



Lancaster Farming

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Dairymen Awards Banquet Honors Leaders In Dairy Industry

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Lancaster Farming Staff
GRANTVILLE (Dauphin Co.) — Three awards honored members of agriculture for their dedication, leadership, and promotion of the dairy industry at the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association annual awards banquet. The event on Wednesday evening was conducted in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders' Conference here at the Holiday Inn. More than 250 people attended the evening banquet.

Following dinner, Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Melinda Wolfe delivered a speech inspired by her father and his dreams of owning his own dairy farm. Additionally, members of the state 4-H judging team were given a lifetime membership to National Dairy Shrine during the evening. Donald Koontz, Fredonia, Elsie Wolff, Quarryville, and Philip Wagner, Franklin County, were selected for skills at their jobs and tireless dedica-

tion to the dairy industry, according to David Smith, executive secretary, Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association. Donald A. Koontz, Fredonia, was honored with the Charles E. Cowan Award. A graduate of Delaware Valley College with a degree in dairy husbandry, Koontz spent several years as a herd manager for Walbe Farms before purchasing his current farm in Mercer County. A 4-H dairy club leader, Koontz is a nationally approved
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Elsie Wolff, Quarryville, right, received the Pennsylvania Distinguished Dairy Women Award from Dixie Burris, associate board member, Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association. Photo by Michelle Ranck



Brubaker Farms, Mount Joy, and Land O'Lakes Inc., Carlisle, were honored with the first Pacesetter awards at the annual meeting Thursday morning of the Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders. From left, award presenter Ralph Heffner, chair of the award committee; Dale Hershey and Larry Dotterer, accepting on behalf of Land O'Lakes; Luke Brubaker, Brubaker Farms; and Joel Rotz, Stakeholders board president. Photo by Andy Andrews



Capitol Region Dairy Extension Team. Back from left, Glenn Shirk, Lancaster County dairy agent; Dan McFarland, multicounty agricultural engineer; Roland Freund, multicounty farm management agent; Duane Duncan, Cumberland County extension director; and Vinton Smith, multicounty dairy agent. Front from left, Philip Wagner, Franklin County dairy agent; Galen Kopp, Lebanon County dairy agent; Tim Beck, regional dairy program coordinator; and Tim Fritz, multicounty farm management agent. Not pictured: Dr. Arlen Mills, multicounty agent, veterinary science; Brad Hilty, dairy alliance information management; and Rich Stup, dairy alliance human resource management.

Stakeholder Breakfast Focuses On Dairy Success Stories

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
GRANTVILLE (Dauphin Co.) — One day, David Zimmerman and wife Joyce realized what they had simply wasn't adequate.

The stanchion pipeline built in 1968, which seemed easy and adequate for the dairy more than three decades ago, started to look rather old.

A son who worked as an auto mechanic and a daughter who worked at a nursery wanted to come back and help on the farm.

David said that two families couldn't be supported on 80 cows. With help from a consultant and financial assistance from a Pennsylvania Dairy

Stakeholder program, the herd continues to expand to about 600-650 cows, enough "for the next generation," Zimmerman said.

David farms with wife Joyce and five children, Dale, 23; Sharon, 30; James, 27; Joann, 21; and Kathy, 13, on Meadowview Farm near Reinholds.

David spoke Thursday morning about the Stakeholder's program, the Business Planning Assistance Program (BPAP), at the 2000 Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholder's Conference Breakfast at the Grantville Holiday Inn.

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Penn State Begins Capitol Region Dairy Program

Tim Beck
York Extension
Agent
Penn State
Regional Dairy
Program Coordinator

Dairy producers in the capitol region will notice some changes in the organization of extension staff responsibilities for dairy programs.

During the past year, extension staff members have been actively meeting to assess dairy program needs, identify resources, plan upcoming regional events, and share ideas and information to stay up to date on important dairy industry issues.

Our first successful regional events were two employee-

training programs this past spring. The March feeder's and milker's schools were warmly received and positively evaluated by participants. Spurred on by the interest and enthusiasm of participants, we planned 13 computer training sessions to improve information management skills, five employee training schools (two for feeders, one for milkers, and two for transition cow managers), and a regional DairyWorks seminar for dairy farm managers.

Most exciting of all are the new people joining our team!

Vinton Smith joined our team to serve as multicounty dairy management agent in Cumber-

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