

# The Galloway Dispatch



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN GALLOWAY BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

Autumn 2007

## NILE RESULTS

A fine group of Galloway cattle were presented for the 2007 Northern Invitational Livestock Exposition (NILE) held October 16th, Billings, MT.

Yearling heifer K Laney, owned by Jess and Kyndra Kindler of Spring Creek, NV, took home the Grand Champion Female honors. Brass Ring Galloways, Terry, MT, walked away with the Champion Bull award with their bull calf Brass Ring Troubadour. Reserve Champion female went to Brass Ring SaraLee, owned by Brass Ring Galloways. Reserve Champion bull went to J-7 Terminator 3047 owned by Grant Galloways, Hazelton, ID.

This year the Galloway breed was represented in the Range Cattle Pen Show. Russ and Susan Waples, Brass Ring Galloways, entered 3 Galloway-Hereford cross heifers and snagged the Reserve Champion award for their class. The Waples and their crossbreeds were featured in a Billings Gazette write up the day after the show. Read it and enjoy the photo at <http://www.billingsgazette.net/> and search Brass Ring Galloways.

### NILE Exhibitors

Andres Family Farm  
Blegen Galloways  
Brass Ring Galloways  
DD Ranch  
Grant Galloways  
K Galloways  
Jess Kindler

### Inside this issue:

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2007 NILE Champion Female  
K Laney



2007 NILE Champion Bull  
Brass Ring Troubadour



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## NILE and AGBA Annual Meeting

The 2007 annual meeting of the American Galloway Breeder's Association was called to order by vice president Harley Blegen on October 15th in the Metra building, Metra Park, Billings, MT.

New directors were elected: Joyce Jones was elected to the Eastern time zone. Shelly Andres (MT) filled a director at large position, as did Greg Morine (IL) and Joel Jackson (MT). Darrell Riemer (MN) was re-elected to the Central time zone. Gayle Cerullo was re-elected for the Pacific slot. The current directors are listed on the back cover of the Dispatch.

In the director's session, Harley Blegen (ND) was elected as President, Sarah Bowman (WY) as Vice President, and Joyce Jones (PA) as Sec/Treas. The most active discussions involved the AGBA website and alternative advertising venues.

Nina Haas of Wyoming presented a brief summary of a very rare liver disease found in Galloway cattle. Nina had the misfortune of owning the calf with the first diagnosis in the United States of hepatic lipodystrophy. (See page 7 for a letter from Dr. Donal O'Toole at the University of Wyoming.)

Joyce Jones and Greg Morine have undertaken the task of creating some promotional packets that can be on display at shows and conferences, and mailed out to persons making inquiries about the Galloway breed.

Michelle Blegen has volunteered to put together a PowerPoint presentation featuring Galloway cattle of all ages, sexes and colors that will be burned to DVD and played on a portable DVD player at all shows, conferences, etc. Also discussed was the possibility of making Galloway gear available for members to purchase, including coffee mugs, T-shirts and caps.

If you have any input on any of the above mentioned items, please contact your director! We love (and need) help!



Left to right: AGBA Directors : Joan Hoffman (wake up, Joan!), Darrell Riemer, Joyce Jones, Greg Morine, Susan Waples, Harley Blegen, Judy Decker, Sarah Bowman, Joel Jackson, Shelly Andres, Leroy Kindler. Not pictured: Gayle Cerullo



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## Denver Stock Show News

The deadline for entering cattle in the 2008 National Western Stock Show is rapidly approaching! The entry forms can be downloaded from <http://www.nationalwestern.com/> Galloway must be in place by 7 PM on Saturday, January 19. The Galloway show is scheduled for Monday, January 21st at 3 PM. Cattle may be released beginning at 7 PM on the 21st. They may remain in place as late as the 22nd at noon.

