

Mrs. Stauffer, Mother of Five, Is Active in Farm Organizations

By Mrs. Charles G. McSparran
Farm Feature Writer

Mrs. Clarence (Vivian) Stauffer, Ephrata RD1, wife of a prominent successful farmer near Weidmansville in Clay Township, is the former village girl who said she never wanted to marry a farmer.

Mrs. Stauffer, the mother of five children, not only has entered into the actual laborious farm tasks, but has accepted leadership in many farm organizations.

She has also assisted her children in attaining success in their FFA, 4-H, diary and school projects. She is the owner of a certificate which she received when her son was state FFA treasurer which reads: "Presented to Vivian E. Stauffer, as a token of appreciation for the encouragement, cooperation and assistance given her son which contributed to his outstanding achievements in the FFA."

Mrs. Stauffer is president of Farm Women Society 3 which has 41 members. She has been a member for 18 years. She served two years as vice president and was program chairman in 1969 when the society celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.

This society has just one money-making project every year, but it is a tremendous job. They take care of a food stand the four days of Ephrata Fair. Mrs. Stauffer was chairman of this food stand. Last year they cleared \$2,900 on the stand.

They recently gave \$50 to the Farm and Home Center equipment fund and give donations to various local charities.

Mrs. Stauffer is vice chairman of Lancaster County Farmers Association Women's Committee. She was on the talent program committee for their Ladies Day Out last year and is on the county picnic committee this year.

She helps Mt. Airy Fire Company Auxiliary with banquets and ox roasts which they have spring and fall.

Mrs. Stauffer was on the Women's Committee of the Ephrata Young Farmers a couple years. They have one meeting a year and get a speaker to entertain the women. The years she was on the committee they had someone demonstrate

flower arranging and cake decorating.

Mrs. Stauffer was reelected to a three year term on the Lancaster County Extension Association board representing the northeast district this month. She has been a director three years.

She helps Mrs. Robert Gregory sometimes with the 4-H cooking club.

Stauffers own their 50 acre farm which is known as Sunny Craft Farm. They also rent 20 acres of ground. They raise corn, hay, rye and Sudan grass.

They did raise tobacco, but haven't raised it for six years Mrs. Stauffer helped with the tobacco.

They keep 30 registered Holstein cows and about 30 heifers. They have a very fine herd and keep five bulls for breeding purposes. Mrs. Stauffer helps with the milking in the mornings and sometimes in the evenings. They buy the grain for the dairy.

Stauffers raise broilers on contract with Pennfield Corp. at Rohrerstown and York. They put 27,000 chicks in their houses five times a year. They have been raising them since May 1966.

They have gas brooders and everything is automated after the chicks are two weeks old.

The company sends eight or ten people to catch the chickens when they go to market. Sometimes twice as many catchers come if they want to do it in a shorter time. Mrs. Stauffer makes cookies to serve to them and always serves a drink with them.

The chickens are dressed at Fredericksburg, Pa. They dress about 60,000 a day at that plant.

Besides the farm operation, Clarence drives an Ephrata Area school bus for Ray Groff. He hauls both high school and elementary children mornings and evenings.

Earl is the oldest of the Stauffer children. He is now partner in the farm business and lives next door to his parents. He is married to Barbara Bixler of Fairfax, Va. Her father, Dr. Bixler, was veterinarian in Ephrata until five years ago when they moved to Virginia.

Earl graduated from Ephrata High School where he took the Agriculture course. He went to Iowa when he was in ninth grade and took part in the FFA dairy



Mrs. Clarence Stauffer is making cookies to serve the chicken catchers.

products judging. He was State FFA treasurer one year. In high school he wrestled, took part in cross-country, pole-vaulting and other tracks events. He played drums in the junior high school band.

He was selected as State Holstein Boy by the Pa. Holstein-Friesian Association for the period November 1970 to November 1971. It was quite an honor to be selected. He competed with two other boys and three girls who were chosen by the youth committee of the Pa. Holstein-Friesian Association. He went to Penn State University for a weekend and was chosen as Holstein Boy there in the finals. One of the high lights of the weekend was being able to attend a football game.

Part of his winning was due to his mother's keeping news clippings and pictures of honors he had received and inducing him to enter the contest.

Earl was in the Holstein 4-H Club, as were all the Stauffer children. He received several trophies on his Holstein cows and heifers, also two trophies on pigs.

He took a course in artificial breeding of cows with the Curtis Candy Co. after graduating from high school. He has a liquid mercury filled steel tank where he keeps the vials of semen he collects from their own bulls. He breeds their own cows and occasionally some for other farmers.

He does most of the milking but his parents help him.

Earl is a member of the Ephrata Young Farmers Association. He took first place in the hay contest with a yield of 8.38 tons to the acre at their annual banquet at the Mt. Airy Fire Hall February 5.

Stauffers' daughter, Nanette, graduated from Ephrata High school where she was a member of the hockey team.

She is a sophomore at Catawba College at Salisbury, N. C. This is a U.C.C. Church College with an enrollment of 1108 students.

She is majoring in physical education. She took part in the deep south hockey tournament and she and another girl from Catawba made the team representing the deep south in the southeastern tournament.

Nan took part the last two years in the Lancaster Co. Dairy Princess contest. She was runner-up in 1970 when Marilyn Krantz was named as the Lancaster County Dairy Princess.

Nan took care of the calves when she was home. She worked as a helper at the playground in

Ephrata Area and taught swimming two years at Ephrata pool.

Rhoda is a junior in high school, taking the academic course. She takes part in track, hockey and basketball. Their basketball team lost only one game this season and went on to win over Governor Mifflin 45-40 in Tuesday's game in the first round of the District Three Girls Basketball Championship. She works as a hostess at Zinns Diner Saturdays and Sundays during the school term, but will work there more this summer.

Yvonne is in eighth grade at Ephrata Junior High School and is in the band. Mornings and evenings she tends to the calves till they are six months old. She received the Holstein Showmanship award at Ephrata Fair. She is on the Ephrata Recreation Center swim team. She and Rhoda taught swimming at Ephrata pool through the Recreation Center.

Alice Kay is in sixth grade at Clay Elementary School. Alice

Kay and Rhoda take care of the chickens.

Rhoda, Yvonne and Alice Kay are still in the 4-H Holstein Club and were in the 4-H Cooking Club.

Mr. Stauffer is a foster son of Mrs. Katie Snyder and the late J. N. Snyder. Before buying the farm six years ago, he farmed on the halves with Mr. Snyder. He has received many ribbons and trophies for his fine dairy herd.

Mr. Stauffer just retired from Ephrata Area School Board at the end of 1971, having served six years.

The Ephrata Young Farmers, of which he was a charter member, presented him an appreciation award for service on the school board. He served as vice president one year and president four years. He was also on the county board two years and vice president of it one year. He went off the county board when it became the Intermediate Board between Lebanon and Lancaster Counties.

Clarence holds an Honorary

(Continued on Page 28)



Mrs. Stauffer helps her husband prepare the booklet for the District Black and White Show.

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