

Pennsylvania Juniors and Seniors Recognized

The Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association (PJCA) held its annual meeting at the Park Inn by Radisson Hotel in Clarion. More than 100 Jersey enthusiasts attended the two-day event, which included a director's meeting and youth competitions on Friday, March 4, and a business meeting and awards ceremony on Saturday, March 5.

Neal Smith, executive secretary for the national Jersey organizations, was the guest speaker. He spoke about the rapid growth of the breed over the past several years and opportunity for continued growth. Smith also lauded Jersey leaders for their role in breed success, making sound, sometimes difficult decisions that pave the way for the booming growth of Jerseys in herds across the country.

A good portion of the director meeting centered around plans for the 2017 Annual Meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ), which will be hosted by the state in Gettysburg. The theme of the meeting held June 21-25 will be "The Jersey Address," after the famous speech given by President Abraham Lincoln at the dedication of the national cemetery in Gettysburg in 1863. The meeting will include a tour of the historic battlefield in Gettysburg, farm tours and youth activities.

Jersey breeders also participated in a silent auction that raised more than \$500 for juniors.

Officers elected to serve the organization in 2016 were: Steve Paxton, Mercer, president; Ryan Clark, Tyrone, vice president; and Jessica Peters, Meadville, executive secretary. New directors elected to serve are Anna Mae Flick, Fenelton; Nathan Rassau, Enon Valley; and Maris Reitenour, Mohrsville.

Awards

The Pennsylvania Distinguished



Spruce Row Farm Inc., represented by Jessica Peters and Jeff Peters, center, receive the Norman Genetic Award for the sixth consecutive year. Making the presentation are Steve Paxton, PJCA president, left, and David Norman. *All photos courtesy Renee Norman Kenny.*

Service Award was given posthumously to Gary Miller of Centerville. He served the PJCA as director, vice president and president and also was a director of the state Holstein association.

Though he bred more than 60 Excellent cows and had a keen eye for type, his legacy was in the show ring as a mentor to young people. He was a 4-H leader and also instructed young people how to care for, fit and show their cattle. He made the rounds from World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis., to the Pennsylvania All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, Pa., and was largely responsible for the success of the PJCA's annual youth trip to All American festivities in Louisville, Ky.

Miller judged cattle at shows in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania and was a passionate promoter of the Jersey breed and the dairy industry as a whole.

Scott and Karen Nolt of Canton received the Pennsylvania Young Jersey Breeder Award. The Nolts and their daughters, Jessica, Katelyn and Hailey, own and operate Country Path Farm, a mixed herd of 60 black and white and red and white Holstein and 20 Jersey cows. The Jersey herd is enrolled on REAP and has a 2015 lactation average of 21,607 lbs. milk, 1,061 lbs. fat and 771 lbs. protein on 17 cows.



Jeff Peters, left, and Steve Paxton, right, present the Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Award to the family of the late Gary Miller, represented by Jennifer Miller, second left, Jordan Olson, third left, Nancy Miller, third right, and Addison and Crystal Olson.

With the latest appraisal in November 2015, the herd includes six Excellent and 13 Very Good cows (none lower) and has a herd average of 86.8%. Two members of the milking string are Excellent-92% (SV Heaths Citation Maple and Country Path Action Sweetie {3}).

The Nolts have fared well in the show arena with both breeds. They have earned three Junior All-American Red and White awards in the past two years and showed top-10 class winners at The All American Jersey show.

The Nolts also operate a custom harvesting and manure hauling business. They received the Outstanding Cooperator of the Year Award from the Bradford County Conservation District in 2015 for their management practices to preserve clean water and promote healthy soils.

The Norman Genetic Award, believed to be the longest running genetic Jersey award in the country, was presented for the sixth consecutive year to Spruce Row Farm Inc., Meadville. The farm operated by Jeff and Janet Peters and their grown children, Jessica, Cole and Michelle, and their families had a herd average JPI of +51 on 234 cows following the December 2015 genetic evaluations.

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Outgoing Pennsylvania Jersey Queen Willow Voeglten, left, congratulates the 2016 queen, Brooke Ostrander, center, and alternate queen, Jaydyn Isiminger.



