John L. Loyd

John L. Loyd of Philippi – After earning a Dairy Science degree from WVU, Loyd began his professional career as a Barbour County extension agent. He later added a master’s degree in extension education, and retired from the WVU Extension Service in 1993. He is also a professor emeritus at WVU. In 1976, he helped to organize the Barbour County Fair, now enjoyed by tens of thousands annually. He also established a 4-H dairy heifer replacement program for Barbour County.

Loyd has worked extensively with the West Virginia Association of Fairs and Festivals, including the development of an economic impact study of fairs and festivals throughout the state. His work with the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, encompassing thousands of events around the world, earned him the prestigious Hardee’s American Heritage Award. The WVU Extension Service presented him with the Distinguished Service Award in 1982. He was Barbour County Chamber of Commerce “Man of the Year” in 1996, and was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2000 by the WVU Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences. A new entertainment center at the Barbour Fairgrounds was named in Loyd’s honor in 2000.