

Guernsey breeders present awards, elect officers

BY RUTH ANN BENEDICT
Staff Correspondent

CAMP HILL—The typical Farm Show weather of snow, ice and just plain "ole ugly" weather didn't keep some 125 PA Guernsey breeders away from the 49th Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders' Association on Wednesday, January 9, at Schindlers Restaurant of Camp Hill.

A business meeting was conducted at 10:30 a.m. followed by a banquet program at noon.

Raymond F. Witmer, Willow Street, president of the Association, presided at the morning business meeting.

During the morning program, Donald Ace of the Penn State Dairy and Animal Science Department, spoke of the dairy program and its students at the Penn State University.

"The dairy industry is good. Dairy students at Penn

State are strong students and they want to get their hands dirty", said Ace.

"The students are now leaving Penn State more prepared to go to work on the farm than ever before."

Ace noted that a new course is being offered now at Penn State on artificial insemination, thus hoping to initiate a "hands on" program where the students not only learn the theory but they see the theory in a real to life working situation.

Penrose Hallowell, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, gave a brief yet encouraging talk.

Haliowell, a dairy farmer himself, stated that the dairy industry in Pennsylvania is strong and he urged the dairy farmer to keep pushing onward.

The afternoon banquet program was highlighted by a special guest speaker.

"What about the Guernsey cow?" asked Douglas Wilson of the Midwest Breeders Coop, Shawano, Wisconsin.

"What is all this new excitement in the Guernsey breed and what should we do with this excitement?" said Wilson.

"What we do tomorrow is where we will be in five years.

"We shouldn't sit back now and take a breather just because we feel we are where we wanted to be by 1980. We must keep pushing on and working hard," stated Wilson.

Wilson also spoke about breeding programs and how to avoid "genetic" traps.

"A dairy farmers should use young bulls in his breeding program and evaluate each and every cow individually," said Wilson.

"Don't select one bull and



Mary Ann Witmer, left, of Willow Street, was honored for her high four-year-old production record. Renee Fava, right, received the Sewickley Award. She exhibited the grand champion Guernsey during the breed's Junior show at Farm Show.

then breed all of your cows to that bull. Use different bulls to keep from getting into a trap," urged Wilson.

Another highlight during the banquet program was the presentation of the awards.

Ginger M. Secrist presented the awards. Awards went to K. D. and Else Linde, Oxford, for high herd for milk in 1979. The Linde herd of 46 cows averaged 14,126 pounds of milk, 658 pounds of fat.

The Raymond F. and Louise A. Witmer farm, Willow Street, received the award for high herd for fat in 1979. Witmers 64 cow herd averaged 13,748 pounds of milk, 674 pounds of fat.

The high cow for milk and fat award for 1979 went to

"Sniders Prince Lily" with 21,350 pounds of milk, 1203 pounds of fat with a 5.6% test. "Lily" is owned by Dr. Marvin Sanner and Piney Lane Farm, John Meyers, Gettysburg and Littlestown.

Secrist also presented awards to Junior Guernsey Breeder members.

Judith A. Harding, Brookville, and William Zollers, Jr., Mertztown, received the Outstanding Girl and Boy Awards in the Junior Association.

Junior member production awards were presented to Barry Leham, York, 2 Yr. Old with 13,493 pounds of milk, 579 pounds of fat, "Carsels T. D. Lilly"; Robert E. Kirk, Peach

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Raymond F. Witmer, left, of Willow Street, receives the award for the 1979 high herd in fat production from Ginger M. Secrist, during the annual meeting and banquet of the Pa. Guernsey Breeders Association.



The Outstanding Girl and Boy Junior Awards were given to Judith A. Harding, left, Brookville, and William Zollers, Jr., Mertztown, by the Pa. Guernsey Breeders Association.

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