



The Beefalo Corral

OCTOBER 2009

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Annual Membership Meeting

The first annual general membership meeting was held on Saturday August 6th, 2009 in Springfield, MO. Approximately 45 members attended the dinner and meeting where an update on the business of the association was presented by outgoing President Andrew Hammer. It was reported that the “nuts and bolts” of the ABI – ABWR merger began in late December of 2008 and are nearly completed. The financial components of the merger are complete, the Web site is completely functional but needing additional content, the herd book software is functional with approximately 1,200 individual cattle records remaining to be reviewed. Since the merger, the association has successfully sponsored two Beefalo Shows and the first Junior National Show was held. Overall, the direction of the association is positive and there is a slight growth trend in the Breed at the present time.

Treasurer, Buzz Ide reported that the ABA has \$12,694.12 in the checking account. An additional, \$9,071 has been secured in short term certificates of deposit in the past. Recommendations for a stronger performing but secure investment option will be forthcoming and the Board will again invest a portion of the total funds available.

It was prescribed by the ABA bylaws that the interim Board of Directors, elected to serve through the transition process, be replaced at this meeting. The nominating committee presented a slate of nominees as follows:

Michael Henry	Matt Super	Buzz Ide
Andrew Hammer	Michael Barnhill	John Fowler
David McCoy	Lucien Hinkle	Vernon Zelch
Kyle Skidmore	Joe Niemann	

Nominations were open from the floor as well with Barbara Armstrong being nominated to the Board.

The bylaws prescribed that the nine members be seated with those nine individuals with the highest vote count being elected. Following the selection of the Board members, the initial terms of each Board member were determined by luck of the draw as outlined in the bylaws.

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- **Promote your Breed with ABA clothing, ear-tags, etc. Coming soon to the ABA Web site.**
- **Send photos, articles promotions and advertising to the editor.**
- **Join the Beefalo discussion group coming to the Web site.**

From the President — Andrew Hammer

"A great deal of progress has been made in a relatively short period of time, due in large part to the patience of our members and the persistence and efforts of the interim Board.

Dear ABA Members:

As I sit to write to you tonight, the resounding theme that comes to mind is; Progress and Patience.

The past several months have been very busy and successful for the ABA. Early March found us gathering in Louisville, Kentucky for our annual show and sale. Again this year show chairmen Mike Barnhill and Mike Henry gathered up an excellent group of exhibitors and animals, with Beefalo having the second highest number of entries of all the breeds represented. While we were in Kentucky we also held a fellowship dinner, a fun auction, and an informal membership meeting. It was great to see the number of members who attended the show, the sale, the meeting, or all three.

After the Kentucky event, the association dug much deeper into the "nuts and bolts" of the merger, most notably our herd book software. The expectation was that since both ABI and ABWR had been using the "same" software, the two herd books would join together fairly seamlessly. Based on this expectation, we anticipated about a three week process to complete the project and we suspended new registrations and transfers until the software was completed. Well, we found out that the software wasn't exactly the same, and that there were over 4,000 instances where the herd book data needed to be manually reviewed prior to merging the records in the database. Thank you for your patience as the software project took well over 12 weeks to reach a point of functionality. Through the pain of this project, much progress has been made and there are now nearly 9,000 records in our herd book with many more to come as the manual review process is completed.

Other areas of progress include our new Web site. There are details about this project provided in a separate article in this Corral, but a few items are notable here.

1. We have a new Web site capable of growing with us for many years and serving our marketing needs very well.
2. Our patience allowed us to build this site for just \$200 when similar systems cost on the north side of \$7,000.
3. We can now list all active members as Breeders, Meat Wholesalers, or both. Please send us your farm name and current contact information for inclusion on the Web site.
4. We can host our affiliated State and Regional Association sites for them.

The financial transition from two organizations to one is complete. This process involved a great deal of details as new accounts were opened, funds transferred, old accounts were closed, taxes were filed, etc. etc. The various devils in the details were all worked out with the assistance of outgoing treasurers, interim treasurer Buzz Ide, and office manager Ruby Ide.

Just four short months from our meeting in Louisville, we held our first annual membership meeting, elected a new Board, appointed committee members, sponsored another great Beefalo show, and held our first ever Junior National Show. WOW!

