

Two Pa. Agents Receive Distinguished Service Awards

BY SALLY BAIR

Lancaster Co. Correspondent
HERSHEY — Two Pennsylvania 4-H Agents received the prestigious Distinguished Service Award at the 40th annual convention of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents here this week.

Roxanne F. Price, York County, and Carol J. Schurman, Indiana County, were recognized for their outstanding work in 4-H by their peers at a banquet held Friday night. It was especially fitting that they should be honored this year when the conference was held in Pennsylvania and they served as co-host coordinators.

Schurman said the award was especially meaningful because it was bestowed by her peers, adding, "That is the hardest award to get, but it is nice to get it."

Both women grew up in the 4-H program in the state — Price in York County and Schurman in Cumberland County.

Price manages a 4-H program that has 2,700 traditional and school enrichment members and 300 volunteer leaders. She has

helped implement a Middle Management committee system and has project Key Leaders who are a vital part of her program.

She says, "The Key Leaders are people who have a special interest and knowledge of a specific area. They help new leaders and determine program training needs. I also refer phone calls to them."

Enrollment in the 4-H program in York is about evenly divided between traditional 4-H and the school programs. Last year they began embryology projects in the schools and they also have a black locust project in which students raise a seedling. Price said this lends itself to experiments in science class and has been well accepted.

She said, "We still stress the traditional 4-H program in community club settings because there are more advantages there."

As a 4-H'er, Price had home economics related projects.

Schurman was recognized for developing a "quality program with emphasis in communication arts, teen development and leader

development." Her demonstration workshop has been presented to nearly 1,000 people at the county, regional and state levels. Schurman says, "We have a lot of communications workshops because I think it is important that we help 4-H'ers as a group become part of the real world. She said she presents the program to all levels, and has had school teachers tell her they can always spot 4-H'ers because of their ability to speak in class.

As evidence of the program's importance and success, she said they have nearly 40 4-H'ers at their county demonstration night.

She said she also works in leader development, stressing state, regional and national forums, and works with teen leadership, including career guidance. She puts leaders to work in planning programs, saying she has "lots of committees."

Schurman had dairy related projects as a 4-H member in Cumberland County, and has been an agent for nine years. There are 750 4-H'ers in Indiana County.



Carol Schurman, Indiana County, at right, and Roxanne Price, York County, left, received Distinguished Service Awards at the 4-H agents annual convention this week.



Miriam Lowrie, a 4-H agent from Oregon, is interviewing numerous 4-H leaders in an attempt to discover why some remain active even after their own kids are out of the 4-H program.

Oregon Agent Seeks Clues To Keeping Leaders Active

BY SALLY BAIR

Lancaster Co. Correspondent

HERSHEY — Why does a 4-H leader remain a leader long after his own children are finished with 4-H? Miriam Lowrie, a 4-H agent from Pok County, Oregon, is spending about seven weeks of a four-month sabbatical to find the answer.

She is traveling to five states and interviewing dozens of veteran 4-H leaders to gain clues to what keeps 4-H leaders active.

So far, Lowrie has interviewed 10 Pennsylvania leaders and says, "You have a real caring group of people. They care about kids and enjoy seeing them mature and develop into resourceful people."

Of those interviewed, Lowrie says, about half have been 4-H'ers themselves, and most started as leaders when their own children were in 4-H. She says they stayed on because they saw what the

program did for their own children. She said, "They really want to contribute and share skills."

Lowrie says she hopes to see if there are trends which can help 4-H agents learn about leaders and perhaps encourage new leaders to remain in the program. She said in the 4-H volunteer leader program there are leaders who serve just one or two years, those who serve while their own children are part of the program, and those who stay on for longer periods. "These are the ones who have strongly made a commitment."

What Lowrie is searching for are "commonalities." She said, "I want to see what appealed to those leaders and perhaps it will help us in keeping people involved. Perhaps there is some feedback and recognition that we should be giving beginning leaders."

She is taking pictures of all the

leaders interviewed and hopes to be able to present a program on her work at future conferences.

One thing she has already learned is that "there are wonderful, caring people no matter where you go. 4-H is what brings us together. You could come to us in Oregon and find the same caring people. 4-H is a real positive thing."

Lowrie praises conferences such as the one at Hershey, saying, "I have learned so much. You see different ways of doing things. The professional development opportunities are wonderful. I have a hard time picking among the many good seminars being offered."

Lowrie herself was never a 4-H'er and had not heard of the Cooperative Extension Service until she began applying for jobs. She has worked as a 4-H agent in Oregon for 15 years.

Quilt Emphasizes Pennsylvania's Friendliness

BY SALLY BAIR

Lancaster Co. Correspondent
HERSHEY — A "Friendship Quilt" was one of nine treasures won by visiting 4-H agents attending the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents annual conference in Hershey this week.

The brainchild of Pennsylvania 4-H agent Sandy Rose, Tioga County, the quilt has 44 squares created by 4-H members, leaders and friends throughout the state.

Rose said, "We are emphasizing the friendliness of Pennsylvania following the theme 'You've got a

friend in Pennsylvania.'" The project began three years ago and the contributors were told what kind of fabric to use, the size of their square and that the patch should represent something from their county. Adams County's square, for instance, featured an apple, while Allegheny's county featured the three rivers.

The center of the quilt, which is king sized, has the logo for the 40th anniversary convention. The actual assembly and quilting were done by Karen Phillips, a quilting instructor from Fayette County.

The quilt has attracted much attention, but is one of nine prizes awarded to winners of the treasure chest. Keys to the chest were distributed to those who attended last year's annual conference. Others could purchase a key for \$1.

If the key fit, the winner selected one of the envelopes in the chest which revealed which prize was theirs.

Another quilt is being offered, this one quilted by 4-H leaders and members from Adams County. The quilt from Adams County is single bed size, and has the names of the patch-makers attached to the back.

Other prizes include a one week's stay at Hershey Lodge, a Tandy 1000 Computer and monitor, a ruby ring with diamond center, a VCR, a \$100 bill, visionware cookware from Corning and a 35 mm camera.

Dietrichs Announces Bonus

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Progressive Dairyman's Cooperative, Inc. has inaugurated a new seasonal bonus incentive plan developed by United Dairy Cooperative Services, a division of NEDCO, and Dietrich's Milk Products, Inc. Dietrich's owner/operator of the Middlebury Center, Pa. Milk Manufacturing Plant, has offered this opportunity to Progressive producers to encourage more production in the fall months when milk is needed most.

Progressive's Program is a two-fold plan to reward producers for increasing milk during the fall or short supply season and also for improving total production by increasing their production base. This program is available to all United member cooperatives shipping to Dietrich's.

Each member's base is calculated as the daily average per farm for milk produced in the base-forming months of August, September, October and

November. Under the seasonal premium plan, a premium of 10 cents per hundredweight will be paid on all base pounds for the base-forming period and two cents a hundredweight paid on all base pounds during December, January, February and July. No premium payments are made during the flush season of March, April, May and June. In addition, an extra premium of 50 cents per hundredweight will be paid during the months of August through November on all milk produced over and above the farmer's base established the preceding year.

"Other cooperatives have adopted seasonal incentive programs," stated United President James Patsos, "but we feel ours is more advantageous to the dairy farmer. This is an additional bonus to the farmers that Dietrich's and United is able to provide to their producers along with the solids-not-fat premium."



4-H agents Sandy Rose, right, of Tioga County, and Darlene Resh, Adams County, display the Friendship Quilt that was one of nine treasures given to visiting agents.