

## GYF JANUARY NEWS

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## PYFA 2016 Winter Conference February 2~4, 2016

Hosted by Kutztown Young Farmers  
at the Historic **ABRAHAM LINCOLN HOTEL**  
100 North 5th Street Reading, Pennsylvania 19601

### Tour Preview:

#### \* **TIMAC AGRO USA Inc.**

TIMAC is a subsidiary of the Roullier Group, an international agriculture supply company created in Europe in 1959 and specializing in the production of fertilizers, calcium soil conditioners, biostimulants and animal products.

#### \* **FM BROWN'S FEED MILL**

Our tour will be of the Livestock and Poultry Feed Division's new facility in Birdsboro, Pennsylvania. This new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility produces fine quality feed for agriculture livestock. Launched in 2012 the new facility was designed and developed to further enhance the quality of nutritional products and to meet the specialized needs of their valued customers. They buy and store almost one million bushels of locally produced high quality grain to use in the manufacture of their quality feeds.

#### \* **CORNER VIEW FARM**

Corner View Farm began milking cows in 1915 by Ammon Biehl. It was a typical dairy farm in Berks County, PA with fourteen cows in a tie stall barn. Five generations later, young Baxter (age 10) and Blake (age 12), live on the same property and walk around the same farm with their ipad and ipod. They can watch over the barn with IP cameras and control barn functions from their remote touch screens.

#### \* **EAST PENN**

East Penn began as a dream of the Breidegam family. In 1946, DeLight Jr., a young Air Force veteran, started a battery business with his father, DeLight Sr. The location of their business was a small, one-room creamery in the village of Bowers, PA. Wartime made for scarce battery materials, but there was big demand for rebuilt batteries so returning GIs could get their vehicles running again. DeLight and his father filled that need by collecting old batteries and rebuilding them.

### REGISTRATION by 1/22/16:

[http://www.payoungfarmers.com/files/winter\\_reg\\_2016.pdf](http://www.payoungfarmers.com/files/winter_reg_2016.pdf)

Mail only winter conference registration with check payable to **Kutztown Young Farmers:**  
**Michele Zollers, 305 Longsdale Drive Mertztown, PA 19539, 610-682-7880**  
Please make room reservations directly with Abraham Lincoln Hotel 610-372-3700  
[www.abrahamlincolnreadinghotel.com](http://www.abrahamlincolnreadinghotel.com)

## DATES TO NOTE .

### **January 8, 7:00-9:00**

GYF/FFA friends and family bowling at Edgewood. Pizza and drinks provided. Please bring snacks to share.

### **Jan 9-Jan 16**

Pa Farm Show, Harrisburg, Pa.  
FFA Winter Convention, Monday 1/9

### **Jan 19, 7:30 p.m.**

GYF Winter Class at GHS Ag classroom

### **Jan 22**

Registration deadline for PYFA Winter Institute. See pg 1 for details

### **Feb 3, 4:30 -8:30 p.m.**

Grain Marketing meeting hosted by AgCom at Heidlersburg Fire Hall. Call Tammy W. at AgCom to RSVP 717-624-8249 or twaddell@agcominc.com

### **Feb 12, 8:00 a.m.-2:p.m.**

AgCom Fertilizer meeting

### **Feb 16, 7:30 p.m.**

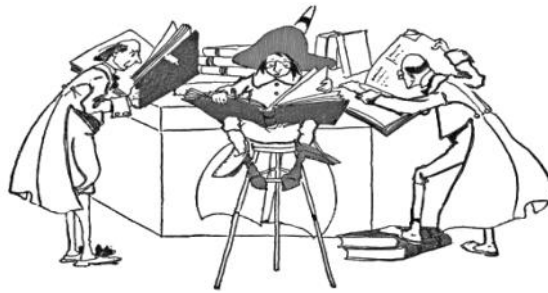
GYF Winter Classes at GHS in the ag classroom. See article.

### **Feb 23, 8:00 a.m.**

Adams County Conservation District Soil Quality meeting,

### **March 1, 7:30**

GYF Winter Classes at GHS in the ag classroom. See article.



# WINTER CLASSES

At GHS Ag Classroom  
7:30-9:00

### **Tuesday January 19**

*"Working with Life Force Energy in Agriculture"*

Presenter: Marcia Brown  
Friends and family welcome  
Refreshments provided

### **Tuesday February 2**

First day of PYFA Winter Institute, Reading Pa. Class rescheduled.

