

Guernsey Breeders Complete Plans For Convention

BY MARTHA J. GEHRINGER
MERTZTOWN — Dairymen from across the nation will converge on Pittsburgh for Memorial Day weekend. The draw will not be fireworks or other Memorial Day festivities, instead they will be attending the national convention of the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

In the thick of the convention preparations is an unassuming Berks County Guernsey breeder. William Zollers, Mertztown, has been serving as the general chairman for the event. "I'm happy I can do this for the Association," he said. Quick to credit others, he added, "There are a lot of people in the state association who have chipped in."

Pittsburgh, "city with a smile," is the host city for the convention which runs from May 22 to 25. The Sheraton at Station Square will be the host hotel for the convention.

The theme for the convention is "Guernsey heaven in '87," Zollers noted. Highlights of the convention include educational seminars, the business meeting, the Cow and National Heifer Sale, the National Guernsey Queen Contest, and the first national youth convention.

The seminars will run four

times, twice on Friday and twice on Saturday, Zollers explained, "so everyone has a chance to hit all of them."

One of the seminars will feature a discussion on Johnes Disease by Dr. Robert H. Whitlock of the New Bolton Center, Kennett Square. The New Bolton Center has been conducting extensive research on Johnes for the past several years.

Doug Wilson of 21st Century Genetics will talk about promoting the breed inwardly and outwardly. Zollers noted, this seminar will offer tips for selling Guernseys to fellow breeders and those who raise other breeds.

The third seminar will focus on handwriting analysis and will be presented by Louis P. Ciancio, Pittsburgh. Ciancio is a certified handwriting analyst who will talk about and demonstrate this analysis by taking writing samples from the group.

Beginning on Friday, May 22, the convention begins with the continental breakfast at 8 a.m. and registration opens at 8 a.m. A continental breakfast opens each day, Zollers noted.

At the 11:30 luncheon Friday, the Mayor of Pittsburgh, the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture,

and the Sheraton Hotel Manager will welcome convention-goers to the Pittsburgh, the state, and the hotel, Zollers explained.

Saturday's lunch will feature speaker Pat Leimbach. She is a farm wife humorist from the Midwest. Leimbach has written two books — *A Thread of Blue Denim* and *All My Meadows*. She is a very enthusiastic speaker who can relate to everyone in the audience, Zollers said.

In the afternoon an open forum is slated.

Following a craft auction which will feature antique milk bottles, the Cow and National Heifer Sale is scheduled for 7 p.m. Saturday evening.

Sunday, after a short church service in the hotel, buses will leave for tours of three Washington County Guernsey farms — Co-Hill Farms, Elsvew Farm and Twin Brook Farm. At the last stop, John Marchezak's Twin Brook Farm, the group will have a barbecue lunch.

Zollers said the committee plans to have a relaxing day on Sunday. The evening will feature the youth banquet and the crowning of the new National Guernsey Queen.

Monday morning begins with the annual business meeting. The membership will receive the results of the vote on by-law changes and a name change from the American Guernsey Cattle Club to the American Guernsey Association. Two area directors and one director at-large will be elected at the annual meeting. At the noontime luncheon following the annual meeting, awards will be presented.

Youth Convention

A totally independent youth convention is planned to coincide with the regular national convention. "We want to try and get as many youths as possible involved," Zollers said. "We have a good, strong youth division in Pennsylvania and we thought this would be the place to start the youth convention," he added.

Friday afternoon the youth convention begins with the dairy bowl competition. The convention chairman anticipates good representation from across the country.

Two suites of rooms have been reserved for the youths. For \$15 per night, youths may bring their sleeping bags and stay in these suites.

Saturday morning Dennis Wolff of Pen-Col Farms, Millville, will tell the group about getting involved, the benefits and how to go about it.

In the afternoon the group will travel to Kennywood, the roller coaster capital of the world. A pool and pizza party is planned for the evening hours.

