

The Galloway Dispatch



The Official Publication of the American Galloway Breeders' Association

Winter 2006

NWSS Results

Jim Grant Honored at Centennial NWSS

This year marked the 100th Anniversary of the National Western Stock Show in Denver, CO. One hundred years ago, at the first NWSS there were four breeds of cattle represented: Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn andGalloway! As preparations came together for the Galloway show and the question of who would be the best person to judge the Centennial event was asked, one name quickly rose to the top: Jim Grant. Mr. Grant began raising Galloway in 1967 and is one of this breeds most respected cattlemen. The AGBA presented Jim with a Carhartt chore coat with the NWSS 100th Anniversary Logo embroidered on the back and *Jim Grant, Galloway Judge*, on the front. To add to the excitement, Mr. Grant had an excellent set of Galloway cattle to evaluate.

Show Results

Champion Heifer Calf, Leroy Kindler on K Topaz
Reserve Champion Heifer Calf, Clay Salter on Suncrest Raindrop

Champion Junior Heifer, Kindler on Loise One
Reserve Champion Junior Heifer, Salter on Suncrest Precious

Grand Champion Heifer, Kindler on Loise One
Reserve Champion Heifer, Salter on Suncrest Precious

Champion Cow/calf Pair, Salter on Suncrest Night Star

Best Pair of Females, Kindler

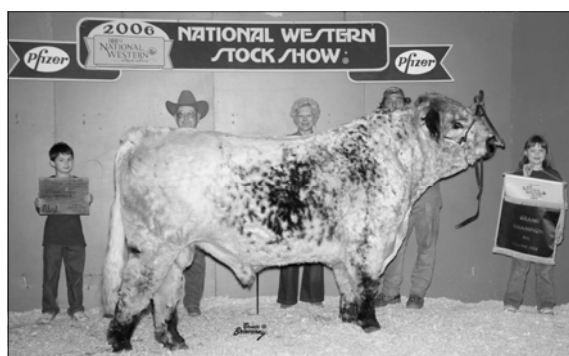
See Show Results, page 4

2006 NWSS Participants

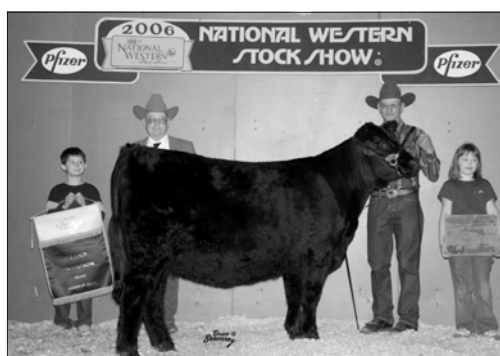
DD Ranch, Vance,
 Lupton, CO
 K Galloways, Kindler,
 Newell, SD
 Rocky Mountain Galloways,
 Sekich, Plattsville, CO
 Stoney Acres Farm, Hoffman,
 Grand Ledge, MI
 Suncrest Farm, Salter,
 Macks Creek, MO

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2006 NWSS Grand Champion Galloway Bull
 SAF Meridian, Stoney Acres Farm



2006 NWSS Grand Champion Female
 Loise One, Kindler Galloways

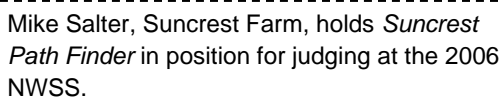
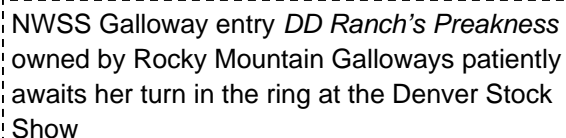
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Kit with Sultan of Trapper
1977 Denver Stock Show

Sultan was sire of 1979 fed beef contest winners at Denver Stock Show. A Son of Chief Joseph II - Sultan's bloodlines - are available today!

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Keep your antennae up in your locale for similar opportunities in natural and organic beef. The Galloway genetics offers them disease resistance (a must in the organic side of the business) and feed efficiency, all wrapped up in the finest tasting meat money can buy.





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National Western Stock Show

Party in the Pen!