Continued on page 3

Membership Meeting Continued

The results of the election are:

Three Year Term	Two Year Term	One Year Term
Vernon Zelch	Andrew Hammer	David McCoy
John Fowler	Mike Henry	Kyle Skidmore
Buzz Ide	Mike Barnhill	Lucien Hinkle

The meeting was adjourned and our traditional fun auction followed raising over \$400. Special thanks to our guest auctioneer Matt Super and his young apprentice Tim Allen for their efforts selling our items.

Immediately following the general membership meeting, the newly elected Board of Directors held their first meeting of the term. As called for by our bylaws, the newly elected Board held elections for the executive offices. The results are:

President: Andrew Hammer

Vice President: Kyle Skidmore

Secretary: Vernon Zelch

From the President—Continued

A great deal of progress has been made in a relatively short period of time, due in large part to the patience of our members and the persistence and

efforts of the interim Board. Your patience allowed us to make progress and complete the tasks set before us without feeling undue pressure and without fielding too many complaints. Your support through the transition period is certainly noted and very much appreciated.

Now, I look forward to the themes of future President's letters; one of which I know will be Excitement for the future of ABA and our Breed.

Sincerely in your service,

Andrew Hammer



Scene from the 2009 Junior Nationals in Springfield, MO

The Evelyn Garrett Scholarship

The Board of Directors is extremely pleased to announce the creation of The Evelyn Garrett Scholarship. This is a new program created to honor the many years of skilled and dedicated service Mrs. Garrett has devoted to our Breed.

Purpose

To recognize and honor more than 30 years of dedicated service to the Beefalo Breed by Evelyn Garrett and to inspire and encourage students to pursue agricultural and animal husbandry education.

The Program

The scholarship program is an annual program whereby the selected student or students shall receive financial assistance in the amount of \$200 to be used towards technical schooling, community college, college, or postgraduate studies in the areas of agriculture, animal husbandry, or food science.

Eligibility

The scholarship program is available to children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of American Beefalo Association members and Junior Members of ABA who will be graduating from High School within 6 months of application or who are currently enrolled at a technical school, community college, college, or university.

Application Process

The application process will be comprised of:

1. A standard application form including schools attended, date of anticipated graduation, current grade point average, area of study, contact information, and references.
2. A written essay submitted by the applicant.
3. Letter(s) of recommendation from a guidance counselor, teacher, professor, coach, or other educator.

Awarding Criteria

The scholarship(s) will be awarded annually based on the following criteria:

- A panel of 2 ABA board members (or Board appointed reviewers) + Evelyn Garret will review the applications, essays, and letters of recommendation for each applicant and recommend the scholarship recipient(s) to the ABA Board each year.
- The ABA Board will review the recommendations and make the final decision on the recipient (s).

The Award

The award will be a certificate accompanied by the scholarship check presented at the ABA event (show, sale, membership meeting) immediately following the award deadline.

The first annual Evelyn Garrett Scholarship(s) will be awarded in March of 2010 at the National Beefalo Show in Louisville, KY. The application deadline will be January 31, 2010. Applications will be made available in November of 2009 to the award candidates.

Funding

The Board will fund the scholarship program the first year (and subsequent years as necessary) We will designate proceeds from at least one fun auction each year to help fund the scholarship fund and we would solicit member contributions to the fund. A separate bank account has been established to hold this money.

As of this writing the 2010 award(s) is funded by an individual donation and from fun auction proceeds. Contributions to the Evelyn Garrett Scholarship fund may be made by sending a check or money order payable to American Beefalo Association Scholarship Program to the ABA offices. It is our goal to increase both the number of awards and the amount awarded as funds are available and to ensure the future funding of this excellent program. Please consider making a contribution to the Evelyn Garrett Scholarship program.

October 2009

Beefalo Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Due indicates date cow should calve if bred on this date.				1 Due 7/10	2 Due 7/11	3 Due 7/12
4 Due 7/13	5 Due 7/14	6 Due 7/15	7 Due 7/16	8 Due 7/17	9 Due 7/18	10 Due 7/19
11 Due 7/20	12 Due 7/21	13 Due 7/22	14 Due 7/23	15 Due 7/24	16 Due 7/25	17 Due 7/26
18 Due 7/27	19 Due 7/28	20 Due 7/29	21 Due 7/30	22 Due 7/31	23 Due 8/1	24 Due 8/2
25 Due 8/3	26 Due 8/4	27 Due 8/5	28 Due 8/6	29 Due 8/7	30 Due 8/8	31 Due 8/9

Upcoming Events

March 2010 • Beefalo Show & Sale • Kentucky Beef Expo • Louisville, KY

July /August • Beefalo Show Ozark Empire Fair • Springfield, MO

Send Beefalo event information to the editor via email—Corral@AmericanBeefalo.org

Notes...

