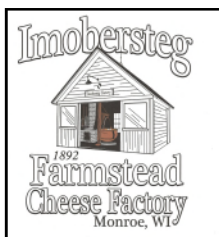


**Our 2025 Sustaining Partners:**

- Bank of New Glarus
- Dave & Glenda Buholzer
- Ron & Sue Buholzer
- Darlington Dairy Supply
- Decatur Cheese Co-op
- Foreign Type Cheesemakers
- Terry Goetz & Paul Zimmerman
- Ken Klassey
- Fritz & Barbara Kopp
- Jane Paradowski
- Plier Family Fund
- Bill & Carolyn Robichaux
- Silver-Lewis Co-Op
- Steve and Glennette Stettler, Decatur Dairy Inc.
- Bonnie Zumkehr-Sauey
- Henry Tschanz
- Jim Vilutus, Vilutus & Co. Inc.
- Wengers Springbrook Cheese Inc.
- Chuck & Gail Zeitler



# Culture, Curds, and Cheesey Chatter

*"Cheese Is Our Culture"™*



Jan.-Feb 2025

*A Publication of the National Historic Cheesemaking Center*



*NHCC President Jim Glessner and Director Deb with John Baumann, Colony Brands Foundation President. Jim and Deb attended the Colony Brands Associate Donation Program reception on December 3. Colony Brands employees are granted a dollar amount for each year of their service which they can designate to non-profit organizations in the communities that Colony Brands calls home.*

**THANK YOU, COLONY BRANDS ASSOCIATES!!**



*Save the Date*

September 20, 2025

*See Page 3*

**REMINDER DATES**

**Membership meeting reminder on Wednesday, March 19, 5 PM at NHCC**

**NHCC museum opens May 1, 2025**



Volume 18, Issue 1

*Thanks to Colony Brands Inc. for the printing of Culture*

*A HUGE thank you to our 2025 valued members, listed here:*

## Exceptional Partners

(Level 3)

Ron Goecke  
Benjamin Johnson  
Jim and Donna Mueller  
Bill & Marilyn Ross  
Coplien Painting

## Lifetime Members

Terry & Mary Ann Hanna  
Colony Brands Inc.  
Jean Tullett  
Greg Knoke  
Deppeler Wood Shop LLC

## Supporting Partners

(Level 2)

Jerry & Lynn Lokken  
Ron Purintun; Janet Zee  
Jim Glessner  
Terry & Mary Ann Hanna  
William & Christine Viney  
Dan & Ann Stearns  
Mark & Lynn Mayer  
Gregory E Knoke  
Paul Vassalotti  
William & Joan Schmid  
Gary & Corie Grossen

## Supporting Partners

(Level 1)

Mary Ann Stauffacher  
Chalet Cheese Coop  
Virgil & Carol Leopold  
Steve & Jo-Ann Esser  
James Andresen  
Edelweiss Creamery  
Dennis & Janice Everson  
Paul & Carolyn Beach  
Harvey W Kubly, CPA  
John & Sherry Waelti  
Jon & Carol Rufenacht  
Jo Ann Schwitz  
Millie Stauffer  
Tim & Diane Gile, Gile Cheese LLC

(Members As of Jan 25, 2025)

*To appear on this page,  
go to the membership  
form on Page 11!*

### 2024 In Memoriam

Members

Volunteers

Skip Brennan

Carla Hartwig

Robert Marty

Ken Sedbrook

Dorothy Jaeggi

Chuck Ekena

Giving Levels:

Exceptional Level 3 (\$200-\$250)

Business & Supporting Levels 1 & 2 (\$50, \$100)

NHCC museum opened in 1995—30 years!  
Dedication of Imobersteg Factory in 2010—15 years!

Where has the time gone?  
**We are making plans for a celebration!**



**Food trucks!**

**Cheesemaking demonstration**



**Charcuterie Board demonstration**

**Live music**



**Please join the Celebration Committee!**  
**Call 608.325.4636 or email**  
[nhccmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:nhccmuseum@gmail.com)

**Board of Directors**

- Fayth Block, treasurer
- Dave Buholzer, past president
- Jim Glessner, president
- Anita Huffman, secretary
- Gary Grossen, director
- Ken Klassey, director
- Fritz Kopp, director
- Steve Stettler, director
- Henry Tschanz, vice president



**Admin Staff**

- Deborah Briggs, Director
- Deborah Myers, Asst. Director

*Culture, Curds and Cheesy Chatter* is published monthly and bi-monthly by the National Historic Cheesemaking Center, P.O. Box 516, Monroe, WI 53566  
**All Rights Reserved**

