



GAMMA SIGMA DELTA

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING CHAPTER

Gamma Sigma Delta Spring Tour

April 16, 2014

Gamma Sigma Delta, the honor society of agriculture, sponsored a field trip for a group of students, faculty and staff to the Cozy Cow Dairy in Windsor, Colorado in April. The group included both undergraduate and graduate students from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The trip was organized by Dannele Peck (Chapter Secretary) and Cassie Nelson, Senior in Ag Business, using funding from Gamma Sigma Delta International. Among the participants was Connie Kercher, Professor Emeritus from UW Animal Science and Gamma Sigma Delta Historian. Gamma Sigma Delta is celebrating its 98th year this year. UW has had a chapter since 1961. The trip was meant to increase awareness of Gamma Sigma Delta and provide students with a fun way of increasing their knowledge of agricultural systems. The aim of Gamma Sigma Delta is to encourage excellence in the practice of all agricultural pursuits, and what better way to see agricultural sciences at work than in a new entrepreneurial venture that crosses disciplines.

Cozy Cow Dairy milks 65 head of Jersey cows, which give milk with a higher cream content than Holsteins. The dairy has a creamery attached where they make cheese, butter and ice cream. The group was treated to an in-depth tour of the facility where they were able to ask detailed questions. Milking was underway while the group was there and they saw the process from start to finish. Cheese curd production was also in process, so the group was able to see this in practice and ask questions about the process. Cheese curds are one of the dairy's main products that are being sold to "Irish pubs" along the Front Range and are very popular.

The dairy has recently changed hands and the new owners are keen to make some changes. This made for some interesting discussions among the group as to potential business models that the dairy could pursue.

The store was open while the group was there and they were able to buy cheese, butter, ice cream and non-homogenized whole milk.

Written by Tom Foulke.