

# Pa. Holstein breeders convene in Pittsburgh

**BY MARTHA J. GEHRINGER**  
**PITTSBURGH** — The "city with a smile," Pittsburgh, welcomed Holstein enthusiasts from around the state to the 74th annual meeting, last weekend, at the Sheraton Hotel on Station Square.

Highlights of the business session included an address by outgoing president, Sam Minor, in which he listed the accomplishments of the Holstein Association during his term.

He cited as the most important of these "The emergence of a local initiative. That is the members, the breeders of the local clubs, at committee level, having a greater influence in the programs and direction of the Association."

Minor further explained that "I feel this is a direction in more organizations throughout the country. A planning from the bottom up, not the top down."

Recommending that the National and State Holstein Associations work together towards common goals, Minor explained this will strengthen both

organizations, effectively utilizing the assets of both.

Concluding his comments, Minor told the audience he hoped they would interpret his questions and remarks as attempts at achieving the highest possible goals for the Registered Holstein.

It was announced that Thomas Kelly, Blair County had received unanimous nomination by Pennsylvania Holstein delegates to the candidacy for June election to a director seat on the National Holstein Board. This will give Pennsylvania a larger representation nationally.

The business meeting was concluded with the induction of the new state officers for the 1986 to 1988 term. Arthur Baxter from Stoneboro is the new president. Tim Merwarth, Easton, became the new vice president and Walter Wurster, Ottsville, was installed as the new treasurer.

At the awards luncheon, the Progressive Breeder Registry Award was given to: Jay and Mary

Houser, 14 years; J. Harold Bare, two years; Kenneth and Jane Benner, two years; Lewis and Barb Berkley, two years; Thomas Boyer, two years; E.W. and J.C. Brake, two years; Delaware Valley College, 13 years; Joe Hartle, Jr., three years; Dale Hostetter and Sons, two years; Stephen Janos, two years; and Junge Farms, seven years.

Additional Progressive Breeder recipients were: Keystone Farms, 28 years; Nevin Mast, two years; Wayne Myers, two years; Richard Packard, 19 years; David Roth, two years; J. Ivan Smoker and Son, seven years; Willowland Farm, three years; Jefferson Yoder, 18 years; Clarence Beiler, 18 years; Raymond and Richard Cousen, one year; Harold Fabian, one year; Sinking Springs Farm, one year; Smyser Richlawn Farm, one year; Paul and Kathy King, eight years; Singing Brook Farm, eight years; J. William and Vera Schultz, six years; Marcove Farm, 16 years; Keuhn Brothers, two years; Richard and Charlotte Place, one year; Glenn Moyer, one year; Ralph and Thomas Thrower, one year; Keith Decker, three years; and North View Farms, four years.

The juniors also elected new officers for the coming year. They are: president, Walter Russell, Huntingdon County; vice president, Charles Seidel, Berks County; secretary, Irene Benner, Perry County; treasurer, Christy Harpster, Huntingdon County; and news reporter, Jenny Weimer, Adams County.



Sam Minor, retiring PHA president, turns the gavel over to the new president, Art Baxter.



Holstein breeder Tom Kelly of Blair County, received congratulations following his unanimous nomination by Pennsylvania Holstein delegates to the candidacy for June election to a director seat on the National Holstein board.

## Rynd, Alsdorf join Hall of Fame

**BY MARTHA J. GEHRINGER**  
**PITTSBURGH** — The distinguished Hall of Fame award this year went to two Crawford County breeders, Marion Alsdorf and Jack Rynd.

This award, the highlight of the banquet, was presented by Fred Strouse who described both as being "excellent across the board in character, personality, and intelligence."

Alsdorf, who recently served as the president of the Pennsylvania Holstein Assoc., operates a 120 registered Holstein milking herd with his two sons and son-in-law near Spartansburg.

He took over the family farm about 50 years ago. At that time he had a choice of either attending college or remaining on the home farm. If he had gone onto college the family farm probably would have been sold due to his father's failing health. Alsdorf chose the latter.

Over 30 Excellent cows and two Gold Medal Dams have been bred during the past 50 years by Alsdorf. In this time he has also had ten bulls go into A.I. service with his A-Jay prefix.

He bred and showed the grand champion at the state show in 1974 as well as the All Pennsylvania Cow and Produce in the same year.

Alsdorf describe receiving the award as an honor "and a humbling experience." He went on to say "I've had many priceless years with the Holstein Association... and feel that I've learned more than I've contributed."

Jack Rynd also described receiving the award as a humbling experience. He commented that "I've really got two families. The Holstein people are a wonderful group where I have a mass of friends."

Rynd beginnings in full time farming date back to 1950 when he bought the family farm. At that time the farm consisted of eight cows and 50 acres.

It has since grown to 550 acres

and 130 cows. Rynd has also formed a partnership with three of his sons on their farm near Cochranon.

They have developed over 62 Very Good and 30 plus Excellent cows. Currently their rolling herd average is at 16,000 pounds of milk and 600 pounds of fat.

Last year Rynd was one of eight people from across the country chosen to be on the Dairy Task Force. This was a national board which attempted to develop an answer to the milk surplus. He has also served as president of the Farmers Union Milk Producers

Cooperative for the past five years.

Rynd was instrumental in the planning and building of the Penn-State Ag Arena and has served on county and regional dairy promotion committees.

Always a supporter of 4-H and FFA, providing leadership, encouragement, and advice, he recently received a honorary Keystone Farmer degree from the local FFA chapter.

Portraits of Alsdorf and Rynd will join those of other state Holstein pioneers and leaders in the Hall of Fame gallery, located in the state Holstein Association at State College.



Bill Nichol, executive secretary, left congratulates Marion Alsdorf on being named to the Pa. Holstein Hall of Fame. With Alsdorf are his wife Maude and Art Baxter, president.



Bill Nichol, executive secretary, left, congratulates Jack Rynd on being named to the Pa. Holstein Hall of Fame. With Rynd is his wife Jean and Art Baxter, president.



Sam Minor, right, accepts a special award on behalf of the Pa. Holstein Association from Robert Rugaber, Butler County Extension Agent, in appreciation for the Holstein Association's support of the national NACAA banquet held in Pennsylvania in 1985.



Left, Paul Corbin, Jefferson County; Jenny Weimer, Adams County; and Evelyn Moyer, Somerset County received, for their counties' Holstein clubs, the milk promotion award from James Harteis, committee chairman.



John and Judy Grice, Washington, co-chairman of the 1986 Convention, smile proudly at a job well done.