*Save the Date*

September 20, 2025



**30 years**  
Est. 1995



The first tour of 2025 was on Jan. 8! A group of 22 Costa Rican exchange students plus their chaperones and a local host, Jesse Wellington. Jesse was in the first group of MHS students to go to Costa Rica in the exchange in 1995! It was Jesse and her son's first visit to NHCC. What?! We hope they will be back. Docent Francisco Ocampo and MHS grad did the entire tour in.....SPANISH!!  
***Aren't you impressed?***



***NHCC  
Camera at  
November  
Volunteer  
Luncheon***





**We are a Smiling Bunch!**





Reminiscing! Here are photos from 2024 editions of Culture  
Featured on this page and page 7



PLEASE CLIP FOR REFERENCE

National Historic Cheesemaking Center

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P O Box 516

Phone: Director Deb Briggs: 608.293.2396

Monroe, Wisconsin 53566

Website: [www.nationalhistoriccheesemakingcenter.org](http://www.nationalhistoriccheesemakingcenter.org)



Email address: [nhccmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:nhccmuseum@gmail.com)

YouTube: Seek National Historic Cheesemaking Center Channel



*The 'gang' at the World Cheese Championship Contest in Madison, WI.*



Dave Buholzer gets Life member WCMA award



*Our Monroe sign gets upgraded courtesy Monroe Fund!*



Alfred (Shorty) & Emma Meier  
Swiss Club Members  
Well-Known to Local Festivals

*Some readers will recognize Shorty & Emma Meier with their St. Bernards. This can be found in Turner Hall Rat-skellar*

