

# Adams County Ext. honors Murren family

BY SALLY BAIR  
Staff Correspondent

**BIGLERVILLE** — Three sons and three daughters of the late Edward and Rose Murren were recognized last Thursday for their combined total of 130 years of volunteer leadership in the 4-H program in Adams County. The six were presented with the Extension Association's Leadership Recognition Award for 1984 at the group's annual meeting held in Biglerville.

Those receiving awards included:

Francis, a 4-H leader for 25 years. He showed the first grand champion baby beef at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in 1926. He had six sons active in 4-H, and farmed near Brushtown.

Stella Murren Wildasin was a local leader for 11 years.

Grace Murren Dennis, a leader for 14 years in the Idaville Upper Adams Clubs, and now has a daughter Judy who is extension home economist in McKeen County.

Simon, serving with the religious order of brothers of Holy Cross at

Notre Dame, South Bend. He was a leader of dairy, corn and pig clubs for five years in the 1940's.

Tom was recognized last year for 35 years as a 4-H leader in the dairy club. A 4-H'er for 8 years, his nine children have a combined total of 89 years in 4-H activities. Tom operated the Murren homestead, and the farm is now being farmed by son, Terry.

Theresa has been a volunteer leader for 38 years, and has served as a member of the extension executive committee as well as on the board of 4-H clubs.

Rose Murren, their mother, was widowed after 15 years of marriage and eight children, and went on to become the only woman ever to be honored with the prestigious Master Farmer Award. When she was honored, an account wrote: "She was recognized for her interest in new technology, adopting improved methods and following recommendations of the county agent, and specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service."

A further quote from the story on her success, "Another reason for

her success has been the willingness of each child to pitch in and help. Cooperation has been the keynote. The girls as well as the boys have worked in the fields, and while they were doing this, all but one has been active in 4-H Club work."

One daughter, Bertha didn't like being teased about being left-handed, so did not continue in 4-H. She later had three active daughters in Adams County's 4-H program. Another daughter, Elizabeth, was a 4-H leader for 13 years before she died in 1969.

In memory of their mother, and because of her deep interest in youth, the family established the Rose Murren Memorial Fund which makes an award each year to a 4-H'er who has given devoted service but has not been fully recognized for their leadership abilities through other programs.

In making the award presentations, County Agent Tom Piper said, "We express appreciation for these years of loyal volunteer service. Let us, like them, draw inspiration from the lives of parents, teachers and volunteer leaders who have boosted us along the way." Twenty-five family members were present for the award.

In other business, six county residents were elected to serve as directors of the extension association. They are: Glenn F. Kime, R1, Gardners; Bonnie Kuntz, R1, Gardners; Russel C. Redding, Hilltown Road, Gettysburg; David A. Reinecker, York Springs; Cindy Smith, Barlow-Greenmount road, Gettysburg; and Mirian Zepp, Beaver Run Road, New Oxford.

Three retiring directors were given plaques. There were Freida Johnson, Barlow Road, Gettysburg; Atlee Keefer, R2, York Springs; and Daniel Winters, R5, Hanover.

The extension staff provided highlights of the 1983 year with a multi-media slide presentation.

Four former Adams County 4-H'ers were invited to speak on the evening's theme, "4-H - Building on Experience."

Jane Sowers Bodenburg, a fifth grade teacher near Chambersburg, spoke on her 4-H training relating to com-

munications skills and personal development, telling how they help her as she plans and carries out her duties as a teacher.

Mary Ann Klinger, extension home economist in Lehigh County, said 4-H helped her establish her career goal, and continues to help her in the extension work.

Donald Lott, entomologist and general manager of the northern division of B&W Quality Growers Association, the world's largest supplier of watercress, spoke about how his 4-H experiences influenced him and helped him gain skills useful in his present work in agriculture.

Sally Brown Bair, Lancaster,

staff correspondent for Lancaster Farming newspaper, discussed 4-H from the perspective of her experiences in the International Farm Youth Exchange program and the 4-H Teen Caravan program.

James McKeehen, assistant director for the southeast region, spoke briefly, and Mary Grim, president of the Pennsylvania Council of Cooperative Extension Associations gave a report.

Plaques of recognition were given to Kay King, Miriam Zepp and Cindy Reinecker for serving as hosts to IFYES and participating in the 4-H Ambassador program.



Retiring directors recognized by Adams County Extension Association are, from the left, Dan Winters, R5 Hanover; Freida Johnson, Gettysburg; and Atlee Keefer, R2 York Springs.

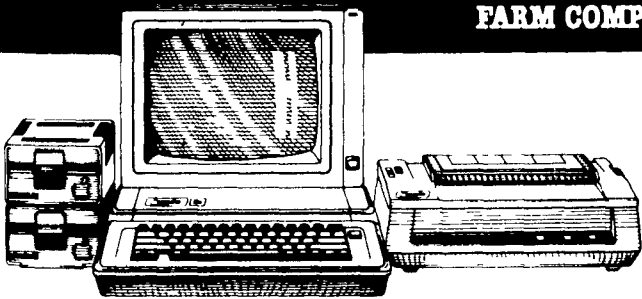


Newly-elected directors of Adams County Extension Association are, from the left, Bonnie Kuntz, Dave Reinecker, Miriam Zepp, Glenn Kime, Cindy Smith and Russell Redding.



Honored in Adams County for their more than 130 years of service to 4-H are sons and daughters of the late Edward and Rose Murren, seated from left, Stella Murren Wildasin, Grace Murren Dennis and Theresa Murren; standing from left, Francis, Tom and Simon.

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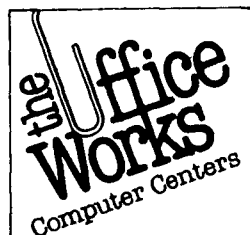
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