

4-H 'More Than Just Showing Animals,' Says Member At Lancaster County Swine Banquet

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Lancaster Farming Staff
LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)
— As 4-H'ers, "we need to think about the friends we've made rather than the trophies we won," said Gerald Boyd, this year's 4-H Superior Achievement Award winner.

Gerald spoke to his family and friends Thursday evening at the Lancaster County 4-H Swine Banquet at the Farm and Home Center.

Gerald, 18, son of Kerry and Deb Boyd, Ephrata, spoke about his experiences as a 4-H'er the past 11 years. He also told almost 200 gathered at the annual swine club awards banquet all about what 4-H has taught him.

Gerald said that "4-H is more than just showing animals," and that members learn the essential skills to getting along in life.

"Winning is nice and often fun," he said. "But we must face the reality that we fail more often than succeed. We need to learn that we're not going to win all the time in life."

Gerald said it's important that we honor the 4-H leaders we have, including the parents and friends that allow members to learn life skills, meet others, and make friends with people in all walks of life.

His sister Sarah, 16, president of the swine club, echoed those

words in a poem she read aloud about how important it is to concentrate on the more important things 4-H teaches: confidence, self-respect and respect for others, how to run successful meetings, and other skills. Sarah has been a member of the club for eight years.

Gerald noted that he would "like to encourage older members to help out younger members of the club," he said, and to think of the "the good feeling you'll get from helping younger members."

The award banquet honored several 4-H members and leaders for their work in leading the club, the largest it has ever been at 101 (with 26 new members), to another successful year.

Outstanding 4-H Member went to Sarah Boyd for her work as president of the club. Rookie of the Year went to Andy Hughes, 9, son of Chet and Marie Hughes, Lampeter. A Special Appreciation Award was given to Tom Leidy of Leidy's, Inc. for the company's outstanding support to 4-H.

Chet Hughes, county livestock agent and master of ceremonies for the awards banquet, presented special 4-H Spirit awards to two unique 4-H members.

Hughes said, "We all have a special place in our hearts for young people like Patrick Good and Jackie Brubaker, who have faced some difficult life challenges

that many of us take for granted."

Hughes, who regrets not being able to attend the New Holland Farmers' Fair where Patrick and Jackie were honored for their grand and reserve champion hogs, respectively, said, "Some of you may not know that our good friend Jackie Brubaker has already been challenged by heart surgery a couple times in his young life. I am sure that Jackie's heart got a big boost when his 4-H pig was named reserve champion at New Holland."

"I certainly feel that Patrick and Jacob have gained a lot from the 4-H swine program but have also given back to us so much in 4-H Spirit," Hughes said.

Project book awards for completeness, creativity, neatness, photos, blue form, story, and project experiences went to first place, Sarah Boyd; second, Gerald Boyd; and third, Loren Hershey. Honorable mentions went to Lisa Pfautz, Amy Hoffines, Tiffany Dean, Jennifer Hughes, Travis Donough, Jill Hoffines, and Allison Hughes.

Harry Bachman, president of the Pennsylvania Livestock Association and chair of the swine show at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE), presented special awards to two 4-H members.

Gerald Boyd was honored for champion hog in the junior show and reserve grand champion of the whole show. "It says a lot when you can bring your bred and owned up to Keystone and win like that," said Bachman. Gerald won champion on-foot with a score of 55, with a 7.2-inch loineye and .8 backfat.

In the junior show, Gerald faced off against 100 head of swine and 50-60 exhibitors. Overall, there were close to 1,000 head of hogs at KILE this year, with "great participation from Lancaster County," noted Bachman.

In the carcass competition, there were 282 head entered. Cory, son of Rick and Sue Pfautz, Lititz, won grand champion overall with a hog that scored a 12-inch loineye and .5 backfat. The hog had "probably the largest loineye that have ever measured at Keystone," said Bachman. Cory also had the highest score ever recorded at the carcass show at KILE — 68.67.

In fact, the judges were so surprised by the loineye measurement, Bachman noted, that they repeated the measurement several times.

