

## 2017 FALL WHA SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN STATE TOUR

If you want to spend the night in Platteville Friday night, there is a Country Inn and Suite, (608) 348-7373 and a Super 8 Motel, (608) 348-8800.

From Platteville, take Hwy 81 north out of town, about 1 mile turn right on County D. Take County D 11 miles. You will cross County A on your left, but continue on County D. You will come to another intersection with County A on your right. Stay on County D and take the next turn right onto Austin Road and we are the first farm on the right.

From the north, take 151 to County A towards Rewey. Continue on County A until you come to a T in the road and intersection of County D. Turn right. Austin Road is the first road you will come to and our farm is the first farm on the right.

Stop 1: Bacon Branch Beef, Jason, Jaclyn, Mya, and Bianca Bevan, and Dave and Joyce Bevan, 1681 Austin Rd, Platteville, WI 53818. (608)448-7638 or cell (608)732-4251.

Their herd was started in December, 2011, with the purchase of SSF Ms Sentinel 088, "Missy", from a sale in Ohio and it boomed from there. Their love and passion for the Hereford breed has continued to grow, right along with their herd, This year they are calving our 16 head – 9 in the spring and 7 due this fall. They are very thankful for the great cattle that they have been able to build their herd from over the past 6 years. They have purchased foundation cows from Mohican Polled Herefords FMS, Glenmont, Ohio; Dalton Polled Herefords, Emerald, WI; Lance Wirth, New Richmond, WI; Delhawk, Earlville, Ill; Dusty Jentz, Platteville, WI; and Lamb Brothers Beef, Wilson, WI.

They are currently using Boyd Legacy, Revolution 4R, Hyalite Resource, Sheyenne, Manhattan, Cash Flow, Catapult, and Crackerjack on their herd of 22 females, that go back to JWR 54K Boomerang 019T, LW 111L William 99W, Worth Chating About 104U, H Excel 8051, Revolution 4R, Tebow 33Y, On Target, Victor 719T, and LCC N Due Time.

9:00 – The Bevans have not planned a program, just come and check things out, grab some breakfast, and look at cattle. There will be a continental breakfast, a more grab and go type meal.

11:00 – Leave for Wildcat Cattle Company – Go back to Platteville. Take Hwy 81 East. Turn north on Hwy 23, in town go straight on County F 4 miles to the farm (on the right side of the road)

Stop 2: Wildcat Cattle Company, BJ, Kim, Brett, Bailey, Riley, Lauren, Brady, and Nicholas, 14990 County F, Darlington, WI 53530. (608)482-2961

Wildcat Cattle Company is a family enterprise that started in 1982 when BJ was a junior Polled Hereford member. Today Wildcat Cattle Company consists of 28 acres in the rolling hills near Darlington. Their goal is to raise sound, stout, and stylish cattle that will compete in the show ring and then perform in the pasture, Their herd consists of 20 select cows and recipients. They are 100% AI and IVF embryo transfer.

Today, they are seeing the results of this intensive breeding program as they have recently bred the three cows that have been named champion or reserve at Junior National Hereford Expositions, multiple division and class winners at JNHE and two supreme champions at the Wisconsin State Fair. They will have calves born this year by About Time, Sundance Kid, Chosen One, Tankeray, Easy Money, and

Mason. Many of these cattle will be selling October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Genetic Selection Sale XI. More farm information can be found at [www.wildcatcattle.com](http://www.wildcatcattle.com).

11:00 – At this tour stop a grilled brat lunch will be provided and there will be a judging class. Select Sires will be demonstrating the Cow Manager Activity Monitoring System, They will also have on display their donor cows: Wildcat NextGen Athena 4107 ET (2016 JNHE Standard Reserve Champion Cow-Calf); Wildcat OC Patience (2013 Wisconsin State Fair Supreme Champion Female); and Wildcat Electra Baby 214 ET (2013 American Royal Reserve Division Champion).

1:00 – Leave for Thousand Hills Herefords. Take County F south into Darlington. Continue south on Hwy 23. Turn east on Hwy 11 (left) and go into Gratiot. Turn right on Hwy 78. Take to Hwy 20 in Stockton, turn right on Hwy 20 and go 4 miles west on 20. Turn left on Summit Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> house on the left.

Stop 3: Thousand Hills Herefords, Dan Irwin, 1709 Summit Drive, Stockton, Ill 61085. (815)266-1300.

Thousand Hills Herefords was established in 2005. Current herd sires are THPH Frontier 163Y, CLF GCC Trusted B101, and AI sires, Small Town Kid and 719T. Running 25 cows that trace back to AA Airline 563, True Grit, and Frontier.

1:30 – Enjoy cattle viewing and afternoon snacks at Thousand Hills Herefords.

3:00 – Leave for Sand Rock Ranch. Leave farm, exit 20 west to Elizabeth. North on Elizabeth-Scales Mounds Road. North through Scales Mounds across stateline to W (left) to New Diggings. Right on Ollie Bell Rd north – 1.5 miles.

