## Shorthorn Association Announces Builders Of Breed

OMAHA, Neb. - The American Shorthorn Association, headquartered here, has announced its 1992 Builders of the Breed.

The annual honor is presented to individuals or firms who are selected by their peers for their contributions, involvement, and promotion of the Shorthorn/Polled Shorthorn breed of cattle.

This year's recipients were Mary and J.O. Bass III, Plainview, Texas; Bernie and Norma Bolton, Oakland, Iowa; Wayne C. Neely, Frederick, Md.; and George W. Slater, Augusta, Ill.

Mary and J.O. Bass III of Plainview, Texas, have helped at least three neighbors start registered Shorthorn herds. They have also sold many bulls to existing registered herds and have bred champion and reserve champion steers and heifers.

first Shorthorn heifer in 1961. Throughout high school and college, Mary exhibited her cattle and added to her herd. MJ Shorthorns was born with the 1977 marriage of Mary to J.O. Since 1978, MJ Shorthorns has taken six to eight head of cattle every year to various shows, including the National Western in Denver, Colo.

The Basses have one son, James F., who is five years old. They have been active in numerous community and Shorthorn activities, including the Texas Shorthorn Association, Five State Shorthorn Association, National Lassie Board, and are members of First United Methodist Church. In 1985, the couple was honored by the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce as the South Plains Outstanding Area Livestock Producers for a 23-county area. They

Mary's parents purchased her were also honored with the Texas Shorthorn Association's Progressive Breeder Award in 1985 and, in 1987, hosted a field day and annual meeting.

Bernie and Norma Bolton of Oakland, Iowa, don't just show cattle, they support the Shorthorn breed. They have hosted people from across the United States, Canada, South America, and Australia. The Boltons, of Bern-A-Dale Shorthorns, have also helped with and hosted many judging workouts for 4-H, FFA, and college groups. Not to mention the trophies, awards, and prize money that they have sponsored for local, state, and national events.

Since the fall of 1952, Bern-A-Dale Shorthorns has grown from just one 4-H heifer to approximately 75 Shorthorn cows. The Boltons are continuously improving the genetics of their cattle, which have been sold into 32 states and Canada. And, after three production sales, the Boltons have developed a good trade area.

Bernie and Norma have three daughters, Lori, Mischa, and Erica, who have all been active in 4-H and showing cattle. Four grandchildren have entered the world of Bern-A-Dale Shorthorns. Just a few of Bernie and Norma's activities include the Iowa Shorthorn Association, The Polled Society, 4-H county committees, Soil and Water Conservation District work, Masonic Lodge, KP Lodge, United Methodist Church, Sunday School and Bible School teachers, and the school board. Bernie is presently serving his second term as president of the American Polled Shorthorn Society.

Wayne C. Neely of Frederick, Md., resurrected the old Maryland Shorthorn Association with no upto-date membership list, no meetings for two years, and a depleted treasury, to an active organization that, a few years ago, was able to launch the highly successful Eastern Regional Shorthorn Field Day and Show. In 1984 he was the Honored Shorthorn Breeder at the Iowa Beef Expo.

Although his professional career was spent principally as a professor of Sociology (1933-1972) at Hood College in Frederick, Md., Wayne Neely was born on an Iowa Shorthorn farm and has always maintained a close identification with the Shorthorn breed. He and his wife, Margaret, a retired chemistry professor also from Hood College, maintain a farm in Greenfield, Iowa, Verd Lea Farm (meaning "Green Field," because of the location) has been in continuous operation by the Neely Family for 109 years. The first Shorthorn was registered in 1883.

Neely has written several articles on the Shorthorn breed. The first was in 1920 on pedigrees, which was published in The Breeder's Gazette. Numerous articles have followed in publications such as Shorthorn World, Shorthorn Country, and Shorthorn News (Canada). His book, The Agricultural Fair, was published by Columbia University Press, and he recently finished a typescript book on the history of Shorthorns in Adair County, Iowa.

