Dedicated Volunteers Rewarded with Hall of Fame Induction

by Emily McConnell



Carl Lemon



Ray Miller



Larry Vance

From serving food to securing barns to writing grants, Carl Lemon, Ray Miller and Larry Vance have devoted countless hours of hard work to the success of the Farm Science Review.

Through their combined 100 years of service, they have each been instrumental in making the Review the success that it is today, said Craig Fendrick, manager of the Review. Their tireless commitment and dedication make them this year's inductees into the Farm Science Review Hall of Fame.

Carl Lemon, of West Jefferson, has participated in all 40 Farm Science Reviews, first as an exhibitor with the tractor division of Ford Motor Company, then later as president and owner of Hayward Distributing. He has been a devoted volunteer since his retirement in 1985. Carl is responsible for the security of the main exhibit building, opening it each morning at 6:30 a.m. after raising the flags on the exhibit grounds. According to Fendrick, Lemon is always ready and willing to help.

"If we needed a volunteer for a program next week, we'd call Carl and he'd be there to help us," said Fendrick.

The success of the Review and the people he works with are what keeps him coming back each year, Lemon said. "They're the kind of people you want to help," he said. "It's easy getting motivated to volunteer at the Review."

Ray Miller, of Hilliard, started working at the Review

as a student employee in 1964. He later worked as a recruiter for the OSU College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). After becoming assistant dean of student affairs for the CFAES in 1981, Miller served as college host for 15 years, introducing more than 12,000 FFA students each year to the opportunities available at the Review. He also works behind the scenes serving food at the Vice President's luncheon and coordinating the college counsel's student food booths.

Miller has been the driving force behind keeping students active in the Review, said Fendrick. "I don't think any student activity would have taken place at the Farm Science Review without Ray," he said.

Miller retired in July but plans on continuing his involvement with the Review and his active participation in the Farm Science Review Alumni. "I will continue to do the same things I have done for the past 30 years," he said. "It has been my pleasure to serve the students of the College, the dean's staff and the Review leadership team over the past three decades at Ohio State."

Larry Vance, who recently retired from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), is being honored for his work in promoting and obtaining funds for both Federation Park and the Gwynne Conservation Area. Vance, of Delaware, was responsible for procuring a \$150,000 grant from ODNR's Natureworks Bond Package to build the new Natural Resources Interpretative Center. He has been an active presence in the Review since 1981 and was the driving force behind Federation Park, including the windmill and pavilion and a deck used for the Conservation Farmer Awards.

Vance loved working at the Review each year, he said, but is looking forward to his new role as an observer. "There's nothing else like Farm Science Review," he said. "It's a real opportunity to see the best of the best of agriculture, natural resources, family and consumer sciences and everything else. I just wish it lasted longer."

Vance, Miller, and Lemon, will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on the opening day of the Farm Science Review, Sept. 17. They will join past recipients, including:

Jim and Norma Trotter, Kathleen Smith, Bill Gill, Bill Schnug, Judy and Kelso Wessel, Ed Johnson, Harold Bauman, Jim Caldwell, Maurine McCormick, Francille Firebaugh, Robert Miller, Jim Utzinger, David R. Miskell, Robert L. Eby, C.L. "Lep" Lephart, Dorothy R. Friday, Paul C. Leidheiser, Thomas M. Stockdale, Ted L. Jones, William L. George, Earl W. McMunn, Roland L. Leeper, James W. Yingling, William B. Zipf, Wilbur A. Gould, Shirley A. Brooks-Jones, Marion E. Grimes, Molly Caren Fisher, Novice G. Fawcett, Dale T. Friday, Roy M. Kottman and Thomas F. Wonderling.