



Columbia County Farm Bureau

Affiliated with American Farm Bureau Federation and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

CCFB Newsletter – February 2017

Board of Directors

Delroy Artman, President	570-759-2792
Karen Chapin, Secretary	570-441-3093
Jim Levan, 1 st VP	570-594-0748
Charlie Porter, 2 nd VP	570-259-4640
Steven Chapin	570-441-3734
Jake Shuman	570-441-3208
Dave Adams	570-854-3406
Mark Rohrbach	570-441-1791
Rob Davidson	717-458-5269
Kirk Lehman	570-387-0519
Sandy Robbins, Newsletter	srobbins@pahousegop.com

PUT
Firestone
Farm Tires

to Work for You!


Call for your nearest Safemark Dealer
717.944.1466 or 800.732.8473

Visit us on the web at www.pafbsafemark.net/

STEVE SHANNON TIRE CO
920 Millville Rd, Bloomsburg
570-387-6387

Nationwide Agents In Columbia County

Mike Kahl 570-458-6711
Scott Phillips 570-784-8364
Nathan Snavelly 570-752-5931

Payroll Services

- Payroll Check Writing
- Payroll Tax Calculation and/or Deposits
- Payroll Quarterly & Annual Tax Forms
- Payroll Deduction Payments
- New Hire Reporting
- Workmen's Compensation Audits



Peter and Jamie Hicks, partners in Hicks Brothers, LLC, agree that their concerns are under control because of MSC Payroll Services.

MSC BUSINESS SERVICES
1000 Hickory Street, Columbia, PA

E-mail: FM5@pfb.com Call (717) 731-3517 www.msc.pfb.com

RENCO – 10% off all regular priced items

NESCOPECK AGWAY – 5% off everything

STAUFFER'S GLASS CO – 15% off materials

KNOEBELS LUMBER – 5% off lumber and

10% off hardware retail price only

GENERAL SALES INC – 20% off labor 25% above cost

Congratulations

Congratulations to our returning elected officials. Senator Toomey, Congressman Barletta, State Senator Gordner, and Representative Millard and Representative Masser. We have a new President and now a Secretary of Agriculture. Let's hope and work toward good news for agriculture. Since our last newsletter we delivered the farmer checks to our state officials, had a breakfast meeting with Rep. Masser, and met with our commissioners on zoning issues. Our Farm Bureau visit to Washington is on March 1 and 2, and our visit to Harrisburg will be April 3 and 4.

Thank you to Ron Rhoads for his time as a director.

Welcome to Kirk Lehman as a director.

We are looking forward to working with him.

Calendar of events:

March 9, 2017 at 6 pm - Pizza at the Ag Center Sawmill Rd

Columbia County Spring Meeting

Mr. Rob Davison will discuss 'Structuring Your Farming Operation'.

Sole Proprietor, Partnership, LLC: what do they mean? There are several ways to structure your farm business. Your farms current needs and objectives determine how you should be structured. What may have been appropriate a few years ago, may now be putting your operation at risk. Personal liability, taxes and succession planning are all major considerations. Just as other parts of your operation need to be evaluated to ensure they are still meeting your needs, so should your business structure. Often, confusion about what should be done, cost and reluctance to change results in ignoring this until some event forces action. This often leads to increased cost and can result in a loss of the farm.

Attorney Rob Davison will make a presentation regarding farm business considerations. Rob, a Columbia County Farm Bureau Board member, is certified as a Farm Succession Coordinator and Transition and Succession Dairy Advisor and was the founder and served as Director of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's, Center for Farm Transitions. Rob will present a brief overview of business structures along with considerations related to what would best meet your farm's needs. There will be a time for questions as well.

D. Robert Davison, Esq., RHP Law Groups LLC

Second speaker that evening will be Nationwide agent, Mr. Mike Kahl, from Millville. Mr. Kahl will cover the important questions you need to ask your insurance agent, to determine if your insurance coverage is adequate.

