

DAIRY CENTER Connection

News from the Northeast Iowa Community-Based Dairy Foundation



Breakfast on the Farm a HUGE Success

The 2nd Annual Breakfast on the Farm event was held Saturday, June 11 at the Dairy Center in Calmar. The menu included pancakes, sausage, eggs, cheese, milk, juice, and coffee for only a free will donation. The family-oriented event included a tour of the 250-cow dairy farm, petting zoo, and visitors could milk a cow. The number of people served this year was 600; last year's attendance was 400 people.

"A large percentage of the US population lives in an urban or suburban environment, and are slightly disconnected from agriculture and food production," said Jenn Bentley event committee organizer. "We thought a Breakfast on the Farm was the perfect answer to bring people together to our facility and to see modern dairy practices." Dairy Center Coordinator Megan Kregel said, "We think it is very important that the public understand where their food comes from, that it is produced safely, and why dairy producers do what they do."

Attendees had a chance to learn how cows and calves are cared for, how milk is harvested, pet a calf, take a tram ride, see a John Deere tractor, TMR mixer, milk truck, and eat ice cream along with having a delicious breakfast. Questions about dairy farming and food pro-

duction were encouraged throughout the tour as the event focused on those who do not normally have access to dairy farms.

Many local and regional organizations worked together to make this event a reality, including The Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation, the Midwest Dairy Association, area dairy promotional groups, the Iowa Egg Council, Northeast Iowa Community College, the Iowa Pork Producers, Iowa State University, Iowa dairy processors, and local 4-H clubs.

The Dairy Center opened 10 years ago, and was created by the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation in partnership with Iowa State University and Northeast Iowa Community College. The purpose of the Dairy Foundation and The Dairy Center is to enhance the dairy industry by providing education, demonstration, and research.

About 120 students use The Dairy

Center while attending NICC classes for dairy science and other agriculture majors. "It's very important to educate not only students, but also consumers. American farmers are providing consumers with more and better quality food than ever before. In fact, one farmer now supplies food for more than 144 people in the United States and abroad compared with just 25.8 people in 1960 and on less land every year" says Kregel.

Many people don't understand the very important economic impact of the dairy industry. Every dairy cow is worth \$16,000 each year in economic activity. Iowa's 215,000 cows contribute about \$1.5 billion industry to the state's economy annually, according to the Iowa State Dairy Association. That is something everyone should care about.

Be sure to keep your eyes open for next years Breakfast on the Farm date, coming June 2012!



Photo: Many visitors enjoyed the experience of being able to milk a cow, provided by the NICC Dairy Science Club.

A Word from the President - Gary Kregel

As your new president of the NE Iowa Dairy Foundation, let me introduce myself. I am Gary Kregel a dairy producer from Guttenberg, Iowa. We have a mixed herd of Holsteins and Jerseys along with a cash grain operation.

It maybe hard to believe, the dairy center is ten years old and is now entering its second decade. However, 2011 is going to be a transition year for the Dairy Foundation. The foundation is entering a partnership agreement with NICC that will enable a substantial reinvestment into facilities at the center. The new 20 year financing package will make possible adding and remodeling facilities to improve cow flow, cow comfort, and relieve overcrowding making it much easier to keep cows cleaner, thus improving milk quality. There are no plans to expand herd size only to better manage the current herd to be as profitable and presentable as possible. We take seriously our responsibility of creating a positive image of our industry and are taking steps at the center to be tour ready everyday.

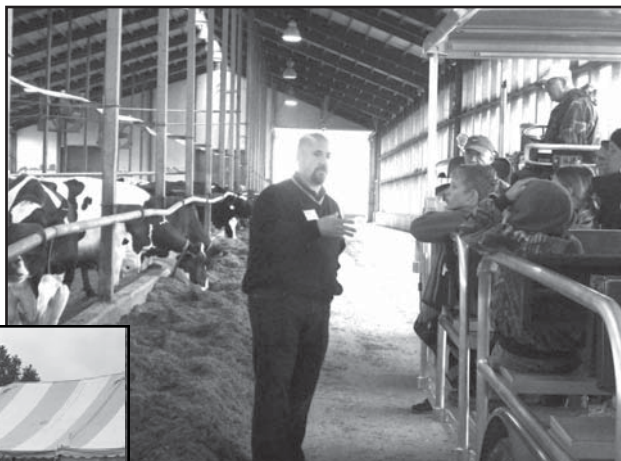
The student programming and educational agreement with NICC continues to be excellent. Now with the addition of a new dairy coordinator we hope to put additional emphasis on public and producer education.

