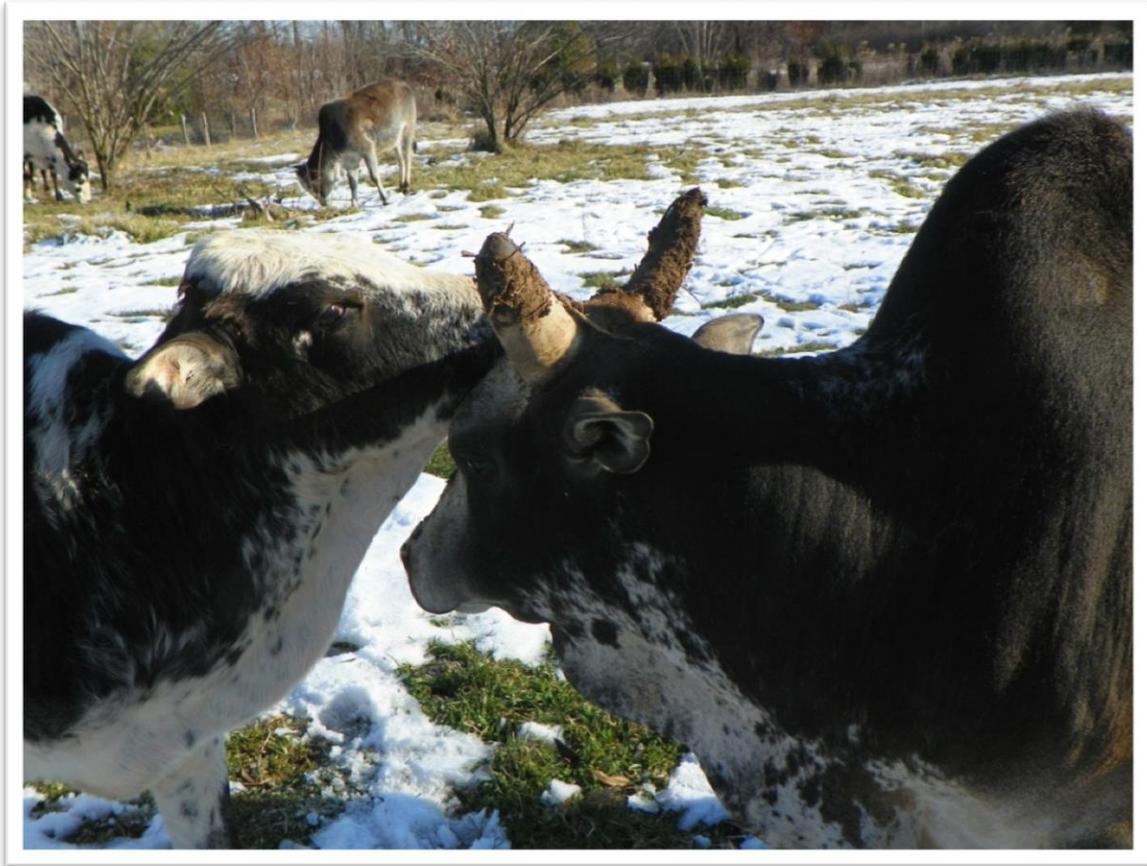


The Official Publication of the International Miniature Zebu Association



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- President's Message
- Early member Spotlight: Maureen Neidhardt
- Florida Show Results
- . . . and more!

Founded in 1991, the IMZA is the oldest registry of miniature zebu in the world. Our purpose is to collect, record , and preserve the pedigrees of all Miniature Zebu cattle. Additionally, we support our members through education and promotion of the breed, maintenance of a breed registry, and the regulation of all matters that pertain to the history, breeding, exhibition, or improvement or the Miniature Zebu breed.

IMZA – Home of the World's Smallest Cattle

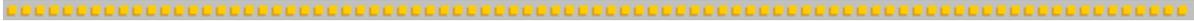
International Miniature Zebu Association

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Cover Photo: "DAB Capt. Woodrow F Call," #Z-4086, resident bull at Redgate Farm. His owner, Chris Burns, tells us Woody thinks he is a person. He loves to dig with his horns in the dirt. He's got quite a few holes spread throughout his domain that he keeps fluffed up whenever he can get his horns in the ground. In the picture, it's plain to see that the snow is melting and spring is near!



