

International Association of Torch Clubs Silver Torch Award

Presented by Lee Stout of the Central Pennsylvania Torch Club, March 20, 2011

To: Milton Halberg



Milton Hallberg joined the Central Pennsylvania Torch Club in 1999. He devoted yeoman service to the club as Treasurer from 2001-2008 and has been a regular presenter with papers that revealed new dimensions to the role that agriculture and family farms played in the past and the present for Pennsylvania. He has also treated us to insights into his interwoven interests in railroads in American history and the history of computing.

Dr. Hallberg is Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics in Penn State University's College of Agricultural Sciences. He received the Ph.D. degree from Iowa State University in Agricultural Economics in 1965 and was a member of the faculty at Penn State from then until his retirement in 1998. Over the years, Dr. Hallberg's work has gained him international recognition. He served as a visiting professor of agricultural economics at Oklahoma State University, the University of Sydney in Australia, Kiel University in Germany, and Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland. He has lectured in several additional countries including Norway, Sweden, Spain, Hungary, Poland, and Korea.

He is the author or co-author of five major books in the field since 1992 and numerous refereed journal articles on structural change in agriculture and the role of economics in policy changes in this sector. Over the years much of his work focused on the assessment and performance of the U.S. dairy industry. More recently his work has become more general in looking at the impact of technology in animal agriculture, international trade, and the economic history of American agriculture over the last two centuries.

His approach as a mature scholar has become broader in reflection on the value of history in understanding both how agriculture has changed in America and how it has changed American society. It has been a privilege to have him share these reflections with us in his papers and to benefit so much from his dedicated service to the Central Pennsylvania Torch Club.