

Old Guard Opens New Claims Office

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Old Guard Insurance Group held an open house on Friday, May 21, to mark the official opening of its new claims office. The facility is located at 147 West Airport Road in the Flyway Business Park, Lititz.

David E. Hosler, CPCU, president and chief executive officer of the Lancaster-based property and casualty insurance firm, cites continued growth, increasing regulatory requirements, and service to policyholders for the company's expansion into the 24,000 square foot facility.

"Even through moving Old Guard's claims operations to the Airport Road location places it one mile from the front door of our head office on Lititz Pike, the availability of this existing building allows us to increase service to policyholders immediately," Hosler said. "Otherwise, a major construction project would have been needed at the head office.

"We take seriously our heritage as a 'mutual' insurance company, meaning that our policyholders are owners, they are the boss," Hosler said. "The claims department now has a facility with which it can grow and adapt to changing needs of our customers and their insurance claims."

Old Guard purchased the building from Lebanon Valley National Bank in September 1992. Wickersham Construction and Engineering Inc. of Lancaster began renovations on the building immediately. The 30-employee claims department began operating out of the facility on December 14, 1992.



Old Guard Insurance Group President David E. Hosler, left, and Vice President of Claims Robert L. Wechter officially open the company's new claims facility located at 147 West Airport Road, Lancaster.

**Leadership
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Animal Breeders

(Continued from Page D2)

the state and national level, Herman has made many contributions to animal research, authoring more than 50 bulletins and more than 150 scientific papers. He is author or co-author of three textbooks. He served for many years as chairman of the research committee of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association and assisted in developing short courses for training technicians beginning in 1941. He also organized and taught one of the first college-level courses in AI in the United States.

Throughout the years, Herman has received many honors and recognitions, which include the Borden Award in dairy production in 1956, Gama Sigma Delta in 1968, Dairy Expo Man of the year 1973, Hall of Honors Leadership Award-Missouri 1973, Distinguished Service Award of American Guernsey Cattle Club in 1977, and honorary doctor of science, University of Missouri-Columbia, in 1988. He has judged dairy and dual purpose cattle at more than 30 state fairs and regional shows and was an approved judge for all milk breeds. He wrote the Artificial Breeding Column for Hoard's Dairyman for more than 25 years and is a contributor to other farm papers.

NAAB Research Award

If you look for reasons why the U.S. has superior dairy genetics, contributions of Dr. Duane Norman's research quickly come to the forefront.

Norman's major contribution was the formulation and

implementation of the modified contemporary comparison (MCC). The MCC procedures were used by USDA for sire evaluation from 1974 to 1989. It was very effective at accurately ranking sires, yet simple enough to be applied to the large database of U.S. dairy records. The MCC's effectiveness allowed the U.S. to emerge as a world superpower in dairy genetics.

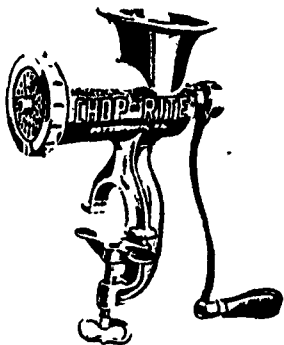
Although the MCC is no longer used, many of its features pioneered by Dr. Norman are still included as part of today's animal model procedures. These items include use of all location records, including a sire-by-herd interaction effect and calculating dollar value indexes. While the advantages of these are clear and are taken for granted in the U.S. these features are not used or have been incorporated only recently in other leading dairy countries.

Norman's research played a key role in the industry adopting a uniform linear type trait system. This included development of a system for calculating genetic evaluations for these traits and laying the groundwork to determine the value of these traits in predicting lifetime profitability. He also represented the U.S. on FAO's Technical Advisory Committee for "Testing of Different Strains of Friesian Cattle in Poland."

Norman currently serves as the supervisory research geneticist at AIPL. Recently, he coordinated acquisition of an in-house computer. This has allowed AIPL to continue their level of research without the need for greatly increased funding.

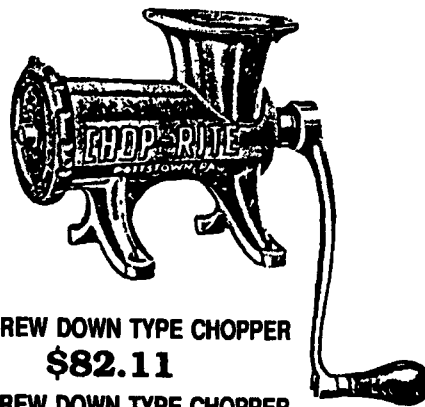


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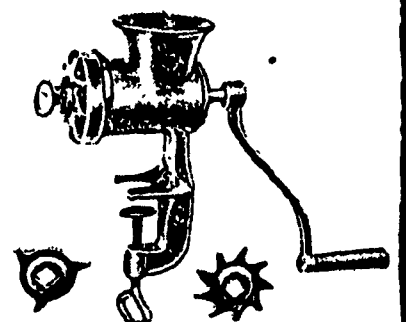
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