

Determination Pays Off For Farm Show Family

GAIL STROCK
Mifflin Co. Correspondent

PETERSBURG (Huntingdon Co.) — The first years that John A. Foster, Jr., of Huntingdon County showed Holsteins in 4-H, he stood dead last in the class. He decided to buy a good heifer and still ended up last.

"I was determined to get good cattle," Foster said.

Foster's determination during a lifetime of dairying has paid off in more ways than one.

He earned second place in the owner/breeder class at Madison, had Michigan State University call him for semen from his "Top Gun" bull, has sold several bulls for breeding purposes; has a bull in a proving program, has earned grand champion at the Farm Show several times; and has received innumerable premier breeder and premier exhibitor awards, including several from the Farm Show.

Although Foster and his wife Alice like to win, they know good "sportsmanship" both in and out of the ring is most important along with fellowship with friends and breeders.

"I like to win," he said, "But I'd rather stand second and have the first-place winner as a friend. But I believe I wouldn't have gotten a call from Michigan State, for example, if I wouldn't have been out there showing or if I'd had a bad reputation."

The fourth generation to farm Globe-Run Farms near Petersburg, John and Alice rent the 500-acre farm from his father. They grow 200 acres of corn, 150 acres of corn, 150 acres of alfalfa, 50 acres of grass hay, and 50 acres of soybeans. The Foster's milk 130 Holsteins in a flat barn parlor with automatic takeoffs. They employ two full-time hired men. John's father, after several bouts with cancer, still comes to help with the field-work.

"We thank the Lord for John's father still being able to be here," Alice said.

"In the summer of 1981, John said, "we had cattle at shows for eight straight weeks. That's the year we had grand champion at the Central Pennsylvania Championship with Globe-Run Elevation Tammy (Ex-90-3E). She had been away from the farm for three weeks in a row and brought home four grand champions, which helped her win the All Pennsylvania 4-year-old award that year."

Although they've cut down the number of shows they exhib-

it in each year, their string of award-winning cows has continued.

"We won a genetic award at the Central National in Madison, Wisconsin, with Globe-Run Enhancer Kitty. She scored high for classification, milk production, placing in class and genetic evaluation. Our Globe-Run Top Gun Oslo (Ex-92), a granddaughter of one of our top cows, Darlene, was second owned and bred in her class at Madison another year."

The Foster's have not missed a Farm Show in 25 years. In fact, their 12 year-old daughter Charrann has attended 13 Farm Shows! In 1985, she was only one week old. In the 1997 Farm Show, Charann earned a champion showman award. The family took grand champion in 1991 with home-bred Globe-Run G-Word Trisha (Ex-91). Trisha went on to win champion at several other shows. Trisha was also shown by their older daughter Anissa Musser.

In 1990, John's oldest son, John Foster, III, better known as Andy, showed at the state junior show and won junior champion in both the 4-H show with Glove-Run Starbuck Beverly (Ex-90) and junior champion in the FFA competition with Globe-Run Tempo Bambi (Ex-90). Andy is a Taurus representative. When not on the road for Taurus, Andy finds time to help at home on the farm. He continues to fit all of the animals for show.

This year at the Farm Show, the Foster's, including 9-year-old Samantha, will show six animals from the farm, including an aged cow named Globe-Run Jethro Violet (Ex-91-2E).

Well-known 14-year-old Globe-Run Sexy Darlene (Ex-93-4E) will not be making her traditional trip to the Farm Show this year. In the past, she has won numerous awards, including grand, reserve, and junior champion several times; honorable mention All American Senior Yearling, and All Pennsylvania and Junior All Pennsylvania several times for both Andy and Charann.