Send us your announcements, notes, and congratulations for publication here.

The following fee schedules were adopted for 2009.

Animal Registration Fees

Fullblood	\$20.00
Purebred	\$20.00
Percentage	\$20.00
Meat	\$5.00
Transfers	\$10.00

Membership & Service Fees

Lifetime Membership	\$300
Annual Membership	\$50
Associate Member	\$25
Junior Member	\$25 one time fee with no annual fees
Annual Service Fees	\$25

Beefalo Registration Software Updated

The majority of updates to the Beefalo registration software are now complete. Over 4,000 individual records were reviewed by hand to ensure that the merging of the ABI and ABWR registries is complete and accurate.

As of this writing, there are still about 1,200 records that need to be updated. These updates are required in instances of duplicate animal IDs, duplicated member IDs, or other information discrepancies. These duplications are the result of bringing data from two organizations together.

In order to finish the data merge, we will need to temporarily freeze new registrations and transfers for approximately two weeks in mid-November. We will announce the exact dates as we move closer to the final stage of merging the data.

Please contact office manager Ruby Ide with any questions related to registrations.

ABA Web site Update

The ABA Web site, AmericanBeefalo.org has been complete for several months and has been receiving a significant amount of traffic each month. The site is designed to allow for fast and easy updates that will allow the organization to communicate quickly and efficiently with both members and prospective members.

Each member may have their farm listed on the Breeding Stock and/or Meat pages. Please send your current contact information including your Farm name, membership number, address, city, state, zip code, email address, and web site address to administrator@AmericanBeefalo.org or contact office manager Ruby Ide at 1-800-BEEFALO.

Web site advertising

The new Web site is constructed to allow featured members and other advertising opportunities. These opportunities will highlight your farm, your herd, or your animals for sale. Featured member ads are available for \$25 per month. Banner ads are also available on the site for \$35 per month. For information and ad specifications, email administrator@AmericanBeefalo.org

Corral Update

The Beefalo Corral is an important method of communication to our membership. I have to apologize for the sporadic delivery of the Corral over the past few months. The majority of available volunteer time has been spent on updating and completing the registration software and Web site. Now that those projects are complete, the Corral will return to a regular distribution schedule.

Corral advertising is an important source of revenue that offsets the cost of printing and distributing the Corral. More importantly, Corral ads are an excellent way to promote your farm and the animals you have available for sale. Corral ads are due by the 15th of each month for publication in the following month's issue. Please consider advertising in the Corral.

Corral Advertising Rates

1/8 page (business card) - \$15 per mo. 1/4 page - \$25 per month (\$250 annual)

1/2 page - \$50 per month (\$500 annual) Full page - \$70 per month (\$700 annual)

To advertise in the Corral, send an email to Corral@AmericanBeefalo.org

Corral Goes Online

In addition to the regular printing and mailing of the Beefalo Corral, the Board has resolved to begin publishing the Corral to the ABA Web site beginning with this issue. Publishing the Corral on the Web site will improve the delivery speed of important announcements and greatly decrease the costs of communication. The Corral will be viewable on the Web site and printable on demand. For the foreseeable future the Corral will be available via US Mail as well as via the Web site.

If you have Internet access and are satisfied with the online version of the Corral, please contact Ruby Ide at our offices to be removed from the mail distribution list allowing the organization to save a significant amount of money.

2009 Beefalo Junior Nationals

The American Beefalo Association hosted the first Beefalo Junior Nationals in Springfield, Missouri on August 7, 2009. This first event focused specifically on the youth of our organization was a huge success and established our organization's ability to offer events that will engage younger cattlemen and women.

The Junior National Show featured several classes of female Beefalo as well as three classes of showmanship.

Showmanship winners

Senior Showmanship: Clint Barnhill

Intermediate Showmanship: Zachariah McCoy

Junior Showmanship: Sara Hacker

Herdsmen Award: Sara Hacker and McKalya Phillips

Junior calf Champion: Shauna Hays with PALR Vera
Reserve: Mikala Phillips with LNH Miss Vada

Yearling Heifer Champion: Davielle McCoy with 4M Ursula
Reserve: Joel Keller with LNH Lady Ulani

Senior Heifer Champion: Zachariah McCoy with FDF Lady Rose
Reserve: Amanda Hall with CRB's Gracie

Overall Grand Champion: Zachariah McCoy with FDF Lady Rose
Reserve: Davielle McCoy with 4M Ursula



New Committees Formed

The Board of Directors has established two new committees to assist in performing the necessary business of the association.

