

Leaders Conference

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program was to further educate the conference attendees about the importance of the cooperative way of doing business. Farmers and farm-related businesses organized the first cooperatives over a century ago in order to do business as a group. Even though many of the original agricultural cooperatives have changed or merged, cooperatives remain one of the most important means for farmers to survive in today's competitive environment.

Speakers and topics at the conference included William Perry from Milk Marketing Inc., who talked about cooperative basics; Dr. Robert Milligan from Cornell University discussed the importance of proper management with the group; Chris Peterson, a Cornell graduate student and professor from Juniata College, gave a presentation on interpreting financial statements of cooperatives; and Dr. David Thomas, president

and CEO of the American Institute of Cooperation, discussed the current challenges facing cooperatives.

The Young Cooperative Leaders Conference also has a leadership development aspect to it as attendees from the previous year's conference help to plan and carry out the current year's program. Those leaders that assisted with the 1989 conference included: Jan and Laureen Naylor, Factoryville, conference chair couple; Gordon and Carole Hoover, Gap, Southeastern Region leader couple; James and Linda Compton,

Clarksburg, Western Region leader couple; Charles and Becky Castle, Canton, Northern Region leader couple; and Stan and Janice Burkholder, Chambersburg, South Central Region leader couple. The Hoovers were selected to serve as the 1990 Young Cooperative Leaders Conference chair couple.

The conference participants and

their cooperative sponsors are as follows. From the southeast region of the state -- Clifford and Joyce Blank, Gap, Atlantic Dairy Cooperative; Scott and Kathy Brinton, Peach Bottom, Agway Inc.; Lester and Ruth Ann Gehman, Ephrata, the Lancaster PAFC Council; Terry and Kim Hix, Mohrsville, Atlantic Dairy

Cooperative; Larry and Beverly Kehl, Fleetwood, Keystone Farm Credit; Jay and Lucille Kopp, Mt. Joy, Keystone Farm Credit; Keith and Marie Lutz, Sinking Spring, Keystone Farm Credit; and Robert and Beth Ranck, Paradise, Atlantic Breeders Cooperative.

From the western region -- Larry and Michele Hoffman, Cochran, Atlantic Breeders Cooperative; Kevin and Colleen Osborn, Waterford, Meadville Farm Credit; William Michael and Emily Schultz, North East, National Grape Producers Cooperative; Tim and Annette Tobin, Edinboro, Milk Marketing Inc; and Michael and Carol Walk-

er, Meyersdale, Atlantic Breeders Cooperative.

From the northern region -- Jim Barnes, Lawrenceville, Eastern Milk Producers Cooperative; Barry and Michele Woodruff and Felicia Woodruff, all from Danville, Dairylea.

From the south central region -- Steven and Linda Hoke, Mechanicsburg, the Cumberland-Perry PAFC Council; and Elam and Diana Meyers, St. Thomas, York Farm Credit.

The participants selected as leader couples for the 1990 Young Cooperative Leaders Conference were: Clifford and Joyce Blank, Tim and Annette Tobin, Elam and Diana Meyers, and Jim Barnes.



Named to leadership positions for the 1990 PAFC Young Cooperative Leaders Conference are, from left, Gordon and Carole Hoover, chair couple; Tim and Annette Tobin, Western Region leader couple; Clifford and Joyce Blank, Southeastern Region leader couple; Elam and Diana Meyers, South Central Region leader couple; and Jim Barnes, Northern Region leader.

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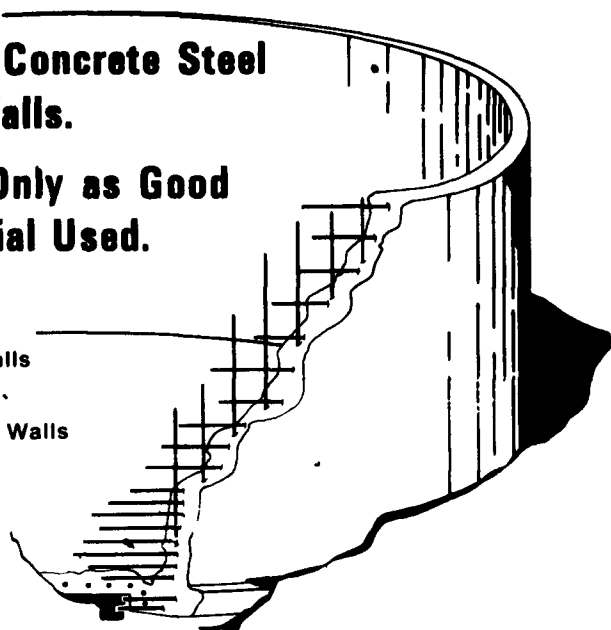
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