

## American Milking Devon Cattle Association

*Established in 1978 to promote the conservation of American Milking Devon cattle as a triple purpose breed by maintaining a breed registry, encouraging knowledgeable and responsible breeding, and educating the public about the historic role of American Milking Devon Cattle, as well as their place in a healthy sustainable agriculture.*

***Properly cared for Milking Devons will work for you, not you work for them.-- Diurna Kibbe***



**OGF Virginia Governor shown by breeder and owner Richard Larson  
Grand Champion American Milking Devon  
Champion Bull American Milking Devon  
Mid-Atlantic Regional AMD Cattle Show held at the Virginia State Fair in September  
See inside for more coverage  
Photo Courtesy of Richard Larson**

## **FEATURE ARTICLE: THE HISTORIC MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL SHOW**

Editor's Note: Due to the volume of information and pictures related to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Show, the third and final part of the oxen-related feature article will appear in the next newsletter. This feature article was graciously prepared and submitted by show organizer and AMDCA member, Richard Larson

American Milking Devon (AMD) breeders held a Mid-Atlantic Regional Show and Card Grading in September, hosted by the Virginia State Fair. Ten breeders from Virginia, New York and Illinois exhibited 31 head. This was the first AMD regional show in 79 years. ***"The exhibitors represented an excellent cross-section of AMD breeders. The cattle at the show were high quality and provided good examples of the breed."*** John Hall

The show was judged by Dr. Drew Conroy, an Animal Science Professor from the University of New Hampshire, who has raised American Milking Devon cattle and oxen since 1992. Dr. Conroy is a past president of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association (AMDCA), and past American Livestock Breeds Conservancy (ALBC) board member. (The ALBC is now The Livestock Conservancy.) His 26 years of experience working with Milking Devon, coupled with his experience from judging more than 20 dairy and beef shows, made Dr. Conroy uniquely qualified to evaluate the breed and gave the breeders high confidence in his evaluations.

On **Saturday** the Milking Devon led off the Fair's competitive dairy show where classes of animals of same sex and age were evaluated against each other. For the Milking Devon there were three heifer calf classes, as well as four yearling heifer, two cow and two bull calf classes. Emphasis was placed on "bred & owned" classes restricted to animals that were both bred by and owned by the exhibitor. Examples of this type of class included: Three Heifers; Produce of Dam; and Dam & Daughter. In addition to numerous champion and reserve champion awards, the show capped off with a Premier Junior Exhibitor Award and a Premier Breeder Award, both awards based on overall point accumulation.



**Georgia Peach- Champion Cow, Champion Female and Reserve Champion AMD, Owned by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, shown by Layne Anderson**



**OGF Virginia Diana – Champion Heifer and Reserve Champion Female- Bred, Owned and Exhibited by Richard Larson**

***"The quality of the cattle at the event represented the quality of the American Milking Devon cattle seen around the United States. There were animals that were excellent representatives of the breed standard the Association has set, and others that could be improved with careful selection and breeding. I think the greatest value for the breeders who were there and for those watching the show was to see the differences in quality and to recognize these differences going forward."*** Drew Conroy

## Feature Article Continued:

**Highlights of the 2018 American Milking Devon Mid-Atlantic Regional Cattle Show**

<u>Spring Heifer</u>	<u>Placing</u>	<u>Exhibiter</u>	<u>Breeder</u>
OGF Virginia Diana	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Dinah	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
Heartburn Farm Dandelion	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Diana</b>	<b>Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>Every Season Farm Dinah</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Freier	Every Season Farm
<u>Yearling Heifer</u> (Summer / Spring)			
Every Season Farm Petal	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
Every Season Farm Eve	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
Colonial Williamsburg Moon	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Neff	CWF
OGF Virginia Cornelia	1 <sup>st</sup>	Wingert	Old Gjerpen Farm
Heartburn Farm Sunshine	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
Heartburn Farm Moonshine	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
<b>Every Season Farm Petal</b>	<b>Champion</b>	Freier	Every Season Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Cornelia</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Wingert	Old Gjerpen Farm
<u>Cow</u> (Young / Senior)			
Every Season Farm Rosebud	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
Hinesite Hartburn Snowflake	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
OGF Carolina Borgia	3 <sup>rd</sup>	MVLA	Old Gjerpen Farm
Devon's Gate Georgia Peach	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anderson	Devon's Gate Farm
OGF April	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Mercy National Colonial Farm	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Larson	NCF
<b>Devon's Gate Georgia Peach</b>	<b>Champion Cow</b>	Anderson	Devon's Gate Farm
<b>OGF April</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>Devon's Gate Georgia Peach</b>	<b>Champion Female</b>	Anderson	Devon's Gate Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Diana</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<u>Spring Bull Calf</u>			
OGF Virginia Governor	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
OGF Virginia Democrat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Simeon	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Governor</b>	<b>Champion Bull</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Democrat</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<u>Bred &amp; Owned 3 Heifers</u>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
<u>Bred &amp; Owned Produce of Dam</u>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
<u>Bred &amp; Owned Dam &amp; Daughter</u>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hart	Heartburn Farm
<u>Get-of-Sire</u>			
	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Governor</b>	<b>Grand Champion AMD</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>Devons Gate Georgia Peach</b>	<b>Reserve Champion AMD</b>	Anderson	Devon's Gate Farm
<b>Premier Junior Exhibitor</b>	<b>Dale Freier III</b>	Every Season Farm, NY	
<b>Premier Breeder</b>	<b>Richard Larson</b>	Old Giernen Farm, VA	

