



MICHIGAN DAIRY MEMORIAL AND SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER • ISSUE 20
SEPTEMBER 2023



MDMSF Scholarships Fund: At A Glance

Thanks to the generous support of donors, the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation (MDMSF) at Michigan State University (MSU) is proud to highlight an impressive list of scholarships:

- \$3,000 to first-year students
- \$3,500 to sophomores, juniors and seniors
- **Glenn and Anne Lake Scholarship** - \$8,500
- **Russel Erickson Scholarship** - \$6,000
- **Donald and Valera Murray Scholarship** - \$5,000
- **Harold and Lillian Gremel Scholarship** - \$5,000 for a student in veterinary school
- **Red and Edna Cotter Purina Memorial Scholarship** - \$5,000 for a student in veterinary school (preference to those with international interest)
- **John and Barbara Dilland Scholarship s** - \$5,000 for students majoring in Agribusiness Management
- **Jack and Betty Barnes International Scholarship** - scholarships for international experiences
- **Archie Studer Scholarship** - \$5,000 for a student

with interest in dairy breeding or production

- **Nick Bellows Scholarship** - \$5,000 for a student with interest in dairy promotion
- **Velmar Green Scholarship** - \$5,000 for a second-year student in the Dairy Management Program of the Institute of Agricultural Technology
- **George and Shirley Hazle Scholarship** - \$5,000 for a student with a strong 4-H background
- **Gary and Carolyn Trimner Scholarship** - \$5,000 for the MMPA Food Systems Fellowship intern or a veterinary student pursuing a career in bovine medicine

Funding for the MDMSF scholarships comes from generous donations from individuals, firms and corporations wishing to honor members of the dairy industry who have performed distinguished services for Michigan's dairy industry.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Eric Frahm

Dear members and friends,

This past year, the MDMSF was able to distribute \$126,000 by investing in students through scholarships and financial support of intercollegiate programs such as the Dairy Challenge, Dairy Judging and Dairy Products Judging Teams. This support is possible through the generosity of donors in our industry and prudent financial management by the MSU University Advancement Team.

The Program Review subcommittee appointed a year ago by the MDMSF Board continues to meet as we start development of a new “normal.” We are committed to finding creative and beneficial ways to help students and utilize our funds effectively to meet the needs of both the students of today as well as those in the future.

We are pleased to have a new endowed scholarship to assist our students. Our industry and alumni quickly contributed more than \$50,000 to recognize Dr. Joe Domecq and establish the Dr. Joe Domecq Dairy Judging and Teaching Endowment. Proceeds from the endowment will provide permanent ongoing financial support to students participating in dairy judging and the dairy management programs at Michigan State University. Final details are still being worked through, but we anticipate the endowment proceeds to start being available in 2024. Thank you to all who contributed.

I have been honored to serve as president of the MDMSF board this past year. I encourage anyone interested in supporting the efforts of the MDMSF to contact any member of the MDMSF Board. We look forward to working with more students, donors and volunteers to advance Michigan's dairy industry.

Sincerely,

Eric Frahm
President, Board of Directors,
Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation
Treasurer, Board of Directors, Michigan Milk Producers Association

MDMSF Scholarship Recipients



L-R, from bottom:

Grace Herkimer and
Adalee Thelen

Abby Van Dyk, Rachael
Bosse, Katrina Beaton,
Drew Neyer

Ashley DeCock,
Deandra Franklin,
Brianna Hill

Jaylin Dilsaver, Katie
Wilson, Danielle
Rummel

Monika Dziuba, Mikayla
Bowen, Kelsey Pasch

Lauren Ringewold,
Emily Ockerman,
Brooke Voelker

Samantha Whitehead,
Tyler Klopfenstein,
Shannon Good



MSU students share their experiences as members of the MSU Dairy Challenge team. MDMSF provides sponsorship to the MSU Dairy Challenge, Dairy Judging and Dairy Products Judging teams.

2023 MDMSF Honoree

GARY (DOC) COLLINGS, D.V.M.

Gary (Doc) Collings, D.V.M. graduated from MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1977, satisfying a goal that first crossed his mind when he was in junior high school. Growing up with cattle on the farm, he was interested in how sick animals were treated and the efforts to prevent sickness. Following completion of his D.V.M., he returned to his "roots," the Thumb of Michigan, to begin his dedicated service to the dairy farming community where he was born and raised. Dr. Collings joined the Deckerville Veterinary Clinic, a practice consisting of six doctors, predominantly dairy focused. As a partner, Gary guided the practice now known as Thumb Veterinary Services, which is an 11-doctor mixed animal practice serving the dairy industry of Michigan.

Doc's passion was serving his dairy clients, not only professionally, but as a trusted friend. Dr. Collings was a favorite among students over his career and mentored hundreds of high school, pre-vet, and veterinary students. He taught in a manner that fostered the respect of everyone who spent time under his guidance while shadowing on the farm. His witty conversations and challenging teaching style always ended with a "It's been a great day!" response.

