

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Grong, Walsh, De Groot and Landman join CPDA board of directors**

*New board members represent dairy processors, dairy farms and allied industry*

New Prague, Minn. (June 28, 2021) – The Central Plains Dairy Association (CPDA) welcomed four new individuals – Evan Grong, Valley Queen Cheese Factory, Tom Walsh, Riverview Dairy, Stacie De Groot, Gorter’s Clay & Dairy Equipment Inc., and Jennifer Landman, Linde Dairy, LLC – to its board of directors.

Grong, Milbank, S.D., works as Valley Queen’s transportation and milk procurement manager, leading a team of more than 70 employees who are responsible for picking up and transporting more than 5 million pounds of milk daily – from the farm to the plant. In addition, he serves on the American Dairy Association of South Dakota board of directors and South Dakota Trucking Association board of directors, and volunteers as a Junior Achievement instructor. He earned a bachelor’s degree in business economics from South Dakota State University (SDSU).

Walsh, Degraff, Minn., is an employee and partner with Riverview Dairy, which includes five dairies close to his home and several more in western Minnesota and Eastern South Dakota. His family also does crop farming, owns and operates a manure-pumping business, and manages a purebred, cow-calf Hereford herd. Community service runs deep for Walsh, including church board, school board, planning and zoning board, Ag in the Classroom Foundation board, service cooperative board and Midwest Dairy Association board. Walsh graduated from the Blandin Community Leadership Program.

De Groot, Doon, Iowa, sells Lely robotic milking machines. Raised in Tulare, Calif., she graduated from Fresno State University with a bachelor’s degree in ag business and minor in dairy science. Prior to and during college, she spent 10 years working as a veterinary technician. In California, she held sales positions with dairy supply and animal pharmaceutical companies. Twelve years ago, she relocated to Iowa to be near family, who purchased a Midwest dairy. De Groot has served on the Western Iowa Dairy Alliance board. Also, she volunteers on the local school’s Parent Teacher Committee and leads the local fair’s dairy show.

Landman, White, S.D., owns and operates Linde Dairy with her husband, Steve Landman, and his parents Rein and Boukje Landman, and brother Gary Landman. She grew up on a dairy farm in Alberta, Canada. In 2005, her family relocated to Pipestone, Minn., and set up Newalta Dairy. Landman graduated from SDSU with a degree in agricultural communications. Next, she worked at Pipestone Veterinary Clinic in customer service and web development. Also, she served as the Minnesota Holstein Association (MHA) executive secretary. Her duties included putting together the magazine and helping coordinate MHA events. Currently, she handles the bookkeeping duties for Linde Dairy.

Other CPDA board members include Kristopher Bousquet, Nebraska State Dairy Association, Kari Jungemann, Lazy J Dairy LLC, Michael Reecy, Farm Credit Services of America, Allen Schlenker, Marsh & McLennan Agency, Greg Moes, MoDak Dairy, and Fernando Diaz, Dellait – Animal Nutrition & Health.

CPDA thanks retiring board members Olga Brouwer, Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership, Jason Mischel, Valley Queen Cheese Factory, and Roger Scheibe, Scheibe Consulting, for their dedicated service to guiding management of the Central Plains Dairy Expo and advancing the Central Plains dairy industry.

For more information about Central Plains Dairy Expo, contact Renee Brod at: [renee@centralplainsdairyexpo.com](mailto:renee@centralplainsdairyexpo.com) or 952-758-2485. The 2022 Central Plains Dairy Expo will be held March 29-31, in Sioux Falls, S.D. Learn more about Central Plains Dairy Expo at: [www.centralplainsdairy.com](http://www.centralplainsdairy.com)

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