

A scenic view of a dirt road winding through rolling hills and fields under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The road is in the foreground, leading the eye into the distance. The landscape is a mix of green grass, brown soil, and some trees. In the background, there are more hills and a small cluster of buildings.

*University of Nebraska- Lincoln*  
*Block and Bridle*

*2017-2018 Annual*

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# Block and Bridle Club

## History

The National Block and Bridle Club was formed on December 2nd, 1919 in Chicago, Illinois by student representatives from four animal husbandry clubs. These clubs from Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri became the charter chapters of the new national organization. During their meeting the chapters formed a constitution including a statement of the club's objectives that have been revised over the years to read as follows:

- To promote a higher scholastic standard and a more complete understanding of Animal Science among student members
- To promote animal agriculture through development of a program of activities that will supplement study of the animal sciences in colleges and universities.
- To enhance professionalism of students who will one day be leaders on the animal agriculture culture industry.
- To bring about a closer relationship among all students pursuing some phase of animal agriculture as a profession.

## Emblem

The Block and Bridle symbol represents the principles on which the club was built. Character, sincerity, and a moral life are asked of members when they are initiated into the Block and Bridle Club. These attributes are depicted in the straight vertical line of the B. The distinct curves of the B are symbolic of social pleasure, mental health, and the determination of Block and Bridle members.

The meat block and cleaver inside the top half of the B represents the material aspects of our life and our profession. The bridle in the bottom half stands for the behavior of members, the control over ourselves that we try to maintain, the mannerisms and respect we show towards others, and the manner in which we treat our livestock.



March 16, 2018

Dear Block and Bridle Club Members, Alumni, and Friends:

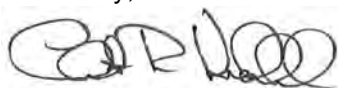
Welcome from the Department of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska! We are proud of all of our students who have participated in Block and Bridle Club activities throughout the 2017-2018 academic year. Block and Bridle has a rich history and strong tradition, and I am proud the University of Nebraska was one of the founding members of the National Block and Bridle Club. The purpose of the club is to promote a higher scholastic standard, increase understanding of animal agriculture, develop our future leaders, and to bring about a closer relationship among students. Indeed, a well-rounded education extends beyond the classroom, and Block and Bridle provides our students with the opportunity to grow. I encourage our students to set high goals and standards, take advantage of open doors, serve those that are less fortunate, and to always look for opportunities to advocate for animal agriculture.

The Block and Bridle Club has several activities that contribute greatly to the department and to animal agriculture. A partial list includes the Annual Steak Fry, Lincoln Public Schools Science Fair, the Big Red Beef Show, Future Pork Leaders, and the Pork-fest, just to name a few. These activities engage our future students, clientele, and stakeholders, and provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about our programs and the livestock industries we serve. On behalf of the department, I also express my appreciation to Brad Bennett, Tom Burkey, Benny Mote, and Ty Schmidt for their leadership and oversight of the club.

The selection of Mr. Greg Ibach as this year's Block and Bridle Honoree continues the Club's legacy of honoring key leaders who have had a great impact on Nebraska's livestock industries. Greg, a fifth-generation farmer and rancher, currently serves as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs where he sets national standards for the marketing of U.S. agricultural products, and the health and care of animals and plants. Greg was on the Executive Committee of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association when he was appointed to be Assistant Director of Agriculture by then Governor Mike Johanns and later was appointed Director by Governors Dave Heineman and Pete Ricketts. Greg is Nebraska's longest serving Director of Agriculture serving more than 12-years in this role. Over the course of his career, Greg has received multiple awards and recognitions including: UNL Outstanding Young Alumnus (1996), Nebraska Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer and Rancher (1996), induction into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement (2007), UNL IANR Service to Agriculture Award (2008), induction into Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society for International Scholars (2009), and the Honorary State FFA Degree (2010). Greg graduated from UNL (1984) with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with majors in Animal Science and Agricultural Economics and served as an officer for the Block and Bridle Club. Also as a student, Greg was an officer of FarmHouse Fraternity and is currently an Alumni Association Board Member for the fraternity. Mr. Ibach serves as Co-Chairman of fundraising efforts for the new FarmHouse Chapter House, as well as serving as a mentor for FarmHouse student members. Greg Ibach exemplifies the spirit and intent of this award, and we are proud to name him as the 2017-2018 Block and Bridle Honoree.

In closing, congratulations to our Block and Bridle club members for a job well done. I wish you the very best as you continue your academic and professional careers, pursue your passions, and serve the livestock industries.

Sincerely,



Clinton R. Krehbiel  
Marvel L. Baker, Head

On behalf of the University of Nebraska Block & Bridle Club, I welcome all of our guests to the 84<sup>th</sup> University of Nebraska Block & Bridle Honors Banquet. As I think about the core objectives of the club, this has been another year where the club has come together to promote high scholastic standards and a more complete understanding of Animal Science, to promote animal agriculture through club activities, to enhance professionalism of students who will one day be leaders in the animal agriculture industry, and finally, to foster relationships among students pursuing animal agriculture as a profession.

As we gather for this year's Honors Banquet, I am reminded of a quote attributed to Robert J. Burdette (1883):

“Whether you handle pick or wheelbarrow or a set of books,  
digging ditches or editing a newspaper,  
ringing an auction bell or writing funny things,  
you must work.”

As I reflect on this quote, I am reminded of the countless hours that our student members dedicate towards the mission of the club. Today, more than ever, our students are presented with a vast array of extracurricular activities from which they can choose to participate in. When you couple extracurricular activities with the primary purpose of going to college (i.e., to receive an education) and the pressure to perform academically, it is truly amazing what these students have accomplished as members of the UNL Block & Bridle Club. Student members of the Block & Bridle Club have diverse interests and goals, but I can say with confidence that they all share a passion for agriculture and are willing to work to share that passion with others.

The passion for agriculture (and the willingness to share that passion) exemplified by our students is also a consistent theme in those individuals that the club has selected as the annual Block & Bridle Club Honoree. Consistent with all of the past honoree's, the body of work maintained by this year's honoree closely aligns with the Block & Bridle Club's core objectives and from this body of work, the passion for agriculture and the willingness to work to share that passion ring true. Please join me in congratulating, Mr. Greg Ibach as this year's Block & Bridle Honoree.

In closing, thank you to the University of Nebraska, the Department of Animal Science, the Block & Bridle Club student officers and members, and all of the individuals that have supported the Block & Bridle Club. Please enjoy the evening and please take time to visit and interact with our students during the evening.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Burkey  
Advisor, UNL Block & Bridle Club

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# 2018 Block and Bridle Honoree

## Greg Ibach



Greg Ibach of Sumner, NE, will be recognized as the newest University of Nebraska–Lincoln Block and Bridle honoree. Each year the Block and Bridle Club selects an honoree that has contributed to Nebraska agriculture through leadership, service, youth projects, community activities and involvement with the university.

Ibach, a fifth-generation farmer and rancher, currently serves as the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs where he sets national standards for the marketing of U.S. agricultural products, and the health and care of animals and plants. He began his professional career working for Farm Credit Services of America. In 1989, Ibach and his wife Teresa returned to the family farm. They served on the Nebraska Farm Bureau Young Farmer Rancher Committee and Ibach was elected for two terms on the Nebraska Beef Council. Greg was on the Executive Committee of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association when he was appointed to be Assistant Director of Agriculture by then Governor Mike Johanns and later was appointed Director by Governors Dave Heineman and Pete Ricketts. Ibach is Nebraska’s longest serving Director of Agriculture serving more than 12-years in this role.

Most of Ibach’s career has aligned with the Block and Bridle Club’s core objectives, which are; 1) to promote a higher scholastic standard and a more complete understanding of Animal Science among student members; 2) to promote animal agriculture through development of a program of activities that will supplement students study of the animal sciences; 3) to enhance professionalism of students who will one day be leaders in the animal agriculture industry; and 4) to bring about a closer relationship among all students pursuing some phase of animal agriculture as a profession.



Over the course of his career, Ibach has received multiple awards and recognitions including: UNL Outstanding Young Alumnus (1996), Nebraska Farm Bureau Outstanding Young Farmer and Rancher (1996), induction into the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement (2007), UNL IANR Service to Agriculture Award (2008), induction into Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society for International Scholars (2009), and the Honorary State FFA Degree (2010).

