

## 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*



### **2019 Mid-Atlantic Regional Show Champions**

**Marston Homestead Jane, Grand Champion AMD and Champion Cow**

**Shown by breeders and owners Kim and Mark Winslow of Marston Homestead, West Falmouth, Maine**

**Feature Article: 2019 Mid-Atlantic Regional Show & Card-Grading**

Courtesy of Richard Larson

The largest gathering of American Milking Devons in 80 years came together in Virginia for three days of comradery, competition and communication. Breeders from Maine, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia exhibited 49 head in the regional show. Five Directors joined the festivities. The judges for the weekend were: Bruce Farr, New Hampshire and Darin Durham, Virginia. The breeders included eight youth and nine adults. The 49 Milking Devon exhibited included: 11 heifer calves; 8 yearling heifers; 10 young cows; 12 senior cows; and, 8 bull calves.

*“The progress of this breed in the past decade to actually be able to do this type of event is very impressive. I never thought I would see it in my lifetime.”*  
Jeremy Michaud, Director

Following are the results of the 2019 competitive show held on Saturday, 9/28/19.

**Junior Heifer Class**

<b><u>Spring Heifer</u></b>	<b><u>Placing</u></b>	<b><u>Exhibiter</u></b>	<b><u>Breeder</u></b>
OGF Virginia Beauty	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
OGF Virginia Elaine	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
OGF Virginia Eleanor	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Hope	4 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
Ox Hill Ann’s Glory	5 <sup>th</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
Ox Hill Hermione II	6 <sup>th</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
Every Season Farm Freedom Rose	7 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm

**Winter Heifer**

OGF Virginia Princess	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
OGF Virginia Elizabeth	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
CW Olivia	3 <sup>rd</sup>	CW	Colonial Williamsburg

**Fall Heifer**

Marston Homestead Claire	1 <sup>st</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
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<b>OGF Virginia Princess</b>	<b>Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>Marston Homestead Claire</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Winslow	Marston Homestead

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**Senior Heifer Class****Spring Yearling Heifer**

OGF Virginia Diana	1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Dinah	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
OGF Virginia Duchess	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Ox Hill Hermione	4 <sup>th</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
Mount Pleasant’s Laurel	5 <sup>th</sup>	Keen	Mount Pleasant Plantation
Mount Pleasant’s Bertha	6 <sup>th</sup>	Keen	Mount Pleasant Plantation

**Winter Yearling Heifer**

Diller Farms Grace	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Diller Farm
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**Fall Yearling Heifer**

Devons Gate Prince Gemini	1 <sup>st</sup>	Michaud	Devons Gate Farm
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**Senior Heifer Class (Continued)**

<b>Devons Gate Prince Gemini</b>	<b>Champion</b>	Michaud	Devon's Gate Farm
<b>OGF Virginia Diana</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm

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**Young Cow Class****Young Cow**

Marston Homestead Jane	1 <sup>st</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
OGF Carolina Borgia	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mt. Vernon	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Eve	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
Every Season Farm Rosebud	4 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
OGF Virginia Constantina	5 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Rose Petal	6 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
OGF Carolina Bonnie	7 <sup>th</sup>	Mt. Vernon	Old Gjerpen Farm
OGF Virginia Corrine	8 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Hartburn Farm Sunshine	9 <sup>th</sup>	Hart	Hartburn Farm
Hartburn Farm Moonshine	10 <sup>th</sup>	Hart	Hartburn Farm

**Senior Cow Class****Senior Cow**

Diller Farms Velvet Rose	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Diller Farm
Marston Homestead Kaya	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
Devon's Gate Georgia Pine	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Michaud	Devons Gate Farm
Diller Farms Hannah	4 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Diller Farm
Marston Homestead Maria	5 <sup>th</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
M.B. Ox Hill Betty	6 <sup>th</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
Colonial Williamsburg Juno	7 <sup>th</sup>	CW	Colonial Williamsburg
Laura National Colonial Farm	8 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	National Colonial Farm
MVLA Two to Tango	9 <sup>th</sup>	Keen	Mount Vernon
Hinesite Autumn	10 <sup>th</sup>	Hart	Hinesite Farm
Devon's Gate Georgia Peach	11 <sup>th</sup>	CW	Devon's Gate Farm
Hinesite Hartburn Snowflake	12 <sup>th</sup>	Hart	Hinesite Farm

<b>Marston Homestead Jane</b>	<b>Champion Cow</b>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
<b>OGF Carolina Borgia</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Mt. Vernon	Old Gjerpen Farm

<b>OGF Virginia Princess</b>	<b>Grand Champion Female</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
<b>Marston Homestead Jane</b>	<b>Reserve Champion Female</b>	Winslow	Marston Homestead

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**Bull Calf Class****Spring Bull Calf**

Every Season Farm Steven Rogers	1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
OGF Virginia Rebel	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Ox Hill Wild Bill	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
Meadow Brook J. IRS	4 <sup>th</sup>	Michaud	Meadow Brook Farm
OGF Virginia Earl	5 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
Every Season Farm Joseph	6 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm

