

## Farm Bureau Holds

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honor members who made significant contributions to the advancement of PFB's efforts to support farmers.

Roger Madigan, with the state's 23rd District, is "a conservationist, an avid sportsman, and a farmer," said PFB president Keith Eckel in presenting the award. "Roger Madigan is also a legislator who has used his knowledge and love of agriculture to work for the betterment and preservation of agriculture in Pennsylvania."

Madigan was cited for his role in the enactment and strengthening of the Pennsylvania Milk Producers Security Fund in the early 1980s, according to a PFB. The milk dealer-supported fund protects dairy farmers financially in the event of a dealer bankruptcy. Up until the law was enacted, several dealers had gone out of business, owing millions of dollars to dairy producers who shipped their milk to them.

Madigan, who grew up on a farm in Bradford County, was a key supporter of the state farmland preservation and the Clean and Green laws. In addition, he helped introduce S.B. 805, the Private Property Protection Act. This legislation requires government agencies to act more responsibly when promoting legislation affecting private property.

Also at the banquet, Harold M. Shaulis, Jr., Somerset, retired PFB state board member from Dist. 11, was honored with a special recognition award for his service to PFB from 1987-1995. He said serving

PFB "has been an education. Money can't buy the education that serving on this board of directors provides you. You have the opportunity to go places, meet people, (and) learn things constantly."

In addition, several county Farm Bureau organizations were honored. Winning first place for their efforts in promoting PFB was the Berks County Farm Bureau and the bureau's 1,528 families, represented by Edward Hartman, Reading, president. Berks County won the All Star Award for top county. They also won individual program awards for outstanding women's committee, state legislative, national legislative, policy development, contract services, and ag commodity programs.

Second place went to Jane Balmer, Mount Joy, president of the Lancaster County Farm Bureau, and third place went to Charles Benner, Middleburg, president of the Snyder County Farm Bureau.

Earlier in the day, a young couple was selected to receive the PFB Outstanding Young Farmer Award. The award was presented to Timothy and Denise Wetzels, who operate a 262-acre dairy farm and milk 80 cows in Middleburg.

Since they began farming full time, the Wetzels have made improvements to their barn and renovated the milking parlor. Their rolling herd average has improved from 16,835 pounds to 20,387 pounds. Tim serves on PFB's Dairy Committee and the Snyder County Farm Bureau Dairy Committee. He is also the area

coordinator for the Dairy-MAP program and serves as a state director for the Pennsylvania Holstein Association. Denise is a member of the county farm bureau women's committee.

Coreena Meyer, Loganton, won the discussion meet contest, which challenged nine young members to solve problems affecting agriculture. Coreena will compete in the national discussion meet contest during the American Farm Bureau convention in Reno, Nev. on Jan. 7-10. She was also the recipient of a \$500 check from Dodge Truck.

During the three-day meeting, several hundred farm leaders, including 169 voting delegates, met to elect leaders and set policies for the statewide farm organization.

PFB delegates re-elected Guy Donaldson of Gettysburg to his fifth term as vice president of the organization. Board members re-elected (to two-year terms) and the county farm bureaus they represent are:

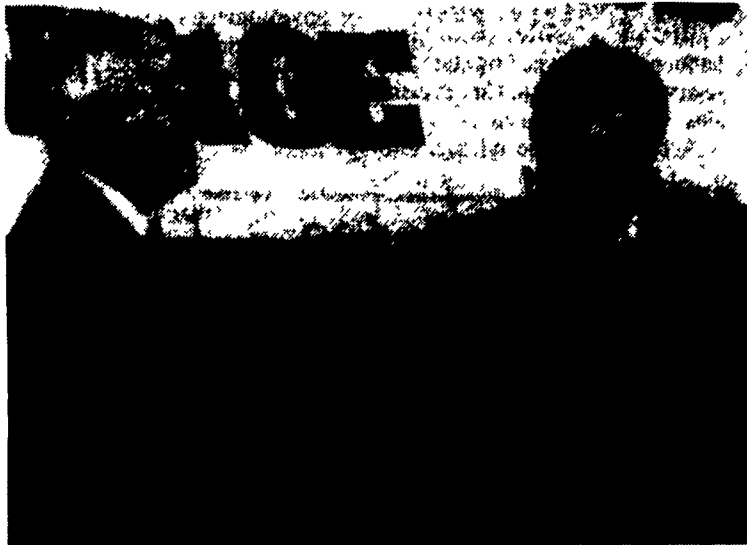
- Allen Roszel, Montrose (Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming/Lackawanna)
- Curtis Kratz, Souderton (Berks, Chester/Delaware, Montgomery)
- Milford Kinsman, Troy (Bradford/Sullivan, McKean/Potter, and Tioga/Potter)
- Roxy Levan, Milton (Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union)
- Richard Mains, Newville (Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, and Fulton)
- Thomas McIlwain, Spring Church (Armstrong, Clarion, Elk, and Jefferson)
- Alan Dambach, Fombell (Beaver/Lawrence, Butler, and Mercer).