In his spare time, Ibach continues to play an active role in his family's central Nebraska farm. Notably, he has also been involved in youth activities. As Director, Ibach provided vision and support for the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council and Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute, and has been a member, mentor, volunteer, speaker, leader, and supporter for both FFA chapters and 4-H clubs at the local and state level.

Ibach graduated from UNL (1984) with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with majors in Animal Science and Agricultural Economics where he served as an officer for the Block and Bridle Club. Also as a student, he was an officer of FarmHouse Fraternity and is currently an Alumni Association Board Member for the fraternity. Ibach serves as Co-Chairman of fundraising efforts for the new FarmHouse Chapter House, as well as serving as a mentor for FarmHouse student members.



Pictured above: Greg Ibach giving a talk to the University go Nebraska Block and Bridle Club at the March 2018 General Club Meeting

# Past Honorees 1938-1962



1938  
Ashton Shallenberger



1938  
Samuel McKelvie



1938  
Everett Buckingham



1939  
Bruce McCulloch



1940  
Sam Hudson



1941  
Edgar A. Burnett



1942  
Elmer E. Youngs



1947  
Arthur Thompson



1948  
Leunis Van Es



1949  
Delmer Anderson



1950  
Sam R. McKelvie



1951  
W. Marshall Ross



1952  
Henry Mousel



1952  
Robert Mousel



1953  
E. Z. Russell



1954  
Albert Hultine



1955  
Charles J. Warner



1956  
Edwin Belsky



1957  
Andrew D. Majors



1958  
William J. Loeffel



1959  
Byron P. Demorest



1959  
James S. Kreycik



1960  
Marvel L. Baker



1961  
Harry Knabe



1962  
Parr Young

# Past Honorees 1963-1985



1963  
D. V. Spohn



1964  
Earl Monahan



1965  
Russell Kendall



1966  
M. A. Alexander



1966  
George Young



1967  
Willard Waldo



1968  
Henry Klosterman



1969  
Glenn Lewis



1970  
Edward Janike



1970  
Otto H. Liebers



1971  
Forrest S. Lee



1972  
Joseph Watson



1973  
Guy McReynolds



1974  
Howard Pitzer



1975  
Harold Stevens



1976  
Archie White



1977  
Melvin Kuska



1978  
W. Eugene Flynn



1979  
Wesley Hansen



1980  
J. Gerald Beatie



1981  
Merlyn Carlson



1982  
H. Eugene Schroeder



1983  
Richard Sorensen



1984  
Lloyd Bevans



1985  
Julian Canaday

# Past Honorees 1963-2010



1986  
Jack Maddux



1987  
Harry Hart



1988  
James Robert



1989  
John Klosterman



1990  
Robert Ahlschwede



1991  
James Volk



1992  
R. B. Warren



1993  
Roger Wehrbein



1994  
Jerry Adamson



1995  
James Wolfe



1996  
Max Waldo



1997  
Richard Shinn



1998  
Robert Volk



1999  
David Hamilton



2000  
Harry Knobbe



2001  
Sallie Atkins



2002  
Frank Bruning



2003  
Max Kimmerling



2004  
Frank Sibert



2005  
Robert Dickey



2006  
Sherman Berg



2007  
Al Svajgr



2008  
Jay Wolf



2009  
Homer Buell



2010  
Vance Uden

# Past Honorees 2010-2017



**2011**  
**Paul Engler**



**2012**  
**Bill Luckey**



**2013**  
**Bill Dicke**



**2014**  
**Mark Jagels**



**2015**  
**William "Bill" Rishel**



**2016**  
**Ann Marie Bosshamer**



**2017**  
**Doug Brand**

# Animal Science Faculty



**Clint Krehbiel**



**Don Adams**



**Kathy Anderson**



**Brad Bennett**



**Dennis Brink**



**Tom Burkey**



**Dennis Burson**



**Chris Calkins**



**Dan Ciobanu**



**Kim Clark**



**Archie Clutter**



**Andrea Cupp**



**Mary Drownowski**



**Rob Eirich**



**Galen Erickson**



**Samodha Fernando**



**Rick Funston**



**Ronnie Green**



**Deb Hamernik**



**Charles Hibberd**



**Lori Jaixen**



**Karla Jenkins**



**Steve Jones**



**Lisa Karr**



**Rick Koelsch**

# Animal Science Faculty



**Paul Kononoff**



**Ron Lewis**



**Lena Luck**



**James MacDonald**



**Phillip Miller**



**Gota Morota**



**Benny Mote**



**Travis Mulliniks**



**Jessica Petersen**



**Sheila Purdum**



**Rick Rasby**



**Bryan Reiling**



**Amy Schmidt**



**Ty Schmidt**



**Matt Spangler**



**Rick Stowell**



**Gary Sullivan**



**Hiep Vu**



**Andrea Watson**



**Brett White**



**Jack Whittier**



**Jennifer Wood**



**Dustin Yates**

# 2017-2018 Club Members

Rachelle Allen  
Jacob Barwick  
Amber Beasley  
Cole Behrendt  
Sheldon Beierman  
Erin Blucher  
Cassandra Carpenter  
Katheryn Compton  
Corey Conway  
Kailey Conway  
Morgan Cuttler  
Mya Donelson  
Abigail Durham  
Callie Eastin  
Megan Eickhoff  
Jimmy Hagge  
Kaitly Hanvey  
Karnee Hatch  
Megan Homolka  
Rachel Hornickel  
Brooke Hoyt

Jordan Jansen  
Madison Jones  
Marissa Kegley  
Vanessa Knutson  
Anna Kobza  
Taylor Lindeman  
Hannah Lowe  
Shalyn Miller  
Jesse Mandina  
Shalyn Miller  
Micah Most  
Oscar Munoz-Torres  
Megan Murdoch  
Kurt Nelson  
Adam Oldemeyer  
Matthew Ortmeier  
Lexi Ostrand  
Taylor Parham  
Mary Paul  
Rudy Pooch  
Charmayne Popp

Anna Quint  
Brigitte Rathey  
Noah Renken  
Kailee Rupprecht  
Elizabeth Ruskamp  
Jackson Ryschon  
Chase Samuelson  
Jessilyn Sayers  
Bailey Schroeder  
Gilbert Seck  
Zachary Seibert  
Whitney Steckel  
Sheridan Swotek  
Shelby Vogler  
Dalton Wagner  
Kaylee Wheeler  
Kyla Wojtalewicz  
Miranda Wordekemper  
Alik York  
Shayna Yost





# 2017-2018 Officer Team and Advisors



From left to right: Top Row- Madison Jones (Treasurer), Rachelle Allen (Ambassador), Lexi Ostrand (Vice President-Pork)  
Middle Row- Erin Blucher (Historian), Kailey Conway (Vice President-Beef)  
Bottom Row- Sheridan Swotek (Secretary), Gilbert Seck (President), Marissa Kegley (Marshall)



Dr. Tom Burkey



Brad Bennet



Dr. Ty Schmidt



Dr. Benny Mote

# Presidents Letter

On behalf of the University of Nebraska Block and Bridle Club, it is my pleasure to recognize the club's activities and accomplishments of the club from the past year. I would like to thank the Faculty and Staff of the Animal Science Department who have provided their support and guidance for the club's activities. I would especially like to thank our advisors, Brad Bennet, Dr. Benny Mote, Dr. Tom Burkey, and Dr. Ty Schmidt, for their integral role within the club. In addition, I would like to thank our department contact, Andi Hallberg. She provides the club with support from behind the scenes and answers our difficult questions. Our sponsors also deserve a thank you. Without their contribution, we may not have been able to further our pursuits in agriculture. The events we put on require a large amount of work and without our members and officers, we would not have the success in accomplishing these events.

Through my past four years at the University of Nebraska, and past three years within Block and Bridle Club, I have had the pleasure to meet numerous people, further my leadership abilities, and promote animal agriculture within the state of Nebraska and the United States. Education does not only come from a classroom, but also from farm and facility tours, hands on activities, and presentations. There have been a few changes within the club, and a few more to follow in the future, but it is my hope that these changes help students become more involved and grow as individuals here at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

My advice to students is to get involved with the club, don't let opportunities pass by, and overcome challenges. Involvement leads to connecting with people and learning more about agriculture. Life is not always about what you know, but who you know. Don't let opportunities pass by, because even an insignificant opportunity may lead you down the right path. Roll with the punches and overcome the challenges that arise. They will only make you stronger and wiser in the long run. Work hard, stay involved, and have fun, that's what makes life memorable.

