

(Continued from Page A22)

is as successful as they can be."

She reports that in Morgantown, Mary Jane managed a bridal shop over a garage. In fact, a bridal veil hung over a replica Holstein cow's head at the farm sign.

Don and Joanne's children are Ashley and Collin. Joanne, a 4-H youth development agent works for the Somerset County Cooperative Extension and is Pennwood's chief financial officer.

Glenn and Gail's children are Justine, Madison, and Katerina. Dwight and Melanie have no children, but, through her, Jersey cows became united with the Pennwood Holsteins.

"When Melanie married Dwight, she brought a Jersey with her," Andrea said.

The 40 milking Jerseys aren't intimidated in the least by the big black and whites around them. "They compete very well," Andrea said. "At the bunk space, they are aggressive and competitive for food. If they want something, they are aggressive and push the Holstein out of the stall."

Most, but not all of the herd, are registered animals.

Gail, Andrea, and Melanie do milking several mornings each week. And Mary Jane occasionally helps in the Westfalia parlor that operates like a merry-go-round. A track under the carousel allows its wheels to go around.

One person operates the parlor during milking time and another moves cows into the holding area and scrapes alleys.

After exiting the parlor, each cow must walk through a hoof cleaning bath, fol-

lowed by a second bath containing a hoof cleaning solution. The cows have been bred to have strength in their feet and legs.

They went with a rotary milking parlor, because it was the obvious best use of space and human resources, Andrea said. In an hour, 100-120 cows go through it. The actual milking time is some 3½ hours. Cleanup is another hour.

Cows with special needs are immediately identified in the computerized operation. It automatically separates them from the main herd for pen pack. During a cow's tenure in pen pack, her milk is discarded while Dwight gives her some extra TLC and attention. The base bed in pen pack is sawdust and chopped straw is added daily.

"The parlor is set up to sort out the cows," Andrea said.

All data, including production records from individual cows, is automatically recorded in computers. In the main office, adjacent to the parlor, general business is done. The Herdman's office is stationed next to pen pack, because equipment and medications for the animals are there.

Andrea is a Massachusetts native who met her husband when the National Holstein Convention was held in Michigan. She grew up with



In the Pennwood Farms 28-stall milking parlor, a 400-head herd is being milked.

oxen and is starting them at Pennwood.

On two properties, Pennwood raises enough hay, corn, and alfalfa needed to sustain the primary needs of the herd. Some 500 acres are their own and 250 more rented for crops.

Pennwood young stock numbers some 350 head.

"The milking cows don't go on pasture unless they are dry," Andrea said. "Our cows are very content."

As far as production, the Holsteins are averaging 79 pounds of milk a day and the

Jerseys, 51 pounds a day. Every day, Galliker's Dairy in Johnstown is hauling nearly 30,000 pounds of milk shipped by the Pennwood Dairy.

The stainless steel bulk milk tank at the parlor has a holding capacity for some 5,200 gallons of milk, she said.

Justine and Ashley will show 4-H animals for the first time this year.

On Saturday, Aug. 5, Pennwood Farms will host the state Holstein picnic along Rt. 160 just south of Berlin. In conjunction, the Stoltzfus family will also hold an open house, so their modern facilities can be toured.

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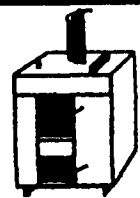
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