

Criders Named Atlantic's 1989 Outstanding Young Cooperators

SOUTHAMPTON (Bucks Co.) — Daryl R. and Brenda J. Crider, St. Thomas, have been named Atlantic Dairy Cooperative's 1989 Outstanding Young Cooperators, it was announced by President Robert B. McSparran.

The Criders were among 16 contestants competing for the title at the 19th annual Pennmarva Young Cooperator Contest. The three-day program was held June 19-21 at the Rosslyn Westpark Hotel in Arlington, Va.

Daryl and Brenda Crider operate a 400-acre, 214-head Holstein farm near St. Thomas, Pa. They are in partnership with Daryl's parents.

Average annual production stands at 18,403 pounds of milk and 688 pounds of fat on 100 cows. Other livestock include chickens and a horse. Crops grown are alfalfa, corn, wheat, barley, timothy hay, sorghum, oats, and rye.

Daryl is a graduate of James Buchanan High School. Brenda graduated from St. Thomas High School. Daryl is responsible for all decision making and management of the farm. Brenda helps out with record keeping involving the cattle. In addition, she is a beauty consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics.

The Criders have two children. They are members of the Grace Brethren Church of Chambersburg and are involved in a variety of music-related activities. In addition to singing at worship services, they also sing at weddings and community events. Brenda and Daryl are members of the St. Thomas Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association, and they participate in a YMCA co-ed volleyball league. Brenda is also treasurer of the Franklin County Farm Women's Group No. 15, and Daryl is a member of the Pa. Farmer's Association and the local young farmers group. In 1988, Daryl was named the regional winner in the Pa. Young Farmers "Outstanding Young Farmer Under 30 Award."

In addition to the Outstanding Young couple, four runners-up were named. They are: Mildred L. and James L. Widmann, Oxford, second place; J. Martin and Sandra J. Harnish, Willow Street, third place; Jeffrey L. and Linda L. Grove, Shippensburg, fourth place; and William E. and Loni R. Myers, Newburg, fifth place.

Mildred L. and James L. Widmann

Mildred "Millie" and James "Jim" Widmann operate a 219-acre, 98-head Guernsey farm near Oxford, Pa. The Widmanns are in partnership with Millie's brother, Axel Linde.

Average annual production at Lindenhof is 16,634 pounds of milk and 735 pounds of fat on 53 cows. Crops grown include corn, alfalfa, alfalfa grass mix, barley, soybeans, Sudan grass, and clover. They also raise three Black Angus/Guernsey cross cattle.

Millie is a 1976 graduate of Solanco Senior High School and a 1978 graduate of the State University of New York, Cobleskill Ag & Tech School. Jim graduated from Central High School in 1979 and is currently taking continuing education classes at Millersville University. On the farm, Millie is responsible for milking, calf-raising, feeding, record keeping, and general maintenance. Jim is a

unit technician for Atlantic Breeders Cooperative and does all the breeding at Lindenhof.

The Widmanns attend Smithville Church of God. Millie serves on the advisory committee for the Solanco High School Ag Department. Both she and Jim are active in the Solanco Young Farmers Chapter and the local, state and national Guernsey Associations. Millie is both a former Pennsylvania and National Guernsey Queen. The Widmanns also serve on the Atlantic District 3 Dairy Bar Committee, which participates in the Solanco Fair.

J. Martin and Sandra J. Harnish

J. Martin and Sandra "Sandi" Harnish operate a 130-acre, 65-head Holstein farm near Willow Street, Pa. They are responsible for all decision making on the farm, which is owned by Martin's parents.

Average annual production at Middle Willow Farm is 18,300 pounds of milk, with a 3.86 percent butterfat test on 39 cows. A variety of crops are grown, including corn, hay, barley, soybeans, tobacco, sweet corn, and fruits and vegetables -- watermelons, pumpkins, potatoes, cantaloupes, and orchard fruit. They also raise steers and AKC cocker spaniel dogs.

Martin is a 1972 graduate of Penn Manor High School. Sandi graduated from high school in 1971 and earned a bachelor's degree in sociology and social work from Eastern Mennonite College in 1975. Martin's farm responsibilities include equipment maintenance, field work, herd health, and breeding. Sandi's work involves record keeping, calf-raising, management of an on-farm produce stand, and raising AKC cocker spaniels. They both milk mornings and evenings.

The Harnishes have two children. They are active in their church and have hosted foreign farm trainees through the Mennonite Central Committee. Martin is a substitute Sunday School teacher, and Sandi is involved in a "mother's morning out" program and Vacation Bible School. Martin is president and assistant chief of the West Willow Fire Company and Relief Association, and a member of the Willow Street Fire Company and Pequea Township Task Force Committee. Sandi is a director of the West Lampeter Community Fair Board and is a member of the West Willow Ladies Auxiliary. They are both members of Atlantic Breeders Cooperative, Agway, the local and state Holstein Associations, and the Lancaster County Fruit Growers Association. Martin has served as a delegate and secretary of the Atlantic West Lampeter Local.

Jeffrey L. and Linda L. Grove

Jeffrey "Jeff" and Linda "Lin" Grove operate a 325-acre, 211-head Holstein farm near Shippensburg, Pa. They are in partnership with Jeff's brother.

