

Berks Holstein Picnic

FLEETWOOD (Berks Co.) — The Berks County Holstein Club held their annual picnic at Vista Grande Farm, Fleetwood. The farm is owned and operated by Dave and Phoebe Bitter and family. The picnic was attended by approximately 280 people.

To start off the evening, everyone enjoyed a pig roast.

There was a dairy judging contest for anyone who wished to participate. The judging contest was officiated by John Howard. The overall high score was by Duane Stump, Bernville, who was also the winner in the junior division. Karen Dietrich of Bernville was the winner in the women's division. The winner of the men's division was Richard Troutman, Jr. of Richland.

John Howard was also the guest speaker for the evening. Mr. Howard serves on the National Holstein Board of Directors. The topics he spoke on included changes in the Rules and Regulations of the National Convention. He also spoke on finances, field operations, classifying rule changes and sketchless registrations.

Berks County Dairy Princess, Jennifer Grimes, did her dairy promotion skit and Justine Stoltzfus, Little Miss Dairy Princess, said a



Duane Stump had the high score in the judging contest at the Berks County Holstein picnic.

poem.

Clarence Stauffer of Ephrata, Field Representative for the Holstein Association, spoke on the qualified herd book.

Erica Davis, Kutztown, who was the winner of the chain calf contest held last winter, spoke about the progress of the calf.

The evening was concluded with a slave auction. Thirteen Junior members donated their time and services to be auctioned off to raise money for their attendance to the 1995 National Holstein Convention to be held in Pittsburgh.



Mike and Nancy Muckenfuss of Mill Creek Organic Farm, Burlington County, sell fruits and vegetables at the Organic Country Fair.

New Jersey To Hold Organic Fair

PENNINGTON, N.J. — New Jersey's annual celebration of organic food, farming and gardening

will take place September 18, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., in Pennington, New Jersey.

Featured speakers include leaders in the organic farming community, such as Trauger Groh, biodynamic farmer for 33 years and author of *Farms of Tomorrow: Community Supported Farms, Farm Supported Communities*; Mike McGrath, editor in chief, *Organic Gardening Magazine*; and Chuck Benbrook, former executive director, Board of Agriculture, National Academy of Sciences, who will lead an Organic Town Hall Meeting on the subject of pesticides and children.

The one-day event, organized by the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (NOFA/NJ) will be held at the Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association on Titus Mill Road off Route 31.

More than 45 seminars, demonstrations, and tours will run throughout the day. Classes for the farmer/gardener will cover such topics as: an introduction to organic growing, edible landscaping, urban gardening, lawn care, permaculture, and growing cover crops. Slated demonstrations include beekeeping, composting, starting a wormbox, hand tools, aquaculture methods, and using season extenders. Demonstrations in healthful cooking will also be featured.

Organic garden doctors will be on hand to diagnose garden problems and available for sale will be farm/garden supplies, such as topsoil/potting soil, fertilizers, farm tools, composting equipment and pest control products. Farm/garden supplies and equipment will be auctioned in the afternoon.

Fairgoers will be able to sample and buy locally grown organic foods and talk to New Jersey organic farmers. Among the many treats for the palate will be whole wheat bagels with fruit jams, whole wheat pizza, corn on the cob with herbed butter, vegetable ratatouille with fennel and masala, fresh peach short cakes, and much more.

For those interested in a day in the country, farm craft demonstrations include basket making, dried flowers, hand crafted brooms, wood turning, pottery, log furniture, dyeing and spinning. Entertainment for all ages includes story telling, live music, games and a contra dance at the end of the day. Games include the bean bug toss, potato putt, kite making, salad bar collage, butter dance, cakewalk, junior farmer's relay, and the farmers decathlon.

NOFA/NJ is the only organic farm certification organization in New Jersey, certifying food as "organic" in accordance with nationally recognized standards. NOFA/NJ also develops education and marketing programs for organic farmers in the State.

Co-sponsored by the Watershed Association, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, the Fair is supported by grants from USDA, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, The Fund for New Jersey, and the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$1 for children 3-15 and free under three. Volunteers are admitted free of charge. Volunteers are needed for setting up the day before the Fair and for working on the day of the fair. For more information, contact NOFA/NJ, 609-737-7001.

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