

1983 Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild Inductees

Recently honored at Iowa Master Farm Homemakers for 1983 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.

Since the program was started in 1928, a total of 224 Iowa farm women have received this award. This is the 43rd year Wallaces Farmer has sponsored the program.

Judges for 1983 were: Alvina Sellers, president of Iowa 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.

Marie Albertsen - IMFH Class of 1983

Woodbury County

Even with Marie's busy schedule, she can almost always manage to fit in one more thing.

That could be a family gathering in her home, agreeing to judge a grade school speech contest, writing commentary for a style show and serving as master of ceremonies, or helping with the farming operation.

Marie is business office manager and social worker 4 days a week at the Maple Heights Care Center where she's worked for 13 years. She often invites residents to her farm to see the baby kittens, little chickens, or enjoy corn on the cob under the trees.

Marie and her husband, Marvin, have a livestock and grain farm. They are past Soil Conservation Society winners. Marvin and Marie share many of their activities.

When her children were in school, Marie took part in many related programs and activities. The Albertsens are members of St. Paul Lutheran church where Marie has taught Sunday school and vacation Bible class and held several offices.

This year Marie was one of four 4-H alumni honored at the 4-H state conference. She was a 4-H leader for 25 years of the club she helped organize, has been a project leader for 3 years, was nutrition superintendent at the county fair, and was a member of the extension council. Marie served on the county 4-H subcommittee for 10 years, leading record book workshops for 4-H members and leaders, and judging record books. As part of the Siouland Exchange Program, the Albertsens have hosted out of state as well as out of country 4-H visitors.

The Albertsens have four children. Marc is a research geneticist for Pioneer Seed Company, where his wife, Nancy, also works. They live in Ankeny.

Marlene manages the physical therapy department at Flagstaff Medical Center in Arizona. She and her husband, Carl DeRosa, have three children.

Mary Lu, her husband Stan Mauritz, and son live in Superior.

Bernadine Bredehoeft - IMFH Class of 1983

Palo Alto County

At 13 years of age, Bernadine helped manage the family home on the farm while her mother did the farm work. Her father had died in the '30s. This experience gave her leadership for the rest of her life.

Bernadine has been an officer of many of the societies of her church, St. Paul Lutheran in Emmetsburg. Other duties include women's missionary league and delegate to international conventions. She has taught Sunday school for 45 years and regularly makes flower arrangements for the church.

For 25 years Bernadine was a 4-H leader. She has been a 4-H judge since 1946 and a home economics achievement show judge since 1977. Bernadine is active politically and has been president of Palo Alto County Farm Bureau women. She has also held offices in the women's club and the Graettinger Legion Auxiliary. She is president of the state garden club.

Although involved in many clubs and volunteer organizations, Bernadine finds time and love to help deprived children. She has guardianship for three retarded residents of a custodial home, handling their bank accounts, taking them shopping, making their birthdays and Christmas a happy occasion.

Working with the elderly at Lakeside Lutheran Home, where she has been a volunteer for 15 years and on the board for 2, Bernadine has given much love and assistance and has brought them into her home.

The Bredehoefts have two children. Tom, his wife, Sue, and child live in Algona. Gloria is a secretary for the post office in Des Moines. Foster children (and their children) keep in close touch with the Bredehoefts and visit often.

Sally Ewoldt - IMFH Class of 1983

Scott County

Cooperation is the key to the achievements of the Ewoldt family. Sally adds a spark of fun to whatever needs to be done. This has led to a loving and supportive environment for the household.

Because Gary works in insurance full time, a great deal of the farm work has fallen to Sally. This year she planted 80% of the corn, drove the baler, disced, fertilized, and rotary hoed. She does a large part of the lambing for 37 ewes, calving for 65 stock cows, and helps fatten 500 hogs. She also shared in marketing decisions and hauling livestock.

A large garden supplies vegetables, which Sally preserves for her family. Her flowers bloom throughout the summer.