Junior Membership and Activities Committee

For a long time our organization has needed to involve a group of younger cattlemen and women in the activities of the Beefalo Breed. Many conversations have been held on just exactly how to do that and when to get started. With no time being better than the present, President Andrew Hammer appointed Mr. David McCoy of Lamonte, MO to serve as chairman of the Junior Membership and Activities Committee in June of this year.

Mr. McCoy brings a wealth of experience to his new post gained from his and his family's participation in four different cattle breed associations (Shorthorn, Santa Gertrudis, Simmental, and Beefalo) and countless junior events.

David's first undertaking as Chairman was the first Beefalo Junior Nationals reported on in this publication.

In the coming weeks, David will round out his committee with additional members and continue a series of efforts to engage the youth of our Breed and to encourage other young cattlemen and women to become active.

Registration Review Committee Formed

From time to time, questions may arise as to the validity of an application for registration in the ABA herd book. These issues typically arise when information required for registration is unclear or unavailable. These items may include missing breeder's statements, inconclusive DNA results or missing DNA, incorrect applications, etc. There are numerous reasons why questions may arise.

In order to expedite the processing of applications and to arrive at sound decisions quickly and accurately, the Board of Directors has appointed a registration review committee. This committee will serve at the pleasure of the Board performing research, reviewing applications, visiting breeders, helping breeders, and ultimately making recommendations to the Board of Directors who then render a decision.

The members of the registration review committee are:

Larry Hacker

Kerry Williams

The current ABA vice president – presently Kyle Skidmore

Marketing and Communications Committee Invitation

There is a need for improved communications and better marketing for our breed. To fulfill this need, the Board will seat a marketing and communications committee, to serve at the pleasure of the Board, assisting in the creation and distribution information that promotes the Breed.

Nominations for service on this committee may be submitted to Andrew Hammer via email at Andrew@FlightPathFarm.com or by calling (330) 933-6717. The committee will be seated in November 2009.

Springfield, MO Beefalo Show Results

Springfield, Missouri and the Ozark Empire Fair were the site of an excellent Beefalo show this past August. 53 animals were entered and all were of excellent quality. By all accounts, this was the largest Beefalo show in roughly 20 years and shows the collective strength of the newly merged organization. Start making your plans to attend the 2010 show now and pick your show animals soon.

Class: 201 Late junior heifer calf	Class: 202 Junior heifer calf
1. PALR Vera Linda Hays	1. LNH Miss Vada Larry Hacker
2. Circle Z 012W Vernon Zelch	2. LNH MISS Voni Nelda Hacker
3. BERU Willie Eugene Ussery	3. PALR Vicky Linda Hays
	4. LNH Miss Vanda Ard Hoyt
	5. Miss Violet Ruth Keller
Class: 204 Senior heifer calf	Class: 205 Champion Junior Female
1. LNH Miss Quineta Larry Hacker	PALR Vera Linda Hays
Class: 206 Reserve Champion Junior Female	
LNH Miss Vada	
Class: 207 Junior yearling heifer	Class: 208 Intermediate yearling heifer
1. 4M Ursula Carrie McCoy	1. KSBC Little Spot Kyle Skidmore
2. LNH Miss Questa Larry Hacker	
3. BERU Uzi Eugene Ussery	
Class: 209 Winter yearling heifer	Class: 210 Senior yearling heifer
1. Isabell Clint Barnhill	1. Skid's Black Tessa Kyle Skidmore
2. FBF Udela John Fowler	2. LNH Lady Tango Larry Hacker
3. LNH Lady Ulani Larry Hacker	
Class: 211 Champion Yearling Heifer	Class: 212 Reserve Champion Yearling Heifer
4M Ursula Carrie McCoy	KSBC Little spot Kyle Skidmore
Class: 213 Bred cow w/o calf born before 10/1/07	Class: 214 Cow w/calf at side, cow born 9/1/05-9/30/07
1. FPF Niffy Jewell Fowler	1. Kyle Skidmore
2. Cotton Mallory Allen	2. Carrie McCoy
3. JBB Tulip Kristina Blair	3. BERU Tiajuana Eugene Ussery
4. FBF Saturn Jewell Fowler	
5. Springfield James Fowler	



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ABA Mission Statement—American Beefalo Association has as its primary objective the registration, improvement, and promotion of the Beefalo breed.

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