



The Minnesota Cattleman

The Official Newspaper of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association



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Volume 17 | Edition 6 | November 2016

2016 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention – Register Now!

The Minnesota Cattle Industry convention is an event that brings together producers and beef industry partners for educational opportunities, policy discussion and development, and a cattle focused trade show. The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association, along with the Minnesota Cattle women and the Minnesota Beef Council, will host the Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention and trade show December 1st – 3rd, 2016 at the Double Tree in Bloomington, MN. **This year's convention will be held at the hotel and convention center where the very FIRST MSCA annual convention was held. So, please join us for the tradition and excitement of the Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention.** See pages 10 & 11 for the complete Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention schedule and page 16 for registration information. Or, check out www.mnsca.org for more details, to register online or to book your hotel room!

2016 Convention speakers include:

- “Mom at the Meat Counter” Janeal Yancy –PhD Meat Scientist and professor at Arkansas State University, mom and beef industry advocate blogger. Check out her blog at momatthemeatcounter.blogspot.com.
- NCBA President Tracey Bruner – Ramona, KS
- ANCW President Penny Zimmerman – Foley, MN
- Cattlemen's College 2016 Speakers
 - o Josh White – NCBA Director of Producer Education – Denver, CO.
 - o Kathryn Britton – IMI Global - Castle Rock, CO
- Public Grazing Workshop
 - o Greg Hoch – Prairie Habitat Team Supervisor – MN DNR
 - o Cody Nelson – Business Development Manager, Prairie Creek Seeds – Renville, MN
 - o New and updated public grazing requirements and opportunities – USFWS & MN DNR employees
- Best of Beef Banquet – Jerry Carrol, Famer, Comedian & Agriculture Speaker – Raleigh, NC
- Breakfast Briefing
 - o Bruce Kleven – MSCA Legislative Advisor

Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention

SAVE THE DATE



**December
2nd & 3rd, 2016**

**Double Tree Hotel
Bloomington, MN**

www.MNSCA.org

Producer Focused Education—Policy Development—Networking

- o Colin Woodal – Sr. Vice President of Government Affairs, NCBA - Washington D.C.
- Market Status Round Table
 - o Jeff Stolle – Nebraska Cattlemen's Association Marketing Program Manager – Lincoln, NE
 - o Micheal Klamm – USDA-NASS – Washington D.C.
 - o Brad Kooima – Kooima and Kaemingk Commodities, Inc. – Sioux Center, IA

Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with fellow cattlemen, continue the tradition of cattle focused policy development to further the beef industry in Minnesota, and make new connections. This year's convention will also include the same great events as years past - including the live Cattlemen's Auction, MSCA quarterly BOD meeting, MSCA Annual Meeting and MCW annual meeting. We look forward to seeing you in December!

2016-2017 Minnesota Beef Ambassador Team Announced

The Minnesota Beef Industry is proud to announce that Katie Moller of Princeton, daughter of Scott and Julie Moller, Abbey Schiefelbein of Kimball, daughter of Don and Jennifer Schiefelbien, and Zach Klaers of Arlington, son of Pat and Sandy Klaers were chosen as 2016-2017 Senior Minnesota Beef Ambassador Team Members. The 2016-2017 Junior Minnesota Beef Ambassador team included: Emilee White of Wadena, daughter of Don and Tonja White; and Bailee Schiefelbein of Kimball, daughter of Don and Jennifer Schiefelbein.

Contestants from all over the state of Minnesota competed for a place on this year's Beef Ambassador Team and a chance to win cash prizes sponsored by the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association and the Minnesota Cattlewomen's Association, with additional sponsorship funds courtesy of the Beef Checkoff Program. The contest took place during the Minnesota Beef Expo held on Saturday, October 22, 2016 at the CHS Miracle of Birth Center at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.

During the contest all contestants were required to prepare a written blog or social media post on a beef industry topic. Contestants were scored by judges on their ability to incorporate beef industry

information and the relatability of the message with consumers. Throughout the contest, contestants also were judged on their “elevator speech,” a short, to the point, statement outlining his/her message to consumers and what he/she wants consumers to know about the beef industry. Additionally, contestants competed in a mock radio interview, which observed the contestants ability to “Tell the Beef Production Story and present beef and farming in a positive light, a mock consumer promotion, which observed the contestants ability to educate the consumer about beef and the beef product, and a written response, which observed the contestants ability to thoughtfully answer and identify misinformation about beef.



The Minnesota Beef Industry is proud to announce the Minnesota Beef Ambassador team comprised of (left to right): Bailee Schiefelbein, Emilee White; Jr. Beef Ambassadors, Katie Moller, Sr. Beef Ambassador Team Lead; Zach Klaers and Abbey Schiefelbein, Sr. Beef Ambassadors. The Beef Ambassadors will work throughout the state to assist with various promotion and education programs related to beef.

PRESORTED STD
 US POSTAGE
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 Detroit Lakes, MN
 Permit No. 14

NEWS - TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Hello, so far harvest season, for the most part, has given us some unbelievable weather. It's been a struggle for those who farm crops or have livestock. Attitudes are short to say the least. When it comes to the cattle market, it seems no one has the magic answer to correcting it. One thing is for sure, when money gets this tight is when your MSCA dues are probably your best value. For we are ALL cattlemen and we work hard to watch and make sure politicians are not going to cost us even more.



TIM NOLTE
President, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association

In the last month there has been a lot of action on wolf delisting efforts. It seems we get so close, but so far away with this process. Some day soon we are going to score, and when we do - it will be a winning touchdown. One thing is for sure MSCA will not quit!

I would like to thank Grant Breikreutz for taking the lead on the public lands grazing. This is another long drawn out fight, but thanks to many people throughout the state, we are and will continue to make progress to opening more public lands that are best managed by grazing open for grazing.

This coming year, there will be a lot more to keep an eye on. As usual, tax bills are another area that need a lot of attention. But with the staff we have in place, I have no worries. In my mind Bruce and Ashley are like having a true calving ease bull.

Since this is my last article, I would like to thank MSCA members for being so supportive over the last ten years. MSCA has changed our perspective on so many topics within the cattle industry. Mostly because now we see the big picture, not just what happens on our ranch. I feel the beef industry is a unique industry compared to the rest of agriculture, and that is a good thing. There is defiantly room for everyone, all types of production types and goals. No matter the size or the product you are trying to produce - we are your home.

I really do not know how to begin to thank the executive board for these last couple of years. They have made it really easy to be president. Thank You!

I would like to close with this. I have watched the beef council in action over the last two years as president of MSCA. I've read all of their reports and sat in on all of their meetings. I have nothing but praise and respect for the entire group, the board and the staff alike. They run a very tight ship. Thank you Minnesota Beef Council.

Hope to see all of you at the MSCA convention. It will be worth your time.

