

## Educational Center And Working Farm Opening In Annapolis

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So the company began leasing the buildings and the land from the Navy.

"This farm will have two purposes now," said Jan Stanton, who is the farm and education center manager for the Horizon Organic Dairy Annapolis facility. "The first purpose will be to have a productive farm and sell the crops and milk. The second will be to educate school children and families about the role of agriculture and its impact on the Chesapeake Bay."

This spring, Stanton came on board to oversee the development of a large education center that will include hands-on activities to teach children about organic agriculture and agriculture in general.

"It's very exciting creating something like this from scratch," said Stanton. "No where in the nation is there anything like this — a working farm that will also be an educational center. We are going to teach people that farmers are the original stewards of the land, and we will be able to show everyone first-hand the entire process of farming."

In the education center will be exhibits about crop rotation, soil composition, the milking process, pesticides and fertilizers, and other aspects of farming. Opening in September, the education center will be housed in one of the existing dairy barns. School groups are already scheduled to tour the facilities.

"We are going to have meeting rooms for community groups, milking demonstrations and guided tours for families and school groups, and a retail store where people can buy items centered around the farm," said Stanton. "I have already visited a lot of community groups to present the education center concept."

Since Stanton's background is in nutrition education and marketing, she is depending on the crop manager and two other employees to manage the 575 acres of crops.

"We are very fortunate that three of the farmers who worked for the Naval Academy stayed on after Horizon took over," she said. "The one was born here, and the other two have worked on the farm for 23 years, so they have lots of farming experience."

Still the three farm employees have a challenge ahead of them because they are in the process of converting the farm to organic. "Next year we will have our first crop grown on organic soil," said Stanton. "The rest of the farm will be totally converted to organic by 2002."

On the farm, they will raise rye, alfalfa, barley, corn, and soybeans. The crops from the Navy farm will be used to supply Horizon Dairy's milking herd located in Kennedyville, Md.

Converting the farm to organic won't be too difficult because the land has been very well cared for. "The Navy has

always been very ecologically aware," said Stanton. "They have won awards for their no-till farming and for conserving the soils."

After the education center is up and running, Stanton plans to bring in 30 cows to use primarily for education purposes. They'll be milked on one side of the existing double-four milking parlor while the other side will be modified into a viewing area for visitors. Eventually the plans are to build the herd back up to 300 to 500 cows so that the farm can ship a tanker load of milk each day.

In addition to the farm employees, other employees are working to develop the education center and retail store operation. "We're planning to have a snack bar and picnic pavilion so people can make a day of their visit to the farm," said Stanton.

Placed in a setting of scenic trees and acres of fields, you would never know that the Navy farm is located within an hour from Baltimore, Annapolis, and Washington D.C. The location will make it ideal for reaching the urban community.

"We want to connect people to the animals and the plants," said Stanton. "Children really need this type of education because they are so far removed from the farm."

Stanton is working closely with the Maryland State Superintendent of Science and an educational consultant to make sure that all of Maryland's education



The Anne Arundel 4-H Club has housed its 4-H dairy projects at the Navy farm for several years. Soon these animals will be joined by a few dairy cows that will be used to demonstrate the milking process to visitors. Then, within a few years, around 300 more cows will be brought in to re-open the commercial dairy facilities originally built by the Naval Academy.

standards are incorporated into the center. "We want to transfer the farm into a place where people can learn."

4-H kids from Anne Arundel County have been learning on the farm for several years. The Navy opened up its barns to the Anne Arundel Dairy Club's 4-H projects several years ago.

The animals are leased by the 4-Hers and housed in one of the barns. Now Horizon Dairy will renovate one of the front barns into a showcase facility to house the pampered 4-H animals.

"Our goal is to really involve people in agriculture and teach them about its importance," said Stanton. "I have always felt that farmers are taken for granted, and this is an opportunity to teach people who would not have exposure to farming elsewhere."

"The center and the entire farm will be a wonderful showcase for all of agriculture, not just organic, because we are teaching people about where their food comes from," she

## Pennsylvania To Host National Brown Swiss Convention

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co) — Join fellow Brown Swiss breeders as they "Moove Into A New Millennium" during the 2000 National Brown Swiss Convention on July 12 - 15 at the Harrisburg Hilton in Harrisburg.

"Mooving Into A New Millennium" is more than just a title of this year's convention. It is the theme for the four-day event, as conventions are kept busy throughout their stay.

Golfing, farm visits, tours, inspirational speakers, buffets, and social events are all part of this year's convention, which culminates with the 2000 National Sale at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex on Saturday, July 15. The sale begins at 8 a.m. and will feature high quality Brown Swiss consignments. A complete schedule of the convention is outlined below.

Remember to register by June 10 to receive the earlybird special hotel and pre-registration rates. Don't miss your chance to Moover into the New Millennium with the Pennsylvania and National Brown Swiss Associations.

