

# Md. Holstein Association Convenes in Howard County

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ELLICOTT CITY, Md. —

Howard County was the setting for this year's annual Maryland Holstein Convention, held at the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center.

Carl Bender, president of the association, said the strong history of dairy farming in Howard County, coupled with the contributions its dairy farmers have made to the Holstein breed, made it an exciting chance to revisit the county.

Mr. Bender specifically credited Dunloggin Farm, a Holstein operation that had its heyday in the early 20th century in Howard County, for the strength of Holstein genetics in the county.

"I think Maryland is very fortunate to have had a herd like that in this county," Mr. Bender said. Dunloggin held its dispersal sale in 1943.

"Now," said Bender, "there are only six herds left in the county. It reminds me of the play-offs. It shows to me you have withstood the tough times

of the dairy industry."

During the business meeting, officers were elected and committee reports given. Carl Bender, Accident, is to serve another term as president of the association. Arthur G. Rhoderick, Hagerstown, is to continue on as vice-president.

Anita Hill stepped down as secretary-treasurer, and was replaced by Donna Reese, Westminster. Mrs. Hill had been secretary-treasurer since 1992. She said she will continue to be involved in the association, and will still help with the spring show.

New directors for three year terms are Matt Debaugh, Lenny Pieper, Richard "Gus" Schwartzbeck, and Dennis Shafer.

In other business it was announced that membership was up by 24 members compared to the same time last year.

Mr. Marlin Hoff, New Windsor, announced he will be a candidate for the office of vice-president of the national Holstein Association. Mr. Hoff was on the national board for

eight years. He said, "I feel like the association needs some strong leadership, and I feel like I am capable of providing it." The elections will take place at the national convention in Idaho in June.

Production and genetics awards highlighted the morning program. After lunch the keynote speaker, Dr. Tom Bailey, veterinary reproduction specialist with Va.-Md. Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, talked about improving reproductive efficiency within the dairy herd, heifer development, and the future in technology.

Dr. Bailey said that calving intervals are beginning to lengthen, and that should be of concern. As the calving intervals increase, the available pool of genetics decreases, because there are less calves for culling. He said farmers need to do a better job at reproductive efficiency. "We need some kind of initiative to do a better job in reproduction," he said.

Dr. Bailey said the goal should be to generate the highest number of offspring possible.

He stressed this could be addressed by efficient and accurate heat detection, reducing the number of days to first service, and decreasing the calving interval on farms.

The ladies program this year featured a triple treat. Speakers demonstrated skin products for

the entire family, creating a look with the right scarf, and cake decorating made easy.

The youth took a bus ride to the USDA in Beltsville. There they held their annual business meeting, and toured animal, manure, crop, and soil management practices.



