National officer speaks at Kutztown FFA banquet

BY LAUREL SCHAEFFER Staff Correspondent

KUTZTOWN — Members of the Kutztown FFA Chapter honored their own March 18 at the Kutztown Grange Hall. Participating in the climax of a year's endeavors and making the occasion even more special was Don Trimmer, Jr., National Eastern Region FFA Vice-President.

The national officer commented on some of the many opportunities he has had and discussed a recent trip he and several other FFA members took to Japan.

Trimmer, of Woodsboro, Md., reminded his colleagues to thank the sponsors of the many awards presented during the banquet, especially the National FFA Foundation, sponsors of the Foundation Awards.

Trimmer remarked on how the FFA is helping to prepare and develop the leaders of tomorrow.

"Agriculture is a basic resource of America," he said, "and nobody can do it like we can."

"I haven't heard that we have reached our limit in agriculture production," he said.

Highlighting the presentation of awards were the Star Chapter presentations. Receiving the Star Greenhand Award this year was Mark Latshaw, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Latshaw, Alburtis.

Chapter Star Farmer was awarded to Dean Bruno, 17, of Kutztown, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bruno. Dean was also the recipient of four foundation medals, including beef production,



Shown front from left are: Daniel Adam, Marlowe Greis, Mike Mertz and Gerald Haas. Back from left: Bruck Latshaw, Tim Behm, Mike Heiter and Keenan Hilbert.

diversified livestock production, agriculture mechanics, and placement in agriculture production. Other awards included: the outstanding record book for eleventh grade, a leadership award, and two state project book medals. These were for his four enterprise entries, earning a silver medal for ninth place and another silver medal for his occupational work experience which earned a seventh place.

Keith Flicker, chapter president, was honored with the Chapter Star Agribusinessman award. Keith is the 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Flicker, Maxatawny. Other awards included a foundation medal for agriculture electrification and a leadership award.

Foundation awards were also given out to Bruce Latshaw, Alburtis, dairy

production; Michael Heiter. Lenhartsville, swine production and crop production; Daniel Adam, Mertztown, poultry production; Gerald Haas, Lenhartsville, fruit and vegetable production; Tim Behm, Kutztown, ornamental horticulture and soil and water management; Michael Mertz, Fleetwood, home and farmstead improvement; Keenan Hilbert, Kutztown, agricultural sales and service; and Dean Shoemaker, Mertztown, public speaking.

Other outstanding record book awards were presented to Ted Kleinsmith, Kempton, ninth grade; Bill Zollers, Mertztown, tenth grade; and Daryl Kunkel, Kutztown, twelfth grade. Bill Zollers was honored with the scholarship award and was given a bronze medal for his state project book for placing eighth with his four enterprise book.

Keystone Farmer pins were awarded to Michael Heiter, Terry Kleinsmith, Kempton; David Reigel, Kempton; and Larry Shrawder, Kempton.

State FFA chorus pins went to Elen Kamp, Kempton, and Scott Rabenold, Kutztown. Richard Hershberger, Kutztown, and Paul Reinert, Lenhartsville, received State FFA band pins.

Other state project book awards were presented to Marlowe Greis, Kutztown, single enterprise-1st place silver; Dean Shoemaker, single enterprise, third silver; Donald Lorish, Alburtis, two enterprises, ninth bronze; Ted Kleinsmith, Kempton, three enterprises, tenth bronze; Daryl Kunkel, six enterprises, second bronze.

Honorary Degrees were presented to Christopher Haring, language arts teacher; Fay Kamp, secretary; John Bruno, Russel Heiter, and Ernest Riegel, Fathers of Keystone Farmers.

The chapter also presented letters of appreciation to Paul Getz, Kutztown, and Helenirene Blefgen, Sinking Spring.

Dean Bruno, the star of the awards presentation also received the district award

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