Dr. Collings served as a 4-H leader, Project Red educator, and received the Jim Frey Award, presented in memory of the Brown City dairy producer and recognizing Dr. Collings' service to the dairy industry. Dr. Collings mentored as a positive role model, demonstrating how to enthusiastically serve the dairy community, asking simple questions - knowing there were not simple answers. Doc brought his best to his work on a daily basis, and his attitude was very contagious!

For his significant contributions to the Michigan dairy industry and education of future veterinarians, the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation is pleased to recognize Dr. Gary Collings as a Foundation Honoree.



2023 MDMSF Honoree

JAMES (JIM) LIESMAN

James “Jim” Sawyer Liesman worked in dairy research as a research technician at Michigan State University for 49 years, first in the Dairy Department and then in Animal Sciences after the merger in 1980. He was born on May 5, 1950, in Detroit, and passed away on March 15, 2023. He moved to East Lansing in 1968 and attended MSU. He began to work in Dr. Roy Emery’s lab in the Dairy Department in 1973 on fatty acid metabolism and synthesis. Liesman took graduate courses related to animal nutrition including biochemistry, carbohydrate and lipid metabolism. Roy encouraged him to take statistics courses and Liesman became very proficient setting up models and analyzing data. This gave him the ability to contribute to dairy research papers published by Dr. Emery and Dr. Herdt (five on lipid metabolism and fatty liver in cows) and others at MSU. He helped graduate students analyze their experiments, and his knowledge of statistics provided him with a good foundation to critically review literature.



Liesman helped with studies looking at correlations of blood fatty acids before calving on health after calving and the effects of bST on fat metabolism. When Dr. Emery retired in 1997, Liesman began a 25-year effort with Dr. Mike VandeHaar continuing to work on dairy nutrition with projects examining effects of diets on heifer growth and on mammary physiology in calves, heifers and dry cows, on effects of diets on immune function, and on corn silage varieties and feed additives on milk production. For the past 12 years, Liesman played a major role in compiling a database of cows with feed efficiency phenotypes and genotypes from several universities under the direction of Drs. VandeHaar and Tempelman. This work resulted in genomic ranking of U.S. dairy bulls for the expected efficiency of their daughters to convert feed to milk. Liesman was a co-author with Dr. VandeHaar on 15 publications in the Journal of Dairy Science.

Liesman was outstanding in his attention to detail as a research technician. Over his career he advanced his knowledge by taking course work, including a carbohydrate and lipids graduate class from Dr. Dale Romsos, attending seminars and reading widely. As an intellectual Liesman read many books and often encouraged friends and colleagues to read books related to scientific knowledge.

Liesman was an avid swimmer, biker and runner. A competitive swimmer in high school, he ran in 5ks and marathons, including the first Detroit Marathon in 1978, and biked the DALMAC 11 times.

In the community Liesman volunteered fixing bikes for Share-A-Bike and at the Lansing Food Bank. From the 1980s to about 2010, Liesman held several important positions on the Bailey Community Association board, working in conjunction with city officials and council members to resolve housing conflicts. trying to solve related problems by working with the city council and city officials. Liesman was a founder of a nonprofit housing corporation for East Lansing with the aim to purchase houses in poor condition, repair them and make them available to people of low or moderate income by giving them mortgage assistance.

It is with great privilege that we recognize Jim Liesman as an Honoree in the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation.

2023 MDMSF Honoree



MARK ADAM

Until Mark Adam's retirement from CentralStar Cooperative in 2020, he often said that he had never received a paycheck that didn't come from a cow. He devoted the entirety of his professional life to the dairy industry as a steadfast leader in Michigan Agriculture for over three decades.

Born and raised in Wakarusa, Indiana, Adam developed an early interest in dairy cattle on his uncle's farm. He began working as a DHI Technician after graduating high school and received the Agricultural Short Course certificate from Purdue University in 1975. In 1980, he married the love of his life Donna, and they welcomed their daughter, Shelly, in 1986. He served as herdsman for Dr. G.W. Snider and Ron Kline from 1985 to 1987, and under his charge the herd achieved a 30,000 pound average with a 111% BAA. From 1987 to 2000, Adam worked his way up to Eastern Regional Sales Manager at in A.I. Sales for Sire Power International, Inc.

In 2000, after years of planning by the Board of Directors to diversify the cooperative, NorthStar-Select Sires, Michigan DHIA, and Fox Valley DHIA merged, creating NorthStar Cooperative. Around this time, the Select Sires Federation purchased Sire Power, where Adam was the Eastern Regional Sales Manager, opening the door for him to join the cooperative and become the inaugural Director of DHI Services. Adam led the cooperative's DHI Services for nine years, growing it from 1,000 herds representing 135,000 cows, to 1,350 herds with more than 285,000 cows. During this time, he facilitated mergers with Chippewa County DHI and Elkhart County DHI. As the cooperative's offerings grew, so did the need for a leader to focus on integrating the various business areas. In January 2009, Adam was named Director of Integrated Services with the responsibility to create teams to better serve owners and customers. In 2015, Adam became General Manager and Executive Vice President of the cooperative. With the merger between East Central/Select Sires and NorthStar Cooperative, Adam was appointed Chief Operating Officer of CentralStar, a role he held until retirement in 2020.

