

Somerset Fair Selects Fair Queen, Century Farm Recipients

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Somerset Co. Correspondent
MEYERSDALE (Somerset Co.) — When she became the "Fairest of the (Somerset County) Fair" Christy Croner, unlike her predecessor, was spared the ordeal of promenading through sawdust chips in a gorgeous gown and heels.

For the first time in recent history the contest was held where it was planned to be — on the stage in front of the grandstand, instead of inside the exhibitor's arena where a torrential, last minute washout sent frustrated coordinators scrambling to execute their only alternative.

Christy, first alternate Erica Walker, and other fair queen contestants, Corby Svonavec, Angela Yingling, Heidi McKenzie and Cherie Green, were interviewed by Grandpa Cratchet of the fair puppet show.

The elderly gentleman drove his flashy red wagon right up on the stage via a convenient ramp, then performed his ceremonial duties without ever exiting the vehicle. Mysterious, indeed, but highly entertaining.

Christy had to be almost everywhere at once after winning her crown. After all, the duties of a fair queen require her to be seen at as many events as possible.

"It's lots of fun," she said a few days later. "There is lots to do and see and lots of places to be at once," she laughed, adding, "and many people to meet."

Children caught her fancy, of course. She noticed how little girls were very admiring and didn't hesitate to approach her. All of them want to be a fair queen some



Thomas L. Baer, right, and wife, Dorothy, Somerset, RD4, receive the Century Farm plaque from Kenneth Mowry, left, Region 5 director of the Altoona office of the Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture. The Somerset County Farm has been in the Baer family since 1895. Mowry said there are 61 Century Farms in the state. The ceremony took place during the Somerset County Fair held recently in Meyersdale.



Somerset County 1995 Fair Queen Christy Croner, left of Berlin, stands with first alternate Erica Walker, Berlin.

day.

Little boys, as well, were fascinated, but Christy observed their shyness and reserve. Mostly, they would trail along behind her and say nothing.

An active 4-H'er of nine years, Christy belongs to two clubs. With Milksquirts she's done sewing projects and been a winner in the headline competition.

With the Valley 4-H Club, she has gone into riflery and shotgun and is now a marksman.

She's the daughter of Norman and Carol Croner and a junior at the Berlin-Brothersvalley High School, active in student council, SADD, Spanish Club and several sports.

She's a member of the Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Berlin.



Samuel Poorbaugh, right, and wife Anna, center, from Glencoe, Somerset County receive the Century Farm plaque from Kenneth Mowry, Region 5 director of the Pennsylvania Dept. of Agriculture in Altoona. The presentation is made at the Somerset County Fair in Meyersdale. The Burbach Farm has been in the family since 1789.

Apple Dumpling Festival To Benefit Ephrata Cloister

EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.) — The Ephrata Cloister Associates will hold the 15th annual Apple Dumpling Festival on the grounds of the Ephrata Cloister on Saturday, October 7.

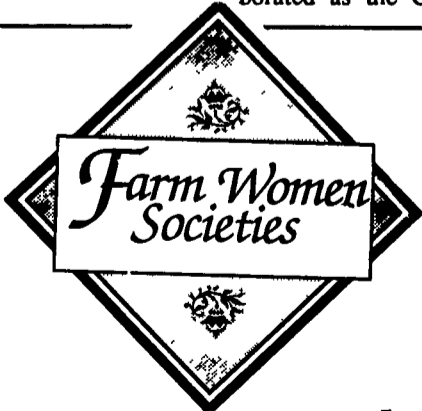
In addition to homemade apple dumplings, this fundraiser will offer hot dogs, beef vegetable soup, and a variety of beverages. All of the proceeds from the event will be donated to the "Back to the Cloister Fund" that is used to purchase original Cloister artifacts for the permanent collections in the museum. While on the grounds, visitors are encouraged to tour the museum and the rare historic

buildings.

Founded in 1732 by a German pietist mystic named Conrad Beissel, the Ephrata Cloister today retains perhaps the largest collection of Germanic medieval-style buildings constructed out of log and half-timber to be found anywhere in North America. The celibate orders who lived here between 1732 and 1813 practiced an austere lifestyle of self-discipline that emphasized spiritual rather than material goals. Married householder families who lived within a five-mile radius also contributed to the community's economy and later incorporated as the German Seventh

Day Baptist Church. The site was acquired by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1941 and is today administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

The Ephrata Cloister is located at the intersection of Route 272 and Route 322 in Ephrata. Individuals with disabilities who need special assistance or accommodation should call (717) 733-6600 or 733-4811 in advance to discuss their needs.



Berks Society 1

Pauline Hartman, Oley, was hostess to the Berks County Society of Farm Women Group 1 for its August meeting. President Evelyn Heacock presided at the meeting. The group was pleased to hear Patricia Beggs speak on the subject "Eating to Win." She is a registered dietician and is employed at

the Lutheran Home at Topton. Plans were made at the meeting to operate the refreshment stand at the farm sale of Warren and Joan Haas, Douglassville, on September 9.

Group 1 also enjoyed their annual summer picnic which was held at Levegood's Grove, Douglassville.

Berks Executive Board

The Berks County Farm Women Executive Board met on August 28 at the home of President Wendy Lingle for a covered dish picnic. There were 21 members in attendance. The meeting was called to order and the devotions were led by Betsy Sattazahn from Group #5.

State President Dorothy Stricker reported that the state board meets on September 7, and Berks County will be responsible for the Memorial Service at the State Convention in January.

Janet Schlegel reported agribusiness brochures are printed and she will have some for the County Convention. The brochure contains all the statistics on agriculture in Berks County. The Farm City Banquet will be held at the Riveredge Restaurant on Novem-

ber 2.

President Lingle informed us there will be a "Teddy Bear" picnic at Berks Heim on September 9, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and volunteers are needed to run the hamburger and sausage stands. Berks Heim bingo will be at 7 p.m. on November 2 at the Annex. Each group is to bring an angel food cake and prizes. The Reading Fair will be held at the Kutztown Fairgrounds from September 25 - 30. Chairperson of the convention committee, Dorothy Lutz, reported the cost per ticket this year is \$12 and the menu is ham and stuffed chicken breast. She will need the total number of people coming by September 30.

The next board meeting will be held on November 6 at the Berks County Ag. Center.

Berks Society 3

Group 3 of the Berks County Society of Farm Women held a family picnic at the home of Jeanette Miller, Barto, in July. Roll call was to name one's favorite picnic food.

Frances Moyer was accepted as a new member.

Members and friends of Group 3 visited and toured the Peter Wentz Homestead in August. Lunch followed at the Trolley Stop Restaurant in Skippack.

The Berks County Society of Farm Women Convention will be held on Saturday, October 7, at the Agricultural Center. Cost is \$12.

The next meeting will be held on September 26 at the home of Wendy Shane, Sweinhart Road, Boyertown. The topic for the evening will be "Getting Your Affairs in Order."