Nine passionate youth competed at the Minnesota Beef Ambassador Contest on Saturday, October 22. The Minnesota CattleWomen's Association are pleased to announce the 2016-2017 Minnesota Beef Ambassador Team! Members are Bailee Schiefelbein, Kimball, Emilee White, Wadena, Katie Moller, Princeton, Zach Klaers, Arlington, Abbey Schiefelbein, Kimball. These young beef leaders will be educating consumers and students about beef community through various activities during the year. I would like to personally thank the 2015-2016 Beef Ambassador as they did a great job representing Minnesota beef producers this past year.



SARAH COLOMBE
President, Minnesota CattleWomen

The America National CattleWomen Association has designed the Collegiate beef Advocacy Program. This program is for beef industry advocates interested in bridging the gap between the farm and the fork. This program connects the Collegiate leaders to the beef industry where they can have unlimited access to leadership, their peers, cattlemen and cattlemen and beef industry professionals. They will grow as individuals, strengthen their leadership skills and establish networks. Each state affiliated designates their collegiate(s) candidates and working group chair. More details to come.

Looking for ways to promote beef and the beef cattle industry? The American National CattleWomen offer toolkits which are available on the ANCW website (<https://ancw.org/programs/toolkits/>) to give you ideas and direction for hosting a successful function that puts BEEF at the center of the event, the center of the conversation, and the center of the plate!

The ANCW are in search of seasonal cattle pictures for the ANCW Facebook page. If you have a scenic fall "beauty shot" featuring cattle, please send it to ancw@ancw.org, type "Facebook Photo" in the Subject line, and include your name in the message so we can credit you. Photo tips: 1. Take photos horizontally, 2. Think scenic when taking the phot, 3. Be aware of the sun, and 4. Cloudy days are the best when taking photos.

The Minnesota CattleWomen will hold their Annual Meeting on Saturday, December 3 at Double Tree Hotel, Bloomington, MN. Always remember, Beef. It's What's for Dinner!

Hello, As farmers and ranchers we play a role in demonstrating we're doing our part to protect antibiotic effectiveness in both people and animals. As of January 1, 2017 the Food and Drug Administration's Guidance 209 and 213 will be fully enforced. For those not familiar with Guidance 209/213 and how it will impact on farm antibiotic use, the simple breakdown is:

Guidance 209: The 'what' component establishes the use of medically important antibiotics in food producing animals will be limited to: prevention, control and treatment. It also established the need for increased veterinary oversight when utilizing antibiotics. The use of antibiotics exclusively for growth promotion will no longer be allowed.

Guidance 213: The 'how' component provides a path forward on what the enforcement of 209 will look like. A three year phase in plan was finalized in 2013 and full enforcement will take place as of January 1, 2017.

So what does this all mean for Minnesota's cattlemen? First, it will be critical that you have a valid Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR). Your veterinarian can serve as a great resource to help you fully understand what feed grade antibiotics will require a Veterinary Feed Directive after January 1. Second, it will be important to revisit the documentation requirements related to antibiotics. Lastly, how you source antibiotics may change as over the counter 'floor stock' will no longer be allowed under new antibiotic regulations. Injectable antibiotics will not be impacted by Guidance 209/213. January 1 will be here before we know it, have a conversation with your veterinarian to ensure you are ready.

I hope to see you all at the Annual Convention in Bloomington, December 1-3. Also, don't forget to register for the 2017 Cattle Industry Convention & NCBA Trade Show on February 1-3 in Nashville, TN!

The past two years as cow/calf chairman have been an eye opening experience. Dawn and I have really enjoyed attending all of the different events that happen across the state each year. Learning about all the challenges of running cattle operations in all the different regions of our state has been interesting and challenging. In our travels with the U of M Beef Extension Team, it was great to meet all the producers around the state and hear their challenges/problems. We then took those concerns to the legislators and agencies in St. Paul in hopes of getting some results for on-going wolf and elk issues. It has been a privilege to work with a talented and dedicated board of directors and executive director in dealing with all the challenges thrown at the cattle industry almost daily. We have been blessed in getting to know more and more MSCA members through the years and have come to consider many like family. We would like to thank everybody for the reception we received wherever we turned up at meetings and functions.

My focus has been pulled frequently to the subject of grazing public lands. Progress has been slow, but in October we met with DNR officials in hopes of moving this forward faster. We feel like we were "heard" by those officials, and now the ball is in their court to move through their process in St. Paul to allow more grazing across the state. I hope to keep working on the public land grazing in the future. It affects our operation personally and we are aware that this is a growing concern across the state.



DICK PESEK
Chairman, Feeder Council



GRANT BREIKREUTZ
Chairmain, Cow-Calf Council

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We hope to see many of you at the state convention and annual meeting at the Doubletree in Bloomington. Ashley has worked hard to put together an outstanding line-up of speakers for both cow-calf and feedlot producers. Given all the challenges we have had with weather and prices, we all need some time to unwind together. We hope to see you all there!

Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership!



Minnesota State Cattlemen's has teamed up with Cancrete Cattle Waterers to support the development of future MSCA leaders! Cancrete waters is donating a Model C250 Electric Automatic Tank (Value \$1,000.00) with proceeds going to the MSCA Jr. Cattlemen's Association to be used for leadership development activities. Cancrete also offers a special MSCA members only discount on water tanks throughout the season! \$50.00 on all Cattle Bowls C150 and Larger, \$25.00 on the three small tanks and \$25.00 on EasyPads. Go to their website www.cancrete.com for a full brochure & dealer locations. Or call Advanced Agri at 1-866-39-5546.

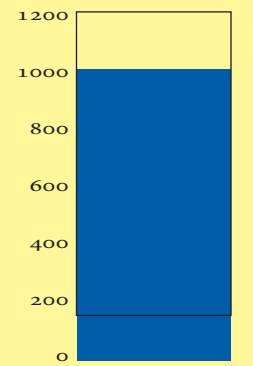


Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership!

The MSCA saw many successes in terms of our priority priorities this year! As we continue into 2016, MSCA will be focused on issues that are real and relevant to our state's cattlemen.

Be sure to send in your membership renewal as soon as you can so we can continue having cattlemen working for cattlemen! (See membership form on back page)

MSCA Membership Goal



Minnesota Beef Alliance Members

Thanks to the following businesses that have already joined the Minnesota Beef Alliance in 2015! If you are interested in learning more about the alliance, contact the MSCA office at 612-618-6619 or visit www.mnsca.org.

Can you list these across the page – Prime – Choice - Select and make them stand out a little better?

Prime

American Foods
Carlson Wholesale
Wulf Cattle
Minnesota Beef Council
Blue Hilltop, Inc.

