Session began Monday, January 14, 2019. Statewide officers were sworn in Monday morning, beginning with Laura Kelly, the 48th Governor of Kansas. Other new statewide officers sworn in include Lynn Rogers, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State Scott Schwab and Insurance Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. Re-elected statewide office holders were also sworn in, Attorney General Derek Schmidt and State Treasurer Jake LaTurner.

Legislators were sworn in Monday afternoon to begin the session. Monday is a family day for legislators. Committees began meeting Tuesday to get organized and prepare for their work. There are 30 new House members that were not in the House last session and 4 new members of the Senate from the previous session.

Kansas Department of Agriculture Secretary

Mike Beam was appointed secretary of the Kansas Department of Agriculture by Governor Laura Kelly in January 2019.

Beam came to KDA following 38 years of experience in association management for the Kansas Livestock Association. He has served as the Executive Director of the Ranchland Trust of Kansas, an affiliate of KLA, for 15 years.

He has dedicated his career to assisting farmers and ranchers to advance their policy and public relations needs and in building highly visible, responsive and respected organizations. In his role at KLA he participated and led coalitions in strategizing and implementing legislative and regulatory initiatives.

Beam began his career as a County 4-H and Youth Extension Agent in Dickinson County, following his graduation from Kansas State University with a bachelor’s degree in animal sciences and industry.

He began at KLA in 1980 as a field representative before being named Executive Secretary of Cow-Calf/Stocker Division in 1983, and in later years he became Senior Vice President at KLA. He began as Executive Director of Ranchland Trust of Kansas in 2003.

His responsibilities at KLA allowed him to serve on several statewide committees and task forces, including Governor Brownback’s Flint Hills Working Group; the smoke management plan task force; the Kansas Technical Committee, advising USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service; the Ecotourism Steering Committee; a Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism task force regarding Kansas deer hunting laws; and the KDWPT Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council.

In addition to his professional duties at KLA, Beam has demonstrated his leadership as president of several state and regional organizations, including Partnership of Rangeland Trusts, Symphony in the Flint Hills, Agribusiness Council of Kansas City and Kansas Society of Association Executives.

Rural Revitalization

Governor Kelly and the Kansas House of Representatives are focusing energy on rural economic issues in Kansas.

Kelly announced her plan to create the Office for Rural Prosperity. Her plan is an interconnected, strategic plan for rural economic development which

continued on page 2
will include discussions on developing rural housing, revitalizing main street corridors, investing in rural infrastructure, supporting rural hospitals and medical professional recruitment, incentivizing active tourism and supporting agribusiness.

Speaker Ron Ryckman, R-Olathe, announced the Committee on Rural Revitalization in December. The House Committee began the session collecting data and looking at information regarding needs in rural areas of the state. Broadband internet, healthcare, and rural infrastructure needs have lead the areas of focus to date.

Session Deadlines
The legislature adopts deadlines for every session to help keep them on track to complete their work in the amount of time they have. The deadlines which have the largest impact on the session include Turnaround Day (which is the day a bill must be out of the chamber it was introduced in), and Drop Dead Day (all bills must be done except for certain bills). It is important to note that some committees and their bills are not subject to the deadlines. That means certain committees and any bill that comes from those committees remain eligible to be worked until the session is adjourned. All the deadlines are in the adopted rules of the legislature, dictating how they will do their business and when. The deadlines rules can be suspended by a vote to suspend certain rules.

2019 SESSION DEADLINES
Monday, January 14
First day of 2019 session; convene at 2:00 p.m.
Monday, February 4
Last day for member or members to submit REQUESTS to Revisor’s office for bill drafts.
Monday, February 11
Last day for non-exempt Committees, to submit REQUESTS to Revisor’s office for bill drafts.
Wednesday, February 13
Last day for Individuals to INTRODUCE bills in originating chamber.
Friday, February 15
Last day for Non-Exempt Committees to INTRODUCE bills in originating chamber.
Thursday, February 28 (Turnaround Day)
Last day to CONSIDER BILLS IN HOUSE OF ORIGIN, except by House and Senate Federal and State Affairs, Senate Ways and Means, Senate Assessment and Taxation, House committees on Calendar and Printing, Appropriations, Taxation or select committees of either house when so authorized.
Wednesday, March 27
Last day to CONSIDER BILLS NOT IN HOUSE OF ORIGIN, except by exempt committees listed above.
Friday, April 5 (Drop Dead Day)
No bills considered after this date except BILLS VETOED BY GOVERNOR, OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT AND OMNIBUS RECONCILIATIONS SPENDING LIMIT BILL.
Wednesday, May 1
Veto Session Begins

