

Two receive honorary degrees from Owen J. Roberts FFA

POTTSTOWN — Two hundred FFA members, parents, faculty members, district administrators and guests recently celebrated the 49th annual Owen J. Roberts FFA banquet.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the Honorary Chapter degree given each year to an outstanding person or persons in our community. This year the Honorary Chapter degree was given to Mr. Kenneth Brown, farm manager for the Sam Morris farm at Pughtown, honored for his role in the agricultural placement of students and graduates of the Vo-Ag department at Owen J. Roberts.

Mrs. Virginia Umstead, O.J.R. switchboard operator and receptionist for the last 24 years, was also awarded the Honorary degree. Her involvement with the high school students, particularly with the FFA students, was pointed out in the ceremony conducted by the chapter officers.

After opening remarks by Mr. Joseph Jackson, assistant high school principal, the FFA students presented their own slide show entitled "FFA In Action." The slides depicted each student's out-of-school project as well as a view of their in school activities.

Chester W. Raught, vo-ag teacher and FFA advisor, presented the student's awards. Among those students receiving awards were Nathan Bixler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Bixler, RD2, Phoenixville; and Steven Cook, son of Dr. and Mrs. Donald Cook, Birchrunville. Both won trophies for their dairy goat projects. Steven also was named Star Greenhand which is given to "the outstanding first year Vo-Ag student" and he received a bronze medal for his project book at the state project book contest.

James Gebhard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gebhard, 513 Kline Ave., Pottstown, won the high citrus salesperson award.

Michael Hall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hall, Star Route, St. Peters, and Samuel Hultz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hultz, RD1, Spring City, both won cash prizes by finishing first and second in the chapter Creed Speaking Contest.

In the working for experience off-farm category, Kenneth

Shellenberger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Shellenberger, 1053 School House Road, Pottstown, was awarded the trophy.

The on-farming for experience trophy was awarded to Douglass March, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank March, Jr., RD1 Glenmoore. Douglass also won a gold medal at the state level. Second in the same category with a silver medal was Samuel Tkaczuk, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Tkaczuk, RD2 Elverson, and winning third place and a bronze medal was Kenneth Soltys, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester H. Soltys, Jr., 876 New Schuylkill Road, Spring City.

Kenneth Soltys, chapter president, also received first place in the field corn contest with 191.3 bushels per acre. Harry Lilley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lilley, RD Glenmoore, was second with a yield of 190.1 bushels per acre.

Soltys was awarded a trophy for his projects on diversified farming. He also won a gold medal at the state contest for this book. In addition, Ken and Sam Tkaczuk were given plaques for being named winners of the Keystone Farmer Degree.

Among Soltys' other honors was being awarded the Farm Credit Award for having the best FFA record book in Chester County. He also won the Neal R. Burtner Award, which is presented to the senior who exhibits leadership in the chapter and agricultural community. Ken Soltys will be attending Penn State next fall and plans to major in agricultural business.

Robert Bergen, chapter secretary, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald A. Styer, RD2, Elverson, won the pleasure horse trophy and Samuel Tkaczuk, chapter vice-

president, won the Star Chapter Farmer Award.

Donna Senn was presented with a special FFA service award for her outstanding work with computers in the FFA.

In addition Beth Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Evans, 1354 Temple Road, Pottstown, won a FFA Foundation medal for her poultry project.

Also receiving foundation awards were: Erik Kronmuller, son of Mr. William Kronmuller, RD Elverson, ag mechanics; Kenneth Soltys, public speaking; Robert Bergen, horse proficiency; and Scott Wenger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Holeka, RD2 Hoffer Road, Phoenixville, swine production.

Citation awards were presented to Peg Young, Scott Haga and William Lynn Smith for their

cooperation and interest in the FFA program as well as their involvement with high school students, faculty and staff.

Three area families were also recognized for the distinction of having three sons or daughters obtain the Keystone Farmer Degree over the past several years. These families are Mr. and Mrs. Harold R. Kulp, 1096 Spiece Road, Pottstown; Mr. and Mrs. Chester H. Soltys, Jr.; and Mr. and Mrs. George Tkaczuk.

Mrs. Eleanor Morris, RD2 Pottstown, president of the French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust, was also honored for receiving the Honorary Pennsylvania FFA Keystone Degree.

This degree was conferred on Mrs. Morris at the winter convention of the Pennsylvania State Future Farmers of America Association.

York County team tops Penn State Livestock Judging Contest

YORK — Six York County 4-H'ers recently repeated their performance of a year ago to be named high team at the Penn State University Block and Bridle Livestock Judging Contest.

