Pa. Grange Works To Help The Deaf

HARRISBURG - The American Christian Academy along with help from the Pennsylvania State Grange, and the Juniata, Mifflin and Franklin Pomona are working to break the barrier of silence for deaf students who attend ACAD.

On Saturday, Oct. 18, Wanda Gallimore, the Pennsylvania State Grange deaf chairman, presented the academy with a \$2,000 check to be used toward improvements in the school.

In addition to the monetary donation, the pomona presented a school representative with several small appliances. Money, however

was not the only contribution. The opened on that first day. pomona donated time and manpower. Grangers spent their Saturday doing "muscle-work" as they stripped the paint off the walls in preparation to brighten them with a new coat.

The Grangers found it appropriate to concentrate their improvement efforts on the home economics department of the school. The school, which opened its doors on Sept. 4, 1984, was an abandoned elementary school building. The founder of ACAD, Rev. C. Ray Roush, watched his dream come true as the doors

Students at the academy are encouraged to develop their abilities in communications. This includes: speech, speech reading, the use of residual hearing, sign language, finger-spelling and writing.

The school offers the latest innovative and resourceful methods in the education of the hearingimpaired, including computer technology in the classroom. Classes from kindergarten through high school are offered.

When speaking of the old elementary building, Gallimore

said, "The work here looks overwhelming, but they are moving right along." She added, "The Pennsylvania State Grange will continue to work with the pomona to make dreams come true for the school."

The State Grange Youth Director, Dina Zug, who is also the deaf chairman for the Juniata, Mifflin and Franklin Pomona, said, "Next year, I hope we will be able to contribute more money toward this, and I am trying to encourage subordinate granges to donate small appliances to the school.'

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Handling Round Bales

The advantages of handling hay in large bales are usually more evident in the field than during storage or feeding. To maintain quality and reduce feeding losses, a few simple steps can be followed.

High losses can result from storing bales directly on the ground with no cover. Some farmers report success using tires to elevate bales off the ground and promote drainage. The savings in quality and quantity may justify the cost of a shed, or at least a plastic cover stretched over bales stored on a well-drained site.

Barns must have adequate headroom for tractor stacking and strong enough sidewalls to support large bales resting against them. A heavy bale on the end of a tractor loader can easily tip the tractor be careful and use common sense. Hay mows of old bank barns often do not have adequate flooring to support the concentrated load of a large tractor carrying a large bale. Post locations and inadequate walls further complicate use of such barns.

Since large bales don't fit into most traditional feeding systems, ring feeders are often used in lots or pastures. Feed wastage can be high, especially when animals pull quantities of hay off a new bale and out of the feeder. It is necessary to work among the cattle to check feeder contents and add a new bale.

State Penn agricultural engineers and animal scientists have developed a portable feeder that can be placed along a fence line to allow bales to be added from outside the yard. The feeder is built from welded pipe and angle iron. A sloped bottom and bale stop keep the bale off the ground and allows "self feeding" while forcing animals to reach through bars for the hay. This reduces the tendency to pull large wads of hay out of the feeder onto the ground.

Plan 770-521, Two-Stage Round Bale Feeder, is available from county extension ottices.



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