

# GREAT NORTHERN TEXAS LONGHORN ASSOCIATION

## WINTER 17-18 NEWSLETTER

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The Great Northern Longhorn Classic Sale 2017, in the books and a great success.  
Save the date the "Great Northern Longhorn Horn Classic II". June 3, 2018

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## Great Northern Texas Longhorn Association Annual Meeting

**Date:** December 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2017

**Time:** 10:00 BOD mtg  
11:30 Member mtg  
Noon Meal  
Finish member mtg  
Auction to follow

**Location:** The Fresh Country Aire  
F1312 Co Rd P  
Stratford, WI 54484

## GNTLA Christmas “FUNdraiser” Auction

It's that time of year again to dig out those special items, collect those treasures, and check what you need to fill your Christmas gift list and then head to the Fresh Country Aire in Stratford for the GNTLA's annual meeting and the Christmas FUNdraiser!

For those new to the GNTLA, the Fundraiser Auction is the main source of support for the GNTLA and the proceeds are used for promotion of the Longhorn breed in the upper Midwest. **Members** bring donated items to auction off, which range from homemade jams and canned goodies to western home décor to baskets made up for a movie night to those items that are on your Christmas gift list.

For those Longhorn enthusiasts who aren't GNTLA members we invite you as our guests to come and enjoy the day. Please don't feel obligated to bring any items for the auction. Make it a day to meet new longhorn friends, socialize and have a great time. If you have any questions feel free to contact Keith Wucherpennig at 715-207-1042 or Winston Nelson at 715-505-5545. Hope to see you there !!!!!!!!

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## GNTLA Board Elections

With the GNTLA annual meeting comes elections to fill the board of directors seats that have finished their three year term. Those members who's terms are up are: Carley Roskom, Dave Grosse, Bill Froelich and Jim Yetter. If you are interested in running for the board let someone know and get yourself nominated!!!

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### COWBOY WISDOM:

*“The same boring water that softens the potato hardens the egg. It's about what you're made of not your circumstances.”*

*“While the optimist, the pessimist and the realist were arguing about a glass of water..... The opportunist drank it !!!!”*

*“It's been a rough week, but on the positive note I didn't need any bail money and didn't have to have to hide any bodies.”*

## **Midwest Horse Fair 2018**

Mark your calendars and save the date. The Great Northern Texas Longhorn Association will again be hosting a booth at the Midwest Horse Fair on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. The GNTLA's 2017 fair booth was a great success with all the inquiries and new friends we met. We hope you can make some time to take in the show, swing by the booth and say hello. If you've never experienced the Horse Fair join us in April, you won't regret it!

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## **GNTLA Appreciation Picnic**

With all the interest in Texas Longhorn cattle generated from the booth at the Midwest Horse Fair and our first Great Northern Longhorn Classic sale, the sale committee held a picnic on August 26<sup>th</sup> at the Dave Bilgrien ranch, to show our appreciation to all those who have shown interest and have shown support for our efforts in promoting the breed. The picnic was two fold in purpose. First to meet and greet those people who are new to the breed and secondly to help answer any questions about the breed they may have had. The food was great and the afternoon discussion even better. Discussion on feeding, breeding and management went on for a couple hours, with everyone sharing. For all of our new longhorn friends and to those GNTLA members that made the day, Thanks for attending and thanks for sharing.

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## **GNTLA Annual Membership Renewals**

For those members with annual GNTLA memberships there is an application in this news letter for renewal which can be brought to the GNTLA meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> or sent to Steve Froelich, GNTLA treasurer listed at the bottom of the application. If you're new and interested in becoming a member of the Great Northern Texas Longhorn Association (GNTLA) fill out the application and bring it to the meeting or send to Steve. Any questions contact Keith Wucherpennig at 715-207-1042 or Winston Nelson at 715-505-5545.





### Appreciation Picnic

It was a beautiful day and a nice crowd was in attendance for an appreciation picnic put on by the Great Northern Longhorn Classic sale committee for those people who have shown interest in the Texas Longhorns through the Midwest Horse Fair, our Longhorn Classic sale and just general inquiries. There was great discussion and info passed on during the day with new longhorn friends made!



### Those Wild Longhorns

New longhorn owners Steve and Valeri Dart of Luxemburg have found out how wild Longhorns can be. They purchased two bull calves from 5D Ranch to be raised for riding steers. Pictured to the right is Taylor with one of the new calves. After just a couple days the calves were tamed down and are on their way to be riding steers.

We welcome Steve and Valeri's family to the Longhorn family.



