



MOOSLETTER

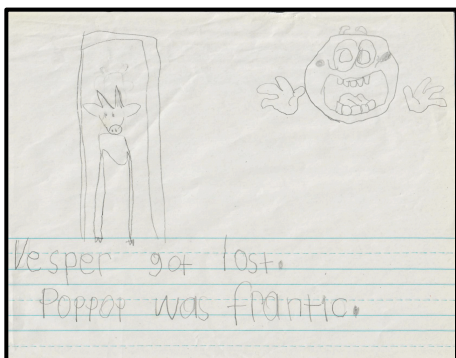
President: Dan Edgington **Vice President:** Santiago Lizarraga **Treasurer:** Kathy Dariano **Secretary:** Katie Sears **Youth Director:** Renae Lizarraga

Vesper Got Lost: PopPop was Frantic!

As told by Sophia Rocco



My birthday is July 6th. My mom, my Mimi, my grandma, my Auntie Jill & me had a special day planned. We went to Whitehouse, Ohio for a nice lunch. We went to the Butterfly House. It was hot. We decided to get ice cream and we sat in a gazebo to get cool. Mimi got a phone call from PopPop. He was frantic. My calf, Vesper, was only 8 days old and she had only weighed 22 pounds when she was born. She was so tiny. PopPop had let her mom, Spencer, and her out for the first time while we were gone. He could not find her, and he had looked and looked everywhere. He decided to call us and let us know what had happened. While we were on the phone, my brother, Santino, started yelling, "I found her! I found her!" PopPop went to where Santino was in the workshop and there was Vesper too! My brother saved the day!!!



OVDBA Show Highlights

By Renae Lizarraga

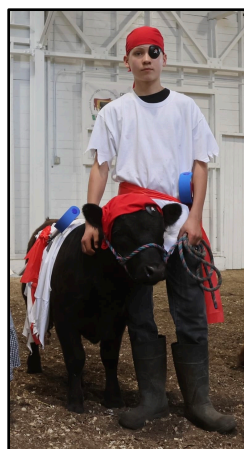
Summer started with OVDBA members convening at the Wayne County Fairgrounds for the 2024 Ohio Valley Dexter Cattle Breeders Association's Dexter Cattle Show. The event began on Friday, May 17th, featuring a range of educational classes designed for both prospective Dexter owners and existing Dexter breeders. In the arena, Mark Muir gave a presentation on "Pasture Rangeland and Forage", followed by a cheesemaking demonstration by Dan and Cindy Edgington. The educational classes concluded with a Q&A session on registration and genotyping led by Santiago Lizarraga.

Simultaneously, eager youth awaited the Youth Scavenger Hunt, eyeing the youth table for the fun to begin. Children lined up to receive their first clue, embarking on a search through the barn for specific cows, farm names, and individuals. After deciphering riddles and engaging with amused adults, the youth excitedly explored their backpacks filled with treats like candy, stickers, lanyards, and drink bottles.



Transitioning to a calmer activity, attendees gathered in the arena with their cattle for the Showmanship Clinic. Later, everyone enjoyed a barbecued dinner in the cafeteria, courtesy of sponsor Mark Muir. Appetites satisfied, the crowd returned to witness the highly anticipated cow costume contest, featuring a diverse

array of imaginative outfits from participants: Thing 1 and Thing 2, a miniature Paul Bunyan with his blue "ox", a not-so-cowardly lion, and a suspicious looking taco -to name a few! However, it was Sophia Rocca dressed as Little Bo Peep, Sam Sears portraying Bob Ross, and Roman Lizarraga as a pirate who captured the judges' hearts with 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. The evening ended with a refreshing treat: a sundae bar provided by Edgington Farms.



The OVDBA will be at Family Farm Field Days

"Why a Dexter for the Family Milk Cow"

By Santiago Lizarraga

July 20, 2024 at 10:30 AM

Andrew Coblenz Farm
4991 Twp Rd 419
Sugarcreek, OH. 44681

The following day started early, with cattle receiving a final wash as the sun rose. The smell of freshly brewed coffee wafted through the barn, alerting busy exhibitors that Wise Acres' complimentary breakfast of coffee, juice, yogurt, fruit, pastries, muffins, and granola bars was ready to be enjoyed.