Average annual production at Gro-Lan Farms is 15,683 pounds of milk, with a 3.8 percent butterfat test on 107 cows. Crops include alfalfa, corn, wheat, and rye.

Jeff graduated from Shippensburg Area Senior High School in 1974. Lin graduated from Chambersburg Area Senior High School in 1973. On the farm, Jeff is



Winners of Atlantic Dairy Cooperative's 1989 Young Cooperator Contest are, from left, Daryl and Brenda Crider, Outstanding Young Cooperators; Mildred and James Widmann, second place; J. Martin and Sandra Harnish, third place; Jeffrey and Linda Grove, fourth place; and William and Loni Myers, fifth place.

responsible for milking, equipment repair, field work, hired help, general farm maintenance, and care of the young stock. Lin helps with the milking, running errands and cleaning the milking equipment. She is in charge of selling sweet corn and garden produce from the farm.

The Groves have two children. They are active in their church, serving as youth advisors, Sunday school teachers and volleyball team members, among other activities. Jeff is a member of the Franklin County Extension board, is vice president of the Capital Region Extension board and serves on the Pa. Council of Cooperative Extension Association board. They are members of the Pa. Farmer's Association, the Pa. Young Farmers Association and the Franklin County Soil and Conservation Association. Also, Lin is vice president of the Franklin County Society of Farm Women #17 and is secretary of the Mt. Rock Care & Share Center board.

William E. and Loni R. Myers

William "Bill" and Loni Myers operate a 295-acre, 146-head Holstein farm near Newburg, Pa. They are in partnership with Bill's parents.

Average annual production at

Glenbern is 18,566 pounds of milk and 707 pounds of fat on 68 cows. Crops include corn, alfalfa, mixed hay, barley, and oats. They also raise four steers.

The Myerses are both graduates of Shippensburg Area Senior High School; Bill in 1974 and Loni in 1979. Bill's farm responsibilities include breeding, feeding, herd health and calf registration. Loni is a part-time secretary at the Shippensburg University Frehn Center for management. When not scheduled to work, she helps with after-milking chores.

The Myerses have one child and are expecting their second in August. The church activities include choir, lay leader, administrative board, Council of Ministries, substitute teacher, and nursery aid. They are active members of the Newburg-Hopewell Fire Company; the Pa. Farmer's Association, of which Loni is president of the PFA Advisory Council; Atlantic Breeders Cooperative; Pa. Holstein Association; and the Cumberland County Holstein and Farmers Associations.

As the top five winners, these young farmers will be named to Atlantic Young Cooperator Consultant Committee for a three-year

term. They will join the 1987 and 1988 winners in developing and planning Young Cooperator activities for the coming year.

Additionally, the Criders and the Widmanns will attend the National Milk Producers Federation's annual meeting, Nov. 26-30, in Nashville, Tenn. The Harnishes, Groves and Myerses will attend the American Institute of Cooperation's summer institute, July 24-27, in Indianapolis, Ind.

The contestants, representing Atlantic's membership districts, were judged on their knowledge of dairy issues, farming practices, leadership, poise and speaking ability. Judges for the contest were John Piwowar, a Fayette County dairy farmer; Rose Dillner, former chairman of the Elementary Physical Education Department at Chambersburg School; and Porter Little, senior vice president and region manager of the Baltimore regional office of CoBank-National Bank for Cooperatives.

Atlantic Dairy Cooperative, which represents 3,700 dairy farm families in a seven-state region, established its Young Cooperator program in 1968. The program's emphasis is on cooperative education and leadership development.

Robert Yonkers Named PSU Dairy Marketing Specialist

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — My newsletter this month will be used to introduce you to Bob Yonkers, our new extension specialist in dairy marketing. Bob joined our faculty on June 12, arriving from Texas A. & M. where he just completed his Ph.D. program in agricultural economics. His dissertation there is titled **Impacts of Exogenously-Determined Variables on Dairy Farms: A Simulation Modeling Approach**, and had as its purpose to evaluate the potential farm-level impacts of BST on income and survival, on the structure of the dairy industry, and on the regional distribution of milk production.

Bob was born in northern New Jersey (not far, coincidentally, from Yonkers, New York), in

1956. In 1979 he received a B.S. degree in dairy science at Kansas State, then in 1981 a Master of Agriculture in dairy science at Texas A. & M. While in New Jersey, at Kansas State, and at Texas A. & M., Bob worked in various capacities on commercial dairy farms and university dairy centers, gaining considerable hands-on experience in the production of milk. At Kansas State Bob was a member of the intercollegiate dairy cattle judging team, and at Texas A. & M. was coach of the intercollegiate dairy cattle judging team there. He remains an Approved Judge by the Texas Purebred Dairy Cattle Association.

During the period between receipt of his Master of Agricul-

ture and the completion of his Ph.D. program, Bob worked on a variety of projects on dairy marketing and policy in the Agricultural and Food Policy Center at Texas A. & M. Among his activities there were studies involving multiple milk component pricing, the effects of the milk diversion and dairy herd buyout programs on the structure of the dairy industry, dairy plant location decisions, and the market for whey products.

At Penn State, Bob's appointment is 75 percent extension, 25 percent research. The primary focus of his efforts in both these areas will be dairy marketing and policy economics. His office address is Room 1 Weaver Building and his office phone is 814-865-2561.