



CULTURE, CURDS, AND CHEESY CHATTER

National Historic Cheesemaking Center

2026 SUSTAINING PARTNERS

\$500

Alp & Dell Cheese Store
 Alpine Slicing & Cheese Conversion
 Baumgartner's Cheese Store
 Shauna Bergemann
 Dave & Glenda Buholzer
 Ron & Sue Buholzer
 Steve & Thea Buholzer
 Cheese Louise, Inc.
 Decatur Dairy
 Decatur Swiss Co-op
 Darlington Dairy Supply
 Eugene Hotel LLC
 Foreign Type Cheesemakers Assn.
 Terry Goetz, Paul Zimmerman
 Grassland Dairy Products, Inc.
 Richard & Anne Guggisberg Family
 Jane Hager Paradowski
 Ken Klassey
 Klondike Cheese Co.
 Barb Kopp
 Maple Leaf Cheesemakers, Inc.
 Maple Leaf Cheese Store
 Nelson-Jameson, Inc.
 Plier Family Fund
 Regez Supply Co., Inc.
 Bill & Carolyn Robichaux
 Silver-Lewis Cheese Co-op
 Spaulding & Associates, Inc.
 Steve & Glennette Stettler
 Sugar River Cold Storage
 Super 8 of Monroe



REMINDER DATES

August's membership meeting is Wednesday, the 19th at 5 PM. All members are invited to attend these monthly meetings and exercise their voting privileges. Meetings are held at NHCC.

The September meeting is Wednesday, September 9th.

V&V Supremo Foods
 Valley Queen Charitable Foundation
 Vilutis and Co Inc
 Wengers Springbrook Cheese
 Zeitler Auto Body
 Chuck & Gail Zeitler
 Bonnie Zumkehr Sauey

Board of Directors

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



Admin Staff

Deborah Briggs, Director
 Deborah Myers, Asst. Director

LIFETIME PARTNERS

Colony Brands Inc
Jean Tullett
Greg Knoke
Deppeler Wood Shop LLC
Donna Douglas
Mary Ann Hanna

Our Exceptional Partners \$200-\$250

Badger State Propane, Inc.
Emmi Roth, USA
Ron Goeke
Anita Huffman
Benjamin Johnson
L&S Automotive Truck Service, Inc.
Phil & Mary Lindemann
Shirley Knox & Paul Peterson
Mike & Kathy Moran
Jim & Donna Mueller
Pine River Pre-Pack, Inc.
Roelli Cheese Co Inc.
Chris & Kristine Roelli
Bill & Marilyn Ross
William & Christine Viney
Zwygart Family Partnership

Business & Supporting Memberships \$50-\$150

Greg & Susan Anderson
James & Joan Andresen
Paul & Carolyn Beach
Harry & Diana Bowen
Bart & Deb Briggs
Chalet Cheese Co-op
Michael & Shirley Connors

Business & Supporting Memberships \$50-\$150

Stephen & Jo Ann Esser
Dennis & Janice Everson
Bob & Nancy Faith
James Glessner
Virginia Goetz
Gary & Corie Grossen
Deb & Mike Hutchinson
Jackie Kido
Gregory E. Knoke
Harvey Kubly
Virgil & Carol Leopold
Jerry & Lynn Lokken
John Marean
Douglas S. Mayer Transport
Mark & Lynn Mayer
Lauren & Lois Meinert
Ellie Meyer & Greg Joseph
Christi & Fred Moritz
Bob Reffue
Carol & Jon Rufenacht
Bill & Joan Schmid
David & Holly Schmid
Jeanne & Greg Schwartzlow
Jo Schwitz
Mary Ann Stauffacher
Millie Stauffer
Dan & Ann Stearns
Mark Steinmann
Bill & Barb Stuart
Henry Tschanz
Paul Vassalotti
John & Sherry Waelti
Pam & Randy Wyss
Wyss Homestead Farm
Janet Zee & Ron Purintun



CHEESY NOTES FROM the DEBs

We would like to express our thanks to Lynn and Jerry Lokken, and Jeff and Terry Mahlkuch for their donation of the beautiful flowers in the kettle. We are doing our very best to keep them alive.

We have had a slow summer so far, even with representation from 37 States as of this writing. The months of May and June were down by 40%. However, the month of July seems to be picking up. We are getting more and more visitors from local destinations. We have had several people visit from the Monroe area. They are finally stopping in after driving by the Center for years.

Tourism travel is down all over Wisconsin, so the fact that we are down maybe isn't surprising. We'll just have to see how the rest of the summer goes.



This family from Colorado visited the museum on July 3rd; two sisters, one husband, and two cousins.

The youngest, Merrick, (middle in the photo) has requested a road trip to Wisconsin and the "Cheese Museum" for THREE YEARS! His grandparents finally agreed this year and Debbie (great name) designed the appropriate shirts for their visit to the museum.



2026 Green County Fair Cheese Contest



NHCC Executive Board President, Steve Stettler and Board Member, Gary Grossen. They got the memo on what to wear that day!



