

Cumberland County DHIA Celebrates 75 Years

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Cumberland Co. Correspondent
HUNTSDALE (Cumberland Co.) — The members of the Cumberland County Dairy Herd Improvement Association had a lot to remember and a lot of awards to give out during their 75th anniversary banquet at the Penn Township Fire Hall.

The high herd in milk award was won by Fred B. McGillvray with an average of 22,241 pounds of milk.

Al Hart Holsteins took home the high 2-year-old in protein award for Lady, a cow that posted 24,621 pounds of milk and 840 pounds of protein.

Donald A. McCullough captured the high 2-year-old in butterfat award with his Number 99 cow and her production of 24,290 pounds of milk and 1,134 pounds of butterfat.

The low herd in somatic cell count award was won by Ray Thrush and his Jet-Rae Farm with a figure of 86,000.

Woody Kelso took home the high cow in protein award with 1,043 pounds of protein and 31,474 pounds of fat recorded for his Number 643 cow.

Curtis and Ann Day were double winners at the banquet.

The Days went home with the high cow in milk and butterfat award for their animal Pearl which

recorded 34,780 pounds of milk and 1,485 pounds of butterfat.

Also, the Days captured the high herd in protein and butterfat award with figures of 724 pounds of protein and 888 pounds of butterfat.

The county winner of the DHIA herd management award was Mark A. Naugle.

Two new officers also were elected to three-year terms on the local DHIA board. Those chosen were Gerald Davidson and Harold Myers, both from Shippensburg.

The DHIA members took time as well to look back at their association's past, starting in 1919 when the Cumberland County Cow Testing Association was formed, to the modern DHIA.

There was one cow tester at the beginning, and at the end of the first year, there were 276 cows that recorded an average of 7,325 pounds of milk and 245 pounds of fat.

By comparison, the DHIA ended its 75th testing year with 7,037 cows averaging 17,770 pounds of milk, 662 pounds of fat and 571 pounds of protein.

One of the most interesting parts of the banquet came when County Agent Duane Duncan presented a videotape of an interview he did with G. Weir Strock. Strock is 101 years old and is the only living original member of the Cow Test-



Cumberland County DHIA production award winners are, in the front row from the left, Mark and Gretchen, Ray Thrush and Jeff McGillvray. In the back row, from the left, Donald McCullough, Ann and Curtis Day, and Alan and Doreen Roper.

ing Association.

In the interview, Strock talked about the many changes and challenges that life has presented him, his family and the dairy industry.

Another look into yesterday was provided by Harold Boldosser, a former DHIA manger and supervisor. Boldosser showed how DHIA testing has been done over the years. For instance, he said all test results were computed by hand

when the association began in 1919 and for many years after that. Only in relatively recent times have high-tech computers taken over that job, Boldosser said.

County Dairy Princess Kim Orris also spoke at the banquet. The entertainment was provided by the Rev. James Herman and his "friend" Chester, who performed a ventriloquist act.

David Slusser, the DHIA state manager, said the DHIA has

proven its worth in the past and will continue to do so into the future.

"The DHIA records program, through testing, analysis, refinement, and the creation of policies and regulations, has evolved in this way," Slusser said. "It has become a valuable management and evaluation tool for dairymen, the agriculture industry, and educators.

"Few programs can equal its impact on and importance to the success of an industry," he said.

Record Attendance At National FFA Convention

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — More than 34,000 FFA members, teachers and guests converged on Kansas City for the 67th National FFA Convention on Nov. 10-12.

The record number of attendees promoted the convention theme, "FFA—The Leadership Advantage," with a cross-section of speakers who challenged members to further enhance their leadership skills, build bright futures in the science, business and technology of agriculture and continue community involvement in their home towns.

Members from throughout the country came to experience the world's largest annual student gathering and to show their support for the blue and gold of the FFA.

The National Agricultural Career Show was the first event ever to fill the recently completed expan-

sion of the Kansas City Conference Center. This expansion to 62,000 square feet of show space accommodated 284 exhibitors including 25 displays in the hall of states, a special exhibit from NASA, an 18-store shopping mall, the FFA Food Court, and a stage that included live entertainment, speakers, and audiovisuals.

During the opening reflections program, Florence and Al Joyner, both Olympic gold medalists, kicked off the convention by inspiring an enthusiastic crowd of students with a message promoting positive attitude, goal setting, and the courage to persevere against the odds. During other sessions, Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy and Mary Fisher, founder of the Family AIDS Network, Inc. addressed the audience.

Other distinguished speakers at the convention included Miss

America Heather Whitestone, Vietnam Veteran Dave Roeber, Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture L.H. "Cotton" Ivy, and Guy Kawasaki, author and former director of software product management for Apple Computer, Inc.

FFA members participated in the multitude of convention activities including contest competition, awards ceremonies, leadership workshops, and the honoring of sponsors who make possible the extensive offering of FFA programs through the National FFA Foundation. The Honorary American FFA Degree, Distinguished Service Award, and VIP Citation were awarded to businesses and individuals who support the organization. The American FFA Degree, the highest degree earned by an FFA member, was conferred upon 1,454 recipients.

In transacting the official business of the organization, delegates voted and passed on their recommendations to the board of directors to continue the progress of the FFA.

The National FFA Alumni convention held on Nov. 9 included leadership workshops, awards ceremonies, and another successful auction, raising more than \$50,000 to support FFA programs. Bill Borer from Ohio purchased the pickup truck that was donated by Chevrolet through the FFA Foundation. All items sold at the auction were contributed by various businesses and individuals.



From the left, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Thrush receive an award for having the lowest herd average for somatic cell count among Cumberland County DHIA members, while Mr. and Mrs. Mark Naugle are named the winners of the county DHIA herd management award.

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