

The Dairy Practices Council's Business Meeting Minutes, Thursday Nov 5 & 6, 2014

Nov 5, 2014:

Task Force Reports:

Task Force I, John Tyson:

Asked three questions at the TF I meeting:

1. How do you use guidelines now?
2. How could they be used?
3. Subjects that are needed?

Answers:

1. Reference materials was the most popular answer
2. Guidelines could be added to the reference materials of many programs like FARM, FFA, Dairy Challenge, and Dairy Bowls. Teaching materials at two year Dairy Tech Schools. The group felt that marketing the guidelines needs to be addressed, many folks don't really know that they are out there.
3. Subjects: remodeling freestalls, lighting, parlor updates, flooring, manure handling, manure as bedding, ventilation.

Jeffery Bewley led discussion on "Smart Cows" on the farm and how that data can be used to manage the housing environment.

Joe Harner and Joe Zulovich presented issues and ideas for the design of dairy housing in frigid climates (North China and Russia)

Task Force II, Allen Saylor:

November 2014 Updated DPC Task Force II and IV Notes:

#	Guideline Name	Last Update	Status	Assigned To	Prior-ity
8	GMPs for Dairy Processing Plants	8 – 1995	Review Markup and Finalize using Track Changes		1
13	Environmental air Control & Quality for Dairy Food Plants	2009	Start Work to Update Guideline Based on New Information	Neville McNaughton, et al	2
29	Cleaning & Sanitizing Fluid Milk Processing Plants	2001	Review Markup and Finalize using Track Changes	Rebecca	1
56	Dairy Product Safety (Pathogenic Bacteria) for Fluid Milk & Frozen Dessert Plants	1994		Steve M/John	1
57	Dairy Plant Sanitation	1996			1
61	Frozen Dessert Processing	1998	In process – several sets of revisions need to be brought together	Allen & Rebecca	3
62	Resources for Dairy Equipment Construction	1998	Final Review and Submit	Phil	1
67 (new)	Single Service Containers & Closures for the Dairy Industry		Review Markup and Finalize using Track Changes	Deb Henyon	2
83	Bottling Water in Fluid Milk Plants	2001	Review Markup and Finalize using Track Changes	Beebe/Boyle	2

#	Guideline Name	Last Update	Status	Assigned To	Priority
84			In process – coordinate with DMI and ACS	Chris/Allen	2
90	On-Farm & Small Scale Dairy Product Processing	2003		Chris & Dr. D.	1
91	Dairy HACCP SSOPs & Prerequisites	2003		Amy/Allen	2
92	Dairy Plant Hazard Analysis	2003	Ready for Green	Amy/Allen	2
93	Dairy Plant Critical Control Points & Critical Limits	2006	Ready for Green	Amy/Allen	3
96	Dairy Plant Validation	New Proposal		Amy/Allen (??)	3
100	Food Safety in Farmstead Cheesemaking	2002	Review Markup and Finalize using Track Changes		1
???	Brine Systems in Cheesemaking		New – This is the first draft. Review Markup and Finalize using Track Changes		
103	Approving Milk and Milk Product Plants for Extended Runs	2003			3
39	Fluid Plant Inspection		On Hold – Recommendation of FDA		5
107	Pasteurization Equipment & Testing		On Hold – FDA rewriting PMO Appx I	Dennis & Phil	5

New Ideas:

1. Construction and Operation of Cheese Brine Systems
2. Raw Milk Cheese Handling – incorporate in 100
3. Membrane Processing (include powder production)
4. Dry Dairy Processing
5. Reclaim Water Systems
6. Reclaiming Milk & Milk Product Steams for Further Processing
7. Maintenance & Operation of Bulk Starters/Starter Rooms
8. Environmental Monitoring
9. Dairy Product Labeling 10

