

# Pennsylvania DHIA Board Action Summary

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2. A memorandum of agreement with the DRPC at Raleigh to provide service in Lancaster County was adopted.
3. The decision was made to extend the use of the direct billing system to those independent county associations who want to use it.
4. Service rates for direct members in Lancaster Co. were approved. They are based on the actual cost to provide service in the county and are not subsidized by any other county or group members.
5. Policy #4.15 regarding pricing of services and products was revised. The new policy requires the association's prices to be set by taking prices of competitive services into account.
6. The replacement of two company cars for region managers and one sample pickup truck was approved for a total expenditure of \$36,000.
7. The Board approved the replacement of the old calf page (half sheet) with a new heifer listing report.
8. Upon recommendation of the DRPC Advisory Committee, approval was given to begin development of a body condition scoring report for future introduction to members.
9. It was approved to provide non-fresh daughter lists to the studs that want them as soon as practicable.
10. Funds were allocated and approval was given for consulting assistance to help develop a technology planned for the association.
11. Policy #8.9 was adopted clarifying that PA DHIA members own their records.
12. The association's annual meeting was set for March 19 - 20, 1993, at the Radisson Hotel in Monroeville, PA.
13. A proposal was made to change the current Bylaws and give every county a minimum of two delegates at district meetings. This is an increase of one over the present minimum for independent counties.
14. A resolution to change the National DHIA Bylaws and provide more flexibility for members to market their services was adopted. (NOTE: this resolution was also endorsed by Northeast DHIA, and then the Northeast Caucus of National DHIA in November.)

## The Superior Technician Award

The purpose of the Superior Technician Award is to honor those technicians who deliver exceptional service to Pennsylvania's dairy farmers, promote good public relations, and provide up-to-date records for all of their members. The individual receiving this award must be full time, and have a minimum of 20 years of service. He or she must have previously received the distinguished service award, and have qualified for the award of merit for the current year. The award consists of a plaque and a check of \$100.00.

Leonard Miller of Friedens, PA was presented this award at the 68th Annual PA DHIA Technicians Conference at Altoona. Leonard has been with DHIA in Somerset County for over 29 years.

Leonard is well liked and respected by his members and the technicians with whom he works in Somerset County. His circuit consists of 27 dairies and over 1700 cows tested monthly. Last year he took 23,000 samples for processing at the central lab at State College. He maintains a near perfect test interval (30.8) and an exceptional "tested to received" time of .9 days. That means that many of Leonard's samples arrive at the lab the same day they are collected.

A 99.9% accuracy rate for the data input forms is further evidence of the exceptional job Leonard does for his dairymen. The Award of Merit was also presented to Leonard for the fourth consecutive year.



Larry Hay, Region 2 manager, left, presents Superior Technician Award to Leonard Miller, Somerset County.

## Distinguished Service Award

Each year a list of nominees for the Distinguished Service Award is formulated. Each candidate must have completed five years of service and qualified for the Award of Merit for the previous year. One technician is

chosen from each region based on the following criteria: Cooperation with county personnel, dairymen, DHIA personnel, statistical performance and neatness and appearance.

Technicians may only receive this award once. It is also required that a technician win this award prior to consideration for Superior Technician. The winners each receive a plaque and a check for \$25.00.

Jean Wolfe of Jefferson County received this award for the Northwest region one. Jean tests a full circuit of 37 herds and finds time to assist region manager David Bigelow as a Senior Technician. Jean maintains a "tested to received" of .9 and a 30.8 day interval.

Carolyn Loucks tests approximately 32 herds each month in Mifflin County and her near 100% accuracy rate and perfect 30.4 day test interval helped her win the award for region two. Region three recipient, Inez Moss, Columbia County, tests over 1700 cows per month and maintains a 99.8% accuracy rate. She has an impressive .8 day "tested to received" and a 30.5 day testing interval.

The region four recipient of the Distinguished Service Award is David Shenk III from Perry County. David maintains a 100% accuracy rate consistently. He maintains a circuit in Perry County and is also used as a senior technician, conducting verification tests and doing relief work. Dave's work takes him to all areas of the state.



Larry Hay, Region 2 manager, left, presents both the Putnam Award and 35 Years Service Award to Dean and Elmira Grimes, Bedford County.

## Putnam Award

Harold Probst of Lancaster County achieved this distinction by sampling over 64,000 cows from monthly visits to 123 herds. Harold was charged with 19 errors for 1991. All this while maintaining a 30.6 day test interval.

Elnira Grimes of New Enterprise, Bedford County, also received the Putnam Award. She services approximately 23 herds a month and consistently maintains a 100% accuracy rate. She and her husband, Dean, also a technician, provide service to sixty herds each month. Their DHIA experience spans 35 years, for which Dean received recognition.

The Putnam Memorial Award was

initiated in 1983 in honor of Dexter N. Putnam for his contributions to PA DHIA. Mr. Putnam served as an extension dairyman from 1951 until his retirement in 1982. Dexter's dairy extension responsibilities included working with DHIA technicians to improve their accuracy in reporting data on the input forms. The Putnam Award is given annually to the technician who commits the fewest errors per 1000 cows tested. Technicians may only receive this award once. The winner receives an engraved wall plaque. For the second year in a row, a second award is being given to a technician who has less than 22 days work a month.



Inez Moss, Columbia County, right, receives the Distinguished Service Award from Diane McIlwain, Region 3 manager.



Jean Wolfe, Jefferson County, received the Distinguished Service Award and a certificate for five years of service.

David Shenk III, Perry County, was given the Distinguished Service Award

## Tom Fox Has 55 Years Of Service

Tom Fox, a PA DHIA Technician in Clinton County reached an almost unbelievable milestone during the 1991 testing year. Tom was recognized for 55 years of service during the 68th annual Technicians Conference.

He is presently in his 57th year with PA DHIA.

Others receiving years of service recognition were: James Benfield, Dean Cheek, Dean Grimes 35 years, Gerald Pratt 30 years. William Meyers

25 years. Don Messinger, Gary Davies, Richard Bigelow 15 years.

There were five technicians recognized for ten years of service and seven with five years.