



# NEWSLETTER

## **Annual Meeting**

**February 10, 2018, Noon**

**Ground Round Grill & Bar**

**201 Helen Dr, Suite 1**

**Tomah WI 54660**

**Located near Hwy 12 & Interstate 94**

**Meal is \$20.00 per person.**

**Please RSVP to Jessica NO LATER THAN February 6th.**

**608-963-7499 or [bordercows@gmail.com](mailto:bordercows@gmail.com)**

**We hope to see you there!!**

## **Wisconsin Dairyland Milking Shorthorn Sale**

**Mark your Calendars!**

**April 28, 2018**

**Jackson County**

**Fairgrounds**

**Black River Falls**

**WI**

## **Junior Members!**

**\*\*Junior Achievement Awards.\*\***

*First Place is \$500.00 towards the purchase of an animal at the Wisconsin Dairyland Milking Shorthorn Sale!*

Please contact Jessica if you are interested in applying.

**\*\*Share-A-Heifer Program\*\***

Please contact Brenda Gudex for information about the program. [brenda@fdlac.com](mailto:brenda@fdlac.com)



## Queen Happenings with Ruth Wise

Hello everyone! My name is Ruth Wise. I have been the Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn queen for the past two years. It has been a wonderful experience. I was not as active as I was in 2016. But I still kept myself plenty busy. Let's start from the beginning. As 2017 was just kicking off, my first semester of high school was coming to an end and another semester was around the corner. January came and went very quickly. February seemed to do the same. At the state Milking Shorthorn Meeting, I was asked to be the queen again I quickly said yes, and was excited for the future and what the wonderful breed had in stock for me. In March I started my first job. I started working for the farm that I show Milking Shorthorns from, Wagner family farms. I milk their cows every other weekend, and fill in when needed. I was really excited, my first job and my first paycheck. Also another great thing had happened. To some this isn't as exciting as it is for me. My first Milking Shorthorn cow that I had ever shown turned two on March 26. April had come before I knew it, and that had meant the

show on April 27th. I missed school to attend. It was a chilly time of year, but I was happy to see all of the exhibitors and all of their cattle hitting the show ring. My father had taken the time to drive me down there and spend the day watching the cows going around the ring. The next day April 28th, I had gotten my wisdom teeth out. On April 29th was the Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn sale. I went to the sale and helped with the fun auction. I had puffy cheeks, and did the best I could. I watched the sale and was sitting with the Jerry and Shirley Wagner. I was watching as occasionally they would bid on a bull. They ended up buying a bull. He was a pretty red Milking Shorthorn bull. In May the snow was thawing and working with calves began to happen again. March, and Winter calves began to be halter broke. It was a busy time for all of us. In June came another end of a semester, finals, and my first year of high school. With summer break just starting there came working with calves, dairy camps, and the State FFA Convention. I

went to Badger Dairy camp, and it was held in Madison. I quickly became aware that most of the kids that attended were Holstein showers and breeders. At the camp I learned more about fitting cattle, and improving my showmanship skills. The week after camp was the State FFA Convention. At the convention I saw one of my friends that I had met one of my friends through the wonderful breed of Milking Shorthorns, Libby Hashider. It was nice to catch up with her and find out what she has been doing the last few months. June had flown by and my first cow had her first calf on June 25th. July came and that had meant the state picnic and county fair. The state picnic had come very quickly. It was a good time to catch up with breeders and enjoy a nice afternoon of talking about a wonderful breed. County fair was the next thing to come up in July. I had shown my cows under the Black River Falls FFA. I had shown with three other people, but I was the only one with Milking Shorthorns. I was also the only one to have a cow, and have four head there too. I had my own little string of Organic Milking Shorthorns at fair. The way that we were placed in the dairy barn, I was right next to Tyler, Hope, and Mason. They are the grandkids of Jerry and Shirley.

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## 2017 Cow of the Year

Mapleton Vly LT Borroloola, a 7-year-old Milking Shorthorn bred and owned by Mapleton Valley Farms LLC of Oconomowoc, is the 2017 Wisconsin Cow of the Year.

Borroloola was recognized at an Oct. 3 ceremony during this year's World Dairy Expo in Madison.

