

Perry DHIA Annual Meeting

ELLIOTTSBURG (Perry Co.) — The Perry County Dairy Herd Improvement Association held its annual meeting on Tuesday, November 12th in celebration of the completion of 65 years of DHIA testing in Perry County. Herman Espy, Director of Field Services for PA DHIA, spoke on the new heifer management program which will be released in January. The program will allow a dairyman on test to keep track of the sires of his heifers, as well as the collective genetic merit of a group of heifers. The program can also be customized to develop management "action lists" such as vaccination schedules, pregnancy exams, etc.

Espy also spoke briefly on the planned reorganization of DHIA within Pennsylvania. He mentioned that 18 counties have merged with the state organization. None of these counties were

large dairy counties. However, the dairymen in these counties are receiving better service since the county DHIA association merged operations with PA DHIA.

PA DHIA state director and Perry County DHIA president Brooks Smith presented a state director's report. He commented on the efficiency of record processing at the state lab and announced a rate increase of 8¢/cow effective with the January 1991 test.

County Agent Dave Swartz and President Smith presented awards to herds with rolling herd averages over 650 lbs. protein. Those herds were: M.W. Smith Farms, Newport, 21,838 lbs. milk, 747 lbs. fat, 707 lbs. protein; Richard Metz, Loysville, 21,272 lbs. milk, 806 lbs. fat, 681 lbs. protein; Ken Benner, Millerstown, 21,884 lbs. milk, 807 lbs. fat, 678 lbs. protein; Ray McMillen, Loysville, 20,240

lbs. milk, 760 lbs. fat, 658 lbs. protein.

Swartz and Smith also presented awards for high cows in milk and protein within an age group. Those cows and owners were: 2 year old milk: Wendy-26,934 lbs; 2 year old protein: Wendy- 775 lbs; owned by Dean & Eric McMillen, Loysville. 3 year old milk: #514- 29,591 lbs; 3 year old protein: #514- 957 lbs; owned by Ray McMillen, Loysville. 4 year old milk: Reva-29,738 lbs; owned by M.W. Smith Farms, Newport. 4 year old protein: #505- 909 lbs; owned by Ray McMillen. 5 year old milk: Mildred- 34,136 lbs; 5 year old protein: Mildred- 1031 lbs; owned by Ed Brofee, Millerstown.

David E. Shenk, III, Newport, was awarded a plaque for providing outstanding testing services during his 10 years as a Perry County DHIA supervisor. Retired



Herds with rolling averages over 650 lbs. protein, left to right, Brooks Smith, representing M.W. Smith farms, Newport; Ken Benner, Millerstown; Ray McMillen, Loysville.

county agents Roy Snyder and John Harris were on hand to congratulate Shenk since he had worked as a supervisor during their time as county agent.

Perry County DHIA had 70 DHIA herds and 6 owner sampler herds enrolled in the testing program this past year. These herds averaged 17,419 lbs milk, 639 lbs fat, and 554 lbs protein. Over 4800 cows were tested monthly.

Danny Rice, Blain, was elected to the Board of Directors. Brooks Smith was re-elected to another term on the Board.



Perry County DHIA directors were elected, Danny Rice left, and Brooks Smith.

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Barley Elected

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)— Lancaster County Rep. John E. Barley was elected House Republican Caucus secretary in a reorganizational meeting last week.

In his new position, Barley will be responsible for informing Republican members of which bills and amendments will be called up for debate on the House floor. Additionally, the three-term, 100th District legislator is in charge of making sure Republican members receive information or materials presented in caucus meetings.

"It is beneficial for Lancaster County to be represented in the Republican leadership," Barley said. "As caucus secretary, I will work closely with the Republican leader, whip, administrator, caucus chairman, policy chairman and appropriations chairman to develop and form a united Republican legislative effort.

"With the upcoming legislative battle over reapportionment, I can use my new position to help assure a fair outcome for Republicans, as well as Lancaster County, in both the General Assembly and Congress," Barley said.

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