

# National Holstein Convention Set With Full Schedule

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — Tours exploring Pennsylvania Holstein operations in Somerset County, shopping, visiting new areas, such as neighborhood corners of different cultures, sales, food, entertainment, and of course, conducting Holstein business are just a portion of the lineup scheduled to be offered to those participating in the National Holstein Convention set to be held in Pittsburgh June 25-28.

It's been almost 30 years since Pennsylvania — the fifth largest dairy state in the nation — served as host of the national convention.

For many the experience is a once-in-a lifetime chance to actually attend a national convention.

While the official convention is scheduled to start June 25, attendees are expected to arrive at convention headquarters at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center as early as June 22.

Senior-aged convention goers are to stay at the Pittsburgh Vista Hotel, while the junior members are in rooms at the Hyatt Regency, Pittsburgh, or other facilities, depending on overflow accommodations.

On Friday, June 23, an Execu-

tive Committee meeting is scheduled to be held during the day.

For those not attending the meeting, there are numerous activities in the Pittsburgh area to enjoy and places to explore, from shopping centers to golf courses, restaurants and specialty food markets, to watching a performance of Man of LaMancha or enjoying highly rated fishing for bass in once polluted waters.

For those who had read or heard about a possible three-day early farm tour that was to bring conventioners into southcentral Pennsylvania, it was officially cancelled because of a lack of sufficient indicated interest, according to Sue Beshore.

However, the convention is full of exciting events.

Registration doesn't start until Saturday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m., but a national Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to be held during the day.

In the evening, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., the Past President's Dinner Theater and Show is scheduled to be held in the Allegheny Room.

The next morning, Sunday, from 6:30-8 a.m., a Past/Future Convention Chairman breakfast meeting is scheduled to be held for those interested, while registration starts at 7:30 a.m. and runs until 10 p.m.

A tour of Somerset County farms is scheduled to start at 8 a.m. and visit four operations. The tour is scheduled to end about 4:30 p.m.

According to a news release, "Somerset County is known as the 'Land of Milk and Maple' because of its large dairy and traditional maple syrup industries."

The tour is to feature visits at Percline Holsteins, Mishlin Holsteins, Carrdale Holsteins and Hillmont Holsteins.

According to the news release that contained statements from the farms about their own operations, at Bercline Holsteins, emphasis is on cow families that transmit type and production.

Functional type is sought with a strong emphasis on udders, feet and legs when selecting a mate.

"We use AAA and our classification breakdowns when choosing our matings. Herd health is very important to us. We strongly believe that you can breed for type, production, and protein as well as keeping the indexes progressing with the service sires that are available to us as breeders."

The statement from Mishlin Holsteins explains that their breeding philosophy is simple.

"First and foremost, we must have a top type bull that excels in superior stature, strength, and thurl width.

"Once we have the framework there, we focus on breeding for outstanding udders with excellent udder clearance.

"As far as feet and legs go, we never really bred for that but instead felt that management of the cows played a more critical role. Keeping the calves and heifers on concrete, instead of a manure pack seemed to have kept our troubles limited.

"As far as milk and components go, the results we got from using the high type bulls were very pleasing to us."

At Carrdale Holsteins, the breeding strategy is also somewhat similar.

"We try to breed cows with correct functional type that are also a pleasure to look at and work with throughout the year."

The use a combination of the Red Book and AAA to select sires and try to mate cows to the more popular bulls, though not necessar-

ily the best industry rated bulls. Like some other successful breeders, Hillmont Holsteins is attempting to breed multiple generation Excellent cows with a good index and good show-ring qualities.

While that is the dream of many, the statement from Hillmont is, "It takes a very strong cow family to do that. The most important things is to match the bull and cow to the best of your ability. It helps to get several opinions.

"In staying up with the index system, we find ourselves flushing our virgin heifers to the newest hot sire or even a young sire. I can't stress enough, the importance of cow family."

More details on the farms and the farm owners will be presented during the tours.

Also on Sunday, those interested in previewing the consignments for the convention sale can start looking at 1 p.m. in Level 2 of the convention center.

Also scheduled is a SET meeting, a dairy bar from 1-4 p.m., and a Breeders' Majority meeting.

The official start of the convention is to occur 6:15 p.m. Sunday evening, June 25 with the President's Reception. The event is to honor President John Selz.

The reception is to feature a buffet dinner followed by entertainment by the 24-voice Mendelsohn Chorus, a group that has performed internationally and is in its 86th season.

Monday is Host Day. A walk in the morning to the Pittsburgh Market Bazaar from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. is scheduled with a return just in time to catch two Host Day tours being offered.

The Cultural Pittsburgh Tour is to stop at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, the Stephen Fos-

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## National Holstein Association 1995 Convention SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE & TIME	MEETING
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 22</b>	
	Holstein Association Work Room
	Pennsylvania Holstein Work Room
	Holstein World Work Room
	Holstein Association Junior Workroom
8:30 pm - 10:00 pm	Pre-Tour Convention Reception
<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 23</b>	
7:00 am	Pre-Convention Tour Departs
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
10:00 am	Coffee Break
12:00 Noon	Executive Committee Luncheon
3:00 pm	Afternoon Break
6:30 pm	Family Dinner (off premises) Lamont Restaurant
<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 24</b>	
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Board of Directors Meeting
10:00 am	Coffee Break
	Set Up Registration
12:00 Noon	Board of Directors Luncheon

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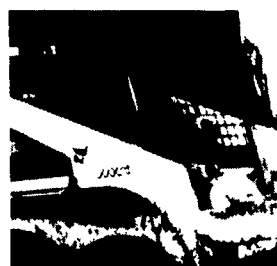
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