As a club in the department we are very fortunate to have livestock handling facilities on campus and the opportunities to utilize the facility for livestock judging, Little AKSARBEN, and other events held by the club. I would also like to add that in the spring of 2021, the club will have the opportunity to show case the Animal Science Department and the various livestock sectors of Nebraska, by hosting the 101st National Block and Bridle Convention. We have a group of young ladies who are excited to take on the challenge of planning a convention of this magnitude. They will not be alone in their pursuit, but they will be the inspiration to the club to grow and prepare to host numerous Block and Bridle Clubs from across the United States.

It has been an honor to serve as the 2017-2018 President for the Block and Bridle Club. Again, I would like to thank our members, officers, and advisors for your commitment to the success of Block and Bridle. I look forward to watching the club grow and build upon its traditions and principles.



With Regards,

Gilbert L. Seck  
2017-2018 UNL Block and Bridle Club President

# Secretary's Report

It has been an eventful year for University of Nebraska Block and Bridle. Between hosting events for the public, meeting fellow members and animal science faculty, learning about the industry, and keeping up with academic demands, we are proud to say that our members have been very involved throughout this past year. Many of our members learned about University of Nebraska Block and Bridle at the Big Red Welcome and East Campus Welcome Back Club Fair. Within the first month of the school year we had a group of members assist with making meals and bussing tables at the Nebraska Cattlemen's Beef Pit at the Nebraska State Fair. We also welcomed our initiates to join us for a week full of fun activities (painting paddles, enjoying Raising Cane's and good conversation) to meet current members and learn more about Block and Bridle. We also hosted our annual Steak Fry at the Animal Science Complex where attendees gathered to enjoy a hearty steak. This not only benefited the club but also donated money to our Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund. We also had the pleasure of having Russ Vering of Central Plains Milling LLC in Howells, NE speak to us about his experiences in University of Nebraska Block and Bridle, being the Nebraska Pork Producer President, and his business. Our members also spent approximately a month working with their randomly selected steers, hogs, lambs, and horses for our annual Little Aksarben Stock Show in early November. We finished out the semester with our annual holiday party.

The spring semester was equally as busy, starting off with our Industry Tour to Missouri where a group of members toured local operations and met the University of Missouri Block and Bridle Chapter. We again had to fight the weather this year with our annual Porkfest event, but that didn't stop the public from enjoying our meal and participating in the Bacon Eating Contest. We also had Block and Bridle team up with UNL Ag. Ed. Club to host an interactive and educating booth for Lincoln Public School students at "Kid's Day" where youth learned where their food, fiber, and fuel comes from. Big Red Beef Show had another successful turnout at Fonner Park in Grand Island, NE where individuals of all ages and across the state enjoyed the opportunity to be in the show ring. During that same time, Dr. Burkey and seven members traveled to Orlando, FL for the 98th National Block and Bridle Convention. This group brought back great information and experiences from touring different agricultural operations in Florida and networking with members from across the nation. Greg Ibach, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, was selected as this year's Block and Bridle Honoree and had the opportunity to join us at a meeting to speak to our members about his path in agriculture and offered advise on how we can be successful in the industry. We were very excited and honored to hear him speak.

It is easy to say the UNL Block and Bridle Club has had an eventful year! This couldn't have been possible without the leadership and guidance from our advisors Brad Bennett, Dr. Benny Mote, Dr. Tom Burkey, and Dr. Ty Schmidt.

It has been an honor to serve as the 2017-18 UNL Block and Bridle Club Secretary. Through my experiences in this position I not only continued to polish my leadership skills, but also had the opportunity to connect with our members and see their passion for animal science thrive through our club.



Respectfully submitted,

Sheridan Swotek

2017-2018 UNL Block and Bridle Club

# Treasurer's Report

	Expenses	Income
Big Red Welcome	\$210.21	\$0.00
Dues	\$0.00	\$1,960.00
Steak Fry	\$952.33	\$3,036.00
Initiates Week	\$990.25	\$0.00
Christmas Party	\$175.31	\$0.00
Little Aksarben	\$350.73	\$1,855.00
Industry Tour	\$1,100.34	\$300.00
Porkfest	\$515.65	\$2,333.00
Big Red Beef Show	\$14,285.00	\$19,579.31
National Convention	\$7,069.07	\$2,177.00
2016-17 Banquest	\$7,703.48	\$3,992.00
2016-17 Annual	\$2,150.10	\$1,125.00
Monthly Meetings	\$2,258.77	\$0.00
	---	---
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,761.24</b>	<b>\$36,357.31</b>
<b>Balance for General Account</b>		<b>\$1,440.71</b>
<b>Balance for Collegiate Cattlemen</b>		<b>\$21,580.84</b>
<b>Balance for Scholarships</b>		<b>\$1,220.00</b>
<b>Total Balance</b>		<b>\$24,241.55</b>

Block and Bridle has had a productive year. We put on several events, raised money and also spent it. 😊 Our events that brought in the most profit were The Big Red Beef Show, Steak Fry, and Porkfest. We are thankful to our sponsors that help with their donations to our events and hope for their support in the future.



Respectfully Submitted,  
 Madison Jones  
 2017-2018 UNL Block and Bridle Club

# Historian's Comments

It is my pleasure to have served as the 2017-2018 Block and Bridle Club Historian. It has been super fun going through past annuals and being able to read about the clubs events and traditions that all started in 1919. There have been so many events that this Block and Bridle Club has been involved in or organized and it is really interesting to read about how it was in the past compared to what that event is now. It is awesome to see events like Little AKSARBEN continue to be a big part of the club.

I cannot wait to see what the future of this club has in store and I am so glad to have been a part of this years officer team. Taking pictures at all the events has been a blast! It is so cool to be at an event taking pictures and then be able to go home, upload them and relive them all over again. Some of my favorite events for taking pictures would have to have been Little AKSARBEN and Steak Fry. You get an entirely different view of the event behind the camera and I cannot wait to share some of this years best moments with you. I will forever cherish the skills I learned being an officer of this club and I cannot wait to be able to apply them to my life later down the road. Additionally, the memories I have gained and the friendships I have made in this club are ones that will last a lifetime.

I would like to thank our advisors Brad Bennett, Dr. Tom Burkey, Dr. Benny Mote, and Dr. Ty Schmidt for their continued support of our officer team and the club as a whole. Also, a huge thank you to Andi Hallberg for all that she does for the officer team and with the annual. Thank you to all of the faculty, staff, and club members for all contributions to the club. Finally, to all who provide donations to the club, we thank you for your support and we hope to maintain strong connections so that future members in the club may have similar opportunities.

I would finally like to thank my fellow officers for helping me take pictures at events and writing many of the articles in the annual. None of this annual would have been possible without your help.



Sincerely,

Erin Blucher

2017-2018 UNL Block and Bridle Club

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS



## Gilbert Seck

Hometown: North Platte, Nebraska

Graduation date: May 2018

Major: Applied Science

Minors: Animal Science and Agronomy

Future Plans: I have applied for a Research Technician position at the University of Nebraska's West Central Research and Extension Center at North Platte. I am also starting a meat operation as a side business by utilizing intensive rotational grazing systems. The primary products will include chicken, eggs, pork, and beef.

What have you gained from being in Block and Bridle? This club is more than just a club related to the livestock industries. There are many opportunities to experience something new or take part in events not offered in the classroom. I never had the opportunity to grow up on a farm or ranch and work with livestock, but I found value in this club, and I became involved. I never thought that I

would end up becoming the president of the club, but it happened, and even though some days are stressful, I would not trade it for another day. This has been an amazing opportunity to become involved in the Department of Animal Science and work with the faculty and staff. I see a future for the Block and Bridle Club, and the students that get involved with an organization as such, will be the ones that make a difference.