Adam was a member of the National DHIA (NDHIA) Board of Directors for eight years, during which he was elected vice-president, and in 2006, became the first DHI Manager ever elected president of the 45-year-old organization. In 2022, Adam was awarded the NDHIA Outstanding Service Award, and at the beginning of 2023, he was recognized with CentralStar Cooperative's Pioneer Award. Adam also served as Dairy Industry Advisor for the Michigan State University Dairy Club, a member of the Dairy Data Working Group as appointed by the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding, and North American DHI Representative to the International Committee for Animal Recording Metering Devices Sub-Committee.

Adam's significant contributions have earned him both respect and lifelong friends in the dairy industry. He seems to have a reserved seat at World Dairy Expo and has only missed one since the late 1970s. He is a diehard fan of both the Green Bay Packers and the Purdue Boilermakers. In his retirement, Adam enjoys spending time with his wife Donna, daughter Shelly and son-in-law Josh, and especially his grandson, Titus.

We thank Mark Adam for the undeniable positive impact he has had on his colleagues and our industry and congratulate him for his well-deserved recognition as a Michigan Dairy Memorial Scholarship Foundation Honoree.

CELEBRATE DAIRY LEADERS WITH THE GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING

One of the ways the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation (MDMSF) grows its endowment fund is by honoring individuals for their distinguished service to Michigan's dairy industry. More than 225 individuals have been named MDMSF Honorees since the foundation's establishment over 50 years ago.

A gift of \$1,000 or more to the MDMSF provides permanent recognition and honors a dairy leader for their service and contributions to the dairy industry. Foundation Honorees receive personal recognition from the foundation and their names are inscribed on a plaque in Anthony Hall at MSU. Honoree biographies and photographs are kept in permanent records in the MSU Department of Animal Science. In addition, photographs of MDMSF Honorees are displayed at the MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education.

The items needed for naming an MDMSF Honoree include: a \$1,000 contribution to the MDMSF, an 8x10 photo of the honoree and a one-page biography on the honoree. Many times the presentation to an MDMSF Honoree takes place at an industry or MDMSF event. At other

times, an individual is honored posthumously for their service to the industry through a presentation to the deceased honoree's family.

By honoring individuals through the MDMSF, donors are not only recognizing individuals for their accomplishments in the industry, but they are also investing and providing support to future dairy leaders. As the foundation endowment grows, additional scholarships can be awarded. With the increasing costs of higher education, scholarships often make the critical difference in the lives of students, enabling them to achieve their dreams for the future.

Naming someone as an MDMSF Honoree is a fitting tribute for recognizing someone who has served this great industry of ours. If you are interested in honoring someone through the MDMSF, contact:

- Any MDMSF board member
- Dr. Miriam Weber Nielsen at 517-432-5443 or [mws@msu.edu](mailto:mw@msu.edu)
- CANR Development office at 517-355-0284

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO MDMSF

When the occasion suggests flowers, consider a living, growing tribute.



MICHIGAN DAIRY MEMORIAL AND SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Where the earnings provide scholarships to worthy students in dairy industry-related fields.

Make checks payable to: Michigan State University
Designate: Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship
Foundation (A10901)

MAIL TO:

Dr. Miriam Weber Nielsen
Department of Animal Science
Michigan State University
2265 Anthony Hall, 474 S. Shaw Lane
East Lansing, MI 48824-1225

Shannon Good,

a senior in Animal Science from Caledonia, received the Glenn and Anne Lake Dairy Memorial Scholarship. During her undergraduate program, Shannon worked on the MSU Dairy Farm and in the Reproductive and Molecular Endocrinology lab. She also continued her involvement with 4-H and FFA in active volunteer roles. Following graduation, Shannon will work with the state of Michigan as an inspector.

**Adalee Thelen,**

a junior in Animal Science with an Agribusiness Management minor from St. Johns, Michigan received a John and Barbara Dilland Scholarship. Thelen serves as secretary of the MSU Dairy Club and president of the Michigan Junior Holstein Association and participates in dairy judging. Following her work experiences on dairy farms and with a dairy equipment company, she plans to pursue a career in dairy consulting.

**Drew Neyer,**

a senior in Animal Science from Shepherd, Michigan, received the Russel Erickson Dairy Memorial Scholarship. Drew has worked as a student manager at the MSU Dairy Farm and participated in the Dairy Challenge and the MSU Dairy Club. After graduation, Drew plans to pursue a management position on a large dairy farm.

**Mikayla Bowen,**

a senior in Animal Science from Addison, Michigan, received the Archie Studer scholarship. Bowen served as vice-president of the MSU Dairy Club and participated in Dairy Challenge and dairy judging. She has worked in dairy research on campus and interned in dairy nutrition. After graduation, she a consulting career within the dairy industry.