## Feature Article Continued:

**Sunday** was devoted to the scoring of each individual Milking Devon against the Breed Standard. Exhibitors brought their cattle into the ring one at a time to be evaluated by Dr. Conroy. As would be expected, individual scoring tracked closely to placement in classes on the previous day. Animals that placed high in their class in the competitive show generally received higher individual scores on Sunday. The highest score was 88, the lowest 70, with a median score of 81. In addition to scoring each animal and giving the exhibitor their official score card, Dr. Conroy articulated his reasons for the animal's score for the benefit of both the breeder and the public. This proved to be the highlight of the three-day gathering--a great educational experience for both breeders and the general public.



**Drew Conroy grading OGF April owned and handled by Richard Larson**

***“The most valuable experience was the individual scoring. It helped to improve my eye as a breeder.”***  
**Deadre Keen, Virginia**



**Josiah Freier with Every Season Farm Ruben and Simeon competing in the Pretty Cow Contest**

The young AMD breeders enjoyed participating in several special fair events including Showmanship Judging on Saturday and the Pretty Cow Contest, in which judging was based on creativity, attractiveness and audience applause, on Sunday. While many factors contributed to the success of the gathering, chief among them is the fact that four of the breeders were youth, with their characteristic enthusiasm, which bodes well for the future of the breed.

***“The real highlight for me was seeing the enthusiasm and interest by the young people involved in the show.”*** Drew Conroy

For those of us who have been involved in rare breeds' conservation to any extent, the Regional

AMD Show offered both significant short and long-term benefits. The fact that the Milking Devon were grouped in the show barn enabled the breed, with their deep red coats and black-tipped horns, to stand out in the eyes of the public. It also enabled breeders to easily engage one another in leisurely conversations, comparing notes about blood lines, breeding, marketing strategies, and more.

***“I really enjoyed the opportunity to simply be amongst so many Devon breeders and Devons at the same time.”*** Dale Freier II, New York

***“Meeting other Devon breeders and Drew Conroy was the most rewarding part of the weekend. They were all super nice folks.”*** Steve Kozak, Virginia

**Feature Article Continued:**

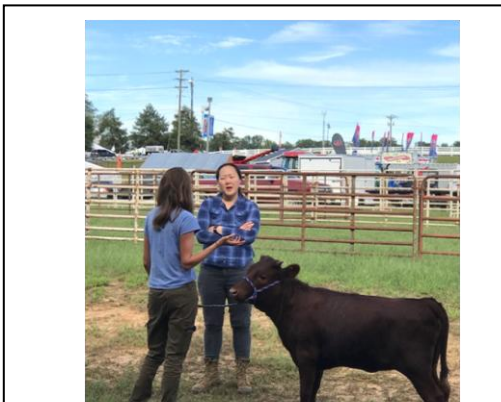
John Hall, President, Andrew Van Ord, Director, and Bonnie Hall, Registrar, capitalized on this opportunity to convene a meeting of AMD breeders, both exhibitors as well as other regional breeders who came to observe the show.

*“It was exciting to see all the people who came out. It was great for those attending to meet and get acquainted with some of the Directors and myself. It was a fabulous opportunity for networking ideas about moving the breed Association forward!”* Bonnie Hall



**AMDCA Regional Meeting held at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Show**

Promoting the breed and having it visible to the public is challenging. The AMD Regional Show exposed thousands of fair goers, not only to the breed but more widely, to the importance of rare breed conservation in general. Why are regional shows important to the future of the breed? Shows are a tool that provides the opportunity for breeders, and potential breeders, to more easily see, touch and learn firsthand about the unique qualities of blood lines, breeding philosophies, marketing strategies and more. This sentiment was best captured by Dr. Conroy.



