

Dairy Families Pack Krall Farm For Lebanon Holstein Night



Ray Seidel, left, was official Holstein judge for the evening. Harry Bachman provided the speakerphone for Seidel to announce his reasons.

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Lancaster Farming Staff

LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — Anyone feeling down about the hardships of dairy farmers these days should have been at the Lebanon County Holstein Field Night at Donald Krall's. From all the signs there, life is pretty good.

If any of the 460 guests at the Aug. 1 picnic were complaining about tough times it was hard to hear them over the upbeat chatter of friends and about 100 playing children. They gathered for fellowship and good food, including homemade ice cream.

They came to see some fine dairy animals, too.

Donald Krall owns and manages the herd of 67 high-quality Holsteins north of Schaeffers-

town, on the farm of his parents Arthur and Sara Jane Krall. Donald grew up on the dairy, which is a recognized Century Farm.

Krall's breed age average (BAA) stands at 107.1. The herd includes five Excellent cows, 26 Very Goods, and 26 Good Pluses.

Rolling herd average is about 25,000 pounds, with 3.6 percent butterfat and 3.2 percent protein.

Field night guests had a chance to judge three classes from Krall's herd: senior yearlings, 2-year-olds, and aged cows.

Longtime dairy judge Ray Seidel was the official placer for the evening.

Winners in four divisions were:

Youth 13 and under: 1. Ethan Himmelberger 2. Jason Kline 3. Nathan Brandt.

Youth 14-19: 1. Harrison Miller 2. Randall Good 3. Nathan Heim

Women: 1. Miranda Sellers 2. Amy Savage 3. Kynel Himmelberger

Men: 1. Jay Good 2. Tim Gettle 3. Pat Arnold

Guests consumed well over 25 gallons of homemade ice cream, including that made by the winners of an ice cream making contest.

Lois Horst produced the winning batch, followed by Miranda Sellers and Kevin Bomgardner.

According to Donald Krall, it was the first year that field night guests were treated to homemade ice cream. The contest seemed like a good idea to go along with offering homemade ice cream, Krall said.

Melvin Nolt and his son Don-

ald were on hand with an antique 25-quart homemade ice cream freezer powered by a one-cylinder 1½ horsepower "hit-and-miss" motor. The setup churned out three extra-big batches to help meet the demand for ice cream.

Neighboring dairyman Jerry Musser was chairman of the field night.



Melvin Nolt, right, and his son Richard operate their antique, 25-quart homemade ice cream freezer to help meet the huge dessert demand at the Lebanon County Holstein Night. Checking up on their progress is Ryan Brubaker, on wagon. The freezer is powered by a one-cylinder "hit-and-miss" engine, and churned out about 20 gallons of ice cream throughout the evening.



A crowd gathers around a group of senior yearling heifers, one of three classes in the annual Holstein judging contest. Photos by Dave Lefever



About 100 children attended the picnic.



Jonell Brandt studies the 2-year-old cow class in the judging contest.

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