

Md. gears up for Holstein convention

RISING SUN, MD — Cecil County Holstein breeders are gearing up to host the 1984 Maryland Holstein Convention and Sale, February 28 and 29, at Sandy Cove resort.

Sandy Cove - Morning Cheer, is known for its fantastic food and banquet facilities that overlook the upper reaches of the scenic Chesapeake Bay. The peaceful resort community of Sandy Cove is located south of Northeast, Md on

route 272. Rooms are available at Sandy Cove for convention goers and a hall for the Convention Sale.

Many activities are planned to entertain and inform participants to the two day event. The annual business meeting of the Maryland Holstein Association will be held Tuesday morning February 28th, followed by a luncheon.

Tuesday afternoon's program features two speakers. Steve

Briggs part owner and operator of Brigeen Farms, of Turner, Maine, will address the convention. Briggs is a past president of the New England Holstein Association and is associated with Hanover Hill sales service.

William H. Hill, Jr., a representative from the Holstein Association will speak on the new linear type program.

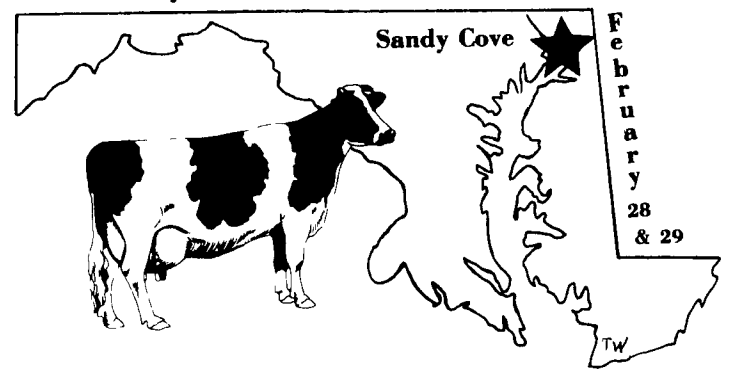
A special program for women and another for youth will also be held on Tuesday. Women attending the convention will have the chance to watch 12 craftsmen as they perform their art. Later the women will have the opportunity to create their own craft pieces under instruction of the craftsmen.

Lois Remburg Skeen, will conduct a special program for youth.

The convention banquet will be held Tuesday evening, followed by a "Fun Auction." The auction proceeds will benefit the Maryland Holstein Youth Scholarship Fund. So come with plenty of spending money

Anyone who has farm or cow oriented items to donate to the auction should contact Tom Crothers, auction chairman, Long Green Farm, 20 Long Green Farm

1984 Maryland Holstein Convention



Rd., Rising Sun, MD 21911.

Slides will be shown at the banquet of the Intergalactic Milk Carton Boat Race, held last summer at the farm of Bob and Warren Knutsen, Cecil County dairymen.

Rensburg Sales Service will conduct the Convention Sale on leap year day, Wednesday, Feb. 29. According to auctioneer, A. Doty Rensburg, over 70 top quality registered Holsteins have been consigned to the sale.

The sale will feature 10 daughter out of excellent dams and nine daughters from cows with over 1000 pounds of fat.

Harold Smith, Monkton, Md, has

consigned to the sale a Columbus daughter from a dam classified E-91, with production records of 30,050 pounds of milk and 1302 pounds of fat.

Marlin Hoff, New Windsor, Md. has consigned a Board Chairman daughter from a dam rated 2E-93, with production records of 36,880 milk, and 1354 fat.

Also a featured consignment, from Paul Welk, is a Wileda daughter out of VG 88 dam with production records of 22,725 milk, and 1279 fat.

For information on overnight accommodations at Sandy Cove contact Phyllis Yale, Rising Sun, at (301) 658-5178.

Mastitis is expensive

Dairy cows often exhibit no outward symptoms in cases of subclinical mastitis. But such infections do lower milk production, and their presence can be shown by unusually high counts of somatic cells in a farmer's bulk milk tank.

Leaders in mastitis research say that milk in bulk tanks on most dairy farms across the nation would yield somatic cell counts of 400,000 to 800,000 cells per milliliter. Somatic cell counts below 100,000 are necessary to minimize milk yield losses. Formerly it was thought that counts under 300,000 were satisfactory.

Milk starts tasting rancid when the somatic cell count exceeds 400,000. Cheesemaking yields also are reduced. When the somatic cell count exceeds 1.5 million, milk is rejected by wholesale buyers.

Recent research at Virginia Tech and the University of Wisconsin indicates that at the 400,000 to 800,000 cell-count level —

which is common on many farms — milk production in a dairy herd is reduced at a rate of 1,600 to 2,000 pounds per cow per year. Based on a wholesale price of \$13 per cwt., this means an income loss of \$208 to \$260 per cow for dairy farmers, according to Robert R. Peters, an Extension dairy science specialist at the University of Maryland in College Park.

When an expansive mastitis education program was conducted recently in Nebraska, somatic cell counts in milk were reduced by 20 percent within one year. This translated into savings of more than \$1 million for Nebraska dairy farmers. Similar results could happen in Maryland, Dr. Peters believes. The critical factor will be a large turnout at next month's Extension - sponsored mastitis control educational meetings in 25 locations in the state, ranging from western Maryland to the Eastern Shore.

Beef tour set in Del.

DOVER, Del. — The Delmarva Beef Cattlemen's Association is planning a tour of area livestock operations on Thursday, March 1. The tour will start at 9 a.m. at Hickory Hill Farm, on the grounds of Delaware State College in Dover.

From there the group will go to the Dan Enterline cow-calf

operation near Leipsic, Del. The next stop will be the Olefield Cattle Company in Galena, Md., for lunch and a tour. The tour will end at the Jack Kling feedlot and meat-packing plant in Petersburg, Del.

For further information or to sign up, contact University of Delaware extension livestock specialist Ken Kephart at (302) 856-5250.



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