



CULTIVATIONS

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association

Fall 2018

www.payoungfarmers.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I hope that everyone is having a good fall. I hope that everyone has had a better harvest than what we have had. This has been a busy-fast-and-in-a-hurry year! The institute committee has been in full swing getting ready for next year's national institute. Mifflinburg chapter has a nice winter convention planned for February and I hope to see you all there.

Jason Rentzel
PYFA President-Elect

**PYFA Winter
Convention**
February 5-7, 2019



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association is to educate and promote the agricultural industry.

2019 NYFEA INSTITUTE – IN PENNSYLVANIA!

To our fellow Pennsylvania Young Farmer members,

We are about one year out from hosting the National Young Farmers Education Association (NYFEA) Annual Institute. Hosting this event requires a huge commitment of time, talent, and energy that will be needed in order for us to truly be "Pennsylvania Proud", which is the theme of our event. The venue that was selected is the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square, in downtown Lancaster. The Institute will officially begin on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 and conclude Saturday evening, December 14th with the banquet.

Here is a brief overview of what our schedule looks like:



TUESDAY Key committee members arrive to start setting up. Final coordinators meeting in the evening.

WEDNESDAY Registration begins, NYFEA Board Meeting, Delegates Meeting, Advisors Meeting, ending with the Taste of PA Reception (will need all chapters to participate).

THURSDAY Tour to Chester County to include mushroom houses, URBN retail distribution center, Herr's Snack Factory, Herr Angus Farm, and Longwood Gardens. (Attendees will choose from multiple tour options). Dinner will be at one of Lancaster's many smörgåsbord restaurants. We are also looking at including the Christmas show at American Music Theatre before heading back to the hotel.

FRIDAY The tours, for this day, will be centered in Lancaster County. Again, there will be an option to choose the tour you wish to go on. Options will include Liberation Tiny Homes, Oregon Dairy Organics/Compost Facility, CASE NH, Kreider Farms, and Kitchen Kettle Village. We will have a few stops in the Lititz area such as Sturgis Pretzels, Wilbur Chocolates, Outback Toy Store, and Elva Hurst Chalk Talk. We are hoping to find a unique venue to host our evening dinner with entertainment.

SATURDAY Our exhibitors will be set up as we will be at the Marriott throughout the day. NYFEA will host an Ag Decision Makers College, featuring a panel of industry professionals, where agricultural issues will be discussed. The Ag Communications and Young Ag Leaders event will also take place on Saturday. This is a great opportunity for the next generation of agricultural leaders to participate. We are looking at making this event one that our young adult attendees will find to be very valuable. Past participants of this event are encouraged to participate and to help the national association in implementing the program. Lunch and dinner will include presentations and recognition of NYFEA leaders and we will recognize leaders of PA agriculture.

Continued on page 2.



Congratulations!

to the Greg and Judy Croner family of Berlin Brothersvalley Young Farmers, who were recognized as a Bicentennial Farm by PA Department of Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding (left) at this summer's Ag Progress Days.

WESTERN REGION Notes

Somerset County was well represented this August at the County Fair, with educational booths set up by Berlin, Rockwood and a booth representing the State Organization. The Berlin and State Booths were also set up at the Berlin Community Fair. We were pleasantly surprised with a visit from State Agricultural Secretary, Russell Redding, while setting up for the Berlin Fair. His goal was to visit all fairs across the state. I hope he met his goal! Berlin's annual organizational meeting was held on Nov. 8 and classes and tours begin in January. Rockwood's annual picnic was moved indoors this year because of the rain. Imagine that! They will be doing educational tours during the month of November. They don't meet during deer season and over the holidays, so regular classes will begin on January 3rd. Safe harvest and winter to all!



EASTERN REGION Notes

If you are involved in production agriculture right now, you probably are not having a lot of fun. Low commodity prices, year after year of poor receipts, falling beef prices. Couple that with moldy and poor quality grain, low test weights, and depending on your farm...deer taking a huge chunk of your yield. The dairy industry has its own set of issues as well. So, for many of us there is much to be depressed about.

That is where the Young Farmer organization can help. Attending a local meeting might just give you an idea on ways to be more profitable. Just talking to other farmers, with the same issues you have, can make you feel a little better. You aren't alone in your struggles. Coming out to the state convention in February you will have opportunities to visit farms and agri-businesses, attend workshops on ag-related subjects and socialize with people from across the state. At the national level, at the national institute we get to do the same thing...with farmers from across the country and visit places you may never have thought to go. Get involved and get the most out of the organization that you belong to.

We also have another great opportunity as hosts of the 2019 NYFEA institute. Get involved with the committee in any way you can. The more people that get involved the better the institute will be, and the more fun we all will have in the organization and implementation of the event. We have met so many great folks from across the country who have helped with institutes that were hosted in their state. Contact any of the institute committee members to see how you can help out.