Contest Judges were: Chad Galer, Dean Sommer, Marianne Smukowski, and Luis Jimenez-Maroto



Dean Sommer and Chad Galer

There were about 100 entries. Six judges working in teams of two, and several helpers running in and out of the cooler, keeping the flow of entries moving. Several people from the Center for Dairy Research helped. A lot of cheese expertise on site.

A Letter from Our President

Summer is moving along!!!

Well, the Green County Fair has come and gone!! We had good participation, but we are always looking for more entries.

Judges find the Green County Fair very interesting. One, the talent and product quality is great, and they really do not get to judge a local fair cheese contest. I do not think there is another county fair cheese contest in Wisconsin.

On top of that, our contest is open to all cheesemakers, people forget that. Dean Sommer, Center for Dairy Research, Marianne Smukowski, retired from Center for Dairy Research, Chad Galer, Dairy Management Inc. and Luis Jimenez-Maroto, Center for Dairy Research were the class act judges.

Emmi Roth and Decatur Dairy Inc. were named Co-Grand Champions of the fair contest. The judges felt both the two cheeses were the best cheeses for the classes they were in and the quality dictated the result.

Having been involved with the Green County Fair Cheese Contest for a while now, it is usually a fairly clear decision on the Grand Champion. But this year, the Decatur Dairy White Cheese Curd and the Roth Grand Cru Reserve Cheese Wheel were super cheeses. The judges were united in their decision to make the split for the Grand Champion.

All the cheesemakers that entered must be honored as the scores in the contest were high. Great job by everyone.

The cheese auction also had a good run and some fun, which it is all about. Local businesses showed up in support of our contest, and we really appreciate them. All the money stays here in the community supporting local youth, FFA's and several local charities and events that happen in the area.

Matt Henze's Grand Champion entry brought bids totaling \$6500. Regez Cheese and Paper Supply had a winning bid of \$3400 for 5 bags of curd and PDC had the other winning bid of \$3100 for 5 bags of curd. Emmi Roth Cheesemaker's Grand Champion Grand Cru Cheese Wheel brought a winning bid of \$200/lb for a 15-pound wheel, totaling \$3000. Several cheeses brought a range of \$2000 to a high of \$4000 in the auction.

The auction brought in \$83,597, with 82 lots being sold. The contest lots were down a touch in total, but the auction total, as you can see, is fantastic.

The auction committee thanks everyone and the fair board for their support of our Green County Fair Cheese Contest. What would the Green County Fair be without a cheese contest! No idea.

Wisconsin Cheese still rocks, Wisconsin cheesemakers still rock!

Back to making curd, have a great month!!

Steve
What do you call a polite cheesemaker??

CURD-EOUS!!!!!!!!!! (Get it???)

Steve Stettler remembers Mike Einbeck

Mike Einbeck passed on February 18, 2025. He and his wife were the owners of Regez Cheese and Paper Supply. He worked there almost right out of high school and eventually he and his wife Audry, bought the business.

The cheese industry in southern Wisconsin, to Mike's credit, has come to rely on Regez's service and quality and research in quality products.

Mike approached me to give him a shot at Decatur Dairy's business when Glennette and I bought the business. He offered us a line of credit and stocking items we needed. At the time Decatur was buying supplies from other vendors.

We decided to go with Mike and are still doing business, every week, with Regez. He was very proud of the business he, his wife Audry, and his son Brian, built!

Regez Cheese and Paper Supply contributes to cheese contests, dairy auctions and local events.

Mike had health issues, later in his career, but never complained, always had a smile, a handshake and something to say. No one can ever say Mike was not caring! It was always a pleasure running into him. I was glad I got to see him at hockey and he was having a good time watching great grandson out there on the ice with my grandson. I was glad to get that last handshake and smile, not knowing it would be our last.

Audry and Mike had a Corvette and I always gave him a hard time, because Audry always drove, and he never hesitated, "That's Audry's Corvette!!"

The industry will remember Mike and he left the business in good family hands to continue on serving all different kinds of businesses, fulfilling their daily needs.



November 11, 1943 – February 18, 2025

NATIONAL HISTORIC CHEESEMAKING CENTER

Minutes of July 11, 2026

Members present: Steve Stettler, Henry Tschanz, Millie Stauffer, Jim Glessner, Bob Blankenhorn, Ken Klassey, Pam Wyss, Paul Beach, Terry Goetz, Jo Schwitz, Gary Grossen, Deb Briggs, Deb Myers, Anita Huffman, Mike Hutchinson

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

Secretary's Report: The minutes appeared in the newsletter and were sent by email. Motion to accept by Terry, second by Henry. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: The profit/loss previous year comparison for January to June was shared. Motion to accept by Jim, second by Ken. Carried.

Director's Report: The intern, Josie, volunteers every Friday afternoon. 35 states have been represented to date. The number of paid tours are down and there's no pattern to busy times.

Committee Reports:

Advertising: Lynn Lokken continues to promote the Center on 93.7's Farm Talk, the 3rd Monday at 6:20 AM.