**Brianna Hill,**

a sophomore in Animal Science from Gregory, received the Donald and Valera Murray Dairy Memorial Scholarship. Brianna works as a research assistant in dairy nutrition and participates in Dairy Club, Collegiate Farm Bureau and dairy cattle judging.

**Kelsey Pasch,**

a senior in Animal Science from Beal City, Michigan, is the recipient of the Nick Bellows Scholarship. Kelsey completed an internship in animal health and participated in Dairy Challenge and dairy judging during her undergraduate career. Following graduation, Pasch will pursue graduate work in ruminant nutrition.

**Katie Wilson,**

a senior in Animal Science from Blanchard, received the John and Barbara Dilland Dairy Memorial Scholarship. After graduation, she plans to work in management on a large dairy farm. While at MSU, she has participated in Dairy Challenge, dairy judging and as a 4-H youth advisor and completed internships at the Miner Institute in New York and with a Michigan dairy farm.

**Abby Van Dyk,**

a sophomore in Animal Science from Kalamazoo, is the recipient of the George and Shirley Hazle Dairy Memorial Scholarship. Continuing her record of involvement in the dairy industry through 4-H and as a Michigan Dairy Ambassador, Abby participates in dairy judging and works on a dairy farm.



Calvin Bontekoe,

a senior in Animal Science from Linden, completed an internship in reproductive management and volunteers in 4-H and other community activities. In addition, Calvin earned his pilot's license. Following graduation, Calvin plans to return to his family farm.

**Ashley DeCock,**

a senior in Animal Science from Marine City, Michigan, works as a research assistant in a dairy nutrition laboratory and participates in the MSU Pre-veterinary Medical Association and the Leader Dog Club. She plans to become a veterinarian and work with livestock in her community.

**Deandra Franklin,**

an Animal Science junior from Brownstown, Michigan, has worked at the MSU Dairy Farm and on dairy research projects. Her future plans are to become a dairy veterinarian or a farm manager.

**Grace Herkimer,**

a senior in Animal Science from Monroe, Michigan earned her American FFA degree, served as an officer for her 4-H club and participates at MSU in Sigma Alpha, Collegiate Farm Bureau, and Block and Bridle Club. She also works in a sheep research program.

**BreAnna Laughlin,**

a junior in Animal Science from St. Louisville, Ohio, earned her American FFA degree, served as an officer for her 4-H club and participates at MSU in the Dairy Club and Block and Bridle Club. BreAnna works at the MSU Dairy Farm and plans to become a large animal veterinarian.

**Irie Moussiaux,**

a junior in Animal Science from Bruce Township, Michigan, is completing an internship in dairy nutrition and works in the research program of Dr. Bradford. She participates in the MSU Dairy Club, Sigma Alpha and in Dairy Challenge and dairy judging. After graduation, she plans to work in agribusiness to serve dairy farmers.

**Chase Rievert,**

a senior in Animal Science from Bay Port, Michigan, participates in Dairy Club, Dairy Challenge and worked on several dairy farms. Chase also completed an internship in dairy nutrition.

**Samantha Whitehead,**

a senior in Animal Science from Corunna, plans to work in communications in the dairy industry following graduation. She serves as President of the MSU Dairy Club and as a Michigan dairy ambassador and participates in Dairy Challenge. While at MSU, she is working with the United Dairy Industry of Michigan in industry relations.

**Rachael Bosse,**

an Animal Science junior from Moline, Michigan, has worked on several farms and interned in dairy nutrition as she prepares for a career involving consulting in dairy nutrition. In addition, she participated in MSU Dairy Club and in Dairy Challenge and dairy judging.



Lane Herrman,

a junior in Animal Science from Buchanan, Michigan, participates in FarmHouse Fraternity, MSU Dairy Club and MSU Block and Bridle, in addition to gaining experience on a dairy farm. He plans to work in dairy nutrition or genetics following graduation.

**Emily Ockerman,**

an Animal Science junior from Davison, Michigan, has enjoyed Dairy Challenge trips and working on the MSU Dairy Farm. Her career plans include developing new ways to improve calf care and management.

**Jaylin Dilsaver,**

a sophomore in Animal Science, earned her state FFA degree and participates in MSU Dairy Club. She has worked on several dairy farms prior to and during her time at MSU. After graduation, Jaylin plans to work in dairy nutrition and operate a heifer raising facility.

**Danielle Rummel,**

an Animal Science junior from Frankenmuth, Michigan, has worked on dairy farms and in a veterinary clinic during her program at MSU. During the spring, she serves as a varsity girls' soccer coach.

**Lauren Ringewold,**

a sophomore in Animal Science from Battle Creek, earned her state FFA degree and has worked on dairy and beef farms. She participates in Dairy Club and Dairy Challenge and plans to work in dairy nutrition or genetics.

**Juanita Bulloch,**

a sophomore in Dairy Management from Hartland, participated in Dairy Club and dairy judging. She worked at the MSU dairy farm and plans to work in dairy nutrition with interests in education and bilingual training.