Favorite Block and Bridle event/activity and why? Little AKSARBEN has to be one of my favorite events held by the club. Aside from having an integral role of bringing the event back into the club, this was an amazing opportunity for myself to learn how to show pigs, sheep, horses, and cattle for the first time. I showed pigs and sheep in our show this past fall and past spring, but I qualified for the round robin this past fall where I had to show all four livestock species. One of my greatest memories comes from the night of my birthday on November 2nd, the night before the show. Instead of going back to my apartment after working with my animals and helping others get ready for the show, I decided to stay at Animal Science, knowing I would not be productive, working on homework. A handful of students and I ended up staying later than normal, just hanging out, and eating pizza. One of the pig whips happened to look like a horse whip, and I happened to shout out with an announcer's voice "... and American Pharaoh is coming off the curve! He is pulling ahead with a two length lead! He continues to take the lead! And American Pharaoh, has won, the Triple Crown!!!" We just about died laughing, but it is a memory like this that will last a lifetime.

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS

## Amanda Lambrecht

Hometown: Blair, Nebraska

Graduation date: August 2018

Major: Animal Science

Future Plans: I will work within the industry for a year. This fall I'll apply for the Nebraska/Iowa State Professional Veterinary School.

Favorite Aspect of the Club: Block and Bridle represents the diversity in the livestock industry and prepares us to be just as diverse in our knowledge. This was done through activities like the Big Red Beef Show, Porkfest, and monthly meetings with speakers and opportunities to network.

Advice to the Young Members: Take advantage of the opportunities in front of you, get out of your comfort zone and strive everyday to be a better version of yourself so that you can have a positive impact on the industry.



## Brigitte Rathey

Graduation date: May 2018

Major: Animal Science Major with a focus in Production and Management

Minors: Agribusiness and Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars minors

Future Plans: In June I will be moving to Fresno, California and working full time for Cargill as an Operations Management Associate in their beef processing facility there.

What have you gained from being in Block and Bridle? I have truly enjoyed my 4 years being involved in Block and Bridle. I have made many connections with people in the livestock industry, both students and professionals, and I look forward to

seeing those relationships grow. I have also learned a great deal about the beef industry and agriculture on a national and international level. I appreciate how Block and Bridle allows me to apply what I have learned in the classroom through hands on activities and events. I am excited to see how the skills and knowledge I have gained through Block and Bridle play into my career and life moving forward.

Favorite Block and Bridle event/activity and why? My favorite Block and Bridle event has always been the Big Red Beef Show. I showed cattle in high school, so getting to see the other side of the show world by helping organize and execute the event has been very enjoyable.

*Congratulations to Greg Ibach,  
UNL Farmhouse Alum*



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for contact information and updates  
on our members.

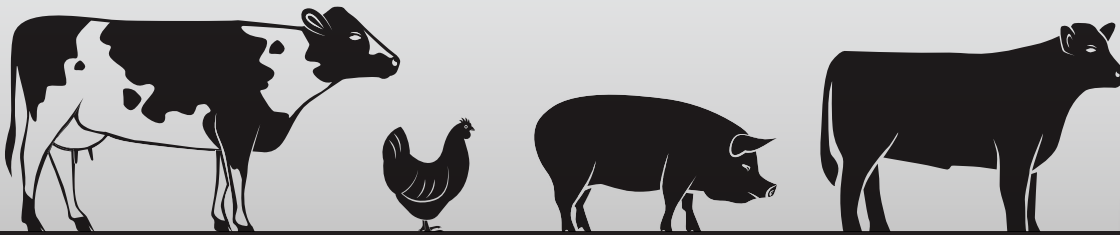
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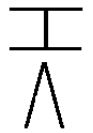


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# OUR MARK

# Welcome Back Week

Sunday, August 20th our club participated in the Big Red Welcome event on City Campus. This is a way for our club to reach out to this year's freshman and tell them about Block and Bridle. We handed out animal crackers and had interested individuals sign up to receive emails about our meetings and events. We also participated in the East Campus Welcome Back Fair. This club fair was located on East Campus on Thursday, August 24th. This is another event to network with freshman who have agricultural majors.



## AKSARBEN STOCK SHOW

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Nominations Due Online

*Market Beef*

June 15, 2018  
Nominations Due Online

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Breeding Does, Market Goats,  
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# Beef Pit

The Block and Bridle Club took 13 students to the Nebraska Cattlemen's Beef Pit at the 2017 Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island. Members helped call orders, plate the sides, pour drinks, bus tables, and clean up at the end of the evening. This event allows members to reconnect after a busy summer away from campus; network with the Nebraska Cattlemen, and members of the public who come and dine at the Beef Pit. We even had a chance to briefly chat with Doug Brand, our 2016-2017 club Honoree.

All in all, members had a great time making witty agriculture jokes while serving meals and we look forwards to continuing this relationship with the Nebraska Cattlemen.



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# Initiates Week

Initiates week is a way we jumpstart new member's interest in the club. We had two nights of events on September 5th and 6th. Tuesday night gave new members the chance to network with each other while decorating the paddles they get signed by Animal Science faculty members. We had about 15 members show up and they all got the chance to win some Block and Bridle merchandise. Wednesday we had a Cards and Raisin' Canes night. New members had the chance to show off their card playing skills while enjoying some Raisin' Canes chicken fingers and socializing with each other. About 20 members showed up and we learned that we have some talented members who can do card tricks! These two nights of activities proved very successful as members got the chance to network and had a blast while doing it!



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# 19th Annual Steak Fry

On September 8th, Block & Bridle members, Animal Science professors, Sponsors, and many friends and family gathered to enjoy some deliciously grilled steaks! Event planning began quickly when school returned in August. We were aiming for enough food for 275 people. We are thankful for the support of our sponsors this year: Nebraska Cattlemen, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Nebraska Corn Board, Dicke Consulting, and Cargill. The steaks were donated by Cargill as well as volunteering their time and grill, to cook the steaks for us. We are very grateful for Cargill's continued support for this event. We owe a special thank you to Laura Oltman, former Block & Bridle member. We also served cheesy potatoes, baked beans (w/ Bacon!), cookies, and tea, lemonade and water. Members spent time preparing the baked beans and drinks before the event started. We also set up tables inside and outside for people to sit and eat! Lots of members signed up to help with the event and sold tickets to family, friends, and professors! We also had great support from our Animal Science professors and faculty to help serve the meal alongside the students. The students enjoyed getting to know their teachers outside of class! As for reviews from spectators, everyone thought their steak was DELICIOUS! Serving cheesy potatoes was something new that we tried this year, and we heard great feedback from those as well. This year, the club voted to donate \$1 of each ticket sold to the American Red Cross Fund with intention of it going towards the Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. After the event was all said and done, we had a chance to total ticket sales and proceeds to the club. We sold just under 250 tickets in total, while about 175 of those were sold advanced in the weeks prior to the event. The Block & Bridle Club increased their account by about \$1,600 from the 2017 Steak Fry event. We once again want to thank all our sponsors, members, professors, and those who gave time or donations to the event and came out to enjoy the beautiful evening and good food!



# Little AKSARBEN

This year's Little AKSARBEN was held on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> in the R.B. Warren Arena in the Animal Science Complex. Little AKSARBEN is a unique opportunity for both experienced and novice showmen to showcase their skills as well as learn new ones. Participants were given approximately two to three weeks to work with their livestock to ready them for the show. Students who had no experience at all were paired up with an experienced showman or a mentor, so that they could learn the skills they needed.

A committee was formed in order to plan out the logistics of the event. It was decided that this year exhibitors would be able to show swine, sheep, cattle, and/or horses. In order to get a head count of livestock to purchase from the AKSARBEN show, we had students who were interested sign up ahead of time to gauge interest. We had over 70 members sign up so we had to double and even triple up students on animals. Participants then met for an informative meeting before practice times started. At this meeting the rules and expectations were explained and they also drew the number tags for their livestock.

Participants worked with their livestock over the given amount of time by training them, washing them, and clipping them before the show date. Throughout this process, novice participants were able to learn new skills and experienced participants were able to showcase their skills by competing with their peers and passing on knowledge to students new to showing.

All students worked hard to ensure they had the best competitive edge for the competition.

On show day, we had a total of about 30 experienced showman and 16 novice showman. Participants had time throughout the day to prep their animals for show and make them look as best as they could. The show ran smoothly as we had multiple species going on at one time and lasted from about 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Species champions competed with each other in an all species Round Robin at the end of the show to choose an overall showman in both the novice and experienced categories. Winners received banners, sweatshirts, and buckles and there was a delicious free meal provided afterwards by the Block and Bridle Organization.





