

Pennsylvania Honors Juniors and Seniors

Members of the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association (PJCA) gathered for their annual meeting on April 5-6, 2013, at the Holiday Inn in Grantville. The two-day event included a business meeting, awards banquet and tours of two local Jersey farms. Juniors competed in the speech and dairy jeopardy contests, crowned a new queen and spent time with their peers at a pool and pizza party.

Craig Rhein, Pine Grove, was honored with the PJCA Distinguished Service Award. Rhein operates Meadow View Farm with his mother, Dawn, and brother, Terry, and breeds cattle using the MVF prefix. The Rheins recently dispersed the bulk of the milking string through the Meadow View Production Sale in April, with 246 lots selling for an average of \$1,263.82.

Rhein has served the PJCA as president and director and also sat on the board of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) for two terms beginning in 2003. Rhein chaired the National Heifer Sale in 2005 when the Annual Meetings of the AJCA and National All-Jersey Inc. were hosted by Pennsylvania.

Meadow View Farm is enrolled on



Jessica Peters, PJCA Executive Secretary, left, and David Norman, AJCA Director, second left, give the Distinguished Service Award to Craig Rhein and his wife, Pam.



Jaylene Leshner, front right, was crowned as the 2013 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen and Jackie Chyle, front left, was named alternate in the queen contest. Also pictured are queen contestants Ashley Blair, back left, and Carolyn Lawrence, back right, flanking Maria Noble, 2012-2013 Pennsylvania Dairy Princess, and Anna Flick, 2012 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen.



David Norman, AJCA Director, presents the Norman Genetic Award to Jessica, Janet and Jeff Peters. It is the second consecutive year Spruce Row Farm, operated by the Peters family, has won the award.

REAP and has a 2012 AJCA lactation average of 16,885 lbs. milk, 749 lbs. fat and 602 lbs. protein on 165 cows. The herd ranks among the top 25% in the nation for Jersey Performance Index (JPI) with a herd average JPI of +68. Five cows rank among the top 1.5% in the nation for JPI or Genomic JPI (GJPI) after the May 2013 genetic evaluations.

Rhein has bred numerous bulls in A.I. sampling programs, including MVF Jevon Lotto, GJPI +173, who ranks #20 among Active A.I. bulls. The farm has also consigned many individuals that have sold well at leading Jersey sales, including the National Heifer Sale, the All American Jersey Sale and the Pot O'Gold Sale, and hosted the popular Meadow View Summer Splash series.

For the second consecutive year, the Norman Genetic Award was presented to Spruce Row Farm, Meadville. The farm operated by Jeff and Janet Peters and their children, Jessica and Cole, leads the Keystone State for JPI with a herd average JPI of +81 following the April 2013 genetic evaluations. With the average, Spruce Row Farm ranks #27 in the nation.

Junior Awards

Jaylene Leshner, Berneville, was crowned as the 2013 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen. The daughter of William and Lolly Leshner of Way-Har Farms is a freshman at Penn State University-Berks Campus majoring in animal science. Leshner also topped the senior division of the dairy jeopardy contest, placed second in the senior division of the dairy speech competition and received a scholarship from the PJCA.

She has won the speech contest twice before and placed third in the TalkJersey contest sponsored by the AJCA in 2010. She attended the second Jersey Youth Academy in 2011.

Jackie Cyle, Pleasant Mount, was selected as the alternate in the queen contest and won the senior division of the youth



Youth earning recognition in the youth achievement contest included Mason Davis, junior division winner, front left, and Jackie Chyle, senior division winner, back. Emory Bewley won the first year project award.

achievement contest. The daughter of Jack and Ella Chyle owns more than 40 head of Registered Jerseys which are managed with the herd at the family farm, Chyle-Land Dairy. She currently serves as the Wayne County Dairy Princess.

Willow Voegtlen, Columbia Crossroads, was named winner of the intermediate division of the youth achievement contest. Mason Davis, Dawson, topped the junior division of the competition. Emory Jo Bewley, Susquehanna, won the first year project award.

In the scrapbook contest, Andrew C. Theobald, Waymart, earned the top prize in the senior division while Madison Davis, Dawson, earned first place in the junior division.

In the dairy speech contest, Maria Jo Noble, Gillett, placed first in the senior division and Troy K. Longenecker, Anville, took third. In the intermediate division, Sawyer T. Whitenight, Stillwater, earned the top prize. Jacob A. Kline, Knox, placed second and Hannah Diehl, McVeytown, placed third. Maggie Whitenight, Stillwater, Olivia Leshner, Bernville, and Stephanie Yonker, Mohrsville, placed first through third, respectively, in the junior division of the contest.

In dairy jeopardy competition, Troy Longenecker placed second in the senior division and Jared Wetzel, Manheim, was third. In the junior division, Caroline Arrowsmith, Peach Bottom, Sawyer Whitenight and Kathy Bash, Mount Pleasant, placed first through third, respectively.

