

Elizabethtown FFA honors outstanding members

BY LAURA ENGLAND
ELIZABETHTOWN — The Elizabethtown Future Farmers of America Chapter held its 25th Annual Awards Banquet April 26 at the Collins Haus Family Restaurant, Elizabethtown, to honor its outstanding members and recognize the chapter's 1983 achievements.

Topping the list of award winners were "Stars" Joe Keener and Ken Ruhl. Keener, a first year FFA member who serves as chapter freshman vice president, was awarded the Star Greenhand Award. Ruhl, the chapter's treasurer, was the recipient of the Star Chapter Farmer Award.

Ruhl also won the DeKalb Achievement Award for leadership, scholarship and supervised occupational experience (SOE) projects. High School principal Dr. Dustin Peters presented the award.

Recognized as the State Keystone Farmer Degree winners were John Dohner, Kevin Noll, Dave Kauffman and Tracey Stowe,

the first female chapter member to receive the honor awarded to only the top two percent of the state's FFA members. The degrees were awarded at the FFA Mid-Winter Convention held in Harrisburg during Farm Show Week in January.

The Chapter Greenhand Awards went to first year members Phil Fullerton, Mark Bradley, Ray Lookenbill, Gary Andrews, Stacey Witmer, Stacey Wittle, Scott Zimmerman, Todd Moore, Lisa Retherford, Andy Winters, Scott English, Joe Keener, Troy Martin, Robert Rodel and Bob Baynard.

Chapter Degrees were earned by Cassandra Stowe, Christopher Stroh, Dan Hartzler, Tim Albright, Steve Heisey, Greg Musser, Nevin Ruhl, Rich Hollinger and R. Christopher Horne.

Red Rose Degree winners were Greg Musser, Brian Putt, Dan Hartzler and Ken Ruhl.

In the Proficiency Awards category, the winners were: Bob Baynard, Farm Safety; Joe

Keener and Greg Musser, Public Speaking; Cameron Reigle and Chris Horne, Electricity; Steve Heisey, Swine; Brian Putt, Dairy Production; and Greg Musser, Beef.

Also Scott Koser and Tricia Musser, Sheep; Rich Hollinger, Crop Production; Kevin Baker, Agriculture Mechanics; Brian Putt, Home Improvement; Nevin Ruhl, Fish and Wildlife Management; Tim Albright, Soil and Water Management; and Tad Enck, Recreation.

Selected as the 1983 outstanding officers were Greg Musser, president; Dan Hartzler, vice president; Mark Bradley, reporter; and Brian Billman, junior vice president. These four received officer pins presented by principal Dr. Peters.

In other recognition, the Elizabethtown FFA Chapter shared with its guests a slide presentation of the National Eastern Regional BOAC award it received at the National Convention last fall.

BOAC, which stands for Building Our American Communities, is a chapter program designed to include community betterment projects. For the Elizabethtown FFA'ers, that project was the Elizabethtown Fair.

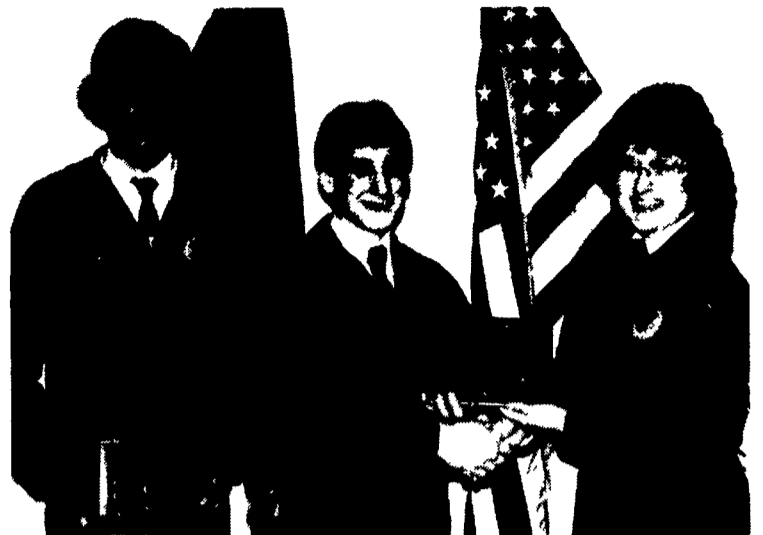
As a chapter, the FFA members raised over \$15,000 and provided 10,000 man-hours to improve the town's fairgrounds. The project over the years has included the help of approximately 400 community members.

