



Welcome to America's Dairyland

For the fifth time in 46 years, the annual meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ) will be held in Wisconsin. Because its ag economy is largely built on the back of the dairy industry, especially cheese manufacturing, Wisconsin has long been a leader of the U.S. dairy economy and prospects for Jersey breed growth and expansion. America's Dairyland was the backdrop for the meeting of 1977, when Project Equity was in its infancy. The meeting of 1987 occurred just after USDA's landmark decision to implement multiple component pricing in the western Great Basin Federal Order, action that laid the groundwork for proposing MCP in the Upper Midwest order. The 2001 meeting followed five years of component pricing in the Upper Midwest order, the first full year of Federal Order MCP in seven of the 11 consolidated orders, and marked the 25th anniversary of the NAJ Equity Project. The 2011 meeting was the site of the all-donation National Heifer Sale that raised more than \$305,000 for Jersey Youth Academy and the national Jersey youth development programs.

The Wisconsin Jersey Cattle Association has worked diligently to prepare for another phenomenal meeting in LaCrosse, Wis., this June.

At this meeting, several Registered Jersey farms are scheduled for viewing, including the Klinkner Pine Prairie and Goede Acres LLC herds. The youth will travel to Treachers Town View Dairy for a special junior activity day.

In addition, we will see cutting edge technology at MDS Dairy. Phil Mlsna has owned and operated dairy facilities for over 20 years and has been in the dairy equipment industry for over 40 years. Understanding the research and development side of the industry, he has developed and created various systems for dairy farms. He often takes a firsthand look at how the equipment will work by trying it on his own farm. At MDS we will experience the MTECH HD Parlor Management System, including a teat scrubber prep system, providing an efficient and reliable way to wash, disinfect, brush dry, and stimulate the dairy cow prior to milking.

The Annual Membership Meetings. The strength of the organizations and a continuing demand for Jersey cattle, Jersey genetics and Jersey milk will be the core messages from the presidents—

John Kokoski for NAJ on Friday, June 23, and Alan Chittenden at the AJCA meeting on Saturday, June 24.

A report will be given to the membership at the AJCA annual meeting from Research and Genetic Program Consultant John Metzger about current trends in Jersey genetics and goals for the future for the breed.

These are just a few highlights of a great week planned for you in Wisconsin. Items are currently being collected for the AJCC Research Foundation benefit auction to be held on Thursday, June 22. The 66th National Heifer Sale will be held on Friday, June 23. Ten percent (10%) of the proceeds will support this year's national youth programs.

The Meetings and Elections

The 155th meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Association will be held Saturday, June 24. At the meeting, a president will be elected and membership will vote in one director from each of these districts:

- Second District: New Jersey and New York;
- Sixth District: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Tennessee;
- Eighth District: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; and
- Eleventh District: Arizona, California—all counties except Merced—Hawaii, Nevada, and Utah.

On Friday, June 23, National All-Jersey Inc., will hold their annual meeting. One director from District 1 will be elected for a four year term.

Biographies of the candidates for AJCA President and Directors and NAJ Directors are online at www.USJerseyJournal.com. Ballots were mailed the week of May 21 to all active members of the AJCA and all voting members of NAJ. Members can submit votes electronically through an email link sent to each individual, in person at the Annual Meeting or by proxy.

Please exercise your privilege and accept your responsibility to vote when you receive your ballot and proxy in the coming weeks. Your voice is important to the future of our breed.

Attend these meetings. You will be inspired and energized. Better still, invite others who need Jerseys to join us in America's Dairyland, June 21 through 24.



THE JERSEY by Bonnie L. Mohr, commissioned by the American Jersey Cattle Association.
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