

Myer heads Conrad Weiser FFA alumni

ROBESONIA — J. Hershey Myer Jr. has been selected as Chairman of the new Conrad Weiser FFA Alumni Association.

Other officers include Roland Feeg, vice chairman; Donald Feeg, secretary; David Schaeffer, treasurer; and members of the Alumni Council who serve as the Executive Committee, Debbie Miller, Dennis Sattazahn and

Jr. officers elected

MECHANICSBURG — Junior officers were elected and chapter farmer degrees awarded at a recent meeting of the Cumberland Valley FFA.

Junior officers this year include president, Mike Brymesser; vice president, Jeff Shughart; secretary, Chris Hopple; treasurer, Wendy Bretz; reporters, Tim Armstrong and Ray Yost; chaplain, Lynn Nester; historian, Tom Gordon Jr; Ad-

Agronomy winners named

ELVERSON — Members of the Twin Valley FFA Chapter recently were among the top placers in a three-county area agronomy contest.

Top scorer in the contest, which included seven FFA chapters from Berks, Lebanon and Schuylkill counties, was Wade Bernard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bernard, R2, Elverson.

Dave Noyes, of Twin Valley, placed second and Kevin Griest was fourth among the 27 con-

Kevin Sattazahn.

Membership in the new FFA alumni group is open to all former active, collegiate or honorary FFA and NFA members, present and former professional vocational agricultural educators, parents of FFA members and others interested in the FFA.

Persons interested in joining or

visor, Ed Meyer; Parliamentarian, Randy O'Boyle; sentinels, Dave Fureman and Eric Nace.

Receiving their chapter farmer degree were Tracy Brackbill, Mike Brymesser, Dave Fureman, Tim McCartney, Ed Meyer, Eric Nace, Jeff Shughart, Steve Heisler, Scott Duryea, Mike Kennedy, Tony Hock, Alan Haulman, Jeff Gill, Frank Shoop and Bill Hollar.

acquiring further information should contact Stephen S. Miller, advisor, at the Conrad Weiser High School, R1, Robesonia, Pa. 19551.

"We feel that if the concern of one generation for the next can help to improve the position of the next generation, then we can build a better tomorrow for agriculture and the FFA in our area," Myer said.

"We are not in the process of building this new organization and it is hoped that every former FFA member will do his or her share to help make it a success," Donald Feeg added.

The new alumni group will work to promote a better understanding of the agricultural industry and provide support for the agricultural educational program.



Officers of the new Conrad Weiser FFA Alumni Association include, from the left, J. Hershey Myer, chairman; Roland Feeg, vice chairman; David Schaeffer, treasurer; and Donald Feeg, seated, secretary.

2 vo-ag teachers attend talks

ATLANTA, GA. — Bruce Lemmon and Frederic Stillwagen, vocational agriculture teachers at Cumberland Valley High School and Lehigh County Vocational-Technical School, served as official voting delegates from Pennsylvania at the 33rd annual National Vocational Agricultural Teachers' Association (NVATA) convention.

The convention ran concurrently with the 75th annual convention of the American Vocational Association.

Attending were approximately 500 agricultural educators and

more than 8,000 vocational educators.

AVA membership includes nearly 300,000 vocational educators from throughout the country. NVATA membership affiliated with the AVA Agricultural Education Division includes more than 10,000 vocational educators in agriculture.



Groundwater heat pump project thrives

(The following is reprinted from the December issue of Penn Lines, the monthly publication of the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association.)

HARRISBURG — Earlier this year, Allegheny Electric Cooperative, Inc., entered into a joint research project with the Electric Power Research Institute of Palo Alto, California, to determine how efficiently groundwater source heat pumps perform when installed in rural residential applications in the northeastern United States.

As you know, groundwater heat pumps operate by extracting heat out of groundwater for use in heating homes. Groundwater is pumped out of an existing well and is circulated through the heat pump heat exchanger and eventually returned to the ground, typically through a reinjection well. Assisting Allegheny in the project are Valley Rural Electric Cooperative and Bedford Rural Electric Cooperative. Two of their members will have the tests performed in their homes.

Briefly, the research project entails installing groundwater heat pumps in the homes of two members, installing instruments and collecting data to analyze the systems' performance for a comparison with other types of heating systems.

