

Berks County Dairy 4-H'ers Honored

VIRGINVILLE (Berks Co.) — The Berks County 4-H Dairy Club banquet was recently held at the Virginville Grange Hall to recognize 4-Hers, leaders, and coaches for their hard work and dedication in 1999.

The two top awards presented during the evening were the Charles D. Care Memorial Award and the Joyce Miller 4-H Career Advancement Award.

Three received the Charles D. Care Memorial Award for the Rookie of the Year. The first recipient was Jason Rice, son of Dave and Beth Rice of Kempton. Jason is an active member of the North Berks 4-H Dairy Club and has participated in dairy bowl and other contests, shown at local fairs, and helped with community service projects.

The second recipient was Melissa Schuler, the daughter of David and Eileen Schuler of Fleetwood and a member of the Eastern Berks 4-H Dairy Club. According to the club, Melissa could always be found volunteering to help with club activities, participating in dairy judging, and showing her dairy animals.

Brittini Treichler, the daughter of Keith and Suzanne Treichler of Kutztown, was the third recipient of the Rookie of the Year award. She is a first-year member of the Eastern Berks 4-H Dairy Club. Brittini participated in all of her club's community service projects and participated in dairy judging and dairy bowl.

The Joyce Miller 4-H Career Advancement Award was awarded to Brandon Treichler, son of Keith and Suzanne Treichler of Kutztown. Brandon is a member of the Eastern Berks 4-H Dairy Club and is a freshman at Penn State University, University Park. Throughout his 4-H years, Brandon has participated in local, state, and national 4-H dairy activities. In 1998, he was of four 4-Hers selected to represent Pennsylvania at the National 4-H Dairy Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. To Brandon, being a 4-H teen leader for five years has been his most meaningful experience because he was able to help other 4-Hers.

During the evening, Gary Kurtz of Fleetwood was honored with a Bonnie Mohr painting for his years of service to the 4-H dairy program in Berks County. Gary volunteered as a dairy 4-H leader for 17 years from 1983 and 1990, served as the dairy council president for 12 years from 1985 to 1997, and served as the dairy council treasurer from 1998 to 1999.

Project book awards were presented to the following members. In the large herd category, award winners were Megan Phillips, Megan Schantz, and Jill Vail. In the small herd category, winners included Aaron Davis, George Brown, and Melissa Bicksler.

Dairy herd journal awards were presented to the following members. In the large herd category, Melissa Schuler, Jesse Bitler, Brandon Treichler, and Trisha Geist. Small herd winners were Brittini Treichler, Marisa Koinski, and Keri Houpp.

Office book awards were presented to Keri Houpp for the treasurer's book at Eastern



Top award winners during the Berks County 4-H Dairy Club banquet were (front from left) Jason Rice, Brittini Treichler, Melissa Schuler, and (back) Brandon Treichler.

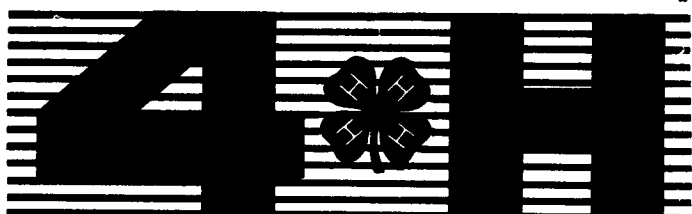


Debbie Dietrich, extension agent, presented a Bonnie Mohr painting to 4-H leader Gary Kurtz for his dedication to the 4-H program. Dairy Council President Linda Youse helped to present the award.

Berks Club and Megan Schantz for the scrapbook at Eastern Berks Club.

Many other members were also honored for participating in 4-H programs and events during 1999. Michelle McMichael,

1999-2000 Berks County Dairy Princess, presented her skit during the banquet, and Ashley Mohn, 1999-2000 Berks County Little Dairy Miss, gave a poem thanking the dairy cow for dairy products.



4-H Capital Days

Ever wondered about the inside workings of government agencies like the Game Commission, the Department of Education, or the State Police?

If you are a 4-H member 15 years or older, you are invited to attend Pennsylvania 4-H Capital Days on May 1-2. Capital Days in an educational, two-day program sponsored each year by Penn State Cooperative Extension. The purpose of the citizenship program is to increase 4-H members' understand of the roles and functions of state-level government.

Susquehanna County is looking for two 4-H members to participate in Capital Days. Registration must be submitted by March 17. The cost is \$105 per delegate, which includes meals, a T-shirt, and Monday night's lodging.

If you are interested in attending Capital Days and are from Susquehanna County, contact Joann Kowalski at 278-1158.

Susquehanna Swine Club
The Baconeers Swine Club held its first meeting of the new millennium on Saturday, February 12. The main activities of the night were paperwork and electing officers.

After saying the pledges, the whole club voted and elected officers. Results were Brian Dana, president; Miranda Herbert, vice president; Ronalyn Corbin, secretary; Rachel Weaver, treasurer; Denise Hardisky, club reporter.

The club discussed fund raiser options and finding a reputable swine dealer from which to purchase pigs. Club leader Ann Corbin announced the tagging date for pigs would be Saturday, April 29, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Harford Fair Grounds.

Corbin also reported that there would be a clinic on picking your marking hog and marketing lamb by extension agent David Castrogiovanna. He will also be leading a chapter 3 swine clinic, which all second year 4-H swine members are encouraged to attend.

Miranda and Brendan Herbert presented the educational activity, "How To Pick Your Market Hog." Following the presentation, Brian Dana assumed his presidency and announced that the next meeting will be held on March 26 at 2 p.m. in the Claverack Building. John and David Corbin agreed to present the educational activity for that meeting.

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