

THE **BULLHORN**

May 2018

Merriam for President!



Local Jersey Enthusiast running for AJCA President

We're excited to see a passionate leader from All West Territory running for 2018

American Jersey Cattle

Association President! Jonathan Merriam is a loyal customer of All West/Select Sires as the Genetics Manager of Ahlem Farms Partnership. The registered Jersey dairy currently milks 7,000 cows on three separate operations. Jonathan is responsible for the reproduction management, where he chooses sires, conducts matings, and oversees IVF and ET programs. He is also in charge of marketing all registered bulls and heifers. During his tenure, Ahlem Farms Partnership has sold animals annually in many large sales with animals often selling in the Top 5, in addition to selling over 150 bulls to the artificial insemination industry.

Jonathan himself grew up on a third generation 400-cow (250 registered Jerseys and 150 grade Holsteins) dairy in California's central valley town of Hickman. "My grandfather started milking Jerseys in 1929. At nine years-old, I started feeding calves, sparking my interest in dairy farming. I was active in 4-H and FFA. The highlight of my youth activities was exhibiting the FFA Supreme Champion female at the California State Fair. As my responsibilities and skill set developed, I moved into management roles on the farm while attending the local junior college."

Besides being involved in the production side of the industry, Jonathan has been an active member of the American Jersey Cattle Association since his youth. "I placed 3rd in the National Youth Achievement Contest and led in the All American Sale. I continued my involvement on our home dairy utilizing the appraisal program and working as a Genetic Recovery Agent. I have continued my involvement with AJCA utilizing REAP and JerseyMate."

Now, Jonathan is ready to take his membership to the next level by serving as President. "I received so much from AJCA as a youth and have always wanted to help others with their Jersey goals. I have worked with individuals and organizations promoting the breed as well as marketing both male and female breeding stock to advance the breed. I want to be able to continue to help the breed grow and serving in a

leadership role will help me achieve this goal."

All West Sales Support Manager, Brad Barham commented, "I am proud to see Jonathan Merriam running for AJCA President this year! Jonathan has been incredibly influential in my life as a mentor and has a burning passion for the Jersey cow and her breeders. The leadership of the association would be in great hands with him at the helm!"

The All West team isn't the only group of Jersey enthusiasts who are excited about Jonathan's candidacy. Wickstrom Jersey Farms posted via Facebook, "We're very excited to have Jonathan Merriam running for the American Jersey Cattle Association this year! He is a very passionate and knowledgeable Jersey breeder from our area."

Jonathan and his wife, Rebecca "Becca" who is a substitute teacher, 4-H leader, and President of the local Agriculture boosters, have passed on their love for agriculture to their children who have all been active in 4-H, FFA and the county commercial dairy heifer program. Kathryn is a Junior at Brigham Young University; Reva is a Freshman at Modesto Junior College; Grace is a Junior at Hughson High School; and Nathan is a Sophomore at Hughson High School.

Jonathan's leadership experience and dedication to the Jersey cow surely makes him a great candidate for the position of American Jersey Cattle Association President, and he looks forward to making a difference if given the opportunity to serve in this role.

"There has been division among breeders in recent years based on policies that have not always been clear as to their purpose and/or how they can improve/advance the breed. With my background and experience in a variety of management styles, herd sizes and genetic goals (commercial production as well as show type), I feel I can help clarify the direction the breed needs to go to continue to improve while maintaining purity and the benefits that have brought the Jersey where she is today."

The next President will be announced at the American Jersey Cattle Association Annual Meeting, taking place in Canton, Ohio June 24-30th, 2018. All West/Select Sires wishes the best of luck to Jonathan Merriam and family on his journey to positively impacting the future of the Jersey cow and her breeders.

To learn more about Jonathan and ask him questions directly, please follow the Jonathan Merriam – 2018 AJCA Presidential Candidate page on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AmericanJerseyCattleAssociation/?ref=br_rs



Proof News

Health Traits to be Included in Holstein Net Merit Index in August

Jim Dickrell (Dairy Herd Daily)

Six health traits will be incorporated into the Net Merit Index of Holstein sire evaluations this August. The traits include

hypocalcemia, displaced abomasum, ketosis, mastitis, metritis and retained placentas.

The traits were originally scheduled to be included in Net Merit in the April sire run. But inclusion was delayed as technical issues were sorted out. More breeds will be added as more information for each breed is accumulated.

The evaluations for individual Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) disease resistance traits will be incorporated into Net Merit at levels that appropriately reflect their economic value as demonstrated through sound science, says Kristen Gaddis, a CDCB geneticist.

The health traits are correlated to other traits already in the index, such as productive life and livability. CDCB and USDA geneticists have taken these correlations into account so that the traits aren't double counted, explains Gaddis.

The heritability of each trait is low: Hypocalcemia, 0.6%; DAs, 1.1%; ketosis, 1.2%; mastitis, 3.1%; metritis, 1.4%, and RPs, 1%. Nevertheless, genetic resistance to the traits is additive and permanent, so over time and over generations, disease resistance can be built up and accumulated

Ground All West

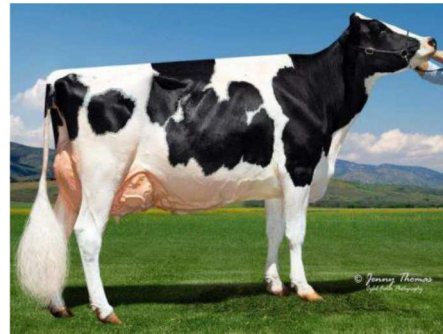


Our All West Summer Intern, Carly Olufs, began her work on Monday, May 21, 2018! Carly comes to us from Oklahoma State University where she is currently

earning a B.S. in Animal Science with an emphasis in Business. She was raised in Petaluma, CA where she began her string of over 15 registered animals, Carly-O Jerseys and Holsteins. Carly will be working from the Turlock, CA, office, but will also be traveling to many other areas of All West Territory, including Washington, to learn more about all aspects of our cooperative.



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The Jo-Costa Holsteins Complete Dispersal was held Saturday, May 12, 2018, in Turlock, CA, averaging \$2452 on 93 head.

Costa-View **Bradnick 48763 EX-92**, at left, was the highest seller, selling for \$15,500 to Gilbert & Robert Teixeira and Joseph Azevedo, CA. She was 4th Aged Cow at the 2018 CA State Show and sold due in October to Sandor.

This is a whole group of outstanding **7JE5004 CHROME** daughters at Jer-Z-Boyz. It's no wonder he is turning into one of the best customer-satisfaction sires in the breed.



7HO1228 KINGPIN daughter near Lynden, WA, just fresh with a **PETY** calf!

Pacific Northwest Dairy Youth Camp

July 11-13, 2018

Yakima County Fairgrounds, Grandview, WA
ENTRIES DUE: June 20, 2018

For more information/to receive an entry form
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