The coordinator position is a joint venture with Midwest Dairy Association (MDA), and will be actively promoting the Dairy Center, NICC dairy program, the dairy industry, and the dairy producer.

To close remember the Dairy Center is yours. Feel free to come visit at anytime. We are here to educate, not only the students, but everyone, especially our non farm friends.



*Breakfast
on the Farm*



June 11, 2011



Executive Committee Members

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| President | Gary Kregel | Dairy Producer |
| Vice President | Phil Hemesath | Former Dairy Producer Former Iowa Farm Bureau BOD |
| Secretary | Megan Kregel | Dairy Center Coordinator |
| Treasurer | Ron Lenth | Bremer County Extension |
| Dairy Producer Member | Jed Becker | Dairy Producer |
| Dairy Producer Member | Christine Hagedorn | Dairy Producer |
| Dairy Producer Member | Scott Wedemeier | Dairy Producer |
| Dairy Producer Member | Mark Schmitt | Dairy Producer |



Front (L to R): Phil Hemesath and Gary Kregel. Back: Dr. Wee, Scott Wedemeier, Chris Hagedorn, Jed Becker, Ron Lenth, and Mark Schmitt.

Have an idea, comment or suggestion for the Northeast Iowa Community-Based Dairy Foundation? Let us know! Call 563-534-9957, email kregelm@nicc.edu, or talk to a member of the executive board. Thanks!

Changing for the Future

On Wednesday, May 11, members of the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation and representatives of Northeast Iowa Community College met at the Dairy Center to discuss and vote on the assumptions of loans and the transfer of fixed assets from the Foundation to NICC.

Gary Kregel, Dairy Foundation President, lead a question and answer session concerning the purchase agreement and a Memorandum of Understanding that stated

that once the financial obligations of the twenty year note are met the Dairy Foundation can purchase the dairy farm facility and real estate back for one dollar. Foundation members unanimously approved the Memorandum of Understanding and also voted to approve the purchase agreement. The remaining loan balance of \$1.56 million was transferred to NICC. No changes will be made to the Dairy Center. The operations committee and farm manager will continue to be the decision makers when it comes to farm management. NICC will approve an annual

operating budget and all management will remain the same with farm employees remaining Dairy Foundation employees. Along with this agreement there will be additional funds for the Dairy Foundation to make improvements and repairs to the Dairy Center. Kregel said, "These improvements are yet to be determined by the Operations Committee, but they will be along the lines of improving cow comfort, the overall appearance of the facility, and adding more stalls to accommodate the current herd size."

Kregel named new Dairy Center Coordinator

Megan Kregel was named the new Dairy Center Coordinator for the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation.

Her new job as Dairy Center coordinator is a natural progression. Her first day on the job was May 10, just three days after she graduated from Iowa State University.

“I was here when this place opened, and I was here when the grazing center opened, and I was here as student, and now I’m here as an employee,” said Kregel, 22. “Maybe some day I’ll be here with my kids. I want to see it continue.”

Kregel’s family milks 260 cows near Guttenberg. She grew up helping on the farm. Kregel completed the dairy program at NICC and transferred to ISU in 2009 where she majored in dairy science and minored in journalism and mass communications. 4-H, FFA and a year as Alternate Iowa Dairy Princess have all added to her experiences.

Her position as Dairy Center coordinator for the Northeast Iowa Community-Based Dairy Foundation is funded by Midwest Dairy Association.

“They want me to be the face of the foundation,” Kregel said.

As Dairy Center coordinator, Kregel will do public relations and events management. She will work with ISU Extension on Iowa’s Dairy Story tours. She will head up



a committee with NICC and Extension representatives, dairy producers and industry people to come up with ideas for other events that will benefit the Dairy Foundation.

She will assist Dave Lawstuen, head of NICC dairy programs, with student recruitment and retention, and represent the foundation at events like the National FFA Convention, the World Dairy Expo and the National Holstein Convention.

“This place and the northeast Iowa dairy industry have had such an impact on my life, and I have such respect for the dairy industry and its producers,” Kregel said.

“I want to be able to advocate and promote for them to the public.”

Join the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation and contribute to the future of the dairy industry!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

County _____

Mail to: Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation, Attn: Director
P.O. Box 400, Calmar, IA 52132

Please make checks payable to the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation.

Thank you for your contribution. A receipt will be mailed to you.

Please credit \$25 as my annual membership

Please credit \$250 as my lifetime membership

Please update my membership record with the information at left.

Please call me to discuss a gift idea.

I would like to include the Dairy Foundation in my estate plan. Please call me to discuss.