Stay positive and get involved. You will be glad you did.

Ken Sanner

Eastern Area Vice President

North Region PYFA Vice President Report

The Lewisburg Young Farmer Chapter hosted The PYFA Northern Region meeting and banquet on March 22, 2018 at the the "4-Bell" Lutheran Church, Millmont, PA. Young Farmers from Lewisburg, Selinsgrove, Mifflinburg and Penns Valley chapters attended.

A North Region PYFA exhibit was constructed and staffed August 5-11, 2018, at the Union County West End Fair, Laurelton, PA. An exhibit was also constructed and staffed at the Central PA Vintage Iron Club Festival September 14-15, 2018. The Vintage Iron Festival was also held at the Union County West End Fairgrounds.

"NYFEA Institute" continued from page 1.

There will be an auction before the banquet. We will be looking for donations for large sized items for the auction. Entertainment will follow the evening banquet.

How can YOU help in making this event a success?

One of the main objectives of the committee is to get as many of our Pennsylvania Young Farmer members to *attend, participate, and lend a helping hand*. From attending many institutes over the years, the greatest joy we have found is getting to meet the members of the host states throughout the days of the institutes. These could be individuals who greet attendees at the airport, help with registration, help serve our lunches or dinner, people who serve as tour bus hosts, chapters that help serve food and share the richness of PA Agriculture at the Taste of Pennsylvania event on Wednesday evening. This is what makes it such a unique experience when a state hosts the institute...you truly get a feel for the area by interacting with the people who live and work in the host state.

Another way we strongly need your assistance is in the form of *obtaining institute sponsorships*. We will receive a portion of the registration fees to offset the expenses of hosting this event. We, as an organization, will need to raise money to pay for the additional entertainment, quality meals, tours (many tour stops require an admission fee), venue fees, buses, and so much more. If you have a connection with an agri-business or ANY business that you think would be interested in helping to offset these expenses please **contact our Fundraising Chairperson, Lizzie Bailey at lbailey13@comcast.net** for

a sponsorship form and letter. These documents can also be found on the committee Facebook page or on the PYFA website. We will be making every effort possible to recognize these sponsors in multiple ways. Sponsors are also welcome to exhibit during Saturday's events at the Marriott. Every donation, no matter how big or how small will add up to what is needed to make this event truly successful. We want to raise enough money to not only cover the expenses of the institute, but to also raise some money for our state association, for all of the work that is being put forth for this huge undertaking.

We welcome all and any *door prizes and auction items*. As you go into your dealerships and other agri-businesses please ask them if they are willing to provide door prizes for this event. Of course we really want you to ask them to be a financial supporter...but maybe an auction item or a door prize is all they can contribute. Look for unique items that they may have in their retail center. Start now to collect these items...unless they are perishable...then ask to pick up those items closer to the actual event.

We will also need help in securing *edible donations and giveaways* from the food and beverage processors in your area for our Taste of Pennsylvania reception. This will be a time for the institute attendees to socialize with other attendees, get to meet the members of our state association, and to sample a "taste of Pennsylvania" as they mingle throughout the evening. The Marriott has been extremely generous in allowing us to bring in these DONATED food items for this

event. A sponsorship letter and form to use in securing these donations can be found on our Facebook page, our website, or by contacting Denise Sanner (sannerfarm@aol.com) or Linda Krall (krallfarms@aol.com).

How are we communicating with our committee and members?

We have started a *Facebook group* for our committee so that we the committee can have a place to discuss everything 2019 NYFEA Institute related. If you are on Facebook and want to join the committee Facebook group...send an email or private message (on Facebook) to Denise Sanner (sannerfarm@aol.com) and she will see that you are added. This is a private group and you must be added by an admin. If there is a specific committee/event you want to help with we can steer you in the direction of that chairperson to get you involved.

We will also be opening a public Facebook group that will be accessible by all NYFEA members, agricultural enthusiasts, sponsors, PYFA members....anyone who is interested in joining. This group will be used to share the opportunities available to those attending the institute and to garner attention to our event. This group will not go live until after the 2018 Institute that concludes on December 15th. Gabby Wentworth is our Social Media/Website chairperson and can be private messaged at Gabrielle Murphy Wentworth (on Facebook) or by email at LighthouseFarms.GW@gmail.com or PDPMurphyGabrielle@gmail.com.

For those not on Facebook we will also be keeping our website payoungfamers.com up to date with institute information.

Committee meetings will begin happening on a monthly basis either at in person meetings (associated with PYFA board meetings), by conference calls, and there will be times when just the Institute Committee will meet.

