

# Minnesota HOLSTEIN NEWS

DECEMBER 2023 | VOL. 74 NO. 4



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Feature Story: Don-Mil-Dale Holsteins  
Jeff King: 2024 Breeders Seminar Presenter  
MN All-Breeds Convention Details and Registration  
Holstein USA Herd and Animal Award Winners

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| 7H014438              | GODDARD            | 1,044 | 172 | 99       |
| 7H015097              | GRANADA            | 1,036 | 169 | 97       |
| 7H015112              | TAOS               | 1,027 | 130 | 97       |
| 7H015085              | PARFECT            | 1,011 | 152 | 98       |
| 7H014985              | RUPERT             | 1,010 | 171 | 94       |
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| 250H015152            | AHEAD              | 986   | 132 | 98       |
| 7H014578              | FOXCATCHER         | 984   | 121 | 99       |
| 7H015132              | MOSCOW <i>New</i>  | 977   | 118 | 93       |
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**Dairy cattle judging is strong at the University of Minnesota,**

so strong that its teams have placed 1st overall in 12 of the 24 contests across the past 8 contests held at the All-American Dairy Show (Harrisburg, PA), the North American International Livestock Exposition (Louisville, KY), and World Dairy Expo (Madison, WI).

Also, the University of Minnesota has placed 1st or 2nd overall in 22 of the 36 contests across the past 12 held at these 3 locations. No other university comes close to this incredible record of success. In 2023, the University of Minnesota was 1st overall in the national contest at World Dairy Expo by a 53-point margin. This was the 3rd time in the past 8 contests that the University of Minnesota has placed 1st in the national contest, and no other university has placed 1st more than once in that interval of time.

**If you want a career in the dairy industry, consider the University of Minnesota.**

In addition to participating in our highly successful dairy judging and dairy challenge programs, you can join the Gopher Dairy Club, whose student members gain experience and industry contacts through many activities such as an all-expense-paid 10-day senior trip to California in January. Both inside and outside the classroom, our dairy professors make teaching and working with students their top priority.

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AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES

# Minnesota HOLSTEIN NEWS

VOL. 74 NO. 4 | December 2023

Editor: Hailey Frericks

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## MINNESOTA HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 475 Plainview, MN 55964  
(320)-259-0637  
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mnholstein.com

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

### JANUARY

20-21: Minnesota Holstein Bus Tour  
29: MHA Breeders Seminar, Foley, MN  
30: MHA Breeders Seminar, Wadena, MN  
30: MHA Breeders Seminar, Brookings, SD  
31: MHA Breeders Seminar, Willmar, MN  
31: MHA Breeders Seminar, Glencoe, MN

### FEBRUARY

1: MHA Breeders Seminar, Stewartville, MN  
1: March Publication Advertising Deadline  
1: 2024 MHA Summer Intern Applications Due  
1: DJM & YDJM Applications Due to MHA Office  
7: Convention Registration Deadline, without late fees  
7: Person of the Year Applications Due  
7: YAC Scholarships Due  
7: Distinguished Young Breeder Applications Due  
20: Convention Registration Deadline, late fees applied

### MARCH

1: Holstein of the Year Applications Due  
1: Club Scholarships Due  
1: Future State Show Host Applications Due  
8-9: 2024 Minnesota All-Breeds Convention, St. Cloud, MN  
15: 2024 MHA Spring Sale Consignment Deadline  
22-24: 2024 Minnesota Junior All-Breeds Convention, Willmar, MN

### APRIL

13: 2024 MHA Spring Sale

### MAY

1: June Publication Advertising Deadline

### JUNE

11-15: 2024 Minnesota State Holstein Show, Stearns County Fairgrounds  
22: MHA Field Day, Do-N-Joy Genetics

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

### Kris Gruenes



Kris Gruenes  
MHA Board President

Greetings MHA  
Members and Friends,

As winter is upon  
us, I am hopeful  
everyone had a  
successful harvest.

Congratulations  
to everyone who  
exhibited at World

Dairy Expo. I was able to watch from afar  
this year. We are excited about the new  
calendar for this upcoming year. We also  
had another successful online cattle sale  
with our next sale being scheduled for April  
13, 2024.

We have many exciting events taking  
place in the coming months. The breeder  
bus tour through Wisconsin and Iowa  
will be a fun time for all. Jeff King joining  
us for the annual Breeder Seminars on  
1/29/24-2/1/24! In March, we have the adult  
All-Breeds Convention being held in St.  
Cloud, MN. There is a variety of new things  
happening with break-out sessions and  
speakers. We also have the Junior All-Breeds  
Convention in Willmar, MN, at the end of  
March.

As always, anytime you want to chat  
or talk about something, feel free to give me  
a call!

I would like to wish everyone a  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
from our house to yours!

Sincerely,

Kris Gruenes, MHA President



*On the Cover :*

Happy Holidays from the MHA Board of  
Directors!

# 2024 Minnesota PDCA Annual Meeting & All-Breeds Convention

## "LAUGHTER AND MORE IN 2024"

### BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

*Friday, March 8*

- Cover Crops | Centra Sota Cooperative
- A.I. Trends | Select Sires Member Cooperative, Shane Boettcher
- MPCA Permit Process | MPCA, Lisa Scherier
- MN Dept. of Agriculture Programs | MN Dept. of Agriculture, Richard Gruenes
- Calf Raising 101
- Calf Ventilation | Crystal Creek, Dr. Ryan Leiterman

*Saturday, March 9*

- Minnesota Milk Producers Update
- "Who's the boss? Planning your dairy farm future." | Minnesota Dairy Initiative
- Renewable Energy Options | Roundtable

### ONLINE AUCTION

An online auction will take place during convention via CowBuyer.com. There will be a variety of items sold with the auction closing at 1:15 PM on Saturday, March 8.

Photos and descriptions of these items will be available on the MHA Facebook page and website. For questions regarding bidding, please contact the MHA office at (320) 259-0637.

### YAC SCHOLARSHIP

The MHA YAC committee is offering a scholarship for those ages 21-40 who wish to attend All-Breeds Convention.

Full details and a link to apply can be found on page 21 and is due by February 7. To be eligible for this scholarship you must attend the Holstein annual meeting and All-Breeds banquet. The scholarship money will be given out at the conclusion of convention!

### MHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If you or anyone you know is interested in running for the MHA Board of Directors, please consider running for the MHA Board of Directors. To place a name on the ballot please contact a member of the Nominations/Legislative committee:

Randy Gross (605) 864-1422, Darrel Rennich (605) 695-3676 or Ashley Swenson (507) 241-0544



# 2024 Minnesota PDCA Annual Meeting & All-Breeds Convention

## "LAUGHTER AND MORE IN 2024"

### DETAILS

The 2024 Minnesota All-Breeds Convention is scheduled for **Friday, March 8 - Saturday, March 9.**

The convention is hosted by the **Minnesota Holstein Association** and will be held at the **Kelly Inn**  
**100 4th Ave S, St Cloud, MN 56301**

### SCHEDULE

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 8:

8 AM - Registration  
8 AM - MN Holstein Online Auction Continues  
9 AM - Tradeshow Opens  
9 AM - PDCA Annual Meeting & Committee Meetings  
11:30 AM - Luncheon & Midwest Dairy Check-Off  
Update  
12 PM - PDCA Annual Business Meeting Continued  
1-2 PM - "The A to Z of Genetic Evaluations"  
presented by Katie Schmitt  
2-4 PM - Dairy Bar Open  
2-3 PM - Break-Out Sessions  
3:15-4:15 PM - Break-Out Sessions Repeated  
5 PM - Social Hour & Hors D'Oeuvres  
6-8 PM - Dinner, Banquet, Awards & Live Auction to  
Benefit MJHA  
8-9 PM - Entertainment by Tim the Dairy Farmer

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 8:

7-9 AM - Breakfast  
8-10 AM - Breakout-Out Sessions  
8-11 AM - Dairy Bar Open  
9 AM - Jersey Queen Judging  
9 AM - Jersey Board of Directors Meeting  
9 AM - Guernsey Annual Meeting  
10 AM - Red & White Annual Meeting  
10:30 AM - Brown Swiss Annual Meeting  
11 AM - Milking Shorthorn Annual Meeting  
11 AM - Jersey Annual Meeting  
11:30 AM - Ayrshire Annual Meeting  
1-2 PM - Luncheon  
1:15 PM - MN Holstein Online Auction Ends  
2 PM - Holstein Annual Meeting & Committee Updates

### HOTEL INFORMATION

Kelly Inn | (320) 253-0606  
Single King or Double Queen Room | \$129 + fees  
Room Block Name: MN All-Breeds Convention  
Rooms released on February 7, 2024

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

\* registration can also be completed online by at  
mnholstein.com

#### Registration Form

Farm or Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Breed(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Fee:** \$10 per attendee through Feb. 7 **OR**  
\$50 Feb. 8 - Feb. 20