This year's sheep judge was Ryan Hassebrook of Raymond, Nebraska. He is a University of Nebraska alumni and a previous state FFA officer. Ryan is currently an account manager with Servitech and a co-owner of Hassebrook Show Lambs. Our cattle judge this year was Dan Wolfe who is also from Raymond, Nebraska. He is a fellow UNL alumni and is currently a sales representative for Boeringher Ingelheim as well as a past livestock judging team member. This year's equine judge was Amanda Gonzalez, another UNL alumni who majored in Animal Science with an Equine Science emphasis. She has been heavily involved in 4-H her whole life and during her time at UNL was a member and president of the SEECA organization. She currently works as the Horsemanship Director at Timberlake Ranch Camps, judges 4-H horsemanship competitions, and serves as a coach for the Special Olympics. Gary Kubicek was our swine judge this fall. He is also a UNL alumni who majored in Animal Science and Agricultural Education and participated on the Meats and Livestock Judging Teams. He was a member of Farmhouse and Block and Bridle all four years he was attending UNL. He served as Block and Bridle Treasurer, President, and is a previous winner of Little AKSARBEN himself. He's had success in teaching and judging throughout his career and enjoys helping motivate and teach young 4-H'ers.

This event would not have been possible if it were not for the hard working members, Brent Johnson, Clyde Naber, and advisors who all played a part in obtaining and caring for the animals for the show as well as setting up and cleaning up after the show.





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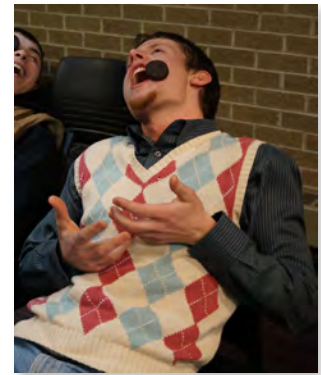
## November Meeting Speaker

Russ Vering is 1994 graduate from the University of Nebraska, and holds a degree in Animal Science. He spoke about Central Plains Milling in Columbus and Howells, NE and his role in the company, as the owner, at the November Club Meeting on November 16th . With state of the art milling and processing equipment, CPM is able to utilize logged manufacturing records, accurate milling processes (i.e. 1 pound of excess lysine costs \$.76), especially for diets containing products administered under the Veterinary Feed Directive. The company strives to produce a quality products through a simple, yet proven processing system. Russ also stated that he projects growth in the poultry and swine industry, as it will become more feasible to build a barn on the corner of a property to diversify the operation. When asked what qualities he is looking for in college graduates, he mentioned, creativity, hardworking, basic fundamentals, stamina, and character. All in all, we were excited to have Russ speak at our meeting and have the opportunity to connect with our members.



# Holiday Party

The Block and Bridle Holiday Party was a huge hit with all the members! Twenty - four members were joined together with great food, fun games, and an intense white elephant gift exchange. Everyone split up into teams and competed fiercely in Minute to Win It games. These games included playing cup pong, shaking ping pong balls out of a tissue box only using their hips, moving a cookie on their forehead to their mouth without using any hands, and tasting baby food to guess what the flavor was. The winning team of the Minute to Win It games consisted of Gilbert Seck, Abby Durham, and Amber Beasley. Thirteen of the Block and Bridle members competed in the ugly sweater contest with Micayla Freeman as the winner with her “Deck Yo’ Self” ugly sweater



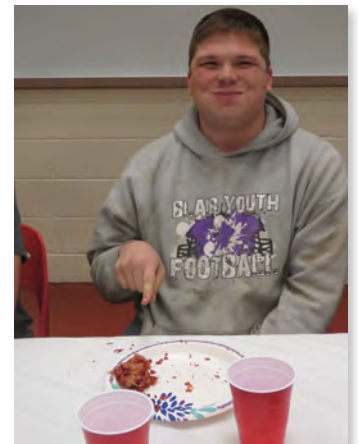
# Cattlemen's Convention

Each year, the Nebraska Cattlemen hosts an annual convention in December in Kearney, NE. They have multiple speakers among various topics as well as have committee and board meetings for all the members of the Nebraska Cattlemen. The cattlemen’s interest group attended the meetings to help take notes, set up or tear down rooms, and learned about what the Nebraska Cattlemen’s group offers their members. A group of five club members went to Kearney to attend. We stayed for the afternoon and facilitated three committee meetings as well as setting up the room for supper.

The club members that attended came back with a better grasp of relevant and current issues the industry producers are facing, and seeing the ways the Nebraska Cattlemen enables farmers and ranchers to be heard. We also learned about what leadership roles are available to us throughout our futures in agriculture. The Nebraska Cattlemen has always been great supporters of the Collegiate Cattlemen’s interest group and we thank them for continuing to allow us to work beside them in this industry.

# 3rd Annual Porkfest

The 3rd Annual Porkfest was held on February 22nd in the Animal Science Commons. There were around 120 meals served by members. The meals consisted of a pork loin sandwich, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, and a cookie. The night ended with ten individuals participating in the Bacon Eating Contest. Casey Harper, representing UNL Ag-Ed Club, came out as the champion. We would like to thank our sponsors for this year's event, which included Fast Genetics, Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Swine Management Services, Tyson, Thomas Livestock, and Schwartz Farms. We would also like to thank Clyde Naber for helping with the set up for this event.



# Lincoln Public Schools Kids Day

The Lincoln Public Schools Science Fair was held on Thursday, March 1st, with Block and Bridle being a presenter at this event. This year we partnered with UNL's Agricultural Education Club to teach students about animal agriculture. At our booth we provided the opportunity for students to play PLINKO and answer a question about the animal their ball landed on. Students were asked questions such as, "What do cows give us?" and "What is a baby lamb called?" to receive candy as a prize. Students received informational packets that went into detail about the different things that animals give us. We also had them put down things they already knew or that they learned while at our booth. We soon ran out of space on the poster because the students were so engaged and excited to learn. Overall this event was a great way to connect with students who may not have much experience with agriculture and help them understand where their food comes from.





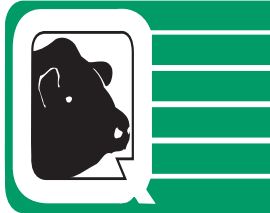
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# 2018 National Convention

Seven members of the University of Nebraska Block & Bridle Chapter attended the 98th National Block & Bridle Convention that was held March 1 – 4, 2018 in Orlando, FL (Hosted by the University of Florida). The theme for this year's convention was "Production in the Palms."

Student member representatives of the chapter included Gilbert Seck, Miranda Wordekemper, Sheridan Swotek, Magdalene O'Brien, Chelsea Bryant, Abby Durham and Amber Beasley. On Thursday, March 1, club representatives attended the National Block & Bridle business meeting where UNL club president Gilbert Seck, communicated the desire of the UNL Block & Bridle Club to host the 101<sup>st</sup> National Block & Bridle Convention. We are excited to announce that national Block & Bridle members unanimously approved UNL as the host institution for the 101<sup>st</sup> National Block and Bridle Convention in 2021. Later that evening, members attended the opening keynote presentation delivered by Trent Loos. Trent is a friend of the UNL Block & Bridle Club, a Nebraskan, and someone that shares with us a passion for animal agriculture. Loos' inspiring keynote presentation, "Speaking up for Agriculture," focused on advocating for agriculture.

On Friday, March 2, members were given a choice of tours to explore and learn about "Production in the Palms." Tour opportunities included the following topic areas: Sport Horse and Veterinary Focus, Thoroughbred Industry Focus, Farming an Environmental Stewardship, Florida Beef Industry, Meat Industry Leaders, and Diversified Agriculture. They stopped at locations including, the Equine Reproduction Center of Peterson and Smith, Buck Island Ranch, Palmetto Creek Farms, Deseret Ranches, Buckhead Meat, and many others.

