

Young Farmer Convention Announces Award Recipients

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sorghum.

Conservation plans are used on both farms with many feet of sub-surface drainage and terraces in place to conserve nutrients and water. These practices have earned DEW Farms the award of the Soil Conservation Service. Getty Acres Farm has been recognized for its work in the Chesapeake Bay Program, along with two conservation awards.

The dairy has 210 cows plus replacements and are milked three times a day on a turnstyle parlor. All bulls are raised as steers to better use facilities and crops. At the present time there are 240 steers on feed. A TMR is used in feeding the herd. Timothy hay is used for feeding and sale as mulch hay to Chester County. The mulch hay operation comes in a close second to the dairy cows. It is baled in 4 foot x 4 foot x 8 foot bales for better transporting and faster baling.

Dan is active in his young farmer chapter and also the state executive committee, serving as regional vice president. Laurel works at the Federal Communications Commission and has recently opened a shop called "Bear & Co." Dan is a member of the Bethel Mennonite Church. According to Tom Oyler, "Dan recognizes the importance of planning and innovation, both short-term and for future activities."

Outstanding Young Adult Farmer Over 30

Region IV

David and Bea Waybright live in Gettysburg. David is a member of Gettysburg Young Farmers, whose advisor is Tom Oyler.

The farm includes 635 acres with an additional 270 acres rented. Main crops are corn for silage, grain and ear, wheat, barley, alfalfa, and grass hay.

In 1995, David's father Paul Waybright passed away, leaving David as sole owner of the farm operation. Crop acres are kept in high state of fertility with conservation practices and nutrient management. Drain tile, terraces, and sod waterways are used where needed.

The farm has 162 cows plus replacement animals and 150 steers. Milk is sold to Mid-America Dairy Cooperative. The steers are sold to a local butcher shop.

Cows are fed with computer feeds for concentrate and milked in a modern parlor with automatic takeoffs and indexing. Bunker silos and drive-along feed bunks make taking care of cattle more efficient.

David belongs to the Mount Joy Lutheran Church, is active in his dairy cooperative, and is a 4-H leader.

Outstanding Young Adult Farmer Over 30

Region VII

Kenneth and Denise Sanner with son Brett live in Kutztown and are members of Kutztown Young Farmers, with Jon Stutzman, adviser.

They rent the family farm from Ken's parents. It includes 300 acres. The main crops are corn for silage and grain, alfalfa, wheat and soybeans. A mixture of tillage practices are used to conserve soil and obtain maximum yields. Manure storage is used to reduce fertilizer costs and increase profits. Computer records using PFB system help them keep a close eye on monthly business records.

The dairy herd of 89 cows are 95 percent registered Holsteins

and are milked in a double — 4 herringbone parlor. Heifers and calves for replacements and breeding stock sales number 80. Cows are housed in free stalls with TMR feeding, with a computer feeder providing the top dress. A new heifer barn was erected to improve growth and reduce labor.

Ken and Denise are both active in their respective Jaycee chapters. They are active in Atlantic Dairy Cooperative on the Young Cooperator committee. Denise works full time as an executive secretary at East Penn Manufacturing. Ken is involved in his young farmer chapter, Berks County DHIA, Sire Power, and Agway.

Outstanding Community Service Award

Region VII

George and Pearl Moyer live in Myerstown. They have four children — Curtis, Ralph, Mark and Julie. George belongs to Tulpehocken Young Farmers, whose adviser is Christine Williams.

Dairy and crops are the main enterprises. The dairy was sold to son Ralph with some acreage rented to him. The remainder of the farm is cropped with corn, alfalfa, soybeans, and wheat.

George is involved in many safety meetings each year, having lost a portion of his left leg in a harvesting accident. He assists at county and other events where youth are taught safety on the farm.

Being an advocate of land use and preservation, George is actively involved in his local ag security area, the county land preservation board, and the county planning commission.

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is a large part of his work. George is also involved in the Pennsylvania Ag Democrats and is on Congressman Holden's Advisory Committee.

George and Pearl are both active in the Salem U.C.C., where George is a Sunday school discussion leader.

Outstanding Young Adult Farmer Under 30

State Winner

Gary and Lisa Krall are from Lebanon. They have one child, Jenny, with another on the way. Gary belongs to Cedar Crest Chapter, whose adviser is Richard Moore.

