

Columbiana-Mahoning-Trumbull Cattlemen's Association, Inc.

April 2017

www.cmtcattlemen.com

I am glad to be able to serve as the 2017 CMTCA President. I've been serving as a director for several years and, in my opinion, it's a great association. Thank you to Brian Spencer, last year's president, for serving. All the officers and directors are a great bunch of guys. Their knowledge and dedication to the cattle industry is very humbling. I will give the members a little of my background, but, I'm going to save it for another newsletter because we have two brand new directors to introduce in this edition.

The annual banquet was a great success with excellent food and great company. We announced the Champion of Champions Carcass Winner, Outstanding Cattleman of the Year and introduced our ambassadors for this year. There is a complete write up on the banquet happenings in this issue.

As I am writing this, there is snow on the ground and its 26 degrees. Quite a change from the mild winter we had been experiencing previously. The first official day of spring is only four days away. Outside it feels like winter, but, this time of year I can just feel the energy of everything ready to burst forth. The grass is beginning to green up in places. Many birds have returned from wintering in warmer climates. Buds on the trees are swelling. Soon the trees will be green again, erasing the greys of winter. It's a very exciting time. Many of you have started calving. Each calf represents hard work and decisions in your breeding program. Each calf carries the hope that it will improve your operation by better performance or becoming a maternal standout as a replacement heifer. All the things you want to accomplish this year stand before you as spring dawns

While we are anticipating spring and its benefits, our community out west has been devastated by wildfires. The actions of everyone in our industry are inspiring. Trucks loaded with hay almost immediately began rolling out west to help those in need. The CMTCA has donated a modest amount to assist in fuel costs for a local associate who is hauling donated hay and supplies with a team of volunteers convoying out west. The media in our country has done little to make people aware of this situation. These ranchers out west will need help for quite some time and should not be forgotten. Assistance is needed in many ways, fencing, fencing supplies, veterinarian supplies, feed and hay. Grasses will need to recover from the fires before they have grazeable stands again. It is going to take quite some time for these ranchers to recover but our agricultural community is resilient. The people affected by the fires will rebuild upon the ashes of what they lost. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

The CMTCA Ambassador Committee is holding a Night at the Races on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Social 45. They are raising money to help our ambassadors accomplish the goal of promoting the cattle industry in our counties. Additionally, a portion of the proceeds are going to be donated to help assist our community damaged by the western wild fires. Complete details along with a form to sponsor or purchase a horse are in the newsletter. It should be a fun event for good causes, hope to see a great member turnout.

I am always available to our members. If you have an idea on how to make the CMTCA better tell me, I want to hear it. Thanks for your time.

President, Duane Nickell

2017 OFFICERS

President

Duane Nickell
330-831-5040

Vice President

Brady Baker
330-831-1720

Past President

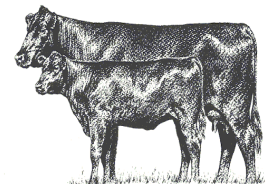
Brian Spencer
330-501-1987

Secretary

Chad Bailey
330-853-7966

Treasurer

Pete Conkle
330-831-0006



Upcoming Dates:

Night at Races: April 29, 2017

Inside this issue:

Ambassador News
OSU News Article

2017 CMTCA Ambassadors

As the CMTCA Ambassadors, these girls are here to help and assist the association and its members. If you have an event (PR, open house, sale, etc.) or know of an organization that could use the service of these ambassadors, please get in touch with Becky Coppersmith at 330-692-0816.

2017 Ambassadors were announced at the March Banquet. These girls will be seen around cattle functions, cattle shows and area fairs.

2017 Ambassadors:

Megan Drake
Alexa Baker
Hayley Krahling
Claudia Criss-Alternate

Ambassador Advisors:

Becky Coppersmith
Fred Criss
Melissa Boyd
Haley Drake



2017 Cattlemen of the Year

Hively's Highland Farms, Ltd

Hively's Highland Farms, Ltd is owned and operated by Curt and Allison Hively and their children Morgan and John. Curt's parents, John and Karen Hively are also an important part of the day to day operations.

