Rich Roenigk Leads Poultry Association

(Continued from Page A1)

ing eggs and poultry meat. I feel strongly that we as an industry need to continue to attract young people with creative ideas and enthusiasm. As our industry grows and goes forward, the environmental pressures and marketing opportunities will increase. This will require individuals with specia! talents to help us solve problems. Our organization must find ways to be more pro-active in this area," Roenigk said.

Roenigk said that growing up in Butler County, he decided early that he wanted a career in ag business. He achieved an ag economics degree from Penn State, served two years in the Army, and worked 12 years as a sales district manager for Ralston Purina. The more he worked in ag-related businesses, the more Roenigk aspired to become part of Lancaster County's ag business.

"I always thought I wanted to be part of ag in Lancaster County. It's progressive and where good ideas come from. I'm impressed with the quality of job done in egg production and marketing," Roenigk said. He had the break he was looking



Newly elected directors include, from left, Andy Bradford, Roni Clark, and Stephanie Townsend.



Leadership of the Lancaster County Poultry Association is provided by this newlyappointed board. From left, Rich Roenigk, president; Nelson Groff, vice president; Jay Shannon, secretary; and Becky Petit, treasurer. John Mattilio, right, is past president of the association.

for when John and Sandy Melhorn offered him a job selling DeKalb chicks for Melhorn Sales, Service, and Trucking, Mount Joy.

The Roenigks chose to live in York in order to be near to Debi's sister, whose husband was dying from cancer. York's close proximity to Lancaster County enabled Roenigk to become immersed in the poultry industry.

After 10 years with Melhorn, Roenigk is putting his poultry background and feed experience to work as a sales representative for York Ag Products, Inc., York. For the past three years, Roenigk's sales area covers Pennsylvania, New York, and Maryland.

"We supply calcium chips, feeding limestone, and liquid molasses and other products to mills and producers," Roenigk said.

The county is fortunate to have key people in leadership who work for the common good of the industry, Roenigk believes.

"The poultry industry has successfully tackled some severe

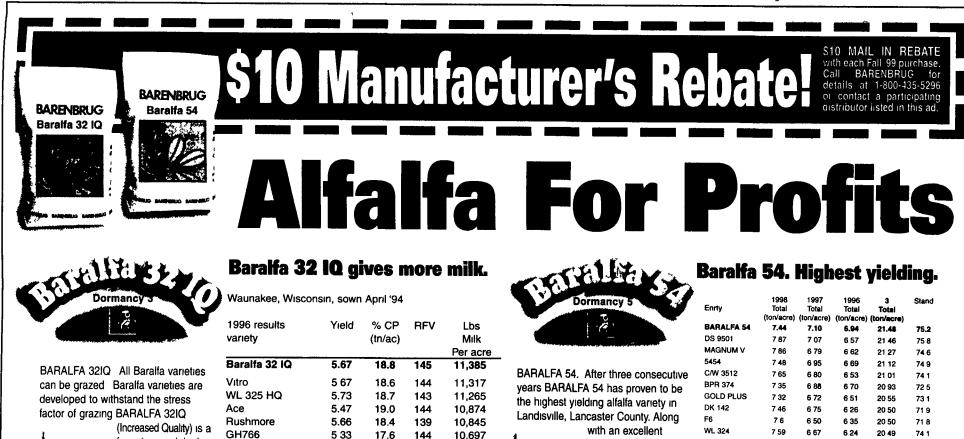
problems such as avian influenza and nutrient management," he said.

"Many people outside the area thought the county's poultry industry wouldn't survive. But we did. The problems have made us even stronger," Roenigk said.

As evidence, he points to the industry's lead in coming up with nutrient management plans.

He said, "New York and some of the other states are looking to our county to see what we've done (Turn to Page A21)

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