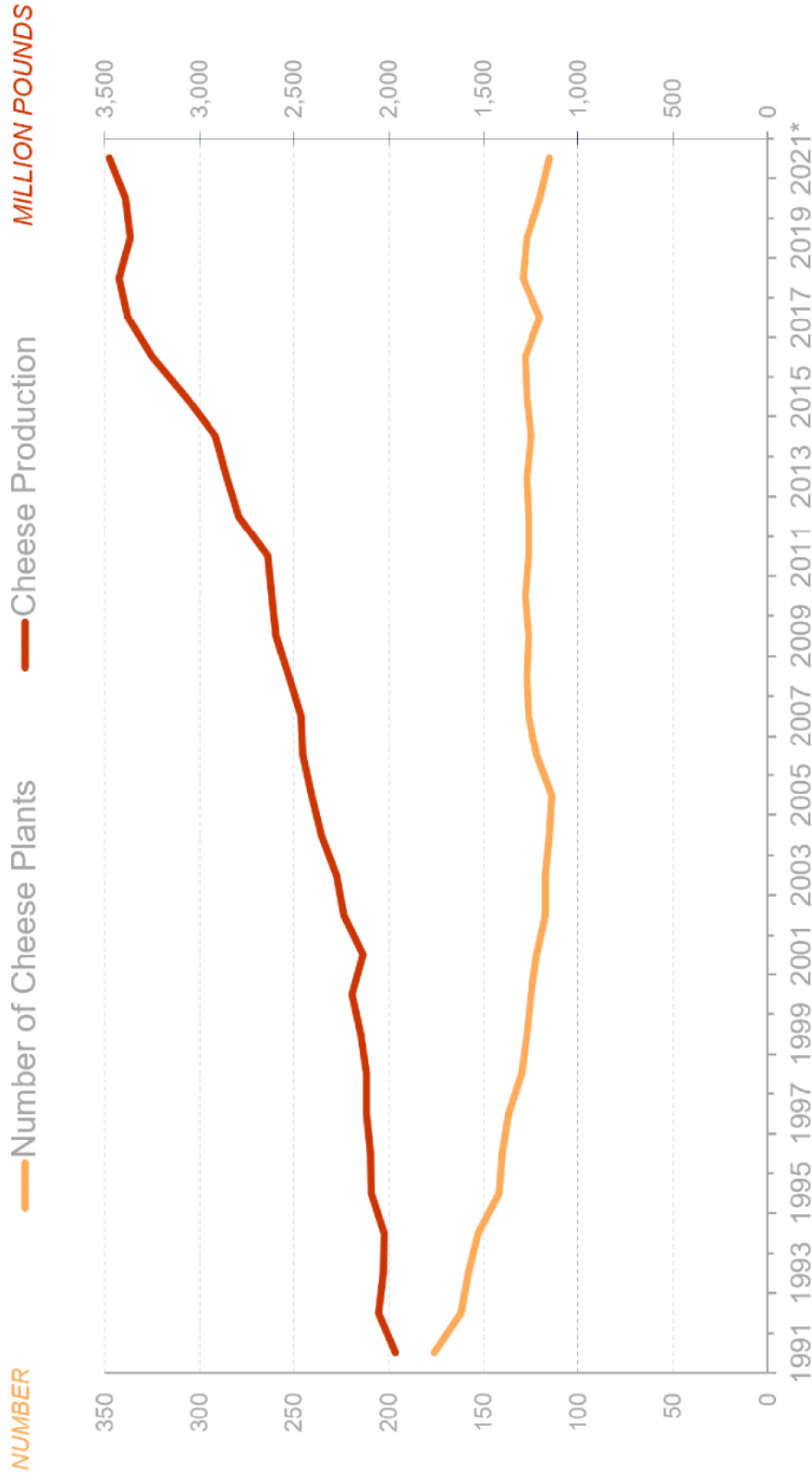


*Alice gets a plane ride courtesy of Dan Wegmueller*

# WI Cheese Production vs. No. of Plants



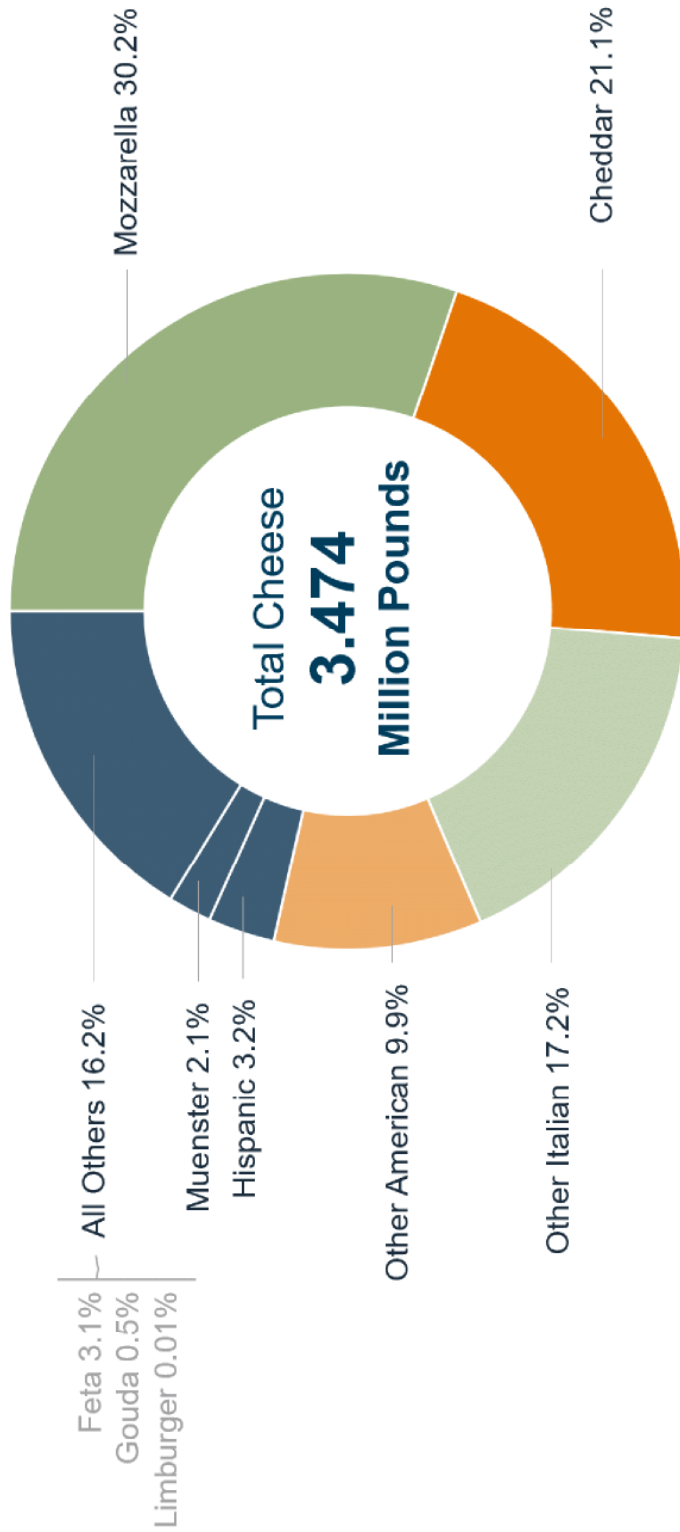
While Wisconsin had 35% fewer cheese plants in 2021 than in 1991, the state produced **77% more cheese**, thanks to rising production per plant