Choice

Zoetis
Central Livestock
Summit Livestock
Facilities
Wieser Concrete

Select

Artex Manufacturing
Leed Stone
Purina Animal Nutrition
Arm & Hammer Animal
Nutrition

Upcoming Events/Important Dates

- Dec. 1 - 3: MSCA Annual Convention & Trade Show, Double Tree – Bloomington, MN
- December 3rd 2016 – MSCA Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting – 10:00 am, Double Tree – Bloomington, MN
- February 2017 – MSCA Cattlemen at the Capitol Event
- February 1-3, 2017: National cattle industry convention & NCBA trade show - Gaylord Opryland Hotel - Nashville, TN
- March 2017 - MSCA Cattlemen at the Capitol Event
- July 10-11 2017: MSCA Summer Beef Tour – Glacial Ridge Cattlemen's Association – Starbuck, MN

www.mnsca.org

FEATURES

- Inset Guillotine Gate
- Heavy Duty Frame
- Scale System
- Twin Vertical Beaters
- Articulating Hitch
- Unbeatable Undercarriage
- HMW Flooring

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Dietetic Intern Farm Tour

The Minnesota Beef Council and Midwest Dairy partnered together to take 33 dietetic intern's on a farm tour. The intern's met in Plymouth to have a light breakfast and to learn a little more about both the beef and dairy industry, then we all loaded onto the bus and headed out to Schiefelbein Farms. On the way to the farm, the movie Farmland was shown on the bus.



We were welcomed to Schiefelbein Farms by Don and Jennifer Schiefelbein. The interns learned how the family got started in farming and the beef industry, how the operation is run, how beef cattle are raised and cared for, production practices and genetic testing. Don showed and explained to them how they work cattle, the feedlot and they even got to see the cattle being fed. They thought that was interesting to see. Many of the interns had lots of great questions for Don. They ate lunch in the sales barn and each got a beef snack stick as they boarded the bus again. Next, they were taken to the Nex-Gen Dairy to see how a dairy operates then we headed back to the cities.

On the bus ride back to the cities, we asked trivia questions about both the beef and dairy industry and both farms and the first to answer correctly received a prize. Some of the prizes the interns went home with were Beef Cookbooks and MN Beef Grilling Spatulas. There were lots of correct answers. They all said it was a great experience and they really learned a lot. These interns went home understanding better what the beef and dairy industry does and how we raise our cattle.

Thank you to Don and Jennifer Schiefelbein and Schiefelbein Farms for sharing their story!



Twin Cities Marathon

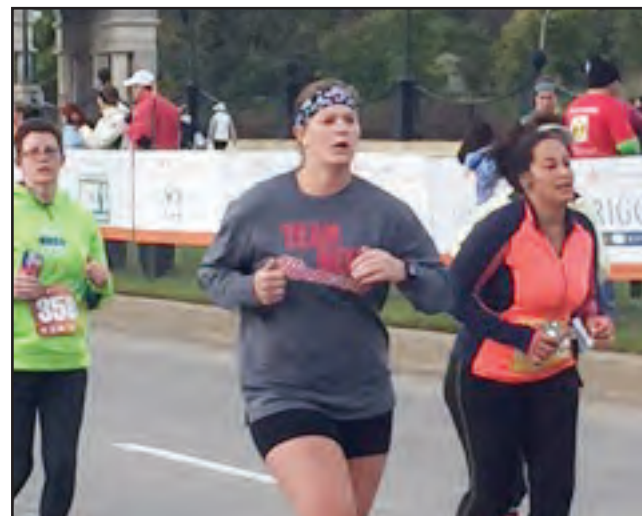
In collaboration with the Beef Checkoff through the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, the Minnesota Beef Council was delighted to have the opportunity to welcome Michele Tuttle, RD, MPH as our featured speaker during the 2016 Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon Weekend Health & Fitness Expo Seminar Program held on October 8. Michele's presentation entitled "The Athlete's Table - What, When and How to Eat for your BEST Performance," focused on sharing the nutrients and foods athletes need every day and how to include them in what you eat, how to plan, shop and prepare meals that will fuel your workouts and your recovery, time saving tips to make meals and snacks easier, how to time meals and snacks to optimize your workouts, when to use bars, gels, and sports drinks (and when to skip them) and Race Day Nutrition. Additionally, Michele focused on teaching quick and easy methods and recipes for getting nutrient dense food on your table. Further, those in attendance had the opportunity to try flank steak, which could be cooked once and then easily be incorporated into a Layered Beef Salad, East West Flank Steak Wrap or Beef Kabob and consumed to meet on-going training nutritional needs.



Michele's presentation captivated an audience of more than 30 health and fitness enthusiasts on-site during the Twin Cities Marathon Health and Fitness Expo. Additionally, Michele's presentation was live streamed on the Minnesota Beef Council Facebook page and to date has garnered more than 100 views.

Michele is a life-long endurance athlete who began swimming competitively at 13, qualifying twice for YMCA Nationals in 1980 and 1981, and was a 4-year varsity swimmer and team captain for Tufts University Swimming & Diving Team (Division III). She continued training and racing as a master's swimmer throughout her 20's and 30's, and became a triathlete in her mid-40's. For the past 4 years, she has consistently qualified and competed in World ITU Triathlon Championships. She holds a bronze medal in the sprint distance (London, 2013) and has placed in the top 10 in the Olympic distance (London, 2013, Chicago, 2015). Michele has also been a USAT All-American triathlete since 2012.

In 2008, Michele began coaching other aspiring triathletes on the technical aspects of completing and excelling at open water swimming. She's currently certified as a USAT Level I Triathlon Coach and also holds certification as a US Masters Swimming Coach, Levels 1 & 2 and coaches triathletes in short, mid- and long distance events. In addition, she offers community seminars on nutrition as well as nutrition counseling for athletes.



State Grants help fund livestock improvements on the farm

Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Dave Frederickson asks livestock producers to apply for a portion of \$2 million in grants available for on-farm improvements as part of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Agricultural Growth, Research and Innovation (AGRI) Program.

"Livestock Investment Grants help farmers stay competitive and reinvest in their industry," said Frederickson. "Last year, we had 104 livestock farmers receive grants to improve their operations."

With funds awarded during the Fiscal Year 2015 Livestock Investment Grant, Jared Franke of Hayfield constructed a new beef barn to increase efficiency and allow the next generation to enter into the family farming operation.

In Fairmont, Michael Laue constructed a 2,400 head swine facility to increase profitability and allow a young farmer to start farming full time. Matthew and David Hanson of Goodridge used grant funding to expand and improve their existing dairy facilities by adding a robotic milking unit and installing equipment to improve

... continued on page 5

Faces of Farming and Ranching

The U.S. Farmers & Ranchers Alliance (USFRA), funded in part by the beef checkoff, has announced the finalists of its third class of Faces of Farming and Ranching, a nationwide campaign to help put real faces on agriculture to speak on behalf of the industry. One of the finalists is from Minnesota.

Finalists are:

- Paul Lanoue, Minnesota
- Lauren Arbogast, Virginia
- Emily Buck, Ohio
- Katie Rock, Wisconsin
- Lauren Schwab, Ohio
- Jeremy Brown, Texas
- Geoff Ruth, Nebraska
- Joy Widerman, Pennsylvania

Each of the finalists was featured and short videos were shown highlighting their operations from Oct. 10-16 on USFRA's Facebook Page. The public can vote for the farmers and ranchers whom they believe best represent today's agriculture, with final winners being announced in November at the National Association of Farm Broadcasting (NAFB) Convention in Kansas City. Make sure to go on and see the videos and vote for your favorite.