**Deadre Keen of Mount Pleasant Plantation working her heifer and getting tips from Grace Freier**

*“As owners of rare breeds of cattle or any livestock, if we hope to increase their numbers it is imperative that their value and uses be showcased for others to see. In addition, showing animals ..... can also increase the quality of the animals people keep and use for breeding. From improving the quality of the udders on cows, to increasing the size and improving characteristics known to improve the reproductive capacity of the cows, the average type of the breed can be improved, by meeting the standards set by the Association.”*  
 -- Drew Conroy

People frequently ask – why show?

Well, simply put, it is an informative, relaxing and enjoyable experience. The thrill generated by a blue ribbon is the same if you are seven or seventy!

*“Overall, the 2018 Regional Show was a fantastic experience!!”* Deadre Keen, Virginia

*The Mid-Atlantic Regional Devon Dairy Show was a huge success and a great promotional and educational tool for the breed. I am still very enthusiastic about having attended!!!”* Bonnie Hall



**AMDCA Director Andrew Van Ord handing a participant photo to Josiah Freier with AMDCA President John Hall announcing on the right and Paul Bennett clapping on the left**

**Feature Article Continued:**

I want to personally thank the breeders who brought their beautiful Devons to the show, especially those who traveled some



**AMDCA President John Hall (right) presenting the Premier Breeder Award to Richard Larson**

considerable distance. Without your effort there would not have been a regional show. I want to thank Drew for graciously agreeing to share his knowledge and critical eye, making the gathering a rich learning experience.

My thanks to the Board of Directors for their early and

unwavering support this past year. Finally, a special thanks to John and Bonnie Hall and Andrew and Kathy Van Ord for joining us in Virginia and lending a helping hand on show day.



**AMDCA President John Hall presenting the Premier Exhibitor Award to Dale Freier III. Paul Bennett (left background) Kathy Van Ord (right background)**

There was overwhelming agreement among participating breeders, Association leadership and State Fair officials that 2018 was a great success and that there will be a **2019 Mid-Atlantic Regional Milking Devon Show – September 27-29, 2019**. All of the breeders who exhibited in 2018 have indicated a strong intent to return in 2019. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!



**Front Row: Miss Wingert, Abigail Freier, Dale Freier III, Josiah Freier, Felicity Hart, Lauren Neff, Layne Anderson Second Row: Gary Wingert, Grace Freier, Mark Freier, Steve Hart, Samantha Hughes, Deadre Keen, Richard Larson, Jeff Martyn Third Row: Darin Durham, Dale Freier II, Drew Conroy, Paul Bennett**



**Thistle, Bull Calf owned by Steve Hart**



**Josiah Freier in good company**



**Exhibitors Luncheon Friday provided by Richard Larson—Bonnie Hall says it was delicious!**



**Jeff Martyn of Mount Pleasant Plantation preparing heifer for show**



**Mark Freier helping Steve Kozak from Mount Vernon**



**Drew Conroy scoring Felicity Hart and her cow**



**Some beautiful Devons patiently awaiting their turn in the ring**



**Drew Conroy, Josiah Freier, Mark Freier, Dale Freier III (Premier Exhibitor), Felicity Hart, Richard Larson (Premier Breeder)**



**Grand Champion Class: Layne Anderson with Devon's Gate Georgia Peach, Champion Female and Reserve Grand Champion; Bill Cooper with OGF Virginia Diana, Champion Heifer & Reserve Champion Female; Richard Larson with OGF Virginia Governor, Champion Bull & Grand Champion; Rachel Cooper with OGF Virginia Duke, Reserve Champion Bull**



**Drew Conroy judging Josiah, Mark and Dale Freier III**



**Judge Drew Conroy and Abigail Freier**



**Spring Yearling Heifer Class: Gary Wingert with OGF Virginia Cornelia, Reserve Champion Yearling Heifer; Bill Cooper with OGF Virginia Corrine; Rachel Cooper with OGF Virginia Constantina and Lauren Neff with Colonial Williamsburg Mercedes**



**OGF Virginia Cornelia, Reserve Champion Senior Heifer, owned and shown by Gary Wingert**



**Senior Cow Class: Judge Drew Conroy; From the left: Felicity Hart with Hinesite Autumn; Rachel Cooper with Mercy of National Colonial Farm; Layne Anderson with Devon's Gate Georgia Peach, Champion Female & Reserve Champion AMD; Richard Larson with OGF April, Reserve Champion Cow**





Darin Durham with Colonial Williamsburg Juno in the Pretty Cow Contest



Grace Freier preparing cow with two sons



Judge Drew Conroy grading OGF April owned and handled by Richard Larson



A great example of a Show Breeder's information board; This one belongs to Richard Larson

**A BIG THANK YOU-** On behalf of the AMDCA, the Board of Directors would like to thank Richard Larson for all the time and effort he put forth in making this Mid-Atlantic Regional Show a reality. Richard sprouted the idea and came to the Board for a little support and direction. The Board was excited about the idea as there had not been such a show in 79 years as related in his article. The turn out and organization of the event is a tribute to Richard's skills and passion for the American Milking Devon breed. He can also be proud of his cattle's showing in the event. Hopefully next year can be even bigger and better! Thank you Richard!