Dairy Practices Council HACCP Initiatives

1. Video for training industry personnel on HACCP.
2. Powerpoint presentations in self-paced training format for individualized dairy plant employee training.
3. Dairy Hazards Guide
4. Industry Employee Handbooks on:
 - a. Receiving
 - b. HTST Processing
 - c. Prerequisite Programs
 - d. Filling & Packaging
 - e. Storage & Distribution
5. Dairy HACCP Questions & Answers – publish
6. Guidelines on:

- a. Hazard Analysis
 - b. Steps 2 – 5
 - c. Verification/Validation
 - d. Record Systems
 - e. Supplier guarantees and COAs
 - f. Preliminary Steps – How to get started
 - g. How to sustain HACCP system
 - h. CEO' Guide to Maintaining Support for the HACCP program.
 - i. Corrective Action Guideline
 - j. Auditing Guidelines for Industry and Regulators
7. HACCP forms booklet on hazard analysis, CCPs, audit checklist, records checkoff system,
8. Past. Operator training guideline

Task Force III, Pat Healy:

An updated agenda for Task Force III. The Guidelines highlighted in Green have received a green copy status since last annual meeting. The Guidelines highlighted in yellow will be the topics of top priority during the 2014 Annual meeting.

Task Force III Laboratory & Quality Control Procedures

2014

Guideline	Description	Status	Lead Author
DPC #07	Sampling Fluid Milk	In Review	Bob Hicherson
DPC #10	Maintaining & Testing Fluid Milk Shelf Life	In Review	Steve Murphy
DPC #11	Sediment Testing and Producing Clean Milk	Review in 2015	Nancy Carey
DPC #16	Handling Dairy Products from Processing to Consumption	In Review	Nancy Carey
DPC #17	Prevention of and Testing for Added Water in Milk	In Review	Ann Bauer
DPC #21	Raw Milk Quality Tests	Green Copy 2014	Wendy Landry
DPC #22	Control of Antibacterial Drugs & Growth Inhibitors in Milk and Milk Products	In Review	Bill Northeimer
DPC #24	Troubleshooting High Bacteria Counts of Raw Milk	In Review	Wendy Landry
DPC #25	Cleaning & Sanitation Responsibilities for Bulk Pickup & Transport Tankers	In Review	Need Lead Author
DPC #31	Composition & Nutritive Value of Dairy Products	On-Hold Websites	Rebecca Piston
DPC #32	Component Tests Variations in Raw Milk	Review in 2017	Scott Franklin
DPC #33	Brucellosis & Some Other Milkborne Diseases	In Review	Lynn Hinckley
DPC #34	Butterfat Determination of Various Products	Review in 2014	Kelly Wedding ??
DPC #38	Preventing Off-Flavors in Milk	Review in 2013	Pat Healy
DPC #40	Controlling Fluid Milk Volume and Fat Losses	In Review	Pat Healy
DPC #50	Farm Bulk Tank Collection Procedures	In Review	Bob Hickerson
DPC #51	Controlling the Accuracy of Electronic Testing Instruments for Milk Components	Review in 2013	Mike Meeks / MA staff
DPC #60	<i>title change to</i> Microbial Assessment of Processing and Packaging Situations to Optimize Shelf Life	In Review combine with 10	Steve Murphy
DPC #80	Food Allergen Awareness in Dairy Plant Operations	In Review	Steve Murphy
DPC #99	Quality Assurance in Butter Manufacturing	Green Copy 2014	Scott Lough
DPC #105	Sealing Bulk Milk Tank Trucks	In Review	Barney McConnell
DPC #53	Vitamin A & D Fortification of Fluid Milk	In Review	combined TF 2&3
New	Greening of the Laboratory	In Draft	Sharon Wilson
New	Biofilms and Their Control	In Draft	Scott MacKenzie
New	Basic Dairy Terms Dictionary	In Draft	Chris Hyklema
New	Setup/Remodel of a QA Laboratory & Develop a QC Program	Green Copy 2014	Katrene Dutrow

Task Force IV (see Task Force II Report)

Task Force V, Steve Lehman:

