

Greetings fellow California breeders!

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I'd like to briefly introduce myself, share a little on why I decided to run for director, and provide contact info so you can share your thoughts, questions, and concerns with me.

During the Great Depression, my great grandfather boarded a train from Kansas with very little except a few cows and some milk cans. He came west to Chino, leaving his debts behind, and turned those cows and milk cans into a creamery, restaurant, and quite a large family. Those are my dairy roots! They skipped a couple generations, so my city dwelling parents were very surprised when I announced I wanted goats. After two years of begging them at the fair for a dairy goat, they relented and said I could have one, on the condition that I work for a full year at the local 4H farm helping take care of the goats there before I could have my own. I persisted and purchased my first goat Nellie (a Saanen) the next year. That was many years ago, but this year everyone of my 2021 kids goes back to Nellie.



I decided to run for director because I want to contribute positively to ADGA and support and broaden the opportunities that have been available to me in breeding dairy goats. ADGA's role as a registry and provider of performance programs helped make my goals possible. The core services of ADGA are to accurately register our goats, record pedigrees, collect performance and genetic information, and through these services help members reach their goals. Unfortunately in the last year ADGA has not reliably offered these services. I am running for director with the hope I can bring fresh focus and commitment to making ADGA a member friendly resource. Most of us breed dairy goats out of passion and because it is something we love to do. I want ADGA to be an organization that reflects that passion, that is pleasant to work with, and gives us a sense of pride.

As a middle school teacher, I know that trust is a fundamental requirement and it is only earned by mutual respect. That has never been more apparent than this last year as we all mastered virtual education where we as teachers had to try new software and resources. I build trust with students by taking ownership when something doesn't work. I recognize not everything will go well the first time; once we identify mistakes then we correct them. We need leadership in ADGA that will do the same. I'm ready for leadership that accepts responsibility when something doesn't function as planned, leadership that works to change and fix the mistakes, and leadership that communicates what is happening and what to expect. I will work to make ADGA more adaptable and responsive to challenges and the concerns of members.

I think my combination of fresh perspective and focus coupled with diverse experience in varying size herds, actively serving on association committees, judging, and participating in DHI and LA is the right recipe for the present moment. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or just to introduce yourself. Apart from the election, as a science and math teacher I love to offer educational programs and have taught artificial insemination workshops and seminars on performance programs. If you or your local goat group or 4H club is interested please reach out, I'm here and available.

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