**Brochures Available-** The Association has recently had a new batch of American Milking Devon Cattle brochures produced and is offering them free of charge to AMDCA members. If you would like some, please contact Association Secretary Andrew Van Ord. His contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

## THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

EDITORS NOTE: After seeing a FB Post of a Devon-related gift that his wife and daughter had given Director Andrew Van Ord, I asked him if he would prepare an article on it, thinking that this is a great gift idea for other Devon aficionados. Thank you Andrew for sharing this with us.

My wonderful wife and daughter gifted me this frame of three hand tinted lithographs by the artist W.H. Davis. The lithographs appeared in the Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the year 1855, and depict a bull (Musician), a cow (Pretty) and an unnamed ox, each bred by the Earl of Leicester England.

I was unable to locate a listing for the cow (Pretty) identified in the lithograph. Pretty was a very common name in the herd books but I wasn't able to find any attributed to the Earl of Leicester. The bull (Musician) identified in one lithograph is listed in the second edition of Davy's Devon Herd Book published in 1855. He was calved December 27<sup>th</sup>, 1850 and took first prize at the 1853 Norfolk Agricultural Fair. His dam and sire were each produced from the famed Quartly herd.

This encouraged me to research some of these breeders of the past and how they tie together to get us the cattle we have today.



**Bull Musician**

renowned herd of Devon cattle.

Thomas William Coke, 2nd Earl of Leicester, was a prominent North Devon breeder in Norfolk England, as was his father, Thomas William Coke, 1st Earl of Leicester. He made the first authenticated (earlier exportations to the U.S. occurred but few details are known) exportation of pure-bred Devons from England to America when he presented Robert Patterson of Baltimore, Maryland a bull Taurus and six heifers Europa 128, Fancy 134, Flora 143, Longhorn 206, Nancy 244 and Strawberry 349. They arrived in Baltimore aboard the Margareta on June 10th, 1817. The



Francis Quartly of Champson, Molland is considered an early improver and perhaps a savior of the Devon breed. High beef prices during the Napoleonic Wars caused many breeders to send even their best cattle to market. Some suggest that the Devon breed was diminished and even threatened with extinction. By outbidding the butchers and investing in those cattle he deemed to be superior, Francis Quartly saved some of the best bloodlines and built a



**Cow Pretty**



Unnamed Steer

Patterson's continued to import more Devon cattle but they never retained any heifers in favor of furnishing breeding stock to breeders in surrounding states. In reviewing correspondence between Devon breeders around the turn of the twentieth century it is clear that many breeders from that period could trace their herds back to the various importations by Robert Patterson and were quick to proudly say so. Lemuel Hurlburt of Winchester, Connecticut was one such breeder. In 1819, Mr. Hurlburt purchased the bull Holkham 688 and two heifers Strawberry 2567, and Fancy 1179. In the Vermont Agricultural Report of 1889, Sharon, Vermont Devon breeder M.F. Preston suggests that every

Devon herd in New England has descendants of these three animals. It is thought that these may be the first documented pure Devons brought into New England. In thirty-seven years of breeding, Mr. Hurlburt raised and sold in excess of fifteen hundred head of Devon cattle!

I believe we all owe a debt to those breeders who came before us and a responsibility to those who will come next. If you want to check out some artwork follow these links:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=loc.ark:/13960/t8kd2hz5b;view=1up;seq=6>

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=loc.ark:/13960/t8kd2hz5b;view=1up;seq=95>

## THE HISTORICAL DEVON

This article comes from THE AMERICAN FARMER: A Complete Agricultural Library Volume 2, © 1883. Pages 14-23. Edited by Charles L Flint (*Article courtesy of Lawrence Gilley*)

Editor's Note: Due to the length of this article it will be presented in several parts over the next several newsletters.

### **PART 5 of 5: Devons for Beef**

**Devons for Beef.**—There seems to be a fineness of flesh and a delicacy of flavor in the Devon beef not excelled by that of any other breed, except it be the Highland breed of Scotland, which usually brings a little higher price in the London markets than any others; while in this country the Devons are generally first selected from the herds by butchers, where they can be found, being regarded as more choice and marketable than any other breed. The beef from this breed, in fact, possesses all the fine qualities combined, being fine-grained, tender, juicy, fine flavored, and nicely marbled, or rather the lean and fat are well intermixed. It fattens readily, and matures in about the same time as the Short-Horn. Though small in size, it is claimed by many breeders with whom they are especial favorites, that for the food consumed, they return as large a proportion of beef as the larger breeds. We think, however, that the offal or waste from several small cattle must be somewhat greater than that of the same live weight of larger breeds. They mature nearly as soon as the Short-Horns, and fatten readily. Dr. E. H. Woodward of Wisconsin says of them: "The progress and improvement of the Devons has continued steadily onward, not only retaining all the estimable qualities for which the early herds are noted, but are today exhibiting proportions that astonish even the breeders of Short-Horns.