Dairy Days

Despite the snowy, cold weather for the annual Dairy Days, at both Hutchinson and Seneca, there was still a great turnout of sponsors, speakers and dairymen. The events were held during the 1st full week of February. There were informative and interesting presentation’s from Kansas State University Extension Specialists and professors. In additions to research results, there were presentations by industry representatives and dairy marketing professionals. All participants were treated to a meal provided by the Kansas Dairy Commission. At the Hutchinson site, DeLaval dispatched a trailer with a mobile robotic dairy exhibition. Unfortunately, due to the ice and high winds, the trailer was unable to transport to the Seneca site. For more information and research results please visit the following website: www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/dairy/dairyydays/dairy-day-report-of-progress.html
Blowing snow and cold temps….I don’t know about you all but I am DONE WITH WINTER! I have memories, not fond ones, of feeding and milking cows in this type of weather and I am really sending some sympathy your way. I was the one that would always volunteer to milk, every day, 2x a day, just so I didn’t have to be outside! I am starting to think the ground hog was way wrong and needs to be fired! There is nothing more miserable than working so hard in this type of weather, especially when the product you are putting out is not worth much. Well, hopefully spring is on the way and maybe with it a slow rise in prices over the next 6 months or so. Speaking of spring, make sure to mark you calendars and get your RSVP’s in for our upcoming Annual Meeting, which will be held March 15th & 16th. We have a couple of great tours lined up and hope to have a wonderful turnout this year. You should have received your invitation by mail, and we are also including a copy below. Look forward to seeing you there!

Stephanie Eckroat
KSU Dairy Judging Team: A Practical Approach to Student Development

By Billy Brown

The Kansas State University Dairy Judging Team has a long-standing history dating back to 1908. When perusing the pictures hanging in Call Hall of past dairy judging teams, one begins to get a sense of the impact the judging experience has on students at KSU. There are many familiar faces in the pictures, albeit much younger, of Kansas dairy leaders that have helped to change our state’s and nation’s trade. Some have led national cooperatives, others bred notable cows who have impacted the respective breed, and even one served as governor of Kansas. Most notably, when visiting with these people they highlight that judging impacted them in ways that helped them be successful in their career.

As I take over the leadership of the KSU Dairy Judging Team as coach in 2019 and 2020, I look forward to seeing the next crop of young leaders develop. Our students can get credit for judging through two courses: ASI 396 Dairy Cattle Judging and ASI 420 Advanced Dairy Cattle Judging. These classes take an interactive and hands-on approach where students discover the correct structure of dairy cattle on their own and apply decision-making skills to determine how animals rank within a group.

Importantly, the students in these courses will review scientific literature that supports the benefits for structurally-sound cattle. Indeed, these students will be judging ‘show cattle,’ but they will understand how components of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Scorecard and linear evaluation support achieving a longer and more productive life through their review of the literature.

Finally, while judging cattle traditionally focuses on the structure of the animal, there are opportunities to teach students how to evaluate animals critically in everyday management scenarios. We will spend time in class learning to assign body condition score, locomotion scores, and hygiene scores, among others.

Our goal is that these interactive approaches teach students applicable skills that not only make them successful in traditional dairy judging competition settings, but also in their future careers in the dairy industry. Kansas dairy farmers are a key component of helping us achieve professional development with the students in the class and on the team. We hope that we can continue to partner with dairies by practicing on Kansas farms and viewing a variety of cattle.

Thanks in advance for your support – we are aiming to achieve new levels of success for KSU Dairy Judging!
Sharing the Love of Dairy
From the kitchen of Kerry Wiebe

Moon Cake

Crust:
1 cup water
1/2 cup margarine
1 cup flour
4 eggs

Crust: Bring water and margarine to a boil. Add flour all at once. Stir until mixture forms a ball. Remove from heat; cool slightly. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating each time with a spoon. Spread into a greased 9x13 pan. Bake at 400 degrees for 30 minutes (Do not open oven during baking time Do not prick bubbles.)

Middle Layer:
8 oz. package cream cheese
3 1/2 cups milk
2 (3 oz.) package instant vanilla pudding

Middle Layer: Blend softened cream cheese and milk; mix in dry instant pudding mix. Spread on crust and cool in refrigerator 20 minutes.

Top Layer: Cover with whipped cream or cool whip. Drizzle chocolate syrup over the top. You also can add nuts or coconut to this layer.