# **GREAT NORTHERN TEXAS LONGHORN ASSOCIATION**

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## **GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS**

*Maurice & Jackie Nolden*

*Dave & Joan Grosse*

*Keith & Barb Wucherpfennig*

*Dan & Denise Huntington*

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## **BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORS**

*Logan Wucherpfennig*

*Mike & Shirley Thiel*

*Brandon & Leslie Wucherpfennig*

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*"We thank these members of the GNTLA for their support of the great Texas Longhorn breed in the upper Midwest!"*

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*"Change is a process not an event"*

*"Change brings opportunity. Embrace it!"*

*"The secret to success is to go from mistake to mistake without losing your enthusiasm."*

*"The difference between an ordinary life and an extraordinary life is the extra."*

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## **Satellite Measuring at DK Longhorns**

On Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup>, GNTLA members Darwynn and Renee Klarenbeek hosted a TLBAA satellite measuring for the Horn Showcase and an open house at their DK Longhorn Ranch in Rock Rapids Iowa. With nice facilities, nice weather, great longhorns and great longhorn people they had a very successful day. Check out the Klarenbeeks DK Longhorn website at [www.dklonghornranch.com](http://www.dklonghornranch.com)

# Invitation

From the land down under, (no not Australia but Illinois) comes an invitation. An invitation to join the Prairie States Longhorn Association in an event. Plans are under way for next spring to hold an AI school for Longhorn breeders from the region. The PSLA has been working at building up interest in Longhorns in Illinois and the surrounding area. A field day was held this past July at Heaven on Earth Farm owned by Jonathan and Kristina Bentz and family and 4 Oaks Ranch owned by David and Angie Wulf. Ranch tours, speakers, food and vendors were all part of the day. For more info on the AI school or the PSLA give **Jonathan Bentz a call at 816-632-8685**. Check out the PSLA, Heaven on Earth Farm and 4 Oaks Ranch on Face Book.

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## DEFINITION:

**askhole**      *"A person who asks for advice yet always does the opposite of what you told them."*

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## PLANNING AHEAD

Like clock work, every year I hear of the same situations, it's the start of breeding season, "Do you have a bull to sell" or it's the last day of breeding season and "Do you know of somebody who needs a bull"!!!!!! If you've been working with the Longhorn breed any amount of time you know the issues with acquiring and also selling/disposing of a herd sire.

So when's the best time to plan your 2018 breeding program? **Well, probably a year ago or more.** First, hopefully you have some plan when it comes to choosing the right sire for our herds, whether it's pedigree, conformation, etc. We all know our herd's individual needs and requirements. With that in mind **plan ahead**. We should know what the needs for the next years breeding season will be. Now I know there can be unseen issues and circumstances when breeding season comes, we are working with live animals, but those should be rare and few. I once had a bull get pink eye in both eyes during breeding season which rendered him useless so it does happen. That was once in eighteen years. But again you know what your needs are. Do I need a yearling bull? Do I need a mature bull? Do I need one of each? What will I spend on a bull? How far will I travel for a bull? All questions only you know.

So with that said if you're searching for a herd sire for next year or will have one to sell, get the word out and get it out now. Make it known to GNTLA members and Longhorn breeders what you're looking for. With sales and shows, people connect, breeders network, and word gets around. That bull you look for next spring may be the one that ends up in the roper pen or in someone's freezer this winter. So what's your plan?



## Great Northern Longhorn Classic



"Sale day crowd under the tent"



"Auctioneer Dan & Pedigree Man Bear"



"GNTLA members and consignors, Darwyn & Renee Klarenbeek from Iowa."



"Out of state supporters : Ethan Loos IL, Tom Smith MI and consignor/buyer Joe Sedlack KS."



" Tom Mehlberg manning the ring."



"ITLA President Mike Tomey and wife Jamie representing the ITLA . Also there as consignors and buyers."

## Down by the Corral

It's that time of year again for working cattle (October 1<sup>st</sup>) at Church View Cattle Co.. Normally we run the calves through the chutes in mid July to castrate, tag and dehorn any crossbreds before we put the bull out with the herd, then again at weaning time and finally when we preg check, deworm and vaccinate the cows. We try to have all the chute work done by December 1<sup>st</sup> before the chutes fill up with snow. It's so enjoyable when you can move and sort cattle all on your own. On Sunday afternoon October 1<sup>st</sup> I caught the herd, sorted off a cow going to the butcher, sorted off twenty five calves, then sorted off two late born longhorn calves to elastrate, and finally sorted the crossbred calves that were getting weaned and then kicked the straight longhorn calves back out with their moms. Other than a little help elastrating the calves I was able to do this on my own. Now it doesn't always go that smooth, but with a little planning and a little luck these longhorns are fun to work and own.

It's been quite the year in Wisconsin and the upper Midwest for Longhorn enthusiasts, with all the sale planning that went on, the booth at the Midwest Horse Fair promoting the breed and sale, the first "Great Northern Longhorn Classic" sale and the follow up appreciation picnic held the end of August. With all the activity that has gone on the past months it always important to take time to sit back and reflect. What were our goals and objectives? Were our goals and objectives met? What can we do better? All questions to sit back think about and reflect on.