"Banister" (734) weighed at six months old 630 pounds. "Barefoot" (732) bred by the Hon. James Buckingham, Zanesville, Ohio, weighed at two years old 1,428 pounds. Betty 2d, bred by I. S. Newton, Esq., of Verona, Dane county, Wisconsin, weighed 2,000 pounds at four years old.

The Devons do not mature quite as early as the Short-Horns, but are much more remarkable for longevity, it being not an uncommon occurrence for a cow to retain her breeding and milking qualities until over twenty years old.

Mr. William Mattoon, of Springfield, Mass., slaughtered a bull named "Springfield," several years since, the dressed weight of which was 1,179 pounds after hanging sixty hours; and also a cow whose live weight in full feed was 1,215 pounds, the dressed weight of which was 911 pounds, the shrinkage being less than twenty-five percent. Another bull of this breed, owned by the same party, the "Duke of Hampden," when sixteen months old weighed 1,210 pounds, having gained in the seventy-five days previous 210 pounds, equivalent to two and four-fifths pounds per day. The feed given him was one quart of meal per day. When this animal was three years old, he weighed 2,030 pounds. His herd of cows, varying from four to seventeen years, weighed on an average in the autumn, 1,233 pounds each.

From the London Smithfield market reports, we glean the following facts. The Earl of Leicester's steers, on his Frolkham estates, gave dead net weight, of 1,000, 1,200, and 1,400 pounds. Those of the Duke of Norfolk, in Suffolk, were from 900 to 1,000 pounds each. One is reputed to have given dead net weight of 1,593 pounds at five years and eleven months. Another that was three years and seven months old gave dead net weight of 1,316 pounds (rough tallow 160 pounds). For many localities they are better adapted than some of the heavier breeds, especially so in hilly sections and mountain ranges where grass may be short, and the pasturage scanty.

### ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

**New Registration Form-** Due to the changes in Registration Policy, a new Registration Form has been created and approved by the Board of Directors. A copy of the new form is attached for your convenience. **Old forms will not be accepted and registrations on old forms will be returned. Forms are also available in regular and fillable format on the AMDCA Website : <http://www.milkingdevons.org/forms.html>**

**AMDCA Website-** AMDCA hosts a website under the direction of Webmaster Lawrence Gilley. The website contains Breeder Information, Breed History, a Calendar of Events, a For Sale Section, Association Information, Member Services, Semen Sales, Frequently Asked Questions and Relevant Links. For the months of October, November and December there were 927, 832, and 612 visits to the website respectively. For the same three months there were 688, 619, and 476 visitors per month respectively. Ninety-four (94) percent of the visitors in December had not viewed the website prior. The statistics indicate that the For Sale page(s) are among the most frequently viewed. We encourage you to use our website as it is kept current with Association-related business. Lawrence's contact information and the web address can be found on the contact page of this newsletter.

### Fall Regional Gathering held at the Mid-Atlantic Regional AMD Show on September 29, 2018

A gathering of AMDCA members and friends was held at the Virginia State Fairgrounds and many topics of interest were discussed including the following:

Identifying bulls from which to draw semen; Creating a Will and How do you liquidate a herd; Genetic Identification of bulls; Hire a consultant to develop a Protocol for AI; Possibility of Colonial Williamsburg storing the semen or maybe have a bull to service cows; Premium Best Bulls - identify them using the Bull Soundness Exam (BSE); Developing a genetic base for females; and finding a reputable semen collector/storer.



**Fall Gathering 2018 in the barn at the Virginia State Fairgrounds**

**POTENTIAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL REGION AMDCA GROUP** – Sherri Hawkins and her husband live on a small farm in the Ozarks of Missouri called A Rusty Knoll. This farm is a new venture for them and they are excited to be involved with the American Milking Devon Breed. Sherri is reaching out to those in the Central Region to see how the members can assist each other with their concerns and ideas. The 14 states in the Central Region along with the number of farms with AMDCA members are listed below:

1-Illinois: 1 farm	8- North Dakota: 0
2-Indiana: 3 farms	9- Ohio: 2 farms
3-Kansas: 1 farm	10- Oklahoma: 0
4-Minnesota: 0	11-Pennsylvania: 7 farms
5-Missouri: 3 farms	12-South Dakota: 3 farms
6-Nebraska: 1 farm	13- Wisconsin: 1 farm
7- Michigan: NA	14- Iowa: NA

Sherri is seeking a quick reply on interest in participating and any suggestions you may have for what the Central Region can do for this amazing breed. How do we want to give and be a part of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association as a whole? Sherri can be reached by phone at 303-669-9793 or by e-mail [amd@arustyknoll.com](mailto:amd@arustyknoll.com)

### **Call For Nominations**

Nominations are now being accepted for the position of Director (member of the Board of Directors) for the term May 2019 through May 2022. Voting will be by mail, and ballots will be counted and results announced at the Annual Meeting in May.

As an all-volunteer organization, AMDCA depends on its Directors to both manage the organization and do much of the actual work. The Board meets monthly by telephone. In addition the Association hosts one or more Regional Gatherings each year, which the Directors are urged to attend. Directors must be voting members, i.e., must own registered American Milking Devon cattle and have paid their dues for the current year.

The terms of two Incumbent Directors expire this year. Both incumbents, John L. Hall III and Thomas Slater, are seeking re-election.

If you wish to put a name in nomination, please submit the following information not later than Friday, February 8th, 2019 to Bruce Farr, 51 Catamount Rd., Northwood, NH 03261; or e-mail [farrviewsouthfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:farrviewsouthfarm@yahoo.com)

1. The nominee's full name,
2. A statement of the nominee's background, qualifications and his/her philosophy and goals for AMDCA. Please limit this information to ½ page.
3. A statement *signed by the nominee* that he/she is a voting member and agrees to serve if elected.
4. The nominee's record of attendance at Annual Meetings and regional meetings over the past three years.
5. If the nominee is an Incumbent, present his/her record of attendance at the Monthly Director's meetings over the past three years.

All nominations will be acknowledged and the Nominating Committee will ensure that all complete nominations received by the above deadline are placed on the ballot.

**IMPORTANT!! TWO NEW FORMS INCLUDED IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND ALSO AVAILABLE IN FILLABLE FORMAT ON THE AMDCA WEBSITE**

**Membership Form- 2019 Membership Dues Now Due-** For your convenience a membership form is attached to this newsletter.

**Membership Policy** - Membership is open to any individual or organization interested in furthering the purposes of the Association. An organization shall designate an individual to represent it at business meetings of the Association.

There shall be three categories of membership;

1. Voting Members, consisting of all members owning registered Milking Devon cattle.
2. Associate Members, who wish to further the purposes of the Association.

**The annual dues for these two categories as established by the Board (currently \$20) shall be due and payable on or before December 31 of each calendar year. Lapsed members shall be reinstated on payment of current year dues.**

3. Junior Members, (one time dues payment, non-voting, under 18 years old, currently \$20), can access all membership services at the established fees.

Only Voting Members are entitled to vote at membership meetings. Except for voting rights, no distinction shall be made between the three membership categories as to the availability or cost of services provided. At the Annual Meeting of 2016, the membership passed a MOTION that members not in good standing by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year will not receive an election ballot.

## American Milking Devon Cattle Association

### Southern Regional Group Conference Call

*Wednesday, February 6th, 2019 @ 8:00pm EST*

If you are an AMD Member in one of the following states and/or are interested in attending the Mid-Atlantic AMD Regional Show in 2019, plan to join our call. We'd love to hear from you!

To participate, call 1-857-232-0158 access code 219426 or, please email Paul Bennett at [pbennett@cwf.org](mailto:pbennett@cwf.org)

Alabama  
Florida  
Tennessee  
Maryland  
Mississippi

Arkansas  
Georgia  
Virginia  
Kentucky  
Louisiana

Delaware  
South Carolina  
West Virginia  
North Carolina

We will be discussing;

- The 2019 Mid-Atlantic AMD Regional Show at the Virginia State Fair, September 27-29, 2019
- Increasing attendance & utilization of grading results
- Fundamentals of Preparing for & showing your AMD workshop, June 15, 2019
  - Old Gjerpen Farm, Culpeper, VA 22701. 11:00am to 3:00pm
- Avenues for collaboration on breeding decisions and sharing genetic material in our region
- Adapting to bull genetics results from AMDCA's grant research
- Gauging interest in a regional AI program
- Developing a shared database of graded animals to improve breeding selection
- Strategies for cooperation on sales to commercial buyers

## ***Join the conversation!***

### Ray's Corner- On Milk Fever, Lice, and Minerals

#### Quotes and Wisdom from Director Ray Clark

We are in the middle of the coldest part of the winter now and Devons are noted for being able to handle the cold and wind outside. They will do good inside as well, however if the barn is drafty they are prone to get sick. Devons are better off outside than in a drafty barn. They also need proper minerals which include selenium, vitamin E, and copper. Minerals fed should be locally mixed and based on the deficiencies in your local soil. If you are feeding round bales be sure to pick up all of the plastic string and wrap. If ingested by a cow, that string is not likely to pass through the digestive system. It could get stuck in the second stomach, the reticulum, blocking food passage and causing the cow to die.