**4 Meal Package:** includes all four meals and social hour  
listed below for \$80

**A. Friday Luncheon - Gourmet Fajita Buffet | \$20**

**B. Friday Banquet & Social Hour - Chicken/Sirloin/Fish  
Buffet & Dessert, Social Hour & Appetizers | \$40**

**C. Saturday Breakfast - Sunrise Buffet | \$15**

**D. Saturday Luncheon - Italian Buffet & Tiramisu | \$25**

**Name 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

• Program Fee \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 **OR** \$50 Feb. 8 - Feb. 20

• 4 Meal Package \_\_\_\_\_ x \$80 **OR**

A \_\_\_\_ x \$20 + B \_\_\_\_ x \$40 + C \_\_\_\_ x \$15 + D \_\_\_\_ x \$25

**Total Enclosed for Name 1: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

• Program Fee \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 **OR** \$50 Feb. 8 - Feb. 20

• 4 Meal Package \_\_\_\_\_ x \$80 **OR**

A \_\_\_\_ x \$20 + B \_\_\_\_ x \$40 + C \_\_\_\_ x \$15 + D \_\_\_\_ x \$25

**Total Enclosed for Name 2: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration form and include check payable to:  
Minnesota Holstein Association  
PO Box 475  
Plainview, MN, 55964

Registration is due **February 7, 2024** to avoid late fees. After this  
date the program fee is increased to \$50. There will be absolutely  
no registrations processed after **February 20, 2024**. To check  
availability after this date, you must contact the MHA office.

# BUS TOUR

The Minnesota Holstein Association is excited to offer a bus tour January 20-21, 2024. Adult and junior members are welcome to participate in this low-cost opportunity. The tour will depart Hutchinson, Minnesota, on Saturday, January 20, and will pick up passengers in Stewartville, Minnesota, before departing on a two-day adventure through Wisconsin and Iowa. Seven unique breeders will be featured on the tour: Walk-Era Holsteins, Trent-Way Holsteins, Jeffrey-Way Holsteins, Le-O-La Holsteins, Farnear Holsteins, Moondale Holsteins, and Henkeseen Holsteins.

## To Register:

- Complete the registration form below or register online at [www.mnholstein.com](http://www.mnholstein.com). Registrations must be received by 12/31/2023.
- Book and pay for lodging using the information below. Rooms will be released 12/31/2023.
- Submit a \$150 deposit check to the MHA office to hold your spot. Checks must be received by 12/31/2023. \*\*Upon boarding the bus, the check will be returned to you. Meals & travel will then be covered by MHA.\*\*

## Hotel Information: (traveler's responsibility)

A room block has been established. Rates are \$119 per night plus applicable fees. Guests will need to request to check in 1/20/24 and out on 1/21/24. **You must reserve your own room on your own card at this hotel by 12/31/2023.**

### Holiday Inn

450 Main Street, Dubuque, IA 52001

Reserve by calling 563-556-2000 and referencing group ID: MHA Bus Tour

## Busing: (covered by MHA)

There will be two locations to board the tour on Saturday, January 2024:

- 7 AM at the Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Cars can be parked in the SW corner of the grounds by the light poles.
- 9:45 AM at Kwik Trip in Stewartville. Please arrive 15 minutes early. Cars can be parked under the large KT sign.

## Meals: (covered by MHA)

A boxed lunch will be provided on the bus on Saturday. The group will stop at Country Heights Supper Club for a Saturday evening meal. The group will eat breakfast at the hotel on Sunday morning. Lunch on Sunday will be a quick stop at Center Street Bar & Grill for a pulled pork sandwich. Snacks and beverages will be provided on the bus.

## Reminders:

- Juniors should be accompanied by adult.
- Hotel reservations cannot be made by those under 18 years of age.
- We encourage you to share a room with other passengers. If you would like to do so, but are unaware of someone to share with, please contact the MHA office.
- Consider reserving a king hotel room if you are bunking alone or with a spouse to leave queen rooms for multiple travelers.

*If you have any questions, please contact Amanda at the MHA office at 320-259-0637.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT (name & number): \_\_\_\_\_

## Saturday Evening Meal Option: (includes baked potato, salad bar, dinner roll, milk & water)

☐ 1/4 Broasted Chicken

☐ Fried Cod

☐ Broiled Cod

Special Dietary Needs or Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

**To reserve my spot, I understand that I must submit a \$150 deposit check by 12/31/23 to: MHA, PO Box 475, Plainview, MN, 55964. \*This check will be returned to me upon boarding the bus\***

☐ YES

**To reserve my spot, I understand that I must book and pay for my own hotel room by 12/31/23.**

*Holiday Inn, 450 Main Street, Dubuque, IA 52001 | Call (563) 556-2000/group ID: MHA Bus Tour*

☐ YES

## Which location will you board at?

☐ 7 AM at the Hutchinson Fairgrounds - 840 Century Ave. SW, Hutchinson

☐ 9:45 AM at Kwik Trip - 101 Schumann Drive NW, Stewartville

LINK TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION ONLINE: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/470ABFL](https://bit.ly/470ABFL)



# through Iowa and Wisconsin

## TOUR FARM BIOS

### WALK-ERA FARMS

Built on family and faith, Walk-Era Farms of Wisconsin Dells is truly where dreams of excellence are coming true. The Walker family has been located in the Wisconsin Dells area since Erwin and Ella Walker arrived from North Dakota in 1941. Walk-Era Farms consists of 850 acres with an additional 130 rented, for a total of 800 tillable acres. All cattle are raised on site under the care of the Walker families. Perhaps one of the most unique aspects of the farm is that all families involved today live within a three-mile radius of the barn. Walk-Era is a family corporation, including Dean and sons John, Tim, and Tom and their families. The Walk-Era herd has bred 175 Excellent cows to date. The quality of cattle in the herd today through years of selective breeding can be seen in their herd's 110.6 percent BAA, the herd is 96 percent homebred. Since 2016, the Walkers have been breeding the bottom end of their genetic Holstein herd to Wagyu and direct marketing farm fresh beef, they sell about 12-15 beef as 1/4s, halves and bundles each year. The crew at Walk-Era is excited to watch the fourth generation of Walkers become more active in the farm as the kids grow up. They are driven by passion, determination and, above all, love of farming and of family.

### TRENT WAY GENETICS

Located in the rolling hills of southern Wisconsin, is Trent Way Genetics LLC. Just 12 years ago, starting as first-generation producers, Trent & Kelsey Hendrickson journey began in December of 2011. Today the Hendrickson's and their young family run about 700 acres, milking around 300 dairy cows, raising all young stock of 450 heifers, along with 100 breeding bulls.

Our focus as a breeder is to breed the next generation of animals that can work in any facility or herd commercial, tie stall, or robotics. Through the use of extensive IVF and conventional flushing methods we have been able to achieve a high level of genetic advancement by using most of our milking herd and all our youngstock as recipients. Excellent cow families like the Roxy's helped us develop a lineup of red and white bulls like 250HO14465 Ronald RC, 7HO16303 Reward-Red, 7HO15427 Rompen-Red, and advanced us in achieving 12 of the top 25 red and white heifers in the breed (April 2023 proof)! Providing a new standard for the red and white and red carrier breed keeping the quality in breed leading health traits, outstanding high production while maintaining a balance type profile. Trying to focus on making every generation better and

continuing to breed the most balanced animal.

Hard work, true passion, and excellent cow families is only the beginning for the Trent Way name! Can't wait to show you our line up and what Trent Way Genetics has to offer!

### JEFFREY-WAY HOLSTEINS

Jeffrey-Way Holsteins is owned and operated by Jeff, Kate, Brooks and Riley Hendrickson and Brooks and Riley's two children; Adlee and Callum. Jeffrey-Way Holsteins is home to 110 milk cows with a herd BAA of 113. The living herd includes one cow scored at Excellent-95, 10 cows scored at Excellent-94, 55 additional cows scored at excellent 90 or higher and 44 very good, giving the average classification score of 90.2. Currently the herd averages 88lbs a day with a 4.2 fat and 3.4 protein. We strive to breed functional type cows with great udders that will stand the test of time, make lots of milk and score high. The farm consists of 400 acres of land. We grow alfalfa, grass, corn and soybeans to supply the feed for the livestock.

### LE-O-LA HOLSTEINS

Le-O-La Holsteins is owned and operated by Rick and Kathy Demmer, a registered Holstein farm focusing on breeding high quality cattle backed by deep, proven pedigrees. They have a passion for excellent genetics and strive to create something that may spark interest in other dairymen across North America. To go along with this, they partake in embryo transfer and in-vitro fertilization to create a better animal to fit their program, generation after generation. They milk 75 cows twice a day in a tie-stall barn with a rolling herd average of 27,400 lbs of milk, 4.2% butterfat and 3.2% protein.

Taking pride in developing cows to their full potential and exhibiting them at a state and national level, Le-O-La Holsteins has received three All-American honors for their Senior Best Three Females. Three group and numerous All-American and Junior All-American nominations and honors. Along with these show winnings, Rick and Kathy are proud to have bred one 95 Point Cow and have bred or developed twelve 94 Point Cows.

