



Lancaster Officials Pay Tribute To Houser

Officials of Lancaster County DHIA paid tribute to a long-time associate who died this week from injuries suffered in a fall in his orchard. J. Wilbur Houser, Lampeter, a farmer and milk tester for 37 years, died Tuesday morning at Lancaster General Hospital. He was 70.

Houser was a local supervisor from 1955 to 1992 and was head supervisor from 1963 to 1984. A former dairy and truck farmer, his work for DHIA won him the Southeastern Pennsylvania's top award for DHIA supervisors and was the first countian to be so honored. In 1962 he was named secretary of Pennsylvania DHIA.

In the early days as a milk tester, as they were called, the samples he gathered from local dairy herds were tested at his home. Now the work is done in State College at the central processing center.

"Wilbur Houser was active in

J. Wilbur Houser the dairy industry, his church and other civic organizartions," Lancaster DHIA officials said. "He was also a dedicated family man, and he will be missed."



Directors of the Pennsylvania DHIA are, left to right, upper row on left, Andy Meier, Dennis Daubert, Lane Sollenberger, and Donald Duncan. From bottom, Frank Orner, president, Norm Hershey, treasurer, William Jackson, vice president, and Joseph Lyons, Secretary, Joe Graybeal, Brooks Smith, John Castrogiovanni, Ralph Gilkinson, John Wilcox, Neal McCullogh, Geroge Cudoc, and Gary Truckenmiller. Dave Dum is missing from the photo.

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Computers Coming To The Barn

In the milking parlor, Ann Brooks works with the model of lap top computer the state directors approved for purchase for the technicians. In addition, the Dairy Comp 305 program is to be purchased to run the computers and transfer data from the barn to the DHIA Lab in State College.

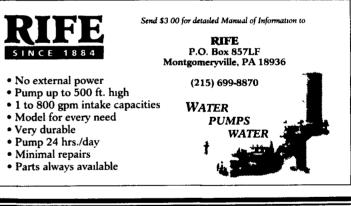
Because information has been routinely transferred between buildings in the state operations, officials said this experience has helped to quicken the development of the tie-in from members' barns to the main frame computer at the lab.

In a recent seminar for directors, Jim Boyer said the 305 was usable over the whole range of different kinds of members and customers that DHIA serves. He said the techniclans can use it for barn sheet entry and to produce test day reports. Because it simplifies things, dairy farmers can use it to help in herd management, and veterinarians can use it for as many herds as requested. Boyer is working on some modifications of his own that will make the program even easier to use in Pennsylvania.

"It's easy to use and it's powerful," Boyer said. "It was designed for large herds, but I haven't seen anything that would keep it from being used here."

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