In voting to support a pilot school voucher program, voting delegates reversed the organization's previous policy opposing any use of public funds for private schools and put PFB in a position to support Gov. Tom Ridge's revised education reform proposal. The governor promoted his proposal for a scaled-down five-year pilot school voucher program during an address before the annual meeting's opening luncheon.

Voting delegates adopted other policies, including:



Harold M. Shaulis, Jr., Somerset, retired PFB state board member from Dist. 11, left, was honored with a special recognition award for his service to PFB from 1987-1995. At right is PFB President Keith Eckel.



Sen. Roger Madigan, left, was honored with the 1995 Distinguished Service To Agriculture Award at the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) 45th Annual Member Recognition Banquet on Tuesday night at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Presenting the award is PFB President Keith Eckel.

- Reiteration of the organization's stance supporting the principals of a market-oriented agriculture.
- Calls for financial protection of farmers when grain dealers and grain elevators declare bankruptcy.
- Calls for a standardization of milk residue screening tests.
- Amended school tax reform

policy which advocates shifting the burden from real estate taxes to a locally determined combination of real estate taxes, income taxes, plus sales taxes at the option of the local school board.

In other action, PFB President Keith Eckel appointed Jenny Teeter of Milan chairman of the state women's committee, succeeding Martha Rhoades, Emlenton.

## N.J. Honors Dairy Farmers

TRENTON, N.J. — Eight New Jersey dairy farms will receive the prestigious Dairy of Distinction Award for 1995. Since the program's inception in 1987, 62 New Jersey dairy farms have been honored.

The Dairy of Distinction Award is given to those dairy farmers whose farms, buildings, grounds, and surroundings are maintained to a high standard, stimulating pride in the dairy farms and to create a positive image for the wholesome products they produce.

The contest is sponsored by the Northeast Dairy Farm Beautification Program with the area coordinated by August Knispel, president of the Garden State Milk Council with cooperation from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

August Knispel thanks all participants and encourages all dairies to apply again next year. The judges for this year were Vin Samuel and Richard Schumm, both with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture; Charlie Miller, New Jersey Farm Bureau; and David Lee of Rutgers Extension Service.

In recognition for maintaining a well-kept farmstead, giving con-

sumers greater confidence in the wholesomeness of milk and contributing in preserving more than 220 square miles in open land (total land for N.J. dairy farms), this year's winners are:

- John Csiszlak and Family, Csiszlak Farms, Phillipsburg
- Carl and Dawn Russel, Carda Holsteins, Wantage
- Robert and Fred Fulper, Fulper Hill Farm, Lambertville (also host of the 1995 Dairy Open House)
- Duane and Catheline Young, Holland Valley Farm, Milford
- Miles and Charles Kuperus, Kuperus Farmside Gardens, Sussex
- Lisa Stangle and Tom Smith, TLS Farm, Belvidere
- Daniel and Laura Chard, Terra Rose Holsteins, Woodstown
- John and Sarah Dumschatt and Family, Alway Welcome Jersey Farm, Hope.

Awards will be presented at the New Jersey Dairy Princess Pageant, which will be held at the Somerset County Extension Building, Bridgewater, N.J. tonight. The public is invited.

August Knispel announced that the Garden State Milk Council will be hosting the 60th year anniversary convention of the International Association of Milk Control Agencies (IAMCA). These activities will be held from August 4-8, 1996 at the Sheraton Hotel in Atlantic City, NJ.

The program plans call for tours of New Jersey dairy and related agriculture industries, exhibition of New Jersey products, and discussions of issues and ideas important to dairy farmers, regulators, consumers, milk dealers and retailers. August Knispel invites all members of the New Jersey agricultural community to support this worthwhile cause and provide a successful meeting. For more details, contact August Knispel, president of the Garden State Milk Council, (908) 735-4989 or Vin Samuel or Richard Schumm at (609) 984-2511.

During the 59th annual meeting of the IAMCO, Vin Samuel, secretary-treasurer of the Garden State Milk Council and dairy economist with the New Jersey Dept. of Agriculture, was elected president of the IAMCO.



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