

Centre County Farm Bureau

Affiliated with
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau



American
Farm Bureau Federation

SUMMER PICNIC

The Centre County Farm Bureau is hosting their annual summer picnic on **Thursday, July 18, 2013** at the Centre Hall Lions Club Park at **7:00 p.m.** Please bring a dish to pass and place settings. Kindly RSVP to Evalene Ishler at 814-422-8776 or Cinda Corl at 814-238-8742 by **July 1** so that BBQ Chicken can be ordered.

There will be an auction after the picnic to benefit Ag in the Classroom! With your help last year the county was able to raise over \$1,400 so sponsor to two teachers to this event and to also sponsor the Penns Valley FFA Chapter to attend the National FFA Convention. Donations from local businesses are needed to make this a success. We hope to see you on July 18 for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.

From the Desk of the President

Daniel M. Kniffen

Spring has finally arrived even though we've had a few chilly days and nights the weather is getting better. With crops mostly in the ground we'll turn our attention to the hay fields. Hopefully the summer rains will be good to us and we can have a good growing season.

The first item of business is for you to remember to attend this year's summer picnic Thursday July 18th. We will be hosting the benefit auction at the picnic again this year. As you know the revenue generated will provide support for the Ag in the classroom project. Any additional money raised is used to support the county scholarship programs. If you can, please bring an item of value for the July auction. See more details in the newsletter.

We will again be conducting a survey at the picnic to help identify policy issues for this fall. Please bring your thoughts forward. The Policy Development meeting this year will be at the Grange Fair Office September 10th at 7pm. We hope to see you there.

The Board of Directors visited with the County Commissioners this spring. We had a very good exchange. Everyone at the meeting left stated they had learned something new from the exchange. We intend to continue this activity into the future. If you have an issue you would like discussed please talk with a board member we'll be sure to carry it forward.

Our summer Farm Legislative Tour is coming together real well. We have identified 4 speakers for the event. The topics for this year include the packing industry, home freezer beef, Immigration and labor issues and the Equine Industry. Every year the committee attempts to identify a diverse panel of industry representatives for presentations. Many of the issues common to one industry are issues for many other Ag enterprises. This is an excellent for the board to share our agricultural issues with our lawmakers.

Help us identify worthy college students eligible for an academic scholarship. A student must have successfully completed their first year of studies in some field of agriculture. Find more details in this newsletter.

We had a very successful membership year last year. As many of you know the new membership year begins July 1st. Liza Walton of Coburn Feed Mill has agreed to serve as the 2013 membership Chairperson. It is the responsibility of every member of Centre county Farm bureau to help her help us reach our 2013/2014 member goal. In this newsletter find a listing of some of the 2012/2013 accomplishments and services of your Centre County Farm Bureau. These will help you visit other future members and explain why they need to belong to the organization.

Finally at the May meeting the board began to explore the possibility of hosting a County Farm Bureau Golf outing. This idea is only in the exploration stage. We are actively seeking an individual or group of people interested in coordinating the event if we are to move forward. Please contact Bethany Coursen, valleywidefarm@gmail.com or myself if you have interest in helping bring this project to fruition.

Thank You for support of your Centre County Farm Bureau. It is the support of the members like yourself and the hard work and support for your Board of Directors that makes your organization successful. You should be proud of what you have built. With your help we can also make this year successful for the Centre County agricultural community. Please support our local Allied Industries. They always support our efforts.

I hope to see you on down the trail. *Adios*

Policy Development Soon Underway

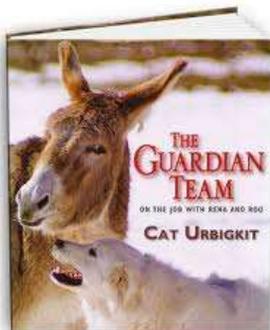
Policy development will soon be in motion at Farm Bureau for 2013. This is the time for regular members to step up and tackle the important issues related to agriculture and rural living.

This summer, your county Farm Bureau will bring forth ideas for policy resolutions to be discussed and voted on in the fall at your county annual meeting. The resolutions generally fall into two categories: 1) Identifying problems affecting agriculture that need to be solved; and 2) Taking a position on an issue related to agriculture or rural living.

*Please mark your calendars for the *Centre County Farm Bureau policy development meeting on September 10 at the Grange Fair Office in Centre Hall at 7pm*. Because Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization, members are encourage to attend this meeting to bring forth any issues affecting your agricultural operation and be prepared to present possible solutions. There will also be a survey distributed at the summer picnic. Let your voice be heard.



Farm –Tastic Book



The FARM-tastic Book for 2013 is **The Guardian Team** by Cat Urbigit (American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's Book of the Year for 2013). It provides a unique look at the fascinating process that Reno, a pup and Roo, a burro, undergo to become guardian animals.

