

Lancaster Farming

THIRD SECTION

Warwick FFA Holds Banquet

Hard work, the desire to earn a living and determination to work toward a goal are all ingredients needed for success in agriculture today, Timothy Ruth, Pennsylvania FFA president, said Tuesday night.

Ruth was speaker at the Warwick FFA Chapter's annual parent and son banquet at Brunneville Fire Hall. About 115 FFA members, parents and guests attended.

Awards and certificates were

then American Star Farmer, the highest FFA award at the national level.

Manbeck told me that if you're not willing to set your goal and work toward it, you'll never make a success, no matter how much education you have.

He also quoted Henry Ford: "There's only one thing that makes prosperity and that's hard work."

But young people need encouragement, he continued, urging "Parents, teachers, never fail to encourage that FFA member who's trying to reach his goal." Speaking to parents and teachers at the banquet, he said, it's people like you who are helping close the generation gap.

He concluded with Mark Twain's reminder: "The world owes you nothing, it was here first."

Parents of Seniors honored were Mr. and Mrs. Norman



Dale Martin

presented to outstanding FFA members and friends of the FFA.

Ruth said the "idea of FFA projects is to show a profit" or help FFA members to learn how to "earn a living."

"FFA projects help us decide if this is how we want to make a living."

He continued, "Those who set goals can take advantage of opportunity." He described one FFA member, Oscar Manbeck, who set his goals early and became an American Farmer and



Kenneth Grube



Among those attending the Warwick Chapter FFA banquet Tuesday night were, from left: Jim Kerr, chapter advisor, Timothy Ruth, Pennsylvania FFA presi-

dent; Karen Bomberger, Warwick Chapter Sweetheart, and Kenneth Weaver, chapter president.

Weaver and Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Boll.

Foundation awards for outstanding work in various phases of agriculture went to the following students:

Kenneth Grube took three awards, conservation of natural resources, agricultural placement and dairy.

Dale Martin, soil and water conservation.

Calvin Hartman, home improvement.

Allen Kline, crop farming.

Gerald Martin, farm safety and public speaking.

Kenneth Weaver, production agriculture.

Grube also received the Star Red Rose Farmer Degree, the highest degree at the county level.

Chapter Farmer Degrees were presented to Robert Styer, Dennis Styer, Allen Kline, Calvin Hartman, Ken Weaver and Dale Martin. Martin was also Star Chapter Farmer.

Most of the guests at the banquet were school teachers and school officials, including Dr. Curvin Smith, district superintendent, Harold Swisher, Warwick High School principal, and Carl B. Kauffman, Junior High principal, four school board members, Robert E. Gregory, Kenneth L. Weaver, Raymond Groff and Carl Reedy.

Among teachers attending and receiving certificates of appreciation were Mrs. Martha Herr, Mrs. Sally Watkins and Daniel Little.

Oklahoma Ups Pork Output

Bread cast upon the economic waters of Oklahoma sometimes has a habit of taking years of returning to shore. Take the case of swine production as an example.

When Henry Bellmon was elected governor of Oklahoma he appointed nine Sooners to the Governor's Council on Agriculture Development.

A letter from this Council to Bellmon dated May 6, 1965 noted "Oklahoma is a deficit producing state in pork and considering that the states to the south and southeast are even more deficit pork producing areas, it is the Council's feeling there is a definite need for an all-out selling job on swine production. The Council suggests the Extension Service at Oklahoma State University could be extremely useful."

Dr. John Goodwin, agricultural economist at OSU, prepared figures for the Council explaining the potential for swine production, showing that 58 per cent of the pork consumed in Oklahoma is imported, and that the state could increase production one million head a year just to supply the state's needs.

With advent of water transpor-

tation on the Arkansas River Waterway, the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce's Agriculture Committee held a swine seminar in 1968, exploring the possibilities of swine production in eastern Oklahoma.

The final argument in favor of profitable swine production was contained in a detailed study by Dr. Richard Scheimehorn, OSU economist, entitled "The Arkansas River in Oklahoma — Its Impact On Agriculture" dated March, 1969. This economic study initiated by the Tulsa Farm Club confirmed earlier Council findings that the hog

business in Oklahoma could be profitable.

Dr. Scheimehorn pointed out that not only did Oklahoma import 167,000 live hogs in 1967, in addition to processed pork, Texas imported 776,000, which is a potential pork market for Oklahoma. And although Oklahoma marketed 552,000 hogs in 1967, this was less than half the state's needs.

Dr. Scheimehorn's conclusions are that the waterway navigation offers certain advantages and the potential exists in east-

ern and central Oklahoma to increase hog production at least 1 million head, which will create the need for three or four modern hog abattoirs.

At first Oklahoma farmer reaction to the "pot of gold at the end of the rainbow" was negative for a couple of reasons. Many farmers just didn't like the hog business. Then, according to OSU studies, to make a reasonable return on labor and investment would require cash outlays ranging from \$15,000 to \$20,000. With the price of pork during the mid-1960s there were few enthusiastic about the prospects.

But then something happened. Pork prices began a slow climb. Feed grain prices remained low or dropped even lower. About a year ago credit became tight and interest rates went up.

As a result, around the first of the year the corn hog ratio was 23:1, highest in memory of man. By all past performance hog producing states such as Iowa, Illinois and Indiana should be gearing for increased swine production.

But this failed to happen because hog producers in those

states with a comfortable income from adequate sow herds, simply did not want to take the risk of trying to borrow more money for expansion or pay the high interest rates if the money was available.

As a result, the Jan. 1 hog count was six per cent below a year earlier, missing predictions by as much as 10 per cent of what the hog count would be.

Here's where foresight and advance planning for Oklahomans began paying off. Convinced that efficient management is the key to profitable hog production, building contractor Bob Lindsey at Beags switched from building conventional housing to environmental housing for hogs.

When I went into this I had no idea of what I was getting into but it made sense to me," Lindsey said. As a result today he has in partnership with sons David, 16, a Beags FFA'er, and Dwane, 9, 55 gilts which will soon follow. But more important for Lindsey is the fact that during the last year he has convinced a growing number of Oklahoma hog producers to invest more than \$500,000 in modern swine production facilities.

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This article by Herb Kainer in a recent edition of the "Oklahoma Ranch and Farm World" is reproduced in full to help explain why some local farmers are finding swine production a good business.

Like Oklahoma, Pennsylvania is a deficit pork production area, local swine producers report.

As in Oklahoma, interest in pork production in the Lancaster County area is on the upswing, it is reported.

While Oklahoma pork producers as the article points out, can look to neighboring pork deficit areas as Texas for markets, southeastern Pennsylvania swine growers are close to the metropolitan centers of the East.