

## Berks Dairy Banquet Highlights 4-H Achievers

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**Berks Co. Correspondent**

**SHARTLESVILLE** (Berks Co.) — Members of Berks County's five dairy clubs and the veal club filled the Shartlesville grange recently for the annual dairy banquet.

More than 175 members and their families joined together to honor project winners, club officers, leaders, and coaches for their efforts in the last year.

Tammy Balthaser, Western Berks Dairy Club, served as toastmaster for the event. Heidi Schlegel, eastern Berks, gave the invocation.

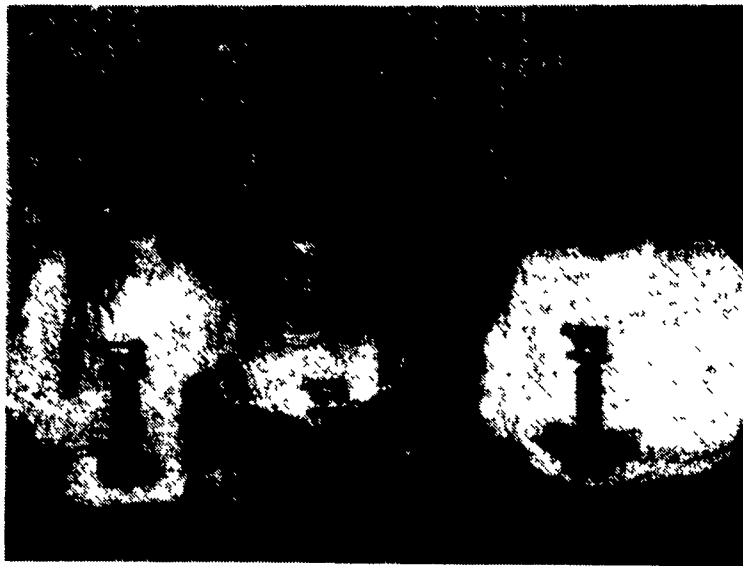
Duane Stump and Gary Bickler showed slides of their European dairy judging trip.

Six 4-H'ers were honored for their outstanding project books, including 8-9 year-olds, Erica Davis, northern Berks; ages 10-11, Lynn Koinski, northern Berks; ages 12-13, Jennifer Hoffman, western Berks; ages 14-15, Jennifer Hix, northern Berks; ages 16-17 Kirk Sattazahn, Stouchburg; age 18, Heidi Schlegel, eastern Berks.

Among the blue form winners were a brother-sister combination of Janice and Scott Youse of the Eastern Berks Dairy Club. Janice won the ages 8-9 award and Scott topped the 16-17 age group. Suzanne Dietrich and Brandy Moser of the Virginville Dairy Club won the 10-11 and the 12-13 age groups, respectively. Tammy Balthaser picked up the 18-year-old award.

The veal club also had two project book winners. In the junior division, David Nirshel had the first place entry. Brian Gougler had the best book in the senior division. Leader Lee Gougler encouraged more 4-H'ers to become involved in the veal club and the contest in the future.

The officer book awards were won by girls from three different clubs. Melissa Bicksler, Stouchburg, submitted the top secretary's book. Eastern Berks member Denise Hoch had the outstanding treasurer's book. Erica Davis, a



The Berks County Dairy Project Book Contest was dominated by the ladies, including Erica Davis (front), Lynn Koinski (left), Jennifer Hix (right), and Heidi Schlegel (back).

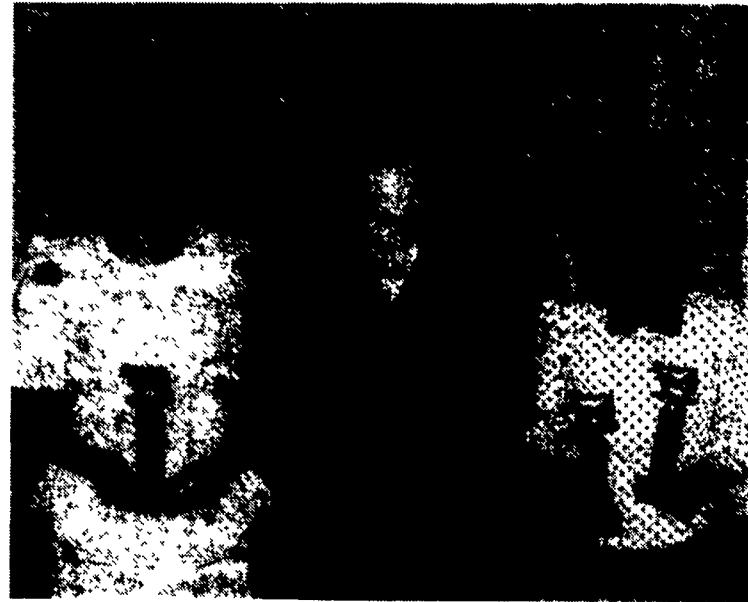


Stouchburg member Melissa Bicksler, right, had the top secretary's book at the Berks Co. 4-H Dairy Banquet. Erica Davis, Northern Berks Dairy Club, led the scrapbook category.

northern Berks 4-H'er, won the club scrapbook award.

