

legacy

philanthropy awards

DR. HENRY A. AND BARBARA M. JORDAN AWARD

significant, comprehensive philanthropic achievements

~The Herr Family of Nottingham

...Serving More than Snacks



For over 60 years, the Herr Family has quietly demonstrated authentic philanthropic leadership and community-focused business acumen. As the family snack food business has grown and prospered since 1946, so has the family's dedication to countless nonprofit charities in Chester County, the region, and the world.

Personally, much of the Herr family's philanthropy is done anonymously or in a low-key, quiet manner. Giving is just the right thing to do, especially to causes that are outreach programs affiliated with religious institutions which strengthen families and provide food, clothing and shelter to those in need. Herr family members make philanthropic gifts via family foundations and donor advised funds affiliated with the Community Foundation as well as religious organizations. The Herr family has instilled a strong sense of altruism and community spirit in each generation, which now numbers 5 children, 20 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

On the business side, Herr Foods makes a wide array of strategic corporate financial contributions as well. Herr Foods can always be counted on to contribute snack foods to any nonprofit that requests so. Furthermore, Herr Foods is the #1 donor in food volume to the Food Bank of Delaware.

Patriarch James S. Herr has led by example both in the corporate and charitable giving world. Jim's dedication as a businessman and his strong belief in service led him to volunteer on the Worldwide Economic Development Team, International President of the Potato Chip and Snack Food Association board, director of the Chester County Development Council, and as Building Campaign Chair of the Southern Chester County Health Services Medical Center. He was also a 12-year member of the Oxford Area School Board, serving 5 of those years as its President. For 6 years, he held a seat on the Chester County Board of School Directors. Jim also served the National Federation of Independent Business as Chairman for 11 years.

Following their father's example, June, J.M., Ed, Martha and Gene have also served on many boards, in leadership roles and quietly inspiring others to become involved in service. Locally, Ed's service ranges from the Oxford Chamber of Commerce to the Lighthouse Youth Center and the Oxford Senior Center. Gene serves on the Board of Oxford Area Neighborhood Service Center. J.M.'s service is wide-ranging, having served as a Board Member of the International Bible Society, Fulton Bank, and Clemens Family Corporation. From 2006-2008, J.M. served as Chair the Board of the Brandywine Valley YMCA, encouraging volunteers to make a significant difference as the YMCA began to undertake a large coordinated capital campaign.

Herr Foods has consistently conducted business ethically and with a social conscience, mindful of Herr's role as a good corporate citizen. For example, facing waste management issues in the early 1980's, Herr Foods established an Angus Farm, where potato peelings and rejected food products are mixed with traditional cattle feed. Today, the farm produces wheat, soybean, corn and barley. Some of the crops are used as part of the mix in the cattle's diet; the rest are sold. Potato starch, removed from the waste water before irrigating, is sold for fine paper manufacturing.

This only touches the surface of the Herr family's longstanding, wide-ranging, thoughtful, altruistic philanthropy, service, and volunteerism. The legacy that Jim and Mim Herr have passed on to the next generations of Herr family civic, philanthropic and corporate leadership has become a solid foundation for the future.