The committee has worked hard to develop a great program for the attendees of the 2019 NYFEA Institute. There is still a lot of hard work needed to be done to ensure that we continue to uphold the tradition that PYFA is proud of; to host an institute that educates attendees about our heritage and agriculture production in our Commonwealth...to provide opportunities of growth and leadership to our next generation of ag leaders ...to provide venues and entertainment that is beyond their expectations...to foster a feeling of family amongst all attendees, and to truly show our "Pennsylvania Proud" spirit to our guests.

If you have any questions or want to get involved please contact either one of us, or any institute committee member.

Pennsylvania Proud, 2019 NYFEA Institute Co-Chairmen,

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Dan Wilkinson

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717-334-1475 (home)

2019 WINTER CONVENTION TOURS

Several great tours are planned for the winter conference:

WEDNESDAY

TOUR #1 Chapter 17 International Harvester Museum, Millville, PA



Mission: To aid collection, preservation and exhibition of International Harvester Company memorabilia, manufactured goods and equipment for historical education. Further, to preserve and operate the Bartlow IHC prototype dealership building as a museum for exhibition of such IHC related artifacts and materials.

TOUR #2 World of Little League: Peter J. McGovern Museum & Official Store Williamsport, PA

Mission: To inform and educate people about the history, service, goals, and



initiatives of Little League Baseball and Softball.

TOUR #3 Fero Vineyards & Winery Lewisburg, PA



"We are a high-quality family owned and operated vineyard and winery located in the heart of central Pennsylvania". At the Pennsylvania Farm Show, the winery was awarded the Governor's Cup for Best of show Sweet Grape. Its 2014 Sweet Red won a double gold medal, meaning every judge chose the

wine as a gold medal winner. Fero also won gold for its 2015 Late Harvest Riesling and took home 10 medals in all, one for each entry.

THURSDAY

TOUR #4 Pik Rite Inc. Lewisburg, PA



Since 1986, Pik Rite has introduced companies around the globe to their award-winning, client-inspired harvesting, spreader, waste-handling, and truck body equipment. Employing the latest technologies and adapting to the most current needs, Pik Rite's engineering design specialized machinery that is perfectly suited to always promise: affordability, efficiency, and endurance. They design and manufacture: harvesters – tomato, cucumbers, peppers, and carrots; spreaders, dump bodies, vacuum tanks, and debris collectors.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2019

8:00-10:00	PYFA Executive Board Meeting – Tomlinson Room
8:00-5:00	Registration- Baylor West Room
8:00-5:00	Hospitality Room – Baylor West Room
9:00-10:30	PYFA Media Blitz (Weis Markets)
11:00-12:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:00-3:00	Spouses' Program - Barn Owl Art Studio, Mazeppa, PA
1:00-1:45	Workshop: "Ag Leader, Precision Farming" - Lucas Criswell – Baylor East
2:00-2:45	Workshop: "Farm to Table", Alan Ard - Ard's Farm Market – Baylor East
3:00-3:45	Workshop: "Hackenberg Apiaries"- Dave Hackenberg – Baylor East
5:00	PYFA Spokesperson Contest – Baylor East
6:30	Banquet at Silver Moon Banquet Hall, Lewisburg Speakers - Alyssa Collins and Glenn "GT" Thompson

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019

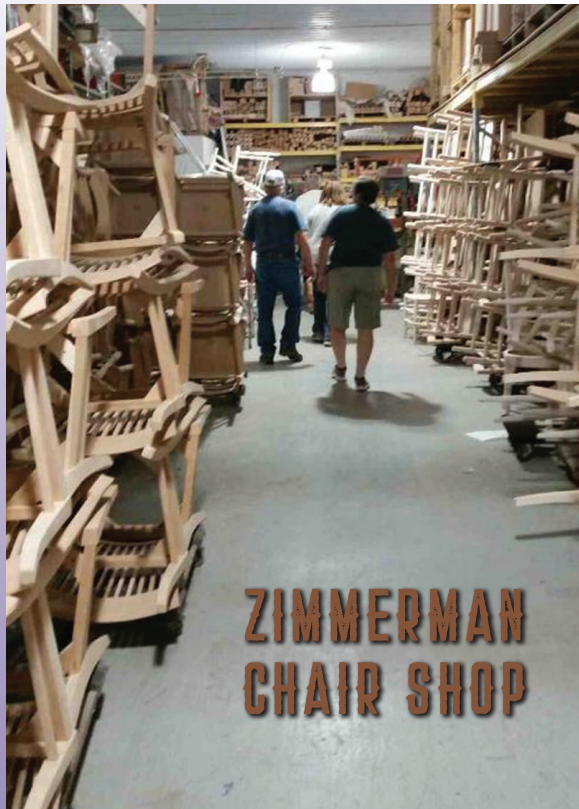
7:00-8:00	Breakfast on your own
8:00-5:00	Registration – Baylor West
8:00-5:00	Hospitality Room – Baylor West
8:00-9:30	PYFA Past Officers' Meeting & Advisors' Meeting – Tomlinson
9:30-11:30	PYFA Business Meeting – Baylor East
1:30-12:30	Lunch & Presentations at Country Cupboard Inn
12:30	Buses depart: Little League Museum, Williamsport & IH Museum, Millville
1:00-2:00	Tour: IH Museum or Little League Museum
2:00-2:45	Switch & travel to other tour site
2:45-3:45	Tour: IH Museum or Little League Museum
3:45-4:30	Travel to Fero Vineyard
4:30-5:00	Tour: Fero Vineyard
5:00	Return to Best Western Plus, Country Cupboard Inn
6:15	Awards Banquet and Auction - Country Cupboard Inn Lori Hess, Auctioneer

