



Recipients of PYF's Outstanding Young Farmer Over 30 are Paul and Carla Witter, seated. Regional winners include, from left, Mary and Michael Hauck, Elizabeth and Noel Shlegel, Carol and Norman Croner, and Mim and Richard Brenneman.



PYF Recognizes Outstanding Farmers

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state winners.

Other regional winners eligible for the state title included Curvin and Darlene Miller who have a hog, steer, and dairy farm in Manheim; Robert and Kathy Waite, dairy farmers in Snyder County; and Jamie Mitchell, dairy farmer in region 5.

Outstanding Farmer Over 30
Paul and Carla Witter, Shippensburg, received the award for Outstanding Young Farmer over 30. The Witter's farm 260 acres located in Cumberland and Franklin counties. They milk 60 Holsteins, 5 Jerseys, and 2 Brown Swiss. Milk is shipped to the Maryland and Virginia Cooperative.

Witter, who rents land from his grandfather, said that minimum till is his main practice. Chisel plowing is done in the fall and wheat sown with a no till drill. Gleaner harvest is used.

The Witters have four cuttings of alfalfa with the first and fourth cutting used for haylage and the second and third used as dry hay.

Loose housing is used in the barn to reduce labor. Mastitis has been greatly reduced in the herd by using a teat spray treatment. Cows feed continuously at a whey feeder. The whey is a byproduct from a local cheese plant.

The Shippensburg couple are active in community events especially the local fair where they are in charge of Barnyard Olympics. They are hosting a second exchange student in their home, and are active members of Green Wood Hills Gospel Chapel. They have two daughters, Paula, 10, and Nancy, 7.

Witter said that he has had a lifetime involvement with PYF because ever since he was a little kid, he has been attending meetings with his grandfather. Witter will soon take office as president of the local PYF chapter. As members, the couple are extremely grateful for the help they receive from advisor Fred Dillner.

Other regional winners competing for the state title were Michael and Mary Hauck, dairy farmers in Mifflinburg; Noel and Elizabeth Schlegel, dairy farmers in Topton; Norman and Carol Croner, potato

farmers in Berlin; and Richard and Mim Brenneman, dairy farmers in Quarryville.

Community Service Award
The state community service award went to Robert and Melinda Tercha who farm 500 acres in partnership with Robert's father. The Terchas have a grain drying operation, and raise hogs and Angus bulls. The Terchas have a conservation plan that they follow from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. The farm has been placed in a ag security area.

Melinda was named the 1991 National Grange Outstanding Female Agriculturist and has won national awards for her photography. Robert is regional vice president and Melinda is reporter for the Kutztown PYF chapter. The Terchas are members of the United Church of Christ where Melinda is deacon, choir member, and active in the Ladies Aide Society. The couple also serve as youth directors.

Regional community service award winners included James and Barbara Brandt, dairy farmers in Somerset County, and Joe and Christine Heeter, beef farmers in Snyder County.

Larry Redding was selected as the PYFA honorary member. Redding teaches agricultural education in York County.

PYFA state officers include James Berry, president; A. Dale Herr, secretary; Jeff Rohrer, treasurer; Paul E. Zimmerman, Region II vice president; Robert Corman, Region III vice president; Fred Byers, Region IV vice president; Jim Stutzman, Region V vice president; Nelson Moyer, Region VII vice president; Duane Kling, past president; and Garry Maurer, public relations director.

Activities

During the three-day convention, more than 200 members attended educational workshops and toured East Penn Manufacturing Co., Inc.; F.M. Brown's Sons, Inc.; Dalton Biehl's extensive farm toy collection; Trace Pheasantry, Spayd's Greenhouse, and Bullinger's Mill.



Under 30 Outstanding Young Farmer award went to Stephanie and Mark Patches, seated. Regional winners include, from left, Jamie Mitchell, Robert and Kathy Waite, and Kervin and Darlene Miller.



PYF officers include Jeff Rohrer and James Berry, seated. Standing from left are Duane Kling, Paul E. Zimmerman, A. Dale Herr, Garry Maurer, Jim Stutzman, Fred Byers, Nelson Moyer, and Robert Corman.



Melinda and Robert Tercha, seated, are the state Community Service award winners. Regional winners include James and Barbara Brandt, left; and Christine and Joe Heeter.