Most importantly, Rick and Kathy pride themselves on the family they have created. They have 7 children, Kayla, Kristy, Kyle, Riley, Rachel, Royce and Regan; their four sons all assist in different aspects of Le-O-La Holsteins, from genetics to day-to-day chores and more. Rick and Kathy now have nine grandchildren with one more on the way. They enjoy giving their grandchildren a bit of the farm life and watch them explore and enjoy the cows as much as they do.

### FARNEAR HOLSTEINS

Farnear Holsteins is owned by Tom & Rick Simon, along with their sons, Adam and Mark.

Cows are housed in a robot barn consisting of 9 Lely robots built in 2021 for exceptional cow comfort. The Simon's are currently milking 540 cows in total. Current lactation average is 29,400 pounds, 1,257 pounds of fat, and 1,031 pounds of protein.

Farnear Holsteins was established in 1960. Tom and Rick breed their animals for a wide variety of traits to reach all markets within their genetic field. They have exhibited five homebred Grand Champions at the Iowa State Fair. Adler is now classified EX-96 and has been named Unanimous All-American Production Cow. Tom and Rick have sold more than 350 bulls that have been sold to numerous A.I. studs. Altitude-RED has sired numerous class winners at national shows across North America. Delta-Lambda was the Premier Sire at World Dairy Expo 2023. Farnear Holsteins also exhibited the Junior Champion of the Junior Show at World Dairy Expo in 2023.

### MOONDALE HOLSTEINS

Moondale Farm consists of 350 acres of corn, soybeans, and hay in the rolling hills of northeast Iowa. Currently their herd has 50 registered Holsteins milked in a tiestall barn twice a day. Their BAA is 112 with 26 EX, 25 VG, and 1 GP. At the Iowa State Show, Moondale has been named premier breeder 19 times. A large number of animals in the herd trace back to Moondale Leader Pat, EX 94 4E 40,690 5.3 2138.

### HENKESEEN HOLSTEINS

Henkesen Holsteins of Luana, IA is ran by Trent, Leslie, and Matt Henkes. They currently milk 65 registered Holsteins and 12 registered Milking Shorthorns with a DHIA herd average of 28080 3.8 1035 3.1 861 and Holstein BAA (10/2023) of 111.5 with 23 excellent cows, 22 very good cows, and 5 good plus cows. Their herd was the #1 BAA in Iowa 2022 and #5 Top BAA herd in region 6 2022. The Milking Shorthorn herd consists of 6 excellent cows, 3 very good cows, and 3 good plus cows. For 22 years they have been award winners of the Progressive Breeder Registry and Progressive Genetics Herd award winners for 18 years. Henkesen has bred 180 excellents, 23 Dam of Merit winners and 21 Gold Medal Dams.

We focus on breeding for high type cows that translate to showing at local, district, state and national levels. Exciting young cows in the herd are sired by Jordy, Unstopabull, Delta Lambda and Moment to name a few. We're proud to be home to the 2X Unanimous All American Milking Shorthorn, Henkesen Royalty Reason EXP EX 91. Reason is an 8th generation homebred EX tracing back to Henkesen M Hillary EX 94. Reason's daughters teamed up to place 2nd Junior Best 3 class at World Dairy Expo 2023.



# Don-Mil-Dale Holsteins

## THE SCHWEER FAMILY

A small dairy farm family, burrowed in Milbank, SD, takes extreme pride in carrying on the Don-Mil-Dale prefix and breeding exceptional high type registered Holsteins. The Schweer family consisting of Richard, Michelle, Kendra (22), Kaden (18), and Kayla (15) currently own and operate Don-Mil-Dale Holsteins where they are milking 37 cows, raising replacement heifers, and operating 240 acres of cropland. Richard's father, Donald, began milking cows in the barn the Schweer family is still milking in back in 1961. Since then, there have been several improvements to the barn and farmstead, but much of the same family artifacts still remain.

### Family Remains at the Center

As a small family farm, the Schweer's have an intense amount of pride for their commitment to raising quality livestock together. When asked what their favorite part about dairy farming was, the family agreed that it was their ability to work together day to day and instill a passion for registered Holsteins in each other. Each family member has their own niche in what they enjoy doing around the farm, like many other farms. Richard and Michelle take charge of the feeding and milking, while the kids enjoy feeding calves, heifers, dry cows, and other various tasks that happen during chore time. Richard concluded that, "Dad has given my family and I an opportunity to dairy farm, and I want to continue doing just that for as long as we are capable."

### Breeding Focal Point

The family has always bred for high type and has recently began breeding for higher components. "It feels good to milk good cows," says Richard, which is one of the many reasons they choose to continue to invest in registered Holstein programs. They also breed their cows to ensure they are able to sell eight to ten replacement heifers each year. Breeding is also catered

to the family's goal of maintaining a high BAA score. Twice a year the family works hard to get ready for classification and has a goal of raising four to five of their cows to excellent each classification. Breeding for high type and high components have allowed them to maximize profitability on their farm.

### Claim To Fame

One of the most important and unique aspects of the farm is the legacy the Schweer's ancestors left behind. Don-Mil-Dale Holsteins was one of the first producer in the state of South Dakota to sell milk to Valley Queen in milk cans. They also were the first farm in South Dakota to perform embryo transfer back in 1982. From this, they had three heifer calves and two bulls calves. It is evident that this sparked their breeding patterns, which have carried into today. They continue to flush many of their best cows to keep growing their genetic potential.

The Schweer family embodies the true meaning behind family farming, and their love for registered Holsteins shines through their beautiful herd of cows.







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Department of Dairy and Food Science



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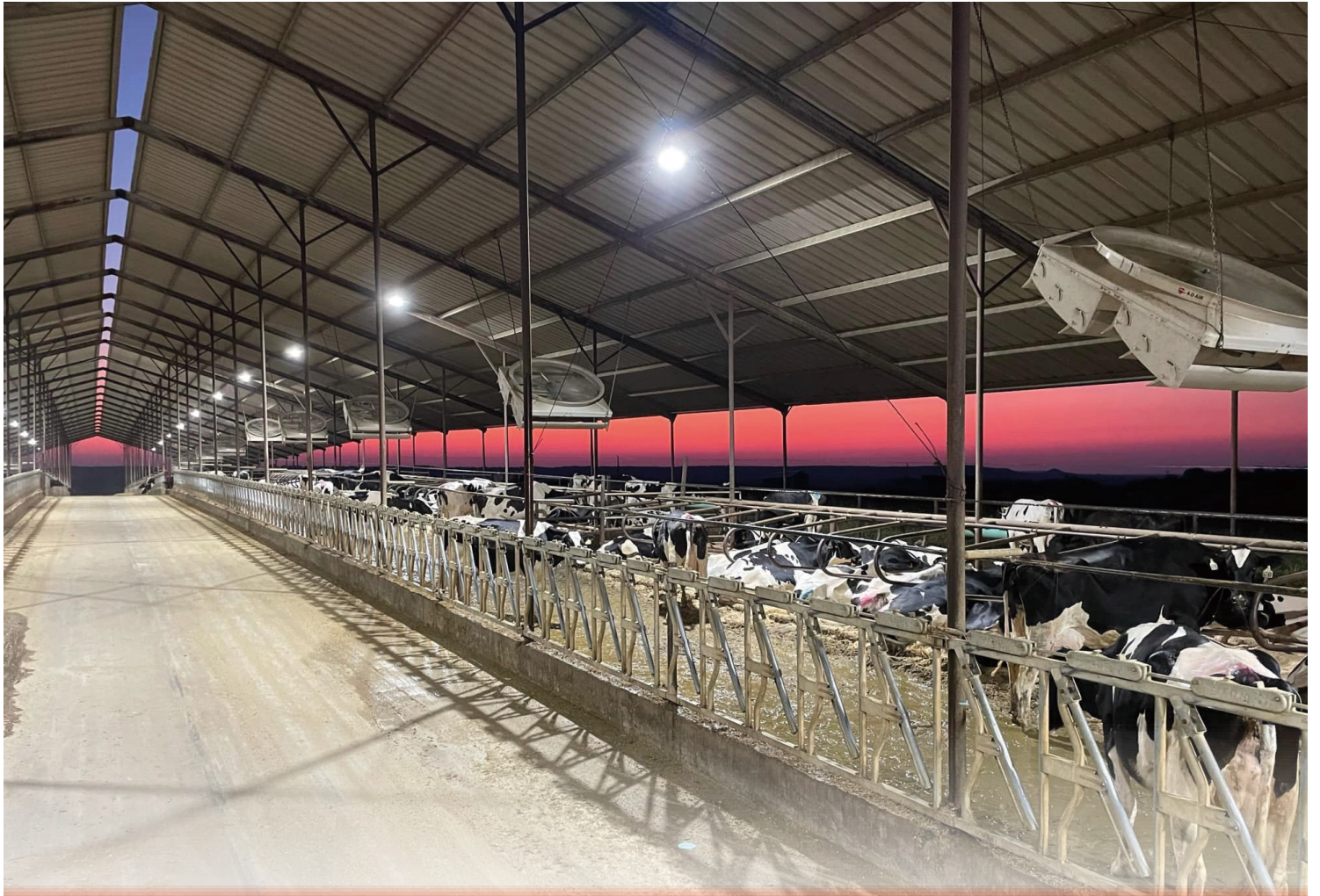
**Hayley Daubert**  
Dayton, Virginia  
Dairy Manufacturing