**Bull Calf Class (Continued)**

**Winter Bull Calf**

Marston Homestead Kane	1 <sup>st</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
Colonial Williamsburg Oscar	2 <sup>nd</sup>	CW	Colonial Williamsburg

<b>Marston Homestead Kane</b>	<b>Champion Bull</b>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
<b>OGF Virginia Rebel</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm

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**Bred and Owned Class**

**Bred & Owned 3 Heifers**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
4 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm

**Bred & Owned Produce of Dam**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Michaud	Devon's Gate Farm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
5 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
6 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm

**Bred & Owned Dam & Daughter**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
2 <sup>nd</sup>	CW	Colonial Williamsburg
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm

**Get-of-Sire**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Van Ord	Ox Hill Devons
4 <sup>th</sup>	Larson	Old Gjerpen Farm
5 <sup>th</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm

**Breeders Herd**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Freier	Every Season Farm
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<b>Marston Homestead Jane</b>	<b>Grand Champion AMD</b>	Winslow	Marston Homestead
<b>Marston Homestead Kane</b>	<b>Reserve Champion AMD</b>	Winslow	Marston Homestead

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Congratulations to Mark and Kim Winslow for their Grand and Reserve Champion AMDs (pictured on the front of the newsletter). At the conclusion of the show two special awards were made determined by cumulative points based on placement of the exhibitor's entries in each of the classes. Three points were awarded for each 1<sup>st</sup> place, two points for each 2<sup>nd</sup> place and one point for each 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

For the second consecutive year the awards went to:

**Premier Junior Exhibitor**                      **Dale Freier III**                      Every Season Farm, NY

**Premier Breeder**                                      **Richard Larson**                      Old Gjerpen Farm, VA

Sunday was dedicated to evaluation of individual animals using the card-grading system. With card-grading animals are scored as:

- **Blue Card – Excellent:** Conforming to the breed standard and free from genetic-based unsoundness.
- **Red Card – Good:** Conforming to most of the breed standard and free from genetic-based unsoundness.
- **Yellow Card – Fair:** An acceptable, average breeding animal with no disqualifying deviations from the breed standard and no genetic-based unsoundness.
- **White Card – Unacceptable:** An unacceptable breeding animal which either does not conform to the breed standard and/or is genetically unsound.

*“The Virginia show brought together a large number of cattle which provided everyone a chance to see excellent examples of American Milking Devon cattle...” Bruce Farr, Judge/Director*


*“It was exciting to see so many Devon, and Devon Breeders networking together, at one Fair!” Bonnie Hall, Registrar*

Card-grading is usually done with three judges reaching consensus. However, with the objective of evaluating as many cattle as possible in the available time, the judges independently evaluated 36 Milking Devon. Of the animals evaluated, 24 were “Blue-Carded,” 7 “Red-Carded,” 4 “Yellow-Carded,” and one

“White-Carded.” With several notable exceptions, the results of the Sunday evaluations were consistent with the Saturday show placings. Animals that placed high competitively were blue-carded and animals that place lower competitively received either a red, yellow or white card.

I want to thank the exhibitors who brought their beautiful Milking Devon to the Second Annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Show, especially those of you who traveled considerable distance. Your time and effort made the show a great success. As many of you said, this was indeed a unique opportunity to meet other breeders and learn about their operations. A special thanks to Bruce Farr and Darin Durham for judging the show. Thanks to Directors John Hall and Tom Slater for coming and meeting with the breeders. (Editor’s note: Directors Andrew Van Ord and Jeremy Michaud were also present at the show as exhibitors.) Finally, a grateful thanks to Gina Slater and Bonnie Hall for graciously volunteering to record the results for both the competitive show and card-grading – truly a “team-effort.”

Having regular breed shows gives breeders an opportunity to not only network with other breeders and showcase their stock, it also, over time, provides useful information/feedback to breeders about their breeding program. The results of a single competitive show are simply the opinion of one individual (judge) on a particular day. However, over time, cumulative results based on the opinions of various judges, begin to have meaningful value. It is interesting to observe that animals that did well in the 2018 regional show also, with one notable exception, did well in the

Standard of Excellence and Scale of Points of Devon Cow	
<small>From the American Devon Record Book, 1926</small>	
	
