

# Garden Spot FFA Chapter Holds Banquet

The Garden Spot FFA Chapter of Lampeter-Strasburg High School held its annual Parent-Son banquet at the school's cafeteria Thursday night.

Among top awards presented were the star awards as follows: John Harnish, Star Greenhand; Richard Hess, Star Chapter Farmer; and Jerry Diller, Star Red Rose Farmer.

Diller is also county reporter and a member of the state FFA band. He presented a trumpet solo.

Donald Breneman, chapter president, received one of the most sought after awards, the Outstanding Senior award. Breneman is planning to go into dairy farming with his father, is treasurer of the National Honor Society and vice president of the county FFA.

Breneman also received the foundation award for dairy and the Keystone Farmer degree.

Gary Dean received the livestock award and Robert Hess, who was toastmaster, the crop production award.

Recognized for top placings in the annual FFA judging contest at Ephrata were: Robert Hess, Rick Hess, Wilmer Breckbill, Charles Witmer, Dennis McCullough and Gary Dean.

Jacob W. Musser, state FFA chaplain, spoke briefly,

describing FFA as "youth with a purpose."

He urged involvement and said there are three kinds of people: first, the person who could care less; second, the person who



Robert Shoff  
Former Local Principal



Donald Breneman, left, receives the Keystone Farmer degree, the highest FFA award at the state level, from Jerry Shaffer, PP&L farm representative, Thursday night

at the Lampeter-Strasburg High School. In the foreground is Robert Hess, banquet toastmaster.



Richard Hess, left, accepts the Star Chapter Farmer award at the Garden Spot FFA banquet Thursday night from Charles Klinger, Lampeter-Strasburg High School principal.

watches things happen but participates a little, and third, the person who makes things happen, is willing to go ahead and lead others.

He urged his audience to set a goal and, if it's reached, set a higher one.

Robert Shoff, who noted he taught in local schools and was high school principal in the 1940's and once received the Honorary Chapter Farmer degree, showed slides of South America. He showed both the spectacular beauty of some of the undeveloped areas, as well as the great poverty of the developed areas.



Jerry Diller, a member of the state FFA band, plays a trumpet solo at the annual Garden Spot FFA banquet Thursday night. Diller also received the Star Red Rose Farmer award.

## Farm Prices Up Only 7% in 20 Years, Naden Says

Much of the recent criticism about rising farm prices has distorted the situation by omitting relevant facts.

That was the theme sounded in an open letter to members of Congress recently by Kenneth D. Naden, executive vice president, National Council of Farmers Cooperatives.

"Facts show," said Naden, "that although live cattle prices are now back up to 1951 levels, farm food prices increased only seven per cent totally during that 20-year period."

Yet, said the farm co-op leader,

during the same period: money paid to wage earners increased 340 per cent, money paid to government employees increased 430 per cent, business and professional income increased 200 per cent and dividends increased 300 per cent.

"This criticism seems to imply," Naden asserted, "that farmers don't have the same right to earn a fair income as do their urban counterparts."

Naden stated that severe price competition subjects farm prices to a form of control that's far more rigid, pervasive and effect

than that imposed by present government controls. Farm prices, he said, are sharply limited by (1) competition among many producers; (2) competition from unplanned and unrestricted output; and (3) competition from many close substitutes of each product.

"The practical result of such competition," Naden pointed out, "is that many farm products are sold for long period at prices below cost of production."

As long as farm prices are formed under such severe competitive conditions, said Naden, neither consumers nor their spokesmen need fear a modest increase in farm prices caused by: (1) a short supply situation, and (2) strong consumer insistence on high-quality food. "These increases cannot be considered abnormal or harmful or inflationary," he declared.

The cooperative leader concluded by urging congressmen to keep these and other relevant facts in mind as they analyze current food price changes.

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P.S. — If you're not sure you told us already, we don't mind hearing from you again.