**Important:** New this year is a required BVD-PI test on all cattle participating in the 2008 NWSS. This test requires obtaining a plug of ear tissue which is then fixed and submitted to a lab to determine BVD-PI status. Testing requires a week to 10 day turn around time. *IDEXX Laboratories is offering free testing of cattle entered in the 2008 NWSS.* Instructions for using their service is included with the premium book and entry form. Still, it may prove simpler to have the vet collect and submit the sample when you are having the cattle vetted for the show, as it does require a rubber stoppered vial filled with formaldehyde to be shipped to the laboratory. Your call. Even if you have done whole herd testing in the past, you must have documentation specifically for the animals you bring to Denver.

Leroy has reserved a block of rooms at the Motel 6, which is handily located very near

### Forms, Forms, Forms,

<http://www.bovigen.com> Download the forms you need for DNA profiling. Also available on the AGBA website. Contact Bovigen Customer Service at 1-877-233-3362 if you have questions. Plan on about 4 weeks for DNA fingerprinting results of bulls. Other tests turn around in about 1 week.

<http://www.americangalloway.com> Download the forms you need to become a member or renew your membership.

<http://www.clrc.ca/index.shtml> Visit the CLRC website for .pdf forms and to do pedigree searches online



the Stockyards. Contact Leroy for lodging information and the appropriate phone number and room blocking designation at Motel 6.

This year the premiums at the NWSS Galloway show stand at \$2000. Sponsors for jackets and vests are still needed. You may contact Leroy Kindler to contribute to prizes, or for information regarding the Galloway show. He is show superintendent.

Leroy may be reached at **605-645-5970**.

Even if you cannot bring cattle, please come and support those that do!

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## Where Have all the Choice Carcasses Gone?

Kansas State University's Dr. Dan Moser, geneticist, recently presented his views on why beef carcasses are still yielding such a low percentage of choice carcasses. Moser, speaking at the 2007 Beef Improvement Federation conference, said that the Angus breed has documented the greatest change, and is a leader in carcass merit improvement, but at its current rate, it would take 60 years to bring the average "of the cattle population from mid-select to mid choice." Mosher further states that "we're not seeing dramatic changes in quality or cutability." So with the Angus breed heavily influencing the nation's cowherd beyond any doubt (to the tune of 347,572 registrations in 2006), what has happened to carcassing traits? According to Merlyn Nielson, University of Nebraska geneticist, breed comparison data from the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center indicates fed cattle "sired by Angus and other British breed bulls produce the highest percentage of carcasses grading Choice or better, when slaughtered at 445 days of age. However, those cattle also produce higher numbers of Yield Grade 4 and 5 carcasses. " (continued page 10)

# Hang 5 Galloways

My brothers and I offer a proud heritage of **QUALITY CARCASSES**. We're ready to prove it in your herd.

The **CARCASS QUALITY** of these bloodlines has been tested by the latest technology for over 4 decades.

- **1960/70's** - Certified Meat Sire program
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- **2000's** - Retained ownership carcass data
- Ultrasound herd data
- Bovigen Genestar™ DNA testing/verification

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I have Bulls that will help.

Semen available.

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Bulls Available Now!**

## Hang 5 Galloways

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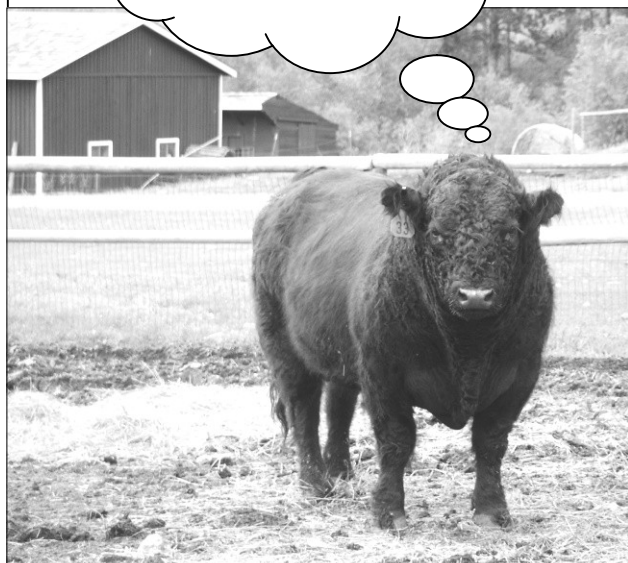
**Results of DNA Testing**

&

**Allen Williams'  
Ultrasounding:**

**100% Tender!**

**Heifers , Bulls, & Pairs  
for Sale**





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## REMINDER!!