In fact, this year she won the 1997 Reserve Junior All Pennsylvania 125,000 Award. Her accomplishments continue outside the show ring, too. She has produced quite a few offspring, seven sons (five used on the farm), nine daughters, 21 granddaughters, 10 great-granddaughters, plus more on the way. Darlene's milk record includes 8-01 365 days 35,981M



The Foster family takes time out to pose with one of their favorite cows—14-year-old Globe Run Sexy Darlene. Charann, left, Alice, second from right, and Samantha, right, hold premier breeder and premier exhibitor awards earned at past Farm Shows. John holds the halter of Darlene.

4.1% 1492F 3.2% 1149P. Her lifetime record is nearing 200,000 pound of milk.

Although Foster uses artificial insemination, he likes home-bred bulls. He has five bulls at neighboring farms. One neighbor, Marvin J. Zook, has used well over 15 Glove-Run bulls for his herd.

"With bulls here on the farm, I know what I have and who can be mated to whom. Our bull Globe-Run Aerostar Mega is now being sampled. We sold

Mega's full sister to Canada. Someone saw her at the Farm Show and wanted both the mother and daughter.

"The goal here is to financially keep the farm going," Foster said, "Without registered cows, without shows or without sales, we wouldn't have cattle. The bulk tank is not enough, nor can we always justify driving to shows. But when someone makes a nice offer for one of our cows, it's worth it. It makes you feel like you have accomplished

something."

Besides winning and marketing, there are two other very good reasons why John and Alice continue showing their daughters Samantha and Charann.

"We try to teach the girls to be honest. Showing also teaches them to be gracious winners and how to congratulate the ones that beat you. Deal honestly, do the best job possible, and God willing, it'll pay big dividends in the end."

New ITLA Executive Director



Jack Blease

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jack Blease has been named executive director of the International Texas

Longhorn Association (ITLA) headquartered in Fort Worth.

Bleese brings more than 20 years of management experience in marketing, promotion, sales, and administration to ITLA.

He is a graduate of Western Michigan University and California Christian University with a bachelor's degree in communications and a master's degree. Bleese has been active in both the Appaloosa Horse Club and ITLA for years.

ITLA President Darol Dickson of Calhan, Colo., said, "As a young and growing organization, we welcome Jack with his special leadership ability. Our members are very excited about the new market driven direction he brings to our industry."

The ITLA has members in all 50 states and foreign countries. For more information on ITLA, contact them at 7451 Chapel Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76116.

OUTDOOR FURNACES
HOT WATER HOT AIR
WATER FILLED GRATES
WARRANTY 10 YEARS
OPTIONAL
AUTOMATIC OIL BACK UP
COUNTRY PINES
SALES & SERVICE
(717) 532-5820

WOOD

COAL



CLIP & SAVE
FREE
Estimates Now on
NO-PEEL
BARN PAINTING
(Cost Effectiveness = 1/2 Price)
the unpatented coming way
works better

- Resurface.** Start over, strip old paint off, expose fresh wood surface. That latest KLANZLE nozzle on pressure washers does it.
- New No-Peel Stain.** Stain thinly into that surface and further installing by brushing, brushing and brushing using the finest bristles, can't peel!
- Spraying another thin coat of shiney barn enamel and brushing same way, just can't peel, like way back years ago. Remember?



Also: Roofs and Cement Block Walls Cost Effectiveness = 1/2 Price.

contact:
PHARES HURST
233 E. Maple Grove Rd.
Narvon, PA 17555
717-445-6186

CLIP & SAVE

SMOKER, LANDIS & COMPANY

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
and

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS

- ✓ Individual, Partnership & Corporate Taxes
- ✓ Accounting & Bookkeeping
- ✓ Business, Personal & Estate Tax Planning
- ✓ Management Advisory Services
- ✓ Personal Financial Planning
- ✓ Computer Services
- ✓ Payroll Preparation
- ✓ Retirement Plans

49 East Main Street Leola (717) 656-7544
24 South Main Street Manheim (717) 665-5979
or (717) 392-1333 or (717) 393-1929



Samantha Foster will show Globe-Run Mason Bett Boots, her junior calf, at the 1998 Farm Show.