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

7:00-9:00	Breakfast Buffet at Country Cupboard Inn Speaker - Tony Noll, Mifflinburg, National Historical Farm
7:00-10:00	Best Western Plus room check out
10:30	Tour: Pik-Rite Manufacturing (transportation on your own)
11:30	Lunch at Pik-Rite Manufacturing
12:00	Adjourn - Have a safe trip home!

PYFA Board Meeting

The PYFA Board will meet December 27, 2018, at the Best Western Hotel next to the Country Cupboard in Lewisburg, PA at 2pm. The Board will first tour the Best Western, then have the PYFA board meeting. The 2019 NYFEA Institute planning meeting will convene at 4 pm, then all will go to the Country Cupboard for supper. Volunteers to help with Institute hosting committees are welcome!



CEDAR CREST YOUNG FARMERS

BY JENNIFER BALMER

This summer the Cedar Crest Young Farmers group had a wonderful summer picnic in August. Delbert Voight from Penn State Extension presented and discussed the current crop situation and things to look for in the upcoming harvest. We had a wonderful BBQ meal as well. Also this summer, we toured the Zimmerman Chair Shop in Lebanon and learned a great deal about the business, and the unique furniture industry. The planning is underway for the 2020 PA State Winter Convention and the upcoming year. We hope everyone has a safe and successful harvest season this year.



PYFA Membership Application Form • Join us today!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

\$15 annual fee • Make check out to: PYFA

Mail this form and payment to: Debbie Zug • 390 Peters Creek Rd. • Peach Bottom PA 17563

Pennsylvania Young Farmers 2019 WINTER CONVENTION

Hosted by Mifflinburg Young Farmers Association

February 5-7, 2019

Best Western Plus & Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg

FULL CONVENTION PACKAGE

	NUMBER	TOTAL
Registration (Includes all events except spouse program and lodging) . . \$150	_____	_____
Early Bird Registration – Postmarked before Jan. 5, 2019 . . . \$135 (Includes all events except spouse program and lodging)	_____	_____

DAILY REGISTRATION

Tuesday, 2/5

Tuesday Registration (workshops and Silver Moon Banquet) . . \$40	_____	_____
Spouse's Program at Barn Owl Art Studio, Mazeppa . . . \$25	_____	_____
Banquet @ Silver Moon Banquet Hall \$30	_____	_____

Wednesday, 2/6

Wednesday Registration (includes lunch, banquet & tours) . . \$75	_____	_____
Tours: IH Chap. 17 Museum & Little League Museum		
Lunch at Country Cupboard Inn \$25	_____	_____
Banquet at Country Cupboard Inn \$30	_____	_____

Thursday, 2/7

Thursday Registration		
Breakfast at Country Cupboard Inn & Pik Rite Tour. . . . \$25	_____	_____

AMOUNT DUE: Payable to: "Mifflinburg Young Farmers' Association" \$ _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ Chapter _____

Phone _____ Email _____

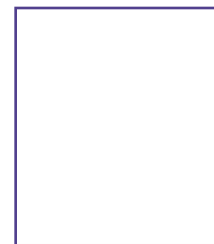
Mail registration form and payment to:
 Barry Spangler, Treasurer, 833 Green Ridge Road, Mifflinburg, PA 17844

HOTEL INFORMATION:

For reservations, contact Best Western Plus Country Cupboard Inn, Lewisburg at (570) 524-5500.
 Room costs - \$105.00 + 11% tax. Reservations guaranteed until January 15, 2019.
 Cancellations via email accepted until noon on February 4, 2019.



Betsy Huber
362 University Road
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*Best Wishes
for a
Happy Holiday
Season!*



*From your
friends at
PYFA*



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