

1976 Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild Inductees

Honored recently as Iowa Master Farm Homemakers for 1979 were five outstanding farm women. They were recognized for their fine work with their families, their homes, and community services.

These women represent the many homemakers in rural Iowa who make such contributions. Since the program was started in 1928, a total of 199 farm wives have received this award. This is the 39th-year Wal/aces Farmer has sponsored the program.

The Iowa chapter belongs to National Master Farm Homemakers Guild, and is associated with Country Women's Council and Associated Country Women of the World.

Judges for 1979 were: Alta Fischer, Avoca, president of Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild; Elizabeth Elliott, assistant dean and state leader, home economics extension programs, Iowa State University; Louise Rosenfeld, program assistant, office of foreign student and visitor services, Iowa State University; and Joanne Couey, home editor of Wal/aces Farmer.

Wilma Baker - IMFH Class of 1976

Marshall County

Wilma Baker is a great booster of farm life and all related occupations. She has always worked side by side with her husband, both on the farm and on any project that interests him.

The Bakers are active in politics and St. Joseph's Catholic church.

Several thousand hogs are farrowed and marketed each year from the Bakers' farm. Mrs. Baker and her daughter-in-law maintain the books and all financial records.

Other activities are: Marshall County Porkettes, State Center Women's Club, Chapter CF, PEO, and the Happy Hour Club. She was a 4-H leader for 5 years. She has also been a promoter of good education.

In 1951, the Bakers began remodeling their home and farmstead. They did nearly all the work themselves.

The family farm corporation includes both sons. Dennis received a degree in animal science from Iowa State University. He and his wife, Kathy, have two children. Robert earned his degree in aerospace engineering from ISU. He and his wife, Diana, have four children. The Bakers' daughter, Joan Aten, has a degree in textiles at ISU. Her husband,

Matt, is a veterinarian in Las Vegas, Nev. They have one child. John Riley, at the age of 12, came from an orphanage in Sioux City to live with the Bakers. He has made the service his career and now lives in Ballston Lake, New York.

Lois Evans - IMFH Class of 1976

Adair County

Lois Evans, along with her many community activities, finds time to pursue her 20-year-old hobby of china painting. She also does oil painting. Her enthusiasm for drawing house plans helped her in designing her own home.

The Evanses raise grain and livestock and have a dairy operation. Mrs. Evans has always helped in many capacities. She has been a member of the school board.

In Extension, she has served on the Family Living Committee. She was honored as Adair County's Homemaker at the 14th annual Rural Homemakers Recognition Day held in Omaha, Neb. The family worked together in 4-H.

Mrs. Evans volunteers services at the Good Samaritan Center. She was among the first to help organize the county Red Cross blood program.

Other activities are Farm Bureau, helping to organize the Adair County Historical Society, and officer of the Mormon Trail Committee.

The Evans' two sons farm with them. Arvid, who attended Iowa State University, and his wife, Grace, have four children. Dale graduated from Northwest Missouri State College. His wife is Iris, a home economics teacher in Massena.

Joyce Johnson - IMFH Class of 1976

Ida County

Joyce Johnson and her family are thankful that God has given them an agricultural mission. Here they and their children have been able to grow, work, study, and enjoy each together. Mrs. Johnson enjoys outdoor farm work. She also keeps books for the family purebred Angus operation.

Mrs. Johnson has been active in school affairs. The Evangelical Free Church, and has served on the hospital board and auxiliary.

Mrs. Johnson is active in both the Iowa and American Angus Auxiliaries. She has been on the Farm Bureau board of directors. Mrs. Johnson was selected as one of the Outstanding Young Women in America in 1965. In 1968, she was named Ida Grove Kiwanis Club's outstanding citizen. She was recognized for meritorious service to 4-H in 1973.

It was a long way back for Mrs. Johnson after her brain surgery in Sept. 1973. Her family and friends took over her homemaking responsibilities. They also helped in her rehabilitation.

Children of the Johnsons are: Bobbie Pruiksma, an Iowa State University graduate who lives with her husband, Richard, in Columbus, Ohio; Debbie, junior at Iowa State University; and Andrew, senior in high school.

Frances Jordan - IMFH Class of 1976

Marion County

Frances Jordan has been described as a thought leader. She keeps in close touch with the pulse of the people, and she is unafraid to try the untried.

As children's superintendent at Fairview Christian church, one of Mrs. Jordan's most dramatic accomplishments has been the development of the Tuesday church school.

The Jordans are active supporters of school activities. Mrs. Jordan has served on the 4-H and youth committee and is a member of the extension home economics planning committee.

Another activity is the garden club. Mrs. Jordan takes care of large vegetable and flower gardens and numerous houseplants. She also likes ceramics and sewing.

The Jordans raise grain and livestock on their farm. Mrs. Jordan helps her husband and two sons make decisions concerning the family type operation. Their oldest boy, Rodney, attended Iowa State University. He farms with his parents.

Their son Roger graduated from ISU. He also farms with the Jordans and assists in the operation of a neighboring farm.

Their daughter, Cynthia Crane, and her husband, Neil attended ISU. Neil operates his aunt's farm in Marion county.

Gary, the Jordans' youngest son, is a junior at ISU.

Leona Lewis - IMFH Class of 1976

Wayne County

Leona Lewis and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1970. After their marriage, Mrs. Lewis helped with farm work, raised chickens, gardened, and took part in community affairs. Mrs. Lewis belongs to the New York Garden Club and the Cambria Garden Club.

This is Mrs. Lewis' second year as president of Corydon Women's Club. She is a past president of Wayne County Farm Bureau Women's organization. Currently, she is township chairman.

The Lewises are both active in the American and World War I Legions and their auxiliaries. They are members of the New York Christian Church. For many years, they have worked with Wayne County Angus Breeders Association. They helped plan the county Bicentennial celebration.

Mrs. Lewis helped organize a local Parent Teachers Organization. She has served as leader for both boys and girls 4-H. As an outstanding adult, she was honored by being initiated into the county 4-H girls organization.

Mrs. Lewis has spent many years working with the Wayne County Cancer Society. A few years ago, she was honored as Citizen of the Year in her county. Mrs. Lewis also works with the county museum.

The Lewises' children, all graduates of Iowa State University, are: Rex, who farms in Union, Iowa, with his wife, Imogene, and their four children. Keith is a farm manager in Stoutland, Mo. He and his wife, Marty, have four children. Vaughn is a veterinarian in Chariton, Iowa. He and his wife, Joan, have three children. There are also six great grandchildren.

Marian Shaff - IMFH Class of 1976

Clinton County

Marian Shaff has several parts to play in her role of farm homemaker. Since her husband is a state senator, she also makes a home for him in Des Moines while the legislature is in session. Mrs. Shaff assists her husband with correspondence, summarizes new accounts of the legislature issues, and serves as a spokesman to inform others on the issues.

A leader in her own right, Mrs. Shaff has been active in PTA, 4-H, and Farm Bureau. She is an Iowa State University counselor. Mrs. Shaff is district legislative chairman of women for her party. She is active in campaigns and gives programs about the legislature.

The Shaffs are active members of First Presbyterian church.

Other volunteer work includes the Cancer Society and board members of the Mental Health Center of Clinton County. She belongs to PEO, Folletts Study Club, AAUW, Legislative Ladies, League of Women Voters, and YMCA.

The Shaff farm home and grounds were designed by Mrs. Shaff. Children of the Shaffs are: Ann (Mrs. James) Frein, Deerfield, Ill., formerly a teacher and graduate of Iowa State University, and now a homemaker with two children; and John, who with his wife, Evelyn, has four children. John attended ISU and farms with his father.