

## **Pa.DHIA Welcomes** New Technicians

### DAVID BIGELOW Training Coordinator

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Pa.DHIA welcomes two new employees, Renee Miller and Kevin Rickert.

Rence Miller serves Westmoreland County and part of Fayette County.

Rickert's service area inlcudes all of Beaver and parts of Lawrence and Washington counties, currently with 26 herds.

The agriculture industry is no stranger to Miller. Growing up in the Westmoreland County area, Renee had the opportunity to join several 4-H clubs. The dairy, horse and market lamb 4-H clubs gave her the opportunity to express herself in the things that she enjoyed most our of life.

One of the most noted accomplishments in Renee's life is being on the 1989 Dairy Bowl state championship team. That team went on to be ranked third in the nation.

She graduated from Ligonier Valley Senior High School in 1990. After graduation from high school, Rence went onto Penn State University's Fayette Campus where she majored in dairy animal science.

Her hobbies include horseback riding, hunting, fishing, riding motorcycles and working with animals.

Some things that Renee likes most about working for Pa.DHIA are being able to meet so many nice people as she completes her circuit each month. Being able to work closely with an industry that is so close to her heart is certainly a great opportunity.

Kevin Rickert completed his Pa.DHIA technician studies at the field training seminar in February.

Rickert graduated from Lawrence County Vocational-Technical School in 1983. Some of his work experience includes working in construction, working in a sawmill and working part time



Kevin Rickert



**Renee Miller** 

### **Board Of Directors Reorganizes**

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Finance and Personnel Committee, as well as serving on the Pa.DHIA-Mideast Study Group. In 1994, Sollenberger was elected to serve a secretary of the

state board. William Jackson, of Fayette County was elected vice president during the reorganizational meeting, while Dale Hoover, of Lebanon County was named treasurer, and Neal McCulloch, of Cumberland County, was named secretary. Also elected to serve on the board's Executive Committee were John Wilcox, from Bradford County, who is to serve as a director-at-large.

Past president Frank Orner, of Clearfield County, was also asked to serve for another year on the committee.

Norm Hershey, of Lancaster County, was elected chairman of the Pa.DHIA Retirement Committee.

Other directors of the 1995 board include Bill Itle, of Cambria County; Steve Mowry, Bedford County; John Brodzina, of Huntingdon County; Ralph Gilkinson, of Erie County; Don Duncan, of Berks County; John Castrogiavanni, of Susquehanna County; Mark Eby, of Sullivan County; Brooks Smith, of Perry County; Luke Rebuck, of Northumberland County; Marian Butler, of Tioga County; and Bill Jackson, of Fayette County.

For more information, contact a local director, or call Pa.DHIA at (814) 865-1517.



The members of the 1995 Pa.DHIA Board of Directors are, from the left, front row, Lane Sollenberger, Bill Jackson, Neal McCulloch, Dale Hoover, John Wilcox, and Frank Orner. From the left, second row, are John Castrogiavanni, Mark Eby, Brooks Smith, Luke Rebuck, and Marian Butler. From the left in the back row are Bill Itle, Steve Mowry, John Brodzina, Ralph Gilkinson, Don Duncan, Norm Hershey, and George Cudoc.



The members of the 1995 Pa.DHIA Executive Committee are, from the left, front row, Lane Sollenberger, president, Bill Jackson, vice president, Neal McCulloch, secretary, and Dale Hoover, treasurer. From the left, back row, is John Wilcox, director at large, and Frank Orner, past president, who is to continue on the committee for another year.

# **Pa.DHIA Announces Regional Seminars**

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — The Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association (Pa.DHIA) has announced a series of regional seminars set to run May 15 through May 19 at various locations throughout the state. The deadline for reserving a place at a seminar is May 5. To register, those invited to attend are asked to indicate which seminar they would like to attend and to fax a response to Pa.DHIA at (814) 865-3924.

Pa.DHIA manager, and James Boyer, processing center manager, sent out this week announcing the seminars, states that, "Difficult economic circumstance and charm competition at a time of diminishing extension resources have driven the increasing demand for closer cooperation between DHIA and veterinarian practitioner, nutritionists, and other agribusiness consultants. "Because your vision for the future is important to us, Pennsylvania DHIA will be sponsoring a number of regional meetings ... . According to the letter, dated Wednesday, a number of topics may be discussed during the semi-

nars. Six questions are asked in the letter concerning the topics. "Are you or your clients interested in milk urea nitrogen testing?

nishes, what can DHIA do to enhance its function as an educator? Should DHIA hold regular, regional workshops for consultants? On what topics? Traditional records programs? Hands-on computer training? "What steps can DHIA take to insure that its support community remains 'plugged in,' and apprised of new developments and consulted throughout the design process?" All seminars are set to run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The dates and locations of the seminars are May 15, Howard Johnson's, in Mercer, May 16, at the Arena Restaurant in Bedford; May 17, at Crosskoyi Restaurant, in New Oxford; May 18, at the Holiday Inn, in Morgan town; and May 19 at the Pink Apple Restaurant, in Tunkhannock. For more information, call (814) 865-1517.

on a dairy farm.

His hobbies are gardening, playing steel guitar and raising young heifers. We know the ambition and enthusiasm that Kevin has to offer will sure be an asset.

We invite the dairy industry to welcome both these people as part of the team.

Please feel free to contact Pa.DHIA at (800) 344-8378, if we can be of any assistance in your dairy operation. According to Pa.DHIA, the seminars are primarily designed for dairy veterinarians, nutritionists and extension agents.

A letter from Dave Slusser,



How frequently? What percentage of a herd should be tested?

"Would you be interested in participating in a Northeast Resources Consortium sponsored by DHIA, that would facilitate marketing advertising and communication between dairy industry supporters and clients via the internet or other electronic means?

"As Pa.DHIA's ARIS program enters its second decade, how should it be changed to meet your needs?

"As Pa.DHIA gains maturity in the on-farm computing business, how can those systems and programs be designed to support practitioners and agribusiness consultants?

"As the land grant universities' role in education and support dimi-