

Visit Massachusetts and Share in History

For the fifth time since 1877, and first since 1973, the annual meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ) will be held in Massachusetts. The New England Jersey breeders have worked diligently to prepare for an outstanding meeting in Springfield this June.

At this meeting Jersey breeders will celebrate the foundation of the Jersey breed in the United States. Several historical and breed-leading Registered Jersey farms are scheduled for viewing, including High Lawn Farm, Lenox, Mass., Mapleline Farm, Hadley, Mass., Powder Hill Farm, Enfield, Conn., and the University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn.

Jersey breeders and industry leaders will convene in Springfield and also visit the Basketball Hall of Fame, Eastern States Exposition, and have the opportunity to visit Boston. Katie Schmitt, Outreach Specialist for the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding, will address the membership on Thursday, June 20. Charlie Garrison, The Garrison Group, will be the featured speaker at the NAJ Annual Meeting on Friday, June 21 and give an udpate from Capitol Hill.

Six Young Jersey breeders will be recognized on Wednesday, June 19, for their accomplishments with their Registered Jersey herds. On Saturday, June 22, William and Gwen Pearl, Barnet, Vt., will be honored with the Master Breeder award; John Kokoski, Hadley, Mass., will recieve the Distinguished Service award, and Brenda Snow, Brookfield, Vt., will receive the AJCA, NAJ Award for Meritorious Service.

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 21, and Alan Chittenden at the AJCA meeting on Saturday, June 22.

The AJCA membership will vote on four changes to the constitution in regards to directors and terms during the 156th annual meeting. The proposed amendment will allow for the following changes to the Constitution:

- Reduce total number of Districts from twelve (12) to three (3);
- Four (4) Directors other than the

President shall be eligible to reside within any one district:

- The President and three (3) Directors shall be elected at each annual meeting;
- Each Director shall serve a four (4) year term.

These are just a few highlights of a great week planned for you in Massachusetts. Items are currently being collected for the AJCC Research Foundation benefit auction to be held on Thursday, June 20. The 67th National Heifer Sale will be held on Friday, June 21. Ten percent (10%) of the proceeds will support this year's national youth programs.

The Meetings and Elections

The 156th meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Association will be held Saturday, June 22. At the meeting, a president will be elected and membership will vote on one director from each of these districts:

- First District: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont;
- *Third District:* Pennsylvania;
- Fifth District: Alabama, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia; and
- Ninth District: Arkansas, Colorado, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas.

On Friday, June 21, National All-Jersey Inc., will hold their annual meeting. One director from District 5 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 20 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.

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