

Nine families receive Honorary Parent award

By JOANNE SPAHR
HARRISBURG, Pa. - Along with the Keystone Farmer Degrees, there will be several other awards handed out at the Future Farmers of America state convention to be held in Harrisburg on January 12. One of these will be the honorary parent award which goes to parents having three or more Keystone Degree sons or daughters. Nine families in the Eastern Region of Pennsylvania will be given this honor.

Their names and a brief biography of each follows:

Mr. and Mrs.

George Manbeck

Mr. and Mrs. George Manbeck, Womelsdorf R1, have the largest number of sons to be named Keystone Farmers in the Eastern Region of the state. On Wednesday, they will see their fourth son, Norman, receive his degree just like their three other sons before him.

The Manbecks also have had two state officers and one Star Farmer American come from their family. Oscar J., who was the first son to receive the Keystone Degree in 1965, was also the first state officer, when he held the position of state chaplain. He then went on in FFA to earn the Star Farmer American Degree. He is now married with three sons.

The second son to earn the Keystone Degree was George, Jr., in 1972. He is now married with one son and is working on the farm with his father.

Herman is the third son to receive the Keystone Degree. He received it in 1975 and is still a member in the organization, holding the office of state chaplain.

Norman is their fourth son to earn the degree. For more information on the 1977 Keystone Farmer, refer to a separate article in this week's Lancaster Farming.

At this point, the whole family is working together

on an 875 acre farm with a 300 to 350 cow dairy, including dry cows.

This operation has been running for four years now, although it actually began 33 years ago when the Manbecks married and began to build up the dairy and raise a family.

To do the milking, one of the Manbecks and a hired man get up at 4 o'clock in the morning to start the work and begin again in the afternoon by 2 o'clock. The morning shift is rotated, so

that only once every five days does the same person have to rise in the wee hours of the morning.

Of their 875 acres, 450 are in corn, 200 of which becomes silage and 250 picked and shelled; and 275 is in alfalfa.

The Manbecks also have one daughter, Agnes, who is married to a dairy farmer.

Mr. and Mrs.

Howard Long

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Long, Columbia R2, have

had three sons awarded to the Keystone Degree.

Those sons are Glenn, who received this title in 1974 and is now doing voluntary service on John's Island, S.C.; Gary, who earned the degree in 1975, and is presently a mechanic at Cope and Weaver Company, New Providence; and Galen, who will have the title conferred on him this Wednesday at Harrisburg.

The Longs live on an 89 acre, tillable, farm where they raise steers, pigs, and tobacco.

Their two oldest boys used their FFA training to prepare them for their trade. Glenn had the first place ranking in the state for the ag mechanic proficiency award when he was in the FFA, and Gary took second place in that area. Their third son Galen prefers raising hogs and beef.

They also have a fourth son, Gordon, 14, who is a member of the FFA. Together Gordon and Galen

do most of the farm work, with their father working on an ag-related job off the farm.

Mr. and Mrs.

Thomas Shuey

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Shuey, Annville R2, have been named honorary

parents for having three sons receive the Keystone Farmer Degree.

Thomas Jr., age 24, was the first to receive the award in 1971. He is now married and works parttime with his

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Mr. and Mrs. George Manbeck



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Shuey

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