Sunday when the farm tours conclude at Twin Brooks, the youths will participate in Ag Olympics. These Olympics will test their skills in such favorites as hay throwing, tug-of-war, and, Zollers noted, cow chip tossing is also a possibility.

In the evening they will hold their youth banquet. Here the National Guernsey Queen will be crowned.

Monday morning the group will attend the youth annual business meeting. Zollers said that one topic to be considered will be forming a national youth organization.

In addition to the event on Sunday, the committees have planned other relaxing items on the agenda.

The Gateway Clipper sails Friday night at 7. Convention-goers will have a night of dinner and dancing on the Clipper as it threads its way up the river next to the Sheraton at Station Square.

Saturday evening a square dance is planned for everyone.

Zollers explained the finance committee attempted to minimize



Convention Chairman William Zollers checks his notes on the upcoming national Guernsey convention slated for Pittsburgh, May 22 to 25.

convention costs by selling exhibitor space, having meal sponsors, selling ads in the convention program, having youth sponsors, contributions for distribution of company literature, and outright contributions. Because of the response to these items, Zollers noted, "We can have a reasonably priced convention."

Evolution of a Chairman

The convention program was the original vehicle which drew Zollers into planning for the convention in January 1985. At the Farm Show that year the first organizational meeting for the 1987 convention was held. He volunteered to chair the displays and souvenir booklet committee, Zollers explained.

From there he was invited to a finance committee meeting. The committee members decided to have Zollers chair the committee which would determine how to raise funds for the convention. A contributing factor to this decision was the idea that the booklet would be a prime money raiser.

This move led to an invitation in September 1985 to sit in on a steering committee meeting with Ruth Ann Johns and Janet Harding Ruslavage. Johns and Ruslavage had already selected Pittsburgh as the site for the convention at this point. "The next thing they told me was 'you be the chairman and we'll assist you.'"

He noted that last year he attended the national convention in Illinois. "There's where we put most of the program together," Zollers recalled.

"Everyone was involved. There were a lot of great ideas that came out too late," he noted. "I almost wish we could have another convention to use some of these great ideas," Zollers commented enthusiastically.

"Everyone pitched in. Without them it wouldn't have come together. Nothing is going to stop us now," he said.

Guernsey breeders from across the state have contributed to the planning of the convention. The committee chairmen for the event are:

Transportation and tours, John Marchezak Sr.; dairy bar/hospitality, David Lash; registration, Jean Celestine; program and meals, Janet Harding Ruslavage; mall promotion, Albert and Marian Hack; and youth program, Patty McMurray.

Also Queen contest, Millie Linde Widmann; decorations, Eileen Moore; cattle sale, William Cannon; sale ring decorations, Elsie Wolff; ladies program, Lee Ann Marchezak; craft auction, Louise Witmer; history, Vaughn Moore; and publicity, Alisa Fava. Zollers anticipates over 400 adults and 150 youths will attend the four-day convention.

Anyone interested in more information on or attending the 110th national Guernsey convention should contact Zollers at Longsdale Drive, Mertztown, Pa., 19539, 215-682-7880, or the state association in Waynesboro at 717-762-3301.

Registrations are needed by May 7.

The complete schedule is as follows:

Friday May 21	8:00 a.m. Continental breakfast	Registration opens	Exhibits open
	8:30 a.m. AGCC Board of Directors meets	10:00 a.m. Seminars and Ladies Program	Youth activities
	11:30 a.m. Welcome luncheon with Queen skits	3:00 p.m. Seminars	Sale cattle on display in garage
	5:00 p.m. President's reception	6:00 p.m. Registration closes	6:30 p.m. Gateway Clipper Cruise
Saturday May 23	7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast	Exhibits open	
	8:30 a.m. Seminars	9:30 a.m. Milk break	10:00 a.m. Seminars
	11:30 a.m. Luncheon — Pat Leimbach speaker	2:00 p.m. Open Forum	4:30 p.m. Wine and cheese party
	6:00 p.m. Craft auction	7:00 p.m. National Heifer and Convention Sales	Grand Ballroom
	10:00 p.m. Square dancing		
Sunday May 24	7:00 a.m. Continental breakfast	8:00 a.m. Church service	9:00 a.m. Farm tours
	12:30 p.m. Barbecue lunch at Marchezaks	Junior Ag Olympics	
	3:30 p.m. Buses return to hotel	6:00 p.m. Reception	7:00 p.m. Youth banquet
Monday, May 25	7:00 a.m. Continental breakfast	8:00 a.m. AGCC annual meeting	Noon Closing luncheon and awards

