

Ohio Meeting Draws Large Crowd for Achievements

More than 180 Jersey enthusiasts attended the annual meeting of the Ohio Jersey Breeders Association (OJBA) on January 28, 2012, at Der Dutchman restaurant in Plain City. Prominent breeders and up-and-coming youth were recognized for their achievements throughout the day-long program.

The morning business session kicked off with updates from the Ohio dairy industry including reports from Jenny Hubble on the American Dairy Association Mid East and the Ohio Dairy Producers Association. Bill Grammer, American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) Director, and Neal Smith, Executive Secretary for the national Jersey organizations, updated the membership on national news and thanked them for their help in reaching all-time registration and production records in 2011.

Jason Robinson, manager of Jersey Marketing Service (JMS) spoke to the crowd about JMS's latest online service, JerseyBid.com, and the upcoming spring sale schedule.

Angi Kaverman updated the crowd on the 2012 Ohio State Fair schedule. The junior show will be held on August 2, followed by the two-day open show on August 3-4, at the Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, Ohio.

John Griewe, Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA) Jersey representative, reported on the annual PDCA meeting to the group. Rounding out the morning events, Dr. Maurice Eastridge of The Ohio State University, reported on college updates and information on the Buckeye Dairy Club and Waterman Dairy.

Awards

Tom and Shirley Schindel, West Liberty, Ohio, were awarded the OJBA's Pioneer Service Award. The couple operates S&O Jerseys and have seen much success through their three children, Dianne, David and Darren, and now through their



Shelley Starkey congratulates Megan Thurston on receiving the Ohio Outstanding Girl Award.

grandchildren. They began their herd by housing animals in many herds around the state. In 2008, Tom and Shirley decided to bring the cows home and built a new milk house and renovated an equipment barn to a box and tie stall barn for the herd.

Tom's love for the Jersey began in 1952, after admiring his neighbor's, Ray Sherer's herd. After expressing interest in owning a Jersey, the two made a deal. In exchange for Tom's help in baling hay, Tom was given a choice of the calf pen. He had an eye for cattle even back then as that heifer won her class at the Ohio State FFA Show. He expressed his thanks to those that "always had time for a young man with questions" when it came to figuring out how to best raise quality Jerseys.

Over the years, the Schindel family has been recognized for many accomplishments. In the 1980s, the herd was recognized as the third high production herd in the state for their herd size of 41-50 cows. During that same time, the herd was recognized in Shelby County for being the highest producing herd of all breeds (fat corrected milk).

In 1986, the herd dispersed as Tom's full-time job at Plastipak Packaging moved the family to Texas. But in the early 1990s, Jerseys became part of the family again as daughter Dianne, 'rented' some heifers for her children, Kelsey and Ethan to show in 4-H. When Tom and Shirley moved back to Ohio in 2004, S&O Jerseys was established in honor of their grandchildren, the Schindel and Oakley families.



Junior production awards were earned by Meagan Bolen, Erin Williams, Jody Williams and Marissa Bolen.

Since re-establishing their herd, the Schindel family has enjoyed success around Ohio at the district and state fair and also at The All American Jersey Show and World Dairy Expo. In 2009, they exhibited S&O Suspect Tiara to Reserve Junior All American Summer Yearling honors. This past year, they traveled to Madison, Wis., to the World Dairy Expo and showed Avonlea Mischiefs Miley to a fifth place finish in the World Dairy Expo futurity.

The family is very active and diligent in their support of Ohio Jersey activities. They participate each year as a consignor or buyer in the Ohio Spring Classic Sale, sponsor junior activities and even sponsored the futurity winner's blanket for the 50th anniversary two-year-old Jersey futurity in Ohio.

In the afternoon session, the Jersey juniors were recognized for the accomplishments as well.

Taking home the top honor for achievement was Kira Andre, Wauseon, Ohio. She received both the Diley Family Achievement award and the Ohio Jersey Breeders Achievement award. She is eligible to compete in this year's national contest as the winner.