2007-2008 Dues were  
DUE June 30th!!

\$80 Full Member

\$20 Associate

\$5 Junior

Is this your **last issue** of *The Dispatch*? If your AGBA membership has lapsed, so will your subscription! Not sure if you are paid up? Visit the AGBA website Breeders' Directory. Only current members are listed. Paid up but not listed? Contact your regional Director.

## AGBA 2007 Calendar

Nov 20 th NWSS Entries  
due

January 19th - Galloway in  
place at Denver by 7PM

January 21st - 3 PM NWSS  
Galloway Show

January 21st - Begin  
Release 7 PM

January 22nd - Galloway  
off premises by noon

January 25th - Dispatch  
Advertising Deadline

## President's Box

### Greetings Galloway Enthusiasts

I use the word enthusiast because enthusiasm is the feeling I got in Billings. Everyone seemed upbeat about the opportunity our cattle breed has in the ever-changing cattle industry. We have the cattle, we just need to promote them. We have some things to get done as an association, and I feel very confident in the ability of my fellow board members to work together for the betterment of the breed.

Galloways made the headlines in the Billings Gazette, thanks to Russ and Susan Waples' Reserve Champion pen of cross-bred heifers, not to mention Grand Champion Bull, and Reserve Champion Female. They presented a nice pen of Galloway-Hereford cross calves, as well as their obviously good show string. This is not to take away from the other good cattle at the show, but having Montana breeders do well I am sure helped the paper choose to run with their story. And in the end, that is good for Galloways as well. I have heard rumors the Waples' celebrity status has continued even at home. Congratulations!!

I would like to thank everyone who attended the annual meeting and show. We had a good turn out, and our cattle numbers were up. I would like to thank everyone who helped with the show and the setting up of our 'almost' meeting room (Joan Hoffman fed the masses!). I would personally like to thank Darrell Reimer for his help with my cattle. I also wanted to say thanks to all of the current directors for electing me as President. I know we can work together on the challenges brought before us.

We are in the process of updating the breeder's directory. If you haven't already been contacted, please send your information to me, as Michelle has volunteered to assemble it all. If you are not a current member, PAY YOUR DUES, otherwise you will not be listed. Once these are done, we will e-mail out a printable version to those with e-mail. We will contact those without email and send copies to them.

(Continued pg. 13)



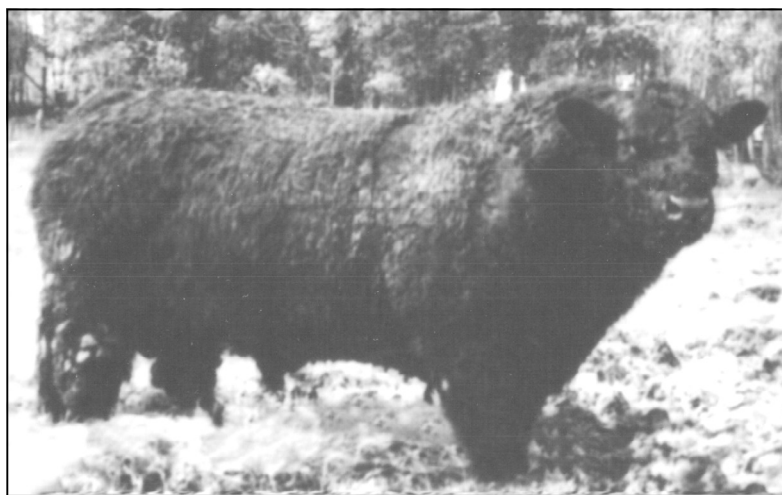
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## Trapper Galloway Ranch

Since 1961 8 Floyd "Kit" Smith 8 925 N. 7th Apt. 6 Greybull, WY 82426 8  
(307) 765-2971



Geordawn Axel

Videotapes and catalogues on request.