Task Force V submitted Guideline DPC 028, *Troubleshooting Residual Films in Dairy Farm Milk Handling Equipment* for peer review. The task force will be reviewing Guideline 97, *Guideline for the Direct Loading of Milk From the Milking Parlor Into Bulk Milk Tankers*, and Guideline 109, *Automatic Milking Systems- Questions Dairywomen Need To Ask* at the 2014 Conference. These guidelines have been recently published, but there have been changes in the industry that merit making certain that the guidelines are current. We will also be looking at the review and republishing of Guideline 2, *Effective Installation, Cleaning and Sanitizing of Milking Systems*, Guideline 9, *Fundamentals of Cleaning & Sanitizing Farm Milk Handling Equipment*, and Guideline 102, *Installation, Cleaning and Sanitizing of Tie Barn Milking Systems*.

Task Force VI, Chris Hylkema:

Guidelines 70 - Guideline for the Design, Installation, and Cleaning of Small Ruminant Milking Systems, 71 - Farmers Guide to Somatic Cell Counts in Sheep and 78 - Guideline for Bio-security for Sheep and Goat Dairies were sent out for review by task force members in early 2014. The review work continues and will be finalized during this conference. Lynn Hinckley agreed to review Guideline 78 and to contact the original authors to have them review for any necessary updates. This work will be updated at this conference. Lynn has also taken on the review of Guideline 33 with regard to Brucellosis testing in small ruminant species. This is in response to the 2011 NCIMS proposal #120 that tasked the NCIMS Other Species Committee with updating the Brucellosis testing requirements for sheep and goats. This guideline has also been sent to some State veterinarian's for review. What is determined through NCIMS will change what is worded in the DPC guidelines with regard to small ruminants to maintain parity. This will be followed up on during the NCIMS Other Species meeting that will take place during this conference on Thursday November 6 2-5pm. Currently there are no new guidelines proposed for Task Force VI.

Business Meeting (continued on November 6, 2014)

Pres. Rebecca Piston: Acknowledged Honorary Life Members in Attendance:

Terry Musson (HLM 2008)
 Don Breiner (HLM in 2011)
 Lynn Hinckley (HLM 2012)
 Armand Dragon (HLM 2013)
 George Wicox (HLM 2008)

Pres. Rebecca Piston: Acknowledged Sponsors:

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Pres. Rebecca Piston: Acknowledged New Sustaining Members & Individual Members:

Platinum:

AFCO switched from Gold to Platinum in 2014
 Dairy Farmers of America, Central Area

Bronze:

A & L Laboratories
 Kreider Farms
 Midland Scientific, Inc
 QC Laboratories

New Individual Members:

Cheryl Fillekes
 Danilo Moreira, Brazil
 Bob Nelcoski, Dean Foods, Tuscan Dairy

New Regulatory Members:

University of KY, Regulatory Services, Alan Harrison

Pres. Rebecca Piston then delivered her Presidential Address:

I would like to take this opportunity to once again welcome all of you to the 45th Annual Conference of the Dairy Practices Council here in Kansas City, Missouri! This is the farthest West that the Council has traveled and I am pleased to see the strong attendance at the meeting.

First, please join me in thanking our Executive Vice President – Jeff Bloom – for his dedicated service to our group. Your Board of Directors recently voted to renew Jeff's contract for another 3 years. We are fortunate to have such a passionate and dedicated individual running the show.

I would also like to thank your diverse and energetic Board of Directors who have served you well. They all contribute greatly to the success of our group. They also are responsible for the fine educational program that you are enjoying at this meeting!

DPC continues its efforts to provide education through a cooperative relationship between Industry, Education and Regulatory. This education comes in the form of our extensive library of guidelines as well as through timely presentations by subject matter experts at our annual meeting.

Jeff will cover many of our activities for the year in his Business Report but I would like to just touch on the list....

Once again we co-hosted an educational workshop on Artisan Cheese Food Safety prior to our conference. These workshops are well attended and provide additional exposure for the Dairy Practices Council as we continue our mission of education of the industry.