Elizabethtown FFA was one of four chapters out of 1,000 entries to receive the award. Member Jay Garber was awarded the National BOAC Achievement in Volunteerism Award at the National Conference on Community Development held recently in Washington D.C.

Other chapter highlights were: Steve Kauffman was awarded the American Farmer Degree at the National Convention; the chapter won the Lancaster County Meat

Judging Contest and the State Wildlife Contest; and Greg Musser won both the Lancaster County

Land Preservation Public Speaking Contest and the State Creed Contest.



State FFA President Carolyn Witmer, right, presents the Elizabethtown FFA "Star" awards to Ken Ruhl, left, Star Chapter Farmer, and Joe Keener, Star Greenhand.



Elizabethtown High School principal Dr. Dustin Peters, left, congratulates FFA'er Ken Ruhl, winner of the DeKalb Achievement Award for scholarship and leadership.



Outstanding officers of the Elizabethtown FFA Chapter are, from left, Greg Musser, president; Dan Hartzler, vice president; Mark Bradley, reporter; and Brian Billman, junior vice president.

Ferrari tops Lancaster County land judging contest



Winners of the Lancaster County Agronomy contest are, from left, Tim Albright, Elizabethtown High School, first place; Mike Pfautz, Warwick High School, second; and Jeff Williams, Manheim Central High School, third.



Soil conservationist John Bert, left, of the Lancaster County Soil Conservation Service, presents the first place team trophy to the Eastern Lancaster County FFA land judging participants, from left, Kent Halsey, Kevin Redcay, Mark Zimmerman and Kerry Good.

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QUARRYVILLE — Chris Ferrari, a junior at Ephrata High School, was named first place individual winner in the Lancaster County FFA Land Judging Contest held at the Robert Holzhauer farm, Quarryville, Tuesday afternoon.

Using the skills she acquired through land judging practices, Miss Ferrari scored 334 of a possible 400 points total. To earn the honor, she and the other county FFA'ers were required to judge soil profiles prepared by Ed Merkel, a soil scientist with the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Lebanon.

By examining the top 40 inches of the profiles, the students were to identify the soil texture, determine the total depth and slope of the landscape and decide if any drainage problem existed. John Bert, a soil conservationist with the Lancaster County SCS, went over Merkel's score card and answered the student's questions.

The second place individual was Kerry Good, of the Eastern Lancaster County FFA Chapter, with a score of 318 points. Fellow chapter member Mark Zimmerman was third individual with 309 points.

In team competition, Eastern Lancaster County came out on top. Team members Kerry Good, Kent Halsey, Kevin Redcay and Mark Zimmerman scored a combined 1,190 points. They received a rotating team trophy.



Tim Breneisen, left, a resource conservationist for the Lancaster County Conservation District, discusses soil texture with Chris Ferrari, Ephrata High School, first place winner in the Lancaster County FFA Land Judging Contest.

Second place team was Ephrata High School with 1,074 points, followed by Solanco High School with 1,017. Manheim Central High School finished fourth with 973 points.

In addition to the land judging contest, county FFA'ers also competed in the agronomy contest. Tim Albright, a senior at

Elizabethtown High School, was the overall winner. Second place went to junior Mike Pfautz, Warwick, and third to senior Jeff Williams Elizabethtown.

Lancaster County High Schools competing in the two contests were Solanco, Manheim Central, Warwick, Elizabethtown and New Holland.