# Wisconsin Production Share by Variety, 2021



Mozzarella and cheddar together account for **51%** of the cheese made in Wisconsin



NATIONAL HISTORIC CHEESEMAKING CENTER  
Minutes of January 15, 2025

Members present: Henry Tschanz, Ken Klassey, Millie Stauffer, Steve Stettler, Gary Grossen, John Marean, Deb Briggs, Deb Myers, Fritz Kopp, Jim Glessner, Anita Huffman

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Jim at 5:00PM.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the 10/16 meeting which appeared in the newsletter were approved. Motion by Henry, second by Ken. Carried

Treasurer's Report: The profit/loss comparison Jan-Dec 2024 was shared. Motion to accept by Henry, second by Steve. Carried.

Director's Report: The shared report covered activities of 10/17/24-1/15/25. Both Debs are registered for the tourism conference in LaCrosse March 9-11. Advertising for 2025 will be increased due to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Plans and contacts made for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary were shared. Off-season hours for the directors have been adjusted.

Committee Reports:

*Archival & Display:* No report

*Building & Grounds:* Fritz is working on improving accessibility to the Imobersteg factory. Currently those with walkers or wheelchairs need to drive into that driveway or go out in the street to get there. There was discussion of possible solutions and grant money. Fritz will continue to research the problem.

*Finance Committee:* Deb noted that money has been moved to the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin.

*Membership:* Fritz said they are coming in at a steady pace.

*Sunshine/Sympathy:* Millie has sent cards and requests information so she can keep up.

Unfinished Business:

*Election:* Current board members were polled earlier about remaining on the board. Motion by President Jim, "All officers and directors of the National Historic Cheesemaking Center have previously agreed to serve terms for the 2025 year. By this motion it is affirmed that this is duly recorded in the minutes of the January 2025 meeting." Second by Henry. Carried

*AED Funding:* Donated funds for the AED are pending. The Green County EMS trainer has been contacted to educate both Debs on its use.

*New Brochure Status:* Deb is currently waiting for artwork approval to finalize the brochure.

New Business:

*Photos to identify:* After much sharing and discussion, it was determined the item was not cheesemaking equipment. Gary Grossen will take the photos to the Center for Dairy Research.

*Visitor & Promotion Funding:* Visitor & Promotion Board funding has been requested and approved.

Adjournment: Motion by Fritz, second by Millie to adjourn at 5:5PM Carried.

Respectfully submitted: Secretary Anita Huffman

*These minutes will be approved at next NHCC membership meeting on Wednesday, March 19th*

Preserving "An era that was, that will never be again."



**NATIONAL HISTORIC CHEESEMAKING CENTER, INC.**

2025

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**

The National Historic Cheesemaking Center, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

dedicated to educating the public about the heritage and art of cheesemaking.

*Memberships valid from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail the newsletter to the above mailing address. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Email the newsletter to:

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**CHOOSE TO RENEW**

→ONLINE←

OR

→US MAIL←

Renew your annual NHCC membership online at :

[www.NationalHistoricCheesemakingCenter.org](http://www.NationalHistoricCheesemakingCenter.org)

Make checks payable to "NHCC"

and mail with this form to:

National Historic Cheesemaking Center

PO Box 516

Monroe, WI 53566

(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY)

\_\_\_\_\_ INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP \$15.00 Annual

\_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 Annual

These support levels are listed inside the newsletter or on the front page of the newsletter.

\_\_\_\_\_ Business & Supporting Membership-Level 1 \$50.00 Annual

\_\_\_\_\_ Business & Supporting Membership-Level 2 \$100.00 Annual

\_\_\_\_\_ Business & Supporting Membership-Level 3 \$200.00 Annual

\_\_\_\_\_ SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP (front page) \$500.00 Annual

*Thank you for your support!*

**All annual memberships renew January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**National Historic  
Cheesemaking Center  
P.O. Box 516  
Monroe WI 53566**

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**Return Service Requested**

*The National Historic Cheesemaking Center is a tribute to those who have gone before...and is dedicated to the hard work and sacrifices of all those in the dairy industry who have made this area of southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois internationally famous.*

*The unique center recalls the rich heritage of the area and is illustrative of the lively cheese industry which still flourishes today.*

*.....Recalling an era that was,  
And will never be again!*



**IMOBESTEG CHEESE FACTORY**

**National  
Historic Cheesemaking  
Center  
2108 6th Avenue  
Monroe WI 53566**