Along those lines, the Board is exploring ways we can be known as the training resource for the dairy industry. We are exploring opportunities with professional training organizations to provide our material.

Your board has also formed several sub-committees to work on Membership, Guideline Vision & Technology, and Outreach & Marketing. We plan to actively engage those subcommittees in 2015 to move our organization forward.

Collaborations with Progressive Dairyman and American Dairyman Magazine have increased our visibility within the farm community.

This year's tour of DeLaval was interesting and informative. We send a hearty thank you to Wyatt Smith – DeLaval General Manager for hosting the group this morning.

With your registration you received a Dairy Practices Council thumb drive loaded with all the current guidelines. Another example of us moving forward with technology.

I believe these activities exemplify our commitment to Industry Outreach.

Since our last annual meeting we have published two NEW guidelines and 2 revised guidelines with a number of others in review and close to publication. We need to keep the information published in our guidelines topical and current. I hope that every person in this room is actively involved in reviewing or writing one or more guidelines. If not, it is not too late! Please attend a task force session this afternoon and get involved.

When I addressed you last year I noted we face an uncertain future. We are still waiting for the final outcome of the Food Safety Modernization Act regulations – in particular, what role, if any, the Pasteurized Milk Ordinance will play in the future. We value our relationships with State and FDA Dairy Regulators and hope that this can come to a positive resolution.

In addition, this past year has brought record high milk prices – a situation that continues to challenge the industry as we manage through the volatile highs and lows.

After this meeting you will be receiving a request to complete an electronic survey about Dairy Practices Council and this meeting. I would strongly encourage you to answer the survey and provide any additional feedback you feel is pertinent. Only by working together, as a group, with common goals in mind, can we continue to prosper into the future.

In closing, I would like to once again encourage all of you to actively work on revising or writing guidelines. Guidelines are the life blood of our organization and we need your help!

As we move these meetings around the country, we cannot have a successful meeting without a local contact. Here in Kansas City – Pat Healy has been instrumental in working with Jeff on tours, product donations & supplies, local attendance, and hospitality. Please give him a round of applause.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your President.

I look forward to seeing all of you, and your co-workers in Burlington, Vermont on November 4-6, 2015.

We have a number of University of Vermont Alumni who are active in DPC (go Catamounts!), it should be a great meeting on the shores of Lake Champlain!

EVP Jeff Bloom & Pres. Rebecca Piston Presented GL Lead Author Certificates:

GUIDELINE NUMBER/NAME	New or Revision	DATE OF PUB.	Distribution Date	TF	AUTHOR(S)
DPC 111, Setup/Remodel of a QC Laboratory & Development of a QC Program	New	03/2014	04/2014	III	Kathrene Dutrow
DPC 021, Guidelines for Raw Milk Quality Tests	Revision	03/2014	042014	III	Wendy Landry, Scott MacKenzie
DPC 050, Guidelines For Farm Bulk Milk Collection Procedures	Revision	03/2014	04/2014	III	Bob Hickerson
DPC 099, Quality Assurance in Butter Manufacture	New	08/2014	11/2014	III	Scott Lough, Philip Wolff, Scott Crosier

Silver Eagle Awards were then presented by Jeff Bloom
 To Pat Healy for Dairy Farmers of America, Central Area, Keith Bohlander
 To Steve Lehman for A & L Laboratories, Kurt Fiene
 To Pat Healy for Midland Scientific, Inc, Megan Wadsworth

EVP Bloom then presented an Honorary Life Award to Philip Wolff

EVP Bloom then presented the Eugene Wolff Service Award to Tom Herremans in absentia

VP Bebe Zabilansky then gave the Nominating Committee Report:
 Honorary Life Membership nominations from the floor for presentation at the 2015 Conference. No nominations

EVP Jeff Bloom then asked the members present to approval the Business Meeting Minutes from last year's Annual Conference, 11/6 & 7, 2013. Passed by voice vote.