*"I chose to attend SDSU because it was a chance for me to go to a school in a different area of the country than where I had grown up. The Department of Dairy and Food Science caught my attention with its focus in microbiology which complements my interest in the life sciences. Since starting at SDSU, I have appreciated the supportive atmosphere within the department to help students succeed."*

**Contact:** Cheyenne Edmundson

Coordinator of Recruitment & Academic Services, Department of Dairy and Food Science  
cheyenne.edmundson@sdstate.edu | (605) 688-5482





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# THE GRATER GOOD

While they've become more "trendy" lately, cheese boards are nothing new. I swear that every dairy meeting or family event I've ever been to has included sliced cheese and meat, organized on a tray and well-loved by guests. So, if you're planning to serve a classic this holiday season, here's some tips and tricks from someone who sells those trendy charcuterie (shar-CU-ter-ee) boards.

## Keep It Simple

My personal opinion is we've overcomplicated the cheeseboard. There was nothing wrong with those alternating lines of meats, cheeses and crackers, and if that's what you have time to prepare, that's perfect. However, if you feel like adding a little pizzazz, I think I can help.

## Work with the cheese

Pairing cheese is probably one of my favorite things because it requires some R&D. The best way to know if things taste good together, is to test them out yourself! The following are staples on my boards because of their versatility and ability to be a companion to so many: jam, honey, fresh and dried fruit, olives, pickles, mixed nuts, caramel, chocolates.

## Personal favorite pairings include:

- Blue Cheese and Honey- trust me, it's good. The sweetness balances out the funk and you're left with the perfect salty sweet combo. I'm partial to a sheep milk blue called "Big Woods Blue" made locally in Nerstrand at Shepherds Way Farms.

- Garlic Cheddar and Dill Pickles- garlic and dill with the creaminess of the cheese to bring it home, Redhead Creamery's Garlic Cheddar is second to none in this category.

- Gouda and Jam- my favorite Gouda is made by Cannonbelles- it's creamy, it's salty, it's easygoing and fun just like the Belle's themselves and this combo is a crowd pleaser for ages 2-92.

- Goats milk cheese with Cinnamon and Cranberry- if you're near Kimball, MN and able to get your hands on some of my favorite plain chevre from Donnay Dairy, you can add the cinnamon and cranberries yourself. If you're looking for a premade version, the Humble Goat MN Goat's milk cheese is the GOAT.

## Variety is the spice of life

When I'm putting together a board, I like to add a variety of flavors and textures so there's a little something for everyone. The general rule of thumb is a total of 2 oz cheese, 1 oz meat per person. This number can go up or down, depending on what else is being served at the time and how hungry your crowd is. When preparing a board for my family, I know that 2 oz total is not near enough, but I've brought boards to other functions and been surprised at how slowly the cheese board disappeared. As far as making it look "trendy", Pinterest or Instagram are full of awesome tutorials on how to slice and place cheese. If you need a reference picture, feel free to check out my facebook or Instagram page @thegratergoodmn and send me a message with your pairing or styling questions!

*Christine Leonard is a 6th generation dairy farmer and owner at The Grater Good. Her and her parents milk Registered Holsteins near Waconia, MN. When she's not farming, she's teaching cheese education classes and building locally sourced cheeseboards out of her on farm, licensed commercial kitchen.*





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## MHA Corporate Sponsorship Program

The Minnesota Holstein Association (MHA) was organized in 1910 for the purpose of improving and promoting the Holstein breed of dairy cattle. The MHA consists of 650 members and is open to all people interested in the dairy industry. The mission of the Minnesota Holstein Association is, "To enhance the lives and profitability of all dairy producers and enthusiasts by providing opportunities for education, marketing, recognition and socialization."

As dedicated supporters of local registered Holstein dairy farmers, businesses have the opportunity to join and support the Minnesota Holstein Association through our Corporate Sponsor Program. This program has five levels of sponsorship: Grand Supreme Champion, Supreme Champion, Grand Champion and Honorable Mention. Each level includes recognition as a dedicated sponsor of the Minnesota Holstein Association. As a corporate sponsor for our association, businesses help the Minnesota Holstein Association provide opportunities for dairy producers across the state.

If you and your business are interested in becoming a corporate sponsor or if you do business with a company you feel would benefit from becoming a corporate sponsor please visit the Minnesota Holstein website and print off a corporate sponsorship program agreement and flyer. Once completed the agreement and payment can be sent to the MHA office. A percentage of the sponsorship is given back to the local clubs along with their rebates in May.

If you have questions or would like to know more about the program, please contact a MHA board member or the MHA office. Your assistance in helping our organization grow is greatly appreciated.

*Thank you!*



## THANK YOU!

# Breeder's Seminar: Jan. 29 - Feb. 1, 2024

*with guest presenter Jeff King*

MHA is excited to welcome Jeff King of Saratoga County, New York, to Minnesota and South Dakota in the last week of January for the 2024 Breeder's Seminar. From January 29 through February 1, King will visit six locations throughout Minnesota and South Dakota, sharing his wealth of knowledge acquired from his experiences as an influential dairyman. Read more about our guest presenter below.

## Meet Jeff King:

The King family breeds and manages a 2200 head registered Holstein herd, farming in Saratoga County, NY, and also operates an on-farm milk processing business. King Brothers Dairy is run by brothers Jeff and Jan King, the fourth generation to take the helm of the 120-year-old Kings-Ransom Farm, where they milk about 1000 head. Their grandfather and uncles bottled milk at the farm from the early 1900s until 1960. In 2016, a new creamery was built on the farm, followed by a retail space where they feature their milk and cream products and now make 90 flavors of ice cream. In addition to home delivery of fresh, glass bottled milk, they have their products in over 60 supermarkets in their area.

The Kings have an extensive breeding and genetic marketing program throughout the US and the world. Kings-Ransom MG Cleavage EX-95-USA (97 MS) completes 10 generations of Excellent Roxys and was credited with being a game-changer for the herd, opening the door to

many new relationships and genetic customers. Cleavage has an EX-95, 97 MS daughter among her many descendants. Another highly marketable and successful family for the Kings is Kings-Ransom Casp Daze EX-94-USA, the dam of Kings-Ransom Dropbox at Semex. Kings-Ransom Dynasty is a current headliner in the Blondin Sires lineup and hails from a second "D" family that the Kings have bred since the early 70's.

Also bred by the Kings, MS Kings-Rnsm Champ Haley EX-GMD-DOM went on to establish the Holler family at Cookiecutter Holsteins, from which descends the \$1.925 US million package selling S-S-I Doc Have Not 8784 EX-96-USA whom the Kings own in partnership.

Showing is important to the family, and they are regular exhibitors at local, regional and national shows. They are proud to have developed an All-American Produce and three nominated All-American Best 3 Female groups in recent years.

Jeff and his wife, Becky, are parents of three children; Johnathan, who is working in the daily farm operations, and Adam and Lauren who are enrolled at Cornell University.

***Please watch the Minnesota Holstein Association Facebook page and check your email for Breeder's Seminar time and location updates as the dates approach!***

| DATE       | TIME       | TOWN             | LOCATION                           |
|------------|------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| January 29 | 7:30 p.m.  | Foley, MN        | Jack & Jim's Restaurant            |
| January 30 | Noon       | Wadena, MN       | Pizza Ranch                        |
| January 30 | 7:30 p.m.  | Brookings, SD    | SDSU - Raven Precision Ag Building |
| January 31 | 11:00 a.m. | Willmar, MN      | Ridgewater College                 |
| January 31 | 7:30 p.m.  | Glencoe, MN      | Unhinged Pizza                     |
| February 1 | Noon       | Stewartville, MN | Pizza Ranch                        |

# BREEDERS SEMINAR

# Minnesota

## HOLSTEIN OF THE YEAR CONTEST

Do you have a special Registered Holstein that is a favorite in your herd? Maybe she is an up-and-coming genomic all-star, or maybe she has an outstanding production record. How about a cow that is sure to excel in the show ring? This is your chance to promote her! You could win a free half-page ad in the June 2024 Minnesota Holstein News along with the title of Minnesota's Holstein of the Year.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The contest is open to all Minnesota Holstein members, and any living or dead female is eligible.
- Nominations must be received by March 1, 2024.
- Nominations will be voted on by the membership via online voting and in person voting at the All Breed's Convention.
- Winners will be announced during the annual meeting.
- Link to the application can be found on page 21

## Twin Spruce Farms



As my time on the board is coming to a close in March, I want to thank everyone for their unwavering support over the past 9 years and it has been a pleasure serving the Holstein membership. My years as a junior advisor were amazing and memorable. Watching the juniors grow up over the years was the highlight!