MBC Board Meeting

The next Minnesota Beef Council Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 14 at the Minnesota Beef Council office in Maple Plain, MN.

www.mnbeef.org

BQA Free Certification Period

The countdown has begun once again for beef and dairy producers to become Beef Quality Assurance (BQA)-certified for free online through Nov. 13. And, as an added bonus, anyone who becomes certified during this period is eligible to win a prize package, courtesy of Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. and the BQA program, funded in part by the beef checkoff.

Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. will pick up the \$25-\$50 online training fee for every person completing BQA training through Nov. 13. That includes anyone who works with cattle – whether it is beef or dairy. Visit www.bqa.org to take advantage of the open certification period.

The BQA program is important to the cattle industry because it is a producer's consumer-friendly story to tell, helping them talk about using BQA Protocols for producing a safe and high quality beef product. The BQA training modules are customized to fit the specific needs of each segment of the cattle industry – cow-calf, stocker, feedyard and dairy operations. The program covers production practices such as proper handling and administration of animal health products, reducing injection site blemishes, and low stress cattle-handling principles.

Have questions about Beef Quality Assurance? Contact Ashley Kohls, Beef Quality Assurance Consultant via phone at 612-618-6619 or via email at mnbeefbqa@mnbeef.org.



State Grants. . . continued from page 4

profitability.

Qualifying producers are reimbursed 10 percent of the first \$500,000 of investment, with a minimum investment of \$4,000. Qualifying expenditures include the purchase, construction or improvement of livestock buildings or facilities. Fencing, feeding and waste management equipment are also covered. Producers who suffered a loss due to natural disaster may also apply. The grant will not pay for livestock, land purchases or debt refinancing.

Past applicants who did not receive an award

need to reapply for the 2017 program. These grants are incentives to start projects, which must begin after January 1, 2017. Applications for operations with farmers transitioning into livestock, beginning farmers, and those with a positive environmental impact receive priority. Details and grant guidelines are available at www.mda.state.mn.us/livestockinvestmentgrant.

The application deadline is December 16, 2016. Please apply online: <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/grants/grants/~media/Files/grants/ag03150ligx.pdf>.

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Thanks to the support of farmers like you, we're able to fund important research, sponsor educational seminars, and identify opportunities that impact your bottom line. Together, we're working hard to ensure your farm continues to be successful now, and for future generations. Learn more at mncorn.org.

 Minnesota Corn GROWERS ASSOCIATION

MEET THE 2016 MINNESOTA CATTLE INDUSTRY SPEAKERS

Janeal Yancey – Mom at the Meat Counter

Janeal Yancey grew up in the small town of Cross Plains, Texas and attended Texas Tech University. She became interested in meats through FFA and collegiate meat judging teams and decided to go to graduate school in meat science at Kansas State University. At Kansas State, she received both her Masters and PhD in meat science.

She is currently at the University of Arkansas where she teaches Livestock and Meat Evaluation, oversees the Meats Quiz Bowl and Academic Quadrathlon teams, and advises the Block and Bridle Club. She conducts research on many aspects of meat quality, from beef tenderness and ground beef color to the textural properties of bacon.

In 2011, Janeal entered the world of blogging with the “Mom at the Meat Counter” blog. From this platform, she writes about meat and the meat industry from her point of view. As a mom, she knows that all moms have lots of questions about what they feed their families and as a meat scientist; she can answer a lot of their questions. Her posts range from topics about food safety and meat handling to the beef product known in the media as ‘pink slime’ and antibiotics in the meat supply.

Janeal and her husband, Ed, also a meat scientist, live in Huntsville, AR where they raise two wild daughters, Vallie and Wyn, and gentle Simmental cattle.



Cattlemen’s College

Josh White – NCBA Director of Producer Education

Josh White serves as the Executive Director - Producer Education for National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA). He is a fourth generation cattleman whose first experiences with cattle trace back to marveling at his grandfather’s commercial Hereford herd in central Georgia. By age twelve Josh had purchased his first heifer and began building his own herd. He graduated with honors from Berry College in northwest Georgia with a degree in Animal Science. Josh worked in private industry for several years, continued to build his cattle herd and served in many volunteer leadership roles with various agricultural organizations at the local, state and national level. Josh led the Georgia Cattlemen’s Association and Georgia Beef Board as Executive Vice President from 2009 - 2014. In his current role as Executive Director – Producer Education with NCBA, Josh and his team are working to capitalize on the rich histories of the Beef Quality Assurance and Cattlemen’s College programs while moving these initiatives forward to deliver even greater value to NCBA members and the cattle industry. Josh also provides leadership for NCBA’s policy funded sustainability efforts and leads the checkoff funded Stewardship Strategy team. He continues to own cattle on the family farm in Georgia. Josh and his wife Erin live in Highlands Ranch, Colorado with their three children ages 14, 13, and 10.



Breakfast Breifing

Bruce Kleven – MSCA Legislative Advisor

Bruce Kleven graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1989 with a degree in business and from Hamline University School of Law in 1992 with a concentration in agricultural law. In 1994, he began lobbying at the Minnesota legislature on behalf of several commodity organizations and in 1998 began working with the MSCA. For the past 21 years he has been a lobbyist and continues to practice agricultural and business law when the legislature is not in session.



Public Grazing Workshop

The Minnesota DNR is committed to grazing as a management tool, similar to bison and elk historically grazing prairies. Grasslands thrive with periodic disturbance (fire, grazing, mowing/haying). A lack of disturbance can lead to a decrease in the quality, diversity, and productivity of grasslands. The objectives of Conservation Grazing is to provide habitat for an increased abundance and diversity of wildlife species that require a range of grass heights and vegetation density (structural heterogeneity), provide habitat for all stages of bird life; nesting cover, brood rearing cover, etc. Improve the plant diversity of native grassland ecosystems and provide opportunities to rest private pastures to improve wildlife habitat on private land in addition to public land.



Colin Woodal – Sr Vice President of Government Affaires, NCBA

Colin Woodall is the Senior Vice President of Government Affairs for NCBA in Washington, D.C. He serves as NCBA’s chief lobbyist on Capitol Hill and leads the Washington office in developing strategies to ensure that the cattle industry’s voice is being heard by policy makers.

Originally from Big Spring, Texas, Colin graduated from Texas A&M and then worked as a grain elevator manager and merchandiser for Cargill at several locations in western Kansas and the Oklahoma panhandle. After venturing to Washington, Colin took a job with U.S. Senator John Cornyn from Texas. He has been with NCBA since 2004. He is a former Membership Chairman of the Government Relations Leadership Forum and is the immediate past Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Agriculture Council of America. He also volunteers as a junior commercial steer show judge at the San Antonio Livestock Exposition.