The program on Saturday, March 3, included a full day of educational sessions including, for example, the following:

- Bola Adesogan, Professor of Animal Nutrition and Director and Principal Investigator of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems (LISL): "The importance of animal agriculture in meeting global food security, education, and poverty alleviation goals"
- Ashley Hughes; Assistant Manager of Operations for Etheridge Cattle Company: "Advocating: How to Tell Your Story"
- Barry Eisaman; Eisaman Equine: "Thoroughbred Horse Racing through the eyes of an Equine Veterinarian"
- Cathy Carr; UF CALS Director of Alumni and Career Services "How to be a Unicorn in a Field of Horses: Standing Out in your Job or Graduate School Search"
- David Eckholdt; HR Manager with Deseret Ranches: "HR and finding your place in the workforce"
- Dusty Holley; Director of Field Services for the Florida Cattlemen's Association: "Hats, Boots, and 3 Piece Suits"
- Erik Jacobsen; President, Deseret Ranches: "Life lessons and how to be a world class"



Saturday programming also included luncheon keynote speaker, Dr. Paul Genho (“Fifty Years: Looking Back, Looking Forward”). The national convention concluded with an awards banquet and dance on Saturday evening.

Mark your calendars! In 2019, the 99th National Block & Bridle Convention will be hosted by Louisiana State University and held in conjunction with the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show.



**Galen Frenzen, President**

**Mike Drinnin, President Elect**

**Ken Herz, Vice President**



**Scott Knobbe, President**

**Mark Jagels, Vice President**

**Tessa Quittner, Treasurer**

# Big Red Beef Show

This year brought big changes to the Big Red Beef Show! The committee wanted to focus on giving more back to exhibitors and making University of Nebraska Block and Bridle name known. We wanted more physical prizes so that as many as exhibitors as possible could walk away from the show with something in hand. We knew that we've had great success with sponsorship in years past but wanted to achieve more this year. We welcomed the Cactus Jacks food truck to the show Friday and Saturday!

The barns opened Friday morning and families flowed through all morning and afternoon. We started check-in that evening, and then immediately began showmanship at 7:00PM with our judge, Scott Werning of Emery, SD. Our showmanship show went smoothly. We had some prizes donated by Sullivan Supply, which included a bucket, showstick, and other items. This year the committee wanted to use an online and interactive show program. This allowed us to make changes and edits to the program in real time. Saturday morning we started bright and early with breeding heifers at 8:00 am in Ring A with Kevin Jensen judging, then followed with Ring B starting at 8:30 am with Scott Werning. We continued with all breeding heifers, followed by market heifers, and finished with market steers. For the breed show, we handed out halters for all class winners, donated by H & H Show Supply, and Banners, donated by Legacy Livestock Imaging were for all breed winners. We selected our Overall Market Animals for Ring A and Ring B mid-afternoon and handed out some prizes to the winners. Top seven overall champions received larger banners and top five received cash payouts.





# Big Red Beef Show

The Big Red Beef Show Committee members and other Block & Bridle club members traveled to Grand Island to host the show. About thirty of our members came, along with the UNL Livestock Judging team who came to help in the ring. We had over fifteen businesses give monetary value for a donation and multiple others support our show with items or promotions. This year checked in just over two hundred and thirty head of breeding and market calves, about the same as last year. About seventy-five percent of those calves checked-in the day of the show. The committee did a great job reaching out to sponsors and received over \$1,700 of donations. The top five overall winners for both rings, market and breeding, received over \$7,000 of cash payouts! After all expenses, we raised just over \$5,000 for the club!!! This is much more than in years past and there has been great feedback about the show. Exhibitors and their families really appreciated how we ran the show and the committee members and students worked hard to make the show a success. We owe a big thank you to our sponsors: KRVN, MaLaine & Boyd Strobe, Upstream Ranch, Windswept Acres, Conway Farms, Barnell Simmentals, Warner Beef Genetics, Cammack Farms, Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation, Lay Farms Show Calves, A & B Cattle Company, Wagonhammer Ranch, Legacy Livestock Imaging, Cattleman's Nutrition Services, Nebraska Farm Bureau, Slash Milliron Trucking, Huss Livestock Market, Boarder's Inn & Suites, Sullivan Supply, and H & H Show Supply. We appreciate your support to us as young leaders in agriculture and as a club. Thanks for making the 2018 Big Red Beef Show one of the best yet!



# Industry Tour

When the committee began planning the trip in November we discussed making a stop at Greg Judy's farm north of Columbia MO and then continue down into Arkansas and Oklahoma. As we brainstormed on trip ideas, we came up with nearly 15 stops. We also wanted to stop in Columbia to meet Block and Bridle members from the University of Missouri. As we narrowed down our stops we decided to centralize them around Columbia, MO and spend less time traveling. We invited Missouri's club members to join us on any of the tours in which they were interested.

On our drive down to Columbia we received a phone call from Missouri's Block and Bridle President informing us that the free range poultry operation tour was cancelled. They were in the process of making a few phone calls to line up another tour. We stopped for dinner Friday night at Bandana's BBQ in St. Joseph, MO.

Saturday morning we toured around the University of Missouri's campus including the Animal Science building. We then headed north towards Clark, MO to Green Pastures Farm which is owned by a gentleman by the name of Greg Judy. He operates a pasture based livestock system on 1600 acres of owned and rented land with 16 farms within a 5 mile radius of his house. He utilizes electric fencing in order to move cattle, sheep, pigs, and chickens daily across the farm. He mob grazes cattle and moves the herd 3 times per day in the winter and up to 5 times in the summer, to implement a large impact to the land in a short duration, this allows the pastures to rest and regrow over a 30-60 day span, depending on the time of year and precipitation. In the winter he buys hay, rolling enough out to last a day or two of pasture moves. When he moved the 250 head of cattle into the next paddock, grass was the first to be consumed, and hay would be the last, leaving about 25% of the hay behind to add organic matter to the soil. He also supplies free choice mineral with 16 available minerals in a portal sled that can be moved with an ATV. This allows the animal to balance out their diet in regards to the variation in the nutrition of the pastures, and over time, the pasture nutrition levels will balance out to where the cattle consume minimal amounts of minerals. Greg also gave us a tour of his pastured chickens and the sheep.

Next we visited the University of Missouri Beef Unit where they are known for research with GrowSafe feed bunks. They have performed trace mineral studies with the use of Calen American gates, which open up when collared cattle stand in front of the feed bin. In addition, the Beef Unit performs research on rotational grazing, feed lot nutrition, and roughage studies with bale-age, soybean bale-age, and Sudan grass hay.



# Industry Tour

Following the Beef Unit, we toured the Francis Family's sheep operation where they raise Katahdin sheep for market. They are breeding their ewes with wool breed rams to produce an animal with a meatier carcass. Remarkably, the Francis' are raising three lamb crops in a two year time frame by breeding their ewes in the fall, again after weaning in the spring, and then again in the late fall. The weaned lambs are sold at auction and shipped to the east coast.

Ending out the day, we ate dinner at a local Mexican restaurant with the Missouri Block and Bridle members. On Saturday, we drove to Jefferson City, Missouri, where we took a tour of the state capital. We were able to learn about the history of the state and how agriculture, the industrial revolution, and politics formed the state. We ate lunch at a local microbrewery in downtown Jefferson City, where we dined on hand crafted burgers and pizza. Afterwards, we made a stop at Central Dairy, for an ice cream treat.

Monday morning we packed our bags and hit the road to St. Joseph where we ate lunch at the Ground Round before touring the American Angus Association, headquartered in the same building, the American Angus Association is home to the Angus Foundation, Angus Genetics Inc., and Angus Media. The students that went were Gilbert Seck, Kailey Conway, Micah Most, Hannah Lowe, Megan Eichoff, Madison Jones and Advisor, Benny Mote,



# Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars

The Nebraska Beef Industry Scholars (NBIS) Program is a unique minor available to University of Nebraska students. This program is part of a greater effort to improve beef education and research in the state of Nebraska, the Beef State. The NBIS program allows undergraduate students in any major at University of Nebraska the opportunity to network with beef industry leaders, attend key industry meetings, and tour cutting edge enterprises. As importantly, NBIS focuses on developing communication and critical thinking skills through a specialized suite of courses centered on industry issues and beef centric policy that enhance the fundamental beef and economics courses required to educate the future leaders of the beef industry.



## Beef Merchandising Class

The University of Nebraska Bull Sale, held the second Saturday in April, merchandises approximately 45 bulls to commercial producers. In addition to these 45, more bulls are sold to other UNL herds. This event, made possible by the teaching herd resources at ENREC, supplies reliable genetic resources to commercial producers in Nebraska and surrounding states, provides

a unique educational experience for students, and is an opportunity to educate producers about breeding practices and tools for genetic improvement. The Beef Cattle Merchandising class is responsible for all facets of the sale including advertising, preparation of the bulls, putting together the sale catalog, and conducting the sale. The class also benefits from multiple invited speakers during the semester representing seedstock producers and allied industry representatives who share their knowledge and experiences with the students.



