

Lake and Erickson Scholarships Awarded

The Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (MDMSF) was established over 50 years ago as a way to honor individuals in the dairy industry and provide financial assistance to students with a dairy-related scholastic focus. Income from the endowment creates scholarships that support deserving Michigan State University students who want to pursue careers in the dairy industry.

Jessica Geurink Glenn and Anne Lake Scholarship



Jessica Geurink, a senior at Michigan State University, has benefited from several MDMSF scholarships during her time at MSU. This year, she was awarded the Glenn and Anne Lake Scholarship, which pays for her full tuition and fees for the year. Jessica's interest in a dairy-related career, her academics

and her extracurricular activities qualified her for the scholarship.

"Receiving the Glenn and Anne Lake Scholarship was a big honor," Jessica says. "It relieved me of my financial burdens for the year and allowed me to more fully focus on my studies. I have been able to pay for most of my MSU tuition through scholarships during my four years here, and the Dairy Memorial scholarships have been the biggest part of that. I am really thankful for all the support I have received from the MDMSF."

Jessica's roots in agriculture began on her parents' MMPA member dairy farm. The Geurink family has since sold the milk cows and now raises heifers. Her love for the farm and desire to promote agriculture fit in well with Jessica's chosen areas of study at MSU: a dual major in Agribusiness Management and Agriculture and Natural Resources Communications.

"Agriculture is my passion," Jessica says. "I grew up on a farm and took to it right away, I love it. It is the only natural choice for me."

In the future, Jessica aims to find employment with dairy-related business where she can be involved in promotional work and would eventually like to write for a large dairy magazine.

At MSU, Jessica is the president of the Dairy Club and as a former member of the dairy judging team, she now serves as an assistant coach for all of the dairy judging teams. She says her leadership experience with the dairy club and dairy judging teams has been good for her, and she has particularly enjoyed working with MSU's Dr. Joe Domecq, advisor of the dairy judging teams and Extension Dairy Youth Specialist.

"Being on the dairy judging team, being involved in the whole judging program and having Joe as a mentor has been very influential to me," Jessica says.

Pieter Serne Russell Erickson Endowed Scholarship

Michigan State University Senior Pieter Serne is this year's recipient of the Russell Erickson Endowed Scholarship. The \$5,000 scholarship was awarded to Pieter based on his interest in a dairy related career, extracurricular activities and academics.



Pieter is the son of Pat and June Serne of Lowell. The Serne family hauls milk for MMPA.

"I rode the milk route when I was little and I was always more interested in the cows than pumping milk," Pieter says. "I would always run off to find the cows."

During high school Pieter worked on local dairy farms. He currently works at Newland Dairy in Belding, managing cows there on the weekends and during school breaks. During the week, he works at the MSU dairy farm.

"It has always been my passion to work with cows," Pieter says. "When I find the chance I take it."

After completing the Dairy Tech program, Pieter decided to continue his MSU education and is working toward a dual major in Food Industry management and Agricultural Business Management. He is interested in completing an internship in a dairy related field to learn what happens to milk after it leaves the farm, but eventually wants to work as a manager on a dairy farm or buy his own farm someday.

While at MSU, Pieter has been involved in the MSU Dairy Club as treasurer, Farm House Fraternity as president, MSU National Ag Marketing Association as treasurer, Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Knights of Columbus.

"I would like to thank the Michigan Dairy Memorial Scholarship for supporting Michigan State students like myself who are always in need of ways to fund their education," Pieter says. "I greatly appreciate being selected as a recipient of the 2007 Dairy Memorial Scholarship. I plan to use my education to give back to agriculture and be a major player in its future."

MSU Dairy Scholarships Awarded

The Michigan Dairy Memorial and Scholarship Foundation, Inc. recently awarded more than \$85,000 in scholarships to undergraduates with a dairy interest at Michigan State University. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academics, extracurricular involvement, and interest in a career in the dairy industry.

For the 2007-2008 academic year, scholarships were awarded to the following individuals:

Jack and Betty Barnes International Michigan Dairy Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000): Monica Van Klompenberg, Zeeland, MI.

Freshman Scholarships (\$1,500): Eric Carson, Hesperia, MI; Travis Hake, Edon, OH; Karmen Jackson, Caro, MI; Matthew Keilen, Westphalia, MI; Adam Lewis, Jonesville, MI; Elizabeth Motz, St. Johns, MI.

Agricultural Technology Scholarships (\$2,000): Jake Brindley, Rose City, MI; Jenna Kramer, Harbor Beach, MI; William Huisjen, Fremont, MI; Rebecca Hale, Brown City, MI; William Shuler, Baroda, MI.

Dairy Memorial Scholarships (\$3,500): Matthew Costigan, Lansing, MI; Lindsey First, Ionia, MI; Jessica Fry, Blanchard, MI; Colleen Jackson, Caro, MI; Ashley Messing, Bad Axe, MI; Joseph Pasch, Weidman, MI; Rebecca Prause-Stachnik, Cedar, MI; Autumn Sieffert, Grawn, MI; Kayla Stomack, Minden City, MI; Mary TenBrink, Coopersville, MI; Kent Thelen, Fowler, MI; Monica VanKlompenberg, Zeeland, MI; Mark Wiley, Quincy, MI; Paul Windemuller, Zeeland, MI; Laura Zeldenrust, Fremont, MI.

Applications for the 2008-2009 academic school year are due February 28, 2008. Freshman and Ag Tech applications are due September 27, 2008. MDMSF scholarship applications can be obtained from:

Dr. Miriam Weber-Nielsen
Department of Animal Science
1250E Anthony Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1225

Application forms can also be obtained through a link on the MMPA Web site at www.mimilk.com in the member information section.



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