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NO MORE LATE FEES!!!

If you've been holding off sending in any of your paperwork because of late fees, don't wait any longer!
Late fees are no longer applicable!!!!



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President's Message



Hi everyone,

I hope that all of you and your animals are doing well. Winter can be long and hard, but spring is on its way! There is nothing more exciting than watching the world turn green again while awaiting the arrival of our much-anticipated baby miniature zebu calves! Spring also brings the annual International Miniature Zebu Association meeting which is held annually in Macon, Missouri. This will be the association's 24th Anniversary. The meeting will be held at the Fly Wheel Club on April 8th, 2015. IMZA will offer a social hour with refreshments beginning at 5:30 PM. Come meet your fellow members and stay on for a free, delicious dinner prepared by Nolan's Catering of Macon. Our annual meeting will begin immediately following dinner. Please plan to attend.

IMZA is proud to announce that Barbara McDermott has assumed the office of editor of our newsletter, The IMZA CON*NECTION. Barbara is also our webmaster for www.imza.name. She has been very successful in bringing a new, lively approach to our website and is eager to bring that same enthusiasm to our newsletter. She is anxious for you to contact her at webmaster@imza.name with pictures and story ideas for both the website and the newsletter. Welcome aboard, Barbara!

You will soon be receiving ballots and bios of the 2015 candidates via mail for the IMZA Board of Directors. Please vote for your choice of BOD candidates and return your ballot in the enclosed, addressed envelope. I want to encourage you to consider running for the board yourself next year. You can make a difference.

I want to thank all of you for making IMZA the success that it is today. The popularity, quality and size of our mini cattle have advanced so much over the past 24 years, thanks to you and your selective breeding programs, plus your vigorous efforts to promote of the breed. Hope to see all of you at the annual meeting where we will be celebrating 24 very successful years of dedication to the preservation and improvement of mini zebu as a breed.

Well, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow! Six more weeks of winter. Hope that little groundhog's predications are as accurate as our national weather forecasters' predictions. Then spring is sure to be early! May your barns be filled with a bounty of beautiful little mini zebu heifers and a few handsome little bulls.

Judy Rohner, IMZA President



Please note that the IMZA CoN*Nection will be published on-line only, starting with this issue. If there are some IMZA members who do not get on the internet, please contact Barbara McDermott to make arrangements to receive a hard copy via U.S. Mail. You may contact Barbara via email at webmaster@imza.name or by telephone at 407-568-7337.

IMZA Annual Meeting

Please plan to attend this important meeting. It will be held at the Fly Wheel Club in Macon, Missouri, on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. IMZA will once again be offering a social hour with refreshments beginning at 5:30 p.m., followed by a free BBQ dinner prepared by Nolan's Catering of Macon. The annual meeting will begin immediately following the dinner. Come for the fun and food! Meet your fellow members. Members will be able to exercise their voting rights. You can offer your opinions and suggestions. The zebus will sell at Lolli Bros. Auction the next day. See you there!

Welcome to our New Members who joined IMZA from June-December 2014

Maury & Lisa Alexander, Clermont, FL
Gene & Shirley Baucom, Half Ass Farm, Monroe, NC
Jackie Belleveau, Ithaca, NY
Hope Bennett, Wildlife Wonders, Cleveland, GA
Damian Bonagura, Citra, FL
Amanda Borek, GTO Farms, High Springs, FL
Pam Bruse, Princeton, MO
Joe Carpenter, Lakeland, FL
John Carpenter, Lakeland, FL
Greg Chapman, Nashville, TN
Sergio Coronado, Lancaster, CA
William & Jerri Lynn Correl, Greenville, TN
Lisa Crouch, Walnut Hills, IL
Patsy Demler, Riverview, FL
Kasi Dick, Pawhuska, OK
Norman Gardner, Springtown, TX
Allen & Terry Gilliam, Indiantown, FL
Jeanette Hayward, Burning Daylight Ranch, Leslie, MI
Truman & Gina Henson, Summerfield, FL
Charlie Huntington, Garden Prairie, IL
Avery & Carol Iles, Winnsboro, SC
Gretchen Johnson, Maple Rose Farm, Forreston, IL
Mark Keitel, Brandon, FL
Mario Letterle, Plano, IL
John & Evelyn McDaniel, Eustis, FL
Tim & Janelle McMann, Table Rock, NE
John & Bettye Mesh, Rebels Zebu Farm, Lexington, TN
Paul Tice, Sneezy Hollow Acres, Groveland, FL
Susan Walsh & John Freeberg, Hickory Highlands, Fairfield, IA
Melinda Wunder, Hendersonville, TN
Mike Zimmerman, Graham, NC

