

L-R: MEGAN, DAN, RUTH, DEREK, JARED



The beginning was not easy for Dan and Ruth. They needed to renovate the dairy facilities and improve the productivity of the land as it had been run down by previous owners. They began with 18 milk cows, implemented

Management-intensive Grazing practices, and put any extra money towards the purchase of more cows while limiting their debt load.

By 1997 their dairy herd had grown to 100 cows. That year they purchased an additional 130 acres of farmland, and they retrofitted a swing-14 milking parlor into their stanchion barn. In 2008 a neighboring 212 acre farm was bought. They now owned 500 acres and rented an additional 200 acres.

Excellent calf raising and management skills has allowed the Vosbergs to grow their current herd to 220 cows from within. From 1998 to 2008 they seasonally calved their cows in the spring and dried them up in January and February. With 220 cows they did not want to calve that many cows in the spring. So now 70% of the herd is calved in the spring and 30% is calved in the fall. Rotational grazing is still utilized in feeding their cows in the late spring, summer and early fall, with 40% to 50% of the herd's dry matter intake coming from the pastures. Once the grass season is over the cows are fed a total mixed ration consisting of home grown forages and grains.

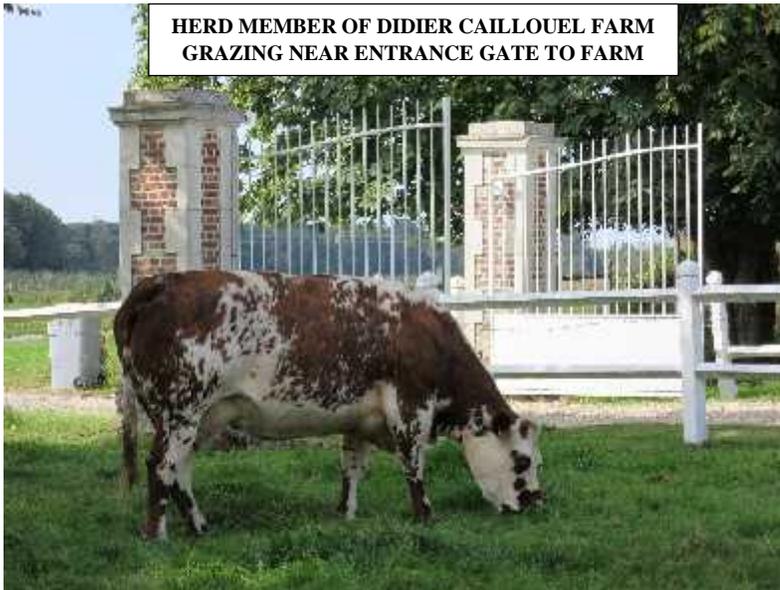
Dan and Ruth began their dairy herd with Holsteins and Jerseys. In 1992 they started using Normande semen and have since fallen in love with the Normande breed. Currently the majority of their herd is Normande crossbreds and with the NANA grading up program many animals within their herd are reaching the purebred level. They also have a growing number of full bloods being developed within the herd. This is being accomplished with a few select purchases and utilizing embryo transfers. The Vosbergs now have the largest registered Normande dairy herd in the United States.

Dan and Ruth have been blessed with three children. All three are actively involved in the operation of their farm. Derek, 24, and Megan, 22, work full time on the farm. Jared, 14, helps with the farm chores as schooling allows.

Giving of their time and talents to others is also a way of life for the Vosbergs. Each year 4-H and FFA youth in the area are given an opportunity to select, train and exhibit Normande cattle from their herd. Dan has written

OUR TRIP TO CINOR 2014

Editor's note. The week after the 2014 National Normande Show, ten members of NANA journeyed to France to participate in the Cinor 2014. Bill and Rhonda Trembl-Knebel of Arpin, WI; Wayne and Lisa Dewey of Iowa Falls, IA; Robert and Dianna Lange of Kimball, MN; Mike and Sharon Mueller of Rewey, WI; Raelene Schuette of Unity, WI ; and Lexa Miller of Mt. Horeb, WI were the international travelers. The Langes provided Normande Happenings the following report.



HERD MEMBER OF DIDIER CAILLOUEL FARM
GRAZING NEAR ENTRANCE GATE TO FARM

Our trip to France and Cinor 2014 began as planned. We flew from Minneapolis, MN, to Detroit, MI, where we met up with Wayne, Lisa, Mike, and Sharon, to fly to Amsterdam, Holland and then onto Paris, France. The rest of our NANA group, Bill, Rhonda, Raelene, and Lexa also flew into Detroit but took a different flight to Paris.