Daniel is a third generation dairy farmer nestled in the Whitewater River Valley of Kansas. The phrase, “Loving the Ladies Since 1926,” speaks to the inception of the dairy by Daniel’s grandfather, Jacob Wiebe. Kerry Walker Wiebe is a native of the promised land of Oklahoma in Tahlequah, near Tulsa. Growing up an a hobby farm, Kerry met Daniel at Grace University in Omaha. They married in 1993 and have 5 children. They assumed operations of the dairy in 2010 changing the name from Oaklawn Vue Dairy to Keriel. Daniel and Kerry host a barn craft sale at their farm twice a year, inviting the public to come and enjoy the farm setting.

Daniel is a third generation dairy farmer nestled in the Whitewater River Valley of Kansas. The phrase, “Loving the Ladies Since 1926,” speaks to the inception of the dairy by Daniel’s grandfather, Jacob Wiebe. Kerry Walker Wiebe is a native of the promised land of Oklahoma in Tahlequah, near Tulsa. Growing up an a hobby farm, Kerry met Daniel at Grace University in Omaha. They married in 1993 and have 5 children. They assumed operations of the dairy in 2010 changing the name from Oaklawn Vue Dairy to Keriel. Daniel and Kerry host a barn craft sale at their farm twice a year, inviting the public to come and enjoy the farm setting.
The Risks of Farm Life

On October 23, 2018, Brian Miller was involved in a farming accident while planting wheat near his family’s dairy farm in Hutchinson, Kansas. After spending several months in the hospital, Brian is finally home and recovering. Brian’s story is a frightening reminder of how dangerous farming can be. The following is an essay written by his wife Amanda Miller:

One of my husband’s characteristic sayings is, “what’s the worst that can happen?” It’s meant to dissuade anxiety or unrealistic worries, and it used to help a little. Until one day, the worst did happen.

Brian didn’t answer his phone and was nowhere to be found — all afternoon and evening, he was just missing. Six hours later, his dad finally found him lying out in the wheat field he had been planting.

You don’t really get run over by a no-till drill and survive. Somehow, Brian did. Though the tires crushed him, the blades seemingly didn’t touch him; he had 11 broken ribs, collapsed lungs, major damage to internal organs, a broken pelvis, and severely lacerated knee, yet he stayed awake until emergency staff arrived.

As he was life-flighted away into the darkness, I sent out a desperate plea for prayer as my worst nightmare crushed me, too.

Little did I anticipate the depths of beauty and pain that were yet to come.

Though I was the only one that stayed all that night by Brian’s bed, I wasn’t the only one with a sleepless night. Already people across the states and even the world were joining with me in begging for this man’s life — soon, thousands were following my updates, whether they even knew Brian and me or not.

We spent 50 days in the hospital, facing each one as it came. Some days we saw miraculous progress, and some days sent us spiraling lower and lower. A month in, when it seemed everything had been moving forward, Brian contracted ARDS and sepsis, either of which can kill a healthy person, not to mention someone severely deconditioned and still recovering from serious injuries.

The prognosis felt extremely hopeless, and honestly, I did give up hope in Brian living. Over the days Brian was in a coma, amidst grief and pain I can’t articulate, God gave me hope in Him — where it belongs.

And with amazing grace we do not deserve and cannot explain away, God also brought Brian back.

As if that weren’t enough, we received incredible blessings through community, and will be forever grateful to intentional and dedicated love of so many. The continuous outpouring of support as people have decided to walk alongside us in this crazy life has been, and always will be, truly shocking, humbling, and strengthening.

Our life is forever changed, of course, but that doesn’t mean it’s bad. The bitter is what makes the sweet; the paradoxical interplay of the two is what makes today real. Trauma and sorrow are a part of each of our stories, and rather than arguing against the presence of Christ, they only intensify the evidence of his mercy.

So here Brian is, well on the way in the journey of healing and almost ready to farm again. He’s got at least one more surgery coming up in a few months, but he’s hoping to be well enough to get in some of the spring planting before then. He’s got a few more scars now, but they are just constant reminders of infinite, undeserved grace.

Classifieds

FOR SALE: Holstein Bulls DHIA production records and classification. From top cows and AI sires. Call 785-336-2681 or 785-336-1543.

FOR SALE: Registered and Commercial Holstein bulls. For sale by the pound or by the pedigree. Semen tested, delivered and guaranteed. Call for free brochure. Call Steve @ Strickler Holsteins 620-365-9233.

FOR SALE: Service age Holstein bulls for sale from our top cows and bred for excellent udders and good production. RHA over 30,000 lbs. Bob Seiler 316-796-0173 or 316-644-2238.


