



State officers are from left, Darlene Schmelts of Dauphin County, treasurer; Becky Swallow of Somerset County, secretary; Catherine Schott of Lebanon County, second vice-president; Lois Hughes of Cambria County, first vice president; and Dorothy Stricker of Berks County, president.

Farm Women Unite To Carry Society's Ideals Into Future

LOU ANN GOOD

**Lancaster Farming Staff
HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)**
— Members of the Society of Farm Women of Pennsylvania gathered for a one-day convention at the Forum on Monday.

Members approved some amendments to the by-laws, elected a treasurer and two directors to the state board, reviewed the year's accomplishments, and renewed friendships.

The by-law changes were primarily made to accommodate a changing membership since the organization's founding in 1914. Candidates for membership no longer need to live in a rural community but need to manifest a love for the farm and rural life. Rules for holding county and state offices are a bit more accommodating for those active in local and state levels.

Barbara Nissley of Lancaster was elected state treasurer to fulfill the term of Audrey Gilbert, who died of auto accident injuries in December. Newly-elected directors are Mary Pankake of Dauphin County and Grace Book of Perry County.

The organization has a membership of 3,016 from individual societies spread across the state.

Awards were presented to the counties who achieved an increase in membership. These included Berks, 6; Cumberland, 7; Dauphin, 14; Greene, 17; Lancaster, 14; Lebanon, 4; Somerset, 16; and York, 22.

Although there was an increase of 100 members statewide, the society lost 124 members through deaths and resignations.

Each county reported on their

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Planist Trudy Reichard and solist Helen Williamson provide musical entertainment.



County presidents seated from left are Cheryl Humbert, Fulton; Wendy Lingle, Berks; Catherine Thomas, Franklin; Bonnie Sikora, Cambria; Patricia Lehman, Cumberland; Becky Swallow, Somerset; Carolyn Neal, York; Joyce Slaymaker, Lancaster; and Lois Bohn, Lebanon.

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