

# Thompson Inducted To York Holstein Hall Of Fame

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*York County Correspondent*  
**BAIR (York Co.)** — Long-time dairyman, Holstein breeder and cattle exhibitor Rodman "Rod" Thompson was inducted into the York County Holstein Hall of Fame as the highlight of the Nov. 21 county dairy awards program. The annual awards dinner saluted a broad scope of achievements in Holstein, 4-H, and DHIA programs.

Thompson's dairy career spanned a half-century, beginning as a young man farming with his family on a rented farm in Bucks County. In 1944, he and his brothers pooled their savings to invest in five registered Holstein cows, paying Chris Erb of Middletown \$300 per head. The following year, the family drove their 25 head of milking cows to a farm they had purchased on the opposite side of town, and named their new location Fountain Farm.

In 1951, Rod married Jane Taylor, a former Bucks County 4-H beef member. The couple began dairying on their own with a dozen cows, on a rented farm in Bucks County owned by the Grand Dutchess of Luxembourg, who had fled her native land during the war. Core Creek ran through the farm, lending its name to the Thompson's Coredale herd prefix. In 1959, when the rented facility was to be converted to horse raising, they re-



Members of the Rod and Jane Thompson family were on hand for his induction into the York County Holstein Hall of Fame. Front are Rod and Jane; from left, second row are Angela Trimmer, Amanda and Tammy Thompson, Amy, Shirley, and Larry Trimmer; from left, third row, are Chad Trimmer, Cory and Roy Thompson, and Waylon Yohe.

located their 26 head to the farm they purchased near East Berlin.

In 1961, the Thompson began exhibiting their best animals at

the York Fair, a tradition which continues today with their grandchildren exhibiting descendants of some of their prized cow families. Over the years, the Coredale show string took numerous championships and premier designations at local, regional, and state competitions, as well as tallying up some All-Pennsylvania honors. During that time, Rod and his family bred 12 Excellent cows, merchandised their herd genetics, and worked with embryo transfer.

Rod has been active in county and state Holstein programs, including stints as county club president and secretary. Both Rod and Jane served as 4-H leaders, giving generously of their time to area youth. They have been honored as 25-year members of the former Interstate Milk Producers and won production honors for both crop and herd achievements.

The Coredale milking herd was sold in 1994, giving Rod and Jane a well-earned chance to slow down. They kept the heifers, merchandising them as they freshened. Only a few heifers remain on the farm now, along

with some Black Angus cross-breeds and Jane's two pet alpacas. Rod works part-time on their township's road maintenance crew. The Thompsons continue to crop their land, including growing some seasonal produce which they sell at roadside.

York County's youth were honored as well during the program, including recognition given to the state 4-H dairy judging team which won national honors at the recent North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky. Three of the four team members are York countians — Michael Bosley, Trisha Knight, and Cory Thompson — while the fourth, Clayton Wood, is from neighboring Adams County. Coaches for the team are Paul Knight and Jeff Rutz.

Each of York County's three dairy 4-H clubs honored outstanding members for the year. In the Central York Club, honorees were Katie Baumgardner, novice; Nathan Baumgardner, junior; Amanda Thompson, intermediate; and Cory Thompson, senior.

The Milk-N-Money Club

awarded outstanding recognition to Jamie Nisely, novice; Chris Kilgore, junior; Kyle Miller, intermediate; John Miller, senior; and Jason Cooper, cloverbud. Southwest dairy club outstanding honorees were Aaron Doll, rookie; Wren Anderson, junior; Sadye Anderson, intermediate; and Lydia Eddinger, senior.

Recognized for achievement in overall county dairy activities were Cory Thompson, outstanding member; Trisha Knight, runner-up; and Lydia Eddinger, second runner-up. Josh Miller earned the Justin LoBianco scholarship, awarded annually to a deserving dairy youth by the family of the young man killed several years ago in a farming accident.

Several junior Holstein members received awards for milk, fat, and protein records produced by their project animals. Christina Knight, topped all categories in the milking yearling division with Woodbine Storm Lil-TW, with a 305-day lactation of 19,634 pounds of milk, 922 fat, and 656 protein.

Two-year-old honors went to Justin Hall, first, with Woodbine Durham Macadamia, 305-day, 26,709 pounds of milk, 924 fat, and 875 protein. Second was Amanda Thompson with Coredale Shark Shania-ET, 305-day, 22,938 pounds of milk, 811 fat, and 687 protein.

In the three-year-old division, Stevie Greek took top milk honors with Ridge Hill Shark Lacey, 287-day, 30,867 pounds of milk, 859 fat, and 854 protein. First in protein was Candice Knight's Woodbine Mity P Maple, 305-day, 30,787 pounds of milk, 1,171 fat, and 870 protein. Angie Beshore's entry, Beshore Encore Jada, was high fat winner, with 305-day, 29,809 pounds of milk, 1,204 fat, and 831 protein.

Cory Thompson's Coredale Linjet R Dazzle earned all the placings in the four-year-old category, finishing in 305 days with 27,720 pounds of milk, 1,124 fat, and 855 protein.

In the aged cow division, Cory Thompson's Coredale Chairman Toola was first in milk and protein with a 305-day lactation of 32,775 pounds of milk, 1,154 fat, and 958 protein. First in butterfat was Beshore Mystique Jane, owned by Angie Beshore, and finishing her 305-day record with 30,940 pounds of milk, 1,193 fat, and 903 protein. Cory Thompson also had a second-place milk entry, Coredale Broker Cutie, with a 305-day record of 31,229 pounds of milk, 1,054 fat, and 840 protein.

Progressive junior breeder awards went to KC Beshore for Beshore Shark Goofy, Angie Beshore for Beshore RM Jillian, Beshore Encore Julie and Beshore Encore Jada, and to Shane Hall for Woodbine Regent Ella.

DHIA awards were presented for accomplishments in a variety

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Outstanding York County 4-H dairy members for 2003 are Lydia Eddinger, Trisha Knight, and Cory Thompson.

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