



By DIETER KRIEG

A large paper sack, which was once filled with 50 pounds of fluffy beet pulp, is almost big enough to envelope a man from shoulders to knees. Every year at about this time I used to do just that.

By cutting a hole in each corner and another in the center of the closed end of the bag, it made pretty good "coveralls." Ordinary clothing was too good for this job, no matter what sort of sad shape they were in. This was also the time to pick out the most worthless hat on the rack, and a pair of sneakers or shoes which you weren't trying to impress anyone with.

The last step in preparing for the upcoming chore involved little more than a good sense of humor and a few wrinkled facial expressions. A joke or two was in order at about the time I "admired" my path from down below. Then came the first few steps upwards and daylight became a little dimmer. Another smart remark or two followed — and they always dramatized the situation to be a whole lot worse than it really was. The words and expressions were all in fun as we tried to make an unpleasant job into something we could joke about.

After a few steps into the chute of the silo, the bag over my body had an entire population of spiders running over it. The higher I went, the more spiders I disturbed. Broken, dusty webs "decorated" my disposable "robe."

The silo had been empty for a couple of months and in that time the spiders had taken over. Spiders always seem to do that when something is not in use regularly. Now it was time to prepare the tall cylindrical structure for filling with several hundred tons of corn silage. My job was to make sure doors were closed properly and to lift the distributor into place.

The open doors were slammed into place and a hollow sound reverberated within the towering silo. Some hinges cringed and some doors didn't fit very well due to an accumulation of debris. A pocket knife was used to scrape the edges of the concrete. The job required more than a few minutes' work.

Invariably I would always pick a cool day for this chore, for hot weather was definitely disagreeable in this situation. The air was confined within this narrow chute and the "insulation" I had wrapped myself in wasn't at all comfortable. By the time I had reached the top and my head was just inches beneath the aluminum canopy, sweat would begin to roll down my arms, legs and face. But the toughest part was yet to come.

Down below and inside the silo was the silage distributor — a bulky metal contraption which deflects incoming materials to the wall of the silo in an even pattern. It weighed close to 100 pounds and had to be pulled into position some 55 feet above the concrete floor. That ordeal will be the next topic of Life on the Farm.



Brian Ruch of New Ring gold R2 is shown with his grand champion market steer. The 1105 pound cross was also the champion heavyweight in the 4-H and vocational market steer show.

Kutztown Fair

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taking junior and reserve junior champions, junior get of sire, produce of dam, and dam and daughter.

GUERNSEY OPEN AND JUNIOR SHOWS

Junior Calf
1. John Zollers; 2. Denise Andrien.

Intermediate Calf

1. Duane Petersheim; 2. Jody Vorhees.

Junior Yearling

1. Denise Andrien; 2. Nedra Yoder; 3. Harold Monk.

Senior Yearling

Douglas Soliday.

Two Year Olds

1. Denise Andrien; 2. Robert Smith.

Three Year Olds

Robert Smith.

Four Year Olds

Robert Smith.

Five Year Olds

Jeffrey Smith.

In this particular division, Jeffrey Smith and Denise Andrien shared most of the awards. Jeff had senior champion, grand champion, and best uddered cow. Denise had junior champion, reserve senior champion, and reserve grand champion.

JERSEY OPEN SHOW

Junior Calf
1. Carol Dreisbach; 2. Gary Kurtz; 3. Richie Henry.

Intermediate Calf

1. Dr. and Mrs. Dreisbach; 2. Bruce Andrien, Jr.

Senior Calf

1. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; 2. Bruce Andrien, Jr.; 3. Denise Andrien.

Junior Yearling

1. Denise Andrien; 2. Bruce Andrien, Jr.

Senior Yearling

1. Patty Dreisbach; 2. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; 3. Harold Dietrich.

Junior Champion: Patty Dreisbach.
Reserve Junior Champion: Denise Andrien.

Junior Get Of Sire: Patty Dreisbach.

Two Year Olds

1. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; 2. Bruce Andrien, Jr.; 3. Bruce Andrien, Jr.

Three Year Olds

1. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; 2. Denise Andrien; 3. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach.

Four Year Olds

1. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; 2. Bruce Andrien, Jr.

Five Year Olds

1. Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; 2. Bruce Andrien, Jr. Senior Champion and Grand Champion: Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach; Reserve Senior and Res. Grand Champion: Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach.

Best Uddered Cow: Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach.
Senior Get of Sire: Bruce Andrien, Jr.

Best Three Females: Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach.
Produce of Dam: Dr. and Mrs. Robert Dreisbach.

Dam and Daughter: Bruce Andrien, Jr.

Dairy Herd: Dr. and Mrs. Dreisbach.

JUNIOR SHOW

Junior Champion: Patty Dreisbach.

Reserve Junior Champion: Denise Andrien.

Senior and Grand Champion: Denise Andrien.
Reserve Senior and Reserve Grand Champion: Bruce Andrien, Jr.

MILKING SHORTHORN

Berks County Dairy Princess, Nedra Yoder, and her brother Sam, walked off with most of the top honors in the Milking Shorthorn breed. Nedra had the Senior and Reserve Senior Champion as well as the Grand Champion in the Junior Show, and Senior Champion and Grand Champion in the Open. Sam entered the Junior and Reserve Junior Champion in the Junior Show and also had Junior Champion in the Open. The Best Three Females, Produce of Dam, and Dam and Daughter honors went to Robert Smith; and Lehigh FFA had the best School or Club Herd.

Know Where the Activities Will Be?
Read the Farm Women Calendar.

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