**Brooke Voelker,**

a senior in Animal Science from Paris, Michigan, participates in Dairy Challenge and Sigma Alpha at MSU, in addition to working in dairy nutrition research. She completed internships in dairy nutrition and plans to pursue a career as a dairy cattle nutritionist upon graduation.

**Marissa Wilcox,**

an Animal Science senior from Columbiaville, Michigan, is the recipient of a Dairy Memorial Scholarship. Outside of her studies, Wilcox enjoys MSU rodeo, and football and basketball games. Wilcox aspires to become a large and small animal veterinarian.

**Monika Dziuba,**

a fourth-year Veterinary Medicine student from Riverview, Michigan, is the recipient of the Red and Edna Cotter Scholarship from the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation. Dziuba has appreciated giving tours of the MSU farms to prospective MSU students and their families and competing in the National Dairy Challenge in Georgia. Following graduation, she plans to become a staff veterinarian for a dairy group.



Jared Sanderson,

a fourth-year Veterinary Medicine student from Sandusky, Michigan, is the recipient of the Harold and Lillian Gremel Scholarship. He has enjoyed being a member of the Michigan State Dairy Club, Michigan State University Block and Bridle Club and the MSU CVM Food Animal Club. Additionally, his time as a member within the Dairy Challenge Program was rewarding and memorable. Upon graduation he will be an associate veterinarian at Thumb Veterinary Services in Sandusky, Michigan, where he will work with food animals, primarily dairy cattle.

**Emmy Schuurmans,**

a fourth-year Veterinary Medicine student from Caledonia, Michigan, is the recipient of the Gary and Carolyn Trimner Scholarship. Schuurmans has appreciated working in Dr. Pursley's research lab assisting in studies on dairy cattle fertility programs and being involved in the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP). Following graduation, she plans to work in private practice as a dairy practitioner in the Midwest.



Tyler Klopfenstein, a second year student in the MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology in Dairy Management from Galien, Michigan, is the recipient of

the Velmar Green Scholarship. Klopfenstein has truly enjoyed the opportunity to travel with a great group of people and make lifelong memories at competitions. He plans to pursue a career with a dairy equipment company and work specifically with robotics, and possibly continue helping on the family farm.

**Katrina Beaton,**

a first-year Veterinary Medicine student from Traverse City, Michigan, shared that her best experiences at MSU include involvement with and the friends she has made in the Veterinary Medicine program. Following graduation, she plans to become a food animal veterinarian and make a difference in her community.



TAX SAVINGS USING REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS FROM TRADITIONAL IRAS

by Jeffrey Bushey, Managing Principal,
Nietzke & Faupel, P.C.

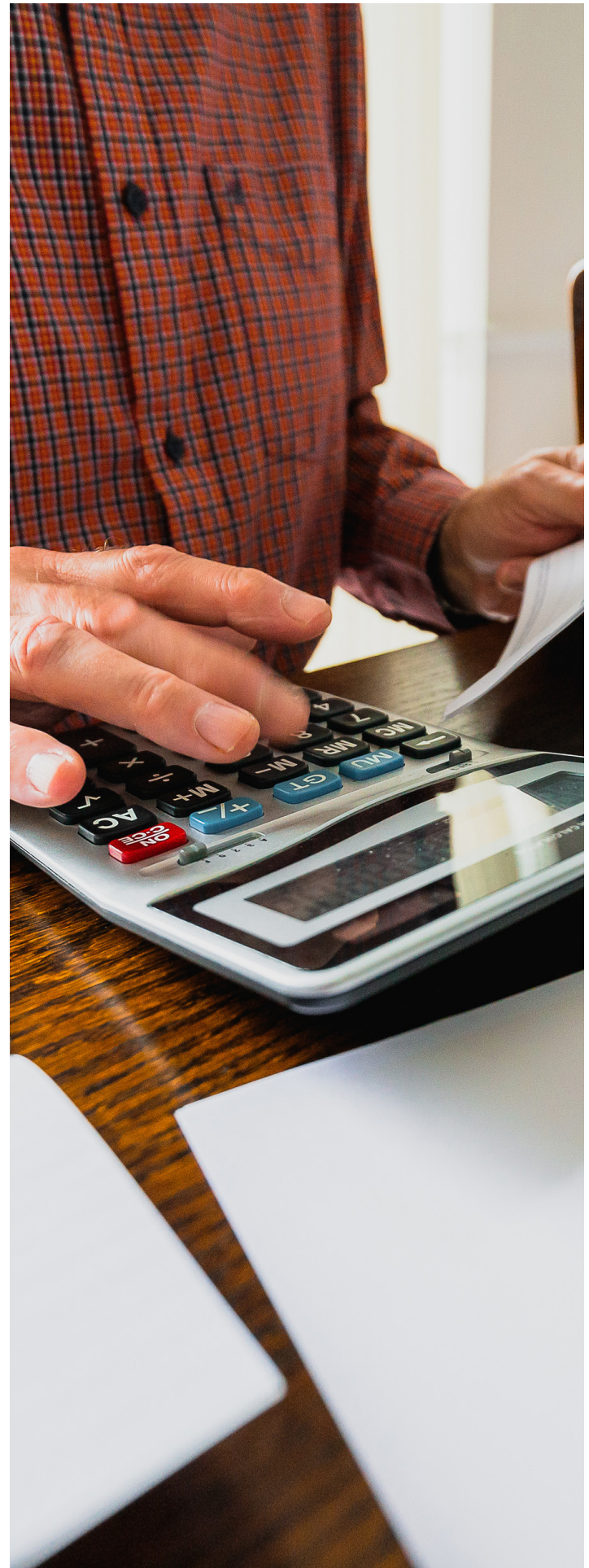
Beginning in 2023 the SECURE 2.0 Act raised the required minimum distribution(RMD) age to 73 for retirement accounts including traditional IRAs. This is good news for most retirement account holders. However, this will probably result in higher RMD amounts in the future. This higher amount could push a taxpayer into a higher tax bracket. Using the RMD as a charitable gift is a way to reduce the tax burden. Taxpayers who are already making charitable gifts may not be getting a tax benefit from this donations

