

## Jersey Canada presents Honourary Life Memberships to three very worthy breed-builders!



Jersey Canada awarded Honourary Life Memberships to three very worthy builders of the Jersey breed in Canada at the time of the 2010 Jersey Canada Annual Meeting on March 27th in Brantford, Ontario.

### **Jacob Vander Meulen, Peninsula Jerseys**

Jacob Vander Meulen has dedicated his life to family, church, community and his beloved Jersey cow. Jacob (Jake) was born in the Netherlands and by the young age of 14, was milking a small herd of Holsteins for the next-door neighbour. It was shortly after this (1948) that Jake along with his immediate family immigrated to Canada from Holland. Upon the family's arrival in Canada, they chose to settle in East-Central Ontario, in the village of Norwood.

Jake worked as a farm labourer and milker for two farms in that area until 1951, when the family decided to relocate to the Niagara Peninsula, purchasing a farm in St. Ann's, Ontario. Jake continued to work off the farm in order to support the family farm, finding work with Atlas Steel, various construction companies and odd farm jobs including working for Freurehaven Holsteins.

In 1956, he married Annie Colyn, whose family also had immigrated to Canada from Holland. Peninsula Jerseys was established in 1958, with the initial milking herd consisting of a mixture of registered and grade cattle of various breeds. The family also worked on neighbouring fruit farms to supplement the farm income. It was when the All-Jersey milk program became available that more Jerseys were added. In 1967, registered Jerseys were purchased with the assistance of Art McKeown of Don Head Farms and Mrs. Lia Bockus of Leedon Jerseys. Jake had a lot of respect for these people and they guided him along, helping him get the herd pointed in the right direction.

Jake and Annie had 7 children – Earl, Christine, Evelyn, Marlene, Elisabeth and Jacqueline (twins) and Andrew. With all of their children active in the 4-H program, Jake became a leader of the Niagara Dairy Calf Club. He acted as 4-H leader from 1958 – 1982. Jake was also active in the local Jersey club (Niagara/Wentworth) and had a large role in the Christian Reformed Church in Wellandport.

By 1982, Jake and Annie's oldest child Earl had decided that he wanted to farm on a full time basis – and a partnership was formed between Jake, Annie and Earl Vander Meulen. The first step was the purchase of a new farm in Stirling, Ontario. The herd doubled in size to 60 milk cows with about 130 head in total. Cattle were added by purchasing through consignment and dispersal sales. The goal of this partnership was no different than the original goals – to attempt to breed a complete cow with type and production. Cattle would be shown at the Royal, All American, World Dairy Expo and Championship Shows. To date, the efforts of Peninsula Jerseys have been rewarded with 25 All Canadian Nominations resulting in 1 All Canadian, 4 Reserve All Canadian and 2 Honourable Mention All Canadian Awards as well as Jersey Canada Constructive Breeder Awards from 1991 through 1996. Just this past November, Jake and Annie were thrilled to exhibit the 2nd place Senior Two Year Old at the Royal Winter Fair – a homebred Minister daughter.

Jake and Annie put down roots again, this time in the Stirling area – and become involved in the Frankford Christian Reformed Church. To this day, the Vander Meulen's are an extremely active part of the church community. Jake has acted as an Elder on several different occasions, and completes pastoral visits frequently as well as helping to organize church renovations.





**Ron Judd, Meadow Lynn Jerseys**

Ron Judd of Meadow Lynn Jerseys has been a lifelong resident of Norfolk County, Ontario in the Simcoe area and had given greatly to his family, his community and the Jersey breed. Ron bought his first Jersey in 1937 at the age of nine, sparking a lifelong commitment to the Jersey breed. Ron married his wife Anne in 1951 and they had three children and ten grandchildren. Anne passed away in early 2010, while Ron continues to reside at Meadow Lynn farm, where his son Fred, daughter-in-law Sharon and their family continue the Jersey tradition. The herd was started in 1946 when they moved to the property along the Lynn River near Simcoe. When Fred came home to farm in 1978 after completing a diploma from Ridgetown College, the herd expanded to 40 cows and the land base expanded to 330 acres.