HEAD moderately long, with a broad indented Forehead, tapering considerably towards the Nostrils; the Nose of creamy-white, the Nostrils high and open, the Jaws clean, the Eye bright, lively and prominent; Throat clean, Ears thin, the Expression being gentle and intelligent; Horns matching, long, spreading, and gradually turned up, of waxy color, tipped with a darker shade.	10
NECK of medium length, growing from the Head to the shoulders, and spreading out to meet them.	4
WITHERS fine, Shoulders flat, sloping and well covered.	6
RIBS well sprung from the Backbone, nicely arched, deep and fully developed.	8
BACK straight and level from the Withers, to the setting on of the Tail, Loins broad and full, Hips of medium width and on a level with the Back.	12
RUMPS moderately long and level.	8
HIND-QUARTERS deep, thick and square.	10
UDDER not fleshy, coming well forward in line with the Belly, and well up behind; Teats large, and squarely placed.	20
TAIL thick at the root and tapering, with a brush of strong hair, reaching to the Hoeks, and hanging at right angles with the back.	5
THE UNDER LINE as nearly as possible parallel with the top.	6
LEGS straightly and squarely placed when viewed from behind, not to cross or sweep when walking.	5
SKIN moderately thick and mellow, covered with an abundant coat of rich mossy hair of a red color; white about the Udder is admissible, but it should not extend beyond the Navel forward, on the outside of the Flanks or any other part of the Limbs or Body.	6
Perfection	100

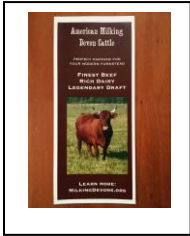
2019 show. Calves that placed high in 2018 also placed high as yearlings in 2019. Similarly, yearlings that placed high in 2018 also placed high in 2019 as young cows. With that in mind, I strongly encourage breeders from the mid-west and south to join us at the 2020 Mid-Atlantic Regional Show at the Virginia State Fair, September 25-27, 2020. For more information about the 2020 show, contact me at [oldgjerpenfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:oldgjerpenfarm@yahoo.com).

### **THANK YOU!**



Richard Larson and Sue Puffenbarger

The American Milking Devon Cattle Association (AMDCA) would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank **Richard Larson** of Old Gjerpen Farm in Virginia for all his hard work and effort in organizing this remarkable show. It would not have been possible without his tireless effort. The AMDCA would also like to thank, **Sue Puffenbarger**, Superintendent of Dairy Shows, Virginia State Fair for her support of this Regional Devon Show and for all the work she did to help make the weekend a rewarding and memorable experience (including the ice cream!).



**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.

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

**Membership Form- Reminder: 2020 Membership Dues due by the end of the year-** 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, a category open to those under 18 years of age for a single dues payment (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.

**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. Failure to use the new form could result in delays in processing your registration applications.

**Forms are 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. Website activity statistics seem to be decreasing recently. For the months of August and September there were 643 and 689 visits to the website respectively. For the same two months there were 465 and 484 visitors per month respectively. Eighty (80) percent of the visitors in August and September had not viewed the website prior, which is a higher percentage than previous months. The statistics indicate that the For Sale page(s) continue to be the most frequently viewed with Breed and Semen inquiries second and third. 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.

**Buying Registered Cattle-** It has come to the attention of the Association that some AMD buyers are not receiving their transfer registration papers in a timely fashion as the result of sellers not submitting the appropriate paperwork to the Registrar. Some of these buyers reach out to the Association to seek assistance in rectifying the situation. The Association, however, has no authority to intervene in this type of situation. The buyer and seller should discuss the transfer paperwork **prior to the sale being completed**, and if at all possible, the buyer should receive a copy of the paperwork the seller is forwarding to the Registrar at the time the cattle are physically transferred. A potential buyer could contact the Registrar prior to a purchase to ascertain whether a seller actively registers cattle. No personal information beyond "YES THEY ACTIVELY REGISTER CATTLE" or "NO THEY HAVEN'T ACTIVELY REGISTERED CATTLE" regarding a seller will be given out by the Registrar. In order to maintain the integrity of our breed registry, the Registrar cannot register animals without the proper paperwork.

### **ADDITION TO REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:**

On occasion the Registrar receives registration requests that are physically impossible or questionable due to the dates and cattle involved. The Registration Committee has in some of these instances requested DNA samples to prove parentage. There was general agreement at the Annual Meeting that a procedure should be developed by the Board and sent out to the membership in the newsletter with a specified date by which members should respond. The proposed procedure would then be finalized and implemented by the Board. The Board developed procedure language to address this issue more formally, the procedure was circulated in the last newsletter and no comments were received by the deadline. The new proposed procedure falls within the Policy Guidelines offered by the By-Laws.

**New Proposed Registration Procedure effective October 1, 2019:** In the event the Registrar receives a registration application where the information provided in the application makes the pedigree a physical impossibility or highly questionable due to the dates and cattle involved, the Registrar shall deny the application and so notify the applicant. If the applicant subsequently submits a new application involving the same animal and the Registrar, upon review, deems the information contained therein to still be highly questionable, a referral shall be made to the Registration Committee for further review. As part of the review procedure, the Committee may request, at the owner's expense, DNA or additional information. If that information is not received within six months, it is assumed the application is withdrawn. The Registration Committee's decision may be appealed to the full Board. The Board may request any information it deems necessary to make an

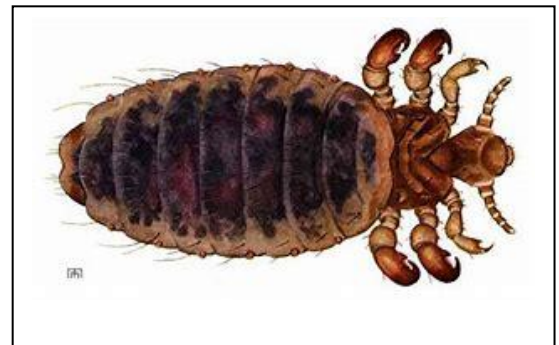
informed decision, including a DNA Analysis at the owner's expense. If that information is not received by the Board within six months, it is assumed the application is withdrawn. The Board's decision is final.