The standard deduction in 2023 is \$30,700 for a married couple who are both over the age of 65. Therefore, in order to take advantage of charitable gifts, the total amount of itemized deductions needs to exceed the standard deduction of \$30,700. Itemized deductions generally include the following:

- Out of pocket medical expenses that exceed 7.5% of income
- Home mortgage interest
- State and local income and property taxes up to \$10,000
- Charitable gifts

Retirees, who are on Medicare, generally do not have out of pocket medical expenses that would exceed 7.5% of income. Most retirees do not have mortgage interest. Therefore, with the amount of state and local taxes capped at \$10,000, charitable gifts would need to exceed \$20,700 to result in any federal income tax savings.

Using a Qualified Charitable Distribution(QCD) from a traditional IRA to take out the annual RMD amount will be tax free. This results in the taxpayer effectively getting a tax deduction for the charitable distribution and still being able to use the standard deduction of \$30,700. Depending on the a taxpayer's taxable income level this could result in tax savings up to 43%. To make the QCD a taxpayer simply need to ensure the RMD go directly from the traditional IRA to a quailed charitable organization. Anyone considering this type of gift should get professional tax advice before making the gift.



NEW MSU DAIRY FACILITY PLANNING UNDERWAY

After years of discussion, a new MSU dairy facility is in the works.

Following an investment by the State of Michigan in MSU agricultural research infrastructure in mid- 2022, planning for the facility began in earnest. Currently, several architecture and engineering firms are working closely with MSU faculty and staff to design a facility that will put MSU at the forefront of dairy research, teaching, and outreach efforts well into the future.

Current plans for the facility include space for approximately 650 cows, automated feed bins for individual feeding of free-housed cows, robotic milking, space to safely train students in cattle handling, classrooms, and a visitor center, among other features. The farm will also enable research and demonstration projects focused on environmental sustainability, including mitigation of ruminal methane production and nutrient separation technologies for better P and N management.

The new facility and increased herd size will:

- Identify feasible strategies to promote economic and environmental sustainability.
- Ensure the highest level of animal care and production with robust data-driven science.
- Enhance much-needed studies on nutrition, genetics and animal well-being.

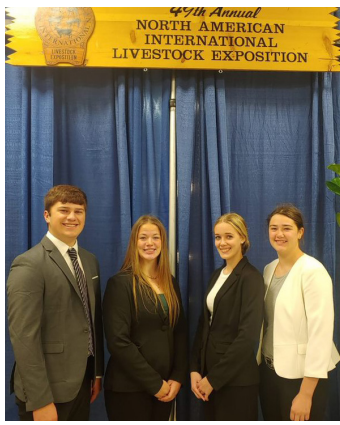
- Create a pipeline of labor by introducing MSU students to modern, relevant dairy operations.
- Train dairy professionals for the College of Veterinary Medicine curriculum accreditation.

Considering the many purposes of this facility, the design process is complex, requiring lots of voices to be heard. We are fortunate to have 10 experts from the Michigan dairy industry who have volunteered to review the plans on an ongoing basis and provide feedback. Thanks to the committee members:

- Doug Chapin, Remus
- Mark Fox, Sandusky
- Aaron Gasper, Belding
- Tommy Oesch, Alto
- Brent Robinson, Marlette
- Stephanie Schafer, Westphalia
- Bridget Silvernail, Evart
- Nicole Vanderploeg, Ithaca
- Paul Windemuller, Coopersville
- Matt Wood, Marlette

The planning process will continue into late 2023, with the goal of breaking ground in late spring of 2024. If all goes well, we should be able to move cows into the new facility sometime in 2026. We appreciate the ongoing support and input from all members of the dairy community!