If you haven't sent in your IMZA membership renewal, it's time! You can join online from our website at www.imza.name, or you can mail in your membership application. If your contact information has changed, please forward new information to Dennis Beranek at Beranek@derbyworks.net, or contact the IMZA at imzainfo@gmail.com or 407-717-0084.

Miniature Zebus Becoming More Popular

Interest in miniature zebus is growing throughout the mainstream population quickly, as evidenced by this beautiful 8-1/2" x 11" watercolor painting of a miniature zebu bull, which Barbara McDermott received from her son for Christmas.



What Do You Do When Your New Miniature Zebu Calf Doesn't Nurse?

By Barbara McDermott

Being a fairly new miniature zebu owner/breeder, I have learned quite a bit in the last few years! Having bred and raised miniature horses for almost 20 years, I had a little experience with newborns. I knew what to have on hand when expecting a new calf by asking questions of long-time breeders and doing my own research. We've had four calves in the two years we've owned miniature zebras, and each one has been a little different—each having its own challenges. Most times when our calves are born here, I am by myself so I make do until my husband gets home to help.

There are several things you need to look for when your calf is born—one of them is nursing. The calf should be up and trying to nurse within an hour or so of birth. If not, you may have to help it along. Our latest challenge was with a small heifer born to a first-time mom. The calf was almost dry when I got out to the barn early one morning, and she was



trying to stand. Her mom, Ladybird, looked bewildered at what had just taken place. The little calf was trying her best to find the milk bar, but Ladybird would have nothing of this little thing trying to nurse. Ladybird had plenty of milk—she just did not know what to do. I knew that calf had to nurse, though, but I could not catch Ladybird! I would have used Ladybird's own milk if I could have caught her and gotten any milk out of her. I always keep colostrum replacer on hand, just in case. I have had to use it for all my calves, all for different reasons. There is a difference between colostrum replacer and colostrum supplement—be sure you get colostrum replacer. It is critical that a newborn calf gets colostrum ideally within the first four hours of birth. The longer it waits, the less effective it will be. The colostrum (or first milk) is loaded with antibodies to help keep the calf healthy since it is born with no immunity at all. You'll know your calf has gotten what it needs when its poop turns that orange color. I didn't

know when hubby would be home, so I got my colostrum replacer and took a bottle out. The calf readily took the bottle and I felt comfortable waiting to let nature take its course.

After four hours or so, hubby came home; but Ladybird was still not cooperating. One thing I have learned is that cows are NOT the same as horses and that I still have a lot to learn about cattle. I needed some advice, so I called my good friend, Rick Bogle, who suggested we get a halter on Ladybird, tie her up and let the baby try to nurse. Easier said than done! If your cows are not halter-trained, you may be in for a rodeo of sorts. All of our cattle are tame, but they don't generally keep halters on, even though they did when they were young. We used an old method Rick told us about by getting a portable panel and using it to herd Ladybird into a corner where I was able to get a halter on her and, after a bit of a struggle, got her tied up. First challenge completed!

We were able to get Ladybird to stand still and get the calf close, but the udder was so hard and no milk would come out. Several months prior to Ladybird calving, I had been touching her all over her body, as well as her udder and teats, since she would be a first-time mom. I think that early training paid off for our next step. I tried again to milk Ladybird. There is a certain trick to getting the first milk. I started at the top of the teat and ran my fingers down the teat, all the while "pulling" the milk down. Sometimes there is a small "plug" in the end of the teat. Until that is gone, you are not getting any milk!! I figured out that by wetting my fingers a bit and massaging the end of the teat, this enabled the plug to break free and the milk started to come. One teat down, three to go! We were successful in getting all four teats flowing and then tried to get the calf to nurse. It certainly looked like she was getting some milk, so we let them be.