Cattle Markets Round Table

Geoffery (Jeff) Stolle – VP-Marketing – Nebraska Cattlemen - Lincoln, NE

Jeff Stolle was born and raised on a family owned cow-calf and row-crop farming operation near Wharton, Texas - on the Texas Coastal Bend between Houston and Victoria – and is an Animal Science graduate of Texas A&M University. After receiving his undergraduate degree in December of 1989, Jeff remained at Texas A&M and did graduate work in Feedyard Management and Beef Cattle Marketing before joining the Nebraska Cattlemen Association as a Market Analyst in the summer of 1991.



Jeff has served as Vice President of Marketing and the lead staff person for the association’s Market Reporting Service since 1994. The Market Reporting Service currently provides up-to-the-minute market information for approximately 300 feedyards in Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Illinois. Jeff is also the primary staff person for the Association’s Marketing and Commerce Committee and NC staff liaison to NCBA on marketing and risk management focused issues.

Jeff and his wife Sarah feed cattle on their own account in Nebraska custom feedyards and also work as sales representatives for Crossroads Cattle Co. of Austin, Texas - marketing calves and yearlings from throughout the United States into Midwestern feedyards.

Michael Klamm – USDA-NASS Cattle Statistician – Washington D.C.

Michael Klamm is the Cattle Statistician in the Livestock Branch with the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). He has served at the national level for the past 3 years as a commodity statistician, spending a year and a half working on cattle, and the previous year and a half on turkeys and poultry slaughter.

Before being assigned to headquarters, Mike worked in St. Louis, Missouri Regional Field Office. Before the Regional Field Office Mike worked in Columbia, Missouri and Denver, Colorado NASS Field Offices.

Mike’s education includes a Bachelor’s of Science in Agricultural Business and a Minor in Economics from Colorado State University.

Mike was born and raised on a mid-size cattle operation in southern Colorado.



Brad Kooima – Kooima and Kaemingk Commodities, Inc. – Sioux Center, IA

Brad Kooima Serves as the Founder and President of Kooima and Kaemingk Commodities, Inc. and has been in the business since 1980 located in Sioux Center, Iowa. Brad enjoys interacting with his customers and thrives on finding information and relaying that news to those he is working with. He considers himself blessed to work with some of the most dedicated and hardworking people in the area.



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Cattlemen Sign On Overtime Letter

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association has joined with other business groups in sending a letter supporting the Overtime Reform and Review Act (S. 3464). The Act would provide employers and small businesses relief from the negative impacts of the Department of Labor's final overtime rule.

Under the DOL's final rule, the salary threshold for determining overtime pay for executive and professional employees exempt from regular minimum wage and overtime pay requirements would increase more than 100 percent. This would challenge many small and rural businesses and diminish flexibility in structuring employee hours and career advancement opportunities.

While a responsible increase to the salary threshold is due, the Overtime Reform and Review Act would protect small and large businesses, nonprofits, local governments and academic institutions by phasing in increases over five years. The legislation would immediately raise the amount to \$36,000 and continue to raise the exempt employee salary threshold to \$47,476 by December 1, 2020. Equally important, the bill prohibits the DOL final rule's automatic increase to the salary threshold, but still allows the DOL to propose changes to overtime regulations in the future through the customary federal notice and comment process.

The bill also specifies that increases after 2016 would not go into effect for the most vulnerable employers; nonprofits, colleges and universities, Medicare and Medicaid dependent health care providers, and state and local governments unless the Administration can certify that the 2016 increase did not negatively impact these organizations.

NCBA also supported House passage of their version of this legislation in September, the Regulatory Relief for Small Businesses, Schools and Non-Profits Act (H.R. 6094).

NCBA and our members support these legislative vehicles which would help protect small and rural businesses.

CME Working Group Meets in Washington DC

The first week of October, the members of the expanded NCBA/CME working group met in Washington D.C. to continue cattlemen's efforts to reduce futures market volatility and ensure the markets work as a risk management tool. Cattle producers from across the country representing every segment of the cattle industry gathered along with the full NCBA officer team to meet with stakeholders and advance the goals of the working group. Over the course of two days, the working group meet with CME Group cattle marketing officials, the three members of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and congressional leaders to brief them on the issues cattle producers are facing and discuss solutions. NCBA President-Elect and working group chairman, Craig Uden, said this was an important meeting and stressed the cattle industry's commitment to finding a solution that works for all market participants.

"Throughout the past year, we have continued to meet with CME Group and producers to discuss the issues we're facing and possible solutions," said Uden. "While CME Group has taken some of the steps we've suggested, like adding messaging limits, we have not seen volatility significantly reduce and the market convergence remains a concern. When the market doesn't react normally to clear external factors and economic reality, it sends false signals to cattle producers who are making decisions on herd retention and expansion. Without clear and correct economic signals, future production decisions are affected and our ability to meet domestic and foreign demand are threatened."

MSCA & NCBA remains committed to working with CME Group and the CFTC to reduce market volatility and support the futures market's role as a risk management tool. MSCA has a seat at the table with MSCA member Tim Schiefelbein serving as Minnesota's representative on the CME working group.

MSCA Launches New and Improved Website

MSCA recently launched a new and improved website to better serve our members. While the website address hasn't changed, the content and functionality has! Check out www.mnsca.org for MSCA events, leadership and policy priorities.



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Wulfs Buttercup 4444B
LFF 2058704
Sire: **Wulfs Zane X238Z**
MGS: **SAV Final Answer 0035**
Due 2/9/17 to **RUNL Stetson 850S**.

Wulfs Chance Taken 5278C
NPF 2072322
Sire: **Wulfs Apostle T343A**
MGS: **Wulfs Realtor 1503R**
Due 3/20/17 to **Wulfs Xcellsior X252X**.

Wulfs Rosa 4482B
AN 17910621
Sire: **VAR Reserve 1111**
MGS: **Connealy In Focus 3102**
Due 2/9/17 to **KCF Bennett Absolute**.

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Wednesday:
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Special Feeder Sales:
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8 a.m. Sheep, Goats & Feeder Pigs

Wednesday:
9 a.m. Hog Auction
Noon Market Cows/Bulls & Fed Cattle

Special Dairy Sales:
Noon Second & fourth Tuesdays

Special Feeder Sales:
10 a.m. Designated Thursdays

Hay & Bedding Auctions:
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USDA says it will advance GIPSA rule changes

By Jacqui Fatka – Policy Editor at Feedstuffs/Farm Futures

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has decided to send an interim final Grain Inspection, Packers & Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) rule to the White House Office of Management & Budget. The “GIPSA rule,” which had been stalled in recent years through congressional riders, has been widely controversial and generated concerns from many livestock groups.

In a letter to leaders of livestock groups, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said there are currently three separate rule-makings under development: the Farmer Fair Practices Rules, which include two proposed rules, and an interim final rule.

The proposed rules address the poultry tournament payment system and issues of undue preference, while the interim final rule clarifies that farmers need only prove they were treated unfairly by a company to secure legal remedy. Currently, farmers are required to prove not only harm to themselves and their businesses but also that the result of the harm affected competition industry-wide. The interim final rule will clarify and underscore the plain language of the Packers & Stockyards Act, which requires no proof of harm to competition from a complainant.

