



Love still blooms for these couples who met each other through the Rural Youth organization. From left, kneeling: Stewart and Anna Rentschler, Ida and Allen Risser. Middle section: Paul and Edle Huber, Roy and Martha Jane Brubaker, Graybill and Doroth Hollinger, Robert and Miriam Boyce, Carl and Ann Diller. Back row, Martha Stoner whose husband Raymond is deceased, Jeanette Miller whose husband Amos is deceased, and Paul and Nancy Witmer.

Rural Youth Bring Back The Fun They Used To Have

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Lancaster Farming Staff
STRASBURG (Lancaster Co.)
— Bob Groff showed up in his bib overalls and plaid shirt at the Rural Youth of Lancaster County Reunion Banquet held at Hershey Farm Restaurant last Saturday.

"I wore this for three reasons," Groff said as he welcomed about 90 guests, who wore their Sunday best for the annual banquet. "Number one, I didn't have time to change because I came right from the cow stable. Two, I feel more comfortable in this. And, number three, I only have one white shirt and I needed to save it for Sunday morning."

As master of ceremonies, Groff interspersed many jokes and stories between introducing the even-

ing's activities. His remarks brought back "the fun we used to have" and helped fulfill the evening's purpose for "fun, fellowship, and food."

The Rural Youth of Lancaster County was organized in 1937 by former 4-H and FFA students to provide social and educational activities for young people.

The former members eagerly recounted the fun they created between the years of 1937 through 1952. They sang some of the old songs that Roy Brubaker said make up a great part of the rural meetings. His wife Martha Jane played the piano just like old times. And Anna Shreiner Rentschler recited some poetry, a popular event in the years before teen-agers relied on movies and

television to entertain them.

Many of the couples attending the banquet said that it was through Rural Youth activities that Cupid struck and the love that sprouted resulted in marriage.

Although the majority seemed to have found their life's mate through the organization, there were a few such as Ed Dieffenbach, who said that although he dated several members, it wasn't until he went back to college that he found his wife Jane.

Dieffenbach was an Iowa boy who came to the county as a milk tester in lieu of military service during the war years. After he finished college, Dieffenbach became a county extension agent in Susquehanna County. "But I

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Committee members who planned the reunion are, front from left, Anna Rentschler, Nancy Witmer, Ann Diller, and Edle Huber. Back, Paul Huber, Stew Rentschler, Paul Witmer, Carl Dillier, Millie Groff and Bob Groff.



Ed and Jane Dieffenbach renew old acquaintances. Ed, formerly from Iowa, worked in Lancaster County as a DHIA milk tester, and later was a Susquehanna County agent before retirement.



Robert and Evelyn Hess attend the Rural Youth Of Lancaster County Reunion Banquet.