The cost of the convention package is \$90 for adults and \$60 for youth who pre-register. Avoid the \$30 late fee and register by June 10.

Hotel reservations before June 10 are \$89 per night. Reservations increase to \$179 per night, subject to availability, after that date. Return the registration form below before the June 10 deadline.

### PENNSYLVANIA HOSTS THE NATIONAL BROWN SWISS CONVENTION

Harrisburg Hilton and Towers, One North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101  
July 12, - 15, 2000

ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_  
 JUNIORS \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hershey Park Chaperone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Registration Fee Adults \$90 00/plus tours Juniors \$60 00/plus tours  
**Pre-Registrations must be postmarked by 6-10-2000!**  
**Registrations postmarked after 6-10-2000, fees will be:**

Late Registration Fee Adults \$120 00 Juniors \$90 00 **NO REFUNDS AFTER 7-1-00.**

**Registration Fees do not include the following:** Golf outing, Heindel Open House, Thursday's Tours, and I-Max Junior Activity Individual events and meals may also be purchased separately

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ Juniors \_\_\_\_\_ Total Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_ check # \_\_\_\_\_

Send checks payable to PA Brown Swiss Assoc and mail with Registration form to  
 PA Convention 2000 % Patti Hushon- 335 Good Rd, Arville, PA 17302  
 Questions Phone 717-862-1905 Fax 717-927-6762 E-Mail Brothers2Swiss@cs.com

WEDNESDAY, July 12  
 \_\_\_ Golf Outing \$30 00  
 \_\_\_ Heindel Open House \$5 00  
 \_\_\_ Welcome Mixer \$15 00

THURSDAY, July 13  
 \_\_\_ Breakfast \$12 00

TOURS Please indicate 1st & 2nd choice  
 \_\_\_ 1 Gettysburg \$49 00  
 \_\_\_ 2 Lancaster County \$39 00  
 \_\_\_ 3 Hershey Park \$30 00  
 \_\_\_ 4 Farm Tour \$20 00

\_\_\_ PA Banquet COMPLIMENTARY IF PRE-REGISTERED BY 6-10-2000, ALL OTHERS \$30 00

\_\_\_ Optional Junior Activity - I-Max Theatre ( after dinner) \$9 00

FRIDAY, July 14  
 BREAKFAST OPTIONS \$12 00  
 \_\_\_ Mens Program  
 \_\_\_ Women's Program  
 \_\_\_ Junior Program, Elections & Open Forum

\_\_\_ Luncheon \$20 00-All Nat'l Awards & Nat'l Youth Achievement Speech  
 \_\_\_ Tailgate Party & Fun Auction \$27 00

SATURDAY, July 15  
 \_\_\_ Pre-Sale Buffet



### PENNSYLVANIA HOSTS THE NATIONAL CONVENTION Schedule of Events

#### Wednesday, July 12

9:00AM-12:00PM  
 11:00AM-4:30PM  
 6:00PM  
 8:00-10:00PM

Golf Outing 9 hole scramble (Pleasant Valley Golf Course)  
 Open House - Front Line Swiss - H.E. Heindel & Sons (golf party to join)  
 Welcome Buffet & Social Time  
 Music for all by DJ - Michael Kunkle

#### Thursday, July 13

7:00AM - 8:00AM  
 8:00AM - 8:15AM

Buffet Breakfast  
 Busses board and leave for Gettysburg & Lancaster Tours  
 \* return approx 5:00-5:30PM  
 8:15 - 8:30AM  
 Busses board and leave for Hershey Park and Farm Tour  
 \* return approx. 4:30PM with optional Hershey return 5:30PM  
 6:00-6:50PM  
 7:00PM  
 Hospitality Reception with PA Dairy Princess Royalty  
 Pennsylvania Showcase Banquet, Ambassador Program followed with Music by the Dixie Land Express or Optional I-Max Theatre

#### Friday, July 14

7:30AM-9:15AM

Breakfast Options:  
 Men's Program with Ken Bailey, Speaker  
 Ladies Program with Betty Groff, Cook Book Author  
 Junior Breakfast with National Youth Council Elections, Open Forum, & Rebecca Sonnen Bube, Speaker  
 7:30 AM  
 Prepare for National Business Meeting  
 9:15-9:45AM  
 National Business Meeting  
 10:00AM-12:00PM  
 Optional Junior Activity - Science Center  
 Luncheon with National Awards, National Youth Awards, and National Youth Achievement Winner Speech  
 12:30-2:45PM  
 Shuttle transportation every 15 minutes from Hotel to PA Farm Show Complex to view sale cattle  
 3:00-5:00PM  
 Tailgate Party followed by Fun Auction  
 Junior Pool Party

#### Saturday, July 15

8:00-9:00AM  
 10:00AM

Breakfast at PA Farm Show Complex & view sale cattle  
 \*\*transportation available to sale location  
 National Brown Swiss Sale

Have a safe trip home. Hope you enjoyed your stay in PA