

Extension Service

(Continued from Page A24)

lies increase savings and reduce debt.

Schwartz spoke about the strong Master Gardener Program in the county. A total of 83 active Master Gardeners donated 5,680 hours with more than 12,000 contacts, including answering horticultural questions, conducting a plant diagnosis clinic, and holding a "Meet the Plants" program for youth. They also have established and maintain an outstanding demonstration garden at the Farm and Home Center.

Schwartz thanked Shirley Wagner, volunteer coordinator of the program, and other Master Gardeners who "gave leadership to our home horticulture program."

Schwartz said, "We have a very strong 4-H program." There are a total of 157 4-H clubs in the county. Embryology continues to be a very popular in-school program, acquainting youth with biology and ag science. 4-H programs continue at Barnes Hall, the county's youth detention center, to provide the skills necessary after their rehabilitation.

"We continue to have a strong traditional 4-H club program," he said. "4-H beef, sheep, swine, and horse clubs saw a significant increase in membership last year."

New urban 4-H outreach introduced entomology and bicycle projects to 127 inner-city youth. Nearly 500 projects were entered at the 4-H Fair in the summer.

Schwartz pointed out the 4-H exhibit at the commodity banquet Thursday evening. He mentioned the annual 4-H auction scheduled Feb. 20 at the Farm and Home Center.

Cooperative extension is "aggressively developing educational programs to address the issues facing Lancaster County," said Schwartz. They include efforts to improve rural/urban relationships, public policy, and environmental issues. Among them are certifying pork producers to environmental quality, food safety, parenting workshops, taxation and farmland preservation, and assistance for fly control and odors.

Schwartz introduced and congratulated the staff for delivering "the outstanding educational programs" to help people "adapt the latest research and technology to enhance their lives."

Schwartz also introduced past directors who have left their mark on county extension. They included Max Smith and Jay Irwin.

Schwartz said that in the 86-year history of the extension office, he knew of no other county in the nation with fewer number of people who have held the position in the same length of time.

Michelle Rodgers, capitol region director, honored Schwartz for

to \$424,473.23. Expenditures were \$413,411, leaving a net margin in 1998 of \$11,062.23.

New directors elected at the meeting include, from the northwest region, Karen Wolgemuth, Elizabethtown, an egg producer. In the southwest, new director is J. Edwin Kilheffer, Millersville, with a broiler and beef farm. In the northeast, new director is Sara Augsburg, Reinholds, on a crop farm with hogs.

In the southeast, new director is Gary Dean, Strasburg, who raises backyard sheep. New southern director is Donald Trimble, Peach Bottom, with a dairy farm.

Diane Groff was honored for 20 years of service. And Gail Bubernack was honored for 25 years of continuous service with the Lancaster office, and presented with a rocking chair from the Penn State Alumni Association marked with the Penn State emblem.

Gary Dean, newly elected director of the southeast region of the county, provided a treasurer's report for 1998. Total funds appropriated by the Lancaster County Commissioners came to \$418,500. State and federal government support of Lancaster County Cooperative Extension in FY-97 was \$1,080,782.

Interest earned totaled \$5,973.23. This brought the total

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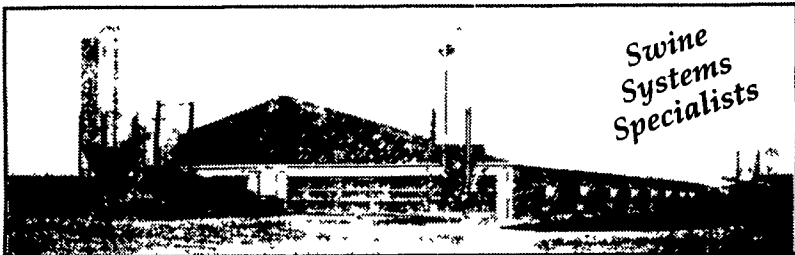
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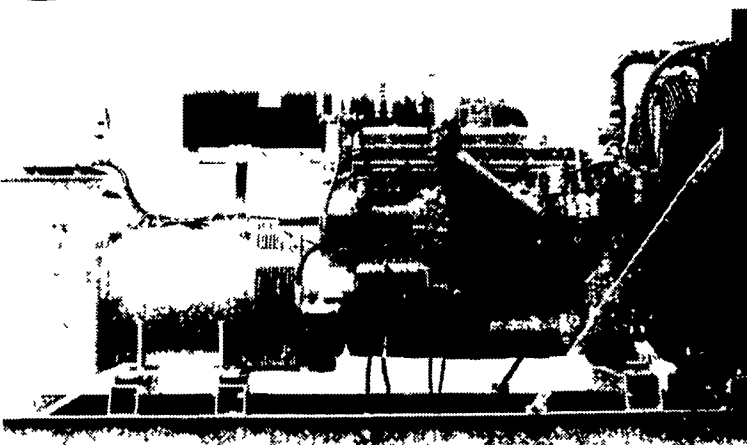


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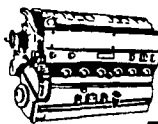
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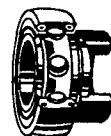
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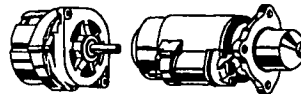
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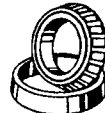
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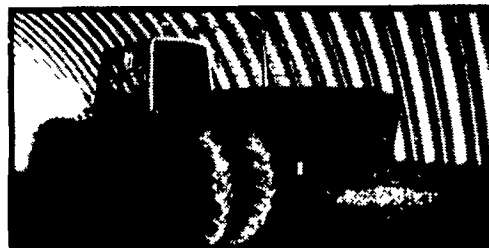
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