Each year, a different Wisconsin purebred cattle association selects a cow to represent her breed as the Cow of the Year at World Dairy Expo, with the honor rotated annually among the seven major dairy breeds (Guernsey, Ayrshire, Holstein, Red and White Holstein, Brown Swiss, Jersey and Milking Shorthorn). The Milking Shorthorn

was recognized this year.

Pat and Phyllis Agnew, along with their children, Katie, and Tom with his wife, Keely, and children Bryn and Blake, all contribute to farm operations at Mapleton Valley Farms. Their 60-cow milking herd has been on the Dairy Herd Improvement Association with the Dodge County Testing Association since the early 1960s. The farm has been in the Agnew family since 1907.

Pat and Phyllis started their Milking Shorthorn herd in 1978, receiving their first animal as a wedding gift. Both Pat and Katie have served as AMSS national directors, and Tom has judged shows from local to national levels. Katie is a high school science teacher, and Tom also owns a dairy farm supply company.

Wisconsin Cow of the Year is a special honor for the Agnews, as Phyllis' family bred and owned the first Milking Shorthorn to be honored. Willard and Sylvia Gerner, along with their son Jeff and his wife, Monica, showed Weg Acres Major's Faith at World Dairy Expo as the breed's first recipient of the honor in 1983.





## *2017 WMSBA Scholarship Winner - Colton Gregory-*

At the 2017 WI Dairyland Sale, Colton Gregory was announced as the recipient of the first ever WMSBA Scholarship. The Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn Breeders Association has established a scholarship to help juniors involved in the Milking Shorthorn breed who are pursuing a post secondary education. Juniors from the state of Wisconsin, along with out of state youth who's family are members of the WMSBA can apply for this. \$1000 scholarship. The scholarship is funded by the fun auction held before the WI Dairyland Sale .

Colton Gregory, of Harvard, IL, will be a Senior at UW Platteville this fall. He is majoring in Animal Science, with an emphasis in dairy, and a minor in Agriculture Business. Colton has his own small herd of cattle at his family farm, Mikes-Dar Farm. Along with working on his family's farm, he has worked at Tractor Supply and Co, snow plows in the winter, helps neighboring farms with their crops, and while at school, does feeding and herd health at Stone-Front Farms.

Colton has been a junior member of the American Milking Shorthorn Society and the Red & White Dairy Cattle Association since 2006. At Platteville, he is part of the Pioneer Dairy Club, Dairy Judging Team and is on the Pioneer Dairy Classic Selection Committee. His goal is to breed Milking Shorthorn cow families with high production and great

overall type. He plans to promote our breed by supporting Milking Shorthorn sales, being on a committee and one day serve on the Board of Directors.

Congratulations Colton on being selected as our first ever scholarship winner!

Any Junior Member wishing to apply for the 2018 Scholarship should contact Ellie Fleming for more details and to get an application. 315-778-8000 or [ellie.fleming@genusplc.com](mailto:ellie.fleming@genusplc.com). All applications are due March 31st and the winner will be announced at the Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn Dairyland Sale on April 28, 2018.

On behalf of the Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn Breeders, we would like to send our deepest sympathies to the families of John Hense, John Haugen, Aaron Kuske & Roseanne Woodward.

They were all long time supporters of the Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn Breeders.

### **Just in!**

Spring Show is scheduled for the first weekend in May. For information, contact Carrie Ritschard at [carrieritschard2003@gmail.com](mailto:carrieritschard2003@gmail.com)



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I was placed right next to them. It was nice to have a string of Cattle from Wagner Family Farms at County fair. We all placed very good. I placed pretty good as well. I won my showmanship class, and with my cow got second place. The other two year old cows were from Ruzics, in Alma Center. I also had a cheese basket at county fair and had sold it at the auction. July flew by and before I knew it August was well underway, and that meant preparation for Minnesota State Fair. We worked with calves, heifers and cows all summer. We were ready for Minnesota State Fair. I was beyond grateful to be able to show with Wagner Family Farms and to be part of the experience. We had taken two days to clip all of the cattle that were going to the fair. We had a full trailer of cattle and headed up to the fair. It was a long ride but

