

## Ayrshire Breeders donate \$500 to Ag Arena

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CARLISLE — The Pennsylvania Ayrshire Breeders voted unanimously to donate \$500 to the Penn State Ag Arena fund during last Saturday's annual meeting, held here at the Embers Restaurant.

During the meeting, J. Douglas Dodds, executive secretary of the National Association, reported to the assembled breeders on the financial and future outlook for the State and National Ayrshire Breeders. He reported that the Association closed their books in the black this year, with the Ayrshire Digest pulling the Association through with a plus of \$1,900.

Dodds encouraged the group to commit themselves to sampling young sires. He said, "The future of the Ayrshire breed hinges on every breeder's sampling commitment." He added that "only when breeders begin to use young bulls will we get a proper sampling and find the outstanding genetics in each."

Dodds suggested every breeder commit 40 percent of their herd to sampling the young sires. He stated, "These young bulls should be genetically better than any of the bulls already proven today. We are not sampling the young sires for our own health, but for the health and well-being of the Ayrshire breed. So, by sampling them, you will help the breed and yourself."

The executive secretary pointed out that all breeding services like Carnation, Atlantic, Mid-West, etc. are standing behind the Young Sire Sampling programs and have already been adding Ayrshire bulls to their lists. "Since the beginning

of A.I. 40 years ago, this is the most exciting time for any Ayrshire breeder," he said.

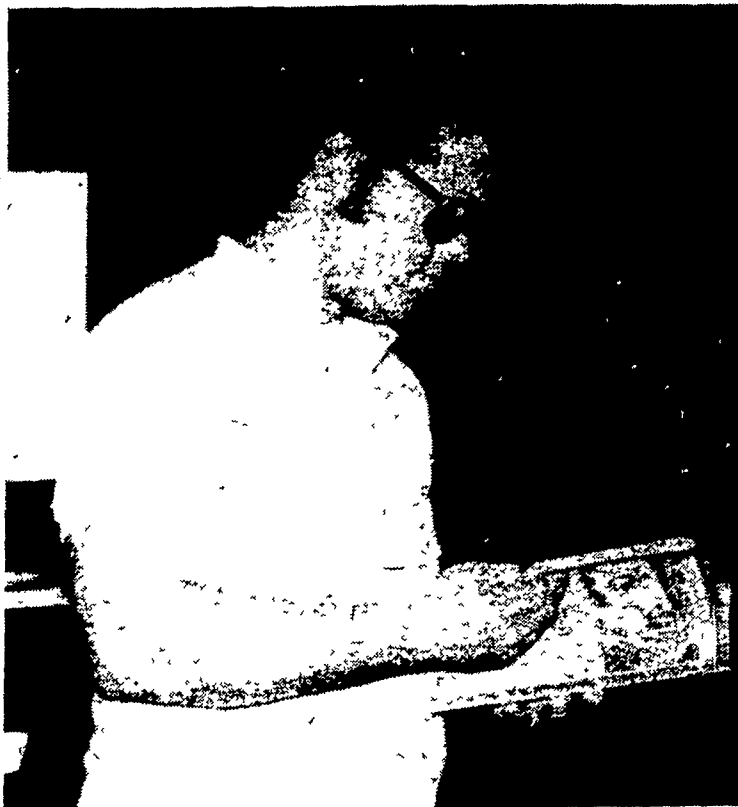
Dodds commented on the Association's conversion to computerization during the past year. He said the process of registering and transferring the cattle has not speeded up at all. "It will still take approximately four weeks to complete the process due to the fact that the main terminal is in South Carolina." He acknowledged the computer has eliminated much of the manual labor involved in the process. He reminded the group that the Association's special rush service for registering and transferring has been reinstated for a nominal fee. It will cost the breeder \$10 per rush application.

Dodds pointed out to the members that in the next few months the directors will be wrestling with several very important topics which will effect the future of the Association.

First, he said, the directors are going to take a hard look at joint field work with other high protein breeds. And along the same lines, said Dodds, the directors will be looking seriously at type evaluation work. In both of these areas, the directors hope to discuss ways in which one person could be used in one general area for all breeds.

In reference to the evaluations, Dodds remarked, "There are a lot of good cattlemen out there who can judge all types of cattle. I think it is a topic all breeds will be looking at and discussing."

Dodds expressed his concerns as well as the directors' concerns for the last topic—occupancy. He said the directors are going to be discussing possibilities of joint



John Ocker, III, a long time Ayrshire breeder in Cumberland County, takes a break during the Pa. Ayrshire Assn. annual meeting last Saturday. Ocker is a new director and member of the Youth Committee.

occupancy. Dodds said that all members should realize that the Association is maintaining a large structure. "With the cost of utilities and maintenance, is it financially economical for the Association to continue the upkeep alone?" he asked.

Earl Keefer, a Pennsylvania member and the president of the National Association reported on the Pennsylvania Young Sire Program. He stated that Ardrossan Star M.M. Ross is being

tested at Atlantic Breeders and has passed all the preliminary testing. Keefer said, "The bull shows a good pedigree and genetic base, his sire being Oak Ridge Star Man and his dam Ardrossan Albi's Roster, classified 88."

Keefer remarked that the Ardrossan Farm of Villanova, donated the bull to the young-sire program. After the testing and units of semen are ready for sampling, the bull will be taken

back to the Ardrossan Farm. However, he said any breeders who donate a bull for testing and sampling has a privilege of making a contract with Atlantic Breeders. Keefer expressed his excitement about the bull and is hoping that by mid-Summer the units will be ready for sampling.

Taking the sire program from present to future, Keefer told the breeders that he sees the program eventually buying young sires for sampling. He stated, "It is in the distant future, but it is something that every Ayrshire breeder should think about. I believe the young sire program is of great value to the breed, now and for our future as Ayrshire breeders."

Milton Brubaker, secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Association reported that David Paul, an FFA member and Ayrshire breeder was selected in January to receive the Outstanding FFA Ayrshire Award. David has seven registered Ayrshires and is a senior in High School at Garret. The young breeder raises crops such as wheat, barley, oats, and corn to support his animals. According to Brubaker, Paul said he would use the award of \$100 to purchase another Ayrshire calf.

Wrapping up the annual meeting was the election of officers. John Ocker, III, was voted in to serve as a director, while all the other officers and directors remained the same. They are as follows: J. Garrett Hunter, president; Charles Gable, vice president; Milton Brubaker, secretary-treasurer; and Ed Turulo, Harold Kulp, Sam Diehl, Wilda Kline, Richard Lyons, Paul Kemerer, Carol Schurman, Barbara Rader and Dale Maulfair, directors.

## Penn State Hort Club adds to Ag Arena fund



Wayne Mortensen, center, president of the Horticulture Club at Penn State, presents a \$500 check in behalf of the organization to Dean Samuel Smith, of the College of Agriculture, as a contribution to the Ag Arena Building Fund. With them are, from left: Milford Heddleson, coordinator of environmental quality affairs in the College and co-chairman of the fund raising campaign; and Roland Daniels, associate

professor of horticulture; co-advisor of the club. At right is Ernest Bergman, professor of horticulture, also co-advisor of the student group. The Ag Arena, a 19,000-square-foot facility to be constructed adjacent to Penn State's Beaver Stadium, will provide for classrooms, student activities, and statewide shows and events. The Horticulture Club pledged a total of \$3,000 to the fund.