Andre is a student at The Ohio State University-ATI and is majoring in dairy science. Upon graduation she plans to expand her family dairy. She was a member of the second class of Jersey Youth Academy and has served as an officer and di-

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Kira Andre, left, accepts the Ohio Jersey Youth Achievement Award from Ohio Jersey Queen Erin Williams. Andre also received the Diley Family Achievement Award.



Tom and Shirley Schindel received the Pioneer Service Award. Their three children, Dianne, David and Darren, were all on hand to help them celebrate.



Ethan Starkey was selected as the Outstanding Boy for the junior association. Erin Williams, Ohio Jersey Queen presented him with his award jacket.

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Officers elected to serve the organization in 2012 are Mark Hoewischer, vice president, Neal Diley, president, Julia Stevens, recording secretary/treasurer, and Jim Bolen, secretary/treasurer.



All-Ohio and Reserve All-Ohio awards were presented to (front, left to right) Erin Williams, Allison Mangun, and Jake Morgan. In the back are Tom Schindel, Kenny Knoop and Donna Griewe.

rector of the Ohio Junior Jersey Association. She has exhibited at local, state and national shows with her Jerseys.

Presented the Ohio Outstanding Boy Award was Ethan Starkey, Mechanicsburg. The high school sophomore is an avid cross country runner at his high school and very active in his FFA chapter. Last year he was named the Star Greenhand of his chapter and placed fifth in the state FFA Creed public speaking contest. He is the current vice president of the Ohio Junior association and placed third in intermediate showmanship at The All American Junior Show.

Meghan Thurston, Delaware, won the Ohio Outstanding Girl Award. The high



The junior officer team for 2012 is (front, left to right) Erin Williams, president, Jody Williams, secretary, In the back, (left to right) Allison Mangun, news reporter, Ethan Starkey, vice president and Megan Cornish, treasurer.

school junior had a busy year with her Jersey herd as she participated at her district and state fair. She is active in 4-H dairy judging and placed in the top 20 during the North American International Livestock Judging contest this past November.

This past summer, Meghan took one of her cows into Columbus to a church to help raise money for underprivileged kids in Africa to be able to buy a cow that would supply milk for their home. It was a learning experience for everyone that came and an opportunity for Meghan to teach city youth about agriculture. After the event, she began receiving thank you cards from the children in Africa, as the organization was able to raise enough money to buy a cow for the youth home.

Other Awards

All-Ohio and Reserve All-Ohio awards in 15 age categories were presented to 14 Jersey breeders. Greiwe and Knoop Jerseys of Sidney took home the most certificates—8 in all—while Williams Jerseys, McConnellsville received three.

Junior All-Ohio and Reserve Junior All-Ohio award winners were also recognized. Twenty youth earned certificates. Trevor Greiwe of Sidney, earned four awards and Erin Williams, McConnellsville, took home three certificates.

Juniors also earned honors for production achievements. Meagan Bolen, Fremont, was the overall winner with her entry, Highland Jace Daisy. The Excellent-91% daughter of Windy Willow Montana Jace, GPI +115, produced 30,990 lbs. milk, 987 lbs. fat and 907 lbs. protein at 6-6.

Other juniors to earn prizes in the production contest were: Erin Williams, Marissa Bolen, Fremont, Trent Bolen, Fremont, and Lizabeth Thurston, Delaware.

Officers

Elected to as officers for 2012 were: Neal Diley, Canal Winchester, president; Mark Hoewischer, Mechanicsburg, vice

president; Jim Bolen, Fremont, secretary/treasurer; and Julia Stevens, Urbana, recording secretary.

Juniors elected to serve the youth association were: Erin Williams, president; Ethan Starkey, vice president; Jody Williams, secretary; Megan Cornish, North Fairfield, treasurer; and Allison Mangun, Burbank, news reporter.



Juniors earning Junior All-Ohio or Reserve Junior All-Ohio awards were: (from left) Tristan Spahr, Jordan Ziegler, Gus Hoewischer, Carson Walker, Allison Mangun, Kadey Starkey, Garrett Hageman and Trevor Griewe.