

Walt Rummel entertains guests

Manteys honored at soil district meeting



WALT RUMMEL

The Chinese people are honest, hard-working, patriotic, and know how to cook a duck.

That was Walt Rummel's opinion of the Chinese people, which he shared with the 186 persons who attended the annual dinner-meeting last Wednesday of the Tuscola County Soil Conservation District, held at Caro High School.

The Sebawaing free-lance editor, writer and publicist served as photographer for a midwestern agricultural trade group totaling 28 persons from 14 states, who toured Communist China in

October.

Rummel took 26 pounds of photography equipment with him on the trip and came back with 1,100 slides. He showed maybe 10 percent of them to the group.

The 1 billion Chinese feed themselves with 25 percent fewer tillable acres than the United States, which has less than one-fourth the population.

How do they do it? Irrigation is part of the answer and human manure is another, Rummel explained. Manure doesn't get flushed down toilets in that country but instead is col-

lected daily and taken to the fields, where it is applied according to previously planned charts.

"This is a very prized product and they're careful how they use it," he said.

The Chinese also don't throw anything away uneaten.

Not only do they eat the meat and skin from the duck, for instance, they also eat the intestines, liver, brains, lungs and testicles.

Rummel found that out at a fancy restaurant meal that would have cost the average Chinese a month's wages. The average wage is \$1 a day (but potatoes cost 3 cents a pound.)

As for the duck at the restaurant, it was "the best duck I have ever tasted in my life." Duck is "just about their favorite food."

The group also had an unusual meal one night. They weren't told until later what it was they had eaten -- puppy. Rummel had guessed it was pork.

The visitors saw lots of ducks being raised on farms. They also saw pigs and dairy cows.

It takes a year to fatten pigs to 280-90 pounds, longer than it would take in the United States because of lack of protein there. (Pigs usually aren't fattened that much here.)

It was at the dairy farm that they learned one example of the way in which all Chinese have a job. The farm had about 720 cows and 300 workers.

Chinese agriculture is very labor intensive, as that and other examples shown by Rummel indicated. The one piece of machinery commonly seen was a two-wheel garden-type walk-behind tractor, which was used to pull small wagons. The only somewhat modern, large tractors seen were on display indoors.

Even old persons have jobs, though it may be only

taking care of their grandchildren or great-grandchildren.

HONESTY

The Americans had an inkling of the Chinese people's honesty in that they never slept in a hotel room that had a lock on the door, but it was in Shanghai they truly learned. The port city has a population of 13 million, making it the largest city in the world.

The visitors didn't want to lug all their belongings around with them on a tour of the city, so asked the guide where they might leave them.

The guide told them to leave their items on the sidewalk in front of a store. The Americans had their doubts, but did as they were told. They returned three or four hours later to find everything still there.

"Do you think we can convert them and make them our way or do we want to?" the bearded Rummel asked.

The former owner of the newspapers in Pigeon and Sebawaing also had praise for the Chinese people's patriotic spirit. "I think they show a dedication and feeling for their country maybe

we've lost here."

Other than airfare to and from China, the American delegation's expenses were paid for by the Chinese government.

The only disturbing aspect he saw on the tour, Rummel said, was that the living conditions of the average Chinese weren't too good.

"In light of events the last few weeks," he concluded, "it bodes well for us to stay friends with the country that has the largest population in the world."

terms on the district board of directors. There were 104 landowners casting votes, the most in several years. The 186 persons present for the dinner may have been a record.

It was announced that

District Conservationist Jerry LeMunyon will be leaving March 23 to assume a new position with the Soil Conservation Service as agronomist serving 19 eastern Michigan counties, including Tuscola.



COOPERATORS OF THE YEAR -- Receiving the award at the annual Tuscola County Soil Conservation District meeting last Wednesday were, from left, Carl and Dorothy Mantey and Rose and Ed Mantey, operators of Mantey Pedigreed Seed Producers Inc. in Fairgrove township.



POSTER WINNER -- Lynn Ruggles, 15, received the plaque for winning the statewide Soil Conservation District scrapbook contest and the trophy for being the county winner.

AWARDS

The cooperators of the year award was presented to brothers Carl and Ed Mantey and their wives, owners of Mantey Pedigreed Seed Producers Inc. in Fairgrove township.

In addition to growing corn, wheat and soybean seed, they also grow some cash crops. Their conservation practices include extensive windbreaks, use of minimum tillage, tiled fields and installation of three erosion control structures.

Among school students receiving various awards were Lynn Ruggles, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ruggles of M-46, Kingston.

Her entry in the water and soil conservation scrapbook contest for 7th and 8th graders last year took top honors in the county contest and was later judged a state winner.