The team consisting of John Eaton, Windsor; Tim Ferrence, Spring Grove; Krista Rankin, Abbottstown; and Joann Rishel, Seven Valleys, combined their scores for a total score of 1782. Second place went to Lancaster County 4-H with a score of 1745.

Listed below are the top three placings in each part of the April 5 contest.

- PENN STATE UNIVERSITY
BLOCK and BRIDLE
LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST**
- Jr. Advanced**
- High teams overall**
1 York County 4 H 2 Lancaster 4 H 3 Apollo Ridge FFA
- High individual overall**
1 Robbie Rohrer, Chester County 4 H 2 Debra Krause, Lehigh 4 H senior team 3 Mike Rohaley, Washington County 4 H
- High teams oral reasons**
1 York County 4 H 2 Lancaster County 4 H 3 Chester County 4 H
- High individuals, oral reasons**
1 John Eaton Jr, York 4 H 2 Tim Ferrence York 4 H 3 Chris Kristarankin York 4 H
- High teams, beef**
1 Chester County 4 H 2 Lancaster County 4 H 3 Washington County 4 H
- High individuals, beef**
1 Robbie Rohrer, Chester 4 H 2 Fred Weaver Lancaster 4 H 3 John Crossan, Chester 4 H

- High team, beef**
1 Chester County 4 H 2 Lancaster County 4 H 3 Washington County 4 H
- High individuals, sheep**
1 John Eaton Jr, York 4 H 2 Fred Weaver Lancaster 4 H 3 Howard Cattau, Apollo-Ridge FFA
- High teams, sheep**
1 York County 4 H 2 Washington County 4 H 3 Apollo Ridge FFA
- High individuals, swine**
1 Rick Dunn, Butler County Livestock 2

- Howard Cattau, Apollo-Ridge FFA 3 Mike Mc Cahren, Juniata High School
- High teams swine**
1 Apollo Ridge FFA 2 York County 4 H 3 Lancaster County 4 H
- Jr. Beginners**
- High teams overall**
1 East Lancaster FFA 2 Erie County 3 Greenwood FFA
- High individuals overall**
1 Paul Quanbeck, East Lancaster FFA 2 Dale

- Miller, Adams County 3 Delvin Huber, East Lancaster FFA
- Collegiate Amateur**
1 Scott Templeton 2 Dorothy Meyer 3 Jamie Cohr
- Professional, overall**
1 Guy McKean 2 Bill MacCauley 3 Missy McIlwain
- Professional, oral reasons**
1 Bill MacCauley 2 Guy McKean 3 Brian Barclay

Families invited to host exchange students

Qualified host families are now being sought for World Exchange international exchange students. These students will spend four weeks this summer experiencing the United States with an American family while participating in their daily life.

World Exchange, a non-profit organization, is searching for American families excited by the prospect of sharing their homes with a European exchange student.

Host families provide room and board for the student and offer him or her the same guidance and love they give to their own children.

By sharing their daily life with a student from another country, the

family members will have a unique opportunity to learn about another culture through another person's eyes, while deepening their appreciation of their own country by introducing America to someone new.

Families interested in participating in this program can receive more information by contacting their local program director; Loreley N. Bitner, 1935 Split Rock Rd., Lancaster, Pa. 17601, Tel. 717/569-4664.

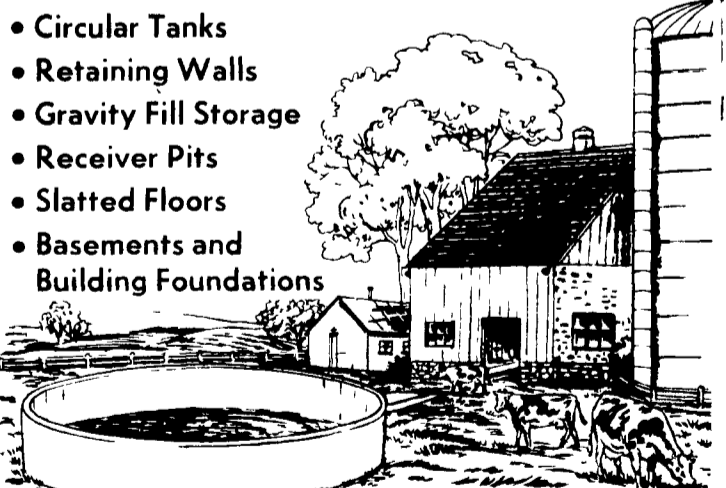
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