

Pennsylvania Honors Members

Members of the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association (PJCA) met for their annual meeting at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Williamsport. The two-day meeting was kicked off by a board of directors meeting on March 28, followed by youth competitions in the afternoon and a banquet in the evening. An awards breakfast and the business meeting were held the following morning on March 29.

A pair of former Jersey breeders, Bill and Sally Eick of Columbia Crossroads and Roy Watson of Troy, were honored with Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Awards. Watson served the PJCA as president and also chaired several sales sponsored by the association. The Eicks have also been active in the PJCA. Their herd, Windy Acres, consistently ranked among the top 20 in the state for production and received the Norman Genetic Award for the state's high genetic herd on multiple occasions.

Adam and Kelly Vance of Alverton were presented with the Pennsylvania Young Jersey Breeder Award. The couple operates Cotton Spring Farm, a 100-cow Registered Jersey herd enrolled on REAP. Adam graduated from Delaware Valley College with a degree in dairy science and then returned home to operate the farm with his family. The Vances expanded the business in 2007 with the purchase of a neighboring, 180-acre farm. The move allowed them to raise more feed, grow herd numbers and provide additional facilities for dry cows, heifers and calves. The couple's three children, Austin, Lane and Brooke are also active on the farm and with dairy youth activities.

Adam was also recognized for receiving the Young Jersey Breeder award from the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA), along with another Pennsylvania couple, Ryan and Jen Clark of Tyrone. The Clarks operate a 200-cow herd and plan to expand the herd to 400 cows. The Vances and Clarks were recently honored for their achievements at the annual meetings of



David Norman, board member of the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association, right, congratulates Bill and Sally Eick for receiving one of two Distinguished Service Awards presented to Jersey breeders this year. *All photos courtesy Reneé Norman-Kenny.*

the AJCA and National All-Jersey Inc. in Alexandria, Va., in June.

Spruce Row Farm of Meadville received the Norman Genetic Award for the third consecutive year. The farm operated by Jeff and Janet Peters and their family ranks first among Jersey herds in the Keystone state for JPI with a herd average JPI of +87 on 213 cows following the April 2014 genetic evaluations. Spruce Row Farm ranks #34 in the nation among REAP herds with the average.

Junior Awards

Maria Jo Noble, Gillett, was crowned as the 2014 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen. Noble also won the Pennsylvania Senior Achievement Award and the senior division of the speech contest. The daughter of Stuart and Elaine Noble is a freshman at Morrisville State College. Her herd of Registered Jerseys numbers 10 cows and 10 heifers. She is the eighth generation to raise Jerseys at Nobledale Farm.

Noble has been a member of her local 4-H club for 10 years and her local FFA chapter for five years. She was crowned as the Pennsylvania Dairy Princess in 2012 and attended Jersey Youth Academy in 2011.

Caroline Arrowsmith, Peach Bottom, won the Pennsylvania Junior Achievement Award and the junior division of the dairy jeopardy contest.

Nicole Arrowsmith, Peach Bottom, won



Jersey breeders who received production awards at the banquet were Ryan and Jen Clark, second and third left, with children Leanne, in front, and Kylee, and Shannon and Mark Gardner, right. Jess Peters presents the awards.

the First Year Award and placed third in the junior division of dairy jeopardy.

Jaylene S. Leshner, Bernville, topped the senior division of dairy jeopardy and placed second in the senior division of the speech contest.

Sawyer T. Whitenight, Stillwater, won the intermediate division of the speech contest and was second in the senior division of dairy jeopardy.

Katelyn Taylor, Allenwood, earned the top prize in the scrapbook contest, placed second in the junior division of dairy jeopardy and earned third spot in the junior division of the speech contest.

Other juniors who placed in the speech contest were: Olivia Leshner, Bernville, first, junior division; Maggie Whitenight, Stillwater, second, junior division; and Mason Davis, Dawson, second, intermediate division.

Scholarships were presented to Austin Acel, Guys Mills, and Jennifer Groff, State College.

The Jacob M. Brunges Production Award for the state's high protein cow owned by a junior was won by Jessica Nolt, Canton, with her entry, Elsbree Marshal Arkansas. The Very Good-84% daughter of BW Marshal, GJPI +118, produced a 305-day record of 25,845 lbs. milk, 1,024 lbs. fat and 809 lbs. protein at 1-11, with an m.e. of 1,019 lbs. protein, to top the contest.



Robert and Helene Dreisbach present the second Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Award to Roy Watson.



Jess and Janet Peters of Spruce Row Farm receive the Norman Genetic Award from Dr. Duane Norman.



Newly crowned Pennsylvania Jersey Queen Maria Jo Noble and outgoing queen Jaylene Leshner.



Jersey youth earning recognition in the youth achievement contest included Maria Jo Noble, senior division winner, left, and Caroline Arrowsmith, junior division winner, center. Nicole Arrowsmith won the First Year Project Award.

Pennsylvania Meeting

Emily C. Cooper, Delta, placed second in the production contest with Campbell Run I Brandi, Very Good-84%. The daughter of SC Gold Dust Paramount Iatola-ET, GJPI +94, produced a 3-8 re-cord of 25,196 lbs. milk, 1,071 lbs. fat and 944 lbs. protein, with an m.e. of 972 lbs. protein. Katelyn Nolt, Canton, was third with G&S Sultan Sarah, Excellent-90%. "Sarah" produced a 5-7 record of 22,570 lbs. milk, 1,070 lbs. fat and 835 lbs. protein, with an m.e. of 827 lbs. protein.

