Farm Women Societies hold 62nd convention

BY DEBBIE KOONTZ

HARRISBURG — The Sixty-Second Annual Farm Women Convention got under way Monday morning at the Forum of the Education Building with over 500 Farm Women in attendance.

Helen Hess, who is now serving in her second year of a three-year term as state president, welcomed the members and guests who represented 4112 farm women from 18 counties to what has been termed the largest convention in four years.

Penrose Hallowell, Sec tary of Agriculture, was on hand to welcome the women to Harrisburg and the Farm Show and to commend them both individually and collectively for their efforts through the many societies.

The Monday morning session was filled with election of officers and reports of county and state presidents. Following this, the state officers payed a tribute to deceased Farm Women placing a ceremonial flower in a vase for each member

The convention which lasted into Tuesday afternoon, featured a banquet Monday night and a business session on Tuesday For more details of these events, look for various other stories in this and other sections of **Lancaster Farming.**

The annual Farm Women Convention got underway Monday morning with over 500 members present. Here are three presidents: Opal Ruhl of Lancaster, Marine Steinmetz of Lebanon and Kathryn McCorkle of Franklin County, receiving awards for increasing memberships in their counties.

Monday's business session began that afternoon with speaker Dr Richard Canfield, from the Keys to Better Living Radio Program. His message, Keys to Happiness, included seven keys the women might follow in their quest to reach the Farm Women motto, "for happiness." Included amongst these were character, knowledge, patience, piety, brotherly love, self control and Godliness

You're becoming tomorrow what you're thinking today and you re becoming today what you've exposed to yesterday," Canfield reminded the women

Next, Cindy Neely, state dairy princess, told the women of her work in dairy promotion.

Following the princess, were presentations of awards Three counties received awards for increasing membership They were. Lancaster, Franklin and Lebanon.

Next were awards for the state project (crocheting) and the youth project (open to any grandchild between ages 1 and 18).

The projects, divided into three categories, were on display at the banquet that evening A first prize went to Edythe Kreamer of Lebanon County, Society 18 for her christening dress.

Another first went to Maybelle Shughart in the sweater and capes category for the beige coat she crocheted. Shughart is from Cumberland County, Society 5.

The third category was that of a large bedspread. First place went to June Zimmerman of Lebanon County, Society 20

Hess reported twelve counties participating in the project with each first place winner receiving plaques.

Sixty-three children participated in the youth project. Each piece (paintings, crafts, or drawings) received a citation for participating

The last awards of the day went to those members who have reached the age of 90. Six women qualified and received a gold locket

The final bit of business Monday was introduction of scholarship winner, Jean Jordan of Felton, Pennsylvania. Jean is a sophomore at Indiana University of Pennsylvania studying home economics

Jill Landis, another scholarship recipient, was introduced at the banquet She is a junior at Indiana University studying home economics and consumer merchandise. Jill hopes to land a job in interior design upon graduation.

The scholarships are from the Flora Black Scholarship Fund which was established in 1960 for children and grandchildren of members, living or deceased of the Society of Farm Women of Pennsylvania.

The scholarships which normally go to four girls or guys every year, were divided among three girls this year.

The third girl, Sharon Oiler of Newville, is a freshman at Messiah College.

Next year's project will be a quilting project. Deadline date is November. The youth project for 1981 is open to both children and grandchildren

Hess, supplying comment on the convention said, The women just love to come Some come from the far western part of the state and they have to pay for buses on their own, so they must really enjoy it Everybody loves to get together and share things and have a good time and to fellowship together

Wenger speaks at banquet

FARM SHOW — The ballroom of the Penn Harris Motor Inn was wall to wall Farm Women as 541 members gathered for their annual banquet, Monday night

Mrs D Merle Baughman, acting as hostess for the event, reported an increase of over 60 members from last year's banquet.

