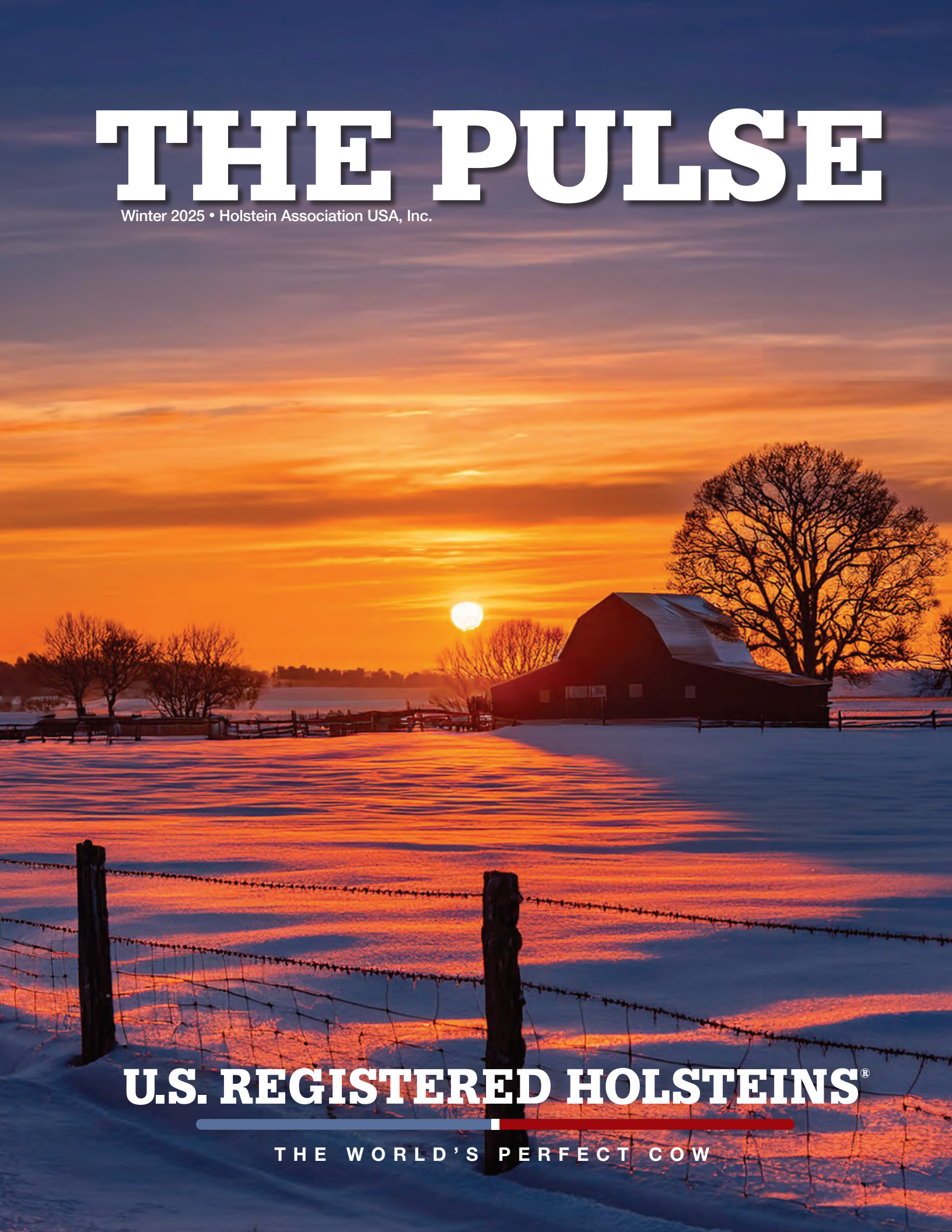
# THE PULSE

Winter 2025 • Holstein Association USA, Inc.



## U.S. REGISTERED HOLSTEINS®

THE WORLD'S PERFECT COW

# THE FUTURE OF POLLED GENETICS IN U.S. DAIRY HERDS

The Holstein cow and the Holstein breed secures the top position among all species of livestock as the most accomplished in the last half century. As her production has doubled in that period of time, and improvements in conformation have coincided, she has transformed into the most sought-after dairy cow in the world...and the sheer number of Holstein cows confirms that.

Whatever trait a dairyman chooses, be it production, health or conformation, our beloved Holstein tops the list!

Unfortunately, one trait that we have failed to make marked progress on is polled. Our friends in the beef industry begin emphasizing polled in the 1960's, and today the vast majority of beef animals are polled. The "hornless" trait has paid huge dividends to beef breeders worldwide.