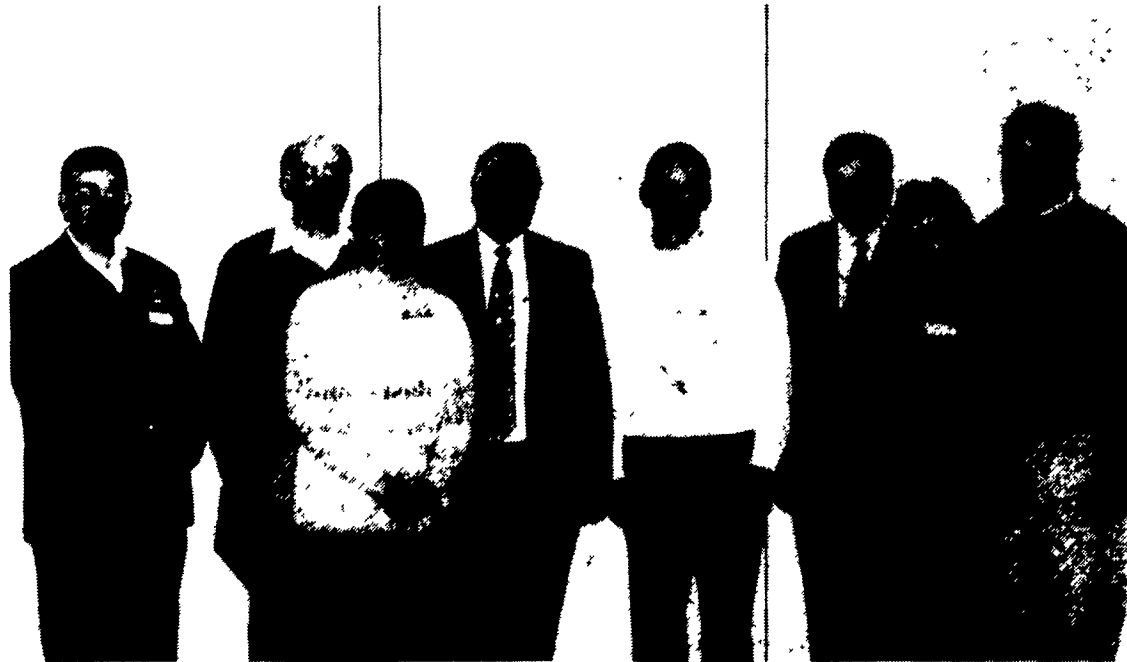
From the left, receiving production awards from the Maryland Holstein Association are, in the front row, Joe Schwartzbeck, Kathy Patrick, Shirley Smith, Delvin Mast, and Becky Wiles. In the back row, from the left, are Wayne and Cindee Savage, Jay Phipps Douthit, Kevin Martin, and Greg Wiles.



From the left, Charles Iager, Oren Bender, Kathy Patrick, Mike Haines, and Tom Crothers receive progressive breeder registry awards from the Maryland Holstein Association.



From the left, Jack King and Oren Bender stand with Greg Wiles and Matt Iager as they present several awards to Wiles for having the high CTPI cow, high CTPI bred and owned cow, high MFP\$ cow and high MFP\$ bred and owned cow of the Maryland Holstein Association.



From the left, receiving Maryland Holstein Association genetic achievement awards are Tom Crothers, Steve Hughes, Diane Flickinger, Marlin Hoff, Jason Myers, Cam Davis, Becky and Greg Wiles.



Presenting high herd BAA awards from the Maryland Holstein Association are, from the left, award sponsor for farms with more than 90 cows Greg Wiles, recipient Oren Bender, recipient of the award for herds with fewer than 90 cows Dan Hollingsworth, and award sponsor Mike Allen.

## Maryland Sale Results

WEST FRIENDSHIP, Md - The Maryland State Holstein Association convention sale was held here at the Howard County fairgrounds. The sale averaged \$2,855 on 78 head.

The high selling lot, consigned by Futuraland 2020 Holsteins, Williamsport, Maryland, and purchased by Dick Schultz of Rutland, Massachusetts, brought \$14,500. It was the first choice female from three transfers made in November, 1998 from the Mtoto bull, a Prelude son bred in Italy, out Futuraland's Celsius cow, Zambi.

The second high selling lot was

consigned by MD-Dun-Loafin Farm in Burkittsville, Maryland, and brought \$6,000. from buyer Greg Halbach, Tucson, Arizona. The heifer, MD-Dun-Loafin LD Madison -ET, was a Leadoff daughter.

Third high selling lot in the sale was Vossman CC Grace-ET, an unfresh junior two-year-old consigned by Vossman Farm, Clayton, Delaware, and sold to Marion Andrews and Richard Green of Centreville, Maryland for \$5,900.

Auctioneer for the sale was Chris Hill, Mt. Airy, Maryland. Sale managers were Chris and Budget Hill.

## Sludge Meeting

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — The Lebanon County Conservation District has announced a "biosolids" (treated sewage sludge) meeting for the general public, 7-9 p.m., March

31, at the Lebanon County Agricultural Center.

The center is located adjacent to the Lebanon County Fairgrounds, at the intersection of Cornwall and Rocherty roads. Signs to the fairgrounds are located along Rt. 72,

south of the city of Lebanon.

A rain date has been set for 7-8 p.m., April 8, at the same location.

For more information, call Ann Sheffer at (717) 272-3908, Extension 4.