*Kris Gruenes, MHA President*

Happy Holidays from our  
house to yours!  
*Kris, Arnie and Family*





# JUNIOR MOOS

The Minnesota Junior Holstein Association (MJHA) will host the 2024 Junior All-Breeds Convention in Willmar, Minn., from March 22-24, 2024. This year's convention, themed "Moooving to the Wild West" will be held at the Best Western Plus. All young dairy enthusiasts from Minnesota and South Dakota between the ages of 9 to 21 are invited to attend.

## 2024 JUNIOR ALL-BREEDS CONVENTION AGENDA

*(Schedule subject to change. Check the MHA website for updates.)*

### FRIDAY, MARCH 22

|                                          |                   |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Registration, Room Check-In, Group Games | 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  |
| Jeopardy & Speech Contests               | 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.  |
| Group Activity                           | 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.  |
| Board Skit                               | 6:00 - 6:15 p.m.  |
| County Roll Call                         | 6:15 - 6:45 p.m.  |
| Dinner                                   | 6:45 - 7:15 p.m.  |
| Quiz Bowl 1st Round Tests                | 7:15 - 8:00 p.m.  |
| Regroup                                  | 8:30 - 9:00 p.m.  |
| Free Time                                | 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. |
| Lights Out                               | 10:30 p.m.        |

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Banquet Dinner | 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.  |
| Banquet        | 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  |
| Dance          | 8:30 - 10:30 p.m. |
| Lights Out     | 11:00 p.m.        |

### SUNDAY, MARCH 24

|                                              |                   |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Breakfast                                    | 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.  |
| Business Meeting                             | 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.  |
| Group Activities/Rootbeer Floats/Door Prizes | 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. |
| Depart                                       | 11:30 a.m.        |

Board Meeting to Follow

*All new and old board members, please plan to attend this meeting.*

### SATURDAY, MARCH 23

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Breakfast                  | 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.       |
| Contests                   | 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. |
| Lunch and depart for tours | 11:00 - 11:30 a.m.     |
| Farm Tours                 | 11:30 - 3:00 p.m.      |
| Group Activity             | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.       |
| Free Time                  | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.       |
| Banquet Social             | 5:30 - 6:00 p.m.       |

***An online registration form is available for this year's Junior All Breeds Convention and is due on **February 15, 2024**. Please visit the MHA website to view and register for convention.***

## DON'T FORGET!

**DJM & YDJM APPLICATIONS ARE DUE TO THE MHA OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 1, 2024.**

Applications can be found on the MHA website:  
<https://mnholstein.com/juniors/scholarships/>

### IMPORTANT FEBRUARY 15 DEADLINES:

***Applications for the following scholarships and awards are all due on February 15, 2024!***

*Links to apply for these awards and scholarships can be found on the MJHA website, in the Moo News, and will be listed on the MJHA social media accounts in December!*

### MJHA AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Jr. Memorial Scholarship Application
- MJHA High School Senior Scholarship Application
- Junior Star Application
- Minnesota Junior High Production Award

### JUNIOR CONVENTION AWARDS & CONTESTS:

- Dairy Jeopardy
- Dairy Quiz Bowl
- Public Speaking Contest
- Folding Display Contest
- Photo Contest

### RUNNING FOR THE MJHA BOARD:

Are you looking to get more involved? Do you have a love for cows? Once again, older members have the exciting opportunity to run for the MJHA Board! Please think hard before running for the board, as it requires great dedication and hard work. We encourage all of you who are ready to give it your all to run for the board!

Make sure that you have your junior membership dues paid prior to convention so that you are eligible to run, and if you have any questions about the MJHA Board, call the MHA Office at 320-259-0637 or any current member of the MJHA Board. Good luck!

Please direct any questions about convention, scholarships, or running for the board to Alexis Hoefs (507-594-8162).



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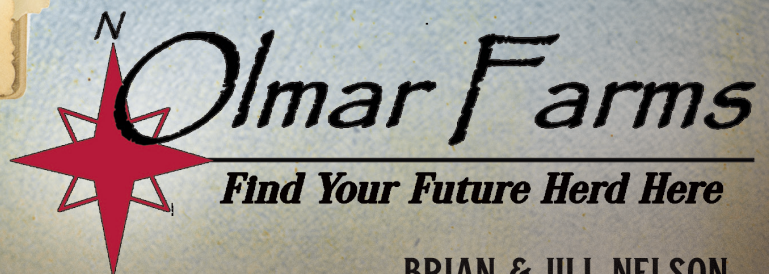


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# World Dairy Expo

## HIGHLIGHTS

### INTERNATIONAL HOLSTEIN SHOW:

#### Spring Calf

- 16th place - Sunkist Master Alana | Nathan Donnay, Glencoe, MN
- 26th place - Miss Dlambda Twinkles | Taylor Jerde, Northfield, MN

#### Winter Calf

- 9th place - Redline Jagger Impact | Blackjack Holsteins & Grai-Rose Holsteins, Wykoff, MN

#### Fall Calf

- 34th place - KurthHaven Lauigi Tattoo | KurthHaven Farms, Stewart, MN

#### Summer Yearling

- 21st place - Rockledge Saline Coal | Spencer Nelson, Wykoff, MN
- 33rd place - Sheeknoll Lambda Shiver-TW | Lindsey Borst, Rochester, MN

#### Spring Yearling

- 15th place - Ms Blackjack Sk Electric | Blackjack, T Dickerhoof and G & M Schmidt, Wykoff, MN

#### Summer Jr. 2 Year Old

- 7th place - Duckett Doc Bree | Blackjack Holsteins and T&L Cattle, Wykoff, MN
- 10th place - Elm-Lane Spitfire Lotus | Intrigue Holsteins & Blackjack Holsteins, Cosmos, MN
- 11th place - Goodtime-Ktt Doc Desiree | Kylie, Tyler, Trysten Verthein, Altura, MN
- 19th place - Sheeknoll Lambda Cece | Robert, Kelly, Krista, & Andrew Sheehan, Rochester, MN
- 20th place - Sheeknoll Lambda Victoria | Sheeknoll Farms, Rochester, MN

#### Jr. 2 Year Old

- 19th place - Ms Doc Hi-Light | Thad E Schlauderaff, Frazee, MN

#### Sr. 2 Year Old

- 27th place - SDD-AH Jry Airjordan-ET | Tyler & Britney Smith, Norwood Young America, MN
- 28th place - Sheeknoll Thunder Storm Kya | Sheeknoll Farms, Rochester, MN

#### Jr. 3 Year Old

- 17th place - Shir-Man Seeger Manhattan | Esperanza Cattle Co., Peterson, MN
- 25th place - Flower-Brook Gelato-ET | Andrew Stuewe, Hamburg, MN
- 26th place - Kara-Kesh-RK Jacot Selene | Curtis, Evelyn & Agnes Griffin, Thief River Falls, MN

#### Sr. 3 Year Old

- 15th place - Oak-Ridge-K Ab Temptation | Kylie, Tyler, Trysten Verthein, Altura, MN

#### 4 Year Old

- 23rd place - Stone-Front Artst Raspberry | Feltman Dairy, Intrigue & T Morrison, Cosmos, MN

#### 5 Year Old

- 16th place - Don-Mair Chief Deseray | Andy Stuewe and Corey Feltmann, Hamburg, MN



# MINNESOTA HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION

## AWARDS CORNER

### **MHA PERSON OF THE YEAR**

Do you know of someone who has demonstrated exemplary actions for the Minnesota Holstein Association? Does someone come to mind that shares their passion and encourages others to be involved in the Minnesota Holstein Association? If so, please fill out a Person of the Year Nomination form.

**LINK TO APPLY:** <https://bit.ly/40JD1gJ>

**SUGGESTED DEADLINE:** February 7, 2024

### **YAC SCHOLARSHIP**

This scholarship is designed to provide financial support for young adult members, ages 21-40, to attend the 2024 All-Breeds Convention. The event will take place March 8-9, 2024, at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud, MN. There is no cap on the number of scholarships available, and past recipients are encouraged to apply. Each scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$200 to offset meals, lodging, and travel expenses. Spouses are eligible to apply but must carry a separate paid membership.

#### **Award Criteria:**

- Must be a current paid member of the Minnesota Holstein Association.
- Must attend both the Friday evening banquet and Saturday afternoon Holstein annual meeting held at the All-Breeds Convention.
- Must fall within the age range of 21-40 years old at the time of the event.