It's that time of year again when lice is a common problem as I mentioned last time. Lice suck blood from the cow and as a result a cow's condition can deteriorate. Lice seem to be more prevalent this year and they seem to be resistant to some of the lice treatments. If you are treating for lice and continue to see patches of hair missing, you might want to consult a veterinarian to determine an alternate treatment.

Milk fever can result in a cow after birthing. It is caused by a lack of calcium in the cows system as most of it is being used in producing milk. Devons are not particularly prone to milk fever because they don't produce a large quantity of milk. One way of identifying milk fever is to feel along the backbone of the cow and if it is cold you need to get a veterinarian as soon as possible. Devons are more prone to acetonemia (low blood sugar) than they are to milk fever. Signs of acetonemia are loss of appetite and/or strange out of the ordinary behavior such as aimless wandering, strange movements of the tongue and even apparent blindness. This also would require proper diagnosis and treatment from a veterinarian.

### A TRIBUTE TO HOWARD "OX MAN" VAN ORD

Prepared by the Editor

On October 20, 2018, the Devon and Ox Communities lost a one-of-a-kind ox and Devon cattle man. I first met Howard Van Ord at an Annual Meeting of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association. He was a regular at the Annual Meetings but was generally quiet there, but I got the sense that in the right circumstances he probably wasn't quiet at all. Being relatively new to the AMD breed, I often wondered what animated the man with the beard, what was his interest in Devons. I knew he loved the breed as he and his son Andrew always wore those maroon sweatshirts that said something like, "American Milking Devons... Why own an ugly cow when you can own a Devon." Then one day I was reading the second edition of Drew Conroy's book, Oxen: A Teamster's Guide, when what to my wondering eyes should appear, right there on page 77, the man with the beard. No it wasn't Santa, it was Howard with a huge team of what appear to be Holstein oxen.

So there it was, the mystery solved—Howard was a life-long teamster. Living in the Lander-Russell area of Pennsylvania, he pursued his love of raising oxen for over 60 years. Active in 4-H he served as a Leader for 30 years and on the 4-H Development Council for many years. There was only one Oxen 4-H Chapter in the State and Howard was in charge of it. At the Warren County Fair he was in charge of the oxen barn for 30 years. Reaching out Howard was a founding





Howard Van Ord sitting on the right with his trademark sweatshirt. This picture was taken at the May 13, 2017 Annual Meeting in Tunbridge, Vermont. Devon veteran Ray Clark is seated beside him.

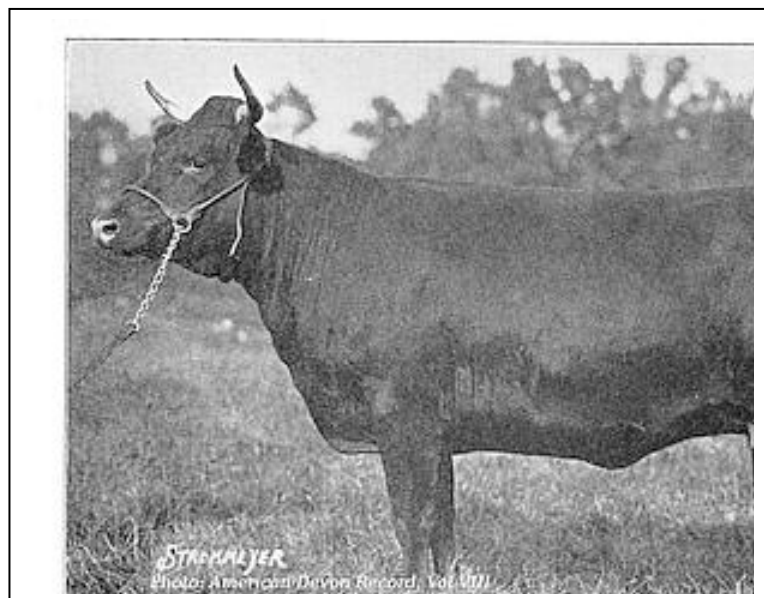
member and former President of the Midwestern Ox Drivers Association. Thousands of his handmade yokes have been utilized throughout the United States and Canada.

