



Farm Women Societies

Lancaster Society 14

Members of Lancaster Society 14 held their first meeting of 1987 at the home of Arlene Eshbenshade Wednesday, Jan. 21. During the meeting, members sewed 36 small pads and 36 large pads for the Cancer Society.

Lunch was prepared by committee members Elma Barge, Hannah Brackbill, Edna Groff and Mildred Horn. Following lunch new president Esther Landis conducted a business meeting.

The devotional meditation was a challenge for the new year led by Elma Barge. For roll call, members gave their maiden name and their mother's maiden name.

The treasurer reported that the society sent \$210 collected at the Christmas banquet to World Vision.

Caroline Stoltzfus reported on calcium intake, discussing its importance and offering tips on when to take it.

Members voted to submit the Cancer Society as an idea to be considered for the county project.

Members who represented Society 14 at the state convention during Farm Show shared highlights of the meetings for those members who did not attend. Reporting were Viola Hostetter, Hannah Brackbill and Gladys Eshbenshade.

Miriam Leaman gave a book report on "The Quilters." Members were pleased with the choice since interest in quilting runs high in the group.

The dairy princess and the poultry queen will give presentations at the next meeting.

Berks Society 6

Members of Berks Society 6 met recently in the home of Mrs. Earl Hoffman, R1 Oley, with 14 members present.

Members have given their support and donations to a member whose husband passed away suddenly.

Mrs. William Hartman and Mrs. Richard Schlegel attended the

state convention held during Farm Show in Harrisburg. Mrs. Hartman entered a wool sweater she made for the craft contest and received the Best of Show Award at the banquet.

The society made a donation to the Cancer Society for 1987.

The next meeting will be held Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. in the home of

Cornell Extension Associate Addresses NY Cattlewomen

ITHACA - The New York Agriculture in the Classroom project would do much to inform "an agriculturally illiterate society," Betty Walanyk, extension associate at Cornell University, told the New York Cattlewomen at their annual convention Jan. 10 at the Sheraton Inn here.

She said the program is designed to develop an awareness of the state's agriculture and an appreciation of how it affects all aspects of the economy.

"Our society has changed drastically since the World War II period when 35 per cent of the population was involved in food production and many more had vegetable gardens and one or two farm animals," Ms. Walanyk explained. "Today's textbook writers have no agricultural background and our students are not learning about agriculture the way we did."

She also noted the farm image "portrayed day after day on television commercials is not an accurate picture and does not reflect today's highly technological, capital-intensive agriculture - a concept that the American public is not very comfortable with."

She explained the need for consumers who are better educated about agriculture, who would have a greater understanding of political issues "when they make voting booth decisions." She also emphasized a second need for better information about agriculture, saying young people are not given intelligent career choices.

Mrs. Harold Snyder, R1 Oley.

Before the meeting closed, the president read the bylaws.

She noted, "There are 60,000 positions in agriculture to be filled in the state each year with at least 12,000 of these positions unfilled or filled by unqualified persons."

Despite these existing career opportunities, two year agricultural, and many four-year agricultural, colleges are experiencing marked loss in ag student enrollment, she continued, calling for high school guidance counselors who are better informed.

She then outlined the "Ag in the Classroom Program" which was initiated in 1981 by the United States Department of Agriculture to develop a resource guide and make materials available to teachers. The New York State Department of Education adopted its "New York Agriculture in the Classroom" program for the

elementary school level, beginning the project in 1983 with the goal of providing materials for grades four through six.

Ms. Walanyk demonstrated the curriculum materials developed in each of the three "mini-textbooks" which combine materials for social studies, language arts, math, and science. Three counties, Yates, Broome and Onondaga, have been selected as pilot areas for the program with materials to be available next fall.

Ms. Walanyk called on the New York Cattlewomen to help provide a support network for the teachers and urged them to keep informed about the program and to tell others of the need for a better informed public to counteract the "agricultural illiteracy of the current generation of school children."

Prevent Plant Damage

Caused By Careless Snow Removal

FLEMINGTON, N.J. - Snow and ice and some ways of dealing with them can be hazardous to the health of outdoor plants.

The detrimental effects of deicing salt can be seen most dramatically in spring along roadways lined with evergreens. A whole row of trees with the bottom portion browned out is clear evidence of salt's damaging effects.

At home, grass, ground covers, shrubs and trees along sidewalks and driveways can suffer similar damage if too much sodium or calcium chloride is used to remove ice. A safer alternative material for melting ice is a garden fertilizer like 5-10-10. The nitrogen fertilizer urea is also effective.

Fertilizer can be used at a rate of

10 pounds per 100 square feet; mixing the fertilizer with sand will provide traction. Keep in mind however, that excessive fertilizer can also damage plants.

A thick natural blanket of snow is not usually a problem for low growing plants, but an extra load added by the snow blower or shovel can physically injure them. Be aware of where you pile all that snow from walks and driveways.

The weight of snow and more especially, ice, can damage trees and shrubs, particularly evergreens and structurally weak plants. Broken branches and leaning trees will have to be dealt with when the weather permits. Trying to work with frozen plants may injure them further.

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