**LINK TO APPLY:** <https://bit.ly/40KL50I>

**DUE:** February 7, 2024

### **DISTINGUISHED YOUNG HOLSTEIN BREEDER**

The Minnesota Distinguished Young Holstein Breeder Award recognizes registered Holstein breeders, ages 21 to 40, for their incredible achievements. With emphasis on commitment to excellence in breeding and dedication to the industry, the award is intended to honor significant accomplishments and motivate other producers to continue to strive for excellence. Members of the organization are encouraged to nominate themselves or others for the award.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Applicant must be between the ages of 21 and 40 as of January 1 of the award year, and be a member in good standing of the Minnesota Holstein Association.
- If applying as a couple or business partners, both applicants must meet the above requirements.
- Herd ownership and/or management responsibility are required.
- Unsuccessful applicants are welcome to reapply in subsequent years provided they continue to meet the eligibility requirements above.

**LINK TO APPLY:** <https://bit.ly/3MRmaCJ>

**DUE:** February 7, 2024

### **HOLSTEIN OF THE YEAR**

Do you have a special registered Holstein that is a favorite in your herd? Maybe she is an up-and-coming genomic all-star, or maybe she has an outstanding production record. How about a cow that is sure to excel in the show ring? This is your chance to promote her! You could win a free full color, half-page ad in the June 2024 Minnesota Holstein News along with the title of Minnesota's Holstein of the Year. Nominations will be voted on by the membership via online voting and in person voting at the All Breed's Convention. Winners will be announced during the annual meeting.

#### **Rules and Entry Requirements:**

- The contest is open to all Minnesota Holstein members, and any living or dead female is eligible.

**LINK TO APPLY:** <https://bit.ly/47nScOY>

**DUE:** March 1, 2024

### **CLUB SCHOLARSHIP**

The Minnesota Holstein Association is accepting applications from established Holstein clubs for additional funding for events. The scholarship, in the amount of \$200 per event, has been created for clubs to help offset costs associated with hosting local events. Please complete one application per event you are requesting funding for. The application must be completed annually and will be reviewed by the board at the March meeting. The recipients will be notified mid-to-late March. Clubs must have submitted a current club officer list with contact information, an appointed membership committee chair, and have notified the office of their annual meeting date in order to apply.

**LINK TO APPLY:** <https://bit.ly/3R9IQ58>

**SUGGESTED DEADLINE:** March 1, 2024

### **FUTURE STATE SHOW HOST APPLICATION**

This form is to be filled out by MN Holstein Area Club's who would like to be considered as the 2029 MN State Show hosts. Please answer the questions below if you are interested. If you'd like more details, please contact the MHA office at 320-259-0637.

**LINK TO APPLY:** <https://bit.ly/3QM8xpG>

**SUGGESTED DEADLINE:** March 1, 2024

## 2023 PROGRESSIVE BREEDERS REGISTRY

| Herd Name                          | Yrs. Qualified | % Homebred | Avg. BAA | Avg. Milk | Avg. Fat | Avg. Protein |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|--------------|
| Olmar Farms                        | 54             | 100        | 110.2    | 30824     | 1197     | 957          |
| Robert J. & Jeannette M. Sheehan   | 30             | 93.2       | 112.2    | 28427     | 1065     | 876          |
| Ralma Holsteins LLC                | 29             | 100        | 108.3    | 31259     | 1284     | 965          |
| Scott Culbertson & James McFarland | 27             | 78         | 112.8    | 26771     | 995      | 839          |
| Scott & Jacolyn Rickeman           | 25             | 96.7       | 108.8    | 31457     | 1189     | 943          |
| Andrew D. Stuewe                   | 17             | 76.6       | 111.4    | 28838     | 1079     | 897          |
| Melarry Farms                      | 15             | 89.3       | 106.6    | 29338     | 1178     | 916          |
| Peter T. Seitzer                   | 14             | 100        | 106.8    | 28405     | 1086     | 845          |
| Darrel D. & Lisa L. Maus           | 10             | 100        | 106.5    | 29205     | 1170     | 882          |
| Alan Abrahamson                    | 9              | 96.1       | 109      | 31005     | 1184     | 937          |
| Travis Lehnertz                    | 6              | 98.5       | 105.8    | 30062     | 1207     | 949          |
| Jeff Petermeier                    | 5              | 98.1       | 108.5    | 28193     | 1101     | 864          |
| Style-Heaven Holsteins             | 5              | 95.1       | 105.7    | 27437     | 1116     | 901          |
| Staci A. Sexton                    | 4              | 86.4       | 105.2    | 30275     | 1250     | 967          |
| Leonard Hoen, Jr.                  | 3              | 98.7       | 105.2    | 29919     | 1235     | 954          |
| K-P Ackerman Farms                 | 3              | 98.1       | 105.9    | 29146     | 1151     | 923          |
| Gerard J. Jennissen                | 3              | 95.9       | 105.9    | 28252     | 1140     | 901          |
| KurthHaven Farms                   | 3              | 75         | 108.9    | 30000     | 1118     | 907          |
| Darrell A. & Ferne E. Amstutz      | 2              | 100        | 106.2    | 28398     | 1074     | 841          |
| Chad Felten                        | 2              | 98.8       | 106.2    | 32729     | 1395     | 1051         |
| Maple Leaf Farm                    | 1              | 96.6       | 105      | 27793     | 1129     | 875          |
| Higher Ground Holsteins            | 1              | 90.9       | 106.5    | 31460     | 1222     | 937          |

## 2022 GOLD MEDAL DAM WINNERS

| Animal Name                | TPI/CTPI | Owner                              |
|----------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| BLUMENFELD YODA 6240-ET    | 2822     | Blumenfeld Holsteins LLC           |
| ROYALWOOD DREAMWEAVER 2136 | 2169     | Gregory William & Douglas Kent Ode |
| HYDE-PARK EMERALD 5510     | 2129     | Hyde-Park Holsteins                |
| HYDE-PARK EMERALD 5510     | 2129     | Wayne Houdek                       |
| DAGGETT-BROOK ENCINO ZEBA  | 1938     | Schmity Holsteins                  |
| OLMAR BAXTER SENSICAL-ET   | 1857     | Olmar Farms                        |

# CONGRATULATIONS

*to this year's*

## HOLSTEIN USA ANIMAL AND HERD AWARD WINNERS!



## 2023 PROGRESSIVE GENETICS HERD AWARD

| HERD NAME                          | Yrs. Qualified | Avg. CTPI | HERD NAME                            | Yrs. Qualified | Avg. CTPI |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Stelling Farms, Inc.               | 33             | 2659      | Newalta Dairy LLC                    | 10             | 2308      |
| Ralma Holsteins LLC                | 32             | 2542      | Michael A. Zeinstra                  | 9              | 2586      |
| Hyde-Park Holsteins                | 29             | 2560      | Travis Lehnertz                      | 9              | 2473      |
| Paul & Jackie Glende               | 28             | 2587      | Staci A Sexton                       | 8              | 2644      |
| Olmar Farms                        | 28             | 2381      | Wayne Houdek                         | 8              | 2517      |
| Robert J. & Jeannette M. Sheehan   | 26             | 2458      | Maple Leaf Farm                      | 8              | 2356      |
| Hendel Farms                       | 24             | 2637      | Shawn Hollermann                     | 6              | 2586      |
| Meadow Front Farms                 | 24             | 2536      | Boadwine Farms, Inc.                 | 6              | 2583      |
| Klassic Holsteins                  | 23             | 2654      | South Dakota State University        | 6              | 2411      |
| Pine-Shelter Farms                 | 22             | 2492      | Solum Holsteins                      | 6              | 2285      |
| Paul E. DeBoer                     | 21             | 2332      | Mooody County Dairy LP               | 5              | 2595      |
| John D. Diersen                    | 20             | 2451      | Lyle P. Dicke                        | 5              | 2484      |
| Forest-Lawn Holsteins, Inc         | 20             | 2417      | Gary Kieffer                         | 5              | 2344      |
| Melarry Farms                      | 19             | 2683      | Sioux River Dairy, Inc               | 4              | 2583      |
| Schmity Holsteins                  | 18             | 2496      | Chris Schulze                        | 4              | 2494      |
| Jon E. Larson                      | 17             | 2537      | University of Minnesota West Central | 4              | 2391      |
| Peter T. Seitzer                   | 17             | 2377      | Leonard Hoen, Jr.                    | 4              | 2359      |
| Kenneth J. Hanson                  | 17             | 2320      | Gregory William & Douglas Kent Ode   | 4              | 2354      |
| Gerald J. Jennissen                | 15             | 2483      | Michael Redalen                      | 4              | 2344      |
| Style-Heaven Holsteins             | 15             | 2380      | Darrel D. & Lisa L. Maus             | 4              | 2332      |
| Blumenfeld Holsteins LLC           | 13             | 2786      | Bon Homme Hutterian Brethren, Inc    | 2              | 2710      |
| Christine K. Sukalski              | 13             | 2424      | Gar-Lin Dairy LLC                    | 2              | 2662      |
| Scott Culbertson & James McFarland | 13             | 2295      | Alan Abrahamson                      | 2              | 2349      |
| Chad Felten                        | 12             | 2660      | Kylie, Tyler & Trysten Vertheim      | 1              | 2545      |
| K-P Ackerman Farms                 | 12             | 2617      | Takala Farms                         | 1              | 2261      |
| Trail Side Holsteins               | 12             | 2487      | Mitchell Mehrwerth                   | 1              | 2244      |
| Arnold B. Gruenes                  | 11             | 2769      |                                      |                |           |