In his book, Drew Conroy said, “Howard is a true artist when it comes to training oxen. He knows oxen, he knows how to train them, and best of all he knows how to help other people with their oxen. He is also one heck of a good storyteller.” I never had the good fortune to hear any of Howard’s stories but I sensed that he had that gift. Dr. Conroy’s article also said, “With 50 years of experience (the book was originally published in 1999) with oxen, Howard never kept an exact count but guesses that he’s had 25 or 30 teams. Among them were Holstein-Herefords,

Holsteins, Brown Swiss, Ayrshires, Brown Swiss-Holsteins, Linebacks, Devon-Ayrshires, Holstein-Chianninas, Milking Shorthorns, Devon-Holsteins, Devon-Normandys, Charolais, and quoting Howard, ‘the very best breed, Devons!’ Oh...and by the way...Howard loved more than Devon oxen...he loved his family too...he will be missed by all!

### **THINGS YOU JUST SHOULD NOT MISS**

- Southern Region Conference Call- February 6<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM – See page 14 for details
- AMDCA ANNUAL MEETING- May 11<sup>th</sup>, Tunbridge, VT at 10AM
- Fundamentals of Preparing for & showing your AMD workshop, June 15, 2019
  - Old Gjerpen Farm, Culpeper, VA 22701. 11:00am to 3:00pm
- 2019 Mid-Atlantic Regional Milking Devon Show – September 27-29, 2019
  - Virginia State Fairgrounds



**Photo Courtesy of Lawrence Gilley – 2019 AMD CALENDAR**

Available : <https://www.cafepress.com/gilley.376567743>



Page 17 **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER  
IS MARCH 15, 2019.**

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*\*\*This newsletter is provided to AMDCA members in the United States and Canada for information and educational purposes. The views, opinions and recommendations expressed herein are those of individual contributors and are not endorsed by, or represent the policy of AMDCA or its Directors, Officers and volunteer staff. Members must use their own judgment in deciding whether farming management practices described herein are safe and appropriate for their particular circumstances.*

FEEDBACK- Your comments, ideas and "constructive" criticism are always welcome. I would like to know what topics interest you that could become feature articles. The best way to reach me is through e-mail [patriotsretreatfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:patriotsretreatfarm@yahoo.com) . If you don't have e-mail call me at (518) 868-9328 or mail me at Thomas H. Slater, 303 Cripplebush Rd., Central Bridge, NY 12035. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this newsletter.

**AMERICAN MILKING DEVON CATTLE ASSOCIATION**

The Registrar, 610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

**REGISTRY APPLICATION**

**Registration Fees:**

< 1 yr. \$5.00; 1 yr. but < 2 yrs. \$10.00; 2 yrs. but <3 yrs. \$25.00; 3 yrs. but <5 yrs. \$50.00

**Transfer: \$5.00** Name of New Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Transfer \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **TATTOO** \_\_\_\_\_

**SEX** \_\_\_\_\_ **TWIN** \_\_\_\_\_ **SEX OF OTHER TWIN** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIRE** \_\_\_\_\_ **NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

PATERNAL GRANDSIRE \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PATERNAL GRANDDAM \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**DAM** \_\_\_\_\_ **NUMBER** \_\_\_\_\_

MATERNAL GRANDSIRE \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

MATERNAL GRANDDAM \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

ARTIFICIAL SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ NATURAL SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_

IF Artificial Service, attach breeding receipt

IF Natural Service, give dates between which bull had access to dam: FROM \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER OF SIRE:** \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER OF DAM:** \_\_\_\_\_

(At time of breeding) ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

In making this application, I hereby subject myself to all the provisions of the Constitution, bylaws, and rules of registry of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association as they now exist or may from time to time be amended, knowledge of which I now have or will immediately acquire. **I GUARANTEE THAT ALL MATTERS STATED HEREIN ARE TRUE.**

**OWNER** \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_ **SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

# American Milking Devon Cattle Association

610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

2019

Please check one.

- \$20 - Voting Member – individuals who own registered Milking Devon cattle
- \$20 - Associate Member – individuals interested in furthering the purposes of the Association
- \$20 – Junior Member (one time dues payment, non-voting, under 18 years old)

Make checks payable to the American Milking Devon Cattle Association.

Send completed form and check to:

Bonnie Hall, Registrar, 610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

Voting members: Please circle if you **do not** wish to be listed in the on-line breeder's list

[NO] Do not include me in the on-line breeder's list.

Please circle "no" below to indicate information you wish **to omit** from the on-line breeder's list.

[No] NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

[No] FARM/ORG: \_\_\_\_\_

[No] ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
[No] PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

[No] E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

[No] WEBSITE: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: A current membership is required for inclusion in the breeder's list, for voting at the annual meeting and for registering cattle and for transferring the registration of cattle. Please ensure that your membership is up to date.*