

## **New York Breeders Hold Annual Meeting**

Jersey breeders met for the annual meeting of the New York Jersey Cattle Club (NYJCC) on January 16, 2015, in conjunction with the New York All-Breeds Convention in Utica, N.Y. They tended to organization business and heard from industry leaders.

George Merrill, with the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets, spoke about the new rules regarding official identification of livestock moving interstate. He noted that the purpose of the new regulations is to improve the livestock industry's ability to trace livestock in the event that disease is found.

Cattle now moved interstate must be officially identified and accompanied by an interstate certificate of veterinary inspection or other movement document. Effective March 11, 2015, all official ear tags applied to animals must bear an official ear tag shield and follow one of the two official animal numbering systems (the National Uniform Eartagging System or the Animal Identification Number).

AJCA Director Alan Chittenden and AJCA-NAJ Area Representative Sara Barlass talked about the status of the Jersey breed, reporting records for all primary services and breed production in 2014. The AJCA has registered a record number of animals each of the past four years, with 118,235 animals registered in 2014. A record 331,001 units of JerseyTags were sold, 162,536 cows were enrolled on performance programs, 109,963 cows were appraised and 45,578 animals were transferred, partly due to the volume-indexed incentive program for REAP herds.

Kip Keller, Byron, has been appointed to the AJCA Type Advisory Board.

Members discussed the upcoming New York Next Generation Sale, which will be held on May 2 at the Steuben County Fairgrounds in Bath. As was done last year, a portion of the sale will be conducted online through JerseyBid.com, with bidding opening on April 27 and closing through JerseyAuctionLive.com on May 2 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The sale will feature 30-40 elite tie-up animals and 100-150 volume lots.

Jersey breeders were also encouraged to support the Northeast Jersey Classic and Breeders Sale, which will be held a week earlier, on April 25, in Rutland, Vt., in conjunction with the annual meeting of the New England Jersey Breeders Association.

The spring show (New York Spring Carousel) will be held on April 12 at the

New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse. Jeff Stephens, Troy, Ont., will be the judge. The New York State Fair Jersey Show will be held on September 6 at the state fairgrounds. Alta Mae Core, Salvisa, Ky., will serve as the official.

The NYJCC summer picnic will be hosted by the Egelston family at Glen Meadows Farm in Fultonville on July 11.

The fundraising committee reported that the organization made \$2,300 from a calf that was raffled at the state fair last year. Dreamroad Jerseys, owned by the Ferry family, Johnstown, will donate a calf for this year's fundraiser. Tickets will begin to be sold at the spring show and conclude with the drawing at the state fair.

It was also noted that t-shirts sold on Facebook generated \$179 in profits. The NYJCC plans to have a small inventory available for the spring show, the state sale and the state fair and for ordering online.

Junior members were encouraged to become involved in a new junior club, which will soon be organized. An informational meeting will be held during the spring show.

Officers were re-elected to serve the organization in 2015 as follows: Brian Chittenden, Schodack Landing, president; Rebecca Ferry, Johnstown, vice president; Sandy Ferry, Johnstown, and Bethany Hobin, Scipio Center, co-secretaries; and Alan Danforth, Cobleskill, treasurer.