



CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT - JOAN DEAN ROWE, D.V.M.

Dear District VIII ADGA members,

Thank you for nominating me to once again represent you as your District VIII ADGA Director. I recognize that much work is yet to be done in these most challenging times, and I would be humbled to be chosen to continue my work on your behalf and on behalf of ADGA. My 24 years of experience serving as your ADGA District VIII Director as well as my extensive leadership activities in other organizations give me the experience and perspective needed to best serve District VIII members and help ADGA through this period of transition to regain its long-term tradition of leadership in dairy goat industry programs, and to restore/ expand member services. If re-elected, I will strive to continue to represent you, the members, with sound, informed, ethical decision making to best serve the dairy goat industry and advance the programs of the association. This is a challenging time for ADGA members as we continue to work through the transition in computing services. I continue to serving you working behind the scenes, interfacing with allied industry partners where needed and following up on individual member service issues. I will continue to do everything possible to minimize impact for members of the disruption of ADGA services.

Much of the work of an ADGA Director takes place at the annual meeting of the Board at the ADGA Convention. My personal experience with of the programs of the association through our own herd activities, judging and committee service give me a strong understanding of issues important to the members of our district. In my service on the Board, I have strived to make decisions in the best interest of ADGA and provide sound, reasonable contributions to the conduct of ADGA's business at these meetings. Please take the time to review my service on your behalf at these meetings; the minutes of the Annual Meetings are on-line at www.adga.org. (See Board of Directors) or upon request from ADGA.

You won't see me with frequent posts on social media. I am grateful for the online presence of those who do post positive, constructive and informative updates. My work is often either beyond the organization through professional activities that benefit dairy goats, or behind the scenes (within the Board/ organization), using my expertise as a veterinarian and long-time ADGA judge, Toggenburg breeder, and (many years ago!) an ADGA 4H youth to craft policy language, interact with service providers and policymakers in the best interests of the dairy goat industry, and promote sound policy within the organization to advance genetic selection (milk, components, DNA policies), commerce/trade (traceability, disease prevention, animal care/welfare) and represent dairy goats with our regulatory and allied industry partners. I utilize and have in-depth understanding of all ADGA programs [DHIR testing, ADGA Plus, DNA (typing, casein, scrapie genotype testing), Linear Appraisal, and Shows].

One example of my commitment to principles of fairness and concern for all ADGA members was my formal request for assessment (by complaint) of the irregularities of ballot mailing, postal service disruption, etc., during the 2020 Director elections. My action played a role in your opportunity to select 2 District VIII directors in this cycle. (one 3-yr, one 2-yr term).

A bit of my background - For those of you who do not know me, here is a bit of my background. My interest in dairy goats began as a 4-H Club member in Los Angeles County in 1965. I first joined ADGA in 1966 and continued to raise and show Toggenburgs until leaving for college in 1974. My 4-H dairy goat project earned a National 4-H Dairy Winner scholarship, and so I appreciate the importance of scholarship opportunities for youth involved with dairy goats, and I have continued my interest in youth dairy goat programs. I have been an ADGA judge since 1974 (interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic),

and have judged at 14 ADGA National Shows. I particularly enjoy judging youth events at shows and fairs. I have strong interest in training and continuing education of judges, and have served numerous years on both Judges Training and Advanced Judges Committees.

I have veterinary professional interests in the health management of dairy goats. I am retiring in July from my faculty position at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, where I work with all food animal species, however I will continue many of my professional activities relating to dairy goat health. My past research activities have included studies of CAE, infectious abortion and reproductive management (including contributing to projects working toward the FDA approval of CIDRs for sheep and goats), demonstrating my continued commitment to dairy goat industry needs. I served many years on the U.C. Davis Goat Day committee, an annual educational event. I serve on the Scrapie Oversight Board, which provides input to USDA for the voluntary Scrapie Flock Certification Program (SFCP) in which our herd has participated since 1996 and has export-certified scrapie-free status. I am a past-president of the American Association of Small Ruminant Practitioners, a national organization of veterinarians involved with goats and other small ruminant species. I am a member of the ADGA Dairy Goat Well-Being Task Force (committee).

About our herd - My husband Charlie and I started our current herd of Toggenburgs in 1992 in Capay (Yolo County). We currently milk 14 does and participate in the following ADGA programs: ADGA Plus plan with DHIR production testing, linear appraisal and DNA typing (and casein & scrapie resistance genotyping); and shows (mostly local club shows; regional fairs when held; national show when in the west). Our interest in type evaluation, superior genetics and performance testing has led to my continued service on the Production Testing and Linear Appraisal committees. I understand the need to make production testing available to more ADGA members while upholding the quality assurance standards of the testing programs; I had the experience with DHIA issues and programs needed to make sound decisions about ADGA testing policies. As a breeder, I understand the need for efficient performance of registration services and processing of show and production records. I also understand the importance, especially given the state of the economy, of finding affordable ways for all herds (small family projects to large commercial herds) to participate in ADGA programs.

As I have said many times, I believe that it is important for ADGA to join forces with other livestock industry allies in addressing issues of importance to the dairy goat industry. ADGA membership in allied industry organizations such as American Goat Federation and United States Animal Health Association has given our members a stronger voice in non-registry issues of great importance to ADGA members, such as the approval of medications for goats, public health and disease issues and regulatory issues facing goat owners.

Please be sure to exercise your privilege of voting. If chosen, I would be honored to continue serving as your director. California is a large and diverse state. My experiences as youth member, breeder, judge and veterinarian working with herd owners of various herd sizes enables me to understand the needs of youth project members, family-type small herd owners, breeding herd owners and commercial dairy producers alike. Please feel free to call or contact me personally (phone call or a personal e-mail) to provide direct input on ADGA issues or if I may assist you with your ADGA services.

Sincerely,
Joan Dean Rowe, D.V.M.

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