



# Around THE WORLD

Thad Combs

## Show What You're Made Of

For the first time in over 20 years I became reacquainted with the hard work and dedication that exists in the show barn. With our daughter, Winnie, showing cattle this season, we've been blessed to watch what so many of you do day-in-day-out to make your programs a success.

I've always known our breeders are special. However, sweating alongside you as we're washing and drying the cattle, watching the clock on show day, and worrying whether the heifer will eat this morning have reiterated the commitment you all make exhibiting your cattle. We truly have a great breed, and my family has enjoyed getting to see it from the aisles of the show barn.

If you haven't shown before, I want to take this opportunity to recommend you try it—especially if you have children or grandchildren. My wife, Marisa, and I both showed cattle growing up, and while you might try borrowing a blower from someone instead of using a leaf blower like she did at her first show, or a wet-dry vac like I did at my first show, we both understand the benefits of showing. There is much

satisfaction in the slow, simmering progress the months-long commitment takes.

For your children, you should expect a love-hate reaction. "Dad, I don't want to go to the barn this early" will surely be something you hear, as we did. However, by the end of the season, it was fun to see her progress. She grew to know and love her animals, and we got to watch her make lasting friendships from across the country. Recently my phone beeped with a texted picture of both children grinning from ear to ear, each holding a small trophy. Seems our two-year-old won himself a trophy in peewee showmanship at a local fair because he wouldn't let go of the halter. I'm sure he won't remember it, but both of them feel a part of showing and a closeness to the animals.

The best part is the love they have for the cattle, the industry and the breed. Hopefully their experience in and around the showing will lend them to being promoters and supporters of Limousin for years to come.

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