The farm consists of 100 acres with 50 head of registered Shorthorn cattle roaming the pastures. They are active members of the American Shorthorn Association, Eastern Ohio Shorthorn Association, Ohio Cattlemen's Association, and NCBA and have exhibited cattle on the county, state and national level.

The farm has been in the Hively family since 1807 and Curt is the seventh generation to operate the farm. Curt and Allison had a prior commitment on the evening of the banquet but they did send the eighth generation of the Hively family to accept the award – 7 year old Morgan, along with 4 year old John proudly accepted the award.



2017 Board of Directors

Ben Campbell :330-402-3170
Todd Miller: 330-921-5983
Cory Wilson: 330-853-4518
Paul Wetzl: 330-509-5593
Fred Criss: 234-567-5574
Brady Baker: 330-831-1720
Chad Raber: 330-341-0090
Rich Boyd: 330-692-9085
Craig Bacon: 330-277-1973
Corey Hendricks: 330-502-9927

Gary Coppersmith: Dairy
330-692-5580

Presidential Advisors:

Mark Kohler
Harold Campbell
Rich Cope



Royalty

Beef Ambassadors:

Megan Drake
Alexa Baker
Hayley Krahling
Claudia Criss-Alternate

Ambassador Coordinator:
Becky Coppersmith

Jamie Garwood-Stacy:
Newsletter Coordinator

news@cmtcattlemen.com,
stacyranch@yahoo.com,
Jamie.stacy@ccctc.k12.oh.us,

330-398-4077

2017 Annual CMTCA Banquet

We held the annual banquet on March 4th, 2017 in Canfield, Ohio at Al La Carte Catering.

President Brian Spencer opened the banquet with a brief status of the CMTCA. CMTCA treasurer and OCA District 3 Director Pete Conkle updated attendees on industry concerns in Ohio. One of which is compliance with nutrient applications in the winter season and minimizing the unintended environmental impact of nutrients. Pete also addressed how import and export restrictions are affecting beef markets.

Ambassador committee chairman, Fred Criss, explained the ambassador program and the expectations of the CMTCA ambassadors. Ambassadors are available to help promote the cattle industry throughout the Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull County area. If anyone has a cattle related event our ambassadors are always happy to attend and help. Fred introduced ambassador advisors Becky Coppersmith, Melissa Boyd and Hayley Drake. Each of the ambassador advisors spoke and explained future plans for the ambassadors. The advisors detailed the selection process in which three professionals were selected to review all of the ambassador applications to allow an unbiased opinion to be utilized in the selection process. Each of the ambassador applicants introduced themselves to the attending members detailing their experience and their desire to participate in the program. Following the presentation the 2017 CMTCA ambassadors were announced. The young ladies receiving ambassadorship are Megan Drake, Alexa Baker, Hayley Krahling. Claudia Criss is an alternate.

At the banquet CMTCA senior advisor, Mark Kohler and CMTCA Secretary Chad Bailey, presented Marcus Murray with the Champion of Champions plaque for his carcass class steer. Marcus' steer was an Angus x Limousine that had a hot carcass weight of 869 pounds, .60 inch back fat, 15.2 inch ribeye, 2.8 yield grade and graded prime. As well as a plaque, Marcus received a check from the Ferguson Family Memorial Scholarship who co-sponsor the carcass class with the CMTCA. The Ferguson family has been instrumental and generous in the pursuit of introducing this class. The carcass class is judged exclusively on the carcass traits of the competitor's animal. It has been implemented in Columbiana and Trumbull County.

The 2016 CMTCA president, Brian Spencer, had the honor of presenting the Outstanding Cattlemen of the Year award to Hively's Highland Farms Ltd. Curt and Allison Hively were unable to attend the banquet, however, they were able to send Morgan and John Hively to accept on behalf of their parents. The Hivelys have been long time supporters of the CMTCA and make a huge contribution to the cattle industry on many levels. They own and operate Highland Enterprises Livestock Supply.

