

# National Holstein Convention

(Continued from Page A27)

committee on the value of registered cattle. This is an exciting prospect. The committee, board, and staff have collaborated to produce the system now being tested by 280 DHIR herds."

The association reported a net income of \$704,000 for 1994 with a net worth of over \$16 million.

Kerr said the Association neither promotes nor discourages the use of foreign genetics, but they do aggressively promote the sound understanding of pedigrees and performance of those genetics. This means working with foreign herdbooks to convert their genetic evaluations to U.S. terms so that breeders can make the necessary comparisons.

### PRESIDENT SELZ REPORTS

President John Selz, dairy farmer from Humbird, Wisconsin, said the Association is on track and coming in ahead of schedule. While admitting some mistakes in the past, Selz said, "We need to position ourselves for the future."

"Future challenges will be no less (than challenges of the past)," Selz said. "The trends of a shrinking member base, the need to address tighter profit margins, the demands to avoid duplicate cost and time efforts must continue to be addressed. For our Association to remain strong and competitive, we must further develop grass roots involvement, volunteer leadership, and cement a stronger state and national association relationship."

"It's time to put in place a combined state and national membership program with automatic renewal and one billing system.

Holstein programs and activities at the grass roots level should be joint programs sponsored by state and national Holstein, other breed organizations, AI, DHIA, and any other dairy organization or business with a vested interest. Dairy cattle improvements, farm profitability, and quality of farm life should be a common goal. And let's be sure to give special attention to our youth.

"My hope before leaving the board was total electronic calf registry, computer to computer via modem. We are close. Recently we registered a group of calves by diskette. Registering calves is now speedier than coming up with a new name! Regular registry should be an even simpler process with no human effort at Brattleboro.

"Flexible classification options have reduced the time and cost of classifying for larger herd owner. These same types of flexible options need to be available in our production testing programs. Why do we continue to bear the cost of monthly testing on older cows whose genetic merit was established in her first two lactations? We must let dairymen production test a selected core herd or be in danger of losing the whole herd."

Selz was not eligible to be reelected president so he completed his term later during the convention when John Cope was elected.

"I leave this week feeling very good about Holstein Association USA," Selz said. "Not totally feeling good about the dairy industry, but your association is in good hands. What a good time to say 'thank you' and 'good bye,' because all is well that ends well."



Up on Mt. Washington, these dairy farmers took the opportunity to get a better view of Pittsburgh. They are from left, Diane and Reid Hoover; Juliet and Vincent Wagner, and Barbara and Gary Lentz.



Laszlo Mozes, president, left, and Lewis Berkley, immediate past president, Pennsylvania Holstein Association, talk cows.



Pennsylvania Holstein officials play host to farmers from Australia. Here they are ready to board the bus for the farm tour to Somerset County.



Amy Miller feeds the calf at Mishlers'.

## The 1995 Distinguished Junior Members



Molly Aylsworth  
Shreve, Ohio



Sandi Hurtgen  
Oakdale, California



Shelly Lammers  
Brandon, Wisconsin



Christopher McCullough  
Juda, Wisconsin



Jason Sheehan  
Rochester, Minnesota



Michael Stebbins  
Hornell, New York



Candi Taylor  
Wendall, Idaho