

### SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

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SDDP Plans for Washington DC Fly In

<u>SDDP Membership is</u> <u>Critical. Please renew your</u> <u>membership today!</u>

Board Chair Marv Post and Executive Director Tom Peterson will be flying to Washington DC participating in a collaborative effort along with neighboring dairy state trade associations from Nebraska and Iowa on March 5th through the 7th. Meetings on the agenda to date include Representative Dusty Johnson, and Senators Thune and Rounds. Also scheduled are meetings with NMPF and USDEC.

It is an excellent opportunity to dialogue directly with our South Dakota representation in their offices on and around Capitol Hill. Pressing issues will include securing a reliable labor force, importance of expanding export markets, and continued emphasis of relief needed in extremely challenging times for our dairy sector.

We welcome any input from the SDDP membership of other critical issues so we can carry the message to our representation in Washington DC.

Working with neighboring dairy trade associations gives us additional clout and presents a unified message representing dairy in our states.

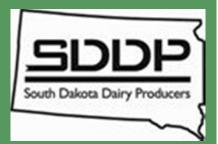
The photo to the right illustrates having access to our Senators and Representation, as Marv Post has opportunity to talk directly to Senator Thune during last year's trip.

Please reach out to Marv or Tom if you have additional suggestions for topics needing to be addressed with our SD Delegation.



Thank you to all who have sent in their 2019 SDDP Memberships!

A new membership form for Producers and Industry Sponsors is attached with this newsletter. Please complete by February 28th and SDDP thanks you for your support!



## SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

# SDDP Participates in Annual SDSU Dairy Drive Basketball Game

SDDP joined with Dignitaries from SDSU, Midwest Dairy staff, our Midwest Dairy student Dairy Ambassadors, and Bel Brands to promote dairy enjoyment at the men's basketball game February 21st.

Dairy was once again front and center on the campus of SDSU as the men's basketball team took the court. Representatives from SDSU including President Barry Dunn, the departments of Agriculture and Biological Science, and Dairy Science joined dairy farmers and the Midwest Dairy team to celebrate enjoyment of dairy products and those who work hard to bring it from farm to table.

It was also a great opportunity to introduce the 2nd year team of SD Dairy Ambassadors. All are students at SDSU and enthusiastic to help promote dairy in this upcoming year. These students receive a scholarship provided by Midwest Dairy and assist with many events through the course of the year ranging from fair exhibits, grocery store dairy promotion, and consumer facing events like Dairy Fest and on farm Dairy open houses and tours. Coordinating the work of the Ambassadors is coach Tracey Erickson from SDSU Extension.



At left, SDSU President Barry Dunn, Dean of Agriculture & Biological Sciences John Killefer, and Dairy Science Dep't. Head Vikram Mistry along with dairy farmer Marv Post celebrate dairy with a "Milk Toast"

The photo to the right are new SD Dairy Ambassadors: Shelby Kuechle, Brooke Engstrom, Morgan Kohl, Calissa Lubben, and Sanne DeBruijn with Dr. Vikram Mistry



#### Thank you to our 2018 Sponsors (2019 updates shortly)

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