Cost for books are \$10.00 each. The board of directors had agreed to purchase books for each elementary school in the county. Special thanks to several members who sponsored books at our spring meeting and to the Agricultural Forum of Centre County for sponsoring books.

If interested in purchasing a book, please contact Bethany Coursen. Orders are due by July 31st.

A Note from your ROD: Ashley Hoover

Have you ever wondered why you are a member of the Centre County Farm Bureau? For many involved in production agriculture you belong because our grassroots policy development process or because of representation in Harrisburg and Washington D.C. on agricultural and rural issues. For others, you may belong because you receive a discount on a service such as Nationwide Insurance.

Below are just a few of the programs and events that the county has been involved in 2012-2013.

- Awarded 3 \$500 scholarships to Centre County Youth
- Visited with the County Commissioners to discuss local issues in April
- Held fun auction at county picnic and raising over \$1,400 to support 2 Centre County teachers to attend Ag in the Classroom Training
- Supported the Centre County Dairy Bowl Team and Penns Valley FFA to compete in national contests
- Mobile Ag Science lab visited a school in Bellefonte School District
- Hosted a legislative farm tour to discuss local challenges and issues facing agriculture
- Met with legislators in Washington D.C. and Harrisburg to educate them on current agricultural issues. For example: Stopped the Expansion of Sunday Hunting, Clean & Green, Farm Inheritance Tax Exemption successful passed, Changes made to the Vehicle Code in favor of agricultural implements



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Finally, as an incentive for paying your dues of \$75 for the 2013 membership year, after September 1 and on or before, mark your calendars for October 10, you will receive one free meal.

CENTRE COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP



Attention college students. Each year the Centre County Farm Bureau awards one \$500 scholarship at the fall annual meeting. Applicants must be a

resident of Centre County who is a member or whose parents or guardians are current members of the Centre County Farm Bureau and have held a membership for at least one year prior to the application deadline.

Individuals must have successfully completed at least one year of study in a bona fide two or four year curriculum at a college or university and pursuing a degree in some phase of agriculture.

Selection will be based on ability and aptitude for serious study, leadership, community service, and reasons for needing the scholarship and thoughtfulness in answering the essay question.

Applications can be obtained by contacting Jana Peters, at jp9@psu.edu are due by October 1, 2013 in order to be considered for the award.

Make Plans to attend State YFR Picnic

We invite all young farmers to our annual statewide picnic scheduled for July 21st at Curt and Lydia Turner's in Bloomsburg, Columbia County. We will be having Pork BBQ at 12:00 noon. In addition to touring the Turner farm, tours are scheduled for Don Cotner's Egg Packing Facility and Boyd's Station (Soybean Plant) for after lunch. *Please note, children will not be allowed at Boyd's Station but can tour the egg facility.* Also in attendance will be Dave Folk and his daughter, Kristie Good, of Folk's Butterfly Farm.

Nationwide Farm Safety Seminar

Who: YOU

When: **July 10, 2013;**
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.



Where: Walker Township Building;
816 Nittany Valley Drive, Bellefonte

What: The purpose of this meeting is to review general farm safety and liability with Ben King from Nationwide Agribusiness. PA State Trooper Kevin Miller will be reviewing changes to the Vehicle Code and Agriculture Exemptions. We will also be conducting a mock DOT stop during this event. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to Ashley Hoover by June 28 at amhoover@pfb.com or 570-971-2289.

County Officers & Board of Directors for 2013

Dan Kniffen, President	814-422-8686
Sally Tanis, Vice President	814-364-2123
Cinda Corl, Secretary	814-238-8742
Dave Houser, Treasurer	814-349-8809
Herb Cole	814-349-8781
Bethany Coursen	814-422-8974
Cody Edling	215-620-3078
Allen Ishler	814-422-8224
Scott Wolfe	814-422-8455
Donn Fetterolf, PFB Board	814-349-8213
Ashley Hoover, ROD	570-971-2289
PFB OFFICE	717-761-2740

DATES TO REMEMBER:

June 18	Board Meeting
June 17 -21	FACE Conference
June 25 -26	Membership Chair Conference
July 4 & 5	PFB Office Closed for Independence Day
July 8 -12	New Member Drive
July 10	Nationwide Farm Safety Seminar
July 14 – 19	Ag in the Classroom
July 18	Summer Picnic
July 21	State YFR Picnic, Bloomsburg
July 30 & 31	Legislative Update Meetings
Sept. 10	Policy Development Meeting

Nationwide Agents

Mike Karstetter, State College	238 – 6038
Wes Miller, Centre Hall	364 – 1965
Pamela Stern, Huntingdon	643 – 4410
Dave Byron, State College	237 – 5192
David Baughman, Howard	625 - 2317
Donald Hollinger, State College	237 – 1227
Joseph Menna, Bellefonte	355 – 9582
Judith Meyer, State College	234 – 4500
Alan Anderson, State College	355 - 5486