Tomteesa55@yahoo.com
Secretary/ Treasurer	Gloria Asmussen 976 State Hwy 64 Tunas, MO 65764 417.345.0575 highlandcattle@centurytel.net

Classified Ads

See the ads on-line at our website

Iowa

For Sale: Great registered Highlands for introducing new bloodlines into your fold. Sound genetics, docile, correct conformation, and affordably priced.

Contact: Linn Reece,
New Providence, IA

Phone: 641.497.5499
honeycreekhighlands@yahoo.com

Kansas

For Sale: Highland cows, bulls, heifers, registered or purebred.

Contact: Oz Highland Farm,
Auburn, KS

Phone: 785.213.1040
ozhighlander@sbcglobal.net

Missouri

For Sale: Purebred Highland bulls, steers and heifers for sale, \$500 and up. Weaned, purebred Highland heifers and bulls, 8-12 months old.

Contact: Steve S. Stewart,
Spokane, MO

Phone: 417.880.3172
sssmgshome@yahoo.com

For Sale: 2 bull calves with excellent pedigrees. Registrations are presently being processed at AHCA

Contact: Lou Demarco of Shepherds Cove Ranch, Montgomery City, MO

Phone: 636.299.3026
ld4962@socket.net

For Sale: Highland Fold. Owner will be turning 80 years old and says its time to sell his Highlands. Available at a group or individual purchase price.

1 - Registered 6 yr. old yellow Highland bull

3 - purebred mature Highland cows, pasture bred;

2 - two year old Highland heifers pasture exposed

2 - calves, one heifer and one bull, both 6 months old

Contact: Lindell Wallen,
Steelville, MO

Phone: 573.786.2563

For Sale: Purebred Highlands

3 - yearling, purebred heifers, very docile, one black, two yellow heifers

1 - Bottle fed Red bull calf born Dec. 2008

Contact: Lloyd & Margaret Wilson,
Lebanon, MO

Phone: 417.588.9116

Texas

For Sale: Highland heifer calves available in North Texas:

1 black DOB Jan 10, 2008 (\$800)

1 brindled red DOB Apr 25, 2008 (\$800)

1 yellow DOB Apr 26, 2008 (\$900)

1 dun/grey DOB Jan 01, 2008.

Contact: Bryan Buck

Phone: 972.962.8688 or 214.232.8825

Pictures available at:

www.aguaquieta.com on the "Livestock for sale" page.

For Sale: Bannockburn Highland Ranch is offering registered and purebred Highland cows, calves, and bulls for sale. Bloodlines that originated from the Blalock Fold in Texas. For more information, pictures, and pedigrees

Contact: Joe & Susan Blanks,
Doucette, TX

Phone: 409.837.9707 or 409.837.5309 or 409.489.2808

blanxlex@earthlink.net

For Sale: Light red Highland bull calf born Dec. 12, 2008, dam is from Trafalgar bloodlines. Great bloodlines and disposition. Registered with all shots, worming, tagged and tattooed: \$1400.00. To be registered as MacNicholyas of Yellow Rose (Nick for short).

Registered Highland heifer calf born Dec. 28, 2008 is blood red color like her sire. Price will include being registered with all shots, worming, tagged and tattooed and a brucellosis (bangs) shot for \$1500.00. To be registered as Noyelle of Yellow Rose.

If both are purchased as a pair, we will discount the total price \$300.00 (\$2,600.00 total price).

Both the dams of these calves were filmed in the Sony movie which will be released this coming June 2009 with Jack Black. They are very docile Highlands with great personalities and dispositions. They are Movie Star quality!

Contact: Sondra Simons,
Centerville, TX

Phone: 903.536.1766

gabry11@earthlink.net

www.yrtranch.homestead.com

**Heartland Highland Cattle
Association**

976 State Hwy 64
Tunas, MO 65764

Phone:

417.345.0575

E-Mail:

highlandcattle@
centurytel.net

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Customer Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code