## 2023 DAM OF MERIT WINNERS

| Animal Name                 | TPI/CTPI | Owner                             |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| T-SPRUCE CONWAY 15574-ET    | 3048     | Arnold B. Gruenes                 |
| PINE-TREE 7593 TIMB 8543-ET | 2981     | Nathan Johnson & James W Vierhout |
| MERCEDES RENEGADE ZENA-ET   | 2964     | Arnold B. Gruenes                 |
| BLUMENFELD BILLY 6900-ET    | 2942     | Blumenfeld Holsteins LLC          |
| BLUMENFELD ACURA 7034-ET    | 2930     | Blumenfeld Holsteins LLC          |
| BLUMENFELD REASON 6273-ET   | 2870     | Blumenfeld Holsteins LLC          |
| MELARRY RESOLVE LUCK        | 2836     | Melarry Farms                     |
| MELARRY BANDARES 10378-ET   | 2715     | Arnold B. Gruenes                 |
| TWIN-SPRUCE MELODY-ET       | 2693     | Chad Felten                       |
| JE-KO HEISENBERG GEREL      | 2662     | Shawn Hollermann                  |
| GIL-GAR SUMO FROWN-ET       | 2656     | Stelling Farms, Inc.              |
| HOLLERMANN DELCO 663Y-ET    | 2655     | Shawn Hollermann                  |
| GIL-GAR LEAF FORWARD-ET     | 2651     | Stelling Farms, Inc               |
| T-SPRUCE BOMBERO 8820       | 2572     | Arnold B. Gruenes                 |
| EDG BANDANA NOM 55738-ET    | 2473     | Melarry Farms                     |
| RALMA SHAMROCK ORCHID-ET    | 2303     | Alred & Mark Schmitt              |
| JER-LINDY DOBERMAN CLOVER   | 2294     | Gerard J. Jennissen               |
| DEV-LIN DANCER DELTA-ET     | 1720     | Devoine & Linda Kruse             |
| GLEN-D-HAVEN AMEL BECKY-ET  | 1714     | Paul & Jackie Glende              |



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**Curtis Gerrits**, Sr Dairy Lending Specialist  
(534) 248-2064 | [Curtis.Gerrits@compeer.com](mailto:Curtis.Gerrits@compeer.com)



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# OBITUARY: CAROLYN TANDE



Carolyn Trine (Opjorden) Tande, named after both grandmothers (Caroline and Trine) was born March 5, 1940, to Torfinn and Ella (Nelson) Opjorden in Milan, MN, a small Lutheran Norwegian community, which offered her the unique experience of growing up on a farm in town!

Baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Kviteseid Lutheran Church, church activities were a priority, and enjoyed immensely throughout the years. She was active in Lutheran Churches of Reformation, Lutheran Disaster Response, Luther League, and her church choir.

Carolyn graduated with honors in 1958 from Milan High School where she enjoyed singing in the choir and small vocal

groups. She played tenor saxophone in the band, pep band, marching band, and the quartet. One could even find her twirling a baton during parades.

She continued her education at St Olaf College (if your name was Opjorden, it was expected that would be your college) and could be found always singing in the choir, on the rink with her ice-skating club in the winter and golfing with her team in the spring. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Home Economics in 1962 and worked as an Extension Home Economist in Rice County.

She later attended a Southeast District Extension Conference and met Larry who was the Assistant Ag Agent in Steele County at the time. A few months later, shy Larry was strongly encouraged by a co-worker of his to invite Carolyn to attend a movie with him that was playing in Owatonna. He was sure she wouldn't go but finally called. She said, "Yes," but it would have to be the second show because she had choir practice at First English Lutheran Church earlier in the day. The movie was "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" and the rest was history. Larry and Carolyn were married October 11, 1964, at Kviteseid Lutheran Church in Milan on a beautiful Autumn Sunday afternoon. The Medford area is where they settled since 1964.

Carolyn's love, passion, and skill set as a Home Economist translated into a dream job with the U of M Extension Service, Floral Design, and a Sales Associate in the Women's & Children's Department at Cabela's.

She enjoyed judging at area county fairs as well as the Minnesota State Fair in the home economics and horticulture areas of 4-H and open class. Carolyn recently judged in Waseca County, Dodge County, Rice County, Wabasha County, Olmstead County, Mower County, Freeborn County and Steele County as well as at the MN State Fair. She was active in the Steele County Home Economics Association and previously honored the coveted role as

president. Carolyn was also active in garden club, and a former member of the Owatonna Community Band.

Carolyn carried with her a strong faith in God. Membership at First English Lutheran began in 1965. Carolyn was very involved in her church community choir, Vacation Bible Studies teacher, decorating committee, altar guild, and mission quilting. She had sewn over 300 drawstring backpacks for Lutheran World Relief.

Over the years, traveling took them to most of the states and several foreign countries due mainly to Larry's judging of dairy shows and his work with National Holstein USA as president. Her favorite countries were Spain and Ireland.

Their 82-acre hobby farm gave her lots of opportunities for gardening where she had over 200 hostas, numerous dahlias, roses and pretty much anything else she could enjoy watching flourish.

Family was a priority for Carolyn. She and Larry were blessed with two children: daughter Tara (Mountlake Terrace, WA) who is a German Tour Guide and Emergency & Incident Coordinator at Rick Steves' Europe. Son Thane (Prior Lake, MN) is the owner of Knotty Oar Marina in Prior Lake. Carolyn was proud of the work ethic her children developed as well as the parenting skills they have shown with her seven grandchildren who were grandma's pride and joy.

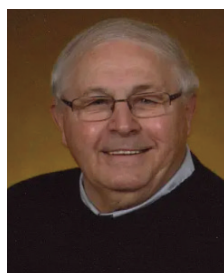
Tara and Thane were blessed to have them as parents and truly understood the meaning of "till death do us part" as they watched Mom take care of Dad in his later years with grace, love, and compassion.

Carolyn was proud of her children but was most happy singing the praises of her grandchildren and always sharing stories of what they were up to; Tatum, Tana, Dakin, Dahvi, and Dassi Tande and Poppy and Sage Swenson. They will take great pride in knowing how much grandma (and grandpa) loved them. They will always remember grandma's laugh and smile, her ability to squish bugs with her fingers, the beautiful flowers in her yard, and her knowledge of every bird and animal that passed through the meadow, field, pasture, and yard.

Carolyn will lovingly be remembered not only by her children and grandchildren, but her brother Luther (Martha) Opjorden, brothers-in-law Gerald (Arla) Tande and Paul Tande, nephews Christopher, Stewart, and Nicholas (Opjorden), Rhys and Seth (Tande), nieces Karen and Thea (Tande).

She is preceded in death by her husband, Larry, parents Torfinn and Ella Opjorden, parents-in-law Leslie and Gertrude Tande, nephew Kurt Tande and niece Wendy Tande.

# OBITUARY: JOHN GROSS



John Charles Gross, 91, of Madison passed away peacefully Sunday, Sept 24, 2023, at Bethel Home in Madison. Funeral services have been set for 11:00 a.m. October 13th at the United Methodist Church, Madison with visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. with the family and a lunch to follow. The service will be livestreamed on Rustand-Weiland Funeral Chapel Facebook page starting at 10:50 AM.

John was born Dec 25, 1931, on his grandfather's homesteaded dairy farm, Ash

Grove, located five miles north of Madison to Ellwood and Esther (Hodges) Gross. The dairy was Lake County's first and served as creamery, general store, switchboard and post office for the area. He attended Downs Country School and General Beadle High School, graduating in 1950 where he was a four year three-sport letterman. At SDSU he went on to play football until a serious knee injury ended his football career. As Student Body President, he drove the Bummobile in the Hobo Day parade and graduated from the School of Agriculture with degrees in Dairy Production and Animal Husbandry. There he met his future wife, Millie Hammer of Franklin Township and they were married June 26, 1955 in the Madison Methodist Church where he was a lifelong member.

In Lennox, he taught Ag on The Farm, a govt program to train veterans on farming until Millie's father passed away and they moved back to Madison to help manage her family's farm. As a salesman for Farmland Industries, he sold feed and fertilizer in SE South Dakota. He returned to his dairy roots as a Classifier for the Natl Holstein Assn where he traveled the U.S. and many foreign countries classifying herds and presenting papers he wrote on the future of the industry. He served as

a director on both the SD and National Holstein Association Boards. Other boards he was proud and honored to serve on were SD Fertilizer Board, Madison Community Hospital, SD Conservation Committee, USDA-Farm Service and SDSU Foundation. He owned many genetically sought after registered Holstein cows and bulls and shipped embryos from the females around the world. As a lifelong Jacks fan and dedicated alumni, he and Millie founded several perpetual scholarships, providing funds for many students in sports, agriculture and family and consumer sciences. His support funded the Embryo Transfer program at the Dairy Research and Training Facility. He also received two of SDSU's highest awards as Eminent Farmer for his achievements with the Holstein breed of cattle in 2008 and SDSU Distinguished Alumni in 2005. Over the years, he enjoyed talking to visitors at Prairie Village Jamboree in the Gross General Store that was moved there from the family farm in 1977, always expecting to find something in common through conversation with anyone he met. Friends and family members shared his love for car shows, golfing (he had 2 hole-in-ones), hunting and especially the many fishing trips to "the river" and Alaska.

