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### Letter from the President

Dear Virginia Holstein Members,

2018 presented many challenges from the milk price to weather. The wet weather has continued through the winter with snow, sleet or freezing rain! We continue on with our work to take care of our cows and farms through all of the trials of farming. Thank you for all you do on a daily basis to continue to produce a quality product!

There are many Holstein events planned this year. The Juniors are just getting back from the Winter Retreat in January. The Spring and Summer Shows are coming up in April and August, and the Field Day will be held in July. Please note that the Color Breeds show will be moved to Friday morning this year. Also, the sale committee voted to not have the VA Sale of Stars due to economic conditions of the dairy cattle markets. However, there will be a Dairy Farmer Appreciation dinner held Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> in place of the sale. The date for our Annual Meeting has yet to be determined but will be held at the end of the year. Watch for the date in the Summer Newsletter.

Hopefully I will see most of you this year. I'm excited about catching up with old friends and making new ones. We have a great organization here because of the time, involvement, and expertise so many of you have put into it. There are many opportunities to be involved as well. Please consider serving on a committee such as Publicity, Show, Sale, or Membership. Volunteers are also welcomed and appreciated.

Sincerely, Steve Zirkle

### Upcoming Events

March

Spring Board Meeting

March 23

Spring Show Entries Due

April 6

VA Holstein Spring Show - Hburg, VA

June 23 – 27

National Holstein Convention -  
Appleton, WI

July 7 – 11

Southeast Youth Dairy Retreat –  
Orange, VA ~Contact Jeremy Daubert  
for information or to volunteer.~

July 12

VA Dairy Expo – Blackstone, VA

August 1

Shen-Valley District Holstein Show –  
Hburg, VA

August 2

VA Color Breeds Show & Dairy Farmer  
Appreciation Dinner – Hburg, VA

August 3

VA Hol. Summer Show – Hburg, VA

October

Fall Board Meeting

TBD – Nov. or Dec.

Annual Membership Meeting – TBD

### Board Of Directors

President: Steve Zirkle

Vice President: Roger Miller

Secretary/Treasurer: Rebecca Daubert

Past President: Matt Nuckols

Virginia Tech Rep: Dr. Ron Pearson

Public Director: Robert Pemberton

Publicity Chair: Terry Perotti

Show Committee Chair: Heather Shinn

Sale Committee Chair: Randy Inman

Holstein USA Rep: Mike Hendrix

Director District 1: Erin Saacke

Director District 2: Steve Zirkle

Director District 3: Ben Smith

Director District 4: Doug Mayhugh

Director District 5: Rachel Fink

Rosemary Life

Director District 6: James Cook

Director District 7: Jeff Wall

Director District 9: Brandon Moyer

Roger Miller

### Congratulations!!



2018 All-Virginia Winners



2018 Meritorious Service Award



2019 Junior Association Board

Visit the website for more pictures and results from the 2018 Annual Meeting.



## Opening the Virtual Barn Doors – Annual Meeting Program

During the Annual Meeting in December the program for the morning focused on social media and how to tell your story to the public through social media. A panel of three farmers, Tenille Nuckols of Eastview Farm, Brittany Jones of Richlands Dairy, and LaVaun Janney of Southland Dairy Farmers shared their tips and experience with the group. The discussion was moderated by Patty Leonard of Cows-N-Corn, who did a fantastic job at asking questions and keeping everyone on track. She also provided a resource list of farmers throughout the country who do fabulous job of dairy promotion on social media. If you would like a copy please reach out to Becky for one.

Continuing with that theme, we want to make sure that you are connected with the VA Holstein Association and National Holstein Association on the different social media platforms. You will also see on the membership application that you can include your Facebook page or Instagram handle with our association. If you would like them published on our website under the Members page, we will keep an updated list there. We want to help you promote your farms and cows to not only the public, but each other!

### VA Holstein Association Social Media:

Facebook: @VirginiaHolstein  
Facebook, Private Group for Junior Members and Parents  
(if you want to join this group let Becky know):  
Virginia Junior Holstein Association  
Instagram: @va\_holstein or @va.jr.holstein.assoc

### National Holstein Association Social Media:

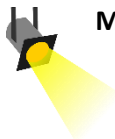
Facebook: @HolsteinUSA  
Instagram: @holsteinusa

## Spring Show & Futurity Entries

The entry forms will be mailed out in the next week or two for the Spring Show that will be held on April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds. Entries will be available online, due March 23<sup>rd</sup> and can be completed online. Also, payment can be made online through the VHA online store. There will be a food booth during show day provided by the Junior members who are traveling to National Holstein Convention this summer. Questions about the Spring Show can be directed to Heather Shinn at [shinn13@vt.edu](mailto:shinn13@vt.edu).



Futurity entries will be due at the Spring Show. Members with animals entered for the 2019 show will receive a list of those animals entered last year and second payment of \$7 per head will be due April 6<sup>th</sup>. The first payment due of \$3 per head for the 2020 2 year old nominations will also be on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The 2020 Futurity class is open to animals born between the dates of 9/1/17 and 8/31/18. For questions about the Futurity contact Emma Brown at [emmarbrown2016@gmail.com](mailto:emmarbrown2016@gmail.com).



## Member Spotlight

We are looking to highlight members from across the association in a Membership Spotlight feature on our website. We are looking for ideas for feature articles. If you have suggestions of people that you would like to read about, please submit them to Terry Perotti at [ny2vadairywoman@yahoo.com](mailto:ny2vadairywoman@yahoo.com)

## VA Junior Holstein Association Winter Retreat



The Junior Association hosted their Winter Retreat on January 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> in Charlottesville, VA. Members had a great time playing bonding and bouncing at Jump Cville trampoline park on Friday night. Saturday was full of workshops and contests. We had 5 contestants in the speech contest and two full rounds of Jeopardy. Congratulations to the winners in the following contests: Speech Contest – Int. – Rachel Craun and Jr. - Sarah Craun; Jeopardy winners- Round 1 - Rachel Craun; Round 2 – Sarah Craun. Thank you to our volunteers and judges for helping with the contests: Michelle Ball, Kaci Daniel and Kristy McComb.

Our afternoon program included team building led by President, Isabelle Leonard and a Repro Workshop by Dr. Ryan Giles and Matt Switzer from Ashby Genetics. We want to thank them for their time and expertise, allowing the youth to have a fun hands-on workshop. Lots of memories were created during the weekend.

We are looking forward to the large Junior Delegation of 13 youth that will represent Virginia and participate in contests at the National Convention in Wisconsin this summer!