MSU DAIRY JUDGING RECAP

A total of 18 students and 4-H youth represented MSU and the state of Michigan throughout the 2022 dairy judging season. Collegiate team member Jessie Nash had a historic season, placing as the high overall individual at both World Dairy Expo and the All-American Dairy Invitational. The Michigan 4-H team's 2nd place finish overall at World Dairy Expo earned them an invitation to the International Dairy Judging Tour in Europe during the summer of 2023.

Spring 2022:

Western National Spring Show

[Richmond, UT]

Both the Green and White MSU collegiate teams placed 3rd overall.

Fall 2022:

Maryland State Fair [Lutherville, MD]

A three-day intensive practice for 40+ MSU students, 4-H members, coaches and volunteers.

All-American Dairy Invitational

[Harrisburg, PA]

The MSU collegiate team finished 5th and the Michigan 4-H team finished 10th overall.

World Dairy Expo [Madison, WI]

The MSU collegiate team placed 7th, MSU Ag Tech team placed 4th, Michigan 4-H team placed 2nd overall.

North American International Livestock Exposition [Louisville, KY]

The MSU collegiate team placed 7th, MSU Ag Tech team placed 4th, MSU 4-H team placed 4th overall.

Follow along at www.canr.msu.edu/dairyjudging for updates on the upcoming dairy judging season!

MSU DAIRY CHALLENGE RECAP

During the 2022-2023 academic year, more than 40 students participated in the MSU Dairy Challenge program. These students traveled all over Michigan and New York developing skills and knowledge to evaluate dairy farms and making presentations to industry professionals.

The **MSU Local Dairy Challenge** kicked off the season in December 2022. Three advanced teams, four intermediate teams and 13 novice individuals participated, evaluating Sand Creek Dairy in Hastings, Michigan. The teams had seven days after the farm visit to prepare presentations for a panel of industry professionals. The local contest finished with a student, alumni and industry networking banquet with over 100 participants in attendance.

After a semester of intense training, 11 MSU students traveled to Saratoga Springs, New York to participate in the 2023 **National Dairy Challenge** contest. Seven students participated in the National **Dairy Challenge Academy**, where MSU students joined teams with students from different universities to build skills for future challenges. In the national contest, Rachael Bosse, Drew Neyer, Emily Ockerman and Kelsey Pasch carried on MSU's tradition of excellence as Reserve Champions on Dairy B.

Follow along at www.canr.msu.edu/dairychallenge for updates on the upcoming dairy judging season!

MICHIGAN'S DAIRY INDUSTRY RECOGNIZES DR. JOE DOMEQCQ WITH ESTABLISHED ENDOWMENT

In an effort to recognize Dr. Joe Domecq's lifelong service to the dairy industry, industry partners came together to establish an endowment fund through the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation. Industry partners began their fundraising efforts in 2021, and the \$50,000 fundraising goal was met this summer, establishing the Dr. Joe Domecq Dairy Judging and Teaching Endowment.

Domecq works with young dairy leaders in his roles as Michigan State University (MSU) Institute of Agricultural Technology (IAT) dairy management program coordinator, animal science academic specialist, MSU dairy challenge team coach and 4-H, IAT, and MSU dairy judging coach. Dr Domecq serves as Coordinator and Advisor for Dairy Education programs at MSU. The scholarship endowment pays homage to Domecq's involvement in MSU's dairy program and will provide ongoing financial support to students participating in dairy judging and the dairy management programs at Michigan State University.

In addition to being recognized with this endowment fund, Domecq has previously received Hoard's Dairyman Youth Development Award in 2012, the dairy industry's highest award recognizing a dairy youth educator. The future of Michigan's dairy industry is strong because of Domecq's unique ability to guide students toward meeting their short-term and long-term life and career goals.

Domecq's endowment is established through the Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation (MDMSF), one of the largest scholarship programs in the MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. MDMSF is made possible through contributions made in honor of individuals who have served the dairy industry. The Domecq endowment is now one of many named endowments managed by MDMSF that will help students further their dairy education.



Donations to MDMSF and the Dr. Joe Domecq Dairy Judging/Management Endowment are still being accepted:

- via check: payable to Michigan State University, Designate Domecq, CANR (A105121), Mail to University Advancement, Spartan Way, 535 Chestnut Rd., Room 300, East Lansing, MI 48824
- or via credit card: Call 517-884-1000 or visit <https://givingto.msu.edu/gift/?sid=9436>

Coming 2025-26 New MSU Dairy Farm Facilities



Current Research and Teaching

- Up to 7 research projects going on simultaneously, involving up to 65% of the herd at a time
- 2+ year wait for “transition” cow studies
- Dairy Tech Program- new interactive learning experience
 - Each student works in rotating stations
 - 10 hours per week for 10 weeks

Key Proposed Features

- ✓ Research equipment for free-housed cows to receive specific diets and measure feed intake
- ✓ 120-cow robotic milking barn to enable undergraduate students to manage cows and equipment
- ✓ Incorporation of next-gen manure handling and nutrient utilization equipment



MSU Dairy Industry Tailgate



November 4, 2023

**4 Hours Before Game Starts - Through the End of the Game
Southwest Corner of Mt. Hope and Farm Lane**

After a busy harvest season, spend a day with Spartan fans and fellow dairy enthusiasts at the inaugural MSU Dairy Industry Tailgate!

