

Blue Mtn. goat group elects officers

FOGELSVILLE — The December meeting of the Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Association was called to order by past president, Edwin Rehrig. Denise Rowan read the minutes; Gerald Rowan gave the treasurer's report.

The new officers for 1980 are President, Steward (Butch) Herfurth, from Gilbert; Vice-President, Barry Heffner from Palm; and Secretary-Treasurer, Dianne Maguire from New Tripoli.

A Christmas party followed. Members brought a covered dish and the club furnished the beverage. Pictures were taken, there was a gift exchange and fun for all.

The meeting on January 10th also was interesting. President "Butch" Herfurth talked about raising and butchering goats. Several members of the BMDGA (Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Assn.) who are also members of the Lehigh Valley 4-H Dairy Goat Club, brought pictures of their goat display

at the Trexler Mall Mini-Show.

Pictures of the last meeting were also passed around for all to see. The club's T-Shirts are available. The clubs' blue logo on the white shirt really looks nice.

At the next meeting on February 14th, Rosemary Heffner will lead the discussion on Classification. Any goat enthusiast is invited to come and join the Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Association.

Meetings are held every second Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. at the Penn State University Extension just North of Fogelsville.

Dues are now payable for 1980. Mail \$4 individual or \$6 family to: Diane Maguire, Box 219, R. 3, New Tripoli, Pa. 18066. Members receive monthly Goat Notes newsletter.

The Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Association will have their annual Show on June 14, 1980 at the Allentown Fairgrounds. There will be a Junior Doe Show in the



New officers of the Blue Mountain Dairy Goat Association include, from left, Dianne Maguire, secretary; Butch Herfurth, president; and Barry Heffner, vice president.

morning and a Senior Doe Show in the afternoon. The judge will be Sam Whiteside

from Vermont. Watch for show details in the Dairy Goat Guide and the Dairy Goal Journal.

Jersey winner promotes milk at Farm Show

HARRISBURG — After nine years of competition at the Farm Show, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Rhein of Pine Grove captured top prize in the Jersey dairy competition. And they put the icing on that cake when their son, Bruce, led his four-year-old to reserve open championship and the senior and overall championship in Junior showing.

And while the blue ribbons were a welcome addition to the baggage the Rheins took home with them on Friday, they were by no means the most important reason for attending the Farm Show, Emmett Rhein said Wednesday night as he readied his cows for another night in the dairy barn.

Rhein grew up with Jerseys - his father switched from Holsteins in 1926 - and seems certain to remain a loyal fan of the gentle breed.

As an experiment, though, he added a Holstein to the herd a few years ago. While she's milking 20,000 pounds annually, he feels his Jerseys, averaging 13,517 milk and 629 fat, are more profitable for him.

Rhein's 65 milking cows produce on a high energy diet consisting mostly of corn silage and some hay and pasture. The family farms some 275 acres in Schuylkill County.

Commenting on the marked contrast between last year's Farm Show and the 1980 version, Rhein said he was well-pleased with the

Sunday opening this year, and with the fact that the cows were in the barn all week rather than just a few days.

"This is my opportunity as a dairyman to meet the public. The consumers that come by here are interested in the cows and they care about where their milk comes from.

"Too many exhibitors here ignore the people. Or they don't try to talk to them. All I do is say 'Hello,' and we've got a conversation started.

"I may not sell any milk from my cows, but I'll sell milk for somebody. And I think that's an important part of the Farm Show."

Rhein said some of the people he's talked to over the years come back year after year, just to say hello. One Camp Hill family this year brought along a snapshot of one of the Jerseys that had been taken at last year's show.



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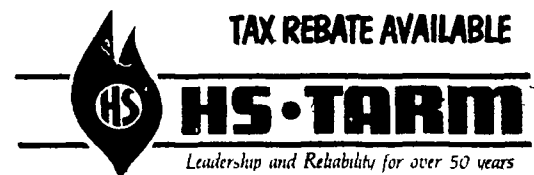


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