

Mrs. Dale Hiestand Likes the Role of Farmer's Wife.

By Mrs. Charles G. McSparran
Farm Feature Writer

Mrs. Dale E. (Sharon) Hiestand of Bainbridge RD1, says, "I just love being a farmer's wife and living out in the country."

She has a philosophy that a farmer's wife belongs at home. She thinks there's no place like a farm to rear children. She also thinks a farmer needs some time for fun and relaxation and she sees that her husband gets it.

Mrs. Hiestand runs farm errands for her husband. The Hiestands don't have any hired help on their farm and this saves him a lot of time. She helps every evening with milking and washes the milking equipment morning and evening. When Dale is harvesting or working out in the fields, she does the milking herself. She also does it when he goes deer hunting and she finishes the evening work when he plays softball.

She does most of the farm book work and keeps records for income tax. She does not keep the dairy herd records.

Mrs. Hiestand bales hay and works most of the ground in preparation for corn planting and planting of small grains and alfalfa. Mr. Hiestand does the plowing and planting.

Hiestands live on what is known as The Old Homestead Farm. Dale is the fourth generation to own and farm it. It is next to the Word Of Life Chapel and is in Conoy Township. Conoy Farms was used as the prefix by Dale's father the last 16 years he lived. He died six years ago. His father owned this farm and adjoining farm, also a farm in York County. The last eight years he lived, Harold Aungst was a partner in the business.

Dale took over the Old Homestead Farm and adjoining farm where Ken Keener rents the chicken house and keeps 12,000 layers. This is known as Keeners Poultry. Mrs. Hiestand was helping two mornings a week to gather eggs for Keeners until recently.

When Dale and Sharon took over these farms five and a half years ago, they used parts of each of their names and named these two farms "Shardale Farms." There is 155 acres in the two farms. Dale was born and raised on this farm.

Hiestands grow about 55 acres of corn and sell some of it. They grow 10 acres of sweet corn which they sell to Copes of Rheems. They also grow alfalfa, wheat and barley. They do the work themselves except hire some help for harvesting and this year will have some combining done for them.

They have a fine herd of 35 registered Holstein cows and about 25 heifers and calves. They received an award last year for being in the top 10 Holstein herds in Lancaster County with an average of over 600 pounds of butterfat. They have five cows still producing that are over 150,000 pounds of milk each in their lifetime and four of them were born and raised on their farm. One exceptional cow "Burke" will be 14 years old in November and has 165,000 pounds lifetime milk production now. She was sired by their old herd sire. They have five daughters of hers and have had 10 of her granddaughters, some of which they sold.

They bought "Ivy", an Ivanhoe daughter and another high producer, at a dispersal sale in 1966. She is 12 years old and has a lifetime milk production record of 164,000 pounds with five straight lactations of over 20,000 pounds of milk in 305 days each. She had a heifer calf in June.

Hiestands are in DHIA and sell their milk to Mount Joy Cooperative. They sell some heifers.

Dale belongs to the Pennsylvania Holstein Association and the Holstein-Friesian Association of America. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association and is a worker for their membership drives in Conoy Township.

Sharon, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Auker of Master-sonville, was born in Akron and at four years of age moved with her parents to a farm where her father was a hired man. When she was 13, they moved to Mastersonville and she lived there until she was married. She graduated from Manheim Central High School. After graduation she was a clerk-typist for Hamilton Watch's Vintage Plant at East Petersburg. She has four brothers.

She is president and a charter member of Farm Women Society 29 which organized two years ago. She also served as their vice president. They set a maximum of 29 for number of members in their Society and all of them at the present time are under 35 years of age.

They are an active group. Recently they baked 61 dozen cookies for a USO birthday party at Moose Hall in Lancaster. Sharon baked 10 dozen of the cookies and acted as one of the hostesses. They gave \$25 to the Child Development Center, which is a county Farm Women project, and \$10 to the 4-H Walk-A-Thon May 12. They are planning to entertain the Alpha Club by serving them refreshments some Friday evening.



Mrs. Dale E. Hiestand, Bainbridge RD1, spends lots of time in the vegetable garden and grows great quantities of vegetables. Her

daughters, Gail, left, and Diane, are shown checking the garden with her.



Mrs. Hiestand does lots of canning and preserving.

They are planning now for a square dance to be held September 11 at Bill Kauffman's on the Richard Nissley farm, Bainbridge RD, which is the next farm to Hiestand's. They will have a professional caller and it is open to the public. They had a sub sale recently.

Sharon sings alto in a trio from her Farm Women Society. They call themselves "The Milkmaids" and made themselves long dresses for their act. Others in the trio are Mrs. Richard Shellenberger, who sings and plays the guitar, and Mrs. Richard Garber. They won first place in the Lancaster County Farmers Association Ladies' Day Out talent contest and will compete July 21 in the Pennsylvania Farmers Association District talent contest at Penn Harris Hotel, Reading. They will sing at the County Farm Women's convention November 6. Sharon is also chairman of the bazaar table committee for the county convention.