They lease the farm from Gary's parents, and rent 160 acres with the main crops of corn for silage and grain, alfalfa, soybeans, rye, and grass hay. Most alfalfa is made as haylage; rye is double-cropped to increase forage yield. Soybeans are fed to reduce protein costs.

Gary works with his brother and shares equipment used for field work to reduce investment. A conservation plan is used, along with manure storage to obtain maximum yields at the least cost.

The dairy has 75 cows with 60 replacements. Present herd average is more than 20,000 pounds milk. A TMR, which includes corn silage, haylage, high moisture ear corn, roasted soybeans, and supplement is used to feed the herd. Hooves are trimmed three to four times a year. All cows and heifers are bred A.I. with Gary doing the breeding. A calf condo was recently built to better care for calves. To improve cow comfort, 30 freestalls were added.

Gary is active in Cedar Crest Young Farmers, having been president and on the executive committee, along with many other

farm organizations. Gary and Lisa are youth advisers in the Midway Church of the Brethren. Gary is president of the young adult class.

Outstanding Young Adult Farmer Over 30

Region V

Barry and Diane Bittner live in Berlin with children Lance David and Kevin. Barry belongs to the Berlin-Brothersvalley Young Farmers with Doyle Paul, adviser.

The 300-acre farm they own has been in the family for five generations. They purchased the farm two years ago from Barry's parents when they retired. The main crops include corn for grain and silage, oats, alfalfa and timothy hay.

Conservation is important having both hills in contour strips and low-lying fields that required drainage.

The dairy herd contains 38 cows and 22 replacements. When Barry and Diane purchased the farm, many improvements were needed in the barn. The cow stable was remodeled, new milkers installed, and a new bulk tank. With the many improvements, production has been increasing slowly.

Because of limited space, some heifers are sold to a neighbor as calves with the option to buy them back when they freshen.

Barry and Diane are members of the Beachdale Church of the Brethren and are active in their young farmer chapter. Diane drives a school bus.

Outstanding Community Service Award

State Winner

Thomas and Leanne Calvert of Berlin are members of the Berlin Brothersvalley Young Farmers, whose adviser is Doyle Paul. They have two grown children. Both Tom and Leanne grew up on sheep farms and both had sheep as 4-H projects.

Shober Farm is their home, consisting of 300 acres — 50 acres are cropped and 65 acres are grazed. Tom farms with his brother-in-law Larry Shober. Sheep is the main enterprise with 110 brood mares. All are intensively grazed.

Tom and Leanne are both very involved in the Trinity United Church of Christ. Serving on many committees and singing in the choir, Tom is also on the Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ board of directors.

Leanne is a school teacher in the Berlin Brothersvalley School District, involved in many school organizations.

Tom works as a pasture management/grazing specialist for the NRCS and is involved in many cooperative extension committees and conservation initiatives.

Outstanding Young Adult Farmer Over 30

State Winner

David and Judy Gerhart are from New Providence and are members of the Solanco Chapter, with Ron Althoff, adviser. They have three children.

The farm they live on was originally owned by Dave's great-grandfather. Farming 148 acres with 50 being rented, the main crops include corn, alfalfa, grass, and rye. Corn is for grain and silage. Rye is used as ryelage.

Conservation practices are very important, having sloped fields and some wetland. The barn's location near a stream creates special concerns for manure storage and barnyard runoff.

The milking herd consists of 52 Holsteins in tie stalls and 45

replacements. Dave tries to keep the barn full of cows at all times to increase production efficiency. A TMR mixer was installed in 1993. Rubber mats and tunnel ventilation provide cow comfort. Milk is marketed through Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Association.

Dave and Judy are both active in the Faith Reformed Presbyterian Church. They were Maryland-Virginia Outstanding Young Cooperators in 1992 and were on the National Young Cooperators Advisory Council. Dave is active in his local young farmers chapter, serving as president-elect. Judy has a part-time job during the tax season to provide resources for their children's Christian school tuition. Dave enjoys farming and hopes to pass the farm on to his children, providing them with a good basis to continue.