From the start, the main objectives in everything we were going to do was **to bring in new breeders and longhorn enthusiasts from Wisconsin and the upper Midwest together, with established breeders and programs and start to build the Longhorn net work up in this part of the country.** Once you get out of the Texas and the surrounding states, Longhorn breeders and cattle get farther and farther apart. But over the years the east coast has been building up a network of breeders, Lower Michigan has a strong group of breeders. The west coast is also moving ahead. It can be done, so why not here?

The booth at the Midwest Horse Fair has given us a strong start. Held last April, throughout the three day show we talked to hundreds of people. As with any event like this you have the curious and the serious. By the end of the show we had had sixty five serious inquiries. These are people with interest in checking out the Longhorn breed farther, asking for information, asking questions and wanting to be informed. To all those who stopped, we tried to be as helpful as possible. They will be on our mailing list over the next year for our newsletters, sale catalog and whatever other events we have and hopefully they will contact us for more info or questions they may have. We had inquiries from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois. Truly a regional interest.

The Great Northern Longhorn Classic sale in June was the culmination of close to a year of planning. It was a learning experience from start to finish. First, to give you an idea of where the cattle went. Cattle ended up going to eight states plus Wisconsin. Cattle went to Utah, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Indiana, and



Wisconsin. Out of the cattle sold, ten head went to new breeders in Wisconsin. That was just the target group we hoped would attend, again with the goal to bring in new breeders. The ten head went into five new or newer programs. Plus there were the new bidders that didn't get the one they wanted. Our hope is to help those either in future sales or private sales to start them in their own Longhorn journey. Another goal of the sale was to have good quality cattle available that the entry level person could afford to the genetics that the established breeder would invest in. Here is a rough break down of the sale prices.

32 lots averaged \$1890 with a top of \$8000

3 lots (heifers) under \$1,000

8 lots \$1,000 - \$1,499

13 lots \$1,500 - \$1,999

5 lots \$2,000 - \$2,999

3 lots \$3,000 +

I think our goals of bringing the target group of those interested in the Longhorn breed together through information and promotion along with the availability of affordable good quality cattle through a sale was a success. I'm sure there are things through this process that we need to do better and please feel free to share your thoughts if you've been involved in any way, whether an inquiry at the show or sale, as a consignor, as a bidder or as a buyer, communication is the key.

And lastly comes the networking. Whether you're new to the breed and own cattle or you're still kicking the tires, there are longhorn breeders in Wisconsin and the GNTLA that want to **help you succeed** in your endeavor. Ask questions and look for advice on what ever part of starting, owning and raising Longhorns entails. At our appreciation picnic there was a two hour discussion on general topics of owning and raising Longhorn cattle. From buying and marketing, to feeding and nutrition, to equipment and handling, plus more, with all breeders sharing their thoughts and ideas to those new to the breed. Networking is very important and there is a wealth of knowledge out there ready to be shared if you only ask.

Looking forward to the new year coming up. Hope to see you all at some of the upcoming events in 2018. Make sure you stop and say hello.

*Happy Trails,  
Mike Thiel*

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## Only in the North Woods

There has been a rumor going around about some folks in the north woods trying to cross porcupines with Texas Longhorns. Don't know whether they were trying to get the longest quills or biggest round but they did spend some time pulling quills out of the poor cow!!!

# ANNOUNCING THE:

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**"Great Northern Longhorn Classic II"**

**Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

**Dave Bilgrein Ranch**

**Montello, WI**

**Mark your calendar  
More information to follow**

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*"It's been a rough week, but on a positive note I didn't need any bail money and didn't have to hide any bodies."*

*"Be careful not to do something permanently stupid because you were temporarily angry stressed, scared, tired or hungry."*

*"Don't bother apologizing if you're just going to continue doing the things you said sorry for."*

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## **Important Meeting Day Info**

All though it's been rare to cancel, with the Annual meeting being held in early December snow and bad weather could be an issue, so if in doubt make sure to contact either Keith Wucherpfennig at 715-207-1042 or Winston Nelson at 715-505-5545 on the day of the meeting for info.

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# GREAT NORTHERN TEXAS LONGHORN ASSOCIATION

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a member of the Great Northern Texas Longhorn Association (GNTLA). Our major purpose for existence is the promotion and support of the Texas Longhorn breed of cattle. This also includes the education of the general public on the merits of owning this great breed of cattle. We attempt to do this through meetings, exhibits, newspaper ads, website use and participation in major cattle events where and when feasible. We would be happy to have you join our organization. There are various levels of participation. Choose whichever method suits your immediate interest. Thank you for your support.

(as of Jan. 2000)

ANNUAL ACTIVE-----\$30.00  
(one vote, must own one or more Longhorns)

ANNUAL ACTIVE RANCH-----\$50.00  
(two votes, must own one or more Longhorns)

ASSOCIATE ACTIVE-----\$15.00  
(no votes, don't have to own any Longhorns)

LIFETIME-----\$250.00  
(one vote)

LIFETIME RANCH-----\$300.00  
(two votes)

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

Please return to:

GNTLA Treasurer  
Steve Froelich  
E11559 Jct Rd  
Wausau, WI 54403