### Beef Up Your Genetics! 2008

**They're coming!** Geordawn Axel's paternal brothers and sisters! Trapper Galloway Ranch has purchased 36 high quality embryos, 28 of which are sired by Glenfiddich Brodie, sire of Geordawn Axel. Axel's progeny have continued to shine in many of Eastern Canada's carcass and steer shows. **There's more!** Sixteen of these embryos will be better than 1/2 brothers or sisters to the highly acclaimed **Snapshot of Trapper**, owned for years by Brass Ring Galloways. If you are looking for proven, predictable Galloway genetics...look no further. Call me today for more information!

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[www.trappergallowayranch.com](http://www.trappergallowayranch.com)

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Producing Quality Galloway Cattle Since 1985

Darrell and Deb Riemer  
Alden, MN

[brgalwys@smig.net](mailto:brgalwys@smig.net)  
507-265-3878

**Breeding Stock For Sale**

### Galloway Commentary!

Got a tip on a satisfied user of Galloway genetics? Has your own Galloway-influenced ranch or beef operation been 'in the news' lately? Why not take the time to share it with the rest of us!! Mail or email the details to [galloway@renfarms.com](mailto:galloway@renfarms.com) or mail to 1800 E. 18th Emporia, KS 66801

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[kevinamy@nctc.net](mailto:kevinamy@nctc.net) 308-446-2520



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## Rare Liver Disease Found only in Galloway Cattle

A message from Dr. Donal O'toole, DVM

A rare liver disease occurs in Galloway cattle in Scotland (of course!), England, Canada, possibly Iceland - and now the USA. The disease is called hepatic lipodystrophy. The first cases were seen in 1965 in Scotland. A good overview of the cases recognized in diagnostic laboratories in Scotland until the late 1990s was reported in the British journal *The Veterinary Record* (cited below). Two cases were identified in a laboratory in Ontario, Canada in 2000. In 2007 what appears to be the same disease was seen in a Galloway calf in the western US. This is the first time the disease has been seen in south of the Canadian border.

This Galloway bull calf developed clinical signs of diarrhea when 6 weeks old. He was treated by a veterinarian for a suspected stomach (abomasal) ulcer. Serum samples taken at the time

(Continued page 8)

**J-7**

**Grant Galloways**

Blacks - Reds - Duns

**J-7**

Proven on  
Grass

Proven in the  
Feed Yard



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**(Rare Liver Disease, Continued)** indicated biochemical evidence of disease in the liver and kidneys. The calf appeared to respond to treatment but by 3 months of age his condition deteriorated. The owner noticed that the calf appeared top-heavy, as though the development of bones could not keep pace with muscular development. She planned to have him euthanized one weekend but, before that could happen, he died spontaneously. A post-mortem examination revealed an unusually firm yellow liver. Samples of tissue were examined at the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory by Drs. Jon Ayers and Don Montgomery. Microscopic changes in the liver were suggestive of hepatic lipodystrophy. It is unusual to see liver failure of this particular type in young calves. What makes it distinctive is the large amount of scarring in the liver, the degree proliferation of bile ducts, and fat accumulation in liver cells. There were also changes in the kidney, which might or might not be related. The two pathologists did a quick literature search and recognized that it was identical to what had been seen in the UK and Canada.