Deb and Dene Vance, DD Ranch, CO, teamed up with new breeders Dana and Rick Sekich, Rocky Mountain Galloways, CO, to host a *Party in the Pen*. Deb made arrangements with two Colorado ranchers, Frank McMurray of Nathrop, and Stuart Dykstra of Rifle, to share their experiences using Galloway bulls to eliminate brisket disease in calves. Eric Mathias was present representing WWW.cattle-wise.com, an online auction service that consigns cattle, semen and embryos. The Gene Star program was promoted by a representative of Bovigen, LLC. Deb mailed out numerous invitations to the event in the weeks before the Denver Stock Show, and placed a quarter page ad in *The Fence Post* magazine inviting NWSS attendees to stop in for the event. She estimates around 75 people took her up on those invites, or responded to the invitation made over the PA system at the yards, filling Galloway pen # 2106 to overflowing. The special guest speakers were bedecked with rosette name badges, making them easily identified for follow-up discussions by visitors. Galloway breeders wore special Galloway buttons, complete with the breeder's name, to facilitate dialogue with guests at the pen.

Show results, cont. from pg 1

**Champion Bull Calf, Salter on Suncrest Railroad Reserve
Champion Bull Calf, Hoffman on SAF Royal Scott**

**Champion Junior Bull, Sekich on SAF Oneida Reserve
Champion Junior Bull, Salter on Suncrest Pathfinder**

Champion Senior Bull, Hoffman on SAF Meridian

**Grand Champion Bull, Hoffman on SAF Meridian
Reserve Champion Bull, Salter on Suncrest Railroad**

Best Pair of Bulls, Clay Salter

Get of Sire, Clay Salter

Conditions for this year's Galloway Show could not have been better. The weather was nice, the interest in Galloways was high, and the quality of the Galloways presented was phenomenal. Breeders of Galloway cattle in North America should be proud of the way our Galloway Breed was presented to the world in this, the 100th anniversary of the National Western Stock Show, "The Grand Daddy of them All!"

-Jerry Stephens, Galloway Show Superintendent

Deb reports the interest in Galloways was enthusiastic and there was a good exchange of contact information between breeders and the guests at the Party in the Pen, not to mention some bull sales.

A First Hand Look

The photos you see scattered throughout this issue of *The Dispatch* (except page 1) are courtesy of Joe and Julie Montague, of Alliance, NE. Joe and Julie are new breeders, having bought their first Galloways in the Spring of 2005, from Hang 5 Galloways. Julie submitted the following anecdotes about their Galloway experience at Denver: "We noticed a young couple at the Galloway stalls and overheard them to say they were from Montana. That's enthusiasm! (Was that you Tom and Shelly Andres?!) They had recently bought their first Galloway at the NILE, from Gayle Cerullo. I don't remember the names of the two little girls from Montana who handed out ribbons, but they were big helpers, and seemed to be having a good time. Also, Jim Grant was presented with a nice jacket. (See NWSS, page 12)



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Musings from the Editor....

Opinions not necessarily those of the AGBA

Technology is rapidly catching up to the cattle industry. The National Animal Identification System (NAIS), while not yet mandatory, will eventually blanket the U.S. beef industry in an electronic surveillance network that will be capable of showing the whereabouts of any individual bovine in 48 hours or less.

Meanwhile, ultrasound technology has broken the live animal tenderness barrier, and animals can now be evaluated on the hoof for tenderness and even predicted retail yield. Is it so difficult to envision the day when animals are evaluated for tenderness pre-slaughter, and that tenderness score factors into their grid pricing?

Since they seldom retain ownership, today's small producers of beef calves can get by with producing genetically inferior calves and selling them at their local sale barn without any negative repercussions from the poor carcasses they produce. Their calves are absorbed anonymously into the commodity pool and their name ceases to be associated with their own calves. For now, anyway.

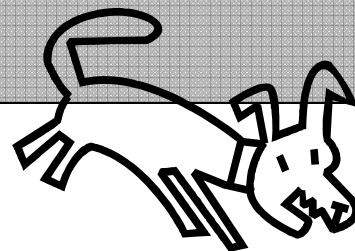
Imagine the day when feeders and packers pay a premium to producers who present respectable carcass data on their calves. Since permanent, traceable ID will be available, cow/calf producers will have a potential means of ascertaining the final score sheet on their calves, i.e no excuses. And in that day, the genetic factor will become important in a way like never before. Tough, low-yielding animals could be linked to their farm of origin. *As could the tender, high-yielding ones!*

By investing now in serious genetic evaluation, Galloway breeders can begin making herd improvements using carcass and ultrasound data. Herd improvement is a proactive measure that every breeder can take to increase the value of his/her breeding stock, and to increase the value of those calves to feeder buyers and packing plants. And for the burgeoning grassfed

Publicity Hound

Kit Smith has a knack for getting Galloway cattle in front of people. One of the things he has been doing recently is to send out Galloway literature and photocopies of the Galloway Dispatch to newspapers and even a local radio station. Because the Galloway breed is not a household name, he is finding more than a little interest on the part of the media to give some coverage to the breed. You'll find more details of Kit's creative work in the pages of this issue of The Galloway Dispatch.