When we arrived in Paris our traveling adventure really began. When we went to pick up our checked luggage we learned it had not followed us to Paris-it was still in Amsterdam. Air France provided us a small voucher for some clothing, a t-shirt and some toiletries to tide us over until our luggage caught up to us. We had a

good chuckle when Mike made the comment that at least we all had a change of underwear-we could swap underwear with our spouse. Had it not been for Christian Jego, our French tour guide from the French Normande Association, making a special trip to get our luggage at a warehouse in France we would have been without our luggage more than the four days we were.

We had left our farm in Minnesota early morning on September 10 and when we arrived in Paris it was midmorning September 11. By the time we left the Paris airport we were very weary, but Christian had arranged a very busy tour for us prior to the actual Cinor. Instead of checking into our hotel for some much needed and desired rest we made a pre-arranged farm visit to the Didier Caillouel Farm. The Caillouel's are one of a few French Normande breeders who are concentrating on breeding double muscled animals within the Normande breed.

NANA DELEGATION AT FRENCH RESTUARANT. L-R: CHRISTIAN JEGO, RAELENE SCHUETTE, LEXA MILLER, RHONDA TREML-KNEBEL, BILL KNEBEL, DIANNA LANGE, BOB LANGE, MIKE MUELLER, SHARON MUELLER. LISA DEWEY TOOK PICTURE AND WAYNE DEWEY WANTED ONLY HIS SHIRT TO BE SEEN.





PLATE OF FRENCH SPECIALTY CHEESES

Following our first farm visit we had our evening meal. In France you do not eat your meal quickly and then go onto other things. Eating a meal involves time because there are several courses. The first course is like an appetizer and once you are finished with that your dishes are removed and in comes a clean set. The second course is the main meal. The third course is desert and the final course is coffee. Each course requires a clean set of dishes. Throughout the meal there is a plentiful supply of water and wine available. Also available throughout the meal is French bread and sometimes their specialty cheeses.

Getting into our hotel rooms was a treat the first night in France. All of us had had just a few hours of fitful sleep on the flight across the Atlantic Ocean which meant we had been up for more than 36 hours without much rest.



AMERICAN CEMETERY NEAR OMAHA BEACH

The next several days were spent visiting more farms, sightseeing and watching Raelene and Lexa compete in a showmanship contest at a large county fair. Driving through the French countryside we saw many small French villages with their narrow streets and old quaint buildings and houses. With space a premium in the nation of France they are quite conservative in the size of their houses, size of lawns, width of streets, size of hotel rooms, etc. We saw many buildings still being used that had been built in the 18th century, including houses.

Our sightseeing included visiting the beaches of Normandy where Allied troops began the liberation of Europe from the grip of the Nazi's. We visited the American cemetery at Omaha Beach where thousands of American servicemen are buried. We spent a good part of a day visiting a D-Day Museum. Another day was spent visiting Mont-Saint Michel, an abbey built near the French coast that is still working as an abbey. At times it can be surrounded by water since it is basically a rock island and the building of the facility began in the 1100's. And when we were in Paris we enjoyed a boat ride on the Seine River at night, seeing many of Paris's historic buildings lit up, including the Eiffel Tower.

We were very proud of Raelene and Lexa in their representation of NANA in the showmanship contests at the county fair and the international showmanship competition at the Space Show. Both of them did very well in showmanship! An entire day was spent at the Space Show, France's largest agriculture show. There was all kinds of machinery to look at and some of the best livestock in France was on exhibit. It is such a large and prestigious agriculture show that thousands of foreign visitors from all parts of the world attend its events.

Since we had attended the previous Cinor held in Columbia, South America we got reacquainted with



MONT-SAINT MICHEL

NORMANDE GENETIC SPECIALTIES

*****SPRING SEMEN SPECIAL*****



CIRCLE D TANK HAWK 196X

DOB: 03-03-10 BW: 82 205 D. ADJ. WEANING WT: 651 365 DAY YR. WEIGHT: 1124

SIRE-CIRCLE D FOOLERMAN 51R DAM-CIRCLE D MOUSE HAWK 196S

***A POLLED PUREBRED NORMANDE BEEF BULL WITH PROVEN CALVING EASE.**

***USE WITH CONFIDENCE ON FIRST CALF HEIFERS TO PRODUCE 65 TO 75 POUND CALVES.**

***LOOK FOR HIM TO PRODUCE MARKETABLE STEER CALVES THAT WILL YIELD AND GRADE WELL WHETHER USED ON PUREBRED OR BLACK CROSSBREDS.**

SEMEN-\$15.00/STRAW * VOLUME DISCOUNTS

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Normande Genetics

Your source of imported French semen and embryos

Dairy

If you use the Normande for dairy production, our proven French bulls will bring you important advantages.