Hepatic lipodystrophy is associated with failure to grow normally, lethargy and, terminally, a (continued next page)



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*Six Stars*  
***DNA Tenderness Rated***

Top 2.21% of All Cattle Tested by  
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**KAEHLER'S MILL BEEF**

**Registered Galloway Stock  
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### (rare liver disease, continued)

dull depressed animal. In terminal stages of the disease, a serum sample should indicate evidence of liver failure. The oldest affected animal seen to date was 5 months. *Disease sometimes results in spontaneous abortion.* Nothing is known about the basis for the disease and we do not know whether it is toxic, infectious, or something else. It appears to occur only in Galloway cattle. We are processing liver from the Wyoming case for electron microscopic examination. This may tell us a little more about the disease.

If you think you may have seen this disease in your herd in the past, or have what may be an active case, please contact either Drs. Donal O'Toole or Don Montgomery at the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory, University of Wyoming, (307) 742-6638. If you are in Canada, please contact Dr. Murray J Hazlett, Animal Health Laboratory, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada (519) 824-4120 ext 54525. Diagnosis is made on the basis of histological examination of the liver at present, and we do not have a specific blood test for the condition at this time."

### References:

Stewart W, Allison CJ, Macleod NSM, Rushton B: 1982, Hepatic lipodystrophy. Vet Rec 100: 505.

Duff JP, Watson PJ, Scholes SFE: 1997, Chronic hepatopathy (hepatic lipodystrophy) of Galloway cattle. Vet Rec 141: 368

Macleod NSM, Allison CJ: 1999, Hepatic lipodystrophy of pedigree Galloway calves. Vet Rec 144: 143 - 145.

Hazlett M: 2000, Hepatic lipodystrophy in 2 Galloway calves. Can Vet J 41:882

Dr. Jon Ayers/Dr. Donal O'Toole – University of Wyoming

**NOTE:** Nina has colored photographs comparing the stricken calf's liver (which is extremely yellow) to a normal steer's liver. She is very agreeable to emailing this photo to interested parties. You may email her at [nhaas@millelect.com](mailto:nhaas@millelect.com). Since the disease can affect animals in the fetal stage and be a cause of abortions, a quick do-it-yourself necropsy liver check will indicate the possibility of hepatic lipodystrophy. The liver is totally yellowish-gold in color.



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**(Carcasses, continued)** Nielson also cites records that indicate the “percentage of carcasses grading Choice and Prime has decreased by nearly 20 points, from 1991 to 1997.” After 1997 data show a stabilization at around 60% of the portion of carcasses making Choice or better. Interestingly, the percentages of Yield Grade 4 and 5 carcasses also saw a decline between 1991 and 1997, but “have since shown a steady climb, from under 2%, to nearly 12% in 2006. ”

One possible cause of the carcass conundrum may be mature cow size, as this directly impacts the mature size of her steer calf. In the 1970's, the Angus cow averaged about 1000 pounds at maturity. Today that average is right about 1400 pounds. This tells us that the sons (and daughters) out of that cow will have a lot of growing to do to reach maturity. Seedstock producer Lee Leachman suggests, “we are slaughtering cattle at a lower percentage of their mature weight potential. Also, they are reaching this weight at a significantly younger age. All of this leads to lower percent Choice.”



It would seem to defy logic that with all of the EPD data now catalogued for most of the major breeds of cattle, as well as tens of thousands of carcass data to trace back to sires and dams, that the undisputed influencer of the US cattle herd has been stonewalled. Even with

crossbreeding amongst the ‘big ten’ breeds, the carcass quality of the U.S. beef industry has plateaued at a sub par level.

Dare I suggest an infusion of ‘old blood’ may be appropriate at this juncture in the nation’s history of beef production? The moderately framed, early maturing Galloway with its penchant for reduced backfat coupled with quality marbling, and oh so tender beef, can in fact supply a needed service to beef producers, as well as consumers.

The Galloway breed has remained starkly separate from the genetics that populate ranches today. While the breed has definitely seen a resurgence of interest in the past several years owing to the emerging grassfed beef sector, the time has come for the mainstream beef industry to move beyond ‘what’s popular’ and get down to the business of fixing what ails them.