Nice idea, Kit! One we might all want to try.



beef market as well.

Dr. Allen Williams can assist any breeder by ultrasounding calves for five different parameters that are statistically correlated with the final value of the beef carcass: Ribeye area, ribeye shape, ribeye area/cwt, backfat, tenderness and percent intramuscular fat. By evaluating the results of these readings, and correlating them with the sires and dams involved, real improvement can be made...if strict culling procedures are adhered to.

The 21st century has come in like a lion, technologically speaking. And this technology has the power both to help and to hurt. Now that we can know so much about what's under the hide of our cattle, it makes good business sense to take advantage of those tools. And if Galloway breeders will move now, they will have the best genetics on the planet to offer those latecomers who will have been bitten by the technology bug and are in serious need of good, prepotent genetics to put their cattle back in the good graces of the feeders and packers.

Something to think about; something to plan for.



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Are You Plugged In?

And why you should be!

There's no avoiding it: we live in a 'Plugged In' culture. The technological revolution of the past decade has crossed all socioeconomic boundaries, and all cultural classes. This includes ag producers, and ag producers include prospective seed stock buyers for YOU!

A very modest investment of a couple of hundred dollars can set you up with a refurbished basic desktop computer with a modem (a little device that lets your computer 'talk' over the phone line) and monitor. Go to a computer reseller and tell them your objectives. With these and a phone line, you are poised on the brink of the World Wide Web. For a reasonable monthly fee you can obtain an Internet Service Provider, or ISP. Your ISP will set up an account for you for to access the internet and an email account to receive email. Again, any computer seller in your area can direct you. Yahoo! even offers free email accounts. Once you have an email address, you can give it to your friends and family, and have it placed on the AGBA website's Breeders' Directory. From there, it's a simple click of the mouse and you'll be downloading email and surfing the net like a pro! And be prepared for some breeding stock inquiries!

There's really no way to evaluate how many important sales inquiries you may be missing if you are not on line! The sale of just one animal will more than recoup the investment of money and time spent navigating your way onto the WWW.

And if you are already on-line, why not make this the year you get *your* Galloway cattle a presence on the Web with your own website? This is another excellent means of advertising your cattle and promoting the breed.



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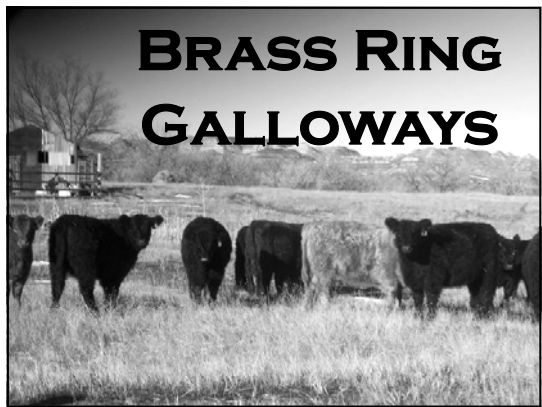
email tjalse@tds.net



Galloway Now Dispatched Across WWW

The Galloway Dispatch will now be available as a pdf document accessible through the AGBA website. What a great way to let casual visitors to the AGBA website in on all of the excitement surrounding Galloway cattle these days. And, this is a tremendous opportunity for advertisers to make known their cattle offerings to a World Wide audience!

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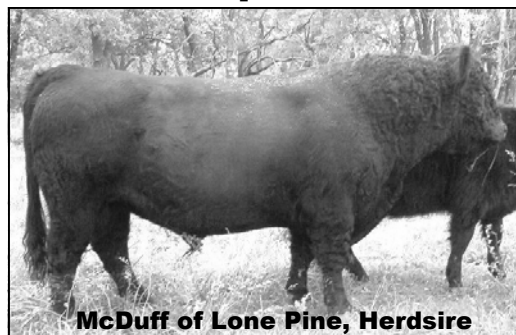
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Worth Quoting

"We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them"

"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."