In his letter regarding the interim final rule, Vilsack said, “Given the significant level of interest in this provision, and in the interests of an open and transparent government, the agency will provide an additional opportunity for public comment. USDA will consider all comments received and intends to publish a document that will include a discussion of any comments and whether any amendments will be made to the rule.”

Major livestock groups — including the National Cattlemen’s Beef Assn., North American Meat Institute, National Pork Producers Council and National Chicken Council — have been opposed to advancing the GIPSA rule, saying it limits producers’ marketing options while adding layers of bureaucracy and opening the door to litigation. New markets have emerged, and there is enhanced competition for sourcing livestock for slaughter.

In September, the groups asked Vilsack if he was going to move forward on the rule, wanting to make sure they would be allowed to again comment on the proposed rule from 2010. They explained that the administrative record “has grown stale and does not include significant and substantial changes that have occurred within the livestock marketplace in the years since the rule-making docket was closed to comment.”

“USDA appreciates the concerns expressed regarding a meaningful opportunity for comment. Consistent with statements made before the Senate Agriculture Committee, USDA will not publish any rules without providing further opportunity to the public to review, understand and provide feedback,” Vilsack wrote.

Matt Herrick, communications director for Vilsack, added as the Secretary

noted in testimony recently, USDA has worked hard over the last several months to update regulations previously proposed in 2010.

“The Farmer Fair Practices Rules seek to help balance the relationships between livestock producers, swine production contract growers, and poultry growers, and the packers, swine contractors, and live poultry dealers with whom they interact,” Herrick said in a note to Feedstuffs. “They will provide needed clarification to stakeholders and will help ensure a fair marketplace and level playing field for honest, hardworking farming families across the country. The proposals will also provide clarity and certainty, which are important for the livestock industry to know what is and is not acceptable.”

In developing the rules, GIPSA looked extensively at past comments and worked closely with the USDA Office of the Chief Economist to consider any economic impacts, Herrick added.

Vilsack did say USDA is considering excluding several provisions that were proposed in 2010 from the current rule-making in order to “improve the regulation and reduce overall burden.” These provisions include: applicability to livestock production and marketing contracts, including formula and forward contracts; the requirement that packers, swine contractors or live poultry dealers maintain written records that provide justification for differential pricing or any deviation from standard price or contract terms; the requirement that packers refrain from entering into exclusive agreements with livestock dealers; prohibiting packers from purchasing livestock from other packers, and requirements that packers and live poultry dealers submit sample contracts to GIPSA for posting to the public.

Minnesota Wolf Services Announcement:

USDA-Wildlife Services will end operational wolf depredation assistance on October 31. This includes investigations of suspected wolf damage and wolf removal assistance.

After that date, limited technical assistance on depredation issues will still be provided, via telephone. Wildlife Services will continue to respond to legitimate claims of human safety caused by wolves on a case by case basis.

2016 was another busy year with over 150 complaints of wolf depredation received and 182 wolves taken year to date. Many thanks to DNR-LE who continue to be first responders and primary investigators on many wolf depredations issues.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact John Hart - District Supervisor, Certified Wildlife Biologist®, USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services - (218) 327-3350.

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2016 Cattlemen of the Year Award

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) through the Minnesota Cattleman of the Year award annually recognizes an individual cattleman that has demonstrated outstanding leadership and personal dedication to Minnesota's cattle community. MSCA accepts nominations for the honor and presents the nominations to a selection committee consisting of individuals that are past recipients of the award. The announcement of the selection is made public at the Annual Cattlemen's and Cattlewomen's Dinner Banquet at the MSCA convention.

Qualities and achievements shared by recipients of the Cattleman of the Year Award include, but are not limited to the following.

- Demonstrated leadership and organizational skills that have made a positive and lasting contribution to Minnesota's cattle community.
- Strong record of active promotion of the beef industry and a willingness to speak out publically on behalf of the industry.
- Served in a variety of volunteer, appointed and elected positions of responsibility within Minnesota's beef sector and at the national level.
- Served in volunteer, appointed and elected positions of responsibility within their local community and at the state and national level.
- Well respected by fellow cattlemen, local community leaders, and government officials.
- An active participant in and supporter of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association.

The Cattlemen of the year award form can be found at www.mnsca.org and is due November 12th. Completed award applications can be mailed to 23722 230th ST., Hutchinson, MN 55350 or emailed to mnsca@mnsca.org.

2016 MSCA Beef Industry Service Award

The purpose of the Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award is to publically recognize and reward individuals that have made a substantial professional contribution to Minnesota's Beef Industry.

The Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA) through the "Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award" periodically recognize individuals associated with the beef industry that have demonstrated outstanding leadership and personal dedication to Minnesota's Beef Industry. MSCA accepts nominations for the honor and the MSCA Executive Committee annually reviews and makes a determination as to the merit of each nomination. If merited an individual or individuals may be selected from the nominees. The announcement of that selection is made public at the MSCA Annual Convention and Beef Industry Trade Show in December of each year.

Qualities and achievements shared by recipients of the "Minnesota Beef Industry Service Award," include, but are not limited to the following.

- Demonstrated leadership and organizational skills that have made a positive and lasting contribution to Minnesota's Beef Industry.
- Strong record of active promotion of the Beef Industry and a willingness to speak out publically on behalf of the industry.
- Served in a variety of government, education, volunteer, appointed and elected positions of responsibility within Minnesota's Beef Industry and at the national level.
- Well respected by fellow professionals, cattlemen, local community leaders, and government officials.
- An active participant in and supporter of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association.

The Beef Industry Service award form can be found at www.mnsca.org and is due November 15th. Completed award applications can be mailed to 23722 230th ST., Hutchinson, MN 55350 or emailed to mnsca@mnsca.org.

Cattlemen Seek Supreme Court Review in WOTUS Case

In late October, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Public Lands Council, along with other stakeholder groups filed a brief in support of the cert petition asking the Supreme Court of the United States to review the decision by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals to hear the underlying "waters of the United States" lawsuit.

In a split 1-1-1 decision in February 2016, a three judge panel for the Sixth Circuit ruled they had jurisdiction to hear the WOTUS case first. The NCBA and PLC have maintained that, rather, the District Courts are the correct venue based on clear language in the Clean Water Act §509(b). The various courts fielding WOTUS Rule challenges, both at the district court and appellate

court level, have struggled with how to resolve this issue due to conflicting legal precedent.

"A decision by the Supreme Court would extinguish the cloud of jurisdictional doubt that is hovering over the WOTUS Rule challenges" said Scott Yager, NCBA environmental counsel. "The Supreme Court should step in and clear the air."

While we wait to see if the Supreme Court will take up this question, the nationwide stay on implementation of the WOTUS rule remains in place. Merits briefing on the underlying WOTUS lawsuit is scheduled to begin in November in the Sixth Circuit, but a decision there is likely to be delayed if the Supreme Court grants cert.