# Meat Judging

The 2017 Junior Meat Judging Team consists of Renae Sieck, Sophia Lentfer, Ryan Schroeder, Hunter Schroeder, Brent Tenopir, and Keaton Lusche and was coached by Jessica Lancaster. The team has some outstanding results to report. This fall we traveled to the National Barrow Show Meat Judging Contest in Austin, Minnesota, the American Royal Intercollegiate Meats Contest in Omaha, Nebraska, the High Plains Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest in Friona, Texas, and the International Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest in Dakota City, Nebraska. At the Barrow Show individual Renae Sieck received Reserve High Individual Overall, High Individual in Processed Meats, High Individual in Placings, 4th in Specifications. Ryan Schroeder was 10th High Individual Overall, High Individual in Specifications, and 8th in Fresh Meats. The team at the National Barrow Show was 3rd High Overall Team, High Team in Specifications, 3rd in Total Placings, 4th in Processed Meats, 5th in Questions and 5th in Processed Meats. At the American Royal, the team came away 9th overall in addition to 4th in Beef Grading. Individual Ryan Schroeder was the Reserve High Individual in Beef Grading. Brent Tenopir was Reserve High Individual in Placings. Hunter Schroeder wrote the High Set of Lamb Carcass Reasons. At the High Plains Meats Contest the team was for 7th in Beef Judging and 7th in Lamb Judging, 7th in Total Placings and 10th High Team Overall. Individual Renae Sieck was 6th in Beef Judging, 7th in Total Placings, 11th in Pork Judging and 11th in Reasons. Keaton Lusche was 9th Overall Alternate. At the International Meat Judging Contest in Dakota City, Nebraska, the team was 5th in Pork Judging, 6th in Beef Grading, 6th in Placings, and 7th in Specifications along with 8th Team Overall. Ryan Schroeder tied for 6th in Placings. Renae Sieck was 8th in Lamb Judging, 9th in Pork Judging and wrote the high set of reasons for the contest in Pork Carcasses. Hunter Schroeder wrote the high set of reasons in Lamb Carcasses. Keaton Lusche was 8th in Specifications. In addition, this year the University of Nebraska hosted the Mini American Royal, an invitational contest for team to help prepare for the major contests in the fall. The contest allowed all individuals to compete and was a great learning opportunity. Renae Sieck was the High Individual Overall and the High Individual in Specifications, 3rd in Placings and 3rd in Reasons. Brent Tenopir was High Individual in Placings, Reserve High Individual in Specifications, and 3rd High Individual Overall. Keaton Lusche was Reserve High Individual in Specifications. Ryan Schroeder wrote the high sets of reasons for Short Loins and Rounds.

Front row l-r: Ryan Schroeder, Keaton Lusche, Brent Tenopir, and Hunter Schroeder; middle row l-r: Sophia Lentfer, Renae Sieck, and Jessica Lancaster, Coach; back row l-r: Dr. Ty Schmidt, Faculty Advisor, and Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss, Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources



# Livestock Judging

The 2017 University of Nebraska Livestock Judging Team is again built from a mold of future leaders, pioneers, and industry movers that agriculture will rely on going forward. 12 students from across the U.S. are the dedicated, driven ones who spend their weekends in a judging van making industry contacts that will last a lifetime. Alison Bartenslager (Lewisburg, WV); Krista Carter (Alliance, NE); Michaela Clowser (Seward, NE); Nicolas Herrera (Cologne, MN); Jesse Paxton (Tryon, NE); Tyler Pickinpaugh (Torrington, WY); Jackie Schroeder (West Point, NE); and Ethan Wilke (Albion, NE) make up this year's group.

Preparation for the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado started during the fall semester in ASCI 300B (Livestock Selection and Evaluation) and spilled over into workouts over the Christmas holiday. After the 1st of January, the team was making final preparations, which certainly paid off in the form of a 6th High Team finish in Cattle and 10th High Team in Reasons. The day was highlighted by Jesse Paxton being named the High Individual in Sheep & Goats. Unique to Denver, the alternates not participating in the Thursday contest get the opportunity to judge in the Carload contest on Friday. This puts a different spin on things and challenges the participants to evaluate pens of bulls and heifers from the Yards, as well as a group of feedlot cattle. Nebraska finished 13th in a very tough, challenging competition.

The work continued after returning to Lincoln to begin classes and the team traveled to the next contest in Fort Worth, TX at the Southwestern Livestock Expo. This iconic competition throws a new wrinkle in by adding horse judging to the contest. Nebraska fared well throughout, finishing 3rd in Sheep, 4th in Horses, 4th in Hogs, 6th in Cattle, 6th in Reasons, and 5th Overall. The team was paced by Tyler Pickinpaugh who finished the day 10th in Sheep.

After some time to focus on things academically, the team made a trip to Des Moines, Iowa for the Iowa Beef Expo. This is a contest that features cattle exclusively, and is always high in quality. Once again, Jesse Paxton had a great day with a 5th Overall finish in Reasons, and 7th High Individual Overall. The team also completed a top-10 day, placing 8th overall.

Next, the team stayed close to home and judged at the Nebraska Cattleman's Classic in Kearney. Obviously, this contest is extremely important to a lot of the team members who have exhibited cattle here over the years, as well as participated in the judging contest during their 4-H and FFA careers. The team had by far the best day they had put together collectively throughout the spring. Nebraska put 4 individuals in the top 10 overall with Jesse Paxton pacing the group by being named 2nd High Individual. Right behind Jesse was Michaela Clowser in 3rd, Alison Bartenslager in 6th, and Tyler Pickinpaugh in 8th. Ethan Wilke was 6th in Placings, Tyler Pickinpaugh was the High Individual in Reasons, with Jesse and Michaela finishing 8th and 9th respectively. Overall, the team was 1st in Placings, 2nd in Reasons, and 2nd Overall.

The final spring contest took us to Houston, TX for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. The 2017 group closed out the spring in great fashion finishing 5th Overall Team, 6th Team in Cattle and Reasons, 5th in Sheep/Goats, and 4th in Placings. Tyler Pickinpaugh posted a 5th place finish in Sheep/Goats and 10th in Placings. Jesse Paxton then turned in a 10th High Reasons day.

Preparation for the fall started before school was in session in August, with multiple practices across the state, including the Nebraska State Fair and two weekends spent in Iowa judging hogs. The team's first contest was actually a full weekend with the Flint Hills/Mid-America Classic in Hutchinson, KS on Friday and the AKSARBEN contest on Sunday. At Flint Hills, the team finished 9th overall highlighted by Tyler Pickinpaugh receiving 4th in sheep/goats, 7th in hogs, and 6th overall while Jesse Paxton was 9th in hogs, and 9th overall. Two days later at AKSARBEN, Tyler Pickinpaugh was 6th overall with the team placing 5th in cattle, 7th in reasons, and 7th overall.

# Livestock Judging

Things did not slow down at all from here, as the following weekend was another double-header with the Tulsa State Fair and State Fair of Texas. At Tulsa, Jesse Paxton finished 5th in sheep/goats while the team was 10th overall. However, there was quite the bounce back from a performance not up to our standards when the team travelled just down the road to Dallas, TX. Here the team was 3rd overall, 2nd in cattle, 3rd in sheep/goats, 5th in hogs, and 5th in reasons. It was even a greater highlight of the year with Tyler Pickinpaugh being named High Individual Overall after first finishing 3rd in cattle, 4th in sheep/goats, 8th in hogs, and 2nd in reasons. This was quite the accomplishment and served as an excellent spring board into our final two contests of the year.