John is survived by his wife, Millie, of Madison; daughter Kathy (Jim) Dreesen, Excelsior, MN; sons Allan (Julie) Gross and John (Sheila) Gross both of Madison; nine grandchildren - Jack Dreesen, Bloomington, IN; Sunni Lyn Gross, Brookings; James Dreesen (Kerri) Chanhassen, MN; Lauren (Luke) Burke, Lakeland, FL; Jessica (Colin) Birkeland, Sheyenne, ND; Lindsey (Colby) Liston, St Pete, FL; Mitchell Gross, Arlington; Ally Gross, Sioux Falls and Dillon Gross, Yankton; and nine great-grandchildren - Brooks and Jordan Dreesen, Delta and Lucy Burke, Cashton, Haisley and Renley Birkeland, Millie James and Blair Liston.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Emerson, Kenneth, Wallace, Gordon and Lawrence Gross and sister Viola Zoodsma.





## FROM THE MHA STAFF



**Amanda Bedtke**  
Business Manager



**Hailey Frericks**  
Marketing Manager

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays from us to you!

Reflecting on this past year, we would first like to extend a token of gratitude to the MHA Board of Directors and all MHA members for allowing us to serve you through our positions. We are truly grateful to work in an environment where we feel valued and have countless opportunities to serve many passionate dairy producers and industry professionals.

There are many exciting benefits encompassed in your MHA membership. In this publication, you will find a fraction of the events and opportunities that MHA will host throughout the year.

The membership drive is underway. This is a friendly reminder to watch your mailboxes for a 2024 membership form. To ensure you will receive all quarterly Minnesota Holstein News publications and a discount on registrations with Holstein USA, please be sure to pay your

membership by March 1, 2024.

MHA will be hosting a bus tour January 20-21. Refer to page 9 & 10 for full details. This low-cost event will be a fun way to connect with other members while visiting some tremendous breeder herds throughout Iowa & Wisconsin.

You may have seen the complimentary calendar accompanied with this publication. Many thanks are in order for the breeders who advertised to make this possible. We hope you will use this calendar to track MHA events throughout the year and find joy in flipping through each month to learn more about fellow member's herds and their accomplishments!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions. Amanda can be reached at [minnesotaholstein@gmail.com](mailto:minnesotaholstein@gmail.com) or by phone at (320)-259-0637. Hailey can be reached at [mnholsteinmarketing@gmail.com](mailto:mnholsteinmarketing@gmail.com) or by phone at (320) 249-2341.

*-Amanda and Hailey, MHA Staff*

## OBITUARY: DORIS PETERSON



Doris Ann Peterson, age 84, of Wykoff, MN, died on Friday, September 29, 2023 at home. Funeral services will be held at 1 pm on Friday, October 6, 2023 at the United Methodist Church in Wykoff, MN. An option for viewing via live stream will be available on the Wykoff United Methodist Church's Facebook page. Visitation for Doris will be from 4-8 pm on Thursday, October 5, 2023 also at the Methodist Church. Pastor Bridget Sheely will be officiating. Burial will be in Wykoff Cemetery.

Following services a celebration of life will be held at Jared's house, 28050 Morgan Rd Wykoff, MN.

Doris Ann Peterson was born April 21, 1939 to Oscar and Mabel Severson in Modena, WI. She graduated from Mondovi High School and pursued college in Rochester.

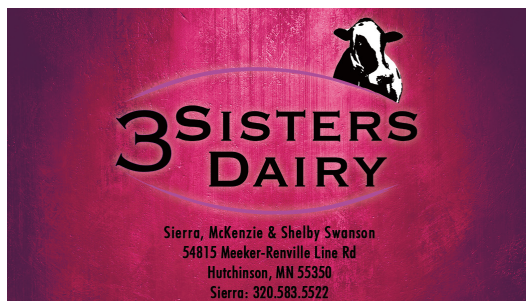
Doris loved to read, quilt, take photos, stay active swimming, and

spending time with her family. Doris wore many hats and spent much of her time as the "brains" behind Pete's Auction and Photo. Doris was always seen with a smile and a camera in her hand.

On September 24, 1960 she was united in marriage to Normen Peterson and they made their home in Wykoff, MN. Norm and Doris built their family, business, and lives together for just over 63 years; celebrating their anniversary just last weekend.

When she wasn't in her sewing room or reading at her chair, Doris loved to travel, cook, and watch her grandchildren's activities.

Doris is survived by her husband Norm; three children Brad (Sherry), Jodie (Bill), Jana (Joe); grandchildren Michael, Jared (Kelly), Mark (Brianna), Shauna (Drew); great-grandchildren Keira, Addison, Grayson, Walker, Collin, plus one to arrive in February; her brother Al (Phylis); and many nieces, nephews, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her brother, Merle.



## STATE SHOW JUDGE

A survey was sent to MHA members emails to cast a vote for the 2024 MN State Holstein Show Judge. Please fill out this form at your earliest convenience.





# Andrew Holsteins

ROGER & MARY SWART | NEW LONDON, MN

## THANK YOU

TO ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US THROUGH THE YEARS  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

*Celebrating 50 Years of Registered Holsteins!*



We know you're busy farming and raising a family, so we're at the table when you can't be. Advocating for corn farmers and reaching out to consumers, policymakers, and more. Our strength is in our members.

### Join us.

Become a member at  
[mncorn.org](http://mncorn.org).

**We've got  
your seat.**



# Merry Christmas

FROM DO-N-JOY GENETICS



CRESCENTMEAD *Jaurore* EX 91 RED

1st Place Sr. 3 Year Old - MN State Show, MN  
State Jr. Show, MN State R&W Show 2023  
Int. & Grand Champion - MN State Show, MN  
State Jr. Show, MN State R&W Show 2023  
Int. & Grand Champion - MN State Fair 2023  
Reserve Supreme Chamion - MN State Fair 2023  
- J's daughters are selling on our sale -



ROBLAND NORWIN *Bermuda* EX 93

2nd Place 4 Year Old - WDE 2023  
1st Place Sr. 3 Year Old - WDE 2022  
Intermediate and Reserve Grand WDE 2022  
All-American Sr. 3 Year Old 2022  
- Will be on an extensive flush program -  
Watch for her first offering on our sale  
Owned with Nate Goldenberg



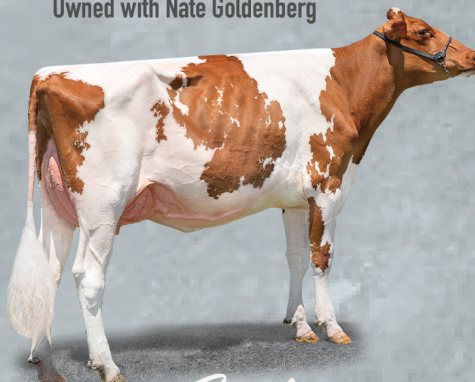
DO-N-JOY REAGAN *Icon*

1st Place Spring Calf - MN State Fair 2023  
1st Jr. & 2nd Open - WDE 2023  
Champion Bred & Owned Spring Calf - WDE 2023  
- 4 Generations of VG or Excellent -  
Sold to Russ Isley in North Carolina



DIX-LEE FLYNN *Destiny*

1st Place Sr. 2 Year Old - MN State Fair 2023  
Int. & Grand Champion - MN State Fair 2023  
5th Place Sr. 2 Year Old - WDE 2023  
- Due in March of 2024 -  
She sells on our sale in April  
Owned with Nate Goldenberg



SCENIC-EDGE *Jadene* RED

1st Place Jr. 2 Year Old - MN State R&W Show 2023  
HM Int. Champion - MN State R&W Show 2023  
1st Place Jr. 2 Year Old - MN State Show 2023  
HM Int. Champion - MN State R&W Show 2023  
1st Jr. 2 Year Old - MN State Fair R&W Show 2023  
HM Int. Champion - MN State Fair R&W Show 2023  
7th Place Jr. 2 Year Old - WDE 2023  
- Due early summer 2024 -  
She sells on our sale in April  
Owned with Luke Alsleben Housed at Do-N-Joy Genetics

## Announcing

MIDWEST SPRING EDITION  
AT DO-N-JOY GENETICS

April 6, 2024

NOW ACCEPTING  
CONSIGNMENTS

*featuring all breeds*

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