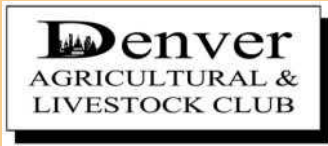


The Fence Line

October 2023

Volume 23-24, Issue 2

Official Newsletter of the Denver Agricultural & Livestock Club



Upcoming Meeting: Monday, October 30, 11:30 a.m.

RSVP by midnight on Sun., Oct. 22! Cost: \$26.00 Location: National Western Club

If you receive this newsletter through the U.S. mail, call 303-299-5562 to RSVP if you will attend.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!
HITCH UP THE
WAGON AND
BRING ALONG
SOME FRIENDS...**

October 30

December 4

January 29

February 26

March 25

April 29

June 3—Field Trip

**...GOOD FOOD,
GOOD SPEAKERS,
GOOD AG & LVSTK
CONTACTS**



**October 30 Speaker: Craig
Russow, University of Wyoming,
Senior Director of Development,
College of Agriculture**



Craig Russow

Meeting Minutes— September 25, 2023

President Teema McIntosh called The Denver Ag and Livestock Club (DALC) meeting to order. **Attendance:** 23 members and 5 guests.

Program: Program Chair, Nancy Mulholland, introduced our program speaker and DALC member, Tom Lipetzky. Tom, who recently retired from the Colorado Department of Agriculture, shared agriculture challenges (headwinds) and opportunity (tailwinds) stories and data. Headwinds include the 2023 producer crop decline specifically for sweet corn (ear worms) and melons (hail). Regulation/policy topics include Administration and Enforcement of the Pesticide Applicators Act, labor cost increases, livestock/wildlife, interest rate hikes, water system management and roads and bridge maintenance. There are hopeful tailwinds stories too! Colorado is the first state to receive the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement through the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and continues to support the next generation of agriculture. A 2022 public attitude survey found public support for Colorado's agriculture industry continues to be strong.

We are very grateful to Tom for sharing his agriculture career experience and for being a valued DALC member. (continued on p. 2)

DALC Dues are now Due!

We operate on a September-September year, so please have your dues ready at the next meeting, or send them in to John Hiemer at 7037 S Valdai St., Aurora, CO 80016.

Even if you don't consider yourself an "active" member, and can't attend our meetings, your \$30 in dues help us continue to support the FFA Heifer Wrangle, 4-H Catch-a-Calf, CSU Scholarships, and Colorado Foundation for Agriculture—Please continue with your generous support! Any donations above and beyond your \$30 dues are very welcome!

Meeting Minutes— September 25, 2023 (cont'd)

For additional Department of Agriculture information, click <https://ag.colorado.gov>
 To read the 2022 public attitude survey, click <https://ag.colorado.gov/markets/publications/public-attitudes-survey-2022>

Treasurer Report: Treasurer, John Hiemer (pronounced “Hee” mer”), reported:

Bank Balance June 30, 2023	\$10,504.69
Total Receipts	3,774.00
Total Disbursements	2,240.00
Cash Balance September 25, 2023	12,038.69
Peach Sales Fundraising Results	
Total Peach sales	3584.00
Delivery Cost	2240.00
Net Profit	1344.00

Youth Report: Youth Coordinator, Ben Duke, reported the program is going very well. He stressed the impact and leadership we build through DALC is a well spent investment supporting our Catch-a-Calf and Heifer Wrangle programs. Letters will be published in our monthly DALC “The Fence Line” newsletter.

Membership Report: Membership Coordinator, John Stencil, requested DALC members submit their contact changes (address, phone, email) to him so we can update our Directory. If you’ve changed contact information in the past 10 years, let us know!

Old Business: Peach Fundraiser: Vice President, John Corkle, reported we changed orchards to C&R Farms, LLC. We will continue to work on communications and delivery processes. He also reported Teema sold 47 of the total 128 boxes sold.

New Business: Our next DALC meeting is Monday, October 30, 2023 at the National Western Club. We appreciate your RSVP and DALC Directory contact updates by Sunday, October 22, 2023. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm. Respectfully submitted by Donna Devine, filling in for Secretary, Lori Liepold

Heifer Wrangle—Blake Herrera—September

September 10, 2023

Dear Mr. Ben Duke,

I appreciate your continued support and your attendance at the State Fair. Once we returned home, my heifer was turned out to pasture with a bull. She is loving the wide-open space and the vast amount of freedom. We are hoping she gets pregnant and calves soon. We have pulled some of our calves that were born, to be show calves for this next show season. One of them included Brecklyn’s calf, Ruth. As for me, I have five head to choose from.