Starting July 1 of 2024, all dairy farmers enrolled in the National Farm Assuming Responsible Management (FARM) program will be required to use pain management aids when dehorning cattle. The costs associated with dehorning on farms today is well documented. Recent figures indicate that costs range from $6 to $25 per head, not accounting for additional expenses associated with stress and loss of growth.

"As polled bulls continue to grow in availability and attractiveness to producers' breeding programs, the integration of this technology over time will benefit both cows and farmers--eliminating a painful and labor-intensive procedure," says Emily Yeiser Stepp, Executive Director, of the National Dairy FARM Program, National Milk Producers Federation. "Additionally, embracing polled genetics will assist in providing further trust and assurance to dairy consumers regarding the care of our animals."

**Looking for polled genetics? View the Top Polled TPI Lists for both males and females found on the Top Ranking Animal Lists page under Genetic Evaluations at holsteinusa.com**

In addition, let's face it, who among us enjoys the job of removing horns? Whatever method you choose, it's considered by many as one of the most unpleasant practices on dairy farms. I've often said, "If you are performing a practice or task on your farm that you wouldn't want a group of classroom children to witness, you probably shouldn't be doing it." Removing horns is certainly one of them!

Today, the genetic value of polled Holsteins has never been higher, rivaling that of the horned population. Nearly every AI stud today offers high genetic polled bulls, and the beauty of polled is that it is DOMINANT! The excuse not to use polled because they are inferior to horned, is no longer a legitimate argument.

To date, the use of widespread polled genetics by U.S. Holstein breeders has been limited as the percent of polled animals registered or identified by Holstein Association USA remains in the single digits. On the contrary, many European countries have taken a more robust approach. In 2025, it is expected that German breeders will use nearly two thirds polled bulls as their breeding sires.

"Thanks to the hard work of breeders and AI programs, the global line-up of both P and PP sires has become so strong--including high production, high type and sound fitness traits--that everyone can reliably use polled in their herds without losing genetic levels-but adding the valuable polled genes," says Jan Bierma, Chief Editor at Holstein International.

U.S. breeders are always quick to adapt and embrace market demands. Because of the expansive genetic pool available today, there is something for everyone. Let's finish the task of breeding that perfect cow....and make her polled!

**John Burket, President**
**Holstein Association USA, Inc.**

# A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Most of you are likely aware I formally announced my upcoming December 31, 2024 retirement at our Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah in June. Many months prior to that time, I had informed the Board of my plans.

As such, in this column, I thought it would be fun to take a brief trip down memory lane and look back at some of the changes we have seen in the dairy industry and the Holstein Association USA over the 23 years I have had the honor and privilege serving you as the Holstein Association USA's Chief Executive Officer. Many thanks to all of you members, directors, and officers, HAUSA colleagues and the dairy community at large who have helped make my role here so enjoyable!

When I came onboard in July of 2001, genomic testing of dairy cattle was not commercially available in the United States and wasn't until 2003. The bovine genome was sequenced during 2003-2004 and the first official U.S. genomic evaluation for Holsteins was published by us in 2009.

As you recall, the Holstein Association USA established itself as an early leader in genomic testing through our partnership with Zoetis. This great collaboration continues today.

In 2001, sexed semen was not commercially available on a wide scale to dairy cattle breeders. Last year sexed semen accounted for approximately 54% of the units of dairy semen used by U.S. producers.

Breeding beef on Holstein cattle wasn't a popular practice 23 years ago. In 2023, approximately 2.9 million beef on dairy calves were born.

This strategy has unintentionally, but effectively, almost become a self-help program for dairy farmers, as milk supplies have tightened and Registered Holstein® calves, heifers and cows are in short supply. Both situations have helped to improve your milk prices and the income you receive for Holstein calves, heifers and cows! It's great to see you garnering good prices for your Registered Holsteins and the high-quality milk that your cows produce.

Holstein COMPLETE®, our bundled services program, which we launched in 2002, was the first major new program we developed for members to make it easier for them to do business with their Association. Since that time, many other innovative programs have been established.

Back in 2003, we explored ways to expand our footprint in the dairy industry and subsequently in 2004, the Association purchased AgriTech Analytics (ATA) of Visalia, California. Today, ATA, our dairy records processing division, is not only an important part of our services offering, it is an integral part of our organization.

We've been happy to give more attention and exposure to you through our expanded awards program. Those include the Distinguished Leadership, Elite Breeder, Star of the Breed, Herds of Excellence, National Elite Performers and Regional Elite Performer Awards.

Another endeavor I'm particularly pleased with is the joint collaboration we've had with other Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA) organizations since we started our first multi-breed collaboration with the American Guernsey Association in 2017.

