

Berks Guernsey Breeders celebrate 50 years

BY LAUREL SCHAEFFER
Staff Correspondent
STOUCHSBURG —
Guernsey breeders from Berks, Lebanon, Schuylkill, and Dauphin Counties gathered Saturday to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of their organization.

Highlighting the affair which included a luncheon at Risser's Restaurant, here, were presentations by Ginger Sechrist, Pennsylvania Guernsey Breeders Association, and Harvey

Dreibelbis, Freehold, N.J. Sechrist looked to the future, describing what she expects will happen to the Guernsey breeder and his cow in the next 50 years to come, while Dreibelbis looked back over the past fifty years as a founder of the Berks County Guernsey Association.

Dreibelbis described the first field days of the young organization and noted many of the changes he saw on the dairy farm.

Changes ranging from

milking by hand by the light of a lantern to today's stanchions and freestall housing. The sanitation practices developed over the years and the changing diets of the cows.

Dreibelbis also noted the development of the 4-H clubs in Berks County and the impact they had on local dairy farms. In many cases, 4-H'ers instigated their parents into registering their cattle and taking more pride in them.

Sechrist spoke of more

extended use of the computer and micro films which will store more complicated records as they become more important in farm management. Micro films will also keep pedigrees, DHIA reports and financial status as well, she related.

The speaker urged her audience to start keeping better records now, to keep their health requirements up to date as well as their finances. "Know where you stand now," she said, "keep them current."

Also noted was the changing cow. She will have to be more efficient such as a better roughage convertor. Her foot and leg structure will have to change to withstand confinement better.

Sechrist predicted fewer cows in the future, but higher production from them. She warned of imitation products, especially in cheeses. Labeling has to be changed to more easily identify the imitations, she said.

In other business, two directors were also elected

for three year terms. These people were Jacob Smith and Miles Hollenbach.

Officers for the Berks County Guernsey Breeders Association are: Robert Smith, President; Robert Oellig, Vice-President; Carl Hollenbach, Secretary; and Lloyd Dreibelbis, Treasurer.

Marilyn Stoltzfus presented awards to 4-H and FFA youth who had placed first while showing a

Guernsey during the 1979 show season. These included: Bill Zollers, Jon Zollers, and Richard Hartz of Berks County, and Susan Hollinger, John Arnold, Wilmer and Barbara Dickinson, Thomas Smith, and Bonita and Barbara Oley of Lebanon County.

Also present for the luncheon was the Pennsylvania Guernsey Queen, Millie Lande of Lancaster County.

Farm Bureau to sue longshoremens union

HOUSTON, TEXAS — The American Farm Bureau Federation and the Texas and Kansas state Farm Bureaus have filed secondary boycott charges against the International Longshoremens Association.

The charges were filed in efforts to force the union to load grain shipments bound for the Soviet Union under unfulfilled agreements.

Charges were filed with the Houston office of the National Labor Relations Board. A secondary boycott is an illegal union action against parties not directly involved in a labor dispute.

Earlier in Phoenix, Arizona, AFBF voting delegates had backed President Carter's embargo of 17 million metric tons of grain to the USSR. The grain the longshoremens are refusing to load now is not part of the embargoed 17 million tons, but part of an eight million ton commitment made in a 1975 agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Approximately 2.8 million tons of the 8 million ton commitment remain to be shipped.

Robert B. Delano, newly elected AFBF president, said the 17 million embargoed tons are over and above the eight million tons under contract.

"We want the people of the world to understand that we keep our commitments," Delano said. "We had a legal contract to sell to the Soviet Union eight million metric tons of grain, and consequently we think we should fill that contract and ship them the other 2.8 million tons."

Under NLRB procedures, an investigation will be launched. If the general counsel of the NLRB finds

"reasonable cause" to believe that the law has been violated, the federal court will be petitioned for an injunction to force the longshoremens to load the grain bound for the Soviet Union.

The charges filed here are similar to those filed by Farm Bureau in 1975. Those charges resulted in a court order restraining the ILA from interfering with grain shipments to the USSR at that time.

Centerport Grangers meet with Virginville

Centerport Grangers provided the program when they visited at Virginville Grange's regular meeting. Songs, quizzes and games were led by the visitors.

Activities of the Virginville youth were announced and include a meeting on February 15 at Bernville at 8:00 p.m. They are sponsoring a bus trip to the ice hockey game, with the bus leaving at 5:45 p.m. on February 23. On March 3 there will be roller skating at Pheasantland. Bowling standings of the youth are 8, 10, 14 and 19.

It was announced that the 60th anniversary committee is making plans for that observance. State Grange Master Charles Wismer will speak on April 2 at 7:30 p.m., which will include an open house.

The women will meet on February 4 to tour the

Gilardone Mill in Virginville at 2:00 p.m. Members should meet at 1:45 p.m. At the state level, there is a new contest for macrame. Level A will include macrame belt and jewelry, and Level B will include macrame hangers for wall, planters, and rug braiding no larger than 40 inches and 1 no less than 18 inches.

Feryl Treicher, new chairman for the state dairy committee discussed the committee's latest meeting.



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