At the end of October, after a trip over fall break to Illinois and Iowa, along with many other long days and nights spent practicing, the team was loading up and heading for the American Royal in Kansas City. This contest serves as one of the largest and most prestigious contests of the year, even more so since Kansas City is right in our backyard. In an incredibly tough, challenging competition the team managed to finish 8th in cattle, 4th in sheep/goats, and 13th overall. Tyler Pickinpaugh was also 9th in sheep/goats. No one was satisfied with that output, and the team worked as hard as ever to ensure a better outcome two weeks later. As the team embarked on their final venture, it was evident they were driven toward their goal. We had excellent workouts on the way to Louisville, KY for the North American International Livestock Expo – the site of our national championship. The history of this contest dates back pre-1900 to the historic Chicago Stockyards and Chicago International Stock Show. Our group showed they were up to any challenge and finished 9th in the entire nation! This was highlighted by team finishes of 5th in hogs, 5th in performance hogs, 3rd in swine reasons, 9th in cattle, and 10th in reasons. Alison Bartenslager finished in the top-20 (out of 138 contestants) in both sheep and hogs. Krista Carter and Jesse Paxton did the same in cattle and cattle reasons, respectively. Tyler Pickinpaugh turned in another great day taking home 3rd in hogs, 2nd in hog reasons, 10th in reasons overall, and 14th high individual.

As we begin a brand new group for 2018 at the National Western Stock Show, we hope they (and all our friends and supporters) look at the 2017 team as the pillar of excellence. This is one of the first teams in recent Nebraska memory to be as consistent in the top-10 in the nation weekend in and weekend out. These students have upheld themselves academically as well, with an average cumulative GPA of 3.25 while also being involved in other student organizations, undergraduate research, and undergraduate employment. Without the support of faculty, alumni, and friends of the program – none of these accomplishments would be possible. As always we thank the Kimmel Foundation, Nebraska Cattleman's Foundation, and Department of Animal Science, as well as the numerous donors, alumni, and producers for everything they do.



**Front row l-r:** Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss, Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; Michaela Clowser; Krista Carter; Alison Bartenslager; and Jackie Schroeder; **back row l-r:** Jefferson Keller, Asst. Coach; Jesse Paxton; Nicolas Herrera; Ethan Wilke; Tyler Pickinpaugh; and Brad Bennett, Coach



Livestock Judging team in Louisville, KY

# Equestrian Team

The University of Nebraska Equestrian Team, comprised of both a Western Team and Hunt Seat Team, competes in Zone 8, Region 5 through the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. IHSA, the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association, was founded on the principle that any college student should be able to participate in horse shows, regardless of their financial status or riding level. It attempts to eliminate the expenses of students owning horses and allows more students to compete. Students ride horses that are furnished by the host college and are chosen by random drawing at the beginning of the show. The theory behind this structure is to equalize variables of the competition and test the horsemanship skills of the contestants. Classes range from walk/trot for students with minimal riding experience to the open division for the more experienced riders. IHSA is an organization that encompasses 37 Regions with almost 400 member colleges – representing more than 9,000 riders. This year marks the 51st year since the founding of IHSA.

This year, the Huskers continued to carry on their legacy of success. The Western Team added another Regional Championship to the books for the fourteenth consecutive year. Senior Selena Finn was the Regional Western High Point Rider for the fourth consecutive year. In total, 12 Western riders and two Hunt Seat riders qualified for Regionals individually. Hunt Seat Regionals was hosted by Colorado College where one of our riders placed in the top two of their class, qualifying them to compete at Zones held in Stanford University for a chance to ride at Nationals. Western Regionals was hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where six of our riders placed in the top two of their classes. This qualified them to compete at Semi-Finals hosted by Blackhawk College in Galva, Illinois. One of our riders placed in the top four of their class at Semi-Finals, qualifying them to compete at the National competition. With the team's Regional Championship, the Western Team competed at Semi-Finals, where they won one of three Semi-National Championships in the country. This Semi-National Championship qualified the team to compete at the National Championship Competition for the ninth consecutive year. The National Championship Competition will be held in early May in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The Husker Equestrian Team could not have this success without community support and fundraising. The team's philanthropy, Boo at the U, was successful and fun for everyone, as the team dressed up horses, dawned creative costumes, decorated the barn, and welcomed the community to share a common love for horses. The team also sold cookie dough and advertisements for its show programs, volunteered at Kimmel Orchard, worked at Pinnacle Bank

Arena events, and assisted the Nebraska Quarter Horse Association in running AQHA horse shows. Wish the Huskers luck as they ride for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln at the National Championship Competition!

Thank you to all who donate, contribute, and continue to support the Husker Equestrian Team!







ALPHA GAMMA SIGMA  
EST. 1953

## Honoring Dr. Dale Van Vleck



Past Member of AGS and Brock and Bridle  
Science Hall of Fame - Agricultural Research Service  
Morrison Award, Gamma Sigma Delta International Award  
National Science Fellowships; 1957, 1958, 1959

Bachelor of Science in 1954 and his Master of Science in 1955 from UNL  
Chemical Corps of the US Army in 1954  
Commanding Officer of the 9766 Technical Unit at Fort Detrick in Frederick Maryland  
Cornell University for 31 years beginning as a Ph.D. student (1957-1960)  
Retired Cornell in 1988 and then went to UNL for 30 years  
He retired in 2007 but since then has been a volunteer for the University of Nebraska



### Rush Chairmen

Jake Judge - (402) 340-4189  
Nolan Casey - (402) 518-0662

ALPHA GAMMA  
SIGMA

# Horse Judging Team

University of Nebraska- Lincoln Horse Judging Team had successful year competing across the nation. This year's team included Bailey Ziegler from St. Paul, NE, Neil Henderson from Ashton, NE, Caitlin Davis from Waverly, NE, Selena Finn from Winside, NE, Valerie Skaalrud from White Bear Lake, MN, and Joeli Walrath from Ashton, NE coached by Dr. Kathleen Anderson and assistant coach Haylee Lavoie. A variety of contests allowed this year's team to see a large diversity of the equine industry and meet professionals all over the world. The 2017 judging season started off in Tulsa, OK at Tulsa State Fair where UNL receiving 5th place overall. Next stop was Columbus, OH for the All American Quarter Horse Congress Collegiate contest. In the limited division Selena Finn received 2nd overall, 4th in halter; Joeli Walrath placed 1st in reasons and 2nd in halter; and Valerie Skaalrud was 7th in halter. In the open division Caitlin Davis was 18th overall and 11th in reasons. After a great contest in Ohio at the largest one breed horse show in the world UNL continued to the 2017 AQHA World Championship Show Collegiate Horse Judging Contest held on November 12th in Oklahoma City, OK. Bailey Ziegler finished 8th in performance, 9th in halter, and 8th overall at the AQHA World collegiate show in the limited division. The National Reining Horse Association Intercollegiate Horse Judging Contest came back this year with the great opportunity to judge live the NRHA futurity semi-finals finishing 10th overall as a team. The majority of this year's team members were fortunate enough to compete in the limited division so they can compete as a team in the senior division to represent University of Nebraska-Lincoln next year. Next year's season looks to be promising with talented individuals to represent the great state of Nebraska. University of Nebraska Lincoln's horse judging team would like to the Department of Animal Science for their support through another year to participate and learn about the equine industry!



# ΑΓΡ

*Alpha Gamma Rho*



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# Academic Quadrathlon

The Academic Quadrathlon is a competition held at the local, regional and national levels. Teams of four are made up of university undergraduate students and compete in four events: Laboratory Practicum, Written Exam, Oral Presentation, and Quiz Bowl. Winning teams move up to the next level of competition. The national winning team is determined at the American Society of Animal Science national meeting in July of each year. The purpose of the competition is to stimulate academic excellence among undergraduate students and for the students to attend American Society of Animal Science/American Dairy Science Association scientific meetings to meet faculty and students and to attend scientific research presentations.

The 2018 UNL Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon local competition was conducted on Sunday, February 25 and Monday, February 26, 2018. Ten teams of four students competed in the four events organized by Department of Animal Science faculty, staff, and graduate students. The team of Gilbert Seck (North Platte, NE), Sarah Schuelke (Waverly, NE), Devin Jakub (Brainard, NE), and Neil Henderson (Cozad, NE) were declared Overall Champions for the 2018 UNL Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon competition. In the process, this team earned 1st place finishes in the oral presentation and quiz bowl competitions.

The overall champion team represented the University of Nebraska-Lincoln at the Midwest Regional Academic Quadrathlon competition that was conducted on March 11 and 12, 2018 in conjunction with the American Society of Animal Science Midwest Sectional meetings in Lincoln/Omaha, NE. At the regional competition, the UNL team recorded a 3rd place finish (out of the 16 schools that competed) in the laboratory practicum portion of the competition on their way to a 6th place finish overall out of 16 institutions that competed in the regional competition.



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