Since then, we are enjoying wonderful alliances not only with the American Guernsey Association but also with the American Milking Shorthorn Society, the Brown Swiss Association, the Red & White Dairy Cattle Association, and the U.S. Ayrshire Breeders' Association. I salute the leadership of all of those associations who had the foresight and spirit of cooperation in developing these joint efforts which are so beneficial to all of our members.

In 2018, we initiated the marketing of a program representing an important part of the dairy industry which is robotic milking systems. Our TriStar℠ AMR program provides production records of individual cows and allows robotic herds to submit production data and have it recorded on pedigrees.

Our nationally televised *Holstein America* program is another avenue we've taken to further promote HAUSA members. Since 2018, over 100 member farms have been featured on this excellent TV show that airs from coast-to-coast on RFD-TV.

Your Association is also committed to the long-term future of the Registered Holstein cow and her owners as evidenced by the Association's investment and leadership in developing the Holstein Association Research Grant Program in 2016 and the SmartHolstein Lab with Western Kentucky University (WKU) in 2020. That foresight should bode well for the Holstein breed and you.

As of this writing, 27 different HAUSA members have offered their bulls through our one-of-a-kind program, Holstein Marketplace Sires, which was launched in 2019 and provides a unique avenue for Holstein breeders to market their genetics. This innovative program is another example of one of the Association's offerings which helps our members enhance their profitability.

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Unfortunately, the number of dairy farms in the United States has plunged from approximately 76,875 in 2001 to roughly 26,290 in 2023, a reduction of 50,585 or 66%. As sad as that is, we have been able to expand our market share among those dairy farmers who are currently milking cows.

Fortunately, the number of new offerings we've developed and marketed over the last two decades has bolstered the financial success of your Association. In 2001, net assets were valued at $17,009,062 and have grown by 137% to $40,345,842 in 2023. That's an increase of $23,336,780.

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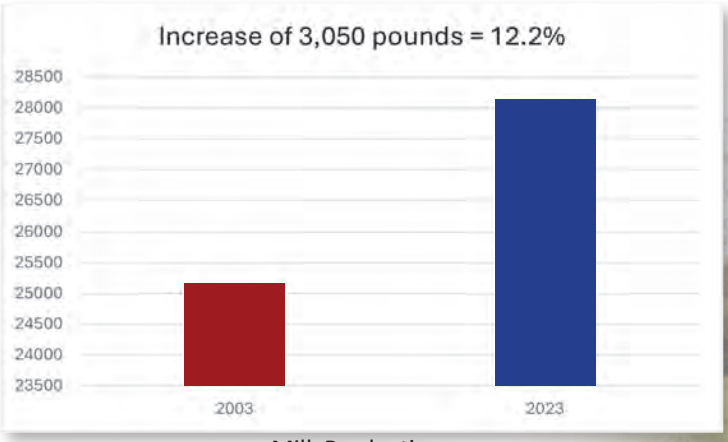
Progress is rarely made without obstacles, and I'll offer a few areas we cannot take lightly as we move on to the future. The H5N1 bird flu situation needs to be taken seriously. Let's not let this nasty virus undercut our industry.

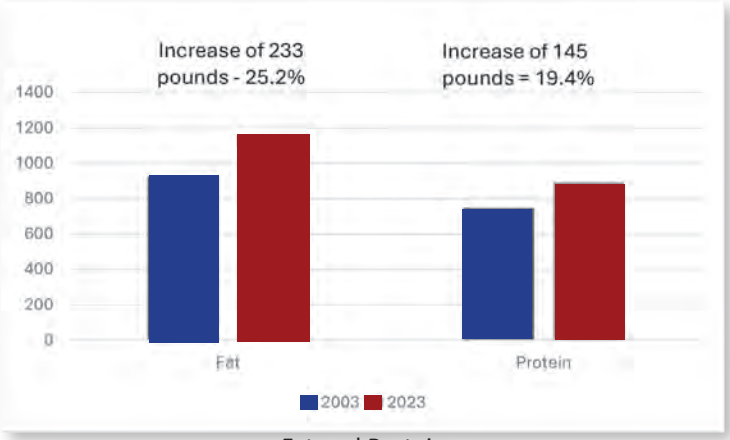
We need to make sure the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) does not go beyond the original charter with USDA to be the service bureau component for United States dairy cattle genetic evaluations by computing the genetic evaluations and distributing them to the industry.

Doing otherwise could potentially create situations in which the CDCB might be competing against their own members. Furthermore, such actions could marginalize their member organizations and be a road block to innovation and new ideas from the dairy community at large.