"Technological progress is like an axe in the hands of a pathological criminal."

"Sometimes one pays most for the things one gets for nothing."

"Imagination is more important than knowledge."

"The only real valuable thing is intuition."

"Great spirits have often encountered violent opposition from weak minds."

"The eternal mystery of the world is its comprehensibility."

"Gravitation is not responsible for people falling in love."

- Albert Einstein

Hang 5 Galloways



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Heifers and Bulls for Sale



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REMINDER!!

It's not too early to remit
your 2006-07 dues

\$75 Full Member
\$15 Associate

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 2006 Calendar

2006 Galloway Field
Days—To Be Announced

June 30—End of AGBA
Fiscal Year

June 30— 2006-2007
membership dues...Due!

President's Box

Galloway Friends:

Within a few short weeks the Association will be migrating to a new provider for its registry, bookkeeping and general office support.

As you may know, Bob Mullendore last October told Sarah Bowman, Vice President, and me that he did not wish to continue as director, as secretary-treasurer or as provider of bookkeeping or general office services. Since that time Sarah and I have worked diligently. Our conclusion was that the Association needs all of its office services under one roof, needs reliability and needs assurance of long-term continuity.

It will be a sad moment when we leave behind our friends in Missoula. Bob literally pulled the fat from the fire in 1993 when he stepped in to convert the registry from paper to digital data. His courteous staff have helped many Galloway producers.

Fortunately for the Association, we found a professional organization with a century of experience and stability. The deal is not sealed yet, but nearly all questions have been answered and a contract has been negotiated. The Association will have reliable office support for longer than any of the present members remain active.

We will announce the details when they are all in place. I am sure you will be pleased.

Regards,

Steve Castner

President

American Galloway Breeders' Association



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Galloway Branded Beef Program?

The niche beef market continues to expand in dynamic fashion. One new outgrowth of this expansion is 'Story Beef'... beef marketed through retail chains or restaurants complete with details of the farm's, ranch's or even breed's history and production elements. The February 2006 edition of *Successful Farming Magazine*, very much a conventional farming publication, devoted some coverage to the story beef concept, grassfed beef, and niche marketing for adding value to the beef enterprise.

Tallgrass Beef Company has plans on the board for placing Grass-fed Galloway beef as a Story Beef in one of the Chicago restaurants it currently supplies. Most likely there will be a Galloway Night with a special menu insert describing the history of this Scottish breed of antiquity.

If you're interested in committing cattle, or want more information, contact Kevin Fulton (kevinamy@nctc.net) or Allen Williams (beefrepro@aol.com).



Getting Acquainted: Bob Airth, right, Greg Brown (backside) & Rick Sekich talk Galloways before the show Sunday morning. Rick's wife and daughters are seen in the background

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“You Won’t Find Any Better Meat”

Paul Butler, Graybull, Wyoming, attended a seminar in early December on grassfed beef production. Gerald Fry and Allen Williams were both presenters at the Bloomington, NE, event, as was Kevin Fulton. Fry, who brought over the Rotakawa Red Devon genetics from New Zealand, was asked his opinion about Galloway cattle. While he made it clear that he favors the Red Devons, Paul reports that Mr. Fry did have this to say about the Galloway breed: **“You won’t find any better meat.”**

Well you know what....Mr. Fry is right about that!!



Mmm, Mmm
GOOD!!

Galloway Garner Radio Coverage

January 9 of this year found the entire Big Horn Basin of Wyoming sipping their morning coffee while listening to Kit Smith describe the integral part Galloway cattle have played in his family’s long ranching history in the region. Radio KODI, out of Cody, Wyoming, interviewed long time Galloway breeder Kit Smith about his family’s history in the area. The 20-minute interview included Kit’s description of his great grandfather’s move from Nebraska to the Mahogany Butte region of Wyoming in 1884, with a Galloway bull from Kansas in tow. Two years later the family moved to the Shell, WY, area, where some descendants have continued ranching ever since.

In the course of the interview, Kit was asked why he too had selected Galloway cattle, and what some of the breed’s hallmarks are. So Kit explained to the many listeners in the Big Horn Basin that in high school he had read in a book that the Galloway breed was a breed that was made for harsh climates and rugged terrain...which was certainly where he was living! He explained that only later did he learn of the Galloway’s excellent carcass traits. Kit also divulged how today the breed is being heralded in various regions of Europe as an environmentally friendly breed, with its decidedly less finicky grazing habits and minimal impact on the land.