American Guernsey Cattle Club Convention Pre-Registration May 22-25, 1987 • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Name _____
 Farm/Company _____
 Address _____ Phone (____) _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Other members of family attending _____

Please make the following reservations:

Event	Number	Individual Price	Early Registration Price	Total
Friday Luncheon	_____	@ \$12		_____
Friday Cruise/Buffer	_____	@ \$30	Friday @ \$32	_____
Saturday Luncheon	_____	@ \$20		_____
Saturday Wine/Cheese	_____	@ \$ 7	Saturday @ \$21	_____
Sunday Tours/BBQ	_____	@ \$24		_____
Sunday Banquet	_____	@ \$20	Sunday @ \$35	_____
Monday Luncheon	_____	@ \$12 50	Monday @ \$9 50	_____

If you plan to attend all the events, this four-day package sells for \$97.50 plus each conventioneer will receive a commemorative ceramic convention milk pitcher. Reservations must be made by May 7, 1987 to qualify.

_____ @ \$97 50

TOTAL \$ _____

Junior Convention Pre-Registration

Please make the following reservations:

Event	Number	Individual Prices	Early Registration Price	Total
Friday Luncheon	_____	@ \$12		_____
Friday Cruise/Buffer	_____	@ \$30	Friday @ \$27	_____
Saturday Kennywood Park	_____	@ \$15		_____
Saturday Pizza Party	_____	@ \$ 5	Saturday @ \$20	_____
Sunday Tours/BBQ	_____	@ \$24		_____
Sunday Banquet	_____	@ \$20	Sunday @ \$35	_____
Monday Breakfast	_____	@ \$5 50		_____
Monday Luncheon	_____	@ \$12 50	Monday @ \$15	_____

If you plan to attend all the events, this four-day package sells for \$90... a savings of \$7.50. AND, each conventioneer will receive a commemorative ceramic convention milk pitcher. Reservations must be made by May 7, 1987 to qualify.

_____ @ \$90

TOTAL \$ _____

YES, I would like to share housing with other junior members for \$15 per night. Check nights needing room _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____ Sunday

Please return this form by Friday, May 7, 1987 making checks payable to the Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders' Association. Send to Jean Celestine, RD 2, Box 125 Scenery Hill, Pennsylvania 15360. After May 7, all tickets will be sold at the individual prices.

To receive a 35 percent discount on full coach air fare or five percent off any applicable discount fare, contact US Air at 1-800-428-4322. This discount offer is effective for flights from May 19 through May 25, originating on US Air's domestic system with Pittsburgh as the destination city. Must use designator code AC510E when placing reservation.

President Elected Of Pequea Valley Local

LEOLA — Luke Ray Zimmerman of Ephrata was elected president of the Pequea Valley Local of Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative at the Local's recent annual meeting here at the Leola Family Restaurant, Eastern Director Daniel W. Fox of Ephrata announced.

Other officers, also elected to one-year terms, are: Leroy M.

Stoltzfus of Gap, vice president; Amos T. Stoltzfus, also of Gap, secretary, and Samuel G. Smucker of New Holland, treasurer.

The Local also elected a delegate, Issac S. Huyard of New Holland, and an alternate delegate, Luke Ray Zimmerman, to represent local farmers at cooperative business meetings.