Increase Hauling Rates. Over 3 years ago, the PMI board adopted a policy that all members will receive the central FL pay price and will have to pay the freight to the TG Lee plant. Since the switch over to SMI trucking, our rates have gone higher (See July newsletter). The extra money to cover the higher rates, have come from the price pool. By raising the hauling rates, our base milk price will increase by approximately $0.35/cwt.

In the Myakka City, FL area, the new rates will be $1.60/cwt – an increase of $0.30/cwt. In the North Florida area, the new rates will be $1.82/cwt for full loads and $2.02/cwt for partial loads – an increase of $0.40/cwt and the Georgia and Florida Panhandle producers’ rates will be $2.35/cwt, an increase of $0.50/cwt. Partial shipment loads will have an additional cost of $0.20/cwt. For the producers in Georgia and Florida Panhandle, the net effect of the changes are as follows: Hauling increase – minus $0.50/cwt, increase in base milk price – plus $0.35/cwt and equity deduction suspension – plus $0.10/cwt for a total of minus $0.05/cwt.

If you produced milk in the years of January 2002 and April 2007, you should have received a letter in the mail from Rusk Consulting about a settlement in the Dairy America Milk Powder case. During that time Dairy America understated the prices of milk powder sales for the calculation of the Class IV milk price by USDA. As a result milk prices were not as high as they should have been. Dairy America and several other coops were sued and a settlement now has been reached. The suit settled for $40 million, with the lawyers and legal costs getting about $14 million. That leaves about $26 million to split among eligible dairy producers. California dairymen are exempted from the settlement because they had their own state order and pricing system that was not affected. The amount of money you will receive will depend on how many dairy producers respond. Currently there has been no dollar per cwt price stated. The best suggestion is to submit your claim form and wait to see what the final numbers turn out to be. If you have questions, you can contact Rusk Consulting at 866-680-1707, or go the following website: www.Milk PowderCase.com.

Please keep Drew Smith in your prayers, as he has suffered a serious injury.

For Sale

Hugh’s Floater pump agitator with pump 30hourse with ele.
Panel 4 ½ yrs old Good condition
Contact: Troy - 386-362-8320

KOON NIGHT 4138 feed wagon aprox 4 ½ year s old
With scales in good condition
Contact: Troy - 386-362-8320
Note: Class III milk futures prices are quoted at the close on the last day of the month.