Also during the interview the subject of the proposed organic packing plant in Powell, WY, was discussed, yielding yet more exposure to the growing natural and organic beef markets, for which the Galloway breed is exquisitely suited.

The Galloway has so much of what the beef industry needs: carcasses that grade, and are produced by hardy, extremely economical cows. A win-win situation, since both the cow/calf operator and the finisher can reap the benefits of the breed’s efficiency and excellent meat quality.

Now all of the Big Horn Basin wants to know:
What’s in your pastures? !!

Galloway



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NWSS, continued from page 4

"Hopefully someone has pictures of that presentation.

"Two young ladies, one from Rocky Mountain Galloways and one from Suncrest Farm presented some great showmanship skills. I got a kick out of Clay Salter, silently instructing the girl in the ring...without ever saying a word! Great sign language, Clay. I learned a thing or two from you there.

"I enjoyed my visit with Bob Airth. We talked some about the animal identification system, what they are doing in Canada with it, and also about opening the border to breeding stock. It was fun meeting him too as our first cow, our only white, originates from his White Lad stock.

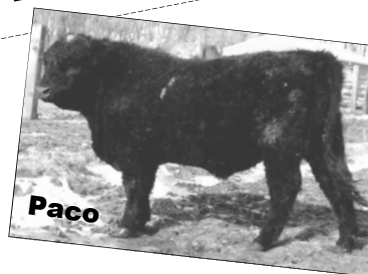
"We met the Jones from PA...imagine coming all that way! Joyce had a jacket with terrific Galloway stitching on it, and I asked for the embroidery artist. It depicted the curly face so well.

"For our first time at the Galloway show, we felt like all the Galloway family gave us a great welcome. And it looked as though everyone enjoyed the camaraderie. Our thanks to Paul Butler for getting us there, and a big 'atta boy' to LeRoy Kindler...he was one happy camper! I think he and Joan Hoffman looked like the two happiest winners I have ever seen in any event! LeRoy has invited us to come see his cattle, which we plan to do soon." *Julie Montague*

And thank you, Joe and Julie, for the photographs!

Bar R Galloways

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Bull Turn Out

Yes, its only January. But for many cattle producers, bull turn out is in May, a month that will be here before we know it. The hectic weeks of calving will likely put bull care on the back burner, so why not do some planning now for the health and productivity of your herd's cornerstone?

Most veterinarians recommend Lepto and Vibrio vaccinations for bulls, but boosters for IBR, PI3, BVD and BRSV are certainly cheap insurance. De-worming may or may not be warranted, depending upon age of bull and animal husbandry practices.

What about body condition? The general school of thought trends toward a BCS between 5 and 6. Overfed bulls may not have the stamina to chase after cows in large, expansive pastures such as are found in the West. Under-conditioned animals will run the risk of dropping to seriously low BCS if they are pursuing their duties correctly. All of that courting leaves little time for eating! So decide now what condition your bulls are in, and where they need to go from here in order to be prepared for the Spring breeding season. The Breeding Soundness Exam should be performed within 60 days of turnout. Your veterinarian may do a basic BSE which evaluates semen and testicles. Some vets do an internal evaluation of reproductive organs. Also, spend some time watching your bulls move. Study their rear legs in particular, the flex in the pasterns, the angle in the hocks, because these two rear legs represent the platform which must facilitate a great deal of weight bearing and gymnastics during breeding. Structural weaknesses could lead to injury and breeding failure.

So even though we're all beginning to think about our mama cows at this time of year, remember the fellas too! They'll be up at bat before you know it.

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NWSS Trivia Corner

Can you name the four breeds of cattle that were shown at the 1st NWSS in 1906?

Hereford....

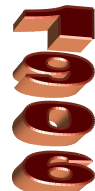
Shorthorn....

Angus...

And....

GALLOWAY!

2006





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Why Hide it?

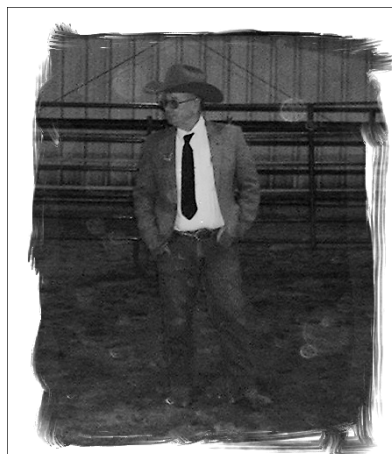
While Galloway breeders have known forever that those thick, woolly hides contribute to the quality carcass of the Galloway, this may be an excellent opportunity for more 'value added' income from your animals. If you are in the direct marketing business, why not retrieve some of those finer hides from the abattoir? Most will let you purchase them back for the going rate that week.

