

AMERICAN MILKING DEVON CATTLE ASSOCIATION Winter 2014 Newsletter

Call For Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the position of Director (member of the Board of Directors) for the term May 2014 through May 2017. Ballots will be mailed to members in good standing (current year's dues paid) at a later date. Voting will be by mail, and ballots will be counted and results announced at the Annual Meeting in May in Tunbridge, VT.

As an all-volunteer organization, AMDCA depends on its Directors to both manage the organization and do much of the actual work. Directors must expect to invest significant time and money in carrying out their responsibilities to AMDCA. The Board meets monthly by telephone. In addition we host one or more regional meetings each year which Directors are expected to attend at their own expense. 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.

If you wish to put a name in nomination, please submit the following information no later than Friday March 20, 2014 to Bruce Farr, Nominating Committee chair, 51 Catamount Road, Northwood, NH 03261. Questions may be directed to Bruce at 603-942-8128.

- The nominee's full name,
- A statement of the nominee's background, qualifications and his/her philosophy and goals for AMDCA. Please limit this information to 1/2 page.
- A statement signed by the nominee that he/she is a voting member and agrees to serve if elected.

All nominations will be acknowledged and all complete nominations received by the above deadline will be placed on the ballot.

William C. Blaiklock,
Secretary

Semen Bank News

The Board has continued to discuss the possibility of opening sales from the semen bank to non-AMDCA members, a topic which was brought up at the 2012 Annual Meeting. At our last Board meeting the decision was made to allow, for a limited time, sales of semen from three bulls for which adequate supply is available. The details are included in the motion quoted below:

A MOTION was made, seconded and adopted unanimously: That, for a trial period of 1 year, sales of the following semen to non-members is authorized, subject to the established sales limitation policy:

Herk 159 straws Axel 180 straws Floyd 298 straws

The "sales limitation policy" noted above was established in June 2007, shortly after the semen bank was established. It now applies to all sales, not just those to members. The complete text is provided below:

MOTION: The following policy concerning semen sales is hereby established.

- (a) Sale of semen from a single bull to any member in any 12 month period shall be limited to 25% of the semen available on the date of the sale.
- (b) In the event of multiple sales, the total of the percentages calculated for each sale shall not exceed 25%.
- (c) In calculating the amount available, any quantity reserved for donor's use or otherwise restricted shall be excluded.
- (d) The Board may make exceptions to this policy on a case basis where circumstances warrant e.g. owner request, very small quantity remaining, need to close out inventory, doubtful quality etc.

2014 Annual Meeting

The 2014 Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday May 10, 2014 in Tunbridge, Vermont. A more detailed announcement will be forthcoming.

Nils A. Berglund (January 6, 1951-October 22, 2013)

It is with deep regret that the AMDCA announces the passing of a past President, Nils A. Berglund. Nils served our organization for many years, not only as president but advocate, and conservator for the breed. He had a life long involvement with agriculture, including animal science studies at the University of Vermont, and dairy management at the University of Connecticut where he received his master's degree in agriculture in 1976. It was at the University of Connecticut where he first discovered his beloved Milking Devon cattle. Nils started raising Devons in 1982 while he was the Suffolk County Co-Operative Extension Agent on Long Island, NY. Nils grew up on Long Island where he also raised chickens, ducks, geese, quail and homing pigeons. He showed his poultry on a national level. Nils continued to breed Devons for many years after he left Extension and moved to northern Vermont. He was former chairman of the Livestock Conservancy (then AMBC) and a former Senior Warden at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

Survivors include his partner of 17 years, Donald Fournier of Swanton, VT; brother, Leigh Berglund Jr., and his wife Eva, of Sag Harbor, NY; his Goddaughters Erin Sepe Pirro and Martha Julian, and many special friends.