While this subject doesn't get much publicity, I'm concerned that for the last two years United States agricultural imports have substantially exceeded our exports. In the 2023 fiscal year, we had a record agricultural trade deficit of $16.7 billion and the estimate for 2024 is $32 billion. These shortfalls in the last two years will be two of just four agricultural trade deficits in the last 50 years. We need to do better than that.



Milk Production



Fat and Protein

In closing, I want to congratulate you Holstein breeders for the tremendous progress in both the production of components and milk your cows have made. In the last 20 years, annual fat production has increased from 926 pounds to 1,159 pounds, a whopping 25% increase. Protein production has jumped from 748 pounds to 893 pounds, which is an impressive 19% increase. Milk production has gone up from 25,088 pounds to 28,138 pounds, which is an outstanding increase of 12%.

These profound component and milk production increases have given Holstein cows a significant profitability advantage over all other breeds. The profitability of the Holstein cow is unmatched!

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My guess is most of you are well aware of how much I've loved working for you the last 23 years. As I move on to retirement, it pleases me greatly that my friend and colleague of the last 17 years, Lindsey Worden, will be assuming the CEO position.

When I promoted Lindsey to the Chief Operating Officer's position in 2023, it was my sincere hope that she would move into my role on New Year's Day, 2025. You're in good hands with Lindsey and the talented team of colleagues she'll be working with.

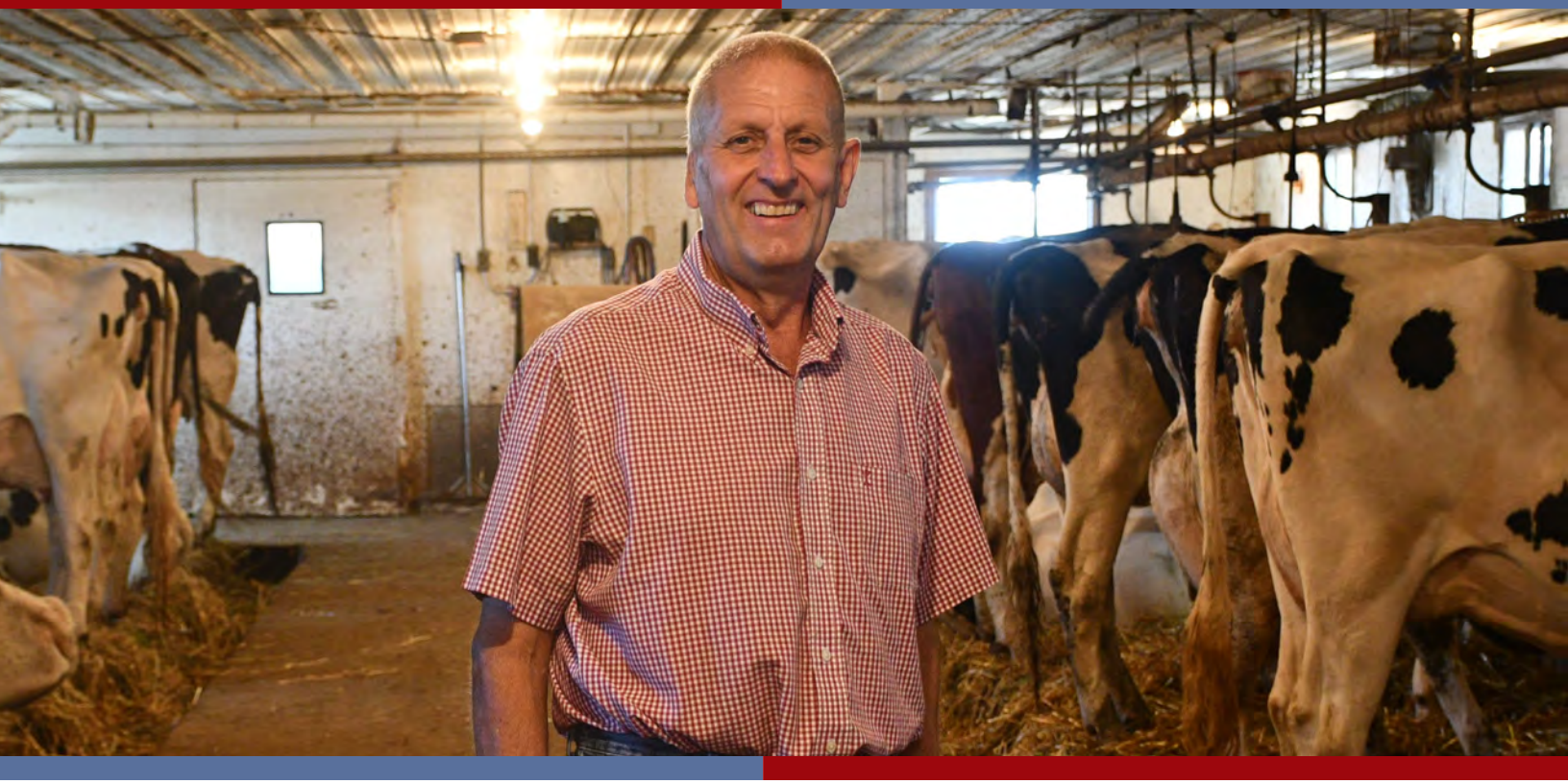
Here's wishing all of you the best, and I look forward to seeing you in the future!