The Deckers of Renaissance Farms Ltd recently did this with a favorite 5-year old cow. After lots of research on handling the hide post slaughter, Bill hauled the cow to the plant, and brought the hide home for a 3 hour 'fleshing' session to remove meat and membranes. Since this was the hide from a large animal, it was heavy and awkward to handle! After the fleshing, the whole family helped hoist it over a sturdy length of pipe to trim around the edges (this takes a VERY sharp knife) and clean off dirt and debris from the skin side. The hide was then hauled into the barn and spread out hair side down on two full sheets of plywood propped up at one end on hay bales. One hundred pounds of salt were spread all over the hide and rubbed in. This was to speed drying (moisture encourages bacterial growth and will cause slippage of hair). After about a week, once the moisture ceased to drain off the end and the salt remained dry on the skin, the hide was again hoisted onto a pipe to allow air to circulate and evaporate any moisture that had been trapped on the hair side. As this issue goes to press, the hide is en route to Absaroka Tannery in Wyoming. Stay tuned next issue for the rest of the story! Check out Absaroka's website for excellent tips on handling the hide. <http://www.absarokawesterndesign.com/tanning.html>

Hide Redux

Patricia Pruitt reports finding a good craftsman for having that tanned Galloway hide made into some useful apparel. Mr. Frank Markay, Colorado Leather and Furs, employs several Mongolian leather craftsmen because of their excellent skill level. He examined Patricia's turn-of-the-century full length Galloway coat and said his shop could certainly convert tanned Galloway hides into such a coat. And if you don't have enough hides for a full length coat, why not a waist length jacket or vest?

Hmmm. Could be a whole new market for some creative business minded breeder!



Jim Grant prepares to judge a class of Galloway cattle at the 2006 Denver Stock Show

Got News?

If you've encountered Galloway in the spotlight, send the info to dispatch@americangalloway.com



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Yahoo!

Staying in contact with friends and associates has never been easier, or more affordable, than in this present technological age. And if you have a teenager in the house, 'Yahoo! Messenger' may already be in your lexicon. But in case its not, let me give you a brief overview of how this handy internet communication program works.

First of all, its free! Simply go to <http://messenger.yahoo.com/> and click the **Get It Now** button on the top row of 'buttons'. A download screen will appear offering two choices: Save or Open (or maybe Run). You will want to select **Open or Run**. If you are on dial-up, expect about a 45 minute download time. Wireless and broadband users...go pour a cup of coffee and check the mail, and you'll be good to go.

Once you've got Messenger installed, you can go about the fun business of inviting friends and associates to be in your Messenger address book. To do this, click the **Contacts** tab at the top of the Messenger window. From the drop down menu, select '**Invite People to Join**'. Then its simply a matter of filling out a two line form that is emailed to your friend (or relative or fellow Galloway breeder!).

Messages are typed on a small dialogue screen, and responses are denoted by author. Real time, albeit typed, conversations are waiting at your fingertips!

Every time you sign onto the internet, Yahoo Messenger will open and anyone on your list of contacts who is also on line will hear a little tapping on their screen and a small pop up tab slips up on the screen with the announcement that (for example) "Judy Decker is Now Online". You can also look at your contact list, and any one of them who is online will have a yellow Smiley face by their name, which lets you know it might be possible to catch up on some good Galloway discussion, or maybe to find out how the grand-kid's ball game went that day. And if you're too busy to engage in Messenger activity, click the **Messenger tab**, select **My Status** from the drop down menu, and click on '**Sign in as Invisible**.' No one will know you're on line.

This could prove to be a time saving way to stay connected



Checking out the NWSS Galloway stalls are Paul Butler (L), Graybull, WY, and Dene Vance, Lupton, CO.



SAF Oneida contemplates Dana Sekich, Rocky Mountain Galloways, as the two square up in the show ring. Oneida is a product of Stoney Acres Farm.

with your Galloway friends and acquaintances, as well as take care of a little business at the same time.

And hey, if you need a few pointers getting started with Yahoo! Messenger....round up the nearest teenager and they'll get you going in no time.



Galloway: When it has to be the best beef.

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