

MIDDLEBURY COOPERATIVE NEWSLETTER

2021/Quarter 2

BOARD MEMBER BIO

Rick began a partnership with his dad in February, 1982, in the same barn that is still used in Middlebury Center. In 2003 Rick and his wife, Janelle, bought the rest of the farm and began shipping with Middlebury. The Davises have been registered with the Holstein Association since 1996. They do their own breeding. They are currently milking 80 cows in a tie-stall barn.

Rick and Janelle have 5 grown children, two grandchildren, and two grandchildren on the way. Their daughter, Lauren, is currently working full time on the farm, along with some help from her husband, Drew.

Rick became a board member in 2012 and has been VP since 2019.



Co-op Policies Every Producer Should Know About

Q: If I have to dump my milk, can I still get paid for it?

A: Yes, you can. We have a voluntary dump policy that you can use once a year if need be. You will be paid for half the volume dumped, at the lowest class price for the month dumped. All you need to do is send a short note to the office stating when, why, and how much was dumped.

Q: Can I change a quality result if I think it is too high?

A: Once a year you can request that your quality (bacteria & cell count) be changed. Your official quality for each month is the first quality test run at the lab that month. If you feel the official is an unfair representation of your farm's quality that month you can request that the official be changed to a better quality test taken that month.

“The farmer has to be an optimist or he wouldn't still be a farmer.” – Will Rogers

RECORD BREAKING VOLUME

May volume broke our previous volume record for production. Our previous record was 13.17 million pounds in May 2014 with 109 producers. This May (2021) our production was 13.33 million pounds with 86 producers.

It had always been a goal of ours to make it on the *Hoard's Dairymen* Top 50 Co-ops, we finally made the list for 2019, hopefully with production like this we can continue to make their list.

OUR LONGEST STANDING PRODUCERS

We have three farms that have been shipping with us for 33 years. Timothy Wales of Millerton, PA has been with our co-op since June 1988. Joining shortly after him was David Risser of Genesse, PA, he joined in September 1988. Philip Lehman of Harrison Valley, PA joined in November 1988. All three of these farms are 2nd generation farms with our co-op.

Thank you to all our producers, but especially these three, for your continued loyalty to Middlebury Cooperative!