Awards Presented At PA Council Of Cooperatives Annual Meeting

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — The Pennsylvania.Council of Cooperatives held it's annual meeting and awards banquet on October 23 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College. Along with committee meetings and an annual board meeting, representatives of member cooperatives from around Pennsylvania heard presentations from John M. Urbanchuk, executive vice president of AUS Consultants Inc., and Christopher Mele, state relations manager of Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association.

A highlight of the day was the

presentation of three awards to outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to cooperatives and their members in Pennsylvania.

Walter and Lisa Royek of Corry, Eric County, received the 1997 Horizon Award from James Barnett, manager of member relations for Land O'Lakes and a PA Council of Cooperatives Director. The Royeks, Barnett said, typify this award, created in 1996, which is presented to emerging young cooperative leaders. Walter and Lisa first became involved with the PCC in 1990 while attending the Council's Young Cooperative Leaders Conference. They returned to the Conference in 1990 as Western region leaders and again in 1992 as Chari Couple for the event.

Lisa, a school teacher, serves as an instructor of ag and cooperative issues in Penn State's "Ag in the Classroom" program, and Walter and Lisa have opened their Dairy of Distinction Farm to hundreds of school children in the past few years allowing a first-hand glimpse of milk production. The Royeks provided the closing motivational address at the YCL Conference in July of 1996, and honored the Council with a second-



James Barnett, right, presents the 1997 Horizon Award to Walter and Lisa Royek.

Sam Minor receives the 1997 Cooperative Educator Award from Jay Rush.



Carol Duncan receives the Hal F. Doran award from Milton Hallberg.

place finish in the 1996-97 National Young Farmer Ambassador contest sponsored by the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.

Jay Rush, president of York Farm Credit, of York presented the 1997 Cooperative Educator Award to Sam Minor of Washington. This award is presented annually to an individual who has made a signficant contribution to the PCC in promoting and supporting cooperative educational activities. Sam and his wife, Beverly, own and operate "The Spring House,"

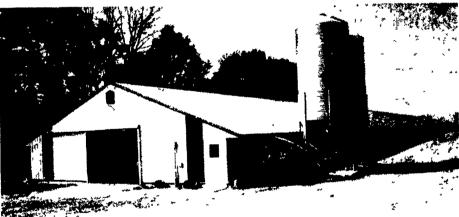
a dairy and vegetable farm and a retail farm market and restaurant. Sam is active in many agricultural organizations and is a past president of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, a director of Penn West Farm Credit Association, A Pennsylvania delegate and vice chairman of the National Council on Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching, a member of the USDA National Research, Education, Extension and Economics Advisory Board, and a director of the Pennsylvania

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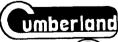
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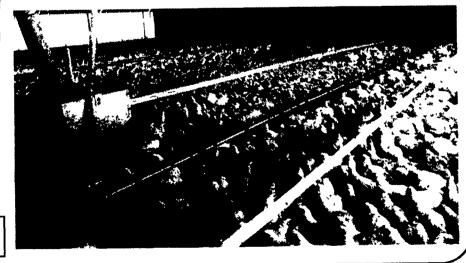
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