Throughout the day, we never did see the calf nurse, so I would go out every now and then, tie Ladybird up and let the calf have a go at it. Ladybird's udder was still really tight, so I tried to get some milk—darn if there were not plugs in the end of her teats again—so I milked each teat again till the milk flowed. I still did not know if Ladybird would let her

nurse without tying her up, so I kept an eye on Ladybird’s udder—I knew if it was still distended and very hard that the calf was not nursing. Early the next morning about 2 a.m., I knew we were on the right track when the calf nursed for a good five minutes. The next time I went out to the barn, I took some colostrum replacer with me—I knew that if the calf was hungry she would gobble it down. She was not very interested, so I assumed she was indeed nursing and that the teats were not plugged anymore. It was confirmed later in the day when I saw her nursing on her own, Ladybird happily standing still for her. Success at last! It’s been a week and a half, and both momma and baby are doing well.

Things to Keep on Hand When Expecting a Mini Zebu Calf

It’s that time of year when we start seeing cows have their calves. Most miniature zebus will calve unassisted, and most calves will be just fine on their own when born. However, sometimes things don’t always go according to plan. This is not a complete list, but it’s advisable to keep a few important things on hand, just in case, as follows:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic soda bottle for feeding (I didn’t have a soda bottle, so I used a CLEAN beer bottle) • Soft Nipple (get the lamb nipples from places like Jeffers, etc.) • Powdered Colostrum Replacer • Halter/lead for momma cow • Tincture of Iodine for dipping calf’s navel 	
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Your miniature zebu calf may never go back to its dam to nurse. You now have ultimately what’s known as a “bottle baby.” Here are some tips about feeding your newborn calf (Taken from the “Zebu Husbandry” section of the IMZA website):

#1. The calf needs to receive the cow's first milk (colostrum) or a powdered colostrum replacer as quickly as possible after birth. A powdered colostrum should be available at your local farm store, such as Tractor Supply. Use the colostrum replacer for 3 days, preferably about 4 times a day.

#2. Use a small nipple, such as the goat nipples, from your farm supply store. Days 1-3, feed about 12 to 16 ounces of colostrum, 4 times per day. The first day, the calf may not drink this much, but after day 2, the goal should be to feed about 48 to 64 ounces per day.

#3. On Day 4, start feeding the calf a good quality milk replacer. Depending on the size of the calf, the quantity should be 64 to 96 ounces per day, spread out into as many equal feedings as your schedule will allow. Two feedings of 32 to 48 oz are sufficient, but the calf will do better if you can feed it 3 or 4 equal feedings.

#4. Offer feed such as rolled calf feed, calf starter, calf manna, etc. after about 10 days of age. Some calves will eat feed early and some won't touch it until they are 60 days old. If other calves are eating feed, it will learn from them and start eating feed sooner.

#5. Nutritional Supplements are available from your farm supply store if you feel they are needed. 1 cc of vitamin A/D and 1 cc of vitamin B-12 may be helpful.



Helpful Tip: When first getting calves to nurse, if you use a plastic soda bottle it helps if you can squeeze the bottle a bit and get the milk flowing in their mouths.



Early Member Spotlight

An Interview with Maureen Neidhardt

Maureen Beth Tollefson was born at Dickinson, North Dakota, and raised on a farm about 30 miles east of Dickinson in Stark County, ND. Maureen attended her first eight grades in rural one-room, one-teacher schools. She was the last eighth grader to graduate from Farmers Valley School #2 before the rural schools were consolidated into either Hebron or Richardton, North Dakota public school systems.

Maureen married her high school sweetheart, Marlin Neidhardt, on April 25, 1964--so do the math, they've been (as he says) married forever!!

Maureen attended Capital Commercial College, Bismarck, ND, specializing in secretarial and accounting training. Marlin and Maureen farmed/ranched—their first years were spent milking dairy cows with milking machines—and Maureen used her training to work as Hebron School Secretary, later working for a local law firm doing secretarial and paralegal for about 15 years.



