

Nichol reports successful Holstein year

BY SYLVIA COOPER
Staff Correspondent

ERIE — The 71st Pennsylvania Holstein Convention last week was a tremendous success with Holstein breeders from all across the state taking part and enjoying the hospitality extended by the northwestern breeders.

Executive secretary, Bill Nichol, said that the past year was a successful one for the Association's 49 local Holstein clubs and 15 junior clubs. Of the over 6200 member organization, about 450 are new members.

"Pennsylvania has a lot to be proud of," Nichol said. "The Association was responsible for helping raise \$97,000 at the Ag Arena Benefit Sale a year ago. The sale represents hard work, donated time, labor and money by the Association, consignors, auctioneers and students. "Pa. is particularly proud to host the All-American show and sale at Harrisburg," Nichol said. The three top consignments at this year's sale came from Pa. breeders."

The state calf and bred heifer sales will be held this year on April 7 and 8 at Harrisburg. The State Spring Show will be held on April 8.

Bob Freyer, of Crawford County, and Paul Countryman, of Somerset County, were elected as new executive board members for the Northwest and Southwest Districts. Retiring board members are Arthur Baxter from the Northwest District and Robert Taylor from the Southwest District.

Dr. Paul Wangness, head of the Department of Dairy and Animal Science at Penn State, reported

that ground breaking for the new Ag Arena will occur on April 15. Wangness said that teaching, research and extension are the three main functions offered to the state's dairymen through Penn State.

Dr. Larry Specht, state chairman of the Dairy Shrine Club, reported that the Shrine now has 10,000 members with Pa. having the third highest membership. The aim of the Shrine is to recognize leaders of the day and honor those of the past, Specht said, and new members are encouraged to join.

The American Dairy Association was represented by Mr. Earl Polling and Richard Norton. Both encouraged dairy farmer support in nutrition education and a stronger advertising campaign.

As one of its resolutions, the Pa. Holstein Association decided to endorse the Pa. Beef Council, which has been faced with anti-meat campaigns by several individuals. The Association also urges that beef producers support the Council at 25 cents per beef and dairy animal sold for meat purposes.

The Association also pledged its support to the Dairy Compliance Program proposed by the National Milk Producers Federation. The Program is to restore a balance between supply and demand of dairy products and maintain farm prices while reducing government subsidy costs through a National Milk Promotion Program.

As part of the men's program, a workshop was conducted on the use of computers on the farm. Two special speakers, Del Burnett, a nutritionist, and Jack Suleski, from Radio Shack, spoke about the

versatility of the personal computer.

Dave Slusser, a dairyman, explained how he uses a computer to formulate his feed rations. He said that with the computer he can balance his rations monthly. He stressed that the major inputs into the computer, like the weight of the cows and forage analysis, must be accurate to acquire meaningful output from the computer.

Don Ranck, Lancaster County dairy farmer, uses a personal computer in sire selection. Rank has selected the top 400 bulls in PD dollars value to enter into the computer. Information on all of the bulls can then be sorted into 45 different columns. Some of the columns he lists are calving ease, TPI, DMS, fertility average and type information.



State Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell, right, presents Pennsylvania Holstein Association president Marion Alsdorf with a plaque commemorating the designating of milk as the state's official drink. A pen used by the Governor in signing the milk proclamation is centered on the plaque that will hang at the association offices.

Pa. honors outstanding contributors

ERIE — The Pennsylvania Holstein Association honored outstanding contributors to membership, breeding, exhibiting and sales programs during the annual awards breakfast, which opened the final day of the state convention last Friday at the Hilton Hotel.

Membership awards went to 11 individuals who solicited over five new signups for 1983. Topping the list was Wendel J. Smith, Butler County, with an impressive 16 new members to his credit. Second was Franklin Countian George Cashell, with ten new memberships.

Others include Bruce Matson,

Westmoreland, with nine members; C. Sherman Allen, Crawford, eight members; William Schultz, Somerset, seven members; Martin Heaps, York, and Joseph Blank, Snyder, six members each; and five new members each for Clark Yoder, and Willard Maust, Somerset, Adam Lobaugh, Adams, and Charles Baker, Bedford County.

Six county clubs reached their membership goal by the January 15 deadline, earning \$200 for their treasury balance. They are Clarion-Venango, Larry Taylor, chairman; Lehigh, Roger Miller, chairman; McKean, Paul

Althouse, chairman; Northumberland-Montour, Clifford LeVan, chairman; Snyder, Kenneth Boyer, chairman; Westmoreland, James McQuaide, chairman.

Recognition plaques were presented to six consignors of animals that were leaders at the state Holstein sales. Topping the state calf sale was Lonely-Spot Cavalier Fluke-Red, consigned by Joseph Hartle, Jr., and David Burket's, Burket Falls CaLil Saffy-ET headed the list for the bred heifer sale. A Tradition son, from

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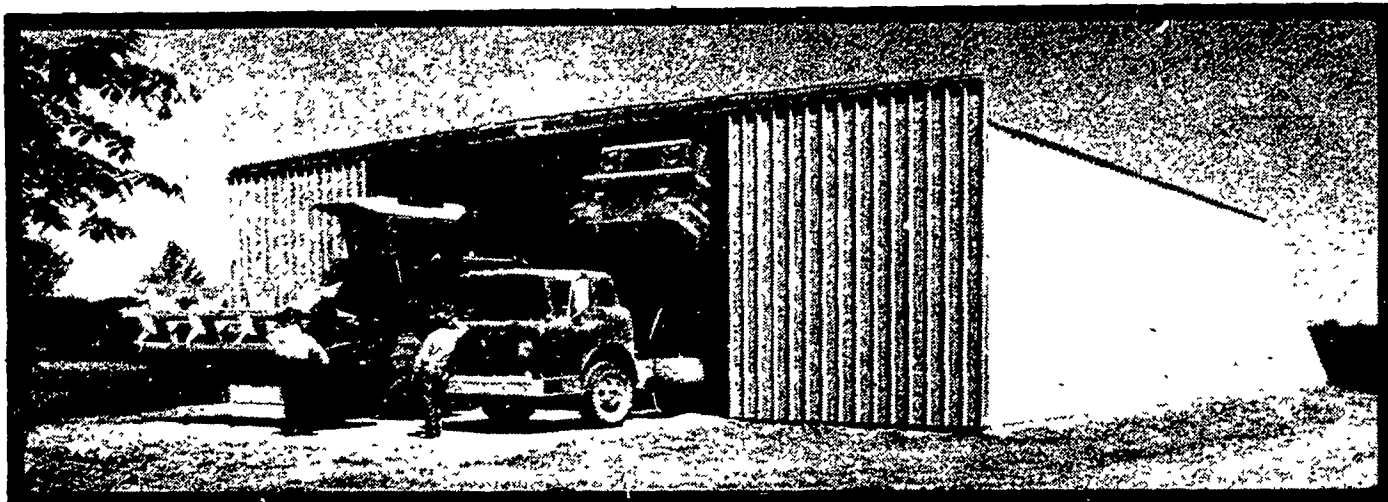
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