References: [www.beefquality.biz](http://www.beefquality.biz). There are numerous articles discussing the current carcass issues. Facts in the above article have been extracted from the 2/21/07 and the 6/13/07 editions.

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Russ and Susan Waples



**Brass Ring Saralee**

**Reserve Grand Champion Female  
NILE 2007**

**Bulls and Heifers Available**

**Blacks, Reds, Duns**

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Email: [brgalwap@middrivers.com](mailto:brgalwap@middrivers.com)

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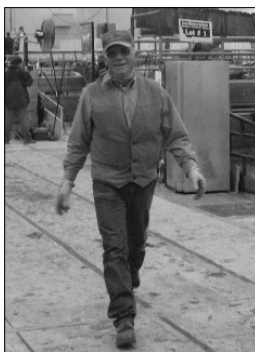


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## 2007 NILE Snapshots

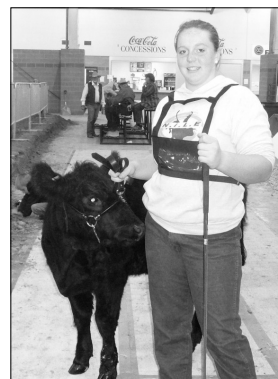


Kit Smith and Alan Bias catch up during the NILE.



Left: Russ Waples strolls through the barns.

Right: Hope Axxvig prepares to enter the ring



Left: Michelle and Harley Blegen and Lorna Riemer exhibit bull calves.



Sarah Bowman and Paul Butler talking genetics

Right: Hank Blegen and a Galloway calf catch a little down time.



Left: Deb Vance works on setting up her heifer calf.

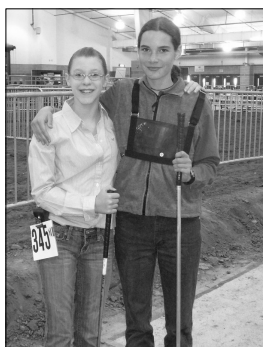


Joyce Jones and Greg Morine keep the show stats and announce results



Two Andres youngsters exhibit their belties in the heifer class.

Right: Lorna Riemer and Mattie Decker pose prior to showing Brass Ring cattle



Greg Morine, Russel Horvey and Jim Grant solve the world's problems!





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## American Galloway Breeders Association

### Membership Application

Check whether this is an application for a new membership or application for renewal of an existing membership:

New Membership

Renewal

Junior (\$5)

Circle whether your individual name or ranch/farm/herd name should appear on cattle registration certificates:

Breeder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ranch/Farm/Herd Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Breeder No. (if renewal) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Farm/Ranch Web Site \_\_\_\_\_

Check whether you are applying for an Active (Voting/US Resident) Membership or an Associate (Non-Voting)

Membership: Active Membership Fee: \$80 annually. You receive the Galloway Dispatch Newsletter and placement in both the printed and web site Breeders' Directory.

Associate Membership Fee: \$20 annually. You receive the Galloway Dispatch Newsletter. Associate Membership does not include Breeders' Directory listing. Please enclose your check payable in US funds to AGBA.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVE MEMBERS: Please include a brief comment to appear in your printed Breeder Directory listing: (Example: Registered and Commercial Black Galloways. Bulls for sale. Visitors welcome.)

Make Checks payable to American Galloway Breeders Association (AGBA)  
Mail to AGBA,  
c/o CLRC  
2417 Holly Lane  
Ottawa, ON K1M 017 CANADA



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**(President's Box, continued)**

We are also planning on making a DVD to run at shows and we would like input from fellow breeders regarding content.

Our board will be addressing some issues with the website, aimed at better utilizing this tool. We are also trying to put together additional print ad campaigns, as well as some Galloway accessories for breeder's to purchase. The more we can get Galloway in front of people, the stronger our association becomes.

My wife, Michelle, and I are planning on making the trip north to Agribition again this year. We are taking 3 head. If you get the chance, this is a good opportunity to meet some Galloway breeder's from other parts of the world.

