

## American Guernsey Association Elects Officers, Holds Sale

(Continued from Page A1)

Another resolution thanked the board of directors for their dedication, attention and willingness to work, while yet another thanked the staff for doing a good job.

Two resolutions approved were aimed at changes desired for membership.

A resolution from the AGA Production Committee requests that all breeders use the top 20 bulls rated in artificial insemination studs, rather than focusing on the top two.

Achieving a healthy genetic diversity and continued breed improvement are at risk given the number of Guernseys in the United States and a prevalence of a sire selection practice that favors popularity of a bull rather than animal improvement.

Another resolution, from the New York Guernsey Breeders Association, requested that members should try to do their best to encourage multiple component pricing with the implementation of Farm Bill provisions that would change the regulation of the milk market in the United States.

In other action, Mellisa Morrow, of Tyrone, was named the national outstanding Guernsey youth, selected from a field of six contestants and five finalists.

Morrow, daughter of John and Karen Morrow, owners of Hillside Acres, is a Penn State student pursuing a bachelor's degree in agricultural business management.

She has also served as the 1995 Pennsylvania Guernsey queen and national Guernsey princess, and is a member of the Penn State Dairy Science Club and its dairy judging

team.

In other outstanding member recognitions, Ronald Wenger, of Goshen, Ind., owner of Valley Set Farm, was named the recipient of the AGA master breeder award.

In posthumous recognitions, William Lee Moore Jr., Plano, Texas, and Frank D. Brown, Port Deposit, Md., were both honored for their contributions to the Guernsey breed during their lifetimes.

In other business, the convention sale, held at the Maryland Fairgrounds in Timonium, inside the large Dairy Palace building, featured 41 lots including a bull, cows, heifers, springers, calves and frozen embryos.

The sale average was \$2,022 and it grossed \$86,225.

At \$10,500, the top seller was a syndicate bull that provided an unusual investment opportunity for members. It was purchased by 21st Century Genetics.

The bull, Lone Acres E Baltimore, is a Sherma Victory Ellas Enhancer son out of dam 2-year-old Lone Acres Magic Bonita, classified Very Good 86-points.

The Baltimore bull carries predicted abilities of +1,608 pounds milk, +62 pounds fat (+\$195), +49 pounds protein (+\$191), and CY+195. His PTAT is +2.5 and his PTI was +317.

Frederick and Bruce Kipp, of Lone Acres Farm in North Prairie, Wis., are the breeders of the bull.

For a month prior to the sale, members of the AGA were able to purchase membership in a syndicate that sold semen shares at a rate that came to \$10 per unit, or a full share at \$200 per 20 units. There

were 43 people who purchased a full of half share.

The total invested in bull shares prior to the sale was \$6,700, and bidding on the right to market that semen began there.

For being a member of the syndicate, royalties are to be paid, depending on the value of the semen. It still has to prove itself, however, Jensen said he was excited about the bull's potential.

"It's a real exciting pedigree," he said. "The bull offers some very modern genetics and has a deep cow family — the fourth dam was this year's living lifetime award (recipient), presented at annual meeting.

"His dam is a 2-year-old off to a real exciting start," Jensen said. "She was appraised 86 points as a 2-year-old. His granddam ranks No.33 on the CPI list (cow performance index list)."

The second highest selling lot of the sale was a year-old open heifer out of Excellent 92-point Valley Set B Hally. Wenger Ronald, of Goshen, Ind., consigned and bred the heifer, Valley Set Tom Handy, a daughter of Valley Set Smokey Tom.

She was sold to Spring Walk Farm, in Big Prairie, Ohio for \$5,300.

The third highest selling consignment of the sale was a calf owned and bred by Clay Smith, 20, whose parents, O. Clayton and Shirley Smith of OCS Dairy, in Jefferson, Md., also opened their farm to a convention tour.

In 1978, Clay Smith brought Guernseys onto his parents' 240-head Holstein dairy farm, starting with one calf that has



Clay Smith, owner of this January registered Guernsey, OCS Dairy Footsies Miss Biggie, leads her around the sale ring at the Maryland Fairground's Cow Palace show and sale building. In the background, Chris Hill, on the left, conducts the sale, while David Smith reads pedigrees. Smith's calf was the third highest selling in the 41-lot offering.

served as the foundation of now famous herd. The calf's dam OCS Dairy Diadora Lil Foot has the United State's highest 305-day and 365-day butterfat production record and made 34,220 pounds of milk in 365-days. She also won a

number of titles in the showing. The calf, OCS Dairy Footsies Miss Biggie, a Solum Grand Henry daughter born Jan. 6, was sold for \$4,000 to Pleasant View Farm, in St. Thomas, Pa. (Franklin (Turn to Page A22))



Pictured above is Phyllis & Tim Barlow with children Steven, Krystal and Angela

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