

Lancaster Farm Women Review Year

LOU ANN GOOD
 Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)
 — About 300 women celebrated the Society of Farm Women of Lancaster County's 78th annual convention on November 5.
 It was a time for the members to review their activities throughout the year and to enjoy a day of renewing friendships.
 "The cows would give more milk if you dressed like this for them," a husband told his wife who made a quick transition from barn clothes to dressy ones before arriving for the all-day affair held at the Farm and Home Center.
 It's the versatility of farm women to fulfill many roles that best exemplifies Farm Women members that make up 29 societies within the county.
 Concern for home, farm, and community encourage members to "brighten the corner where they

are" in order to make the world a better place.
 Lots of happiness, cheer, and encouragement were spread to many retirement centers, children's homes, and in personal visits by the 720 members of the county society. Thousands of hours were spent sewing in area hospitals, cooking and serving meals to shut-ins and those who have a family member with a terminal illness, for Meals on Wheels, and farm sales. Societies have supplied food to community food banks, assisted fire companies with food and food baskets. Some of the organizations that were benefitted by farm women's generosity include the Heart Association, Cerebral Palsy, libraries, FFA and home economic classes, EFNEP, historical societies, shoe funds, heifer project, self-help stores, fairs, festivals, farm shows, and local youth organizations.

In addition to fundraisers held by the 29 individual societies and for state projects, the members also worked together to present a check for \$3,775 to be used for repairs to the Farm and Home Center. Not only does Farm Women use the center for meetings throughout the year but also it is used by hundreds of other agriculture and community service groups. Built in 1968, the building needed to have the heating system replaced and have an elevator

installed to comply with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Throughout the year each of the societies have held educational meetings on legislation, safety, and health. Time was also found for recreation and entertainment by visiting local attractions and neighboring states.
 Installation of Pauline M. Risser as secretary and Martha Gerber as treasurer resulted in the two joining other county officers Joyce Slaymaker, president; Kathryn

Fry, first vice president; and Allegra Leininger, second vice president.
 Althea Engle, Lancaster Extension home economist, addressed the group. She told the audience about her background in nutritional research and stressed the importance of eating five fruits and vegetables daily to maintain a healthy diet to help prevent cancer and dietary illnesses.

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Lancaster Society of Farm Women officers are, from left, Joyce Slaymaker, president; Kathryn Fry, first vice president; Allegra Leininger, second vice president; Pauline Risser, secretary; and Martha Gerber, treasurer.

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