### **EVENTS YOU JUST SHOULDN'T MISS**

- **AMDCA ANNUAL MEETING-** The Annual Meeting of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association will be held on **Saturday May 9th, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Tunbridge Town Hall, in Tunbridge, Vermont. In addition to the regular annual business, there will be elections for Directors. All members are strongly encouraged to attend as many policy issues are discussed and decided at the Annual Meeting. Membership determines policy at the Annual Meeting that is subsequently implemented by the Board of Directors.

### **WINTER IS COMING- Time to Treat for Lice**

According to Ray Clark, winter is the time lice are most active with cows. They suck blood and can seriously impact the health of your cows. It is rare, but an untreated lice infection can kill a cow. If you are unsure how to treat for lice consider consulting your veterinarian.



**Cattle louse (enlarged of course)**

← **Results of a lice infection**

### **A TRIBUTE TO OUR REGIONAL SHOW EXHIBITORS**

Showing cattle at a fair is not for the faint hearted. It requires a knowledge of the Breed Standard, animals who meet the standard, a knowledge of showmanship, proper training to shape the animals' behavior so they behave in the ring, transportation to the show, lodging once at the show, feed for the animals, animal preparation for the show and finally the daunting spectacle of the show in front of a judge and spectators. It is a sacrifice and the AMDCA is grateful that several breeders made that sacrifice this year to make the show special, so we thought you should know who they are and their stories.



## Colonial Williamsburg

As most know, Colonial Williamsburg is a premier historical City located in Williamsburg, Virginia. It is home to the colonial era Governor's Mansion, shops, inns, taverns, a court house, an armory, the House of Burgesses, many beautiful period homes, and a jail among many other things. As you stroll along the streets you will encounter many villagers in period costume and animals of all sorts, reminiscent of the colonial era. Among the animals you see are cattle.

At the time of the show, Williamsburg had 16 head of American Milking Devons, nine Shorthorns and a Jersey. The Shorthorns are representative of what in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century were called Durhams. Colonial Williamsburg utilizes the Shorthorns as oxen as they are required to stand still for long periods of time, something Devons are not particularly good at. Shorthorns are more patient.



**Dan Hard, Lauren Kehoe, Samantha Hughes and Melissa Barnes**



**Winning with the Shorthorns**

two years they had used artificial insemination.

One of their main purposes is to expose people to rare breeds. As an editorial aside, it was at Colonial Williamsburg that the editor was first introduced to AMDs. Many people have never seen cows with horns, so it's an educational experience for them. They also recommend the Devon as a good family house cow. They also use the cows to remind people where their food comes from and in the future they hope to do more with food related education. The Williamsburg staff also brought some shorthorns along with the Devons and won some ribbons with them.

Colonial Williamsburg was represented at the show by Dan Hard, a Certified Carriage Driver, who has been a coachman for over 30 years; Samantha Hughes, whose specialty is Russian Foreign Policy; Melissa Barnes, whose specialty is companion and lab animals; and Lauren Kehoe whose specialty is livestock. Their goal as a team is to preserve and better the breed. They recently hosted AMDCA Directors Ray Clark and Dexter Randall to put on a seminar regarding the classification of American Milking Devons according to the Breed Standard. They would like to expand their AMD bloodlines and recently bought a bull for that purpose. For the past



**Colonial Williamsburg in the Show Ring #247**

### Ox Hill Devons

Andrew, Kathy and Lily Van Ord live on about 50 acres in Russell, Pennsylvania. Training oxen and raising Devons is a family tradition for the Van Ords. The late Howard Van Ord, Andrew’s father, was a noted teamster, or drover if you prefer, and he passed that skill on to his family. The family has always been active in 4-H and Lily now participates. Andrew has recently chosen to train working cows instead of steers, citing economics as the reason. You can get both work and new calves from them.



**Andrew, Kathy and Lily**



**The Van Ord touch**

This past summer, as a 4-Her, Lily showed Devons in dairy classes and broke two Devon heifers as oxen. The family take their oxen to a local heritage festival each year. This year Lily was placed in charge of the contract and Dad worked for her. This is all part of the Van Ord family tradition in passing on to the next generation a love for Devons as well as a working knowledge of training and driving oxen.