Thank you,

**John M. Meyer, Chief Executive Officer**
**Holstein Association USA, Inc.**

# LIVING THE DREAM

**Hard work, deep pedigrees, and a passion for farming at Great Heritage Holsteins.**



As a young boy growing up in a small town in Iowa, Leroy Eggink looked forward to spending time on his uncle Harold Eggink's farm every chance he got. He started showing Registered Holsteins® in 4-H and worked on the farm throughout high school. Eventually, Leroy's interest in dairy blossomed into a lifelong dream. Today, he says he's living out that dream at Great Heritage Holsteins in Sibley, Iowa.

"I came out and started working on the farm and just fell in love with it," Leroy recalls.

Although Leroy grew up in town, dairy farming was in his blood. His grandfather Herman Eggink immigrated from the Netherlands in the early 1920s and began milking cows. It didn't take long for his grandfather to invest in Registered Holsteins, and they have graced the farm ever since.

Leroy started dairy farming on his grandfather's original farm site in 1978 with 20 cows, located just a mile down the road from his uncle's farm. When Leroy's uncle started looking towards retirement in the 1990s, Leroy moved his herd to his uncle's site and began farming with him. Leroy fully took over the operation when his uncle retired in 2000.

Now, Leroy milks 50 cows in a tie stall barn and farms 400 acres of corn, alfalfa, oats, and soybeans. Other than the occasional help from family and friends, Leroy does the day-to-day work himself.

Leroy and his wife Kolette have two adult children, Sara and Jacob. Sara and her husband Nick live in Iowa City, where Sara is going to dental school. Jacob works for Golden Oaks Farm in Waconda, Illinois, furthering his passion for working with elite dairy cattle genetics.

## Building on quality

Leroy emphasizes breeding for type at Great Heritage Holsteins. He recognizes functional cows have long, productive lives. He enjoys working with high type cows, too.

"If I'm going to milk cows, I'm going to go out to the barn and be happy looking at good cows," Leroy says.

He describes his perfect cow as being 60 to 61 inches tall with an uphill run, great udder, wide front end, deep and open ribbed, and walking on a great set of feet and legs. Pedigrees are another important tool for breeding the type of cow Leroy likes to milk.

"I look at cow families – both on the paternal side and the maternal side," Leroy explains.

In fact, they still have a cow on the farm they can trace back to his grandfather's herd of Registered Holsteins.

Beyond a concentration on deep pedigrees and high type, programs and services from Holstein Association USA help Leroy breed cows that thrive in his herd.

**"If I'm going to milk cows, I'm going to go out to the barn and be happy looking at good cows."**
**-Leroy Eggink**


"Classification is probably the biggest program I use and enjoy," Leroy says. "I look forward to every seven months when someone else comes to look at and evaluate my cows."

Leroy has also invested in quality genetics from other Registered Holstein breeders. Most recently, he purchased animals from the Hilrose Holsteins and Lucky-E Holsteins sales.

Leroy is focusing on ET work with these elite genetic animals, building upon his genetic offerings in anticipation of a future sale. Nearing retirement, Leroy describes the sale as his "exit plan".

Throughout his dairy farming career, Leroy has stayed true to his breeding philosophy, trying to make each generation better than the last.

"We've always tried to breed cows from good cows to make better cows," Leroy explains.

### Creating Holstein connections

Outside of the day-to-day work on the farm, the Eggink family is also involved in other aspects of the Holstein industry. Showing dairy cattle is one of these activities. Leroy says his experiences preparing and showing Registered Holsteins were instrumental in helping him develop a passion for dairy at a young age.

"Showing has always been a big part of our emphasis, and we still enjoy it," he explains.

Today, they remain involved by leasing animals to family members and friends to show at a variety of local shows in Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota.

Leroy has also been involved in both state and national Holstein associations. He's served on several committees in the Iowa Holstein Association, including the positions of Vice President and President. Serving as a delegate for Holstein Association USA's Annual Meeting gave Leroy the chance to connect with fellow Holstein breeders from across the country.

