

## 1981 Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild Inductees

Recently honored as Iowa Master Farm Homemakers for 1981 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.

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 1981 were: Alvina Sellers, president of Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild; Elizabeth Elliott, associate dean and state leader, home economics programs, and Louise Rosenfeld, program assistant, office of foreign student and visitor services, Iowa State University; and Joanne Couey, home editor of Wallaces Farmer.

### Irene Blom - IMFH Class of 1981

#### Marion County

Truly dedicated to the dairy industry, Irene Blom never misses an opportunity to promote dairy products. She also strives to make everyone more aware of agriculture and its contribution to our well being.

Irene and her husband Lawrence are co-partners in their 50-cow dairy farm. Irene helps with sire selection, culling, and keeps health and breeding records. The Bloms hosted a young man from the Netherlands showing him how an American dairy farm runs.

Irene is chairman of the Mid-America Dairy Farmers auxiliary, is involved in the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, promotions and writes articles on nutrition.

Members of the Pella First Christian Reformed Church, the Bloms sing in the choir. Irene was a leader in the church ladies aid group and secretary of the evangelism committee. She organized her church vacation Bible school and was president of a Women's Edification League for 11 area churches.

Irene is president of the Christian High School auxiliary, organized and is president of the Hilltop Manor auxiliary, a 4-H leader, and Booster Club member.

The Bloms' four children live in Pella. They are Stan, animal health distributor; Shirley, now Mrs. Doug Ver Meer; Mike, a carpenter; and Larry, a high school senior who plans to farm.

### Marlys Lien - IMFH Class of 1981

#### Winneshiek County

Seeing "first hand" is a good way to get the message across. So Marlys and Bob Lien open up their farm to a group of Scandinavians each year.

Liens want others to know what farming is all about and why they are happy with their way of life. They farm 300 acres in Winneshiek County and manage an 80-cow dairy operation.

The four Lien children have always been a big help. Deb lives with her husband Gary Rausch in Charles City. Son Gary is a senior at Iowa State University, a dairy science major. Scott is a junior at South Winneshiek School in Calmar. Son Kris is in seventh grade.

Marlys emphasizes the importance of families. She was instrumental in establishing a new room at an extension-sponsored Family Fun Night. She put together a booklet and

taught games that families and small groups could play. She also encourages the entire family to attend 4-H meetings.

Marlys is recognized as a leader and willing volunteer. She was elected first woman of the county fair board. The local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority honored Marlys as "Lady of the Year" for outstanding community work.

Active in the Springfield Lutheran Church, Marlys has taught Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and is an ALCW officer.

#### Nancy Burrignt - IMFH Class of 1981

##### Woodbury County

"Home" is more than farm and family for Nancy Burrignt. It's her community, county, and surrounding areas. Nancy and her husband Jack make a good team. They believe in self-improvement through study and encourage their children to do the same. Family concerns are conservation and fighting inflation.

Members of the Pierson Christian Church, Nancy has been deaconess for 24 years and served in church school activities as youth sponsor and women's fellowship leader.

Nancy worked with Band and Chorus Boosters. Her extension work includes communications superintendent, general home economics superintendent and judge at the county fair. She is a 25-year 4-H leader, county, and state 4-H alumni award winner. Nancy was selected 1974 Siouxland Homemaker of the Year.

Nancy has been a delegate and alternate to her party's county convention. She has served on the Woodbury county fair board 10 years. A Farm Bureau member, Nancy is also secretary of the Northwest Iowa Regional Library board of trustees.

The Burrignts' children are: Beth, a Marshalltown teacher; John, a senior art major, and Janette, a chemical engineering sophomore, both at Iowa State University; and Blaine, a high school sophomore.

#### Dorothy Russell - IMFH Class of 1981

##### Jones County

Local Morley residents don't have to travel far to discuss telephone service. Farm wife Dorothy Russell keeps office hours in Morley 6 mornings a month. Dorothy enjoys her job as a bookkeeper and troubleshooter for the telephone company and visiting with customers.

Although she really enjoys community work and working in her home, Dorothy admits her first love is working outdoors. During busy spring and fall seasons, Dorothy likes to work outside on the farm. She and husband Everett raise cattle and hogs on their 260-acre grain farm in Jones County.

Dorothy is interested in her school system and was recently elected school board president. She also finds time to lead an adult women's Sunday School class at the United Presbyterian Church in Mechanicsville, and occasionally substitutes as organist and sings in the choir.

The Russells both attended Iowa State University, a trend their four children have followed. Their oldest son, Robert, is a computer engineer in Pennsylvania.

Beverly and her husband, Dave Brandt, live and work in Downers Grove, Illinois.

The two youngest Russells currently attend Iowa State University. Son Lynn is a farm operations program junior. Marilyn is a freshman in science and humanities.

Loy Walker - IMFH Class of 1981

Iowa County

In her role as farm homemaker, Loy Walker is an asset to her family, community and state. She persists in her search for ways to improve the quality of her family's life.

Before marriage to her husband, Bob, Loy was a county home economist and high school home-ec teacher. On the county home economics extension advisory committee, state extension advisory committee, a 4-H leader, Loy has worked hard in the area of parent education.

In the Marengo First Methodist Church, the Walkers have taught church school. Loy has been church trustee and confirmation teacher.

She has been a delegate to her party's county and state conventions, precinct committee woman, and on the central committee.

Loy understands agriculture problems from experience and study. She drives the tractor or combine during busy seasons. Loy was a motivator in the establishment of the Master of Agriculture degree now offered at Iowa State University.

Three of the Walker children attend Iowa State University: senior Angela, an economics major; Theresa, a junior in ag business; and Eric. a sophomore in ag mechanization. Son Brett is a high school senior.