

# Top couples and counties cited by PFA

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Armstrong, Columbia, Greene, Juniata, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mercer, Northampton-Monroe, Somerset, Tioga-Potter, Wayne and Westmoreland.

One Star: Bedford, Bradford-Sullivan, Cambria, Elk, Fayette, Fulton, Indiana, Jefferson, Montour, Perry, Snyder, Washington and Wyoming-Lackawanna.

The six young couples who were honored for displaying noteworthy farm business skills and leadership - prior to the age of 30 - included Ron and Cynthia Kopp, Middletown, Dauphin County; Glenn and Evelyn Moyer, R1 Friedens, Somerset County; Levon and Beth Hoover, R3 Selinsgrove, Snyder County; John and Cynthia Kunz, R1 Centerville, Crawford County; David and Terry Kromer, R1 Easton, Northampton County; George and Christine Richard, R1 Elysburg, Northumberland County.

Reelected president of the 22,800-farm family organization was

Keith Eckel, a Lackawanna County vegetable grower and dairyman. In his annual address at a Tuesday luncheon, Eckel cited some of the PFA-backed ag legislation which has recently become law in Pennsylvania.

These included Milk Security Fund improvement, Avia influenza aid, ag development fund and state dairy promotion.

PFA has also continued a statewide campaign against roadside litter in support of mandatory container deposit legislation, Eckel explained.

Concerning the upcoming 1985 Farm Bill, Eckel said the PFA "supports a market-oriented bill."

Citing dairy legislation of special concern, Eckel said PFA favors an automatic adjustment of dairy price supports according to the level of net dairy products purchased by the CCC.

The annual meeting also included PACMA sessions. Manager Marlin Miller reported that the cooperative marketed more than

\$23 million worth of commodities for members during the 1983-84 year and finished with a profit for the second consecutive year. PACMA had an eight percent membership growth and paid a 10.5 percent dividend to preferred stockholders.

NBC Correspondent Hackes spoke at the Tuesday evening banquet session and outlined his

impressions of the recent election and what is coming on the national scene.

"For the nation to survive," he said, "the administration must deal with price supports and crop target figures."

He said that one dairy option being kicked about is giving the Secretary of Agriculture more discretion in moving supports up

or down. Also, programs may be tied to soil conservation, he said.

"But farm commodity costs of \$12 billion will need to be cut in half," Hackes said.

He cited the federal deficits as the Number One concern in Washington.

He urged the farmer audience to get vocal and start writing to their Congressmen.



Keith Eckel, left, who has reelected PFA president, with Peter Hackes, NBC News Correspondent who spoke at Tuesday banquet.



Presidents from Seven-Star counties include Clifford Hawbaker, left, Franklin County; and Russel Orner, Clearfield County.



Participating in Women's Program at PFA Convention are, from the left, Murray Miles, Tennessee Farm Bureau; Joyce Sankey, State Women's Chairperson; and Dorothy Repogle, Vice Chairperson, State Women's Committee, District 11.

## Let's get more involved, PFA women are urged

HERSHEY — Joyce Sankey, PFA Women's Chairperson, called on her fellow female farming representatives this week to get involved in the causes of agriculture.

"Why are you here?" she asked at a Women's Conference session.

"Did you want to get away for a few days?"

"Are you curious about our organization?"

Or is it because you really wanted to come?"

But remember, she stressed. "if your name is on the deed, you should be here."

In no uncertain terms she told her all-female audience that the PFA Womens Committee doesn't just bake the cookies and provide the food for county meetings.

"We help produce the ingredients for those cookies," she said.

"If we are to be true partners, we must become knowledgeable in

all of the issues affecting agriculture in our communities, state and nation."

She stressed that problems are just not problems of the dairy farmer or the grain farmer or whatever is produced, but they are issues affecting all of agriculture.

She told her female audience that PFA womens' programs during the coming year will stress things like marketing and promotion of products and greater emphasis will be placed on understanding the legislative process and the development of skills on how to communicate with legislators.

And, the PFA Womens' Committee will continue to work in the important areas of farm safety and youth, particularly the Ag in the Classroom program.

Sankey spoke also to county PFA presidents urging them to utilize the skills and talents of farm

women in their areas and not to overlook the potential they have.

"Women have a lot invested in the farm and are partners that work by your side," she told the male county presidents, "so let us work by your side in PFA and work for a better life for our farm families."

Sankey cited several female PFA'ers who have made significant contributions to the cause of agriculture and to their home communities.

She pointed to Dottie Bartels, Helen Jackson, Jean Tiffany and Dottie Repogle.

Sankey explained that one of the keys to belonging to PFA is the Family Membership.

"That means you," she told the womens' program audience.

"You are an active and vital part of the PFA program and don't you ever forget it."



Annual President's Address is given by Keith Eckel to PFA luncheon audience.