Their goal is to summer just under

20 head on about 17 acres of pasture and over winter about 12. Andrew is a Director of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association, currently serving as Secretary of the Association. He is interested in preserving the Devon in its original triple-purpose form.



**Father and daughter in the ring together**



**Lily and one of her blue ribbons**

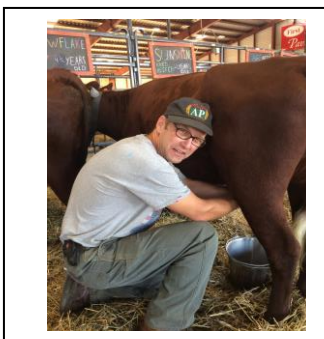
**Hart Burn Farm**

Meet Steve and Felicity Hart of Hart Burn Farm. No, the name is not what you think. Hart is the family name and “burn” is the Scottish word for stream. Their farm of 145 acres with 80 acres of pasture and lots of woods is located in Lexington, Virginia. Steve is a Civil Engineer and teacher by trade. He teaches at the Virginia Military Institute. Hart Burn Farm is diverse, having Jacob sheep, chickens, a mulefoot sow, an Ossabaw boar, and 15 Devons.



**Felicity and Steve Hart**

Steve views the Devon as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century cow. They are bred to survive on low inputs, broader use of the cow can reduce the need for food transportation, and when properly managed water sources remain cleaner, the cattle are healthier and the pastures are better. Steve quotes Wendell Berry relating that a sustainable farm is a farm that can be farmed forever—it’s a healthy balanced system. Hart Burn Farm’s approach is to make good food—don’t worry about the money—good food at a reasonable price will sell itself.



**Milking Time**

Steve says small farms are different—not better than big farms—just different. However, people miss what small farms do for their communities. With his analytical approach Steve says that if we got 10% of the country to feed 10 of their neighbors—you would feed 100% of the population. Using this approach you would never see nationwide food recalls, farms would be sustainable and resilient, and we would all have a healthier food intake.



**Small round bale**

Of interest, Steve brought some of his small round bales to the fair. He makes them using a Mountain Press Baler and it works out to one bale, one cow, one day.

Felicity Hart, is Steve’s 14 year old daughter. She was born in Kansas, moved to the New York suburbs for a few years and then moved to Virginia at age seven. While in New York, she was introduced to raw milk from a nearby dairy and when she moved back South she wanted a cow so she could have the raw milk. At that age she wasn’t fussy about what kind of cow, but eventually the family got interested in Devons.



**Felicity and one of her Devons**

Felicity is a young entrepreneur in her own right. At 14 she owns Sunshine, Moonshine, Snowflake and Snowflake’s calf Pumpkin. She has traded cattle to build her herd and they do some share farming. Someone can buy a share of the cow and receive a share of the milk. The same can be done with

beef and pork shares. Bulls are rented by trading for hay. Felicity is interested in exploring market steers in the near future.



**The Hart Burn Farm approach**

### Old Gjerpen Farm

Old Gjerpen Farm (OGF), owned and operated by Richard Larson, is located in Culpeper, Virginia. The farm is named after a church in Wisconsin in which Richard grew up. Richard has been raising rare breeds for over 30 years, mainly sheep. He raised Karakul and Leicester Longwool sheep. The rotational grazing program that Richard used for his sheep left some lane paddocks available for grazing so he decided to add a couple of cows. About 15 years ago Richard acquired two Devon heifers from Mt. Vernon and about five or six years ago he decided to transition out of sheep into Devons.

Richard's breeding program is designed to: consistently meet the highest standard of breed excellence; conserve the triple-purpose qualities of the breed; be well-suited for small, family-oriented farms; produce generous quantities of rich, wholesome, A-2 milk; yield the finest flavored, lean, grass-fed meat; and be healthy, hardy and long-lived—productive up to 20 years.



**OGF Virginia Diana Reserve Champion Yearling**



**OGF Virginia Princess Grand Champion Female**

distantly related bulls into the genetics of the two foundation bulls provide OGF with a broad-based genetic pool that will both secure the traits valued and serve the breeding program for years to come.

These three additional bulls are: Davis's Carolina Confederate, the son of a full sister to Davis's Carolina Allen; Wisacre Farm Slocum, a great grandson of Trailblazer; and Trailblazer of Grovemont, the great grandsire of both Slocum and Allen.

Richard views his contribution is to the long-term preservation and growth of the breed using genetics that are not regularly used to produce animals that meet the breed standard. Shows like this Mid-Atlantic Regional Show, help Richard assess his progress in his endeavors.

Producing quality genetics and offering long term, supportive relationships are key to Richard's approach to promoting rare breeds' conservation. He enjoys selling OGF Devons to families wanting to experience the joy and satisfaction of raising this historic breed.

For years Richard used linebreeding with his sheep. Linebreeding is a strategy that is designed to increase the probability that the offspring will inherit the desirable qualities of their parents by locking those desirable qualities into their DNA and passing them on to future generations. It is Richard's goal to produce a southern bloodline of Devons that matches the good bloodlines coming out of the Northeast.