Sally also keeps books for the farm and horse boarding operation. She visits with the banker, the feed man, and the implement dealer.

The Ewoldts are active in the First Presbyterian Church in Davenport, where Sally is an elder, and in Farm Bureau, where Sally has held several offices. She is also an officer of Daughters of the American Revolution.

Sally has held responsible positions with the foreign exchange group; Daughter Susan was an exchange student to Turkey and the family hosted a French student and four Japanese students.

Widowed when a young mother of three children, Sally took a job to support her family. She continued to participate in school activities and nurtured their extracurricular activities. Sally married Gary, a widower with one child, 13 years ago. This is when they started farming. The 4-H program is a big part of their family life.

The Ewoldts have five children. Susan, a dental hygienist in Des Moines, is married to Gary Moritz.

James Craig is with a law firm in Cedar Rapids. His wife is Debbie.

Barbara Schlitzer - IMFH Class of 1983

Dubuque County

Barb's background and understanding of people enable her to represent not only agriculture but also women, homemakers, and families. Barbara, her husband Marvin, and their children are widely recognized as agricultural leaders in the Dubuque community. Barb has served on many agriculture promotion committees. She has been active in planning extension education programs, radio station KDTH's Ag Show '83 program, and a wide variety of activities sponsored by the county dairy promotion group and the Farm Bureau Women.

As a full partner in a successful dairy operation, Barb is competent in managing the replacement calf and heifer rearing program, averaging less than a 1% calf death loss over the years.

Barb has been involved in 4-H and youth activities in Dubuque County and has given strong support to community and county farm organizations and extension programs.

Part of the financial success of the Schlitzers' farming operation is the result of Barb's meaningful input. For 3 years she was chosen to serve on the Farmers Home Administration committee and was a chairman for one year.

The Schlitzer family has also been active in many urban affairs. They have served as members of various Chamber of Commerce committees and hosted farm visits.

Barb assumes leadership responsibilities in several dairy associations and cooperatives, United Methodist church, 4-H, extension council, county fair committee, PTA, Farm Bureau, politics, and TOPS.

The Schlitzers have three children. Mark and his wife, Twila, are in partnership with his parents.

Susan works at Mountain Bell and lives with her husband, Stan Plum, in Mesa, Arizona.

Laurie is a dental assistant in Davenport.

Wilma Tank - IMFH Class of 1983

Cedar County

Concerns for others and an interest in issues involving agriculture and the home stimulate Wilma into action. She has shown leadership in extension service, commodity groups, church, community, Farm Bureau, Eastern Star, and American Legion Auxiliary. Also, Wilma serves on the Cedar County Crime Stoppers board of directors.

When husband Wayne was president of the county cattlemen's association, Wilma was advisor and worked on projects,

The Tanks played a leading role in organizing the Farmington Township 4-H club. Wilma served on the 4-H Youth Committee. In politics, the Tanks have served as delegates to the conventions. Wilma was campaign manager for the winning candidate for county supervisor.

During Wilma's chairmanship of the county Farm Bureau women, her committee initiated studies of the condition of the Cedar County jail, a visit to magistrate court, and attending county budget hearings.

Wilma's activities at United Methodist Church of Wilton are many. She has taught Sunday school, was chairman of the worship committee, and has been president of the church women. She serves as chairman of Christian Personhood.

Wilma and her husband, Wayne, operate a grain and livestock farm. Wilma spends a lot of hours on the tractor when help is needed. She also helped plan and oversee the remodeling of their home.

The Tanks sponsored a foreign exchange student. This year the Tanks have hosted two young men from Australia on a Future Farmers of America work-study program.

The Tanks have three sons. Jeff and his wife, Jan, teach in Muscatine.

Jack lives in Nevada with his wife, Sue, and daughter. He is with Hertz Farm Management.

Allen is an agriculture aide to Rep. Jim Leach in Washington, D.C.