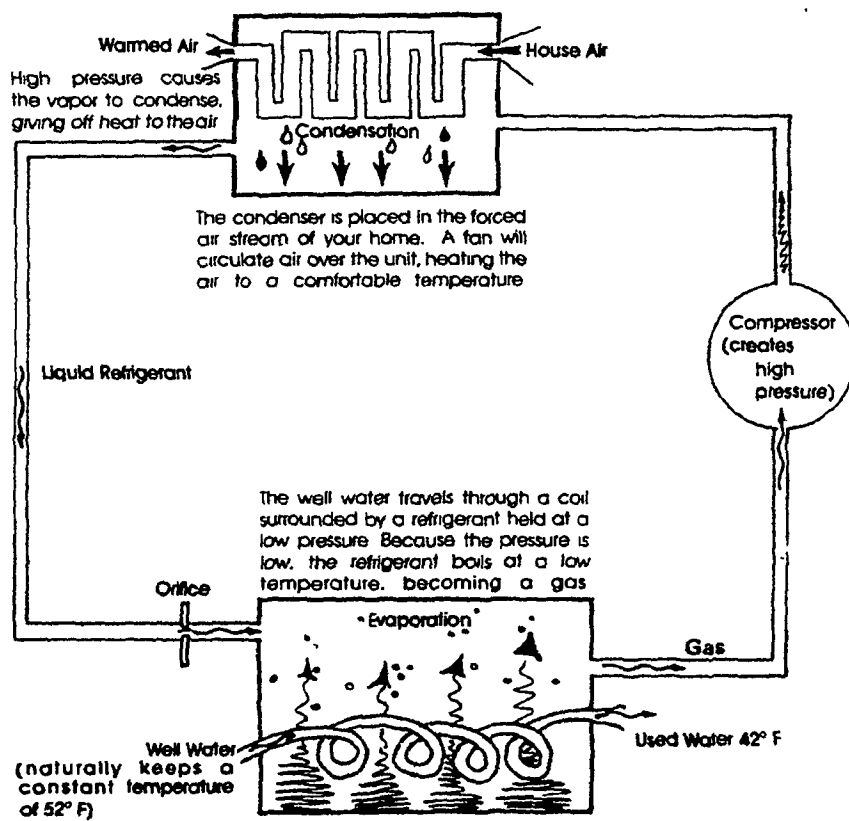
To date, the heat pumps have been acquired and installed, the ductwork and conventional heat sources modified and the instrumentation systems installed.

As is often the case in research, installation of a sophisticated data collection system necessary to produce practical information has taken a substantial period of time to perfect.

One practical result of the work to date has been learning that groundwater head pumps vary widely in their requirements for groundwater. This fact has already limited the effectiveness

Conceptual Diagram of the Groundwater Heat Pump

This diagram will give you a basic idea of how a groundwater heat pump can create warm air from cool well water.



of two of the original three site selected. This requires either changing the heat pump and heat exchanger or modify the well to increase the amount of water the well will produce.

In one case, PREA successfully drilled a new well which produced sufficient water for the unit. In the other case, it was decided that another mode of heat exchange areas where there is little water availability. Allegheny is currently negotiating with EPRI for additional research funds to explore this area.

The house in question is a residence adjacent to the Valley REC headquarters outside Huntingdon. Allegheny recently

slowly reascent inside a larger pipe.

This will allow the chilled water to be warmed by the heat in the ground. After the chilled water is warmed, it is returned to the surface for reinsertion into the heat pump for another cycle.

This "ground-coupling" technique is of great interest in areas where there is little water availability. Allegheny is currently negotiating with EPRI for additional research funds to explore this area.

The house in question is a residence adjacent to the Valley REC headquarters outside Huntingdon. Allegheny recently

conducted a test to help predict the effectiveness of such a technique before committing to a substantial research project.

Preliminary indications from this test are that, while the site will work, it may not be as effective as a conventional adequately-watered groundwater source heat pump.

Installation of most instrumentation, and data collection and reduction is the responsibility of the University of Pittsburgh. This project is being funded by the Oak Ridge National Laboratories under a contract with the Department of Energy. Richard Dougall, an expert in in-

strumentation for heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems, and his staff, have worked diligently to perfect the instrumentation.

The data collection system consists of a mini-computer. Picture the surprise of visitors to these homes when they enter the study or workroom and find a small computer perking along, gathering data from perhaps 30 instruments every five or ten seconds.

The data is recorded by computer on a magnetic tape cartridge which is removed weekly and forwarded to the University of

(Turn to Page B15)