



102nd ANNUAL MEETING VERMONT HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, MARCH 25th 10:00 A.M.

EAST SIDE RESTAURANT, NEWPORT

The 102nd Annual Meeting of the Vermont Holstein Association will be held on Saturday, March 25th at the East Side Restaurant in Newport followed by a tour of two young breeder's herds. They are Andy and Sarah Birch of Derby and Nick and Sheene Daigle also in Derby.

The business meeting will start at 10:00 A.M. followed by lunch. Participants will be ordering of the menu. The meeting will consist of committee reports, election and discussion about where we want to accomplish in the future. Significant changes were made in the show last year, do you feel they were good, bad or indifferent? What do you want to see happen to Farm Show participation or the Youth Show Calf Summit? Are we missing out on some other opportunities to make your organization more valuable or to better serve you? We need your input.

East Side Restaurant 47 Landing St., Newport is situated lakeside.

Andy & Sarah Birch, 1505 Bates Hill Rd., Derby. Directions: Follow US Rte. 5 North toward Derby Center; turn right onto VT Rte. 105 at 3 way stop in front of the Cow Palace; turn left onto Rte. 111 (just after Derby Village Store); drive 1.5 miles & turn left onto Bates Hill Rd.; farm us 1.5 miles on the left.

Andy and Sarah started milking at Maple Grove Farm in 2014. Andy grew up on the Derby farm which his parents purchased in 1988. They had a group of home bred cows to start which had been boarded at a number of farms since Andy's parents sold their herd. They filled the rest of their 52 up-dated stalls with Registered Holsteins from Stuart Farms, Top-Notch Holsteins, Walhowdon, Moody Meadows and Fairmont Farms. Their RHA is 23,177, 942F and 772P with a 106. BAA. They have also won numerous quality awards. Andy and Sarah are fortunate to have the help of family members.

Some of their favorites are Maplegrove-B Miley Splash P EX-91. She marked the herd's entry into polled genetics with four polled daughters and granddaughters.

Much of the homebred herd traces back to Maplegrove-B Sam Angel 2E-90 who comes from the "J" family of Dirigo Holsteins. A more recent addition is Fairmont Uno Locas VG-87 daughter of Lylehaven Goldwyn Le Lee-ET, this family excels at genetic index. Her first granddaughter, Leia, tops the herd with a GTPI of 2568 and 908 DWP\$.

Nick & Sheene Daigle, 3749 Nelson Hill Rd., Derby. Take Derby Exit 28; take a right, go until you come to a stop sign about 3.5 miles; turn left; Nelson Hill Rd. is the first road on your right; first dairy farm on the road, about 3.5 miles. Big white barn. About 2.5 miles on pavement then road turns to dirt, farm is within 1 mile after that. They are milking 48 registered Holsteins, averaging 85 lbs/cow in a tie stall barn. The Daigles have only been in business for 1½ years. The farm was in Sheena's family. Nick & Sheena did the barn major renovations to make the barn comfortable for the cows & for them to work in. Sheena says that happy cows & new renovations make for easier management. Prior to starting this venture, they both worked for 8 or 9 years for a neighbor, Aaron & Chantale Nadeau. Both Nick & Sheena graduated from college, Nick with an associate's degree in Farm Management & Sheena with an Animal Science major & minor in Business.

Take the day to visit and encourage these up and coming young breeders.

Have a voice in the activities of YOUR association!