The Meadow Lynn herd has seen a number of highlights over the years. Ron received the Ton of Gold certificate from Jersey Canada for Meadow Lynn Gertie from 1954 to 1958 for outstanding production. Ron also bred the bull Meadow Lynn Sportsman who was a top sire for the Judds, siring many Very Good and better daughters. The Meadow Lynn herd was a Constructive Breeder herd from 1981 to 1984, with numerous awards for type and production. Meadow Lynn has also had the Grand Champion and first place Breeder's Herd at the always competitive Brant-Norfolk Parish Show. The next generation of Meadow Lynn is now involved, as Ron's grandson Thomas is soon to graduate from the University of Guelph and already is involved in flushing two Excellent cows in the herd, one of which goes back to the Sportsman bull.

Ron has a long history of community involvement. He has been very active in his local Anglican church, with time spent in the choir with his wife, as well as in a variety of leadership positions, including the deanery. Ron has also been very active in the agricultural community, including involvement with the Norfolk Soil & Crop Improvement Association, the Norfolk Plowman's Association, the Norfolk Milk Producers Association, and the Norfolk Federation of Agriculture, which he served as president in 1986 and 1987. Ron has also been a Township and Regional Councillor in Haldimand-Norfolk for many years. Another of Ron's passions has been the "Alligator Tug," an historic Great Lakes tugboat that was restored and relaunched under Ron's leadership with local service organizations.



**lone Jarrell, Hollyrood Jerseys**

lone Jarrell's represents a picture-perfect example of many great character traits and thus is a sterling role model and great inspiration for scores of people . She has remained fully engaged in life despite overcoming a series of multiple major life-trials and challenges. She not only survives but thrives! This sprightly octogenarian from the Belleville, Ontario area has given more than six decades of service to the Jersey breed and Jersey family! Almost three decades ago she lost her husband Lorne who was a leader in the Jersey breed. Lorne and lone farmed at Hollyrood Farm close to Belleville. As well as being a highly accomplished and successful Jersey breeder, Lorne served as president of the local Jersey club and later Jersey Ontario in 1980. As part of the material presented to nominate lone for this high honour, the following statement was made: "Lorne and lone together supported the Jersey breed through thick and thin ... they sold many cattle to establish new herds and then served as mentors to the Jersey community, assisting those new to the breed with advice and help."

Over the years lone has voluntarily sold Jersey Canada promotional items, played enthusiastic hostess to scores of local Jersey club meetings, been an annual fixture at the National Jersey Show at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, reads the Canadian Jersey Breeder from cover to cover, been awarded a rare Lifetime Membership by the local Quinte Jersey Club and sponsors the Lorne Jarrell Memorial Trophy for Grand Champion at the Quinte Championship Show.

As a true family person lone has taken great joy from the fact that four of her five remaining children have been and continue to be heavily involved with the Jersey breed. Robert (Bob) Jarrell and his family and Diane Jarrell-Ray and her family have both been honoured by Jersey Canada with Master Breeder awards. Bob followed his late father by being Jersey Ontario President in 1990 and was recently named Second Vice-President of Jersey Canada as part of his role as Eastern Ontario Director on the National Jersey Board. Diane Jarrell-Ray was Jersey Canada National President in 1998. The family have won numerous Championships at the very largest Jersey expositions in Canada and the United States.

A third generation of the Jarrell family are following their paternal grandparents by diving into Jersey leadership positions. Grand daughter Jackie Jarrell was Jersey Youth Ambassador when Jersey Canada hosted the World Jersey Cattle Bureau International Conference in 2005. Grandson Bobby Jarrell is a third generation Jersey Ontario Board member. Bobby has also been Chair of the Jersey - The Next Generation, young adult conference which was a runaway success at the 2010 Jersey Canada Annual Meeting. They have learned service to larger causes from both lone and Lorne Jarrell. A supporting nomination documentation for lone noted that "she is a woman who has changed with the times and adapted her life to support her family, community and the Jersey breed in every way she can." How fitting that lone and four of her children and other family members were present when Jersey Canada bestowed her with this major honour at Brantford, Ontario.

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