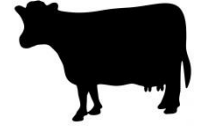
Vendors were on hand for a trade show prior to the meal. They spoke with members explaining products and services that they provide. The vendors sponsored door prizes for the banquet.

The final event of the evening was election of directors and officers. The 2017 officers are: President, Duane Nickell; Vice President, Brady Baker; Secretary, Chad Bailey; Treasurer, Pete Conkle; Past President, Brian Spencer; and Directors Craig Bacon, Rich Boyd, Ben Campbell, Fred Criss, Corey Hendricks, Todd Miller, Chad Raber, Paul Wetzl, and Cory Wilson. The CMTCA dairy representative is Gary Coppersmith. Senior Advisors are Mark Kohler, Rich Cope, and Harold Campbell. All of these gentlemen are very generous with their time and resources in support of the CMTCA and should be commended on their efforts.

The 2017 president, Duane Nickell, spoke after the election encouraging everyone to support vendors and organizations that in turn support the CMTCA. He invited everyone to come and join the CMTCA at their fall County Line Cattle Blast show on October 14 and 15, 2017. The show is the culmination of a considerable amount of work throughout the year and is truly a quality event.

Thanks to all the members that came out and supported the banquet!

2017 Banquet



Brian Spencer



Pete Conkle



Mark Kohler



Marcus Murray: 2017 Carcass Champion of Champions



Director Bio

This year we have two new members on our board of directors. I've had several conversations with them, both by text and over the phone. In my opinion, they are going to make great additions to our team. It should be appreciated when people that work hard and farm are willing to give their time to help the agricultural community. My first request of these gentlemen was that they introduce themselves to our members. So, they both sent me some brief bios that will be shared with you here.

– President Duane Nickell

1) My name is Craig Bacon I'm proud to be a new director in the organization and would like to thank everyone for this opportunity. I have been involved in agriculture my entire life mostly dairy and crops. Six years ago my cousin got tired of giving away bull calves so I started raising Holstein steers. Currently we feed approximately 70 head and farm a couple hundred acres of crop land. I have also worked construction 17 yrs. and last year started AB&B Concrete with my partner Michelle Allison. I look forward to helping promote the beef industry and CMTCA.

Thank you,
Craig



2) I live in Berlin Center with my wife Tracy. We have a horse boarding/training facility at our home. Tracy, originally from Tiffin, handles the day to day responsibilities of the horses as well as training client horses and giving riding lessons. I have lived in Mahoning County my entire life, I graduated from YSU in 2010 and started working for a locally owned company in Youngstown, and we service power generating stations throughout the Midwest. I began farming in 2010, making mostly hay and experimenting with grain! In 2012 the collection of a cattle herd started. Today we are still growing, focusing on genetics and foraging efficiency for cow/calf as well as finishing steers. In total, farming about 300 acres mostly hay and cover crop baleage around grain rotation. We operate with the mindset that building healthy soils grows healthy plants, and feeding healthy animals producing healthier food for us.

Thanks,
Corey Hendricks

Don't Remove Your Plants' Solar Panel by Grazing Too Early!

March 29₂₀₁₇

– Victor Shelton, NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist

Yes, it appears that we are trying to having an early spring, but I refuse to count those chicks before they hatch! Abnormally warm weather in February and early March is not that uncommon here in Indiana, unfortunately neither are late March and early April snows. The accumulated growing degree days so far this year, on average across the state, are higher than normal.

Now, it is REALLY early still, but I know how some think about ANY new green growth in the pastures. Let's think this through. Grazing too early in the spring does nothing but remove the solar panel the plants need to start building sugars and growing new roots. The forages really need to be able to canopy and get a good start before animals start removing that new growth otherwise production will be reduced.