Chet Hughes, livestock agent and club coordinator, thanked the banquet committee for the new format this year — covered dish,



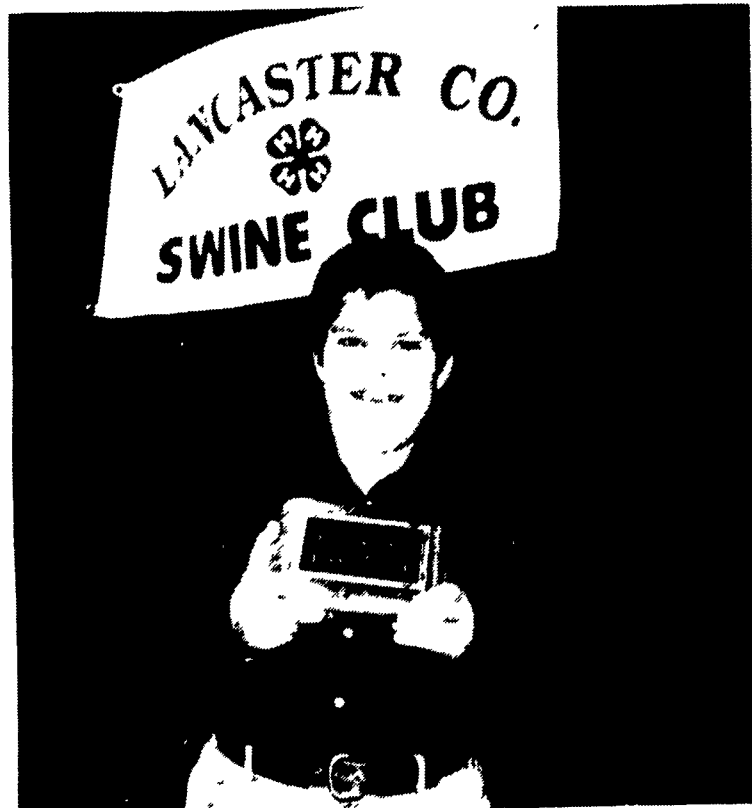
Outstanding 4-H Member went to Sarah Boyd, right, for her work as president of the club. Rookie of the Year went to Andy Hughes, 9, left, son of Chet and Marie Hughes, Lampeter. A Special Appreciation Award was given to Tom Leidy of Leidy's, Inc., standing, for the company's outstanding support to 4-H.



Project book awards for completeness, creativity, neatness, photos, blue form, story, and project experiences went to, from left, first place, Sarah Boyd; second, Gerald Boyd; and third, Loren Hershey.



Gerald Boyd, right, was honored for champion hog in the junior show and reserve grand champion of the whole on-foot show. Cory Pfautz, son of Rick and Sue Pfautz, Lititz, won grand champion on-rail overall with a hog that scored a 12-inch loineye and .5 backfat.



Special 4-H Spirit awards went to Jacob Brubaker, pictured here, and Patrick Good, for their outstanding year in 4-H.

brought in by 4-H family members. This is the 10th year for the countywide club, and there have been 12 shows and sales at the Manheim Farm Show. This year marked the 9th successful carcass show. The club is sending 28 members to the 1998 state Farm show.

Someday, Hughes said, "we'd like to send 100 members from Lancaster County to Farm Show. That's our goal. We're going to reach that someday."

At the banquet, recognition was given to members, leaders, and fair and roundup sale contributors for their support.

Lancaster Chamber Announces Annual Agriculture Banquet

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.)
— The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Agriculture Committee will hold their 21st Annual Agriculture-Industry Banquet Tuesday, November 25, 1997, 5:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Lancaster Host. The theme for this year's banquet is "Celebrating Our Past. Securing Our Future."

John R. Block, former United States secretary of agriculture, will be the speaker for the event,

which is sponsored by New Holland North America. Block is currently the president of Food Distributors, an organization that represents the wholesale grocery and foodservice distribution industry in the U.S., Canada and overseas.

The banquet's Master of Ceremonies is Sonja Hillgren, editor of Farm Journal, and president of the National Press Club, the first member of the agriculture media to have this honor.

The Century Farm and George C. Delp Awards will be presented, and there will be a live performance by John Chandler, nationally recognized agriculture musician and entertainer.

Tickets for the banquet are \$40 per person or \$350 for a table of 10. Deadline to register is November 14, 1997. For more information, please contact Jim Shirk at 397-3531 or email at jshirk@lcci.com.