Stop 4: Sand Rock Ranch, Kevin, and Janice Bennett, Clarence Bennett, Stacy and Eric Moltzan, and Todd and Sarah Monson, 3752 Ollie Bell Rd, Benton, WI 53803. (608)778-8685.

Sand Rock Ranch has been raising purebred and commercial Hereford cattle for 70 years. They run around 135 purebred cows and 300 head of commercial cows, along with 35 fall calving cows and 100 heifer replacements. They are using Largent L3 229, Harrell 407 Line One; Sandhill Captain, Z210 son; R Leader Calf – DHB C&L SRR 6943 Centurian; and C&L Aiden bull, X51 son. Cowlines are mainly Line One or Canadian bloodlines.

3:00 – Pasture tours(weather permitting) and cattle viewing. Special feature - Shane Bedwell from AHA will speak on the Young Sire Evaluation Program. CHB Steak dinner with all the trimmings, co-sponsored by Zoetis.

Overnight accommodations: Super 8 in Darlington (608) 776-8830; Super 8 in Monroe (608)325-1500, and Americinn Inn, Monroe, (608) 328-3444 Monroe is 40 minutes from Benton.

Leave for Plum River Ranch: Travel south on Hwy 69 to County B. Turn left then turn right on Clarno Road, farm is on the right.

Stop 5: Plum River Ranch – The Katzenbergers - Nick and Lenore, Eric, Rosie, Briana, Rhett, and Madison; and Aaron, Julie, Mariah, Brady, and Marissa. N1153 Clarno Rd, Monroe, WI 53566, and in Pearl City, Il. (608)214-1154.

Plum River Ranch sits along the banks of the Plum River in the rolling hills of northwest Illinois near the small town of Pearl City. Plum River Ranch actually started in 1978 when brothers Eric and Aaron began to show as juniors and built a small herd of Herefords kept over from their show career. This small herd grew to about 10 head until they were dispersed when the boys left to attend college. In 1996, they began to purchase cows to rebuild the herd which currently consists of approximately 70 head. They have been fortunate enough to breed and sell many champions over the past 21 years. Their most recent success was raising the 2016 WSF Champion Hereford Steer.

Katzenbergers have owned 3 State Fair Champion bulls, and are currently using the 2012 WSF Champion, LCC N Du Time ET. Other walking bulls include LJR Mr.Grizzly, Reload 2098C, and WR Captain Jack 6856D ET. AI sires include About Time, Full Throttle, Trust, Revolution, Catapult, Kickstart, and Time Traveler. Their cow herd is made up of raising their past accomplishments. The unique part of their herd is that all 70 cows are halter broke and worked this way. Their leading donors consist of the 2012 WBE Champion cow, PRR Hugs and Kisses and their newest donor, PRR Storm 432B.

9:30 – Cattle viewing, judging class of yearling heifers and a Sunday morning breakfast.

11:30 – Leave for Owego Stock Farm. Go back north on Hwy 69 to Monroe, proceed north on Hwy 81 to Argyle. In town, turn left on Hwy 78 and then back left across the bridge 3 miles to Owego Stock Farm ( in case there is a detour due to road construction – travel west on Hwy 11 to County M. Take M through Woodford and continue on M to Hwy 78. Turn right and Owego Stock farm is the third farm on the right.)

Stop 6: Owego Stock Farm, Marv, Ruth, Amy, and Sydney Espenscheid and Tayton and Luke Huisheere. 12044 State Hwy 78, Argyle, WI 53504. Marv (608)543-3778; Amy (608) 482-3492.

The Espenscheid herd took root in 1954 with Marv's FFA project, started with a purebred Hereford heifer that came with a load of feeder cattle from Wyoming. Even though it took 3 calves for her to produce another female, she was the origin of the herd. Owego Stock Farm was purchased in 1968 and has been the home for the family herd since then. The Espenscheid children – Sarah, Ben, Jon, Thad, Amy, and Carrie all were involved in the Hereford business and earned many successes through FFA and the AHJA with their project animals. Amy and her family continue to live next door and are a big part of the farming enterprise, along with Marv and Ruth.

The family runs a select herd of 30 -35 females and uses the AI services of sires such as Times A Wastin, Revolution 4R, Right Track, Tankeray, Mason, Manhattan, and Easy Money, along with their walking herd sire Vin-Mar Hometown 460, a 10Y son from a top placing pen at the Denver Stock Show. The OSF herd focuses on feed efficiency, fertility, solid phenotypes, and good sets of EPD's. The cow herd never sees grain – just grass hay, pasture, and minerals. With the exception of a few AI calves, the calving interval for the cow herd is 60 days. They are a Gold Total Performance Herd, with several Dams of Distinctions. They offer a well rounded breeding program , concentrating on carcass data and performance.

12:00 – Cattle viewing along with a barbecued beef lunch with all the fixings. Closing remarks and drawing for door prizes to conclude the tour.

2:00 – On your way home – safe travels!