With school started it has gotten difficult for me to be able to work with all my animals for my last fair in two weeks. I have to find time to work with my animals, go to the gym, and finish my homework, which can be quite tedious. At this fair I will only be exhibiting two sheep and two goats.
 Cheers, Blake

2023-2024 Officers and Directors

Teema McIntosh
President

John Corkle
Vice President

John Hiemer
Treasurer

Lori Liepold
Secretary

Bob Young
Director

John Stencil
Membership

Nancy Mulholland
Program Chair

Kraig Roesch
Directory

Ben Duke
Youth Programs Liaison

Al Auger
Historian

Glenda Mostek
Newsletter

Ken Behrens
Database Administrator

Heifer Wrangle—Blake Herrera—September

H. Benjamin Duke III
32300 County Road 15
Elizabeth, Colorado 80107
303-646-4699

September 11, 2023

Blake Herrera
P. O. Box 736
Lamar, CO 81052

Dear Blake:

I received your letter, and I am glad that Lady May has been turned out with the bull and is loving her new-found freedom. I suspect she is very happy to have her show days behind her.

I enjoyed seeing you in Pueblo at the State Fair. I know that the outcomes in the ring were not what you would have liked, but you and I both know that the two of you did a great job. I was so impressed with how she showed, and how you had worked with her in order to behave so well in the ring. Admittedly, she was quite a lot smaller than the others in the ring, and I suspect that had something to do with how the judge placed her.

But, you have done a terrific job, and it was very nice seeing you and your family. I am sorry that Brecklyn was not there to cheer you on as well.

Good luck with school and all of your work with your various animals. Also, good luck in soccer this fall. It is a pleasure sponsoring you in the Heifer Wrangle project.

Best regards,

Ben



Catch a Calf—Porter Snyder—August/September

Porter Snyder
4166 Vindale lane
Byers, Co, 80103
08/31/2023

Ben Duke
32300 County Rd 15
Elizabeth, CO, 80107

Dear Ben,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. I am writing to express my gratitude for your constant support as my sponsor and to update you on the incredible journey I have embarked upon with my show steer, Butterscotch, as well as a new venture started in collaboration with my brother, breeding show pigs.

First and foremost, I want to emphasize how much your sponsorship means to me. Your unwavering commitment has not only provided financial support but has also been a source of motivation and encouragement, reminding me of my goals and dreams. Together, we have created a bond that goes beyond the realm of sponsorship, and I am truly grateful for your belief in me.

Butterscotch, my show steer, has been an absolute joy to work with. From the moment he was entrusted to me, I immediately recognized his immense potential. With great care and dedication, I have been working tirelessly to ensure his health, well-being, and training. Butterscotch's progress has been remarkable. He has developed into a magnificent specimen, showcasing his impressive stature, flawless coat, and a charming personality that effortlessly captures the attention of both judges and spectators.

Throughout his training, Butterscotch and I have built an incredible bond. There is a mutual trust and understanding between us, which has been instrumental in achieving our goals. Daily grooming, precise feeding routines, and consistent exercise have been our key tools in maximizing Butterscotch's physical attributes. We have also spent extensive time refining his showmanship skills, rehearsing every move to perfection, ensuring that he emanates confidence and poise whenever he steps into the show ring.

As my journey with Butterscotch continues, I am thrilled to share the exciting news of a new venture my brother and I have undertaken — breeding show pigs. Inspired by the success we have experienced with Butterscotch, we saw an opportunity to expand our involvement in the show livestock industry. Together, we have researched and selected top-quality sows and boars, focusing on their pedigree, conformation, and genetic potential. Our goal is to breed and raise show pigs that embody the same excellence and distinction as our beloved Butterscotch. Butterscotch has been gaining really good he is weighing 780 lbs

I am thrilled about this new chapter in my agricultural journey, and I am eager to demonstrate the same level of dedication, discipline, and motivation that has accompanied me thus far. Your continued support has been vital in making these dreams a reality, and I wanted to express my gratitude once again.

In conclusion, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation for your sponsorship, which has been a driving force behind my achievements. Butterscotch and I are on track to achieve remarkable feats, and this new endeavor with my brother promises to be equally exciting. I am committed to maintaining the highest standards in showcasing Butterscotch's potential and establishing a reputable breeding program for show pigs.

Thank you again for your guidance, support, and generosity. Your belief in me has been an invaluable asset throughout this journey. I will ensure that both Butterscotch and our new venture are a shining testament to the trust you have placed in me.