Join us on campus for complimentary food and drinks in advance of the MSU vs. Nebraska football game. Stay and watch the game on a big screen TV or take the shuttle across the street to the stadium.

For more information:

Bring the family, reconnect with old friends and meet some new ones!

If you are unable to access the material online, please contact ANR Event Services at 517-353-3175 or events@anr.msu.edu.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer.



<https://events.anr.msu.edu/dairytailgate/>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

February 28, 2023

Deadline for scholarship applications
(first-time and renewal applications for 4-year students)

For application or more information about MDMSF Scholarships, visit www.ans.msu.edu and click on the "students" link.

DISPATCHES FROM THE ANIMAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

from Cathy Ernst, Animal Science Chairperson

The Animal Science Department has been very active in the past year. Total enrollment of undergraduate students in our department 4-year BS and 2-year Ag Tech programs has surpassed 600 students and continues to grow.

Our Dairy Industry Concentration curriculum is entering its third year and it was featured in a recent MSUE news article (<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/michigan-state-university-dairy-education>). The number of students participating in the concentration is increasing and the first group of students graduated from the program in spring 2023. A new recruiting event, MSU Dairy Education Academy, was held in March 2023 to provide an opportunity for high school students to visit campus and learn about dairy education opportunities.

MSU students participating in experiential learning activities have been very successful. The MSU Dairy Challenge team continued to perform well placing 2nd in their division in national competition in April 2023. Members of the MSU Dairy Judging Team traveled to Modesto, CA to compete in the 2023 NACTA Dairy Judging and Management contests. In the dairy management contest, the team placed 1st overall with Adalee Thelen placing 1st and Drew Neyer placing 2nd individually. The team placed 3rd overall in the dairy judging contest with Drew Neyer placing 9th individually.

News reports and features on dairy research, Extension and student activities can be found in the Spartan Dairy Newsletter that is published three times per year (<https://www.canr.msu.edu/dairy/resources/dairy-at-msu-newsletter>). Recently, a notable honor went to Barry Bradford who received the 2023 Corporate Connector of the Year Award from the MSU Innovation Center.



The MSU Innovation Center honored Animal Science's Barry Bradford as 2023's Corporate Connector of the Year for his dairy industry partnerships.

Our faculty, graduate and undergraduate students have been active in participating in professional conferences and several students have received top placings in competitions. At the Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference in April Alycia Burch (advisor Adam Lock) placed 1st and Kirby Krogstad (advisor Barry Bradford) placed 2nd in the PhD division competition. Several Animal Science faculty and graduate students represented MSU at the 11th International Ruminant Reproduction Symposium in Galway, Ireland. Richard Pursley gave a keynote address at the conference, and graduate students Kaitlin Karl (advisor Jim Ireland), Thaina Minela (advisor Richard Pursley) and Alisson Santos (advisor Richard Pursley) gave presentations. MSU Animal Science was also well represented at the American Dairy Science Association annual meeting where Richard Pursley received the DeLaval Dairy Extension Award and Mike VandeHaar assumed the leadership role of ADSA Vice President. Barry Bradford gave a symposium presentation and many graduate students and postdocs gave presentations on their research. Madison Sokacz (advisor Tasia Kendrick) received 3rd place in the PhD poster contest.

We can't express enough our tremendous gratitude for the support we receive from our alumni and friends. We were pleased to recognize Wilson Centennial Farms with the 2023 Dairy Farm of the Year award from the department that was presented at the Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference in February.

We are grateful to the many alumni, industry leaders and friends who advocated for state funding support for infrastructure updates to the campus dairy and greenhouse facilities in 2022. Planning for the new dairy is actively underway. This state-of-the-art facility will allow training of students for dairy industry positions, as well as facilitate research directly relevant to industry needs.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the outpouring of support from the community following the tragic events on the MSU campus in February. The MSU Dairy Cattle Teaching and Research Center held several outreach events that welcomed hundreds of visitors to de-stress with cows and calves, and many faculty, staff and students volunteered to make these events a success.



Sparty made a stop at the Dairy Research and Teaching Facility in April for a community de-stressing event.



Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation

Michigan State University
Anthony Hall, Room 2265
474 S Shaw Ln
East Lansing MI 48824

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Please make checks payable to Michigan State University, designate for MDMSF and forward with this completed form to:

Dr. Miriam Weber Nielsen
Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation
Department of Animal Science, Michigan State University
Anthony Hall, Room 2265
474 S Shaw Ln
East Lansing MI 48824



Contributions to MDMSF (A10901)

Appeal Code 01034

Enclosed is my total contribution of \$ _____ OR

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- Joining MSU donor recognition clubs*