The Neidhardts have two sons: Clinton Beau Neidhardt who, with his family, lives on our ranch in North Dakota, which is the original Neidhardt Homestead and has passed over the Century mark of continuous family ownership that is approaching five generations. Before that, Clinton lived and worked on a different property (where Maureen and Marlin now live), which was a restaurant and western store that sold antiques, Native American goods, quilts, jewelry, etc. It was a tourist attraction of sorts, and they had an exotic animal exhibit on the property. They had 10 different paddocks that housed Katahdin Hair sheep, fainting goats, llamas, an ostrich, mini zebus, Watusi cattle and more. Their second son, Colton James Neidhardt, is currently attending LSU at Baton Rouge, LA, working on completion of his MFA in Theatre. He has a BA from Chadron State College, Chadron, NE, and a MA from UNO, Omaha, NE, all in theatre, acting, directing, managing a theater or teaching on a college level.



From left, Maureen and Marlin with grandkids, Wyatt and Jessica, 2003; Maureen with Colt and Wyatt 2015; and Clint and Wyatt 2004.

Maureen and Marlin have two grandchildren: grandson, Wyatt Kyle Neidhardt, who ranches with his dad, Clinton, and carries out the fifth generation there and also works on a 'work over' rig in the Bakken oil field of NW North Dakota; and granddaughter, Jessica Breann Neidhardt, who joined the Army National Guard and lives and works at Powell, WY. Maureen has two sisters, Cheryl Tollefson, Dickinson, ND, who is an avid horsewoman, retired from her profession as Librarian for Dickinson and the surrounding three counties now, and ranches with her partner, Doug Pope, Bowman, ND; and Glenda Talkington, South Heart, ND, who spends much time traveling the world with her husband, Lee Talkington.

Maureen's life has been devoted to the love and care of animals and helping others to understand them, enjoy them and realize the many benefits derived from knowing animals. In 1987, just prior to moving further South to western Nebraska, Marlin and Maureen started the Rare Breeds Journal, a magazine all about alternative livestock, minor breeds, and rare breeds of all types of animals--basically anything unique in the animal world. Their motto, taken from an old friend and mentor, has been and remains, "Animals Develop Principles that Develop Character in People." They did it all—sales, articles, publishing and getting the magazine out. Even when they moved, Maureen was so dedicated, she would drive the eight hours to get it printed. Their adventure in publishing Rare Breeds Journal lasted through 22 years which was a great time in the exotic animal realm. Maureen was fascinated with registries and research, and she was instrumental in founding other exotic animal registries, such as the the World Watusi Association; the American Miniature Jersey Association & Registry LLC (AMJA); and the International Fainting Goat Association (IFGA) in 1987. Maureen and a group of friends went to Tennessee and bought 30 fainting goats and started the IFGA registry. She currently is the registrar of AMJA and IMZA. Maureen was the IMZA's third registrar, and she has been the IMZA registrar since 1998.

Maureen's love of animals reaches back as far as she can remember. Growing up on a diversified farm in North Dakota, she was introduced to the usual domestics, such as cattle, horses, sheep, swine, poultry and more--all in many breeds and varieties. She especially loved horses, and Maureen and one of her sisters rode horseback to school about two miles as much of the time as weather permitted. When Marlin and Maureen were married, horses definitely took the number one spot. Marlin grew up riding and driving horses, so it was a natural for them to get into breeding them as well. After doing some buying and selling, they settled into what they felt sells best-- "color"-- which spells American Paint Horse!! A side comment is that "color" sells best in many breeds. Maureen and Marlin bought paint mares before the APHA was formed and registered them upon the beginning of the registry. In 2012 the APHA celebrated it's 50th anniversary. At that time they compiled data on breeders, and the Neidhardts were found to be the oldest, continuous, breeders and that they had registered well over 600 foals in those years! Their son, Clint, still breeds paint horses today, while Marlin and Clint breed paint horses and cross them with Percherons to create great draft-cross riding and driving horses, which have exploded in popularity.



On the left, Maureen astride "Lark"; on the right, Maureen with Ruby, one of their beautiful paint horses.

The Neidharts also bred Bue Lingo cattle for a time. Bue Lingo are a beef breed with a white belt around the middle. They purchased some from the founder of the breed, and Maureen ended up doing their registry work.

Maureen and Marlin also loved horned cattle! Texas Longhorns were rare and unheard of in North Dakota, but they bought a small herd of 10 heifer weanlings and a bull, purchased from Darol Dickinson of Colorado. Darol was and still is a premier Texas Longhorn breeder, and the Neidhardts became good friends with Darol. Darol also had Watusi cattle, and Maureen believes the Watusi led them into the exotic animal world. By the mid-1980's, exotics were taking off in popularity. They were selling like hotcakes at the Lolli Bros. sale in 1990.