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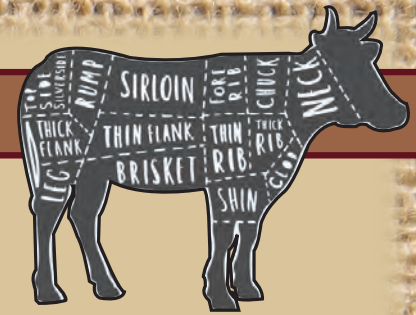
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Cattle Contracting

2016 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention

Schedule of Events

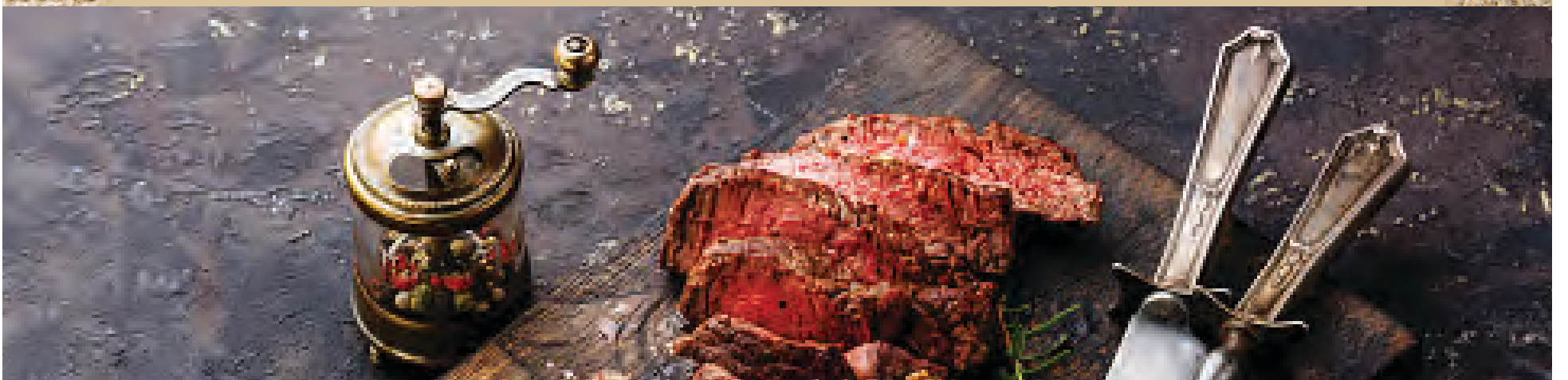


Thursday, December 1, 2016

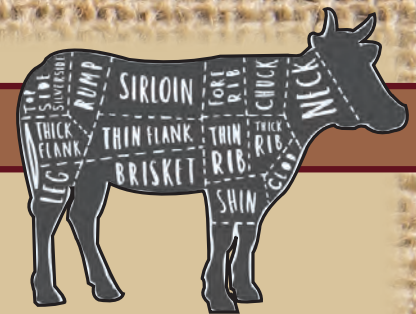
- Noon-2:00PM Committee Meetings
- 2:00PM-5:00PM MSCA Policy & Resolutions Committee Meeting
- 7:00PM Social hour & Exhibitor/Sponsor Appreciation Supper

Friday, December 2, 2016

- 8:00AM-6:00PM Registration open
- 8:00AM-11:00AM Trade show set-up
- 9:30AM-10:00AM Cow/calf & Feeder Council meetings
- 10:00AM-10:15AM Regional caucus meetings for new director nominations (1,5,7 & 9)
- 10:30AM-11:30AM MSCA quarterly Board of Directors meeting
- 11:00AM Trade show opens
- Noon-1:00PM Lunch & welcome: MSCA & MCW Presidents
NCBA & ANCW representatives
Keynote: "Mom at the Meat Counter" by Janeal Yancy
- 1:30PM-3:30PM Cattlemen's College
 - 1:30PM-2:00PM Josh White, NCBA Director of Producer Education
(self assessments & BQA, why they are important to the beef industry.)
 - 2:00PM-2:30PM IMI Global *(3rd party audits, why they are important to the beef industry.)*
 - 2:30PM-3:00PM MN beef feedyard owner *(3rd party audits, feedyard owners perspective.)*
 - 3:00PM-3:30PM Assessment panel/Q & A
- 1:30PM-4:30PM Public grazing workshop
 - 1:30PM-2:30PM Greg Hoch, Minnesota DNR Prairie Habitat Team Supervisor *"Public lands grazing - The good, the bad and the ugly. How the process has evolved and lessons learned."*
 - 2:30PM-3:00PM Cody Nelson, Prairie Creek Seeds *"Grazing cover crops & extending the grazing season."*



2016 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention



Schedule of Events continued...

Friday, December 2, 2016 continued...

- Public grazing workshop continued -
- 3:30PM-4:00PM MN DNR & USFWS “New & updated public grazing requirements, updated grazing acreage goals & opportunities for partnerships with cattlemen in Minnesota.”
- 4:00PM-4:30PM Public grazing panel Q & A
- 3:30PM-5:00PM Trade show
- 5:00PM-5:30PM Social
- 5:30PM-11:00PM Best of Beef Banquet: Supper, ceremonies, entertainment & auction.
Entertainment: Jerry Carrol: Farmer, comedian & agricultural speaker. Comedian Jerry Carroll harvests a bumper crop of hilarity in his fast-paced, high-energy show. Jerry found humor growing up on his family’s farm, his relatable topics about everyday life crack up the most hard-to-please crowds. When he’s not on the road making people laugh, Jerry is still an active part of his family’s farm. This experience makes him one of the nation’s most sought-after speakers for agricultural related events.

Saturday, December 3, 2016

- 7:30AM-1:30PM Registration open
- 7:30AM-9:30AM Breakfast briefing
Bruce Kleven, MSCA Legislative Advisor
Colin Woodal, Sr. Vice President of Government Affairs, NCBA
- 9:00AM-1:30PM Trade show open
- 9:00AM-10:30AM MSCA Annual Meeting
- 9:30AM-Noon Minnesota CattleWomen Annual Meeting
- 11:00AM-Noon MSCA Jr. Association Meeting
- Noon Silent auction closes
- Noon-1:30PM Lunch
Keynote: Nebraska Cattlemen’s Association Marketing Program



2016 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show Registration for General Attendance

Online registration available at MNSCA.org

Meeting and Tradeshow Registration:	# of People	Fee	Total
Full Registration Fee (Both Days) (Per Person)		X \$100.00 -	=
Jr. Registration (Both Days) (Per Person)		X \$90.00-	
One Day Registration Fee (Per Person)			
Check Day: Friday _____ Saturday _____		X \$60.00 -	=
Total:			=

* Note: If you are a new member joining the MSCA in 2015, or if you recruited three new MSCA members, you are entitled to one complimentary registration. Exhibitors and general sponsors are also eligible for one complimentary registration.

