

Addison Co-op Reports Successful Year

ADDISON, N.Y. - Addison Milk Producers Cooperative held their annual meeting recently at the Methodist Church in Addison, NY. The room was nearly bursting at the seams with the large turnout of members and their families. Everyone enjoyed the excellent dinner prepared by the Methodist women.

President Robert Nichols, of Addison, opened the meeting with his annual report. The Co-op had a successful year marketing their member's milk. Their premium program and reasonable hauling rates provided their members with the best net return in the area. He also announced that the patronage dividend checks would be distributed at the close of the meeting. Addison Co-op has consistently paid an annual patronage dividend. Nichols stated that he was please with progress made by the cooperative. They have had consistent growth for the past several years both in membership and milk volume.

James Patsos of United Ag

Services presented quality awards to the top quality producers for the past year. The placing was very close. Addison has had a history of supplying quality milk to the market place. Each winner was provide with a certificate of recognition for their accomplishment and a monetary award. First place went to James and Patricia Welch of Troupsburg. Tied for second were Gregory and Cindy Thompson of Bath, NY and Dean and Betty Bieber of Prattsburg, NY. Tied for fourth place were Gary Button, and Robert and Valeri Button, both of Jasper. Deborah Margeson, of Bath, was awarded sixth place.

Patsos discussed the current market conditions and the uncertainties created by Federal Judge Doty's decision declaring Class I differentials illegal. He discussed United's efforts to maintain Class I differentials and add some sanity to the current milk price situation. At the close of his remarks, he unveiled the new "Addison Milk Co-op" barn signs to be distributed to

No Agricultural Event Compares To Farm Show

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rent commodity groups put up displays that get judged. He said that, for example, Mike Firestone, vice president of the Agrilending Group with Lebanon Valley National Bank, who raises beef

cattle as well as a row crops and pumpkins in the Richland area, "... did a nice display on how to raise pumpkins."

Alletta Schadler, director of the Lebanon Extension Office, is to judge the displays for educational content, while Glenn Ellenberger, a retired county Extension agent from Lehigh County is judging the presentation of the displays. Voight said also new are "inseason" competitions.

While those who operated roadside farm markets know that non-farmer customers have been known to ask for such out-of-season produce, such as local peaches in April, the commodity groups are trying to change that. While few crops are actually "inseason" in January (not including aquaculture and climate controlled produce), Voight said that canned, dried, pickled and frozen produce can be displayed as "inseason."

During the business meeting, Robert Nichols and Robert Button were re-elected as directors. Officers for the New Year are Robert Nichols, President; Harold Knowles, Campbell, NY, Vice President; Phillip Marsh, Jasper, NY, Secretary; and Hubert Dininny, Addison, Treasurer. Dairy farmers that produce milk in Steuben County and the surrounding area that would like to learn more about Addison Co-op's Market should contact Robert Nichols at (607) 359-2199 or United Ag Services at 1 (800) 326-4251.

United Ag Services is a federation of cooperatives that provides marketing, quality control, accounting, producer payroll and employee payroll services to small and medium size agricultural organizations and individual farmers. United is located at 12 North Park Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148. They can be reached at 1 (800) 326-4251 or (315) 568-2750.

Further, Grumbine said the mission of the Farm Show has always included the goal to educate farmers about new opportunities and production techniques.

That will be more and more important to the state's agricultural competitiveness and efficiency and economy.

"The world population expands every year by the size of the city of Los Angeles," Grumbine said. "We have doubled crop production since 1960, but we're going to have to triple it to keep up with world food demand."

"So we have got to make the best technology available to the farmer and to the rural areas of the commonwealth. The Farm Show does that."

For the past decade, improvements have been made to the Farm Show Complex.

Repeat visitors can expect to see some physical changes to the building. For example, an elevator

was installed in the Large Arena structure that can accommodate handicapped passangers and take them to the third level, previously restricted to those using steps.

On the Maclay Street side of the building, the brass marques were refurbished and rewired and relit. The change restored some of the glamour to the building. Funding to pay for that improvement came out of excess funds from the Farm Show operating budget, Grumbine said.

Further, parking has been enhanced with a cooperative venture between the city of Harrisburg and the Farm Show.

The city has allowed undeveloped land to the west of the Farm Show Complex to be used by the Farm Show for parking up to 800 additional vehicles.

Grumbine said a bus company has been contracted to transport people from there to the Farm Show Complex.

The lot can be accessed from either Maclay Street or Industrial Road.

Also in a cooperative venture, Maryland State Fair has lent their tie-gates to be used in the Beef Barn (Northwest Building), to replace the horse stalls that have been historically used.

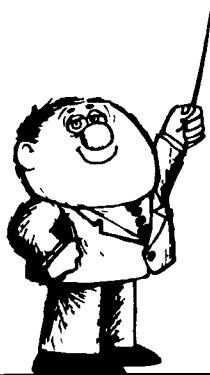
Visually obstructive, the horse stalls prevented visitors from easily viewing many of the beef entries. That will change.

There was more painting, including the Main Floor, where most commercial exhibits are placed.

"I think the building looks better than in all the years that I've shown here or been in this position," Grumbine said.

Additionally, an automatic teller (money access center) machine has been installed in a little red barn next to the North Entrance, where most of the general public enters the complex. The MAC machine is through the Pennsylvania State Employees Credit Union (PSECU).

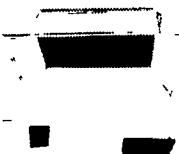
For more information, seek one of the information desks, or call the PDA Press Office at 787-5085, or the Farm Show Office at 787-5373.



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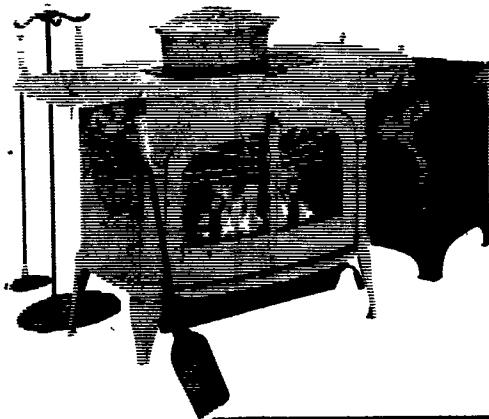
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