Maureen's first memory of Miniature Zebus comes from a trip they made to Colorado in about 1982 as they were becoming involved with Watusi cattle. This breeder had a miniature zebu bull that was very small but tough. About a

year later they were really introduced to Miniature Zebus while on a visit to the Dahlas Rhone ranch at Cozad, Nebraska. Dahlas had a number of miniature zebus of various ages that had just been delivered from a distant point. Maureen wishes she knew exactly where they came from, but she believes it was Georgia or an island off of Georgia. Dahlas had built new box stalls for them, and the young ones looked perfectly formed, all were the traditional grey color and they had very black eyes--kind of like cute little mice!! The larger ones were still the smallest cattle they had ever seen!! Later Maureen learned that Dahlas did sell breeding stock to a number of people who became IMZA members. In particular, he sold some to R. V. "Bob" Baker of Spokane, WA. These animals were registered by Bob, who is a founding member of IMZA. Their bloodlines have carried down through the years; and if their family tree were to be traced, it would prove that they have had a great influence on the miniature zebu breed. (Read the interview of R. V. "Bob" Baker in the February 2014 IMZA Con*nection.)

Marlin and Maureen purchased a few high-percentage miniature zebus in 1996; and they also bought a 36" Foundation Pure bull, QKRS Duke, raised by Kenneth Herrod of Elmore, OK. Duke was one of their favorite miniature zebus. They had a small herd which consisted of six cows and their bull that came from DMF bloodlines, which went back to the Speed cattle and others. It was not always easy to trace their lineage until the registry formed. Even then, there are still many unknowns before the first recorded registered miniature zebu. Maureen and Marlin raised a few pretty little calves. Some of the calves were sold upon weaning, and Maureen said that one calf was even born on the way to its new home! After a few years, they decided to sell the group, as they had a large number of species at that time and needed to reduce some workload. They were sold as a group to Blackhorn Ranch of Deer Trail, Colorado.

Some of the other exotics Marlin and Maureen had throughout their years were Prezwalski horses; Poitou Donkeys; Spotted Asses; Jacobs Four-horned Sheep; Aoudads (African sheep with large curved horns); Mouflon (wild sheep native to Corsica and Sardinia); LaPerm cats; horned Hereford cattle; dairy cattle, such as Brown Swiss, Jersey, and Holstein; short-horn crosses of cattle; Texas Longhorn cattle; Watusi cattle; red wattle hogs; mule-foot hogs (they have feet like horses); various varieties of chickens; and American Bashkir Curly horses, the breed that goes back to the Native Americans. They sold all their Curlies at a sale in Sturgis, SD, and their horses went to 14 different states! They also started with a couple of Appaloosa llamas from the Charlie Hume herd in IL and added some Tuxedo pattern females. The llamas became an attractive herd on their ranch and helped keep predators away.



Currently, Maureen and her husband continue to breed and perfect their herd of American Paint Horses and the Percheron Paint Sport horses. They also have a set of dairy nurse cows—I didn't know what that was, so I asked! They raise extra calves purchased from large dairies or other sources on the nurse cows. Calves are marketed at about 500 pounds. Their nurse cows consist of Jersey, Holstein, Guernsey, etc. The Neidhardts are also developing a herd of miniature Jerseys. The original miniature Jerseys were imported from the Jersey Isles and were fine-framed cattle that were fairly small. The original imports became almost extinct as American breeders developed larger Jersey cows to suit the needs of large dairies. Now there are people who want to have the smaller version and are reviving the old bloodlines, breeding them and recording them to preserve their heritage.



Although the Neidhardts don't have miniature zebu cattle any longer, Maureen has been a devoted miniature zebu enthusiast by being involved with the breed and handling all the

registrar 's duties since she became Registrar in 1998. She has edited and published the IMZA CoN*Nection newsletter for the past few years. She has been the "voice" of the IMZA for many years and has promoted the breed through her many interactions with our members and non-members alike.

