Conservation Districts Award Winners State

WHITE HAVEN (Luzerne Co.) - The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. (PACD) presented its annual awards to citizens and professionals who have helped to promote or continue conservation efforts in Pennsylvania. The awards were presented Tuesday, Oct. 7 at PACD's Annual Conference in White Haven.

Conservation districts across the state sent nominations to judging panels for consideration. Winners were presented plaques during a slide show highlighting their efforts. The following awards were presented:

Joseph and Helen Thomas, Carbon County - M.K. Goddard Forest Resource Management Award, given to forest landowners who have done an outstanding job managing their woodlots in Pennsylvania. This award was sponsored by Weaber, Inc.

Murray Laite; Mifflin County - County commissioner Director of the Year, given to county commissioner members of a conservation district board who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of conservation districts.

Berks County Conservancy, Berks County - Conservation Organization of the Year, given to an organization that has made a noteworthy contribution to the conservation of Pennsylvania's soil, water and related natural resources. This award was sponsored by the Dauphin Deposit Bank and Trust Co.

Hubert and Grace Sell and family, Lehigh County - Conservation Farmer of the Year, given to a farmer who has furthered conservation through the establishment and maintenance of soil, water and nutrient management practices.

Dr. Philip H. Ogline, Lancaster County - Conservation Educator of the Year, given to a teacher who has demonstrated a strong commitment to conservation education programs and activities in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Donegal Creek Restoration Partners, Lancaster County -Watershed Protection of the Year Award, given to an organization or individual who has promoted the protection of a particular watershed through a coordinated land and water resource approach.

C. LeeRoy Vatter, Indiana County - Ann Rudd Saxman Conservation Volunteer of the Year, given to an individual who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the conservation of Pennsylvania's natural resources through volunteer efforts.

Judy Wink, Carbon County -Special Conservation Service Award, given to an individual who has made a unique and outstanding contribution to the conservation movement in Pennsylvania.

Kim Bell, Carbon County -Media Conservation Award, given to an individual or professional communication organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the public's awareness of conservation districts and understanding of natural resource conservation.

PACD, Inc. is a private, nonprofit organization representing Pennsylvania's 66 conservation districts. Activities include education, information and representation on both the state and federal levels in soil, water and related resource management. PACD's basic philosophy places importance on local decision-making and involvement in solving conservation problems.

Named

Council Of Cooperatives

(Continued from Page A29)

Council of Cooperatives. Sam has served as an Agway director since 1987. He is a member and past president of the Washington County Cooperative Extension Service, and a member of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the Pennsylvania State Grange. The Penn State University College of Agricultural Sciences named him an Alumni Fellow in 1989.

Carol Duncan, of Robesonia, was awarded the 1997 Hal F. Doran Cooperative Business Education Award by Milton C. Hallberg, chair of the Penn State University/Pennsylvania Council of Cooperatives joint committee. This award, which carries with it a Nittany Lion trophy and a check for \$500, is given each year to an individual who best exemplifies the interest and dedication to cooperative education shown by Hal F. Doran, past director of Penn State's cooperative business education and research program. Hallberg commended Mrs. Duncan as a tireless supporter of community and cooperative causes in Southeast Pennsylvania, the state and the country, who has donated an abundance of energy and countless hours to furthering cooperatives through educational programs, effective communica-

tions and progressive leadership. Carol Duncan joined Farm Credit in 1974, serving as marketing manager from 1979 until 1989. Following the merger that created Keystone Farm Credit, she served as director of member and public relations until her retirement in 1994. Over the years, Carol served in numerous leadership positions of cooperative organizations, such as the Chester County Cooperative Extension Service, the Pennsylvania 4-H Foundation, the Cooperative Communicators Association, the Eastern Member Relations Conference, and the Southeastern Region Board of PCC. She served as president of PCC in 1991 and 1992. Carol continues to serve as the permanent "manager" for PCC's successful annual Ag Horizons conference.

Carol has earned the respect and admiration of her peers as demonstrated by the many awards she has received from the cooperative community. These include the 1993 Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania Council of Cooperatives, the 1993 Cooperative Communicator Award from the National Council of Farm Cooperatives, and the Baltimore Farm Credit District's president's award.

Cooperative Employees Attend Training

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Employees of cooperatives doing business in Pennsylvania recently attended one-day seminars sponsored by the Penn State Cooperative Business Education and Research Program (CBERP).

More than 60 employees of cooperatives attended workshops held at Harvest Drive Restaurant near Lancaster and the Towanda Country Club Conference facility.

Participants included employees of Adams Electric Cooperative; Agway; Genex, Inc.; Keystone Farm Credit ACA; Lancaster DHIA; Northeast Farm Credit ACA; Pennsylvania DHIA; Pro-Fac, Inc; Sire Power, Inc.; and York Farm Credit.

According to Dick Poorbaugh, CBERP program manager, the sessions were designed to provide employees with a better understanding of the cooperative way of doing business and with issues and impacts associated with the wave of cooperative mergers and

alliances now going on across the United States.

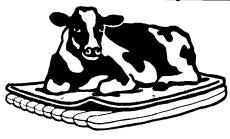
"Change usually brings some uncertainty and stress, and it is important that employees be comfortable that strategic moves are positive with respect to membership value and the viability of the organization," Poorbaugh said. "Because the members are owners and users of the services of a cooperative business, employees are the first line of communication between members and the director-management team."

In addition to cooperative basics, participants shared information about their organizations and participated in breakout sessions on defining and communicating membership value and other issues. The final topic for the day, "Managing the Time of Your Life," provided a personal development opportunity to wrap up the program.

For more information, contact CBERP at (814) 863-0644 or send e-mail to rwp2@psu.edu.

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