EVP Jeff Bloom then presented the DPC Business report:
 Welcome to the Conference. Once again we have a great group of attendees!
 First I'd like to once again thank our sponsors and donors, whose financial contribution make much of this conference possible and help keep down the registration fees:
 Capitol Plastic Products, and Sheila Cranker, who couldn't attend.
 AFCO, and its President & CEO Mike Hinkle, who also could not attend.
 CheezSorce & Sanitary Design Industries, represented by Neville McNaughton,
 IBA, represented by Armand Dragon & Miles Beard,
 Idexx Laboratories, represented by John Forsee,
 InstantLabs, represented by Steve Hacker,
 Kentuckiana Tank Wash, represented by Bill Becker
 Midland Scientific, represented by Katy Gondring
 Nelson-Jameson, represented by Fritz Buss
 Page & Pedersen, represented by Jackie Page
 Thermo Fisher Scientific, represented by Ian Johnson
 and finally Weber Scientific, represented by Sharon Wilson.

Visit their displays and thank them for their support!

Once again we have some members from our neighbors in Canada:

Scott MacKenzie and Janice Gammie from Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture,

Brenda Norris, from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture,

Ian Johnson, from ThermoFisher Scientific,

and John Johnston from the Ontario Milk Transport Association

I'd like to recognize the US Regulators in our audience today:

From FDA: Dennis Gaalswyk and Bill Northeimer

From the PA Milk Marketing Board: Keith Hay and Larry Butler.

From the California Dept of Food & Agriculture: Anne Quilter

From the Illinois Dept of Public Health: Steve DiVincenzo

From the Michigan Dept of Ag: Joe MacPhee

From the Missouri Milk Board: Gene Wiseman

from the NY State Dept of Ag & Mkts, Chris Hylkema, and Neil Reardon

From the Wisconsin Dept of Ag: Bob Carrier

and from the USDA and the Market Administrator's Offices around the country we have Scott Lough, Noreen Ratzlaff, Darryl Oliver, Chris Thompson, Todd Wilson, Pat Healy, George Mikolaj, Steve Hoover, Michael Meeks, Dan Lotz, and Dave Herbell

Two past Eugene T. Wolff Service Award recipients are here: Lynn Hinckley, and George Wilcox.

And even though President Piston already mentioned that several Honorary Life Member award recipients are here, I think it's worth mentioning them again: Armand Dragon, Terry Musson, Don Breiner, George Wilcox, and Lynn Hinckley. Some of these folks paid their own way to attend, and to me that really shows their commitment and support!

And while I'm at it, I'd like to recognize some of the folks that are working behind the scenes to keep the Conference running smoothly: George Wilcox, who keeps the Dairy Bar running like a top, Mrs. Terry Musson, who is assisting with this year with Registration, the Dairy Bar, and photography, and Mr. Terry Musson, who is assisting with the Dairy Bar, and who helps me keep the meeting running smoothly.

Pat Healy, who as the local Board Member, took on a great deal of the local arrangements and helped me out with contacts for the Dairy Bar, and helped in much of the follow-up.

And finally, my wife Nancy, who could not be here, but helped me make the Registration Packages, stuff envelopes and generally supported me with the preparation for the Conference.

I'd also like to recognize two folks that are here from the press to report on our Conference: From Hoard's Dairyman Magazine we have Amanda Smith, and from Dairy Herd Management Magazine Lucas Sjostrom.

And finally I'd like to mention a few companies who recognize the value of sending several employees to the DPC Conferences:

Land O'Lakes: sent 4 employees, James Hassinger, Dean Horst, Brittini Treichler, and Amanda Wolfe, Michigan Milk Producers, sent 4 employees, Steve Lehman, Krista Beeker, Ben Chapin, and Lindsay Green

Agri-Mark, sent 3 employees, represented by George Wilcox, Bob Gilchrist, and Scott Werme

Dairy Farmers of America, 10 employees, represented by Ron Geiser, Alex Beard, Fabian Bernal, Keith Bohlander, Richard Hinds, Nathan Lippert, Laurel Moore, Gary Ober, Elizabeth Shade, and Bob Shaffer. Jackson-Mitchell, sent 2 employees, Frank Fillman and Mike Mason.