Troy Koenig won the Dairy Judging Team Award. Troy was

the second place individual at Penn State 4-H Days and a member of the state team at the 1989 World Dairy expo.



Blue form winners included, from left to right, Suzanne Dietrich, Virginville; Tammy Balthaser, western Berks; and Janice Youse, eastern Berks.



Davis Nirshel, Jr. and Brian Gougler submitted the top project book for the Berks Co. 4-H Veal Club.

Special thanks was also offered to dairy judging coaches James Younker, Doris Alspaugh, William Leshar, and Roy Malik.

Thanks were also given to George Merrill, Dagny Leidinger, and Connie Troutman for their work with the Dairy Bowl Team.

## 'Honoring America's Providers' Topic Of Ag Week

**ANNAPOLIS, Md.** — A round of regional and statewide events in Maryland during March will relate to National Agriculture Week and its theme, "Honoring America's Providers — Tradition and Change."

National Agriculture Week is set for March 18-24. National Agriculture Day falls on March 20. The observances are intended to remind consumers of the role that U.S. farmers play in assuring an adequate and safe food supply at reasonable cost.

Maryland legislators received a preview of Ag Week during the annual legislators' dinner on February 1 at Martin's West restaurant near Baltimore. That event was sponsored by Maryland Agriculture Week, Inc., an organization supported by a wide array of agricultural organizations and

agribusinesses.

This umbrella organization provided financial assistance to the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service and the Maryland Department of Agriculture for producing educational materials to help support the March events. Here is a schedule of cooperating activities:

March 9 & 10: "Ag Days '90." Displays and demonstrations at Carrolltowne Mall, Eldersburg. Contact Stanley W. Fultz, (301) 848-4611, during week-day office hours.

March 14-17: "Spring Ahead With Extension." Displays and demonstrations at Lexington Market in Baltimore. Contact Jon H. Traunfeld, (301) 396-1888, during office hours.

March 15: University of Maryland Ag Alumni faculty-student

awards dinner, 7 p.m. in the Columbia Inn at Columbia. Contact Gail P. Yeiser, (301) 454-7752, during office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

March 15-18: Washington County Ag Week. Displays and demonstrations at Valley Mall west of Hagerstown. Contact Donald M. Schwartz, at (301) 791-1304, during office hours.

March 18: Old-fashioned farm tour & horse-drawn wagon rides at Oxon Hill Farm, a 485-acre National Park site overlooking the Potomac River on the Maryland side of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge near Washington, D.C. Tour starts at 1 p.m.; wagon rides, 2-4 p.m. Contact Jim Reilly, (301) 839-1176.

March 19: Ag Week Breakfast,

8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Southern Maryland Agricultural Commission and Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland. Contact Gary V. Hodge, (301) 870-2520, during office hours.

March 19-24: Frederick County Ag Week. Displays and demonstrations at Frederick Towne Mall on west outskirts of Frederick. Contact Theodore W. Albaugh, (301) 898-3342.

March 20: National Agriculture Day reception on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Contact Judith M. O'Hara, (202) 682-9200.

March 24: Ag Week open houses: Maryland Department of Agriculture headquarters, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, west of the Parole Plaza Shopping Center in Annapolis. "Mary-

land With Pride" 10-K run starts at 9 a.m. in front of the MDA headquarters. Open house hours, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact Desiree Mundell, 841-5770 during office hours.

Old-fashioned chortime and hayrides at Oxon Hill Farm, a 485-acre National Park site in the Washington, D.C., area. All adults must be accompanied by a child. Chores start at 9 a.m. They include feeding farm animals, gathering eggs, and milking a cow. Tractor-drawn hayrides at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Reservations required. Contact Jim Rosenstock, (301) 839-1176.

March 29-31: "Extension Expo." Displays and demonstrations at Wheaton Plaza, in metropolitan Washington, D.C., area of Montgomery County. Contact Douglas W. Tregoning, (301) 590-9638, during office hours.