Two "southern" bulls, Davis's Carolina Allen and Colonial Williamsburg Quincey are the sires of five OGF cows which together form the nucleus of the OGF herd. Richard has been impressed by the consistent quality of the offspring thrown by these bulls. OGF has selected three additional "southern" bulls to incorporate into their line-breeding program. Richard feels that incorporating the genetics from these



**OGF Virginia Rebel Reserve Champion Bull**

**Mount Pleasant Plantation**

Mount Pleasant Plantation is a private 2,000 acre plantation located in Spring Grove, Virginia. Within the Plantation is an 80-acre farm managed by Dea Keen, Director of Farm Operations, and Jeff Martyn. The farm has a diverse collection of rare breed and heritage animals. In addition to the American Milking Devons, they raise Leicester Longwool sheep, Hog Island Sheep, chickens, turkeys and bees. The chickens are utilized as layers and broilers and the turkeys are used for meat as well. In addition to the animals, they raise vegetables and manage a small orchard.

The Plantation is dedicated to educating the public about the history of the property and to recreate the property as it was between 1805 and 1810.



**Confab**

Several acres are dedicated to this purpose. In addition to preserving the history of the period they aim to preserve the animal genetics of the period, thus the reason for the Devons. An interesting historical note is that the individual who owned the property during the 1805-1810 period, personally knew Thomas Jefferson.

Dea and Jeff’s first contact with Devons was when they first moved to the Plantation’s farm. They are both impressed with the intelligence and heat tolerance of the breed. Jeff, having prior experience with Angus, is also appreciative of their temperament. The cows are allowed to raise their calves. While they have milked some, it’s not a routine for them. Dea and Jeff have been active in the events of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association, with an eye toward herd improvement.



**Jeff Martyn and Dea Keen**



**Jeff and Dea in the ring**



**Jeff and Dea in the ring**

### George Washington’s Mount Vernon

George Washington’s Mount Vernon is the home of our first President located along the Potomac in Mount Vernon, Virginia. It is an historical site open 365 days a year at which you can tour the Washington’s elegant home, learn about plantation life, test out your spy skills, discover the distillery and gristmill, meet period reenactors, see original objects and experience heritage breed animals.

Mount Vernon is privately owned by the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and was represented at the Regional Show by Damara Gailliot and Joe Marcus Dearmon.

George Washington talked about his red cattle of which he had over 300 head as well as over 60 oxen. It is likely these



**Damara Gailliot and Joe Marcus Dearmon**

red cows were Devons, so that is the breed Mt. Vernon has chosen to represent 18<sup>th</sup> Century cattle on the Plantation. In addition to cattle, they have horses—Percherons, Shires and Haflingers-- a Mammoth Jenny, 100 head of Hog Island Sheep, and two Ossabaw Hogs.



**In the winner’s circle**

Mt. Vernon’s rare breed preservation program goes back to the 1990’s. Both Damara’s and Joe’s first contact with Devons was at Mt. Vernon. They find Devons agile, beautiful, intelligent, non-aggressive

and very maternal. This breed retains its training and the oxen can be driven by voice command. In field work, such as plowing, the oxen are very quick. At Mt. Vernon, in addition to plowing, the oxen have been used for harrowing, pulling carts, and pulling stone boats. When they get older, they are good with school groups.

The oxen are clearly visible in the historical area three or four times a week to interact with the public. The goal is to have several cows and a bull for both active and passive interpretation—both standing in a field and working on the Plantation.



**Joe and Damara in the show ring**

### Every Season Farm

Every Season Farm is a 165 acre farm located in Seneca Falls, New York, owned and operated by the Freier family. The Freier family is comprised of Dale Sr., Dale Jr., Grace, Dale III, Mark, Josiah, and Abigail. By trade, Dale Jr. is an emergency room doctor and Grace is a pediatrician. The Freiers owned Charolais beef cows before getting into Devons. Devons intrigued the Freiers with what they call their connection to the past and link to the future.

The triple-purpose aspect of Devons was a reason it was a sought after historical breed, and yet this versatility seems new and unique in our time. The Devon makes a great family cow providing draft power, milk and beef, all in one package. This year the Freiers milked five cows and next year they anticipate milking twelve. They have a herd of 24 Devons. The boys also have a team of oxen.



**The Freiers-Front-Abigail and Josiah  
Back- Dale Jr., Grace, Dale Sr., Mark and Dale III**



**Abigail Freier and Lily Van Ord in the show ring**

generational farm where things flow seasonally. Cows freshen in the spring and dry off in the fall. They employ multi-species grazing which helps eliminate parasites. They graze sheep first on a pasture followed by the cows. The hogs and chickens are also managed seasonally. In a time when everything is high pressure and rush, rush, rush, it seems as though the Freiers have tapped into that healthy seasonal balanced rhythm of days gone by, giving Devons a major role.

