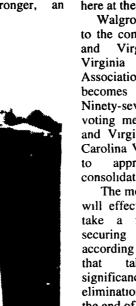
MD-VA Coop Holds Annual Meeting

KAREN BUTLER **Maryland Correspondent**

Hagerstown, Md - Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers coop is going to be a very different

organization after this month, according to George Walgrove, general manager of association.

"It will be stronger, an



The coop consolidation is also a step toward expanding the Class 1 milk base in the future,. Walgrove, said, and will enable the organization to supply customers with a more substantial

The new coop will keep the Association, Inc. producers in 10 eastern states.

general manager this month with the retirement of George Walgrove after 15 years with Maryland and Virginia. Shore has been assistant manager for the past eighteen months. Before coming to Maryland and Virginia, he was general manager of Carolina Virginia for thirteen years.

Shore shared policy updates with the group, and talked on Federal order reform, Class 1 pricing, and the new BFP.

like what we see in these areas," he said. Still, he told the group, he is excited and optimistic about

'Our future in general is good. It's going to be about change We face the future with the right attitude and the right resources to be successful in the future," said

Young Cooperator awards were eight dairy presented and operations were honored for shipping milk to the coop for 50

Young Cooperator for 1999 is Teresa Pomraning of York County, Pennsylvania. Teresa and her husband Myron operate My-T Farm in Delta. They milk a mixed herd of 55 Holsteins, Jerseys, Ayrshires, and Guernseys, and raise about 50 replacement heifers. Teresa also runs a homebased income tax business and works at a local farm machinery dealership. The Pomranings have Stephanie, Kimberly, Suzann, and Jessica. The Pomranings started farming 20 years ago, and have been

organization better able to cope with the future," Walgrove predicted recently at the 79th annual meeting of the coop held here at the Ramada Inn.

Walgrove referred specifically to the consolidation of Maryland and Virginia with Carolina Virginia Milk Producers Association, an alliance that becomes effective this April. Ninety-seven percent of the voting membership of Maryland and Virginia and 95 percent of Carolina Virginia members voted proposed to approve the consolidation last month.

The merger creates a coop that will effectively be positioned to take a more active role in securing Class 1 milk sales, according to Walgrove, an issue that takes on increased significance with the anticipated elimination of support prices at the end of this year.

supply of milk.

'We will not jeopardize the Class 1 customers that we have in the area," he assured producers, "The milk that will go south will go there in lieu of powder. We will continue to show our customers that we have strength."

name Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative It will be headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, with a regional office in Charlotte, North Carolina, and will market milk for over 1560

Robert Shore will take over as

"I'm afraid we're not going to

Shore.

During the afternoon program years.

The Outstanding four daughters: milking for 19 years.

"I am very honored to be



Tim and Carol Motley, Chatham, Va, were named first runners-up in Maryland and Virginia's outstanding young cooperator contest. Shown with them are their three children, from left, Adam 17, Melissa 13, and Julie 6.



The Pomraning sisters are from left, Suzann 11, Jessica, 17 (York Co. dairy princess), Stephanie 15, and Kimberly,

selected as Maryland and Virginia's Outstanding Young Cooperator," said Teresa," I am eager to represent Maryland and Virginia both locally and nationally, and hope that I can be an inspiration to other young producers."

Tim and Carol Motley from Chatham, Va. were named first runners-up and will attend the National Mılk Producers Federation Young Cooperator Conference and annual meeting in Nashville, Tenn. in November.

Stephan Lethbridge from Union Bridge, Md. was selected second runner-up and will attend the National Institute on Cooperative Education Snowbird, Utah in July.

Timmy and Tammie French from Woodstock, Va. and Ronnie and Cyndi Messick from Midland, Va. were named third

and fourth runners-up, respectively, and will attend the Pennsylvania Council Cooperatives Young Cooperator Leadership Conference Carlisle, Pa. in July.

Inducted into the "50 Year Club" were: Cardette Farm Partnership, The Carder Family, Culpeper, Virginia; Glebe Farm, Culpeper, Virginia; the Earhart family, Nokesville, Virginia; Gloria and Donald Toms, Frederick, Maryland; Enfield Farm, the Enfield family, Knoxville, Maryland; Orchard Crest, Inc., the Edwin Potts, Sr. and Edwin Potts, Jr. families, Purcellville, Virginia; Harvue Farms, John O. Hardesty and Son, Berryville, Vırginia; and Lyle C. Tabb and Sons, Inc., Vinemont Ayrshires, Kearneysville, West Virginia.



Ronnie and Cyndi Messick were forth runners-up. Their

children are, from left, Stephanie 10, Eric 8, and Amanda 9.

Timmy and Tammie French, Woodstock, Va. were

selected third runners-up. Their two sons are Tyler 1 1/2,

and Tabb six weeks.

Stephen Lethbidge, Union Bridge, Md., was selected second runner-up. He and his wife, Donna, have three children, from left, Allyson, 9, Collins, 5, and Brittany, 7.