"It's usually the people you meet and the interactions you have that make those experiences so special," Leroy says.

Leroy took his involvement in Holstein Association USA a step further when he served on the Board of Directors from 2007 to 2013. He describes his time on the board as one of the best experiences he has ever had.

"Getting to know people from all over the country and serve with some of the great leaders was my favorite part," Leroy says. "Some of them are lifetime friends now."

While it wasn't always easy to be away from the farm, Leroy says the experience was well worth it. He's grateful for the extra help his family was able to give him during his time on Holstein Association USA's Board of Directors and encourages others to take advantage of similar opportunities.

"You'll never experience anything new if you don't step out and do something new," he shares. "Put yourself out there, and you'll be much more blessed than the work you put in."

Whether on or off the farm, Leroy's genuine love of Registered Holsteins and the people in the Holstein business shines through. From a young boy working on his uncle's farm, to a seasoned dairy farmer, Leroy's story is one of a dream realized.

L-R: Trevor, Jacob, Sydney, Tim, Jenny, Taylor, Tanner, and Katelyn.

# FOUR STREAMS, ONE VISION

For the Klipp family of Hanover, Kansas, dairy farming is a family affair. Their Four Streams Dairy is aptly named for the four streams that feed into the creek running through the farm. It's also a nod to the Holstein cows they care for every day and the four quarters of their udder.

Third generation farmers Tim and Jenny Klipp milk around 60 cows. They have involved the fourth generation, their four children, in the family business from a young age. The couple agrees it was a great way to raise their family.

"Everyone had their set tasks with their animals," Tim explains. "Before school, their job was feeding bucket calves," Jenny adds.

Now young adults, their children Trevor, Taylor, Jacob, and Katelyn still find ways to stay involved amidst starting their own careers in agriculture or attending college. Trevor, who works at a local equipment dealership, actively helps on the farm as he is able.

Taylor recently graduated from Iowa State with her master's degree in animal science and puts her experience growing up on a dairy farm to use as a beef and dairy nutrition consultant. Jacob is attending Fort Hayes State University and studying applied technology with an emphasis in construction. Katelyn is a Freshman at Kaskaskia College where she is studying dairy science and playing basketball.

Beyond working on the farm, all four siblings have enjoyed showing Registered Holsteins® over the years. Tim and Jenny are quick to point out the skills they've seen their children develop from these experiences, such as responsibility and overcoming adversity.

"They found out that life isn't always a box of chocolates, you never know what you are gonna get," Tim says. "They discovered that you get out of life what you put into it."

## Upgrades and innovation

Working together as a family to accomplish day-to-day work, the Klipps have been able to steadily make improvements to their farm over time. When it comes to making decisions about how to move the farm forward, Tim and Jenny value including the next generation.

"It's nice to have everyone in on the decisions," Tim explains. "We all have our areas of expertise."

At the heart of the changes at Four Streams Dairy is ensuring their animals receive top-notch care. For example, after seeing an automated calf feeder at World Dairy Expo, the Klipps decided to explore ways to streamline their calf care.

"We put up a new calf shed about five years ago, and that's really helped out a lot," Trevor explained.

In addition to the new building, they installed automated calf feeders in 2019. Although the new technology was a bit of a learning curve at first, their calves now excel in the clean, calm environment their new barn and technology help provide.

The Klipps also appreciate the data from the automated calf feeder, as it helps them quickly identify when a calf might not be feeling well and needs extra attention.

Recently, they have invested in upgrading facilities for their milking herd. Last year they remodeled the freestall barn, making the stalls bigger and adding mattresses and shavings. Working together as a family, they were able to accomplish much of the project themselves.

"Everybody was home helping to work on it," Tim says. "We contracted out the electrical and concrete work but did everything else on our own."

With a focus on cow comfort, they also added variable speed fans and a sprinkler system over the feed alley. They say it keeps the barn about 10 degrees cooler on hot Kansas summer days. Additionally, the Klipps have noticed an improvement in feed intake and conception rates of their herd.

## Genetics with purpose

When it comes to the genetics of their herd, the Klipps strive to breed balanced cows excelling in both milk and type. They treat each animal as an individual when making breeding decisions.

"My perfect cow would have great disposition, a beautiful mammary system, breed back easily, and do well in the showring," Tim explains.

Tim takes in information from a variety of resources when making decisions on his herd, describing it as a balancing act. Along with registering their herd, genomic testing a select group of animals helps the Kipps glean more data on the performance of their herd.

