



Melvin Wenger, left, received the Lancaster Chamber's George C. Delp Award from Mr. Delp at the annual ag/industry banquet.

Wenger Receives Delp Award, Lancaster Century Farms Named

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — Since the Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry is the only county organization of this type in the nation to have a full time agricultural services manager, the annual ag/industry banquet Tuesday evening became a platform for recognizing the cooperative and interdependent efforts that exist between farm and city.

"People who work together and share common destinations get there quicker and easier if they travel on the thrust of one another," said Louis Varljen, chairman, chamber board. "In Lancaster County we have 5,030 farms with 421,000 acres; \$701 million in sales that help to create 30,000 non-agricultural jobs. Everything you touch has ties to agriculture."

Jim Shirk, ag services manager, agreed. "We believe a strong agriculture is important to a strong Lancaster County economy," Shirk said. "We are committed to insure a viable, profitable ag eco-

nomy in the county for generations to follow."

Six years ago the chamber established the George C. Delp award to recognize individuals who have

made outstanding contributions to the agricultural industry of Lancaster County. Ken Meck, chairman of the ag committee, announced the

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From the left, Pennsylvania Apple Queen Kristen Johnston, state Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brosius and state Alternate Dairy Princess Heather Oberholtzer display Pennsylvania dairy and apple products during a special unveiling of a PDA 100th anniversary commemoration display. See story on page A 31.

Brant Honored By York Extension

JOYCE BUPP

York Co. Correspondent

BAIR (York Co.) — York County's Cooperative Extension Service has named Tom Brant the latest winner of the Extension Involvement Award.

The surprise honor was announced as the highlight of the York Extension Service's annual meeting, held Nov. 10 at the York 4-H Center.

"No task is too small or too large for Tom Brant," said extension horticulture specialist Tom

Becker, who made the presentation. "He is instrumental in promoting agriculture in hundreds of ways, often working out of the limelight."

Brant has been involved in extension programs for 35 years, beginning as a 4-H member exhibiting a beef club steer. As manager of D. E. Horn and Company of Red Lion for nearly 20 years, he supported extension efforts in numerous ways, including support and sponsorship of many 4-H activities and events.

He has served as president and vice president of the Extension Association, served on the agronomy and livestock advisory committees, and represented the county at various regional and state cooperative extension activities. Brant has further served as a board and executive board member of the 4-H Center.

Brant's involvement also includes serving as a director of the Pennsylvania Livestock Association, co-chaired its popular

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National Grange In Harrisburg Adopts Policy, Elects Officers

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.
Lancaster Farming Staff

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — National Grange policy was developed this past week in Harrisburg as hundreds of members and delegates attended the organization's annual convention.

The National Grange is a 129-year-old — the nation's oldest — general farm and rural family organization with 300,000 members in 37 states representing 3,600 local Grange chapters.

Ending this week, it had been more than 30 years since the national convention was last held in Pennsylvania. This year it was at the Harrisburg Hilton and Towers.

Policy is developed and approved locally and submitted to state organizations, where it is refined, and ultimately is proposed before the delegate body for consideration as national policy.

Five major policies were approved during the convention.

Those policies focus on private property rights and environmental concerns; parental rights; the treatment of the dairy industry in the new Farm Bill; simplifying taxes; and establishing a means-testing to determine commodity support

payments to achieve directing support toward those who need it (i.e. family and smaller local farms.)

As far as its dairy policy, the delegate body approved a policy to maintain the current marketing order system and make the export market more accessible for the dairy industry.

This comes against efforts in Washington D.C. to strip the Farm Bill of all dairy marketing orders — in effect to deregulate the industry — and to allow the industry to reform as the market, (financial and regulatory) ability, and opportunity allows.

Some speculate that such deregulation of the dairy industry could mean the cessation of independent dairies and family dairy farms.

The potential effect of deregulation with cooperatives is not as clear, but with dairy futures trading possible, and contract dairy production being considered more likely, some paint a scenario of a few large dairy corporations becoming established, with perhaps early drops in retail dairy prices, but eventually higher consumer prices than what a more competitive (as is now the case) production industry would demand.

Also, there is a possibility that more imported dairy products could enter the market, further

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On the left, National Grange Master Robert Barrow and Pennsylvania State Grange Master Gordon Hiller join in a milk toast with Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Rhonda Kleklak.