

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2011 Klussendorf/McKown Scholarship Winners Announced

Denmark, Wis. – The Klussendorf Association has announced four 2011 scholarship winners and two more who earned the Whitey McKown Scholarship.

These \$2,000 scholarships are awarded annually to students who have successfully completed at least one year in a post-secondary program at a two- or four-year college. The individual must be majoring in dairy science or animal science with the intention of entering the dairy cattle industry as a breeder, owner, herdsman or fitter.

These memorials honor those who most nearly exemplify the character and ethics of the late, legendary showman and dairy cattle fitter, Arthur B. Klussendorf. These scholarships were made possible by generous gifts by Chris Kampf, a late Klussendorf member, numerous friends and the family of Robert “Whitey” McKown, and gifts from various fundraisers by the Klussendorf Association.

The Klussendorf Scholarship recipients are:

Karen Anderson, University of Minnesota – Anderson grew up on a registered Guernsey farm and has been showing cattle for 15 years, including nine at the national level. In 4-H dairy cattle judging, she placed first overall at the 2006 All-American Dairy Show. She also placed first overall at the national 4-H contest at the World Dairy Expo in 2009.

As a collegian, she was first overall and in reasons at the 2010 North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE). That same year, she was named “Outstanding National Guernsey Youth” by the American Guernsey Association and also served as AGA youth association president in 2009.

She also has competed for 4-H, Minnesota Junior Holstein and American Guernsey Youth Association youth quiz bowl. Most recently, Anderson, a junior, served as president of the Minnesota Junior Guernsey Association (2009-10).

Following the completion of her degree in animal science, she plans to pursue a career with an A.I. company in dairy marketing or possibly return to the family farm.

“My dairy experiences, including travel, fellowship, and education, have provided terrific skills for a successful career within the dairy industry,” she said. “I not only gained a

strong appreciation for the people who I have worked with, but also for the potential for dairy cows to produce lots of milk and look good while doing it.”

Jenn Krultz, University of Wisconsin-River Falls – Krultz grew up on her family’s dairy farm in Greenwood, Wis., and also worked on neighboring farms during her high school and college years.

She showed cattle for 10 years, including six at the Wisconsin State Fair, and has been a 4-H club member for 11 years, serving as youth dairy leader for five years. She currently is enrolled as an adult 4-H leader.

Krultz is a 13-year member of the Junior Holstein Association and is active on her campus with membership in the UWRF Association of Women in Agriculture and the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) student advisory committee. She is in her senior year pursuing a degree in dairy science and a minor in agronomy.

Among her honors are FFA Discovery, Greenhand, Chapter and State Degrees. She also earned the Wisconsin FFA 3-Star Leadership Award and was a Wisconsin delegate to the national FFA convention.

Upon graduation, she hopes to work as a farm or crop manager or for an agriculturally-related business until she is able to buy back her family’s home farm. Her dream is to milk 60 registered cattle, just as her parents did.

“I’ve seen how the dairy industry affects the lives of others and how important it is in America and around the world,” Krultz said. “The importance of other industries may fluctuate, but people will always need a food, fuel and clothing source. As time changes, things come and go, but agriculture has shown to be necessary for the sustainability of life.”

Rachel Manning, West Virginia University – Manning has been in the Calvert County (Md.) 4-H program for 12 years and is a six-time president of the Patuxent Young Farmers 4-H Club. Seven years ago, she began raising Guernsey heifers and increased her herd for use as replacement heifers.

Manning has received grand champion and reserve champion honors while showing Guernseys at four southern Maryland county fairs, the Maryland State Fair and the Maryland Guernsey Field Day.

The Guernsey Youth Association honored her as 2006-07 Maryland Guernsey Queen and she received a Guernsey scholarship and the “Outstanding Guernsey Youth” award in 2008. She also served as Maryland Guernsey Princess in 2011.

She participated in dairy bowl and dairy judging at the Maryland State Fair and last year served as president of the Maryland Guernsey Youth Association. She also has participated in the Hoard's Dairyman judging contest for the past four years.

She currently serves as vice president of the WVU Dairy Science Club and president of WVU Collegiate Farm Bureau. She was elected vice president of the WVU Block and Bridle Club and treasurer of Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority.

Manning, a junior majoring in agriculture and extension education, wishes to pursue a career teaching high school agriculture education or working with the cooperative extension service.

"Throughout the 12 years of my 4-H involvement, having a variety of dairy experiences has helped me to plan for my future, and definitely influenced a college major and a career choice for me," she said. "I want to be part of the U.S. dairy industry because I see a promising future in it."

Lindsey Rucks, University of Florida – Rucks grew up on her family's south Florida dairy farm in Okeechobee. From a young age, she had a role feeding calves and eventually became responsible for the day-to-day cow record keeping. She also mates about 60 percent of the herd.

Rucks is captain of the University of Florida American Dairy Science Association Dairy Bowl team and is past president of the Florida Junior Brown Swiss Cattle Club (2006-10). From 2005-07, she was captain of the Holstein Dairy Bowl Team and president of her 4-H dairy club (2006-08).

Among her accomplishments is being named 2010 grand champion of the Southeast National Brown Swiss Show. She also was third-place intermediate showmen at the 2006 World Dairy Expo and has exhibited 37 state bell-ringers with 12 going on to be national winners.

Rucks, a junior, would like to continue breeding and showing registered Brown Swiss cattle with a goal of one day running her family's commercial Holstein herd.

"I want to be a part of an industry that I am passionate about," Rucks said. "I believe in the future of the dairy industry and want to do whatever I can to ensure its future. I have been blessed beyond measure from being a member of the dairy industry and I want to continue to give back to the industry that has done so much for me."

The Whitey McKown Scholarship recipients are:

Matt Henkes, Iowa State University – Henkes represents the sixth generation of his family's dairy farm. Among his accomplishments are top individual overall and in reasons at post secondary dairy judging contest at the 2009 World Dairy Expo. He was third individual overall at the 2009 NAILE post secondary dairy judging contest.

He has earned 20 junior All-American red and white Holstein nominations. He was named "Outstanding Sophomore" of the Iowa State Dairy Science Club in 2010 and "Outstanding Freshman" of the Northeast Iowa Community College Dairy Club in 2009.

He currently serves as president of the Iowa Junior Holstein Association and is an Iowa State Dairy Coalition Chair.

Upon graduating college, Henkes hopes to work in the AI field as a sire analyst.

"I feel the most important part of a successful herd is high quality genetics combined with knowledgeable management techniques," he said. "My dairy judging skills combined with a very strong interest in pedigrees will make me a very qualified sire analyst. I am very interested in genetics and spend my free time studying pedigrees, sire books and reading dairy websites and journals."

Tyler Reynolds, Cornell University – Reynolds has won multiple All-New York and Junior All-New York awards since he began showing cattle at age 8.

He earned the sportsmanship award at the 2009 Dairy Bowl National Holstein Convention and took grand champion Holstein honors at the 2007 New York State Fair.

He's assumed much responsibility on his family's dairy farm that has 700 milking cows. Last summer he worked with the herd manager and assisted in all aspects of the dairy, including breeding, vaccinations, maternity, record keeping, plus fresh and sick cow treatments.

After graduation, Reynolds desires to enter the production side of the industry with a goal of combining a well-managed commercial dairy with a show herd. He is spending this summer serving an internship at a Wisconsin dairy.

"Throughout my life I have been around dairy cattle," Reynolds said. "I was helping my mom with feeding calves as soon as I could. I look forward to being a part of the dairy industry in the future because of the challenges it offers on a day-to-day basis, but it also can be one of the most rewarding."