The Northeast Iowa Community-Based Dairy Foundation was created for educational purposes and has been designated as an IRS Sec. 501 (c)3 public charitable educational organization for federal income, estate and gift tax purposes.

Upcoming Events at The Dairy Center

Call 563-534-9957 if you are interested in learning more about any of these programs/ events. A current calendar of events can be found at www.iowadairycenter.com.

- July 4 - Offices/ Campus Closed
- July 8 - Operations Committee Meeting
- July 9 - North Iowa Tractor Ride
- July 15 - Executive Committee Meeting
- July 26 - Silos and Smokestacks Tour Group
- July 28 - Postville Childcare Tour Group
- August 12 - Operations Committee Meeting
- August 19 - Executive Committee Meeting
- August 22 - Fall 2011 Classes Begin
- September 5 - Labor Day, Offices/ Campus Closed
- September 8 - Tri State Youth Dairy Expo
- September 9 - Operations Committee Meeting
- September 16 - Board of Directors Meeting
- October 14 - Operations Committee Meeting
- October 21 - Executive Committee Meeting
- November 11 - Operations Committee Meeting
- November 16 - Midwest Dairy School
- November 18 - Executive Committee Meeting
- December 9 - Operations Committee Meeting
- December 16 - Board of Directors Meeting

*Mark your Calendars
Midwest Dairy School
November 16, 2011
@ the Dairy Center
focus: Robotics on your
Dairy*

Dairy Foundation Earns Awards

The Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation did very well at the Winneshiek County Dairy Banquet, claiming multiple awards. Among these awards was the prestigious Most Improved Dairy Herd award. The other awards were:

- Top Individual Ayrshire (Rosie)
25,510 Milk; 926 Fat
- Top Individual Ayrshire (Butter)
766 Protein
- Top Individual Jersey (6553)
25,050 Milk
- Top Individual Crossbred (Emmit)
1,424 Fat
- 3rd Top Herd Award
24,280 Milk; 1,025 Fat; 772 Protein

Below: Bre Sparrgrove, Dairy Farm Herdsperson, is pictured with the Dairy Foundation's awards.



Dairy Science Student news

2011 Graduates, their hometowns, and their career plans:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jordan Becker | Hokah, MN | Herdsperson Dairy and Beef Farm |
| Andrew Borgen | Chatfield, MN | Family Dairy and Crop Farm |
| Lucas Boyum | Chatfield, MN | Family Beef, Swine, and Crop Farm |
| Mitch Campbell | Saint Charles, MN | Hammel Equipment |
| Garrett Dvorak | Elma, IA | Crop Consultant |
| Brandon Friedlein | Guttenberg, IA | Upper Iowa-Ag Business |
| Matthew Gebel | Lawler, IA | Family Dairy and Crop Farm |
| Christopher Gorman | New Hampton, IA | Upper Iowa-Ag Business |
| Alexander Groesbeck | Charles City, IA | Family Dairy |
| Lance Harmon | Lanesboro, MN | Herdsperson |
| Zachary Heeren | Stewartville, MN | Select Sires |
| Brian Hoffman | Charlotte, IA | Family Beef and Crop Farm |
| Ethan Imoehl | Castalia, IA | Agriculture Coop |
| Jason Lehman | New Vienna, IA | Family Beef and Crop Farm |
| Carly Lyons | Castalia, IA | Upper Iowa-Elementary Education |
| Jared Maher | Lawler, IA | Family Swine and Crop Farm |
| Jacob Manternach | Hopkinton, IA | ISU- Dairy Science |
| Brady Marschall | Shell Lake, IA | Family Jersey Dairy/Coop |
| Alex McCabe | Preston, MN | Upper Iowa, Ag Business |
| Matthew Peters | Hopkinton, IA | Family Dairy, R&W Holsteins |
| Kyle Peters | Hopkinton, IA | Herdsperson Registered Holsteins |
| Kara Sanders | Cresco, IA | Continuing Education |
| Melissa Stahley | Waucoma, IA | Animal Health Industry |
| Joshua Stenzel | Wells, IA | Family Crop Farm |
| Allison Supple | Hopkinton, IA | Agriculture Coop |
| Joseph Tews | Winona, MN | Herdsperson (200 cows) |
| Tiffany Tweito | Spring Grove, MN | Family Dairy Farm |
| Bryce Uhlenhake | Ossian, IA | Family Beef and Crop Farm |
| Wesley Vanderstappen | Transfer, PA | Family Jersey Dairy |
| Dustin Voss | Monona, IA | Family Dairy Farm |
| Thomas Wacker | Elkader, IA | Agriculture Coop |
| Michael Wagner | Monona, IA | Family Farm |
| Rachel Walkes | Plainview, MN | Continuing Education |
| Jerry Wulfekuhle | New Vienna, IA | Family Dairy and Crop Farm |