Speaker for the evening was Dr J. Calvin Wenger of Lancaster County Wenger, the minister for the Lancaster Church of the Brethren, delivered a message entitled "From Where I Stand" Filled with amusing anecdotes and peppered with jokes, the message was a plea for the women to accept people for what they are because according to Wenger, We're all different in many ways"

Wenger, who has a chiropractor practice in Lancaster is married to Shirley Wenger of Society 24, Lancaster.

Entertainment was provided by Cathy Parson of Shippensburg accompanied by Helen (Sammy) Martin

Following introduction of officers and guests, table decorations were awarded to members Baskets of fruit and home-sewn chickens were supplied by Chester and Fulton counties

Cross pens were placed at the head table by Sperry-New Holland as favors for the officers The Pioneer Hybrid Seed Company placed paring knives at each table setting for members D K

Dr. J. Calvin Wenger of Lancaster County addressed the Farm Women Society Convention Monday night at their annual banquet.

Tuesday morning at the Farm Women Convention saw the election of three new officers. They are: Dorothy Pyle, state secretary; Dorothy Strickler, state director and Lourene Tate, state director.

Entomology honors awarded

FARM SHOW — Craig Collison of Val Verde Drive, Pennsylvania Furnace, Centre County, captured first place in the first-year entomology classes at the 65th Farm Show.

Winner for second-year members was Beth Frank of Second Avenue, Duncansville, Blair County. She was winner of the first-year division at last year s Farm Show.

Virginia Smith of Buttonwood Farm Road, Millersville, Lancaster County, was declared winner in the third-year division.

Sylvia Royer, of R4, Lebanon, Lebanon County, was winner of the class for fourth-year member. She also was a winner at last year's Farm Show.

4 H ENTOMOLOGY CLUB

Class 1

First year 4 H club member

1 Craig Collison 233 Val Verda Dr Pa Furnace Centre 2 Brian A Pe[illegible] RD1 Box 251 Penna Furnace Centre Steve Messler 410 Rosewood Cr Pa Furnace Centre [illegible] Jan Pe[illegible] 29 S Main St Pine Grove Schuylki[illegible] 4 Parker 53 Beverly Ave E Lansdowne Delaware

Class 2

Second year 4 H club member

1 Beth Franks 929 Second Ave Duncansville Blair 2 Susan Nebegen RD3 Box 388 Altoona Blair 3 Chris Cook Folcraft Delaware 4 John Deardorff RD2 Box 2748 Grove City Mercer 5 Brian Kelly RD1 Box 166 Tyrone Blair

Class 3

1 Virginia Smith 566 Buttonwood Farm Rd Millersville Lancaster 2 [illegible] Box RD1 Box [illegible] Annville Lebanon [illegible] Cornhill [illegible]

Class 4

1 Sylvia Royer RD1 Box [illegible] Lebanon Lebanon [illegible] Foster Ave Shiremanstown [illegible] Mechanicsburg RD1 Box [illegible] Annville Lebanon

Farm Women elect officers

FARM SHOW — The Farm Women Societies of Pennsylvania nominated a state secretary and two state directors at their annual business meeting Tuesday, Room E of the Farm Show Building.

Elected were Dorothy Pyle, Greene County as state secretary, and Dorothy Strickler, Berks County, and Lourene Tate of Adams County as state directors

Pyle, of Society 2, is the wife of George Pyle and has [illegible] daughters She has served as 4-H leader for 12 years and is a member of the Jefferson Methodist Church.

Strickler, Society 7, is married to Wilbur Strickler and they have been farming for 35 years. This PFA member has been in Farm Women Society 7 for twelve years.

Lourene Tate of Adams County is in Society 2 Tate, wife of Richard Tate, has been a member since 1975

Frances Ross, acting as state secretary and Nancy Bennetch, state secretary, delivered year-end reports to members followed by committee reports.

Among the new business discussed was the passing of a new by-law allowing for removal of officers if duties are not performed in a "satisfactory manner."

The business meeting concluded the Sixty-Second Annual Convention of Farm Women Societies for 1981 D K.