In her "spare" time, Maureen likes to sew (she made her own wedding dress!), ride horses, and get creative with pictures that she has taken, making collages or whatever suits her fancy. Maureen and Marlin also raise Pembroke Welsh Corgi dogs and have since 2001, raising a few litters a year. Before that, they bred and raised other breeds of dogs, such as coon hounds and blue hounds. Peacocks are among the Neidhardt barnyard fowl, and Maureen says they are such an amazing bit of art among God's wondrous creations. They also have Nubian milk goats and Barred Rock Chickens.

When asked about what Maureen would advise those that are still fairly new to the breed, this is what she had to say: "As in any animal ownership, there is responsibility so first study the breed, visit a breeder or if possible several different ones and get the answers to questions you might have about owning them. Find out their requirements in terms of food, veterinary needs, housing and more, based on your geographic location. Once you have found that you are ready to move ahead and take the step to own one or preferably at least two, then start your search for the right animals to fit your experience and ability to handle and manage them. Be sure to ask about registrations with the International Miniature Zebu Association. Are they registered? Does the seller have paperwork to give to you? Actually go through the papers, find out about transferring ownership. By being informed you will have a good experience. Many sellers hand the buyers an envelope with 'the papers.' This may be an actual Birth Certificate or Registration Certificate or it may be an Application for Report of Birth that is several years old and has never been recorded with the association. In some cases the buyer is simply told that they are registerable but they will have to go through Hardship with the Association. I am suggesting that if the buyer finds out before they finalize the transaction they will reach the best results. Taking care of your new miniature zebus and enjoying your new experience will be much more enjoyable if you know exactly what you are buying and don't find out afterwards that they aren't really what you were expecting. I do also want to be quick to say that there are many very fine and reputable breeders who will provide everything needed to make the purchase a happy one and they are more than willing to explain the 'paper work'!"

MINIATURE ZEBU OWNERSHIP-- a few words from Maureen:

"As an animal advocate, I want to comment that there are so many reasons for people to want to own a Miniature Zebu. Small equates to easier to manage for owners of all ages. Many who haven't had livestock for many years dream of replicating their childhood experiences on the farm. The advantages attributed to small livestock are many in terms of smaller facilities, smaller amounts of feed, etc.; and when it comes to being on a one-to-one relationship, it is not near so imposing to deal with these small cattle. The novelty of having the smallest is a great conversation-starter. Perhaps you would like to participate in shows, in which case these small cattle are easier to transport, groom and prepare for show. They offer pride of ownership and a way to teach children many lessons of life. Our Rare Breeds motto, "Animals Develop Principles that Develop Character in People" pretty well sums up why more people would want to own Miniature Zebus.

ONE LAST THING: It is a pleasure to serve as Registrar for IMZA and I most certainly enjoy working with each of you as we move forward, promoting and enjoying this great little breed of cattle."

And now a note from your new editor: It was so enjoyable gathering the information for this Spotlight. Maureen is a delight to talk with, and she is very knowledgeable. I personally want to thank her for all her hard work and dedication on the newsletter; and, as an IMZA member since 2012, I looked forward to every issue to read the informative articles there. Maureen has a way with words which is evident from the past Member Spotlights and articles. If you're new to IMZA and haven't seen our past newsletters, please visit the IMZA website (www.imza.name) to see past issues of the IMZA CoN*Nection—there's a link on the home page to view the current issue, as well as past issues.

So, thank you, Maureen, from me, the Board of Directors and all members, existing and prospective! Job well done!

Bits and Pieces

- Having trouble determining if that newborn calf is a bull or heifer? If you have an untame cow who has just calved and won't let you get near them both, you can usually tell what sex your calf is by watching it pee!
 - Miniature Zebras love horse treats, especially the ones called Dobbins Delights found at Tractor Supply stores.
-

All you long-time miniature zebu breeders (and newbies, too!)—if you have any helpful, interesting tips, please share with your webmaster / newsletter editor at webmaster@imza.name. We can never have enough helpful information!

DID YOU KNOW?

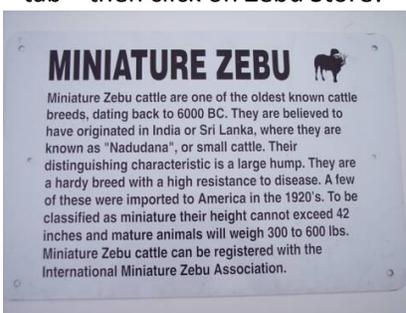
- The International Miniature Zebu Association now has more than 6,500 registered miniature zebras!
- You can advertise your IMZA-registered miniature zebu for sale on our **FREE SALE BOARD** on the IMZA's website at www.imza.name.
- You can have your website link added to the IMZA website's Links page for free! Just let our webmaster know—email webmaster@imza.name.