Sincerely,
Porter Snyder

Catch a Calf—Porter Snyder—August/September

H. Benjamin Duke III
 32300 County Road 15
 Elizabeth, Colorado 80107
 303-646-4699

September 7, 2023

Porter Snyder
 4166 Vindale Lane
 Byers, CO 80103

Dear Porter:

I am sorry that I could not get to either the Wyoming or Colorado State Fair to watch you show. How did you do? Were there lots of other CAC participants competing?

How is Butterscotch's weight gain? You say he is now 780 pounds, which is great. Have you calculated his daily or weekly rate of gain? What are you feeding him? Did you ever get a pen-mate for him?

I suspect that you now are back in school. Hard to believe that summer is over. How are your classes? Are you involved in any sports. Are you still working at the feedstore as well?

I am anxious to learn more about your show pigs venture with your brother. It sounds like a great opportunity, and I hope that it is a great success for you both.

Things are pretty quiet here. We haven't had rain in quite a while. We still have incredible grass from the earlier moisture, but our livestock can't eat it all! That seldom happens around here. Maybe I can arrange to come see you and Butterscotch some weekend soon. Would that work for you?

Best regards,

Ben



Rainbow Lake, in the Zerkel Wilderness



The Super Blue Moon a week ago

Heifer Wrangle—Tucker Hurley—October

October 3, 2023

Ben Duke
32300 County Rd 15
Elizabeth, CO 80107

Dear Ben,

I am so sorry I am so late on a letter back to you. School started with FFA events and different practices making everything very busy. Thank you though, I have definitely learned so much throughout this whole experience. But, thank you for being such an amazing sponsor. I have really enjoyed being able to send letters back and forth to you. I have still not picked out a name for my calf. I just kept her as number 31. I didn't want to build any emotional connection to her.

For the State shoot for 4-h, I placed 15th out of I believe 87 in the state.

I hope you have been able to set some new fences that were washed away with all of the rain. We have been pretty dry and hot for the last couple of months. But, it is starting to cool down now.

Thank you and yes that would be nice to see it in person to see the details. But, yes I have no idea where the summer went and now I have already been in school for 2 months.

The 100-mile ride looks like it would definitely be fun with plenty of pretty scenery.

Thank you so much it means a lot to me to have someone who has been in the industry for a long time say that. Thank you for being such a great sponsor.

I have recently been doing a lot of school work and Parliamentary Procedure practice. I have been doing a lot of homework for my college classes on construction. This semester I have an estimating and a soil mechanics class. But, for FFA and Parliamentary Procedure our individual and team test for nationals is this Thursday. From there on we will be practicing the presentation part. We will then compete in Indianapolis at the end of October and early November. So the pressure is definitely building up.

But, my calf is still doing well. We had a couple of bumps in the road along the way. But, I have gotten help from a rancher with cattle that my cow and calf are with right now. My calf was losing hair in spots and was cutting her legs. But, we were able to stop it and now she is doing good and living her best cow life in a pasture. Also, something interesting that happened is the calf's hide has changed from black when she was born to brown nowadays.

Always great hearing from you, Tucker



Heifer Wrangle—Tucker Hurley—October

H. Benjamin Duke III
 32300 County Road 15
 Elizabeth, Colorado 80107
 303-646-4699

October 5, 2023

Tucker Hurley
 3134 Santa Fe Ct
 Evans, CO 80620

Dear Tucker:

Thank you for your recent letter. It was great to see the pictures of Odessa and her calf. Both seem to be doing very well. Are you thinking of keeping the calf as a breeding heifer so that your herd can begin to grow? I know some pretty successful ranchers who got their start with a heifer in the FFA Heifer Wrangle program. I'm thinking that you are learning a lot about livestock and rural living, so maybe one day I'll get to visit you on your own ranch or farm!

We finally got all of our fences replaced and repaired. It was a long and sometimes difficult process. I guess we'll see what happens during the next flood! We all know there will be one at some point, haha.

We still have an amazing amount of grass, and our steers are really thriving and growing. I'm sure that we won't have another summer like this one for a long time. We sure have been spoiled with the abundance of grass and forage in the pastures.

I hope that your trip to Indianapolis goes well, and that your Parliamentary Procedure team does well. I look forward to hearing about the convention at some point.

I'm glad that your calf is over the issues with her legs and hair loss. There always seems to be something. It's not unusual at all for the subtle color changes to occur. Sometimes its just temporary. So she could go back to being very black, or maybe she has a bit of the red/brown that she'll always show.

A few weeks ago, I had a nice visit to Wyoming to see our kids and granddaughter. She seems to get cuter by the day.

Have a great fall and a great trip to Indiana. Best regards,
 Ben