Classified space is free to Kansas Dairy Association members! Please submit classified items to director ksdairy@gmail.com.
Growing up on a dairy farm instilled a passion for agriculture within me. Although I enjoyed working with livestock and livestock producers, I was never going to go to vet school because eight years of college after high school was too much school. During my first year of college, however, I realized that being there to assist livestock producers when they needed it was exactly what I wanted to do. Thus, I applied to veterinary college and was accepted at Kansas State University.

When I left for vet school a friend commented that I might meet a young gal in vet school and get tied down in Kansas. I told him that “I was never going to marry a veterinarian.” I wasn’t sure how I was going to pay for my own education, let alone two. Needless to say, less than three years later I married my lab partner. I went to veterinary school wanting to practice food animal medicine. My wife went to school wanting to work in public health and regulatory medicine. Thankfully Amy received a lot of financial assistance to pay for her education, so although I did not come away with twice the student debt, by marrying a classmate I gained an interest in something other than “traditional” veterinary medicine. Today my wife and I have a mobile food animal veterinary practice and consulting service based out of Sabetha, KS. Although we do the traditional DA surgeries, preg checks, and dehorning, we also conduct research related to emergency response planning to foreign animal diseases.

Some say we will never have foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in the United States. I have learned to never say never, because when you do, it will likely come to pass. So, if FMD were to be identified in the U.S., what would happen? One of the first things that would occur is a stop-movement order. What does this mean? Many states, if not all, will require that all movement of livestock and livestock products be temporarily halted in order to gain an understanding of where the disease already is. This means that there will be no calves, heifers, or cows moving off farms, and no shipping milk. How long will this go on? It depends on a lot of things, but rest assured that the movement of milk will be one of the first priorities to get on the roads again. Movement will only be allowed under risk-based permitting in order to reduce disease transmission. This means that uninfected farms that can demonstrate they have good biosecurity practices in place will be the first ones to resume transportation of livestock and livestock products. How do they show this? The easiest way is by developing a Secure Milk Supply plan. Not only are farms that participate in Secure Milk able to show they are less likely to transmit the disease, they are also less likely to get the disease because of the biosecurity practices they have in place.

Hopefully we never see FMD or a similar disease in the United States, but never say never. Be prepared. Go to http://securemilksupply.org/ today.

Aaron and Amy Schaffer both graduated from K-State College of Veterinary Medicine in 2015. Amy grew up in McPherson Kansas on a feedlot owned by her father. Aaron hails from Fairbury, Illinois were his family milked 100 head of dairy cows. Both Amy and Aaron are very involved in the animal health industry, representing and work with several associations. Amy is a member of the U.S. Animal Health Association and serves on the committee for Foreign and Emerging Diseases. Aaron belongs to the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, the Academy of Veterinary Consultants and the American Veterinary Medical Association.
Dairy on the Air

Dairy on the Air—it’s your podcast for all things dairy!

Dairy on the Air is a podcast produced by Midwest Dairy, featuring relevant conversations about issues and trends in the dairy community. Join Midwest Dairy CEO Lucas Lentsch as he talks with dairy farmers, industry experts and others about trends and issues impacting the dairy industry.

Listen to Dairy on the Air in the barn, your vehicle or tractor, from your smart speaker, such as Alexa or Google Home, using podcast platforms, such as iTunes or Stitcher. You can also tune in on your desktop computer at MidwestDairy.com. Where you can find the latest episodes of Dairy on the Air? https://www.midwestdairy.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2018/08/Dairy-on-the-Air-Download-Instructions.pdf.

Undeniably Dairy

You may have noticed over the last 2 years a new branding icon for the dairy industry. As a matter of fact, the new logo has been extensively used at the Dairy Bar during the Kansas State Fair. The logo, launched in March of 2017 courtesy of the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy is steadily growing in recognition. The popularity of the tag line “Undeniably Dairy™” has been highlighted in videos on YouTube, Facebook, the Food Network and the Cooking Channel. So, sorry producers, no more “Got Milk” or “Milk Life” campaigns. It was time to change things up and modernize our look as an industry.