Promoting Galloways

Harley Blegen, President

American Galloway Breeders' Association



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Heifers Available Spring 2008

Inquiries Welcome

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**RARE WHITE GALLOWAY CATTLE**

for sale: Cow and her calf/yearling bull, purebreds, stunning!

**Great on grass.**



**NF Royal Lady**

**Phantom Man**, dob. 2/03/06.

Sired by H5 Black Dream 27N registration #G235383B-nn,  
out of NF Royal Lady #W234868B-nn.

See pictures at [www.gardenofevefarm.com](http://www.gardenofevefarm.com),  
email farmer@gardenofevefarm.com or call 631-523-6608  
Riverhead Long Island





## Galloway Represented at Sustainable Living Fair, Fort Collins, CO

Fulton Farms continues its crusade to deliver healthier, better tasting and tender beef to consumers. Late this summer Kevin and Amy Fulton attended The Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Fair, held in Fort Collins, CO, on September 15-16th. Attendance estimates figured to be around 10,000 people with 175 vendors. What follows are Kevin's comments about the event:

"I was one of the speakers at this event and my presentation was *"Grass Fed---A Sustainable Model For Livestock Production"*

"We were able to make numerous contacts at this event and have several good possibilities with teaming up with others to help market our products. Even the Colorado State University Nutrition Department has expressed interest in what we are doing as they are developing a course related to sustainable food production. This past

spring I gave lectures to the CSU Animal Science Faculty and to a class of Animal Science students. In June I also presented to the National Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production regarding sustainable livestock production using grass based systems. This is made up of a group of well known industry leaders who make recommendations to our lawmakers in Washington D.C. in regards to livestock production. As you might expect, Galloway cattle have an important role and great potential as we move to more sustainable models of livestock and food production. (continued next page)



Amy Fulton and daughter Cami, age 3, staff the Fulton Farms booth at the 2007 Sustainable Living Fair in Fort Collins, CO



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(Fulton, continued)

I promote them in every single presentation that I give. (*editor's note: and that's a LOT*). Even many consumers are well aware of the need to preserve genetic diversity and like the fact that we are using heritage breeds of livestock in our operation. It has definitely become part of our marketing strategy.

"In 2008 I am scheduled to present at the Wisconsin Grazing Conference, and at a grazing conference in New York. I would look forward to meeting Galloway producers or future Galloway producers at those events!

"This year at Fulton Farms we have started to move forward with our plans to aggressively pursue direct marketing our products. Most of our customers are in Nebraska and along the Front Range in Colorado. We sell whole, halves, quarters and packaged meat. In 2008 we will expand into pork, poultry, and dairy.

"In 2008 we project that all of our 2006 calf crop (about 60 head) will be direct marketed to customers as Galloway genetics (bred heifers) or grass fed Galloway beef. We are expanding our cow herd along with our increased demand for Galloway cattle."

## Maple View Acres

Herd Sire: Grand Duke T10 (white)  
sired by Willowbend Peregrine out of  
Grand Duchess 7T1

**Sons and Daughters Now Available!**

Allen and Nancy Olson  
13655 County Road 41, Cologne, MN 55322  
(952) 466-2504.  
aolson@gedneypickle.com

## Galloway Market Steer

Hope Axvig, daughter of Michelle Blegen, showed a dandy purebred Galloway market steer at the 2007 NILE Jr. Market Steer competition. The 40 steers were broken into 4 classes based on hip height. OLE placed 4th in his halter class, with the judge commenting that he was 'very hard to pick apart.' The real test came with the ultrasound data. OLE came in 3rd place **overall**, with only a few hundredths points between he and Reserve Grand.

OLE's Stats:

Live weight: 1305#  
Ribeye area: 16.9    Fat thickness: .39  
Yield Grade: 1.75    Rump Fat: .51  
Average Fat %: 5.26

Congratulations, Hope!

**Galloway**



Galloway: When it has to be the best beef.

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