Proven French bulls are bulls tested in France on the Normande population. Their daughters are evaluated and compared to other heifers of the same generation. As a result, predictive values for the future daughters are calculated, and will allow you to pick and choose the traits you desire: milk production, components, size, feet & legs, calving ease, and more. Individual sheets for each bull are available on our website. Feel free to contact us for more information.



Valence, daughter of Redondo, a unique bull for production and type

Beef

Our bulls should be considered for beef for the following reasons:

- Calving ease information
- Muscularity index (see below)
- Genetic variability
- Predictable type traits such as stature, depth, feet & legs, etc...

Best bulls for muscularity: Atenay, Girophare, Idris, Ucany, Dairy Expo, Calvados, Uvray, Ulozon, Atenay, Antispam, Camembert, Roucoups, UTC

New to our line up: Antispam, Atenay, Aubray, Banania, Bretzel, Calvados, Camembert, Casto, Creole, Curcumin, Dairy Expo



Normande Genetics has been the main provider of French Normande genetics since 1997. We import **semen and embryos** from France, and we ship FedEx ground all across the U.S.

For more information, call **612 823 7212** or check our website: www.normandegenetics.com, email: jerome@normandegenetics.com

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AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH



Pictured is Natasha Kowalchuk, of Amherst, WI with the Normande heifer calf she received as winner of the 2014 NANA Youth Junior Heifer Program. If you are 12-17 years old, are a member of 4-H or FFA, and do not currently own a Normande animal you are eligible to enter the program. If you are chosen the winner you will be awarded the ownership of a Normande heifer at the National Normande Show in September of 2015.

Prior to the 2015 NANA National Show the winner will be chosen and he/she will have the privilege of taking home a registered Normande heifer to raise and show. The ownership of the heifer will be transferred to their name. To enter the program a young person must submit signed agreements and an essay (no more than 425 words) titled "Why I Want To Own A Normande Heifer". The NANA Junior Heifer Program rules, applications, and stipulations are listed below. Applications must be submitted to the NANA office by **07-31-15**, and the winner will be expected to pick up their heifer at the National Show in Mineral Point, WI, in September of 2015. If applicants have any questions please call the NANA office (608-943-6091 or 800-573-6254).

PURPOSE AND GENERAL INFORMATION: The purpose of this contest is to encourage the growth and development of Normande Cattle breeders through 4-H and FFA projects and programs.

Through this program one registered Normande Beef **or** one Normande Dairy heifer calf will be awarded to a winning applicant. The winning applicant will also be awarded one year of free membership to NANA as a Junior Member. Current NANA Junior Members who do not presently own any Normande cattle are eligible to participate. A contestant can win only one heifer during their 4-H or FFA career. Once a contestant is awarded a heifer they are not eligible to apply again. Applicants not chosen to receive a heifer in the year they apply are eligible to apply in another year, as long as the age requirements are met.

Applicants can be male or female, and **must** be 12-17 years of age. We encourage the person to be active in either 4-H or FFA. The winner of the heifer **must** compete in at least two cattle shows per year. The two cattle shows **must** include their local county fair and the annual National Normande Show. The winner is encouraged to show in other cattle shows, but it is not required beyond the two specified shows. Applicants essay **must** be in their handwriting and **must** be accompanied by a completed Parental Consent Form.

Each applicant's entry will be judged on the applicant's need for help in getting started with Normande Cattle, neatness and completeness of the application and essay, ability to provide a good home for the calf, and the desire of the applicant as expressed in his or her essay. The title of the essay will be "**Why I Want to Own a Normande Heifer.**" The essay **shall not** exceed 425 words. To apply simply use the entry form below. If additional forms are needed you can make additional copies, but copies must not be altered in any way from the application below. All applications **must be submitted to the NANA office and be post marked no later than July 31, 2015.**

WHAT IS REQUIRED OF THE WINNING APPLICANT:

1. Adequate facilities for the care of the heifer **must** be provided.
2. The responsibility for the daily care of the heifer **must** be accepted by the recipient and his/her family.