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Please return completed form to:
Ashley Kohls – Executive Director
Minnesota State Cattlemen’s Association
PO Box 12, Maple Plain, MN 55359

2016 Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention Location & Room Reservations

Double Tree Hotel
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Minneapolis, MN 55439

For Reservations Call: 952-893-8444 or visit www.mnsca.org for the online hotel reservation link.

When making reservations please mention that you will be attending the Minnesota Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show. Please use the Group name MN State Cattlemen or group code MCM. The MSCA hotel room block expires on November 10th, 2016.

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Minnesota State Cattlemen's Supports Youth at the Beef Expo

By Leah Giess – KSU Ag. Communications Student

The Minnesota Beef Expo has continued to grow since its start in 2000. The 2016 Expo reached record highs with over 850 head entered in the junior show. During the Expo juniors are encouraged to become involved in the multitude of activities offered.

Juniors can participate in the knowledge bowl, livestock judging, fitting contest, showmanship, Stock Show University sponsored by Sullivan Supply and the Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program (MYBEP) seminar that featured YouTube stars, the Peterson Farm Brothers. During the seminar the brothers expressed they're surprise by their popularity and attention, after going viral the brothers attended the Kansas State fair and had to stop and take pictures with fans. The Peterson Farm Brothers were sponsored by AgStar Fund for Rural America.

The MYBEP Beef Ideas and Insights Symposium was sponsored by the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association (MSCA). Juniors were given the opportunity to become Beef Quality Assurance Qualified (BQA). The program focused on Management of Animal Health Products to Prevent Residues, Accurate Record Keeping, Injection-Site Lesion Prevention, Security & Biosecurity Planning. The event was led by Ashley Kohls, Executive Director of MSCA. Kohls also presented a session on high-stress cattle handling and best case plans for handling cattle in worst-case scenarios.

An additional session led by Dr. Mike Nagorske, DVM, Professional Services Veterinarian and Tressa Alderson, Professional Services Embryologist, Trans Ova Genetics gave attendees a get hands experience with laboratory equipment and gain an understanding of procedures. Dr. Chad M. Zehnder PhD, Cattle Consultant, Purina Animal Nutrition, LLC discussed the basics of cattle nutrition, understanding the yearly cycle of a brood cow and the nutritional requirements throughout the year. Additional speakers included Allison VanDerWal, President Block & Bridle at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Carey Prigge, DVM, Clarks Grove Waseca Vet Clinic, Kyle Rozeboom, University of Minnesota Lecturer and Livestock Judging Team Coach and Greg Harder, Minnesota State Fair Livestock Events Manager and University of Minnesota Livestock Judging Team Assistant Coach, Michelle Weber, Artist, Weber Custom Painting, and Claudine Goodrich, Mahtomedi Middle School English teacher, Co-owner of Goodrich Place, Inc., MYBEP Coordinator.

MSCA, in partnership with the MN Corn Growers Association sponsor the MYBEP program seminar heifer. Jayden Bailey from Benson, MN was selected as the recipient. Dar Giess, past State Cattlemen's President, attended the sale with Bailey where they bought the Champion Simmental sale heifer. Bailey hopes this will lead to a beginning of a seedstock operation that will benefit him for years to come. "I am always trying to get some newer and better genetics into my beef herd to help me become more competitive in the show ring," said Bailey. He and his family joined MSCA and a local cattlemen's association while at the Beef Expo. His family joined MSCA because they care about the future of Minnesota agriculture and are looking forward to becoming an active part of their local cattle community.

The Importance of a "deep bench"

By Ashley Kohls – MSCA Executive Director

Event by event, meeting by meeting—as each on passes I feel like things might finally start to slow down... until the next meeting or event unexpectedly shows up in my email inbox. 2016 has proven to be the busier

of my 2+ years with MSCA. As we brace ourselves for the outcomes of what this election will bring, we are already starting to focus on the 2017 state legislative session. While we don't know who will win the elections on both the state and national level, we are doing what we can to continue our communications with our friends in office to ensure our work on policies in 2016 won't get lost in the weeds.

I've been fortunate to have a pretty "deep bench" with our current MSCA board of directors. From local association meetings, to local or county agency meetings, to legislator meetings - at any given time your MSCA board of directors has been ready and willing to show up and represent your priorities. As some of your current board members wrap up their terms on the board, I would ask for you to consider if you feel up to the challenge to take their spot on the team. ALL of the successes we've seen in 2016 have been a direct result of our "deep bench". I can't thank the team enough for everything they've done to set the bar high for the next board of directors!

I look forward to seeing all of you at the 2016 Minnesota Cattle Industry convention. The lineup of speakers and topics are sure to appeal to everyone.

Take care and safe harvest!



ASHLEY KOHLS
Executive Director

CommonGround's "Field to Fork" farm dinner sparks great discussions

Nearly 90 farmers, consumers and reporters gathered August 9 for CommonGround Minnesota's "Field To Fork" farm dinner. The evening event took place near the

Brian Thalmann family farm in Plato about an hour west of the Twin Cities.

CommonGround Minnesota is now in its fifth year as a volunteer, grassroots organization of farm women who reach out and communicate about food and farming, often to a non-farming audience.

After hors d'oeuvres, Brian and his dad Randall gave a tour of their corn and soybean farm, followed by good conversations around the outdoor dinner tables.

Barb Schank, the school nutrition director for Waconia Independent School District, feeds 4,000 kids every school day. She wanted to know what's in the pork products her students eat. Wanda Patsche, a corn and soybean farmer and hog producer, "It's illegal for us to use hormones for our pigs," Wanda told Barb. "It's illegal to use them in poultry, too. We sell our pigs to Hormel, and USDA inspectors

right there at the plant test for hormones and also, they test for antibiotics to show that there is zero residue in the animal."

Barb and Wanda went on to talk about Waconia's groundbreaking Farm-To-School program, where kids grow and prepare some of the food they eat at school.

Media participants who attended the event included television and newspaper reporters, as well as food bloggers who reach tens of thousands of non-farming readers each week.



Brian Thalmann led Field to Fork attendees, including media, on a tour of his farm.



CommonGround volunteers answered questions from the crowd.

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Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association/National Cattlemen's Beef Association

MSCA/NCBA Partnered Membership Application Form

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

MN State Cattlemen's Association Dues \$50
Junior Dues \$25

Local Cattleman Association Dues (Optional)

Local = _____ (Local Dues →) _____

NCBA Membership Dues (Optional)

(Select the appropriate classification and add to MN State Cattlemen dues)

- 1-100 - \$150
- 101-250 - \$300
- 251-500 - \$450
- 501-750 - \$650
- 751-1000 - \$900
- 1001-1250 - \$1150
- 1251 - 1500 - \$1400
- 1501 - 1750 - \$1600
- 1751 - 2000 - \$1900

Stocker/feeder - \$150 + \$0.38/head

Associate Dues

- Individual - \$150
- Business - \$200
- Student (24 or younger) - \$50

Total Dues Enclosed This Membership _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Type Ops: Feeder Cow-Calf Seedstock Stocker Dairy Associate

Method of Payment: Check Credit Card Invoice Me

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Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ / _____ Signature _____

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