Milk from the cows is used to drink, and to make butter, yogurt and farmer cheese. An interesting observation, the Freiers related that in their experience, calf-sharing of the milk actually reduces the fat yield to the farmer, as the calf gets the larger share which in turn makes the butter yield lower. Devon butter, they say, is excellent. Excess milk is shared with the pigs. In addition to the cows and pigs, Every Season Farm has Leicester Longwool and Rambouillet Sheep for fiber, and chickens for eggs and meat.

The farming philosophy of the Freiers is reflected in the name of their farm. They seek to replicate a 1910 diversified multi-



**In the show ring**

## Marston Homestead

Marston Homestead is a 40-acre farm located in West Falmouth, Maine, owned and operated by Mark and Kim Winslow. Mark has been a general contractor in the petroleum industry for over 25 years and Kim works in the disability insurance industry. The Winslows are direct descendants of the Marstons who settled the homestead in the 1700s. Oxen have been a part of the Marston Homestead way back to the beginning. When the fields are plowed often times ox shoes turn up.

Mark grew up working with steers and oxen since the age of nine, during his 4-H years. Kim has a Black Angus 4-H background. They have three children and their relationship with oxen and 4-H was rejuvenated when Mark served as a leader in the Brass Knobs 4-H Working Steer Club.



**Mark Winslow**



**Kim in the ring**

picked two Devons for Mark to purchase, which he did. That began their relationship with Devons. Around 2004 the Homestead bought another three cows and two heifers. They currently maintain a herd of 10-12 head.

The Winslows mostly focus on showing oxen, but they occasionally do shows with their other cattle. Last year they showed six pair of oxen. This year they showed three pair of Devon oxen and one pair of Devon/Holstein crosses. Mark and Kim enjoy raising and training oxen and seeing that they get into hands that appreciate them.

Initially the Winslows started with Shorthorns, but eventually decided they wanted to try a different breed, Devons. Mark knew Ray Ludwig who was a trusted friend of noted Devon breeder Cyril Green. So they went to visit Cyril who owned 40 head of Devons. They went around the pasture and Cyril



**Marston Homestead Kane  
Champion Bull**



### Devon's Gate Farm

Devon's Gate is a 700 working acre farm located in Hardwick, Vermont, operated by the Michaud family. The Michaud family is comprised of Jeremy, Leslie, Lincoln, Gabriel, Morgan, and Dawson. Jeremy is a Director of the American Milking Devon Cattle Association. In addition to playing a major role on the farm, Leslie is a veterinarian. Devon's Gate owns about 850 head of Holsteins and milks about 325. About eight years ago the Michauds created The Kingdom Creamery of Vermont which produces ice cream, yogurt, soft-serve, and bottled milk. They also co-brand dairy products. Kingdom Creamery of Vermont products are available all over New England. In addition to the cows, the farm is host to several pigs.

True to its name, Devon's Gate Farm is also home to about 25 head of American Milking Devons. Jeremy chose Devons for many



**Leslie, Jeremy and Gabriel with their winning Holstein**

reasons including their history, their size and their beauty. More importantly he wanted a breed his sons could work with. Devons are intelligent and quick when engaging in real life farm work. They have owned Devons for about 14 years.

The farm normally has four pair of working steers in various stages of training. The goal is to train, work and sell working steers to those who desire Devons and recently they sold two pair. Their oldest pair, about six years old, was sold to an animal sanctuary north of NYC. That team will be used in an HBO mini-series.



**Gabriel in the ring**

The Michauds show both Holsteins and Devons throughout New England. In fact Gabriel brought a Holstein with him to Virginia and won with it. They also utilize their oxen in yoke for parades, weddings and special historical events. At the Old Stone House Museum in Brownington, Vermont, the Michauds promote Devons and oxen to school groups and the public. The oxen can also be found at a local farmers' market.

