

## Strong Attendance for Ohio Meeting

More than 130 Jersey enthusiasts attended the annual meeting of the Ohio Jersey Breeders Association on January 22, 2011, at Der Dutchman restaurant in Plain City. Members recognized accomplishments of their peers from the previous year and kicked off the New Year with good news from a number of industry speakers, including Dr. Maurice L. Eastridge, a professor in the dairy science department at The Ohio State University (OSU).

Dr. Eastridge brought the group up-to-speed on Waterman Dairy Farm's progress in becoming an all-Jersey herd. The dairy had operated as a mixed herd of Holsteins and Jerseys for many years, but made the decision to become all-Jersey when facilities needed to be updated to better manage the herd and make the dairy sustainable. The last Holstein left the campus farm in May 2010 and the dairy is now milking 100 Registered Jersey cows.

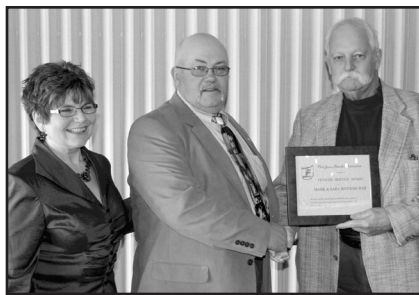
Dr. Eastridge thanked Ohio Jersey breeders and OSU alumni for their donation of eight bred heifers to the cause last summer and fall. The university purchased another 22 bred heifers in order to grow the Jersey herd. Waterman Dairy Farm plans to level off at 110 cows and use the herd extensively for teaching and research.



Bob and Joyce Brown, center, were recognized for their years of service to the show committee. The couple's son and daughter-in-law, Stuart and Dee Brown, back left, and daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and Keith Jackson, attended the celebration.



Billy Grammer, center, accepts the Ohio Jersey Youth Achievement Award from Stacey Atherton and Tom Schindel. Grammer also received the Ohio Outstanding Boy Award.



Jim Morgan, right, presents the Pioneer Service Award to Mark and Sara Hoewischer.

Bill Grammer, American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) Director, told members the national dairy herd is becoming browner every year as well. It is estimated that there are now more than 515,000 living Jerseys, a figure that has steadily climbed in recent years.

The AJCA has registered more than 90,000 animals each of the past three years, Grammer noted, with Ohio Jersey breeders registering 5,173 of those animals in 2010, a mark that ranks the state fifth in the country for registrations. During the year, a record-high 132,246 cows were enrolled on performance programs made available through the AJCA and REAP enrollment reached an all-time high at 888 herds.

Neal Smith, executive secretary for the national Jersey organizations, discussed National All-Jersey Inc. and its work to promote the adoption of California's minimum standards for fluid milk in markets across the country. He also talked about JerseyBid.com, the new online auction service being offered by Jersey Marketing Service.

### Awards

The Pioneer Service Award was presented to Mark and Sara Hoewischer of Mechanicsburg. The couple operates Starwischer Jerseys with their daughter and son-in-law, Shelly and Gene Starkey. The dairy is a mixed herd of 300 cows, with 175 of them being Registered Jerseys.

The Hoewischers have been strong



Neal Diley, center, presents Diley Family Memorial Awards to Marc Bolen and Erin Williams.

supporters of youth programs, beginning with their children, Shelly, Jaimes, Christy and Randi. Each has received the American Farmer degree through the FFA organization and all three girls have been crowned as Ohio Jersey Queen. Shelly was named first alternate in the National Jersey Queen contest in 1989 and Christy was crowned as winner of the contest three years later.

The first Jersey was purchased in 1986 as a 4-H project for Jaimes, when Mark was a herdsman at Land of Living Farm. Over the years, the Hoewischers have bred and owned several Junior All-Ohio or All-Ohio winners. They also exhibited the Junior All American Winter Yearling, Buckeye Samson Sapphire, in 1994. "Sapphire" was appraised Excellent-91% and made 19,950 lbs. milk, 837 lbs. fat and 678 lbs. protein at 3-4. The family has bred several other Excellent cows, including two herd members that were recently appraised Excellent-92%. The Hoewischer's grandchildren are continuing their legacy in show rings across the state and in Louisville, Ky.

The Hoewischers have received the Outstanding Jersey Herdsman Award at the Ohio State Fair for 10 years and twice garnered its overall herdsman award. They also earned the Premier Exhibitor banner at the Ohio Spring Dairy Expo in 2010.

Mark has sat on the board of the American Dairy Association Mid-East for nine years and currently serves as the

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Ohio Junior Jersey Queen Meghan Thurston congratulates Erin Williams for receipt of the Ohio Outstanding Girl Award.



Junior production awards were earned by, from left to right, Elizabeth Thurston, Jody Williams, Meagan Bolen and Marissa Bolen.

## Ohio Meeting

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Officers elected to serve the organization in 2011 include (front, left to right) Dr. Deb Stanfield, president, Julia Stevens, recording secretary/treasurer, (back) Neal Diley, vice president, and Jim Bolen, secretary/treasurer.