Juniors earning awards in the scrapbook contest were Audrey Staples and Katelyn Taylor, junior division, and Willow Voeglten, senior division.



2015 first year project award winners Jilian Anderson and Maxwell Knapp, front) and 2015 junior achievement winner Jordan Anderson display their hardware.



Dairy jeopardy winners receiving prizes were: front row left to right, Nicole Arrowsmith, first junior; Caroline Arrowsmith, first intermediate; Roy Bramm, first senior; back row, Jacob Bramm, third junior; Kaylee Knapp, second junior; Olivia Bramm, third intermediate; Jordan Anderson, second intermediate; Jaydyn Isiminger, third senior. Not pictured Ayla Blatt, second senior.

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Brooke Ostrander, Troy, was crowned as the 2017 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen. Jaydyn Isiminger, Union City, was named alternate in the queen contest.

Junior Awards

Outgoing Pennsylvania Jersey Queen Willow Voegtlen of Columbia Crossroads won the senior division of the scrapbook contest and earned a PJCA scholarship. Andrew Theobald of Waymart also received a PJCA. Scholarship.

Katelyn Taylor of Allenwood and Audrey M. Staples of Hermitage won top awards in the junior division of the scrapbook contest.

First year project awards were given to Jillian Anderson of Centre Hall and Maxwell Knapp of Franklin. Jordan Anderson of Centre Hall won the junior achievement contest.

In the speech contest, Sawyer T. Whitenight of Orangeville came out on top in the senior division, Madison Davis of Dawson topped the intermediate division and Kaylee Knapp of Franklin earned the first prize amongst juniors.

In the dairy jeopardy contest, the winner of the senior division was Roy M. Bramm IV of Narvon. Caroline Arrowsmith of Peach Bottom earned first in the intermediate division and Nicole Arrowsmith of Peach Bottom topped her peers in the junior division.

For the second consecutive year, Jessica Nolt won the Jacob M. Brunges Youth Production Contest with Elsbree Marshall Arkansas. The Very Good-88% daughter of BW Marshal, GJPI +83, produced a 3-11 record of 30,570 lbs. milk, 1,182 lbs. fat and 1,002 lbs. protein, with an m.e. of 1,012 lbs. protein to top the contest. The milk wagon's first two lactations also exceeded 25,800 lbs. milk, 1,000 lbs. fat and 800 lbs. protein.

Katelyn Nolt placed second with Lost Hill Influence Ram, Very Good-82%, who produced a 4-9 record of 25,970 lbs. milk, 1,088 lbs. fat and 860 lbs. protein, with an m.e. of 937 lbs. protein. Naomi Diehl, McVeytown, ranked third with Musser Run Dawson Sweetpea, Desirable-77%. She produced a 1-11 record with an m.e. of 812 lbs. protein and actual production of 19,690 lbs. milk, 757 lbs. fat and 639 lbs. protein.

Senior Production Awards

Herds were recognized for milk, fat and protein production in five categories based on herd size. As well, certificates were distributed to herd owners for individual cow production for cheese yield dollars (CYS) in 10 divisions based on age and for protein production regardless of age.

Vanderfeltz Jerseys of Susquehanna was the state's high herd for protein among all herds with a 2015 herd average of 21,470 lbs. milk, 1,012 lbs. fat and 814 lbs. protein on 132 cows. The dairy owned by Joe and Melinda Vanderfeltz also took home the certificate for the top protein producer, VanFel Kobalt Tillie 770. The Excellent-91% daughter of Avonlea Rosewood Kobalt-ET, GJPI -76, produced a 5-1 record of 28,170 lbs. milk, 1,446 lbs. fat and 1,141 lbs. protein.

Vanderfeltz Jerseys also earned the award for the high-producing four-year-old, VanFel Region Juliet 843, Very Good-87%. She produced a 4-4 record of 27,190 lbs. milk, 1,439 lbs. fat and 1,116 lbs. protein, with a value of \$4,763.77 CYS.