Lanco-Pennland, sent 2 employees, Stephanie Berchock, and Todd Webb.

And finally HP Hood LLC, sent our current President Rebecca Piston and two of her co-workers: Amy Rhodes, and Wendy Landry.

I thank all of you for your commitment and continued support of the DPC!

Annual Conference Attendance: In 2012 in Madison, WI, we had 95 people in attendance. Last year in Harrisburg, PA we had 112. This year, in Kansas City, MO, we have 113 in attendance. Taking into account that we are the furthest West that we've been with a DPC meeting, I would consider that a very respectable attendance. Thank you!

On Tuesday, once again we partnered with the Innovation Center for US Dairy and, along with funding assistance from the Mid-West Dairy Association, offered a Food Safety Workshop for Artisan Cheesemakers and small-scale, and on-farm dairy processors. I'd like to recognize Mary Wilcox, from the Mid-West Dairy Association, and thank her and her organization for supporting the Workshop. The Workshop was a big success and was attended by 48 people. I've been in discussions with the Innovation Center for US Dairy to host workshops at future DPC Conferences, so watch for one next year in Burlington, VT.

Yesterday's tour of the DeLaval Equipment Campus was attended by 47 people and was a big success. At future meetings we will continue to offer Wednesday morning tours that are of interest to all DPC Conference attendees. If you have a suggestion for a tour or a workshop, please let me know, or put it in your comments on the electronic survey you'll receive after the Conference.

Guideline Sales: This year we had total sales of individual printed Guidelines, Guideline sets, Guideline sets on CDs, and PDF downloads for a total of \$3,641 vs. \$7,664 last year, a decrease of \$4,123 from 2013. I'm attributing the difference to the poor economy, low incomes at the farm level, and no custom CD income this year. Just lately, maybe in the last 2 months, I've seen an increase in guideline sales, as the economy seems to be loosening up, and I hope to report better numbers to you next year.

By the way, for those that are not familiar with our custom CD program, the DPC can create CDs with your choice of DPC Guidelines, that you can use for training programs, hauler meetings, promotional giveaways, etc. The CD can be customized with your logo and choice of title, and your specific company or product promotional literature files can be added to the CD. There's further information about custom CDs available on the DPC website. Please see me or email me for more information.

At our Spring Board of Director's Meeting we had a discussion on the current use of guidelines and maybe rethinking what a guideline's purpose should be.

- Do we need to start developing guidelines specifically for training?
- Are guideline topics right for today's dairy industry?
- Do we need to make the guidelines more practical, less theoretical and more relevant to the topic?
- Also, should guidelines be best practices documents?

The Board also discussed developing and using guidelines specifically for training and using video in guidelines.

You as DPC Members must also have some ideas as to how we can make the guidelines more relevant and useful. In your Task Force sessions yesterday and today, I've asked the TF Directors to gather your ideas and report back to the Board at our next Spring Board Meeting. Your comments and suggestions would also be greatly appreciated on the electronic survey which you'll receive after the Conference.

Guideline Distribution: In order to keep up with changing technology, the DPC Board of Directors has decided to make some changes in the way DPC guidelines are distributed. As you know, technology changes very quickly. For example, most new laptop and tablet computers no longer come with a CD drive. So in order to keep up with these changes, all future DPC guidelines will be distributed electronically and emailed to you in a PDF file link. Click on that link and you'll download a guideline in PDF format, which can be stored on your computer's hard drive or other storage media such as a CD, portable hard drive, or a flash drive. The guidelines can then be printed if you'd like a hard copy.

To start you off right, those attendees who are current members of the Dairy Practices Council, received a flash drive in your Conference Registration Package. This flash drive contains the complete set of DPC Guidelines, including from Task Force III, our latest guideline, , DPC 99, Quality Assurance in Butter Manufacture. This guideline has not even been distributed to the rest of the DPC Membership yet. It will be the first guideline distributed by an emailed link and I'll be doing that sometime this month. The new guideline is now also for sale on the DPC website for \$18.00 in PDF format. Printed copies are not being offered for sale.