“Undeniably Dairy™” was created to showcase the undeniable taste and enjoyment that comes from consuming dairy products. The campaign was created to focus on the positive role that dairy plays in our communities daily. The “Got Milk” tag line was by far one of the most popular commodity brands and campaigns in advertising history. It was often copied and duplicate to promote sales of other items. The “Got Milk” Campaign was created in 1993 by the California Dairy Board to encourage the consumption of milk. It was later licensed for use by other milk processors and dairymen across the U.S. In 2014 the “Got Milk” campaigned was sidelined for the new tag line “Milk Life.” This campaign put an emphasis on the nutritional advantages of milk, focusing on its protein content. Ultimately, any way you look at it, these campaigns were all created to emphasis the wonderful attributes of milk and leave the consumers a positive message towards the industry. You as a producer can be a great partner in the efforts by helping to spread the message. If you want ideas or resources to help promote the “Undeniably Dairy™” tag line you can visit the following site. https://dairygood.org/undeniably-dairy
The KSU Dairy Challenge Team competed in the Midwest Regional Dairy Challenge Contest held at Freeport, IL on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week. The contest was hosted by University of IL. A total of 88 students representing 19 colleges and universities participated in the event. The event is a scramble and students were assigned to one of 21 teams composed of 4-5 students from different colleges. The event involves a team evaluation of a dairy operation followed by a team presentation of suggested areas of improvement. Evaluation includes production and financial records as well as facilities, procedures and animals. Presentations are judged by a panel of 4 dairy industry professionals. KSU students participating were Rebecca Fritz, Shumin Li and Yuhong Wu. Shumin Li participated on a team which placed first on their farm. The team is coached by Mike Brouk. The team will travel next to Tifton, GA on March 28-30th for the national contest where they will compete as a team representing KSU. The national contest will involve 4-person teams representing 32 colleges and universities from the US and Canada.
Apogee Animal Health, Inc. is a mobile veterinary practice and consulting service in northeast Kansas. We strive to couple the most current research and technologies with exceptional service to increase the health of our clients’ livestock and the profitability of their operations.

Aaron Schaffer
913 Dakota St.
Suite 4
Sabetha, KS 66534
(785) 285-8239

Providing exceptional service. Delivering practical solutions.
Optimizing animal health.
Not a producer? Become an Associate Member

Non-producers and businesses may join the Kansas Dairy Association as associate members to help strengthen our activities in the state and provide input to this dynamic and growing industry. Associate membership dues help the Kansas Dairy Association provide a unified voice for all Kansas dairy producers.

Membership in the Kansas Dairy Association entitles you to a subscription to the Dairy Dispatch, the official newspaper of the Kansas Dairy Association, as well as other special membership mailings and activities. You will also be invited to attend the Kansas Dairy Association Annual Meeting which is held each spring. All Kansas dairy producers who participate in the statewide voluntary assessment to the Kansas Dairy Commission are automatically members of the Kansas Dairy Association.

Thank you to these businesses for their support as current associate members. Become an associate member by contacting Stephanie Eckroat at director.ksdairy@gmail.com.

The calendar space is for any dairy related activity or event, please submit your event, dates, time and location to director.ksdairy@gmail.com.

Advertise in the Dispatch

The goal of The Dairy Dispatch is to communicate regularly with dairy producers in the state of Kansas, informing them about the activities of the Kansas Dairy Association and Kansas Dairy Commission and other industry news.

Please consider advertising in The Dairy Dispatch. Advertisements help us cover publishing costs of the newsletter and allows you to promote your business or farm in a newsletter with a circulation of over 300 dairy producers and friends of the industry across the state.

Advertisement sizes can range from a business card to a full page ad. You can supply your already designed ad or contract Kansas Dairy to design one for you. Contact Stephanie Eckroat, director.ksdairy@gmail.com, for an advertising packet. We look forward to working with you!

Calendar

Dairy Industry Conference
March 6, 2019
Garden City, KS

Midwest Dairy Scholarship Deadline
March 15, 2019

Kansas Dairy Annual Meeting
March 15-16, 2019
Dodge City, Kansas

Livestock Mortality Workshop
March 20, 2019
Garden City, Kansas

Washington Youth Dairy Show
March 30, 2019
Munters has the climate solution for you.

Munters stands apart from the rest.
- Munters Drive Motor Technology
- Experienced Sales and Engineering Staff
- Fan performances certified by BESS Labs
- Predominately locally sourced components
- State of the art factory, labs and offices

Munters Drive
- Industry’s first and most efficient variable speed EC permanent magnet motor designed specifically for agricultural axial fans
- Unique pancake design allows for higher torque and power density than a typical NEMA-stye EC motor
- Reduce fan energy costs up to 40%
- Nearly Maintenance Free
  - No Bearing maintenance
  - No belt replacement
  - No tensioner
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Patented
- Qualifies for energy rebates

Contact:
Britt Roman – britt@agvent.net
Phone: +1 605.759.1614
www.munters.com