George W. Slater of Augusta, III., tallies 55 years in the Shorthorn business. He was only 14 years old when GK Shorthorns was established in the fall of 1932 during the depths of the Great Depression. One bred heifer was purchased, and additional females were purchased the following summer. The GK herd now totals 24 breeding age females.

George and his wife Ellen, a retired University of Illinois cooperative extension advisor, are active in the Shorthorn breed and their community. George is a member of the Illinois State Shorthorn Association and exhibits at county and state fairs, among other Shorthorn activities. He has also been a member of the local school board for 17 years and secretary of the Hancock County Fair for 16 years.

The Slaters have three children - Jean Vogler, Kent Slater, and Kay Gomolak. They have also been blessed with five grandchildren. All three children were active with the cattle when they were growing up, and George and Ellen now provide a project heifer for a 10-year-old neighbor boy whose parents are grain farmers. The boy comes two evenings each week to help with chores. George, at age 74 and in good health, continues to work with the cattle.

## **115-Pound Hampshire** Wether Becomes Grand

FREDERICK, Md. - The land, Inc. Twenty-three lambs Maryland Hampshire Sheep Association held its first annual Market Lamb Jackpot Show on July 5.

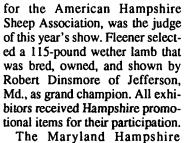
The show was held on the back lot at Ceresville Ford New Hol-

were shown by exhibitors from Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Approximately 60 enthusiastic Hampshire supporters attended the Jackpot.

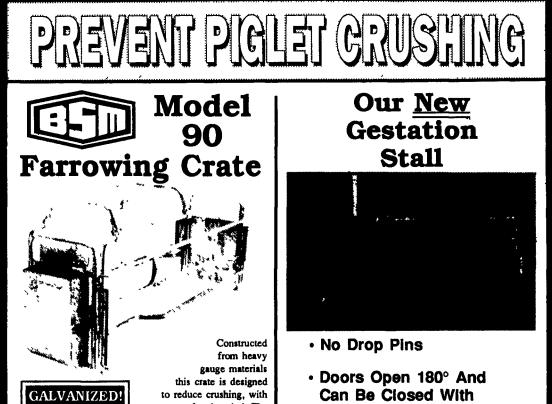
Tim Fleener, district director

A 115-pound wether lamb that was bred, owned, and shown by Robert Dinsmore of Jefferson, Md., was grand champion at the Market Lamb Jackpot Show.

## Farm Credits Support Pa. Friends Of 4-H



Sheep Association will also be sponsoring a special class for Hampshire market lambs at the Maryland State Fair. As for the Jackpot, lambs exhibited in this class must be sired and dammed by registered Hampshire rams and ewes. The Hampshire Market Lamb Committee is pleased to be able to offer these additional opportunities for youth exhibitors of Hampshire lambs.



UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Farm Credit of Pennsylvania and Farm Credit Bank of Baltimore have donated \$1,000 each to Pennsylvania Friends of 4-H. Funds will be used to help Pennsylvania delegates attend the National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C.

The National 4-H Conference provides a forum for more than 300 4-H members, volunteer leaders, and extension agents from across the nation and Canada to chart future directions for 4-H. Six to eight outstanding 4-H'ers from Pennsylvania will attend.

Farm Credit of Pennsylvania also donated \$600 to help the state 4-H dairy team attend the North American Invitational in Louisvil-

## le, Ky.

Founded in 1980, Pennsylvania Friends of 4-H is committed to enhancing 4-H programming and opportunities across the state. Since its inception, the group has raised more than \$680,000.

Funds are used to sponsor 4-H youth at events such as National 4-H Congress and Capital Days, recognize and train youth leaders, enhance or add educational programs, and publicize the full scope of 4-H programs.

For more information about Pennsylvania Friends of 4-H, contact Susan McLaughlin at 231 Agricultural Administration Building, the Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802, (814)863-1168.

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