Outstanding Young Adult Farmer Under 30

Region II

Thomas Arrowsmith, Peach Bottom, is this year's Outstanding Young Farmer Under 30 from the Solanco Chapter, with Ron Althoff, adviser.

Tom farms in partnership with his father and is working toward ownership of the family farm. Tom is responsible for the care and feeding of all animals and shares fieldwork and milking with his parents.

The farm contains 80 acres, with corn, alfalfa-grass hay, and some double-crop rye the main crops. With limited acres maximum production from all acres is necessary. Grass is planted with alfalfa to increase yield. First, second, and fourth cuttings are round-baled and wrapped for haylage. Third cutting is baled as dry hay. Rye is used for pasture, forage, or straw.

The milking herd consists of 57 registered Jerseys and about 60 replacements. The rolling herd

average is 14,851 pounds milk with a 5 percent fat test and 3.9 percent protein. There are 10 cows classified Excellent in the present herd.

Cows are fed a TMR with corn silage, ground shelled corn, and supplement four times a day. High producers are fed a topdress.

Tom enjoys breeding and showing quality Jersey cattle. He began his judging career in 4-H and FFA and still enjoys judging at shows. He would like to sell breeding cattle and export quality animals in the future.

Outstanding Adviser

The Outstanding Adviser this year is Ron Althoff from the Solanco Chapter.

Althoff, a Penn State graduate, has been with the Solanco School District since 1973 and has been the adviser for the Solanco Chapter since 1978. He lives outside Quarryville with his wife, Deb, and their two sons.

Althoff is a very dedicated adviser. He spends a lot of time working on the chapter's projects. He can be found doing nitrogen tests, computing corn yields, using a particle separator, or reading a compaction meter. He'll see that a member gets the chapter's computer to use or he'll roast a pig for the picnic.

Need to know if you have leafhoppers in your alfalfa or root-worm beetles in your corn? Just call and he'll come out, net in hand, to find out for you. Althoff also taught a market master course to teach young farmers marketing skills.

Under Althoff's guidance, the Solanco Chapter has hosted state summer and winter conventions and the chapter has had many state officers and contest winners. He has helped select the teachers who have participated in the Ag in the Classroom project sponsored by the Solanco Chapter. He has served on many committees at the state level and is on the state executive board.

Jersey Youth Awards

LIBERTY (Tioga Co.) — It's the middle of winter. School activities are in full swing. Homework never stops, and the cows in the barn still need to be milked and fed.

Yes, schedules are full, but now is also the time to apply for one of several awards being presented by the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association (PJCA). All Jersey youth between the ages of nine and 19 who owned a jersey calf, heifer or cow during 1996 are eligible for one of several awards or scholarships.

First year Jersey enthusiasts are invited to compete for the First Year Project Award. To be eligible for this award, applicants must be between the ages of eight and 12 and be a member of an organized 4-H club. To enter the contest, submit the official project record book along with a handwritten story entitled "My First Jersey Project Year."

The PJCA will select outstanding Jersey achievers in two divisions for the Youth Achievement Award. All applicants must be the owners of one or more registered Jerseys. A junior award will be presented to the top achiever in the nine to 13 age category and the senior award will be given to the winner in the 14 to 19 age group.

Jersey youth of all ages are

invited to compete in the Scrapbook Contest. Scrapbooks submitted are to include the contestant's Jersey Project(s) for 1996. Scrapbooks will be evaluated on the quality and quantity of the contest.

Yet another contest for Jersey enthusiasts to enter is the Youth Production Contest. Jersey Juniors can nominate their registered animals that are on official DHI or DHIA test by submitting official cow records issued between 1/1/96 and 12/31/96. This form is required to give officials a 305-day 2X mature equivalent value for the records submitted.

Finally, Jersey Youth who are attending college or who are high school seniors planning to enroll in college within one year of high school graduation can compete for one of two \$200 scholarships. Applicants must have been actively involved with Jersey Cattle for at least two years. Previous scholarship winners are eligible to reapply for these scholarships.

Contest winners will receive awards and are recognized at the PJCA annual meeting in the spring.

Applications are due by Feb. 15, and should be forwarded to Michelle Ryan, youth director, 301 North Progress Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17109. For applications and more information contact Michelle at (717) 541-1407.