I know sometimes the hay is not the best quality. Better to supplement poor hay and keep feeding it, if available, than to start grazing too early...now I say that somewhat tongue in cheek. Sometimes you want to set the stand back a bit to remove some competition. Such would be the case where you have frost seeded clover into the field. This would only be a factor if it was not grazed down tighter at the end of the previous grazing season or as dormant stockpiled forage. If it was grazed down close before, especially if grazed down before going dormant last fall, then you don't want to graze it close again, just utilize it in the normal rotation.

Fields that were grazed down tight last fall or over winter as stockpiled forage will not have adequate amount of standing dry matter, i.e., fiber available, and will for sure not be the best fields to start grazing early anyway. Those fields will lack sufficient fiber to go with all the washy high water, high protein forage that will come on with first growth. All ruminant livestock need to balance the carbon nitrogen ratio in their rumen to maintain that mat. If they don't then they will not perform the way we want them to, i.e., less gain, less milk production. It just goes through them faster than they can effectively utilize it...you know what means, I've said it several times...don't stand too close behind those cows!

If you would look at the manure consistency during that time period, it is probably very thin, almost watery, not that pudding consistency that is ideal for the rumen. Fields that do not have adequate dry matter to go along with that lush new growth will need to be supplemented to keep the animals in balance. This is a good time period to put out some low quality hay, baled corn stalks or even straw; if they need it, they will eat it.

I would hope you have been able to keep at least one or two fields with some stockpiled forage for early spring use. Stockpiled forages left from the previous season mixed with that new growth grass makes for a nicely balanced sward for grazing in the spring and a really nice place to calve. No or

minimal mud, and good quality balanced forage to eat. If you have never tried it, you will wonder why you hadn't after doing it.

This is one normally one of my favorite times of the year to build fence. We often get nice breaks in the weather, so not too hot or cold and soil conditions are usually very good for pounding posts. If you are in the early stages of doing some divisions and want to keep some flexibility, then utilize longer linear fences dividing bigger areas into longer narrower fields which can be easily subdivided down with temporary fence into whatever size is needed or cut for hay if that is what you want or need to do.

Now is a good time to get those soil tests done. Of course, if you haven't taken any for a while, then it is even a better time. They will pull pretty easy right now and you should have plenty of time to get them sent in and get results back in time to apply any needed nutrients before the real growing season.

It is extremely difficult to maintain a stand of quality forages that will produce quality, nutritious feed without adequate soil fertility levels. Everyone has tried it, but you soon see that by "getting by" with lower levels of nutrients, especially phosphorus and potassium, you are just that, "getting by", but with lower yields, lower quality forages, and lower carrying capacities. Just like an annual field crop, your forage crop needs to be fertilized and managed. Once the field is to moderate or better levels of fertility it is easy to maintain it there if it is only used for grazing. Any mechanical removal removes nutrients that will have to be replaced. Graze as much as you can and hay as little as you can, especially land that is hard to get fertilizer equipment on.

Nothing affects availability of nutrients more than calcium. It is one element that I'm not sure you really could ever over apply and certainly one of the best first dollars spent! Calcium and its relationship or ratio with magnesium, have a major impact on the forages ability to extract nutrients from the soil and certainly the acidity or alkalinity of the soil which can certainly dictate what will or can grow there. I would shoot for at least a 4:1 ratio of calcium to magnesium, or 5:1 if a dairy. If you are really short on calcium and start fixing that problem then you might find out that other elements start becoming more readily available. I've seen available phosphorus almost double after lime was applied or especially high cal lime. If total phosphorus is a lot higher than available phosphorus on a basic soil test, then calcium is normally not adequate.

Now, if you are going to be taking an early cutting of hay off a field, then putting most or all of your fertilizer on early spring is not too bad an idea; especially any nitrogen. If the application is on pasture, then you may want to rethink that just a little. There is no use adding fuel to the fire adding a lot of nitrogen to that spring growth spurt, you are much better off to wait and do at least a split application. Put on half of it in mid-June toward the end of the spring spurt and the other half on early fall to help that great fall growth period. That June application often will help you keep things going through the summer better . . . especially with some timely rains...if that is possible.

Keep on grazing!

Posted by [Stanley Smith](#) at 8:14am