

State DHIA Convention

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The opposing discussions centered on the belief that State DHIA already provides good service and if given time can provide any additional reports members want. Because of the authority and responsibility to maintain certified records, those who hold this view believe they are justified to refuse to allow members to transfer outside of Pennsylvania DHIA except under specific circumstances defined under national operating agreements between states.

A third undercurrent opinion also seemed to polarize at the annual meeting: Pennsylvania pride. This may even be tied to Penn State pride. This expressed itself in the idea that since Pennsylvania is the fourth largest dairy state, Pennsylvania DHIA should be the leader, with the ability to be all things to all people. Pennsylvania is great enough that it should be the bell-weather DHIA of the region, maybe the nation.

As of this annual meeting, the underlying different views with the inherent power of local member unity on one side, and the power of exclusivity placed with the state organization by National DHIA has the various sides frustrated and looking for recourse.

At least it can be said that the forced cooperation between the sides has not left much creative energy available to find a common goal that will be needed to bring the sides back together. Although the strong desire among members to find this goal and unify the organization also has grown.

MEANWHILE BACK AT THE RANCH

The keynote speaker on the Friday morning program told humorous stories. But Morris Jones did get serious too. He said that in spite of all the adversity in the dairy industry, somewhere there is a rainbow, the birds are singing, and young dairymen are going to make it.

"We don't learn much in good times," Jones said. "But in bad times we can buckle down and learn. The darkest part of the night is right before daylight. Tough times don't last forever, but tough people do."

"Tough times are like a grind stone: they either grind you down,

or polish you. It depends on what you are made of. It depends on your state of mind. You can look on the bad side or on the good side.

"We came into this world without our permission," Jones said. "And we go out against our will. But the time between these two events is ours to live as we choose. God gave us two ends: one to sit on and one to think with. What you get done in life depends primarily on which end you use most. Heads you win. Tails you lose."

President Bill Itle reported that the DHIA computer was placed in the lab building for convenience. This caused some administrative people to move to the Agway annex on College Avenue.

He said committees report to the board on policy, budget and goals. Then the board makes the decisions that are carried out by management and staff.

Itle reported that a pilot member billing plan in Mifflin County lists every available DHIA service option on the invoice. In the future, members in every county that use this billing system will know what services DHIA has. He said the billing invoice list of services was a low-cost way to inform members of the available services.

General Manager Dick Barth reported that the financial statement showed a positive margin for the fiscal year at \$61,670.56 with total cash position at \$435,506.78. This report was for the year ending September 30, 1991.

For the calendar year ending in December, Barth said the association had 6,002 herds on test that included 339,760 cows. While the number of cows decreased from the previous year, the cows on test represented over 50 percent of the state dairy herd. This was the first year enrollment exceeded 50 percent of Pennsylvania's cows. This happened because the state herd decreased faster than the enrollment of cows in DHIA members' herds.

The newest management form offered by the state association was unveiled at the convention, an individual cow page that summarizes testday and current lactation information, as well as previous lactations. In addition, individual pedigree and reproductive management information is included. The



These young people provided several humorous skits about the necessity to use dairy products. They are from left, front, Kelly Gelsinger, Berks County dairy princess; Karlene Weaver, Lebanon County alternate dairy princess and Allison Martin, Lebanon County dairy maid. Back, Ana Delgadillo, visitor from Mexico; Nichele Dorman, DHIA staff; Karen Lentz, Lebanon County dairy princess, and Penny Jordan, York County dairy princess.

new forms are to begin going out on March 16.

Barth said the heifer management and the PRIME programs continued to grow. In addition, the lab processed 334,000 cow records and 276,000 samples. Less than one sample per thousand was untestable, and Barth said this low rate was a tribute to the way the samples were handled and transported on the state DHIA truck system.

At the fourth annual awards banquet, held for the first time out of State College, a number of herd management awards were presented. They are as follows: AYR-SHIRE: 1, Charles & Don Gable, Chester Co.; 2, Ridge View Farm, Clinton Co.; 3, Dean Varner, Huntingdon Co.

BROWN SWISS: 1, Jerry Krone, York Co.; 2, Swamp Creek Swiss, Somerset Co.; 3, Donald Trimble, Lancaster Co.

GOATS: Susan Meas, Bradford County; 2, Little Rockspring, Montgomery Co.; 3, Susan Shields, Indiana Co.

GUERNSEY: 1, Trotacre Farm, Lawrence Co.; 2, Robert Smith & Son, Bedford Co.; 3, Jerry Krone, York Co.

HOLSTEIN: 1, Hunsinger Farm, Susquehanna Co.; 2, Sheldon Peachey; 2 (tie), W.A. Hall & K.M. Horst, Franklin Co.

JERSEY: 1, Ironwood Dairy Farm, Erie Co.; 2, Windy Hill Farm, Mercer Co.; 3, Ken Weaver, Clarion Co.

MIXED BREEDS: 1 Milton Vail, Wayne Co.; 2, Frank James, Somerset Co.; 3, L & L Farm #1, Berks Co.

The high herd in milk, the most improved herd in fat and the most improved herd in protein is owned by Milos & Sandy Sinan, Indiana Co.

The lowest SCC herd is owned by James Slocum, Wayne Co.

Retiring board members recognized for years of service include: Nelson Stoltzfus, 10 years; John Foster, 3 years; Robert Koker, 3 years; Stanley Brubaker, 9 years; Robert Kendig, 15 years and Bill Itle, 6 years.

The board of directors as of

April, 1992, are slated as follows:

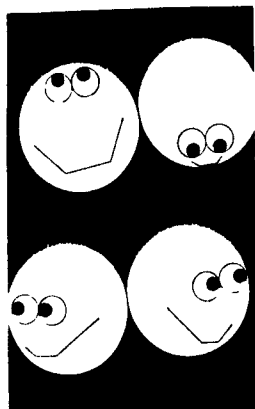
CENTRAL DISTRICT: Gary Truckenmiller, Watsonstown, Northumberland Co.; Brooks Smith, Newport, Perry Co.; Lane Sollenberger, Fayetteville, Franklin Co.; and Neal McCullogh, Cumberland Co.

NORTHEAST: Joseph Lyons, Millville, Columbia Co.; John Wilcox, Troy, Bradford Co.; and John Castrogiovanni, Montrose, Susquehanna Co.

NORTHWEST: Frank Orner, Rockton, Clearfield Co.; George Cudoc, Valencia, Butler Co.; and Ralph Gilkinson, Wattsburg, Erie Co.

SOUTHEAST: Dennis Daubert, Pine Grove, Schuylkill Co.; Norman Hershey, Gordonville, Lancaster Co.; Joe Graybeal, Peach Bottom, Lancaster Co.; David Dum, Mount Joy, Lancaster Co.; and Donald Duncan, Robesonia, Berks, Co.

SOUTHWEST: Clyde Robinson, Coal center, Washington Co.; William Jackson, New Salem, Fayette Co. and Andy Meier, Friedent, Somerset Co.



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