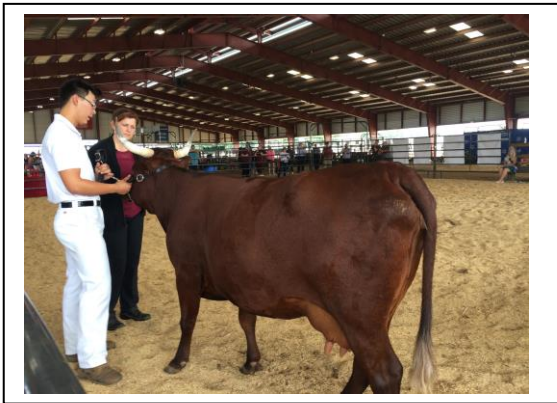


**Gabriel and Jeremy in the winner's circle**

In the Show Ring



**In the Show Ring**





**Around the Arena**



**Around the Arena**

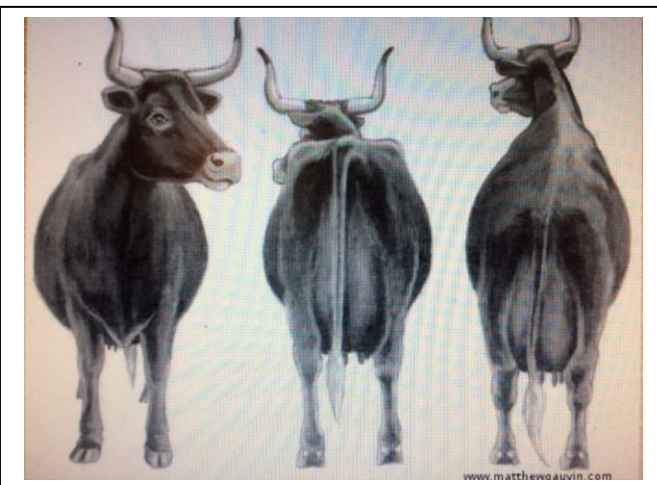
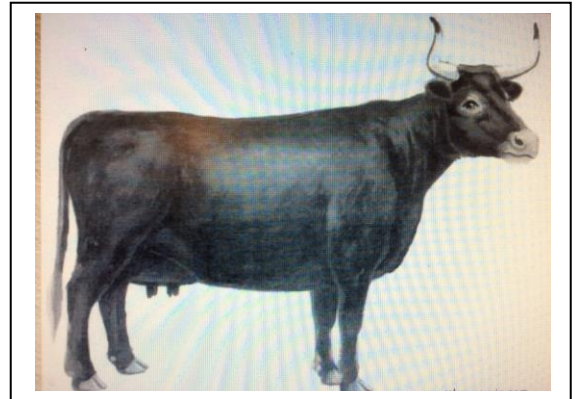


**Ray's Corner- On Showing Cattle (Reprint)**  
 Quotes and advice from Director Ray Clark

Ray has shown cattle all his life and has experience showing regular dairy cattle as well as the triple-purpose breed American Milking Devon (AMD). While some of the showing elements are the same for AMDs, dairy and beef cows, there are some differences. The requirements for the AMDs are as follows:

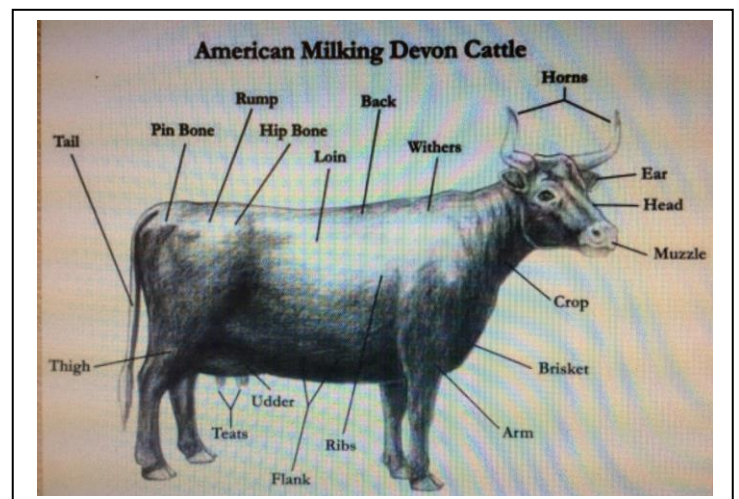
1. AMDs are not clipped for showing.
2. AMDs shown are required to have horns.
3. The cattle must be properly displayed when shown.
4. The cattle must be clean, washed and brushed.
5. The tail must be clean and well-brushed, fluffed up.

Ray indicates that the Breed Standard for the AMD differs in some substantial ways from dairy or beef cows. One example is



the udder. In a Scale of Points (See Feature article), the udder of a dairy cow is generally assigned 50 points on a 100 point scale, while on an AMD the udder is assigned 20 points. So it is important for a showman to completely understand and breed to the Breed Standard and show cattle that rank high on the Scale of Points. Another major difference between judging dairy and AMD cattle has to do with classification. Dairy cows are often classified into categories through breed association programs. In some breeds this categorization is not permanent until the cow reaches 5 years of age. When shown, a dairy cow competes within its own category. AMDs do not have this type of classification scheme.

Ray says the show is a sales promotion. It's a great way to sell cattle and introduce new breeders, so it's always best to put your best foot forward. To do so Ray recommends Hoard's Dairyman. They have many different things available that can help anyone getting ready for a show. Their website <https://hoards.com/> contains a bookstore that has books available regarding fitting and showing. They also have articles, blogs, and videos related to all aspects of showing. Some of the videos available on the site in a series called Showing Ready are: *What to Wear and How to Act*; *Appearance of Your Animal and Proper Equipment*; *Entering the Showing and On Parade*; and *Entering the Line and Posing Your Animal*. To beef up your judging skills Ray suggests that you enter Hoard's Annual Judging Contest which can also be found on the same website. There are even cash prizes for winners.



**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER IS January 15th, 2020.**

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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

2020

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.*