"The value of the pedigree comes from the data you create," Tim says. "You can keep track of your cattle better because you know where they've been, and you know where they're going."

Bundling several of the Holstein Association USA services they use through Holstein COMPLETE® also gives them more bang for their buck.

The family recently diversified their business with the creation of Four Steams Beef. Like many dairy farms, the Klipps have been breeding a portion of their dairy herd to beef bulls over the last ten years. In 2022, they began marketing their beef directly to the community.

Four Streams Beef offers half and quarter steers, along with pounds of hamburger, marketing through word of mouth and on Facebook. The new venture is off to a strong start and they have a wait list of customers, underscoring the opportunity to add value to their farm.

"We plan to keep it going and see how it grows," Tim says.

## Community focus

Beyond selling beef to the community, the Klipp family places value on educating others about dairy farming. In 2023, they hosted a Dairy Day on their farm for June Dairy Month.

Over 200 people attended the event, enjoying hamburgers and plenty of milk, cheese, and ice cream. The family friendly day was fun for parents and kids alike. Stations set up throughout the farm taught attendees about calves, feeding, milking, and more.

"We live in a small farming community, and you think everyone knows about dairy, but there are so many people that don't know anything about it at all," Tim reflected.

The Klipp family found it rewarding to watch attendees experience a glimpse of life on a dairy farm. Their local community has asked them if they'll host Dairy Days again, so the Klipps are making plans for another event in June of 2025.

"It's just amazing how the kids enjoy it," Tim says. "And the parents say, 'we've never seen anything like it.'"

The Klipps also find time to be leaders in a variety of local and dairy organizations.

From their local church to the fair board, and the Kansas Holstein Association to showing Registered Holsteins on a National level, the family works together to make time for their activities on and off the farm. They place value on the comradery they find among fellow dairy farmers.

"Many of our closer friends are our dairy friends, because they relate to what it takes to be a dairy farmer," Tim says.

Katelyn has had the opportunity to show at World Dairy Expo for the past few years – an experience that likely would not have been possible without the family's dairy community connections.

"Katelyn has been able to show at Expo because of the other dairymen that we knew that exhibit there and helped us out along the way," Tim says. "Otherwise, we wouldn't be there."

Whether developing connections with fellow Registered Holstein breeders at a show, or working together on the farm, dairy farming is central to the Klipp family. It's a way of life that's served Tim and Jenny – and their four children, well.

"Dairy farming is the best way to raise kids, as it teaches them work ethic and everyone does their part," Tim reflects.

**" The value of the pedigree comes from the data you create. You can keep track of your cattle better because you know where they've been, and you know where they're going."**
**-Tim Klipp**

# Historical Cow Feature

## KHW REGIMENT APPLE-RED-ET

KHW Regiment Apple-Red-ET is almost certainly the most influential cow in the history of Red and White Holsteins. Apple's genetics have also been very impactful on the Holstein breed as a whole. Information regarding the progeny of Apple could fill a book, but here we will trace her maternal line back through time.

Apple was born in 2004 and was an EX-96 4E daughter of Carrousel Regiment-Red-ET. She was sold at auction in 2008 for 1 million dollars to the Apple Partners of Lanark, Illinois. In 2011, she was named the Grand Champion of the Red and White Show at World Dairy Expo and has many other show ring achievements. She has five lactations over 30,000 pounds of milk and lifetime total of 240,640 pounds of milk while also testing 4.7% fat. Apple's breeder is listed as the High Altitude Syndicate, which is named after her dam, Kamps-Hollow Altitude-ET.

### Clover-Mist connection

Altitude-ET, sired by Regancrest Elton Durham-ET, was bred by the Kamps family of Belmont, Wisconsin. She was born in 2000 and produced 144,460 pounds of milk lifetime and was classified EX-95 2E. Both Altitude's dam and granddam bear the prefix of Clover Mist Farms of Manitowoc, Wisconsin but both were added to the Kamp Hollow herd in 1998.


Altitude's dam, born in 1993, was Clover-Mist Alisha-ET an EX-93 3E daughter of Ronnybrook Prelude-ET. The next dam was Clover-Mist Augy Star-ET born in 1990 and scored EX-94 4E. She was sired by Meadolake Jubliant-ET and is where the red carrier gene enters the maternal side of the pedigree. Like Apple-Red, both of these cows produced multiple 30,000 pound records, produced over 200,000 pounds lifetime, and tested 4.7% butterfat.

Augy Star's dam was born in 1978 and was 11 years old when Augy Star was born. This cow, D-R-A August, was owned by Clover Mist Farms and was bred by Robert E. Alexander of Sibley, Iowa. August, often referred to as simply "The White Cow" was an EX-96 4E daughter of Life-O-Riley Marquis King that produced over 200,000 pounds of milk lifetime.

