



Future Cooperative Leaders Gain Experience At Conference

ALTOONA (Blair Co.) — Cooperative education, leadership development and young adult fellowship were the benefits for the 52 young cooperative members that participated in the Pennsylvania Council of Cooperatives (PCC) Young Leader Conference at the Allenberry Resort in Boiling Springs, PA, from July 8-10.

Highlighting the 3-day conference was a keynote presentation by nationally known speaker, Ronald Eberhard of the Business & Estate Planning Services. Eberhard addressed both relationship and business concerns in two separate workshops. In the first, he spoke of the importance of dreams and common goals in farm family/business relationships. Using examples from over 30 years of working with farm families, he stressed the importance of communication in both presentations. In his second workshop, Eberhard provided sound advice on preparing a written business agreement among the farm family, including estate planning issues. He was sponsored by Nationwide Insurance.

In addition to Eberhard's presentation, attendees also participated in workshops targeting cooperative basics and media communications. Robert Cohen, Region Manager for Volunteers for Overseas Cooperative Assistance, used games, lectures and group activities to illustrate cooperative principles. Patricia Stoup, Director of Communications and Education for Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers, challenged the audience with a variety of role playing experiences to help them better relate to the public and media on tense industry issues.

Participants also felt privileged to hear dinner presentation speaker William Perry with Milk Marketing, Inc., who talked about the fast pace of change in agriculture and the importance of cooperatives and creative marketing strategies.

The young cooperative members also participated in round table discussions with cooperative leaders and demonstrated cooperative principles through skits produced and performed by the participants.

Region leaders that assisted with the 1996 conference included conference chair couple, Robert and Jennifer Baughman, Townville; Joe and Yvonne Garber, Southeast Region; Gary and Darlene Youngs, Western Region; Glenn and Kathy Jo Pugh, South Central Region; and Steve and Sue Neff, Northern Region.

Conference participants and their cooperative sponsors are as follows. From the Southeast region of the state, those attending were: John and Jennifer Wanner from Narvon, sponsored by Genex Cooperative, Inc. Dale and Martha Hershey of Ronks, sponsored by Sire Power, Inc.; Dan and Rhonda Cuts of Tabernacle, NJ, sponsored by Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.; Aaron Ray and Virginia Zimmerman of Lititz, sponsored by Genex Cooperative, Inc.; and Dave and Beth Rice of Kempton, sponsored by Atlantic Dairy Cooperative.

From the Northern Region of the state were Allen McLain and Karen Hamilton of Moscow, sponsored by Dairylea Cooperative.

From the Western region those that attended included: John and Cathy Dice from New Castle, sponsored by Genex Cooperative, Inc.; Stephen and Patricia Lyle of Conneautville, sponsored by Penn West Farm Credit; Art and Terry Williams of Fairview, sponsored by Milk Marketing, Inc.; Vinton Smith and Sharon Cowdery from Greenville, sponsored by Agway, Inc.; David and Kathleen Maas

from North East, sponsored by National Grape Cooperative and Michael and Junia Isiminger of Union City, sponsored by Milk Marketing, Inc. In attendance representing the South Central reg-

ion of the state were: Clyde and Pamela Fogelsanger from Orrstown, sponsored by Atlantic Dairy Cooperative; Marvin and Linda Long of Greencastle,

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