

New York Club Holds Summer Picnic

The New York Jersey Cattle Club held its summer picnic on July 11, 2015, at Glen Meadows Farm in Fultonville. Youth awards were the highlight of the program, along with a tour of the farm and a short business meeting.

Members heard news from the national Jersey organizations from AJCA Director Alan Chittenden and AJCA-NAJ Area Representative Sara Barlass. Chittenden gave a report on the AJCA-NAJ Annual Meetings, held two weeks earlier in East Peoria, Ill. He told the group the event was well-attended and enjoyable for all. He also reported that board meetings focused on the Genetic Recovery and Jersey Expansion programs and will reconvene in September to discuss genomic evaluations for these animals.

Barlass reported that registration activity is strong again this year, on pace to set another record, and that RFID tags are being used for permanent identification more frequently. She encouraged breeders to consign, attend and buy cattle at the Mid-Atlantic Fall Jersey Classic, which will be hosted by Meadow View Farm in Pine Grove, Pa., on September 18. Barlass also told members demand for Jerseys is strong in the Midwest, particularly in Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin.

Emily Chittenden, Schodack Landing, was named winner of the state's youth scholarship award. The daughter of Alan and Donna Chittenden is a junior at Cornell University with a major in animal science and minors in agribusiness management and education. She placed second in the 2014 National Jersey Youth Achievement Contest. She and her extended family operate Dutch Hollow Farm.

Juniors were also recognized for achievements in the youth production contest. Meagan E. Chittenden, Schodack Landing, topped the division for cows under 30 months-of-age with Dutch Hollow Eclips Spring. The Very Good-84% daughter of Maack Dairy Eclips-P-ET, GJPI -39, produced a record with a total value of \$7,942.12 and an m.e. of 25,245—1,361—953. Actual production for the 1-10 record is 22,060 lbs. milk, 1,159 lbs. fat and 806 lbs. protein (3x milking).

Ryan Lawton, Newark Valley, placed first in the division for older cows with his entry, Dutch Patch Impuls Stacie, Very Good-83%. The daughter of ISDK Q Impuls, GJPI +110, produced a 5-5 record with an m.e. of 25,359—1,156—972 and a total value of \$7,594.25. Actual production is 26,420 lbs. milk, 1,229 lbs.

fat and 1,013 lbs. protein.

Both Meagan Chittenden and Lawton also placed in the 2014 National Jersey Youth Production Contest with their entries.

Other juniors recognized for achievements in the division for younger cows of the state contest were: Emily Chittenden; Lydia Chittenden, Schodack Landing; Elizabeth Hyman, Adams; and Mikala Woodrow, Milford. Junior earning awards in the division for older cows were: Nathan Lawton, Newark Valley; Maxwell Chittenden, Schodack Landing; Katerina Lee Emerich, Mooers; and Sharla Woodrow, Milford.

Juniors elected Emily Chittenden to serve the junior organization as president and Kylie Lehr, Canastota, as secretary.

Glen Meadows Farm is owned and operated by brothers and third-generation Jersey breeders, Bill and Dennis Egelston, and their family. The production-bred herd of 250 milking cows is rotationally grazed on 80 acres of pasture. The herd is enrolled on REAP, uses JerseyTags for permanent identification and has heavily used young sires for many years. Glen Meadows Farm has a 2014 lactation average of 19,905 lbs. milk, 951 lbs. fat and 731 lbs. protein and ranks among the top 25% of REAP herds in the nation for JPI with a herd average of +35 (August 2015).