In a 1993 article in Country Today, when August was 15 years old, it was mentioned that the owners hoped to be able to take advantage of in vitro fertilization technology that in the 21st century has now become commonplace. This is an early mention of IVF in regard to dairy breeding and genetics in the popular press.

### Iowa influence

The next few generations of the family came from different farms in Iowa. August's similarly named dam and grandam D-R-A Ideal Precious Leader, born 1976, and D-R-A Princess Lad Leader, born 1970, were Excellent 90 point cows in the herd of Robert E. Alexander of Sibley, Iowa. The next three generations, Benna Clarise Whirlwind Leader (born 1967), Benna Coke Skokie Whirlwind (born 1965), and Hylar Skokie Cora (born 1961) were all either bred or owned by Bart Benna of Pocahontas, Iowa.

Cora's dam and grandam are another pair of cows with very similar names, Roxberry Gipsy Count (born 1957) and Roxberry Gipsy Comet (born 1953). These two generations of the family were bred by owned by J. K. Henderson of Primghar, Iowa. The next generation back leads us to cow, Da-Co-Ton Genie Roxberry (born 1949), bred by R.L. Cotton or Parker, South Dakota.

The next six generations are from two herds in the great state of Oklahoma. The most recent two being Mount Riga Advocator Roxie (born 1939) and Mount Riga Roxianna (born 1937) bred and owned by C.E. Griffth of Big Cabin, Oklahoma. Mr. Griffith, in addition to being a breeder of Holstein cattle, was a well-known breeder of champion pointer bird dogs at his Mount Riga farm.

## Oklahoma roots

The next four generations of the family are Oklahoma Pieterje Roxianna (born 1935), Oklahoma May Roxberry Piebe (born 1930), Oklahoma May Roxberry Stella (born 1925), and Oklahoma May Roxberry Pontiac (born 1922) bred by O.B. Toalson of Bartkesville, Oklahoma. Toalson was working in the lumber business and in 1911 he decided to also enter the dairy business. According to a short biography of Toalson written in 1922 by Oklahoma educator and historian John Dowling Benedict, "After thorough investigation he found that Holstein cattle were unsurpassed, as milk producers and he started his herd with five purebred Holsteins." The herd quickly grew by purchasing quality Holsteins including this family.

## Ohio origins

This particular family came to Oklahoma from Northeastern Ohio. The most recent two generations in Ohio were May Roxberry Del Kol (born 1907) and her daughter May Roxberry de Kol 2d (born 1912) owned by L.N. Grosvenor of East Claridon, Ohio. Next were three cows from the herd of E.F. Hovey of Fowlers Mill, Ohio. They were Maud Wahabee De Kol (born 1904), Chloe Wahabee 2d (born 1901), and Chloe Wahabee (born 1899).

The previous generation was a cow named Wahabee 2d (born 1894) bred by Jacob A. Beidler of Willoughby, Ohio. Beidler had purchased her dam Wahabee (born 1886) from Thomas Yates of Delaware in Central Ohio. Beidler later served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1901-1907. Yates, along with his son, were highly involved in the early sales of Registered Holsteins® and was also no stranger to politics, being highly involved with the movement for the prohibition of alcohol.

## From Shadeland to stardom

Wahabee was the first generation born in the United States. Both of her parents originated from Shadeland Stock Farm owned by the Powell Brothers of Springboro in Western Pennsylvania. Shadeland had a large inventory of trotting and roadster racing horses and, imported Clydesdale draft horses and sold them throughout a significant geographically area. They also imported Highland Black-faced sheep. When they decided to look into importing cattle they decided on Holsteins because as described in the March 25, 1882 edition of the Western Rural "This most valuable breed of cattle are developing very superior qualifications for the combined dairy and beef animal, giving a very large quantity of milk and being of good size, early maturity, and taking on beef readily at all ages."

One group of Holsteins imported to Shadeland in November of 1881 included two females - Alada and Vriend. Alada was pregnant when imported and gave birth to a bull calf that was named Harold of Shadeline. Around three years later this bull was crossed with Vriend and began the line that led to Apple and all of her descendants.

***Daren M. Sheffield*** *is the Director of Holstein Performance Programs, Governance and Policy at Holstein Association USA. If you found this report interesting or have suggestions for future historical cow features or similar articles, please contact Daren by email at dsheffield@holstein.com.*

L-R: KHW Regiment Apple-Red-ET EX-96 4E, D-R-A August EX-96 4E, Kamps-Hollow Altitude-ET EX-95 2E.