

Lebanon Farm Women Hold Convention

LOU ANN GOOD
Lancaster Farming Staff
LEBANON (Lebanon Co.) — Every year the individual counties that make up the 3,148 members of the Society of Farm Women of Pennsylvania hold a county convention. Recently, Lebanon County's 21 societies held their convention at the Quality Inn, Lebanon.

It was a time to reflect on the accomplishments of the county's 349 members, a time for fellowship, and a time to plan ahead.

Edith Lehman talked about some of the heirloom pieces that have been made by farm women and showed items made between 1885 to the present. She said that handmade treasures are often a part of farm women's lives and some of their expertise in making

them are considered a dying art. Some of the older pieces displayed included hairpin lace, Italian cut-work, and tatting.

The day included an update on food safety and nutrition by Alletta Schadler, Lebanon County home economist, and a presentation by Lebanon County Dairy Princess Stacy Krall.

In keeping with Farm Women's concern for those in need, an impromptu offering was lifted for an 11-year-old leukemia patient, Kevin, who is a member of the North Mountain 4-H Club in the county.

Lois Bohn, who presides as the county society president, presented pins to members who reached the 80- and 90-year-old mark. Helen Deaver, Elsie Fasnacht, and

Marion Houtz are 90-year-old members who reflected on their years with the society.

Elsie, who continues to drive her own car and lives on her own farm believes that the hard work she did on the farm contributes to her healthy lifestyle today.

She has been a widow for 17 years, has three children, five grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

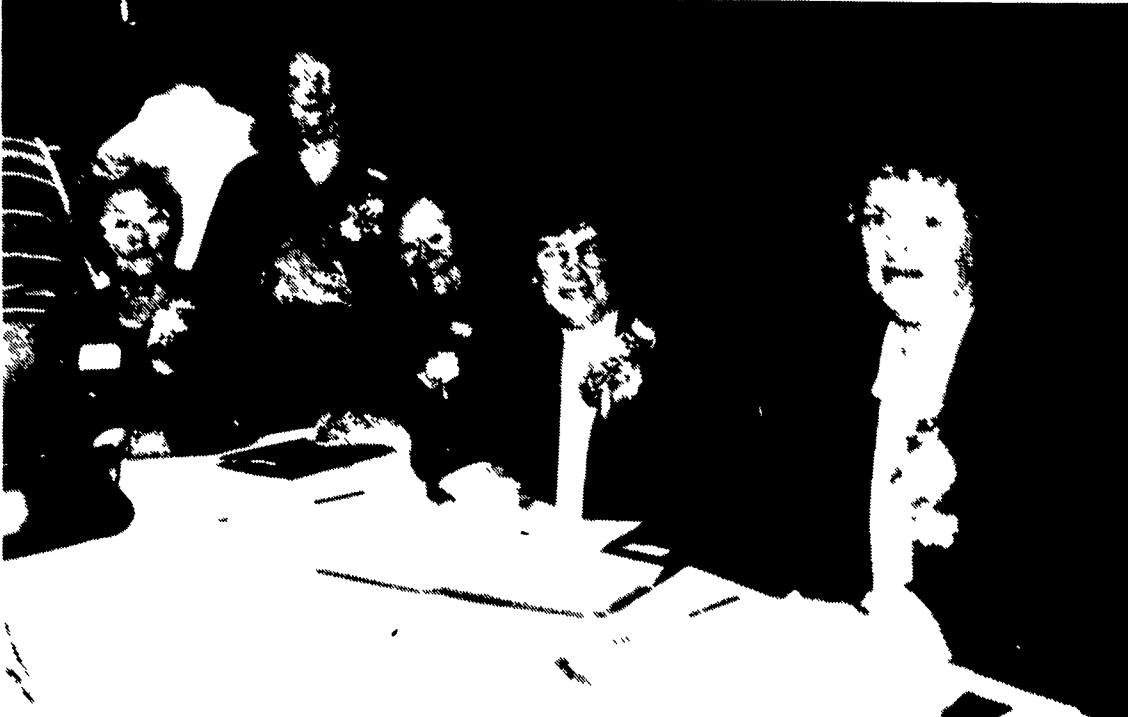
Quilting, cross-stitching and traveling to Europe, Hawaii, and other places occupies her time.

Helen Deaver is also 90 years old. She still lives on the farm that she and her husband farmed together. She's outlived three husbands since her last one died five years ago.

"You just put things behind you
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President Lois Bohn pins a Farm Women emblem on Cora Dubble of Society 2, who was honored her 80th year.



Officers of the Lebanon County Society of Farm Women include, from left, Ellene Keller, 2nd vice president; Susan Hawley, secretary; Nancy Bennetch, 1st vice president; Lois Bohn, president; and Rosene Bollinger, treasurer.



Betty McMinn congratulates 90-year-old member Marian Houtz of Society 13. When Betty was in third and fourth grade, she was a student of Mrs. Houtz.



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