### **Tuesday, February 16**

*"How to Fund Retirement Without Selling the Farm"*

Presenters: Shawn Abma, Thrivent Financial and rep from AgChoice Farm Credit

### **Tuesday, March 1**

*Interpreting Soil Test Results, "Beyond NPK"*

Presenter: Dean Collamer  
Bring recent soil test results if you'd like to ask questions



## GRAIN MERCHANDISING MEETING

Heidlersburg Fire Hall  
2720 Heidlersburg Rd.  
Gettysburg, Pa.

### **Speakers include:**

- ◇ **Dr. James Dunn, Ag Economics PSU**
- ◇ **Galen Julius, TAM Systems**
- ◇ **Brent Rogers, co-owner Rogers Grain, Covington, Ohio**

**Dinner served at 6:40. RSVP to Tammy Waddell, 624-8249**

## SPRING TOUR to AG RESEARCH CENTERS

Plans are underway for a mid March joint GYF and Battlefield FFA spring tour. It will be a 3-4 day activity, two for travel to Research Triangle, North Carolina and the Outer Banks. We will visit the research center for one of the crop protection companies; also an environmental center to learn about considerations necessary in maintaining the natural shore habitat.

Additionally, we will take time to do a "fun" activity.

## Ag Students Travel to Nicaragua

In early December, Ashlyn Burkholder and Olivia Staub, two ag students and FFA officers at Gettysburg High School, set out on an adventure that both emphatically agree was life-changing. They joined a delegation comprised of two extension agents and members of the Young Grower Alliance, a civil engineer with expertise in water management, their agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, and two in-country, Project Gettysburg/Leon leaders. While emersion into the Nicaraguan culture, through touring Managua, the capital of Nicaragua the first day, proved both interesting and essential to navigating in a foreign country, the best experience revealed itself by *just doing it*.

Traveling north in the luxury of an air-conditioned micro-bus gave the delegation an opportunity to see towns, cities and countryside; however, luxury got checked at the small



town of El Charco, located at the base of the mountain. It is there that the delegation exchanged its comfortable seats for a spot in a four-passenger Hilux Toyota 4-wheel-drive pickup. The more adventurous negotiated for, what looked like, the most secure area in the bed of the truck.

While the trip is a rigorous two-hour hike to its destination, the Northern High-

lands village of Talolinga, the pick-up truck cut down travel time, but didn't necessarily make it any more comfortable.

Approximately half way up the hill, the delegation stopped at the home of Javier, who is a sponsored scholar of Project Gettysburg/Leon. He is in his third year with the program, studies at the university during weekends, and grows tomatoes, peppers, squash and other vegetables on the irrigated four acres that he recently purchased. The planted area looks much like a vegetable plot in the U.S. and there are other similarities in the water tank he installed and irrigation lines that water the plants as he strives to practice good management practices that will sustain himself and two other workers on the farm. He sells the vegetables in the town of Santa Rosa, an hour from his village home. In addition to growing his own produce, Javier is completing an internship on a working farm near the capital city of Managua, some four hours away.

Near the top of the mountain approximately 200 people reside in the village of Talolinga. In the village, people strive to scratch out a living from the land. However, it is clear that three dry years in succession have caused con-

cern. The seed bank that Edward, one of the scholars established, is nearly depleted. Not unlike farming in the U.S., overly zealous spring rains and an excessively dry summer leads to a disappointing harvest. Still, Javier and the two other scholars continue to manage vegetable test plots in the village as part of their commitment with Project Gettysburg/Leon. The information they learn at the university during weekend classes is immediately tested in Talolinga. It is a true representation of the extension system we have utilized so well in the U.S., where skills and information are generated at the university and extended to the people out in the country who need them.



Because of the concern with limited water in Talolinga, Gettysburg students will try to give what they can. At the school's greenhouse this winter, they will document all the steps they take in growing hydroponic crops and capture pictures at each stage of growth. The information will be shared with the Nicaraguan scholars so that they can try the system in their country. Also in an exchange of ideas and expertise, Ashlyn and Olivia presented a demonstration on how canning will preserve the food the Nicaraguans produce for later use. While similar to the steps used in the U.S., one clear difference was the use of a wood-fired stove and the dirt floor kitchen.



**There is another trip being planned for next year. Why don't you give some serious thought to joining the delegation?**

Gettysburg Young  
Farmer Educational  
Assoc.

1130 Old Harrisburg Rd.  
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325



*"Young farmers are any farmers  
willing to learn"*



Jan 19, 2016

GYF Class at Gettysburg High School, 7:30 p.m.

*"Working with Life Force Energy in Agriculture"*

*Presented by Marcia Brown*

Jan 22, 2016

Register for PYFA Winter Institute