Katelyn Nolt, Canton, won the Jacob M. Brunges Production Contest with her entry, Lost Hill Influence Ram. The Very Good-82% daughter of Galaxies Influence-ET, GJPI +72, produced a record with an m.e. of 891 lbs. protein to earn the laurel. Actual production on the 1-11 record is 19,540 lbs. milk, 817 lbs. fat and 653 lbs. protein.

Other juniors that placed second through fifth, respectively, in the contest

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were: Jessica Nolt, Canton; John Curtis, Corry; Lily Fries, Prompton; and Jackie Chyle.

Rhonda Mitcheltree, New Castle, topped the 2013 Pennsylvania Pot of Gold Production Contest with Windy Lane Impuls Frito, Very Good-84%. The daughter of ISDK Q Impuls, GJPI +169, produced a first lactation with a cheese merit dollar value (CMS) of \$2,581.92. "Frito" was consigned to the 2010 Pennsylvania Pot of Gold Sale by Ryan D. Clark, Tyrone.

Production Awards

Production awards for herd averages and individual cows based on CY\$ were also given.

Among small herds with 7-29 cows, the herd owned by David Myers, Summerhill, was the high producer for milk and protein with a herd average of 19,998 lbs. milk and 714 lbs. protein. The herd owned by Roger Alexander, Liberty, topped its peers for fat production with a herd average of 952 lbs. fat.

In the division for herds with 30-59 cows, three herds were recognized. Mark Shedden, Canton, took home the prize for the high-producing herd for milk at 18,978 lbs. milk. The herd owned by Philip Petersheim, Meyersdale, was the high-producing herd for fat at 908 lbs. fat. Keith A. Frey, Manheim, earned the award for high protein herd at 673 lbs. protein.

Ernest Derr Jr., Linden, received awards for high milk and fat production among herds with 60-99 cows with 19,090 lbs. milk and 890 lbs. fat. Vanderfelt Jerseys, Lawton, led its peers for protein production at 699 lbs. protein.

Among large herds with 100 or more cows, Creek View Farms, Johnstown, was the leader for milk and protein and tied for fat production with a herd average of 21,809 lbs. milk, 952 lbs. fat and 797 lbs. protein. Mount Rock Jerseys LLC, Newville, tied as the leader for fat among large herds with a herd average of 952 lbs. fat.

Mount Rock Jerseys took home seven certificates for individual cow production as well. Northwinds Lovabull Moxie was the state's high protein cow. The Very Good-83% daughter of Den-Kel Jace Lovabull-P, GJPI +88, produced an actual 305-day record of 31,050 lbs. milk, 1,723 lbs. fat and 1,205 lbs. protein at 4-5. She was also the high-producing four-year-old with a CY\$ value of \$5,384.01 on the record.

"Moxie's" herdmates that topped their peers were: PR Mains Kanai Odell, high senior yearling with a record with a CY\$

value of \$3,577.76; Mains Impuls Darci, top senior two-year-old with a record with a CY\$ value of \$4,045.34; Canyon Levi, high-producing junior three-year-old with a record with a CY\$ value of \$4,130; Ben Lucky L Easter, high senior three-year-old with a record with a CY\$ value of \$4,147.10; Mains Blair 205, top five-year-old with a record with a CY\$ value of \$4,492.41; and SBF Beau Odessa, leader among cows 6-7 years-of-age with a record with a CY\$ value of \$4,519.33.

Three other Pennsylvania dairies earned certificates for individual cow production as well. Oregon Dairy Farms LLC, Lancaster, took home the award for the high-producing junior two-year-old, Shyrwood Minister Farrah, who made a record with a CY\$ value of \$4,065.97. Campbell Run Jerseys, St. Thomas, received the award for the top cow 6-7 years-of-age, Campbells Run Birdie Perim, who produced a record with a CY\$ value of \$3,867.84. Chyle-Land Dairy milked the high aged cow, Chyle-Land Topside Peach, who produced a record with a CY\$ value of \$3,098.70.

Business Meeting and Tours

Officers were elected to serve the PJCA in 2013 as follows: Steve Paxton, Grove City, president; Ryan Clark, vice president; and Jessica Peters, Meadville, executive secretary. Mark Gardner, Dayton, was elected to serve as a director.

Jersey breeders were treated to tours of Jersey Acres in Pine Grove and Country Lane Jerseys in Kutztown. Jersey Acres is owned by the Heffner family. The Heffners also operate a farm market and winery on the farm. Country Lane Jerseys is owned by Brian L. Moore. The 107-cow dairy ranks seventh in the nation for milk, fat and protein among herds with 80-149 cows with a 2012 AJCA lactation average of 21,599 lbs. milk, 1,011 lbs. fat and 778 lbs. protein.

Jersey breeders were also able to tour Yuengling Brewery, the oldest operating brewery in this country, and shop at Cabela's while in the area.