3. The recipient and his/her family **must** be capable of handling all expenses (veterinary, breeding, feed, housing, transportation, etc) that occur with ownership of an animal.
4. The recipient **must** show his/her heifer for two years at their local county fair and the National Normande Show.
5. The recipient **must** breed his/her heifer to a registered Normande bull.
6. The recipient **must** register their heifer's first calf with NANA if the calf is a heifer.
7. The recipient **must** be open to a NANA representative checking on the welfare of the heifer if requested by NANA.
8. The recipient **must** submit photos and a yearly summary of their activities with the heifer for two years. The photos and summary may be used in NANA.s newsletter.
9. The recipient **must** be willing to promote the Normande breed and this program to others.
10. The recipient and his/her family **must** be willing to commit themselves to the two year length of this program.
11. The recipient is encouraged to pay the dues for NANA membership in the second year of the program.
12. NANA reserves the right to reclaim the animal if deemed necessary due to the recipient not complying with the above requirements.

NANA JUNIOR HEIFER PROGRAM APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **ST:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____ **BIRTHDATE:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

AREA OF INTEREST: (check one) Normande Beef _____ Normande Dairy _____

In your essay please answer the following questions:

1. Tell us why you would like to participant in this program. What are your goals and where do you see this project taking you?
2. Tell us how you would be able to promote this project and the Normande breed within your state and community.
3. Describe your home farm and what your responsibilities there are.
4. If you were awarded a calf, describe how you would care for it, where would you keep it, and how you would feed it.
5. What organizations do you participate in and what positions of leadership have you held

BULLS FOR SALE

PDM Normandes Paul & Delores Moechnig
pdmoechnig@embarqmail.com
651-345-4372



PDM CHIEF SAM 034B
Sire: HN Chief Rocky 53J
Dam: PDM Samantha 224X
MGS: PDM Sam Kelly 012N
DOB: 4-20-14 BW: 88lbs WW: 560 lbs
205 Adj WW: 657 lbs
ADG: 10-7-14 to 3-1-15 144 days 2.96 lbs
WDA: 3-1-15 3.14 WT 3-1-15 986lbs



PDM BERNIE 035B
Sire: Circle D X Caliber Rocky X91
Dam: PDM Star Tracer 205W
MGS: PDM Star Gazer 015T
DOB: 5-11-14 BW: 94lbs WW: 508 lbs
205 Adj WW: 667 lbs
ADG: 10-7-14 to 3-1-15 144 days 2.97 lbs
WDA: 3-1-15 3.20 WT 3-1-15 938lbs



PDM BARNEY 036B
Sire: Circle D X Caliber Rocky X91
Dam: PDM Sam Tina 166T
MGS: PDM Sam Kelly 012N
DOB: 5-15-14 BW: 95 lbs WW: 489 lbs
205 Adj WW: 655 lbs
ADG: 10-7-14 to 3-1-15 144 days 3.51 lbs
WDA: 3-1-15 3.44 WT 3-1-15 995lbs



PDM BRUNO 037B
Sire: Circle D X Caliber Rocky X91
Dam: PDM Knight Time Jenny 269Y
MGS: Circle D Myjestic Hawk
DOB: 5-18-14 BW: 94lbs WW: 571 lbs
205 Adj WW: 826 lbs
ADG: 10-7-14 to 3-1-15 144 days 2.77 lbs
WDA: 3-1-15 970lbs WT 3-1-15 970lbs



**NORTH AMERICAN NORMANDE
ASSOCIATION**

748 ENLOE RD.

REWEY, WI 53580

608-943-6091 800-573-6254

www.normandeassociation.com



NANA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

If you would like to become a member of the North American Normande Association, Simply complete the form below and mail it with your dues payment to the address above. NANA has three types of membership: Active (\$40.00/yr.), Associate (\$20.00) and Junior (under 18 years old, \$10.00/yr).

NAME: (Please print exactly as you wish your membership issued.):

FARM NAMES: _____

HERD PREFIX: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Email: _____

PHONE: _____

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: _____

HERD CODE LETTERS: (Use 2-4 letters and/or numbers to indicate your herd code.
Example: SGF for Spruce Grove Farm. Put down two choices in case one is already in use.) _____

I BREED/RAISE NORMANDES FOR: _____ **DAIRY** _____ **BEEF**

OFFICE USE ONLY: MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____

HERD CODE: _____