Her father and Don Loomis of Cass City were both re-elected to new three-year

Pedestrian death called accidental

Tuscola County Prosecutor Artis Noel has decided there will be no prosecution of Douglas H. Saigat, driver of a car which struck and killed a pedestrian Dec. 9 near Unionville, that the accident was unavoidable.

Saigat, 47, lives at 6016 Cass City Road, Cass City.

The victim was Loren P. Kaufman, 29, of Sebawaing.

Noel had been awaiting the results of a laboratory blood-alcohol analysis of the victim's blood before making a final decision in the case. The results, recently received, showed he had not been drinking alcoholic beverages.

However, Kaufman had been wearing dark clothing and it was dark outside (9:20 p.m.) at the time he was hit. Another motorist, who was a witness in the Caro state police investigation, said he had almost struck Kaufman just prior to when he was hit.

Another factor in the prosecutor's decision was that the estimated speed of Saigat's car was below the speed limit when the accident occurred.

State police at the time of the initial investigation said Kaufman had walked into the path of the Cass Cityan's car.

The accident took place on M-25, just south of Huron Line Road. The victim was pronounced dead at Bay Medical Center.

Methodist women hold meeting

A belated luncheon was served Jan. 16 to Trinity United Methodist Women by Group 1 with co-hostesses Pauline Brown and Bea Baker.

Thirty-five women were present.

Rev. R. Thomas Wachterhauser thanked the members for their contribution to help send 12 youths to the retreat week end at Adrian.

The ladies drew names for secret pals to send cards to. The new booklets with the new groups were handed out.

February's meeting will also be a noon luncheon with co-hostesses Bertha Shagena and Virginia Hartwick.

The society voted to have another bazaar in 1980.

Pauline Hulbert announced a Lenten study will be held with Rev. Wachterhauser as leader.

World banks were presented for 1980.

Treasurer Mickey Marshall presented the pledge service.

President Elaine Proctor adjourned with a poem for the New Year.

One little white lie usually leads to several others.

Thumb Area Consortium costs lowest in state

The Thumb Area Consortium, which runs the federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program in the upper Thumb, has the lowest administrative costs of any of the 11 such administrative regions in Michigan.

A report presented at the consortium's administrative board meeting last Thursday showed administrative costs amounted to 5.4 percent of the CETA money received for the period Oct. 1, 1978 to Sept. 30, 1979, or April 1-Sept. 30, 1979, depending on the program. That amounted to \$254,054 out of total CETA expenditures of \$4.72 million.

The report was compiled by the state Bureau of Employment Training for the 11 consortiums in what are basically the rural areas of the state.

In the other consortiums, the percentage of CETA funds devoted to administration ranged from 6.5 to 11.2 percent. Ten or 15 percent is allowed by the federal government, depending on the program.

Thumb Area Consortium Executive Director Frank Lenard said his agency's administrative costs are lower because it has fewer employees. He feels other such agencies have more manpower than is essential to run the CETA program.

The 5.4 percent spent for administration, Lenard told board members, "means 94.6 percent of the money

hits the street (for job training and jobs). We're doing what we're supposed to be doing with it."

In other action, the board approved 18 new CETA Title II-D positions.

Twelve of those are for workers in the Human Development Commission's weatherization program, who will receive \$3.40 an hour.

The 12 workers will be enough to supposedly expand the number of crews weatherproofing the homes

of low-income homeowners from the present three crews to eight by April.

The board, composed of two county commissioners each from Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties, re-elected Calvin Reibling of Huron as chairman for 1980 and Margaret Wenta of Tuscola as vice-chairman.

Meetings will remain at 9:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the consortium office in the Hahn Real Estate Building, W. Main Street, Cass City.

Red Cross fund drive a success

Tuscola County American Red Cross Chairman Mary Alice Osgerby has announced the 1979-80 county-wide fund-raising campaign has come to a successful conclusion.

"As of our last report, the amount of money collected totals more than \$2,300," she said. "Nearly \$1,200 of that total came from a door-to-door campaign in the Caro area business district, while the rest came from a mail-campaign during November and December of last year."

She also said the Tuscola county chapter of the American Red Cross expects to receive the same contribution as last year from the Vassar, Cass City and the Fairgrove United Way cam-

paigns.

The successful fund-raising drive will allow the American Red Cross to continue its many services to Tuscola county residents, including the blood program, home nursing program, service to military families, and water safety program. Some of the contributions have also been earmarked towards the purchase of a child-size mannequin to be used in the Red Cross first aid program.

Co-chairmen for this year's campaign were James McLoskey and Mrs. Osgerby. They were assisted by Bruce Tait, Robert Strye, Clare Osgerby, and Charles Spaulding, who took part in solicitation for donations.

FOLLOW THE HAWKS!

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JV Game 7:00 p.m.

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