

## Ephrata Young Farmers win state award

Ephrata Area Young Farmers were recognized by the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association as the outstanding chapter in the state for their activities, educational programs and participation by members.

The chapter, under the direction of Charles Ackley, was organized by 24

members in 1968, and was chartered by the state Association at that time. Warren Bollinger was its charter president.

Today the chapter numbers 126 members who participate in a wide variety of activities locally and on a state level. It was Ephrata Chapter's Earl and Barb

Stauffer who received the Outstanding Community Service award for that region and Earl is now president-elect for the state Association.

Educational meetings are a large part of the young farmers' program, and last year their meetings covered a variety of topics, including corn management, "how I do it" meetings, field trips and a trip to Dutchess County, N.Y.

The Chapter sponsored a

\$200 gift to the Ephrata Recreation Center, donated money to the fire company, and assisted in the clean-up and barn raising in a local barn fire. They are also leaders in sponsoring Ephrata Fair activities. At the Fair, they have a refreshment stand with the Future Farmers of America, and conduct the tractor contest and pig chase.

But an important part of the Young Farmers is their family activities, and

Ephrata found time for a fishing trip, an ice cream social, a picnic, a Christmas program, a bowling party and a rope pulling contest. They also field a volleyball team each year.

One of their important events is the annual banquet, and they are actively involved in committees which are organizing the 1981 National Young Farmers Educational Institute.

Their members are involved, with six attending

regional leadership conferences; 7 attending the summer Young Farmers conference; 11 attending the winter conference and 6 attending the National Young Farmer Institute.

For the Ephrata Area Young Farmers' Association, their participation is a good way to keep up on modern farming methods while serving the community and getting to know each other better.

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## Top DHIA records recognized

CHATHAM — Five area dairymen were honored for having high producing herds this past year at the sixteenth annual District II Meeting for Atlantic Breeders Cooperative members held Wednesday at the Stove Barn.

Receiving Certificates of Merit for having top Dairy Herd Improvement Association averages were Andrew D. Stoltzfus, John S. Stoltzfus, J. Raymond

Harnish, David Walton, Walmoore.

All herds were at least 15 percent above the state average for milk or butterfat production last year, while at least two-thirds of the cows in these herds are progeny of Atlantic sires. Awards were presented by Ed Sauder, Atlantic's Field Supervisor for this area.

Reports by District II Director Wm. Moore of Chatham, and management

representative Harry Roth, Lancaster, informed members that 1979 was the most successful business year in Atlantic's history.

Service Technicians provided 308,000 services, and semen sales increased to direct-herd breeders and through domestic and international distributors. Atlantic sires maintained their rating among the nation's best for transmitting profitable traits, Roth said. A new marketing-distribution center was constructed last year.

A 25-minute movie was shown which used on-farm interviews to tell how

members make good use of their Cooperative's services and follow sound management practices to further their herd's progress.

Atlantic members who were patrons in 1969 received a cash refund totaling over \$137,700. New equities will be issued to members active in 1979.

Members present voted for District representatives for the coming year. Election results will be announced in the next issue of the Cooperative's monthly newsletter, since more than one meeting is held in most of Atlantic's 16 Districts.

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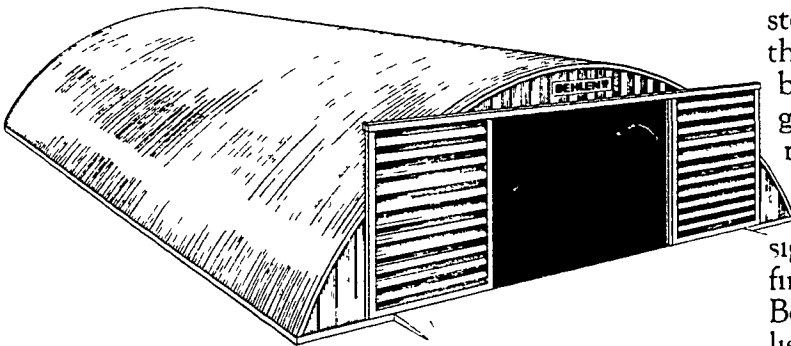
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