

The Changing of Seasons

~Updates from Kaitlyn Hinds, 2011 Ohio Beef Queen



The sight of cattle against the bright green pasture is always a sure sign of the spring season bearing itself upon us. The new calves leap around, and we all stare at the new shoots of grass as though we have never seen the color green before. All of these signs point to summer being just around the corner. In these last two months, I have been around to multiple events meeting Ohio's beef producers, and I have enjoyed it.

First, on the evening of Friday, March 11th I traveled a short distance to Warther's Museum in Dover, Ohio for the annual Taste of Tuscarawas event. With me was the 2011 Tuscarawas County Beef Queen, Kelsie Hinds. At the Tuscarawas County Farm Bureau's display, we helped serve Beef Tip Sundaes. The sundae's "ice cream" was mashed potatoes, the "chocolate sauce" was the beef tips served in gravy, and the "toppings" were cheddar cheese and sour cream. The Beef Sundaes were well enjoyed! The objective of the evening is to show off the pride of Tuscarawas County by allowing county vendors to set up displays and offer samples to the public. The proceeds of the event benefited The Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition. Thank you to the Tuscarawas County Farm Bureau for your support and for allowing us to assist!

A few of weeks later, I was in Columbus for the 2011 Ohio Beef Expo. Although my family has been exhibiting at the annual event for years, I have never had the honor of having a front row seat during the shows! On Friday morning, I received my initial viewing of the impressive trade show floor, and I stopped by in the Ohio Cattlewomen's Country Store. Along the back wall of the store was the first displaying of the quilt for the Quilt for Hunger Raffle. I am proud to say the quilt was pieced and hand quilted by my mother Gladys Hinds. The afternoon involved the presentation of awards and "knuckles" to the lucky winners of the first round of showmanship. Additionally, I was a participant in this round of showmanship, so I was very grateful to have assistance from some of the county beef queens. Saturday afternoon was the second round of the showmanship competition, and I also viewed the sale cattle sell in the Voinovich Livestock and Trade Center. Additionally, during the Ohio Cattlewomen's meeting, exciting new plans were announced towards the future of the beef queen's program for the state of Ohio. I am certain these plans are both a positive and an outstanding improvement towards the future of the queen's program, both at the county and the state level. On Sunday, an impressive display of cattle promenaded the arenas during the junior's section of market animal and heifer shows to close out the event.

Throughout the weekend, I met some of Ohio's county beef queen's. These ladies were working in the Ohio Cattlemen's Country store, assisting me in the show arena, and promoting the beef product to the entire state of Ohio. I personally would like to thank each of them for their donation of time towards the store. Some of the ladies I met were: Paige Guenther of Hardin County, Rachel Linder of Stark County, Courtney Hagler of Fayette County, Morgan Scheffler of Crawford County, Samantha Karnehm of Darke County, Lindsey Miller of Fairfield County, Kelsie Hinds of Tuscarawas County, Sadie Pay of Mahoning/ (Columbiana, Trumbull) Counties, and Erica Clouse of Guernsey County. Thank you again to all of these girls for your assistance and for your passion for promoting the beef industry. Also thank you towards all of the sponsors for the weekend, and to the Ohio Cattlemen's Association for all of your work, sponsorship, and dedication towards Ohio's beef industry and your support of the youth's activities. Finally, thank you and congratulations to all of the participants and exhibitors of the 24th Annual Ohio Beef Expo.

Following the weekend of the Beef Expo, I traveled to Hardin County to be a judge for the 2011 Hardin County Beef Queen contest. I can honestly say I was very impressed by the entire contest. We judged the ladies in a queen and a princess category. All of the contestants presented a strong passion and involvement of the beef industry, and displayed explicit knowledge of not only beef, but also of communication skills. Only two ladies could be crowned that evening, though, so congratulations to the 2011 Hardin County Beef Queen Paige Guenther and the 2011 Hardin County Beef Princess Molly Wilson! I stayed for the banquet and awards ceremony of the Hardin County Cattle Producers, and I was impressed again by the support this county had shown over the past year to the beef industry. This support towards not only the future of the youth, but also towards the industry is truly something to be proud of. Thank you again for the Hardin County Beef Queen Committee for the invitation to the event, and best of luck Paige and Molly over the coming year.

My latest stop has been again, in Dover Ohio for the final BEST Show of the 2010-2011 show season, the Buckeye Classic. The weekend presented moderately fair weather. Thank you to the Tuscarawas County Cattlemen's Association for setting up your beef trailer and keeping everyone well fed throughout the weekend. The show did sport a new set-up, which allowed both rings to be set up under roof. Overall the show seemed to run smoothly, and it was an outstanding wrap-up to the BEST show season.

As these springtime months are flying by, I am excited for summer and beef shows at county fairs. In the more near future though, I am looking forward to presenting beef presentations to the area elementary schools, the BEST Awards banquet, the Ohio Cattlemen's outing, and the 2011 County Beef Queens Spring Training Seminar. If there are any events you would wish for me to attend, please feel free to contact me by email, k2hinds@gmail.com, or by my cell phone, at 330-440-4013. I am looking forward to the warmer weather of the summer months, and continuing to meet Ohio's beef producers!