All-Ohio and Reserve All-Ohio awards were presented to (front, left to right) Chuck Myers, Lynn Yocum, (back) Ken Knoop, Kevin Williams, Neal Diley, Mark Hoewischer, Dr. Deb Stanfield, Jim Morgan, Ethan Starkey, Donna Greiwe and Megan Cornish.

organization's treasurer. He also sits on the board of the Ohio Dairy Producers Association and is a member of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association, the Ohio Livestock Coalition and Ohio State Fair Exhibitor Committee.

Sara and Shelly have been advisors and assistant advisors of the Ohio Junior Jersey Breeders Association. The Hoewischer family sponsors the Ohio Outstanding Girl Award and the junior page in the Ohio Jersey News and routinely hosts dairy judging contests at the farm to help 4-H and FFA members hone their skills.



The junior officer team for 2011 includes (front, left to right) Erin Williams, president, Ethan Starkey, vice president, (back) Kelsey Oakley, news reporter, Meghan Thurston, secretary, and Megan Cornish, treasurer.

Members also recognized Bob Brown, Centerburg, who is stepping down as show committee chairman after 26 years of service. Brown ensured the Jersey shows at the Ohio State Fair and Ohio Spring Dairy Expo were smoothly run during his tenure and calculated points for the All-Ohio contest with his wife, Joyce. Brown will continue to sit on the board of the Ohio Jersey Breeders Association, a capacity he has served for four decades.

Junior member Billy Grammer, Sebring, was presented with the Ohio Outstanding Boy Award and the Ohio Junior Achievement Award. The high school senior is the son of Bill and Debra Grammer, Grammer Jersey Farm. His herd includes 19 Registered Jerseys. Grammer is active in 4-H and FFA and has served both organizations as an officer. This past fall, he was an escort at the National Jersey Queen Contest held during the National Jersey Jug Futurity.

Grammer won first in Division IV of JerseyTalk in 2010. He placed fourth in Division I of the National Jersey Youth Production Contest in 2008 and 11<sup>th</sup> in the Pot O'Gold Production Contest in 2009. He was a member of the team that won the 4-H dairy quiz bowl contest at the North American International Livestock Exhibition in 2010.

Erin Williams, McConnelsville, won the Ohio Outstanding Girl Award and the Diley Family Memorial Award. The high school senior is the daughter of Kevin and Darlene Williams, Williams Jerseys, and will head to OSU next fall. She owns nine Registered Jerseys, including the reigning Grand Champion of The All American Junior Jersey Show, Indiana Veda.

Williams is a member of the Barbwire Bunch 4-H Club and the Morgan FFA, which she currently serves as president. She was a member of the FFA dairy judging team and earned her state FFA degree. She also sits on the Morgan County Junior Fair Board.

Marc Bolen, Fremont, was also

presented with a Diley Family Memorial Award. The son of Terry and Susan Bolen is in his second year at OSU-Agricultural Technical Institute and will transfer to OSU's main campus next year to complete a bachelor's degree in animal science.

Bolen has been active in 4-H and FFA and exhibited cattle at state and county fairs.

He was a member of the OSU-ATI dairy judging team that topped the post-secondary contest at the All American Dairy Show and placed second at World Dairy Expo in 2010. The team was high for oral reason in both contests and Bolen was the high individual in the contest at Harrisburg, Pa.

### Other Awards

All-Ohio and Reserve All-Ohio awards in 15 age categories were presented to 17 Jersey breeders. Greiwe and Knoop Jerseys of Sidney took home the most certificates—11 in all—while Williams Jerseys received four.

Junior All-Ohio and Reserve Junior All-Ohio award winners were also recognized. Seventeen youth earned certificates. Trevor Greiwe and Grace Hageman, both of Sidney, earned four awards each and Jody Williams, McConnelsville, took home three certificates.

Juniors also earned honors for production achievements. Marissa Bolen, Fremont, was the overall winner with her entry, Highland Militia Joshlynn. The Very Good-87% daughter of Sunset Canyon RP Militia-ET, GJPI +134, produced 25,569 lbs. milk, 847 lbs. fat and 843 lbs. protein at 2-1. She ranks among the top 1 1/2% for Jersey Performance Index (JPI) with a JPI of +146 (December 2010).

Other juniors to earn prizes in the production contest were: Meagan Bolen, Fremont; Trent Bolen, Fremont; Leah Thurston, Delaware; and Jody Williams.

### Officers

Members elected to retain the current slate of officers for 2011 as follows: Dr. Deb Stanfield, Fort Loramie, president; Neal Diley, Canal Winchester, 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, Mechanicsburg, vice president; Meghan Thurston, Delaware, secretary; Megan Cornish, North Fairfield, treasurer; and Kelsey Oakley, Springfield, news reporter.



Junior All-Ohio and Reserve Junior All-Ohio awards were given to (front) Lane Griewe, Grace Hageman, Trevor Griewe, (back) Megan Cornish, Jody Williams, Erin Williams, Ethan Starkey and Morgan Eades.