In the arena, beneath the flag's shadow, "The National Anthem" sung by youth member Mario Lizarraga, signaled the start of the show. First, the Milking Class was brought in. This was followed by Youth Showmanship Classes (Senior, Junior, and Peewee). A special shout-out to Josiah Lizarraga and Jocie Wilt for their 1st and 2nd placement in the Senior Showmanship Class! In the Junior Class, congratulations went to Sam Sears and Clara Harmon. Awesome job, OVDBA youth members!

The show briefly paused at this point for youth announcements and special recognitions. Senior Showmanship Class winners were surprised with special educational scholarships of \$1000 and \$500 from a generous donor, then an Award of Excellence was presented to Sophia Rocca for her completion of all assigned youth projects. With mounted anticipation, the giveaway heifer and steer were retrieved as tickets were shaken in a canister. A willing bystander reached in the container and pulled out a ticket for giveaway heifer *Whittington's Samie*. The youth nervously waited to hear if it was their name that would be drawn. "Alaina Baughman!" As cheers subsided and an excited Alaina beamed at her new heifer, a second name was drawn for giveaway steer *Royal Fare Garrett*: "Jennilyn Mink!" With more cheers and more beaming (and a few happy tears) both recipients posed with their very own heifer and steer.



The show resumed with the Adult Showmanship Class, where JR Lizarraga secured first place, closely followed by DeAnna Baughman in second place. The show then moved on to open classes. Cow calf pairs, heifers, then cows. With a slap to the rump of the cow, Judge John Paulin announced the Grand Champion Female: *EF Grace*, followed by Reserve Champion *Timberview DS Ali*. This was followed by steer classes. In customary fashion, the grand and reserve champion steers were announced with a rump slap: SBR Tow



Mater followed by *JK Comet*. Then came bull classes with NMF Hero gaining the title of Grand Champion Bull, followed by *Whittington's Game On* winning the title of Reserve Grand Champion Bull. The show closed out with Edgington Farms winning Supreme Champion Dexter with *EF Grace*.

The 2024 OVDBA Dexter Cattle Show would not have been possible without generous donations and sponsors. The incredible outpour of support from OVDBA members and supporters is what makes this group what it is today: OVDBA family. The emphasis that is placed on the youth is invaluable to the future of the OVDBA. Thank you for promoting the breed, along with our youth!

In other "MOOS"...

The OVDBA Youth made a notable impact at the 2024 ADCA National Dexter Expo in Pryor, Oklahoma. Congratulations to JR Lizarraga (Senior Award Winner) and Sophia Rocca (Junior Award Winner) for winning the 2024 Chris Odom Award! Mario Lizarraga and Alaina Baughman shared 2nd place in the Senior Division, with Eli Baughman securing 3rd place. Well done, OVDBA Youth!



Visit the ADCA's youth page for future contests and award opportunities! <https://dextercattle.org/junior-adca/>

Royal Fare Farm had a busy month in June. Not only did they showcase the Dexter breed at the Food Independence Summit in Millersburg, but they also organized and hosted the OVDBA's annual Wrap Up Meeting. The event saw a great turnout, with the board receiving valuable feedback from the past show and



suggestions for future shows. Renae Lizarraga, OVDBA Youth Director, kept the younger attendees engaged with various crafts and activities during the meeting. A

delightful potluck followed, where Royal Fare Farm generously provided dexter beef for everyone to enjoy. After the meeting and potluck, hosts Jeff and Shari Reusser, along with their daughter Janelle Soja, graciously led a tour of their farm. Many thanks for a wonderful day and for hosting the OVDBA meeting!

Summer Project. Due to prior commitments and a busy summer, the OVDBA's Dexter Parade Float did not come to be! However, the youth will still have an opportunity to earn a ticket by completing a cool summer project: A Coloring Contest of our beloved Flame! Color your page, then mail the page by September 2nd to: Renae Lizarraga, 14657 Fosnight Road, Orrville, OH. 44667

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Youth