Building & Grounds: Bob reported the doors on the Imobersteg factory should be fixed in August. The memory bricks have arrived. The TV donated by the Ocampo family has been installed in the factory on a shelf built by Rudy Kaderly. The patio umbrella destroyed by wind will not be replaced. The bike rack will be donated; it must be relocated to make way for the ramp to the factory. Details for the ramp are being worked out with the city.

Archival/Displays: Nothing to report.

Memberships: Membership numbers are down in comparison with 2025.

Newsletter: Mailing labels now have expiration/renewal dates on them. Articles for the newsletter should be to Deb M. by the 15th.

Sunshine/Sympathy: Millie continues to send cards and asks to be informed when cards need to be sent.

Unfinished Business: The discussion about independent contractors vs NHCC employees determined; it is a non-issue at this time. It was determined that Business Income and Extra Expense coverage will not be pursued further.

New Business: President Steve appointed a nominating committee of Mike, Gary, and Anita to prepare a slate of officers to present at the August meeting. It was also decided to move the September meeting up to September 9, to avoid Cheese Days week.

Round Robin: Jim invited members to the Legion on August 2 from 1:00-3:00pm to celebrate his 90th birthday.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Henry, second by Terry. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:05PM.

Respectfully submitted: Anita Huffman, Secretary

August 2026

Date		Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
8/6-9	GREETER	Carol R ⁶	Nancy B. ⁷	am & pm__ ⁸	am & pm__ ⁹	
	DOCENT	Jon R	John M. Josie pm_	Pat S.	Silvan B. Francisco O.	National Historic Cheesemaking Center Museum Hours 10-3 Thu-Sun
8/10-12	CLOSED					
8/13-16	GREETER	Jeanne S. ¹³	Matt F. ¹⁴	am & pm__ ¹⁵	am & pm__ ¹⁶	
	DOCENT	Mike & Deb H.	Rudy K Josie pm	Pat S.	Franciso O.	We are grateful for any hours you are available to volunteer. Choose from 10-3, 11-2, 10-12:30, 12:30-3 What works for you?
8/17-19	CLOSED					
8/20-23	GREETER	Jeanne S. ²⁰	Lisa C. ²¹	Diane K. ²²	__am & pm__ ²³	
	DOCENT	Ernie G.__	Bob B. Josie pm	am & pm__	Francisco O.,	
8/24-26	CLOSED					Phone: Deb B 608.293.2396 Deb M 773.620.6475 NHCC 608.325.4636 Email: nhccmuseum@ gmail.com
8/27-30	GREETER	Lynn M. pm ²⁷	Lisa C. ²⁸	Charlotte ²⁹	Margo 11-3_ ³⁰	
	DOCENT	Kelly H. Mark M. pm	Josie pm_	am & pm__	Silvan B. Francisco O.	
8/31-9/2	CLOSED					
	GREETER					
	DOCENT					

September 2026

Date		Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
9/3-6	GREETER	Carol R. ³	Jane P ⁴	____ am & ____ pm ⁵	____ am & ____ pm ⁶	
	DOCENT	Jon R. Josie pm	Josie pm	____ am & ____ pm	Francisco O.	National Historic Cheesemaking Center Museum Hours 10-3 Thu-Sun
9/7-9	CLOSED					
9/10-13	GREETER	____ am. ____ pm. ¹⁰	Matt F. ¹¹	____ am & ____ pm ¹²	____ am & ____ pm ¹³	
	DOCENT	Josie pm	Josie pm	____ am & ____ pm	Francisco O.	
9/14-16	CLOSED	Cheese Days 17-20				We are grateful for any hours you are available to volunteer. Choose from 10-3, 11-2, 10-12:30, 12:30-3 What works for you?
9/17-20	GREETER	____ am & ____ pm ¹⁷	____ am & ____ pm ¹⁸	____ am & ____ pm ¹⁹	____ am & ____ pm ²⁰	
	DOCENT	Ernie G. Josie pm	Josie pm Pat S.	Jim G. museum	Silvan B. museum	
9/21-23	CLOSED					
9/24-27	GREETER	Jeanne S. ²⁴	Jeanne S. ²⁵	____ am & ____ pm ²⁶	____ am & ____ pm ²⁷	Phone: Deb B 608.293.2396 Deb M 773.620.6475 NHCC 608.325.4636
	DOCENT	Kelly H. Josie pm	Josie pm	____ am & ____ pm	Francisco O.	
9/28-30	CLOSED					
10/1-4	GREETER	____ am & ____ pm ¹	____ am & ____ pm ²	____ am & ____ pm ³	____ am & ____ pm ⁴	
	DOCENT	____ am & ____ pm	____ am & ____ pm	____ am & ____ pm	Francisco O.	Email: nhccmuseum@ gmail.com

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

Return Service Requested

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Monroe WI
Permit No. 236

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**



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

NATIONAL HISTORIC CHEESEMAKING CENTER, INC.

2026

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

The National Historic Cheesemaking Center, 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, 2026 through December 31, 2026

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 you annual NHCC membership online at:

www.nhccmuseum.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 MEMBER	\$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