- Check out the IMZA on Facebook! Share your pictures and information!
-

IMZA Promotional Products Available

You can get all your IMZA promotional products from the IMZA's website at www.imza.name listed under the Sale Barn tab—then click on Zebu Store!



IMZA Members: Send in your articles, photos, show reports or unique events with your miniature zebu for publication in the IMZA CoN*Nection and on the IMZA's website. Sharing your experiences with your fellow members helps everyone learn, including potential new miniature zebu owners! Send to: webmaster@imza.name.

Quick Facts . . .

The miniature zebu in the United States come in shades of grey, red, white and black. Spotted were originally not very common, but they are now becoming more plentiful and popular. Zebu calves can be born red or reddish brown and then change to grey as they mature. If they are born white or light grey, they will have red on top of their heads and usually down the ridge of their backs and rump areas. Even in newborns, the hump is noticeable. Miniature zebus, also known as Nadudana Zebu, are generally grey with black noses and switches. The bulls are usually darker than the cows and tend to be smaller than the cows.



From the IMZA Forum

We've got people interested in miniature zebu posting on the IMZA's forum (<http://imza.proboards.com>). They have lots of questions! All you long-time breeders can help everyone by participating and answering some of the many questions that have been posted. All you newcomers, please introduce yourselves and participate, as well! Here's a sample of what some people are posting:

dieter writes: I'm situated in South Africa. It is very expensive to import livestock. I was wondering if anyone knows of a breeder that harvests mini zebu embryos that I can import and in that way start with good quality animals.

alabamagreg writes: Hi! I'm Greg Chapman from Rainsville, AL. I have a 13-head miniature Zebu farm and have bulls to sell. I also have miniature horses and a miniature donkey and mule.

jessicanelson writes: I am interested in getting a calf or a couple calves. I'm in California. Is anyone near here or shipping anything this way?



Photo courtesy of Chris Burns, Redgate Farm, Mt. Olive, IL

Show News

Polk County Youth Fair, January 29, 2015

By Rick Bogle

The Polk County Youth Fair in Bartow, Florida included another great Miniature Zebu Show on January 29, 2015. More than a dozen very nice Zebras were shown by a fine group of young FFA and 4-H members. As always, the Zebu show was one of the most popular events in the week-long Youth Fair.

The Grand Champion Bull was FX Bar Phil, shown by Katy Locke. The Reserve Champion Bull was Kehoe's Midnight Raider shown by Yoali Sanchez.



The Grand Champion Heifer was FX Bar Moonlight Mary shown by Julieta Resendiz. The Reserve Champion Heifer was FX Bar Tinkerbell shown by Shelby Peterson.

All of the youths did a great job and a grand time was had by all!



Grand Champion Bull
FX Bar Phil



Reserve Champion Bull
Kehoe's Midnight Raider



Grand Champion Heifer
FX Bar Moonlight Mary



Reserve Champion Heifer
FX Bar Tinkerbell

Upcoming Shows

FLORIDA: The next IMZA-sponsored mini zebu show is **The Spring Fling** to be held in Bartow, FL, mid-April 2015. Details will be posted on the website when available. If you need further information on this show, please contact Rick Bogle at 407-468-9002 or rvbogle@earthlink.net.

TEXAS: **The First Annual Zebu Bonanza Extravaganza** will held March 14, 2015 (entries due 3/1/15). This is a not an IMZA-sponsored show, but IMZA-registered cattle may enter by including a copy of the registration papers with entries. The Open and Junior show will take place at the Kaufman County Fairgrounds . All proceeds will benefit Kaufman County youth showing zebu steers or heifers (no bulls allowed in Junior show). You can bring animals that are for sale as long as they are entered in the show. If they are not entered, we ask for a donation. There will also be a Silent Auction. To donate an item, gift certificate, or service to the Silent Auction, or if you need further information on this show, please contact Jessie Wilder at 832-233-8869.