

Solanco community made this fair



Next Tuesday marks the beginning of another fair season in Lancaster County, with the Solanco Fair kicking off the annual autumn festivities. The Solanco Fair, which has grown by leaps and bounds over the years, put up three new permanent

buildings within the past 15 months and has more growth planned for the future. As in previous years, there'll be a lot going on the midway, show ring, and all around.

By DIETER KRIEG

QUARRYVILLE — "Bigger and better than ever" is an oft heard slogan which is frequently empty. But not so with the Solanco Fair.

Once again this year, as in just about every year since the fair began more than a quarter century ago, the fair is bigger and better than ever.

This, the 27th annual Southern Lancaster County Community Fair, is being held on grounds and within permanent structures which reflect the dedication of a community which wanted to work together towards a common goal.

Earlier this summer the Hoffman Community Building received its lettering, as shown in the picture accompanying this article. This building, which is named in honor of John C. Hoffman, well-known resident of Quarryville and former owner of the Lancaster Bone Fertilizer Company, was erected last year entirely through the funds and efforts of Solanco residents. Hoffman was a prime contributor to the cause, donating a sizable sum of money in memory of his late wife, the former Sara H. Fuhrman Hoffman.

A year ago there was just one livestock building. This year there are two. Like the other projects, the construction of this

facility was a community effort. Directors and organizers of the Fair proudly point to this dedicated effort and voice their appreciation. Kenneth Rutt, who this year completes his tenth year of service as a manager of the Fair told LANCASTER FARMING on Wednesday that the community spirit and efforts have been extraordinary.

To make it perfectly clear that the efforts — in contributed funds, materials, services and labor — are not just for the Fair itself, Rutt emphasized that the facilities are to be used by the community throughout the year. He points out that the new exhibit building is the "Hoffman Community Building," not "Fair Building." As such, the facilities here are to be used for a variety of functions.

Local as well as county groups have taken the Solanco Fair Association up on the offer. The Hoffman Building and surrounding grounds have been widely used in the past year, particularly by local clubs and agricultural organizations. This Summer the 4-H and open dairy shows were held here, and there's no reason to believe that this would change in the immediate future. More recently, the Lancaster County Farmers Association held their picnic here.

A third barn has been considered by the Fair Association, which directs the community's efforts to come up with a bigger and better fair. But for the time being, the growth will stop. Considering its present limitations — both in terms of money and facilities — the Fair is not likely to expand a whole lot more in 1977. It's just about bursting at the seams now.

According to Rutt, more commercial space was sold this year than ever before. The 380-foot long tent which has perennially stretched along the grounds parallel to Route 74, (pictured in the right background on an accompanying picture to this story) has 745 feet of inside space sold in it. In addition, 1400 feet of outside space has been sold. Livestock exhibits have also grown in size, including the sheep show, which makes its second appearance here in as many years.

With further expansion plans temporarily at a halt, present efforts are being aimed at improvements. The Community Building, for example, is in need of insulation and heating. To attain that goal, a fund drive was kicked off late this week and officers of the Fair Association are hopeful that people will again be as generous this year as they were previously. The response last year was described as "excellent" by Rutt.

The Hoffman Community Building, which was designed for multi-purpose use as well as food service, serves as a sort of "centerpiece" or "gem" for the community's spirit and

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SOUTHERN LANCASTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FAIR

September 15 - 17, 1976

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

3:00 to 10:00 P.M. Exhibits Received. All commercial Exhibits in place.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

11:00 A.M. Judging Dairy Cattle.
12:00 Various other Judging.
2:00 P.M. Judging Sheep
6:30 P.M. Baby Parade (in case of rain Friday at 10:00 A.M.)
7:30 P.M. Formal Opening of the Fair
8:00 P.M. Log Sawing Contest



QUARRYVILLE AMERICAN LEGION PARK

ON RT. 472

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

10:00 A.M. County-Wide Tractor Driving Contest 4-H, F.F.A. and Open Class
11:00 A.M. Judging Dairy Cattle
3:00 P.M. Judging Swine
4:00 - 8:00 P.M. - Ham Supper
6:30 P.M. Judging Baby Beef
7:00 P.M. Trail Bike Obstacle Course Tug of War

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

2:00 P.M. Market Hog and Baby Beef Sale
6:30 P.M. Parade
8:15 P.M. Entertainment
Rural Youth Awards will be Awarded during Entertainment