

Poultry Association Elects President, Directors

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Lancaster Farming Staff
WILLOW VALLEY (Lancaster Co.) — "Seize the moment," Mike Harrold advised the 460 persons attending the annual Lancaster County Poultry Association banquet on Tuesday night at Willow Valley Convention Center.

Harrold, outgoing president of the Association, encouraged members to work together in product promotion.

"If you take one single pencil, it is easy to break, but put a bunch together it's like a lot of people working for a common good and it's hard to whip," he said.

Harrold said of his one-year-term on the board, "The more you learn about this organization, the more you like it."

Bob Armstrong of Mount Joy was appointed president by the board to serve a one-year term. Members elected the following directors: Liz Martin, Martin's Hatchery; Alissa Stolzenbach, Pennfield Farms; Dennis Herr, Kevin Starner, Kreider Farms; and George Georges, Wenger's Feed.

The annual banquet is a time to recap the past year's activities. The Association remains strong financially, according to treasurer Roger Moyer.

Clair and Shirley High, who are in charge of the Ephrata Fair food booth for the Association, presented a \$4,359 check, the second largest profit in its history.

Vice president Guy Martin expressed the board's appreciation for the promotional work done by Melissa Stauffer, both Pennsylvania and Lancaster County poultry queen, and by Mindy Dulio, county alternate.

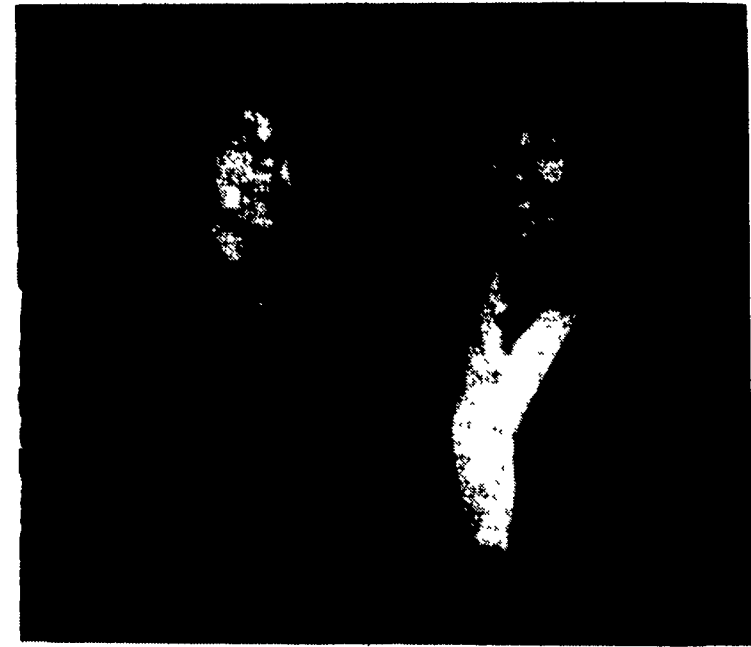
Recognized for past services were outgoing board members Clyde Slaymaker Jr., Robert Kreider, Robert Groff, and Roger Moyer.



Clair and Shirley High, who are in charge of the Lancaster County Poultry Association's food booth at the Ephrata Fair, raised \$8,755 this year. With a \$4369 profit, it was the second best year ever for the fund raiser.



Guy Martin, vice president of the Lancaster County Poultry Association presents scholarship plaques to Pennsylvania and Lancaster County Poultry Queen Melissa Stauffer, left, and to Mindy Dulio, alternate.



Liz Martin of Martin's Hatchery, left, and Alissa Stolzenbach of Pennfield Farms are newly elected directors for the Lancaster County Poultry Association.

Bob Armstrong Heads Lancaster County Poultry Association

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Armstrong said, "The big boys (in poultry) were not that big that they needed to hire a full-time worker and I couldn't afford a place of my own."

Armstrong spent his next years working for Frey's Turkey Hill Dairy. Although he liked cows, he desired to switch to the poultry end of farming. That opportunity arose with Agri-General in Shippensburg where he worked with layers, in the hatchery, and doing whatever

needed to be done.

"I kept doing whatever they asked me to do and I learned a lot that way," Bob said.

He credits his grandfather's advice to enabling him to come so far in the poultry industry.

"My grandfather always told me to listen to older people," Armstrong said. "Over the years I listened to others. I learned how the big operators deal with problems, how they do things, then I imple-

mented their ideas."

Growing up on a farm, Armstrong was not paid an allowance. "I needed to work for everything I got," he said. "That taught me respect for the value of money."

"I work for Garbers but I spend money as conservatively as if it were my own," said Armstrong, who considers himself extremely frugal.

Never afraid to try something with which he has no experience, Bob said that his job with the chickens also includes running the on-farm feed mill.

"It was all new to me, but the mill is the best part of all," Armstrong said. Feed is made for the 700 sow farrow-to-finish operation and for the half million chickens. Armstrong tends and does maintenance on the two chicken houses on the farm and services the remainder of chickens kept on nearby farms.

When he started working for the Garbers two years ago, about 20 to 100 tons of feed was made weekly. That amount has jumped to 250 to 300 tons weekly.

"We can't afford a mistake with the feed," Armstrong said of the need to keep the rations for both hog and chicken feed separate. He enjoys the challenge of working faster and more efficiently and is grateful for the opportunity to learn something new.

Armstrong said that the Poultry Association membership has

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Bob Armstrong, right, consults with one of the owner's of Garber's Farm, Jim Garber. Armstrong, who manages the Garber's half a million layers, said that he got his education in the chicken house and not through the book.



Lisa and Bob Armstrong