

*The Trempealeau County Fair is pleased to dedicate the 2019 Fair Book to:*

## Dan and Judy Byom

Dan and Judy both grew up in county fair families. Both of their dads were in 4-H and exhibited at the Trempealeau Co. Fair. Judy's grandfather, Alfred Ravnum, served on the Fair Board and was president from 1937-39. Dan's mom was also in 4-H in Jackson Co. where she grew up. Certainly one could say the fair is in their blood!

Dan and Judy grew up in the same community of Glasgow-Hardies Creek. They both went to six years of grade school in the one room Glasgow School, attended the Hardies Creek Church and were both in the Glasgow-Hardies Creek Busy Bees 4-H Club. Their Trempealeau Co. Fair involvement began in the early 1960's with both of them involved in the dairy and swine projects. One year Judy's brother got the pick of the litter of their Chester White pigs with Judy getting the left overs. She won top honors and a trophy!

Dan still wears the Bulova watch he won for the Grand Champion barrow in 1966. J.O. Beadle was Dan's FFA advisor and when that pig weighed only 40 pounds he told Dan that pig could very well win the show. That sure left an impression on Dan when he was right! Dan remembers his first year of showing dairy as a 9 year old with 64 calves in the Holstein Sr. calf class and getting a blue. Later he would win Grand Champion Holstein with a big black cow named "Fawn"???!!!

Many other great 4-H memories were made including lots of softball games. Judy seemed to always be involved with the county music contest. Many times she, along with her two best friends Beth Ekern and Jean Conrad, would perform as a trio. Dan remembers sitting on his show box in the dairy barn for hours with a "special" gal and Judy remembers a "special" guy asking her to roller skate at skating parties. There was always something special about the Tilt-a-Whirl too!

On May 26<sup>th</sup> 1973 that special guy and gal decided it was time to get married. They moved on to the Richard Bibby farm that Dan's parents had purchased a few years earlier and were farming with them. In 1974 Dan's father died suddenly after a short illness and very quickly he and Judy were full time farmers. In 1976 they purchased the farm from Dan's mom and began milking 32 cows in the landmark round barn. For the next 20 years, they developed a herd of registered Holsteins in that barn. In 1996 a new barn was built and they milked around 45 cows. In 2018, Dan and Judy sold their cows and machinery to their nephew, Seth Byom, and "retired". Now they have time to help Seth some on their farm and also Erin and Seth Anderson on their farm! You can be sure that they are enjoying time with their two grandchildren Otto and Elea and passing on the Trempealeau County Fair family tradition to them.

Dan and Judy have three daughters. Amy, who is married to Cliff Backler, lives near Hudson, WI. Erin is married to Seth Anderson and they dairy farm in the Frenchville area. Sara teaches music in New Richmond, WI, along with her boyfriend, Daniel. All three girls carried on the county fair family tradition and were very active in 4-H with all winning the Key Award and Outstanding 4-H Girl award. Needless to say Dan and Judy are very proud of them!

In 2003, Dan was awarded the Outstanding Volunteer Fair Person from the Wisconsin Association of Fairs. Dan served on the Trempealeau County Ag. Society Board for 12 years with several years as president and over saw many changes at the fairgrounds including a new small animal building and the llama barn. He continues to help out with whatever is needed. Judy was general leader for the Busy Bees for 12 years and has been the Jr. Flowers and Houseplants superintendent for 15 years. Dan is currently a supervisor for the Town of Gale and Judy is treasurer for the G-E-T Food Pantry. They stay involved with the Hardies Creek Lutheran Church where both serve in various leadership positions and Judy has been organist for the last 48 years.

In their own words Dan and Judy sum it up best "We feel 4-H and the county fair are so important to kids and the whole Trempealeau County Fair family from north to south. This county fair exists because of volunteers and generous folks. The county fair for us is like a yearly reunion of friends. We live in a great neighborhood- the Lord has blessed us! Thank-you all!"

*The Trempealeau County Fair Board would like to say a big THANK-YOU to Dan and Judy Byom for all of their years of service to or county fair!*