Mrs. Hiestand is publicity chairman for Lancaster County Farm Women executive Board meetings. She was first runner-up in the County Farm Woman of the Year contest at the 1970 convention.

Mrs. Hiestand is vice president

of the Bainbridge PTO for the coming season.

Hiestands have two daughters. Diane is six years old. She was in kindergarten this past school term and will be in first grade this fall. Gail is four years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiestand are members of the Congregational Bible Church of Marietta. They are members of the Young Married Couples Sunday School Class and go with the class sometimes for week-ends in the mountains. Mrs. Hiestand is a member of the Women's Fellowship organization and of the Women's Sewing Circle. She sews quilts and makes little girls dresses for a mission project in Greece. She used to sing in the church choir and sang solos, but quit because she couldn't go for rehearsals on account of the barn work. She does sing in a church sextette.

She won the church reading contest November through February. She received the most points for reading books from the church library. She says, "I love to read." Dale plays on the church softball team twice a week.

Dale also plays softball two nights a week for Risser's Market at Elizabethtown. He and Sharon play some tennis and en-

joy swimming. They go to the beach sometimes. Dale goes to the mountains deer hunting from five to seven days for buck and usually about three days for doe.

Sharon says, "My hobby is gardening." She does all the work in it except making the rows. She plants, cultivates and picks the vegetables, then cans or freezes them. She sells some of the vegetables she grows, too. She also takes care of the lawn. She mows the lawn, trims the shrubbery and plants about 500 annual plants. She also has tulips.

Sharon does a lot of canning and freezing and picks all the fruit herself. She picks cherries, strawberries, peaches and pears.

Another of her hobbies is doing paint by number pictures.

She makes a lot of bread, sticky buns and doughnuts. She gave a few demonstrations to small groups of friends on making doughnuts and sticky buns. Here is her recipe for

SWEET DOUGH
(for doughnuts and sticky buns)

- 1 cup scalded milk
- 1 cup lukewarm water
- 2 pkgs. yeast
- ½ cup shortening
- ½ cup sugar
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 7 cups flour
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg

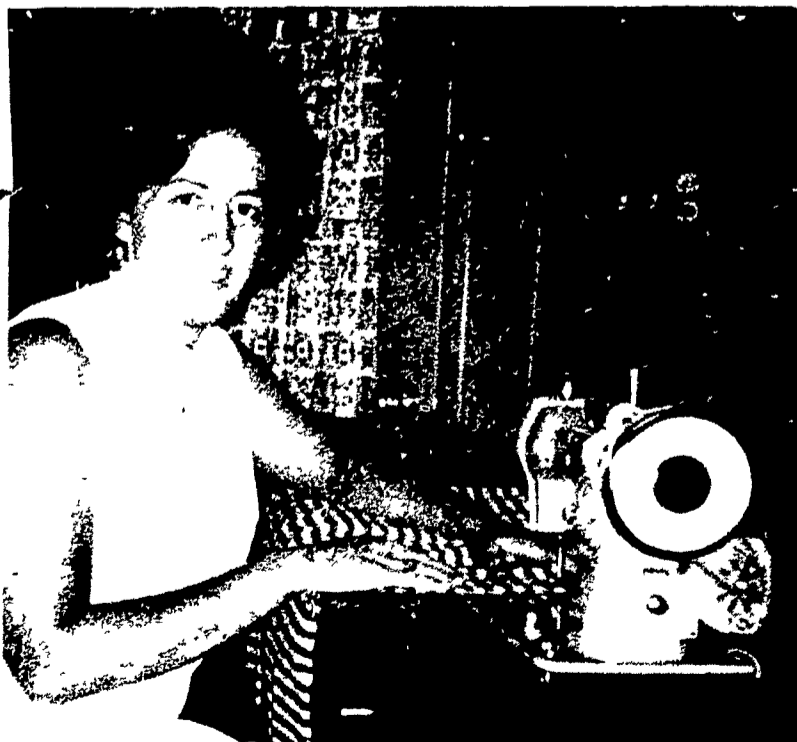
Scald milk and pour it over sugar, salt and shortening. Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water. Add beaten eggs to yeast and water. When milk has cooled to lukewarm temperature, add the yeast and beaten eggs mixture. Beat well. Add flour gradually, beating well. Knead lightly, working in just enough flour so that dough can be handled. Place dough in greased bowl, cover and let stand in a warm place. Let rise until double in bulk, (about two hours.)

DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING STICKY BUNS

Roll out dough in rectangle shape ¼ inch thick. Spread soft butter over surface. Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon and brown sugar. Put pecans or english walnuts with roll as jelly roll. Cut in ¼ inch pieces. Lay cut side down in pan on top of syrup and bake at 350 degrees till golden brown. Ingredients for sticky portion:

- ½ cup butter

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Mrs. Hiestand works on a quilt back for her church mission project.