Production Awards

Pennsylvania seniors also received awards for herd averages and individual cow production in 10 age categories based on cheese yield dollars (CY\$).

For the second year, the herd owned by David Myers of Summerhill was the top milk and protein producer among small herds with 7-29 cows. This year, the 19-cow herd had a herd average of 22,183 lbs. milk and 766 lbs. protein. The herd was also the state's overall high herd for pro-tein. The herd owned by Scott and Karen



Jersey juniors who participated in youth competitions held during the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association annual meeting included, seated left to right, Riley Thompson, Madison Davis, Maria Jo Noble, Jaylene Leshler, Camryn Moyer and Katelyn Taylor; standing, Mason Davis, Daniel Hopppagh Jr., Sawyer Whitenight, Maggie Whitenight, Andrew Moyer, Nicole Arrowsmith, Caroline Arrowsmith, Olivia Leshler, Jordan Anderson and Stephanie Younker.

Nolt, Canton, earned the top spot for fat production among small herds with 998 lbs. fat on 12.2 cows.

In the category for herds with 30-59 cows, Wooden Bridge Farm of Kutztown ranked first for all measures of production with a herd average of 18,781 lbs. milk, 906 lbs. fat and 668 lbs. protein on 31.8 cows.

Southmont Jerseys, owned by the Shedden family of Canton, topped its peers with 60-99 cows for all measures of production with a herd average of 20,778 lbs. milk, 961 lbs. fat and 738 lbs. protein (3x milking) on 60.6 cows.

In the category for large herds with 100 or more cows, Creek View Farms, Johnstown, was the high protein producer with a herd average of 756 lbs. protein on 157.7 cows. Mount Rock Jerseys LLC, Newville, earned the top spot for milk and fat with a herd average of 21,634 lbs. milk and 1,040 lbs. fat (3x milking) on 776.9 cows.

Vanderfeltz Jerseys, owned by Joe and Melinda Vanderfeltz, Rushville, took home the award for the state's high protein producer, Vanfel Laser 640. The Excellent-91% daughter of Willoa Laser, GJPI +5, produced a 5-5 record of 30,631 lbs. milk, 1,332 lbs. fat and 1,162 lbs. protein, with a CY\$ value of \$4,771.77, to earn the laurels. She was also the high-producing five-year-old for 2013.

Mount Rock Jerseys LLC received three certificates for individual cow production. Mains TBone Olive produced the top record among milking senior yearlings with a 1-10 record of 28,645 lbs. milk, 1,119 lbs. fat and 968 lbs. protein and a value of \$4,024.84. GR Mains Gannon Danilee was the high junior two-year-old with a 2-0 record of 24,990 lbs. milk, 1,280 lbs. fat and 894 lbs. protein and a value of \$4,020.08. Mains Triumph Hurray topped all junior three-year-olds with 24,612 lbs. milk, 1,302 lbs. fat and 992 lbs. protein and a CY\$ value of \$4,269.54 at 3-2.

Creek View Farm earned a pair of certificates for high-producing senior three-year-old, Irishtowns W1944 Impuls Lacto, and top cow 6-7 years old, Sam Emily of Central Valley. "Lacto" produced a 3-9 record of 30,112 lbs. milk, 1,266 lbs. fat and 1,118 lbs. protein, with a value of \$4,578.54. "Emily" made 31,643 lbs. milk, 1,223 lbs. fat and 1,085 lbs. protein at 6-3. The CY\$ value of the record is \$4,465.12.

Ryan and Jen Clark own the top senior two-year-old for 2013, Irishtown Blackstone Button. She produced a 2-11 record of 23,851 lbs. milk, 1,366 lbs. fat and 947 lbs. protein, with a value of \$4,240.11.

The certificate for the high-producing four-year-old was earned by Barbara L. Aldrich. Chambersburg, with Riech Spring Iatola Cream. She made a 4-2 record of 28,738 lbs. milk, 1,537 lbs. fat and 1,091 lbs. protein and a value of \$4,852.26.

Shan-Mar Jerseys, owned by Mark and Shannon Gardner of Dayton, won the certificate for top cow 7-8 years old. BK/DK Jace Siena produced 23,821 lbs. milk, 1,292 lbs. fat and 868 lbs. protein at 8-3. The value of the record is \$3,961.85.

Robert James Kahler of Wellsboro earned the final certificate for individual cow production with Heather Ridge Daisy Duke. The aged cow produced 19,919 lbs. milk, 1,163 lbs. fat and 702 lbs. protein, with a value of \$3,365.53, at 10-4.

Business Meeting

In the business meeting, members were brought up-to-speed on organization activities from committee chairs and officers and industry affairs from keynote speaker Alan Zepp, Risk Management Program Coordinator for the Center for Dairy Excellence, and Sara Barlass, the region's AJCA-NAJ area representative.

It was noted that the PJCA has submitted an invitation to host the AJCA-NAJ Annual Meetings in Gettysburg, Pa., in 2017.

Members also learned that the PJCA agreed to pay registration fees for winners of the state's speech and dairy jeopardy contests to attend the AJCA-NAJ Annual Meetings in Alexandria, Va., this summer, and will waive qualifications for junior animals to make the trip to The All American Junior Jersey Show in Louisville, Ky., in November.

In a silent auction, more than \$600 was raised for the benefit of junior programs.

Officers were elected to serve the organization in 2014 as follows: Steve Paxton, Grove City, president; Ryan Clark, vice president; and Jessica Peters, Meadville, executive secretary. George Dean, Chichora, was elected to serve as a director.