What you need to do: In order to avoid any disruption in service, it is very important that we have your current email address. If you are a current DPC Member receiving guidelines, especially if you've previously received printed guidelines, please send a quick email to me at dairypc@dairypc.org or jeffbloom@dairypc.org so I can verify your email address in our files.

By the way, if you want to receive a guideline in printed format, please let me know and I can arrange to have it printed for an additional fee. Contact me for more information.

Website: We continue to make upgrades to the DPC website, to keep up with changing technology. For instance, the website will now recognize what kind of device you are browsing with, i.e. full PC, or a mobile device such as a tablet or cell phone, and adjust the display accordingly. Also, I've added thumbnails of all the Guideline covers that you can view when you browse the guidelines, along with an abstract of the guideline, and a complete table of contents of the guideline.

The Annual Conference registration on the web went very well again this year. As a DPC member, you should be very proud of the DPC website which provides tons of DPC information, such as membership information, links to sustaining member's websites, and archives of past DPC Conferences, including Conference photos and Power Point presentations. Additionally, the DPC Constitution and Bylaws, DPC's history, Task Force information, DPC's Twitter feed, links of interest to other websites and other DPC information are all available. All of our Guidelines are available to the general public, for purchase on our secure website, using a credit card.

Marketing: This past year, several DPC Board Members, helped with our visibility at meetings. We covered the following meetings & conferences:

In March, Pat Healy attended the Central Plains Dairy Expo and handed out DPC literature.

In July, I attended the American Cheese Society's annual meeting, this year held in Sacramento, CA. Our relationship with the ACS is strong and I am currently a member of their Academic and Regulatory Technical Committee.

In July, President Piston attended the NADRO Meeting- (National Association of Dairy Regulatory Officials). Rebecca made lots of contacts and used her powers of persuasion to convince some of you folks to attend this Conference.

If you attend a dairy related meeting and would like DPC literature to hand out, let me know.

Social Networking : DPC continues to have a strong presence on both Twitter and LinkedIn. Both sites have increased DPCs recognition and continue to bring in guideline inquiries and new member prospects. We now have 1,917 followers on Twitter, and 996 members on the DPC LinkedIn group. You can follow us on Twitter at @dairypc, and on LinkedIn at group Dairy Practices Council.

The October 1, 2014 Edition of Progressive Dairyman magazine featured TF V Director Steve Lehman's article titled [Set Yourself Up For Milking Equipment Success](#). Links to the article have been placed on DPCs LinkedIn site, the NMC group LinkedIn site, and on the DPC Twitter site. We've been receiving many comments and "likes" on the article. Thank you Steve!

Another piece of big news is we've started to supply American Dairyman Magazine with a monthly guest editorial, based on our Guidelines. The Guidelines come out of either Task Force I, Farm Buildings & Equipment, or Task Force IV, Milking Systems & Procedures. These guest editorials will be a 500 word excerpt of a guideline, and point the reader to our website for more information. The editorials will start with Guideline # 110, *Guidelines for Managing Compost Bedded-Pack Barns*, which came out of Task Force I last year and will feature a photo of Task Force I Director John Tyson,. The editorial will start with this week's edition of American Dairyman's e-magazine.

I'm hoping this will make DPC more visible to dairy producers and possibly generate some guideline sales and new members. All around, it should be good publicity.

Well that's enough for me.

Mark your calendars now for future DPC Conferences

2015- Burlington, VT, Nov 4 - 6, 2015

2016- Lansing, MI, Nov 9 - 11, 2016, held on the campus of Michigan State University

We decided at yesterday's Board Meeting to look at Buffalo, NY as the possible site of our 2017 Conference

Respectfully submitted,

M Jeffrey Bloom

Executive Vice President

Pres. Rebecca Piston then adjourned the Business Meeting and urged everyone to attend TF Sessions.