The award for the top herd among small herds with 7-29 cows was given to Paul H. Zimmerman Jr. of Franklin County. The 15-cow herd leads its peers for all measures of production with a 2015 herd average of 22,026 lbs. milk, 1,004 lbs. fat and 754 lbs. protein.

In the category for herds with 30-59 cows, the award for high milk and protein production was presented to Cliff and Andrea Sensenig of Kirkwood. The 59-cow herd has a herd average of 19,264 lbs. milk, 953 lbs. fat and 688 lbs. protein. In the same category, the high herd for fat production is owned by Roger Alexander of Liberty, with a 2015 herd average of 16,625 lbs. milk, 996 lbs. fat and 581 lbs. protein on 33 cows.

Among herds with 60-99 cows, the high herd for all measures of production is South-mont Farms of Canton. The 89-cow herd owned by L. Scott, Mark and Bryan Shedden has a 2015 herd average of 21,435 lbs. milk, 1,000 lbs. fat and 775 lbs. protein (3x milking). The farm is home to the state's leading junior two-year-old, South-Mont T-Bone Farah,



Juniors placing in the speech contest were: front row left to right, Kaylee Knapp, first junior; Madison Davis, first intermediate; Sawyer Whitenight, first senior; back row, Ellie Curtis, third junior; Audrey Staples, second junior; Jordan Anderson, third intermediate; Maggie Whitenight, second intermediate; and Hannah Diehl, second senior.



More than 30 youth participated in the contests held during the PJCA annual meeting.

Desirable-78%, with a 2-2 record of 22,200 lbs. milk, 1,253 lbs. fat and 819 lbs. protein and a value of \$3,778.95 CYS.

Mains Dairy of Newville received three certificates for individual cow production. The top senior three-year-old is Mains Bold Erma, Desirable-79%, with a 2-10 record of 25,210 lbs. milk, 1,306 lbs. fat and 916 lbs. protein (3x milking) and a value of \$4,107.08 CYS. Her herdmate, PR Mains Allstar Arianna {2}, Desirable-79%, produced the high record among junior three-year-olds with 22,000 lbs. milk, 1,419 lbs. fat and 914 lbs. protein (3x milking) at 3-1. The value of the record is \$4,210.85 CYS. Mains Region Priscilla, Very Good-80%, led senior three-year-olds with a record with a value of \$4,439.26 and actual production of 26,290 lbs. milk, 1,502 lbs. fat and 944 lbs. protein (3x milking) at 3-9.

Five other Jersey breeders also took home production certificates. The award for the high-producing senior yearling was presented to Barbara L. Aldrich of Chambersburg for Reich Spring Valentino Iridessa, Very Good-82%. She produced a 1-11 record of 23,300 lbs. milk, 1,189 lbs. fat and 814 lbs. protein (3x milking) at 1-11, with a value of \$3,697.50.

Bill Curley, Mountain Top, earned the

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certificate for the leading five-year-old. Bellvue Darby of SSF, Very Good-87%, made a record of 5-5 305 30,660 5.1% 1,556 3.6% 1,116 96DCR and a value of \$4,957.50 to top her peers.

Wingert Mecca Annette 2173 {3}, owned by Wingert Farms of Alexandria, led the category for cows 6-7 years-of-age. The Very Good-83% daughter of Sunset Canyon Mecca-ET, GJPI -21, produced a 6-0 record of 29,920 lbs. milk, 1,697 lbs. fat and 1,096 lbs. protein. Value of the record is \$5,085.98 CY\$.

Alexis Pheasant of Martinsburg received the award for the top cow 8-9 years-of-age. Sam Emily of Central Valley, Very Good-82%, made an 8-7 record of 31,720 lbs. milk, 1,251 lbs. fat and 1,087 lbs. protein and a value of \$4,506.99 CY\$.

Jessica N. McMurtrie of Pleasant Gap earned the final certificate for individual cow production. Her entry, Edn-Ru Remake Pattys Prissy, Excellent-92%, out-produced cows 10 years and older with 10-4 305 20,410 5.4% 1,103 3.6% 727 97DCR and a value of \$3,350.94 CY\$.