Ag Production Internships:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Jared Persons | St Charles, MN | Smith Farms, MN |
| Kip Schossow | Rushford, MN | Lewiston Feed and Produce, MN |
| Tyler Ellringer | St Charles, MN | Greenway Cooperative, MN |
| Shane Coulter | Rushford, MN | Marin Double Co Dairy LLC, MN |
| Dustin Meirick | Alta Vista, IA | Prime Feeders, IA |
| Isaac Sutton | Maquoketa, IA | Grover Farm Inc., IA |
| Tyler Adrian | Maquoketa, IA | Humpal Dairy Farm, IA |
| Matt Buls | Tripola, IA | Farm Service, IA |

Ag Business Internships:

Ashley Anderson
Aaron Ashbacher
Garrett Dvorak
Alex Groesbeck
Adam Guenther
Samuel Hoins
Jeremy Lueder
Mary Sackreiter
Bradley Smith
Jacki Tveten
Cody Weis
Cory Witt

Washburn, WI
Calmar, IA
Elma, IA
Charles City, IA
Independence, IA
Waterville, IA
West Union, IA
St Charles, MN
Fort Atkinson, IA
Lewiston, MN
Winona, MN
Kendall, WI

Washburn/Burnett FSA Office, WI
Innovative Ag Service, IA
South Dakota Wheat Growers, SD
The Mill Inc., IA
Arcadia Coop, WI
Innovative Ag Service, IA
Sco-Lo Holsteins, IA
Five Star Coop, IA
Fredricksburg Farmers Coop, IA
Elba Creamery, MN
Benson Farm Service, MN
Wisconsin River Coop, WI

Dairy Science and Animal Science Internships:

Reid Balzer
Brienne Bjerke
Devon Chrystal
Brittany Collins
Dustin DePestel
Mike Duncanson
Tyler Egeland
Andy Graf
Jill Hefel
Alana Heins
Dayne Heintz
Ryan Luhmann
Dan Lyford
Kee Rempt
Tammy Reynolds
Pete Schell
Kristi Smith
Rachel Walkes
Adam Whitetaker

Owatanna, MN
Waukon, IA
Delhi, IA
New Hampton, IA
Lewiston, MN
Winona, MN
Ossian, IA
Hokah, MN
Holy Cross, IA
Eyota, MN
Houston, MN
Rushford, MN
Greene, NY
Ossian, IA
Guttenberg, IA
Lewiston, MN
Epworth, IA
Wabasha, MN
Kasson, MN

Paul Bodensteiner Dairy, IA
Waukon Vet Clinic, IA
Curtiss Dairy, IA
New Hampton Vet Clinic, IA
Daley Farms, MN
Ketchum Dairy, MN
E & M Dairy, IA
Minnesota Select Sires, MN
Elsbernd Acres, IA
Fjelstad Dairy, MN
Lely Robotics, IA
D & D Dairy, MN
Custom Hire Operation, NY
Cresco Vet Clinic, IA
Guttenberg Vet Clinic, IA
Moger Dairy, MN
Shindler Goat Dairy, IA
Schmitt Dairy, IA
Terra McCreere Holsteins, MN



2011 Dairy Science Club

The Mission of the Northeast Iowa Community Based Dairy Foundation is to enhance and grow the dairy industry through people by providing education, demonstration and research.

*Vision:
Successful dairy farm families supported by a thriving dairy industry which in turn supports vital local communities.*

The Northeast Iowa Community Based Dairy Foundation works with Northeast Iowa Community College and Iowa State University to offer educational programs to students and existing dairy farm families to help them prepare for the future.

Thank you for your generosity & memberships!

A huge thank you to the individuals and corporations who have recently become annual members and/ or made contributions (prior to June 24, 2010)!

Thank you to those who have become members of the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation:

Darrel and Mary Steen
Scott Wedemeier
John Kehl
Kuntson Farms LLC

donated in support of Breakfast on the Farm!

If you are interested in learning more about making a tax-deductible contribution to the Dairy Foundation to strengthen the future of the dairy industry, or supporting us with a lifetime membership, please contact Megan at 563-534-9957, ext. 107 or email kregel@nicc.edu.

Also, thank you to everyone who

*Have an idea, comment or suggestion for the Northeast Iowa Community-Based Dairy Foundation? Let us know!
Call 563-534-9957, email kregel@nicc.edu or talk to a member of the executive board. Thanks!*

Be sure to visit us online at www.iowadairycenter.com

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