was well worth the time. Show day came and it was crazy. Overall as a whole we placed pretty good in the classes. It was Holly, Tyler and I who showed up at the fair. It was Tyler's first year showing at MN State Fair. A big congratulation goes out to Heavenly Show Cattle from Monroe Wi, who placed really well at Minnesota State Fair. Wagner family farms participated in best three and ended up placing third in both junior and senior divisions. It was a good show and we all had a great time. August was gone and September came. My sophomore year of high school had started, and I got my temps. Not a lot had happened in September, I worked and went to school. October came and it was World Dairy Expo time. I did not attend but was there in spirit. I watched the show online. A few weeks later was the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis

Indiana. While at the convention I had the opportunity to meet members from West Virginia who came from dairy farm backgrounds. In November and December not a lot has been happening around here. I have been very involved with FFA, and school activities. I have been working every other weekend, and I still enjoy it a lot. One thing that was exciting is that Wagner Family Farms classified some cows. One of the cows that were classified was my cow Shantell and she was scored an 86. Wagner's also had cows that were classified as 86, 87, 88, and 90. This year has flown by and was an eventful year. It was another one for the books. I hope that everyone else's year was just as memorable and busy. I hope that everyone has had a great holiday and a happy New Year.

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## Blueberry French Toast

Layer...

- 12 Slices of Bread, trim crust and cube (use 1/2 bread in bottom layer)
- 8 oz Cream Cheese, cubed
- 1 C Blueberries
- Add remaining bread

Egg Mixture: Mix and pour over layered mixture

- 12 Eggs, beaten
- 2 C Milk
- 1/3 C Maple Syrup

Cover & chill 8 hours. Remove 30 minutes prior to baking. Cover and bake at 350 for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake an additional 25 minutes or until set.



# Red, White & Youth

-Mena Schmitt

With every passing year full of countless miles traveled, gaining new friendships, and more guidance from legendary breeders about optimizing genetic potential, our beloved breed has given me an absolute opportunity of a lifetime. Everything surrounding the red cow has exemplified to me how to believe in something with utmost passion and perseverance, also having the privilege of working with a headstrong individual everyday. These ideals have inspired me to continue pursuing my journey within agriculture of chasing dreams of banners, breeding cows that matter, and farming to keep on my family's legacy. All of this has come from the red cow which has inspired a love for agriculture, an industry which continues to struggle to educate the population and feed the ever increasing population. Not only as just a farmer, we have

become teachers by default whether its involvement over social media or direct contact with consumers.

I have always held a firm belief that the future is always in the next generation from the young stock in the heifer barns or the kids dreaming to do what their parents do: farm. It is now a challenge to bring young people outside the farming community into the agriculture, yet the future is the youth. How do we solve this predicament to essentially sustain the future of our beloved industry? I challenge you to start involving youth and the public in why we farm and why we believe in everything it offers. Whether it's simply reaching out to local high school FFA and offering the use of a newborn calf for a petting zoo during agricultural promotional weeks, allowing the 4-H kids to use a heifer for the county fair, or taking a step forward and becoming an "advocate" with larger organizations and help educating through various techniques; all of these things get the next generation involved not only

with the Milking Shorthorn breed, but in learning the diversity and opportunities agriculture has to offer.

Within my own journey, I have watched not only animal handling confidence build through various visits to the farm, but also self confidence with the FFA and 4-H members who used an animal from my herd for a project. It is truly rewarding to watch them have success at local fairs, gain new friends and create unforgettable memories, and become inspired by what agriculture has to offer. With the Milking Shorthorn breed becoming increasingly popular, remember to get involved with any type of advocacy and talk to the youth within our breed to share both experiences and guidance for they are the future of the breed. The red, white, and roan has truly inspired me to accomplish great feats, now imagine all these opportunities for our next generation.





**2018 Wisconsin Milking Shorthorn Breeders Membership**

Dues are \$10.00 Annually

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have animals/embryos for sale?

Mail to: Jessica Hasheider, 7440 North St, Sauk City, WI 53583

WMSBA  
7440 North St  
Sauk City, WI 53583