March 10, 2017 Connecting Soils and Profits

Pine Barn Inn, 1 Pine Barn Place, Danville PA, 17821, Registration starts at 7:30 am

Speakers are Keith Berns, combines 20 years no-till farming with 10 years of teaching Agriculture and Computers. Mr. Berns is from South Central Nebraska. Russ Wilson employ adaptive management techniques to make the farm more profitable. Mr. Wilson is from Tionesta, PA.

RSPV to Tracy Oman at Columbia CD at tracey.oman@columbiacd.org by Friday, March 3, 2017, or call at 570-784-1310x102. Make checks payable to CCCD, cost is \$25 per person/ \$30 after March 3.

March 10, 2017 Legislative Farmers Breakfast

Rep. Millard would like to invite you to a legislature breakfast sponsored by Penn Ag, on March 10, at 7:00am, at Morris Restaurant, 6305 Columbia Ave, Bloomsburg, PA.

RSVP by February 28, 2017 to 570-387-0246

March 25, 2017 - Farm Safety Day at Bloomsburg Fairgrounds

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

All ages are welcome to attend Farm Safety Day sponsored by Columbia County Farm Bureau, Central Columbia FFA and Columbia County 4-H.

Different activities centering on safety will be chain saws by Stihl, grain bin by Mifflinville Fire Rangers, horse's by EOS, lawn mower, tractor PTO, animals by CART, ATV's, Boat and Water, and many more.

Columbia County Farm Bureau Scholarship

Columbia County Farm Bureau will be awarding two scholarships to county seniors who will be going onto College or Technical School majoring in an Ag Related field. For more information contact Karen Chapin at 570-441-3093 or at karrotlee@yahoo.com

2017 American Farm Bureau Convention in Phoenix AZ.

Early in January Betty and I attended the American Farm Bureau Convention held in Phoenix Arizona. Our trip started off traveling to the Philadelphia Airport, after crossing through the Leigh Tunnel we ran into snow. A major snow storm cancelled flights to airports in the south, but we were just delayed a little for deicing of the plane and plowing snow from the runway.

Phoenix was very different, 70 degrees and sunny, and people we met in were very nice and helpful.

The convention started off Sunday morning with a Flap Jack breakfast held by AFB Federal Foundation. Sunday's key note speaker was Vivian Howard who is an advocate for rural America and local grown food thru her PBS show 'Chef's Life'.

Eugenie Doyle, author of the Foundation 2017 Book of the Year, Sleep Tight Farm, spoke about her life. Mrs. Doyle and her husband live on a dairy farm in Vermont.

We heard Zippy Duvall speak about his first year serving as president of American Farm Bureau. President Duvall traveled throughout the United States, talking to farmers about their problems with regulations and government intervention. President Duvall said we need to unite and work together to solve these issues.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau won the prestigious Pinnacle Award this year. The Pinnacle Award is the highest award a state Farm Bureau can earn for program and membership achievement.

On Monday, Archie and Peyton Manning were the key note speakers and discussed the similarities between football and farming. Both careers require a lot of hard work and dedication. The convention is a great event to meet other people in agriculture. Betty and I were getting off the elevator one evening and struck up a conversation with a couple from southwest Iowa. I explained that I had been an exchange 4-H'er to Page County, Iowa. Page County is the next county to where this couple live. The gentleman said he was an exchange 4-H'er too and had traveled to Nelson County, Va. Nelson County is next to the county where Betty grew up. Opportunities like attending the AFB Convention remind us that we live in a small world after all, and allows us to meet people who share a love of and commitment to agriculture.

American Farm Bureau 2018 Annual Meeting will be held in Nashville, Tennessee. It will be a great event for you to attend.

Delroy Artman

The Ag Promotion and Education

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and Columbia County Farm Bureau, (CCFB), Board of Directors are actively promoting agriculture. We are actively taking a multi-pronged approach to expose elementary and middle school students to fact based agriculture.

Ag literacy Week, March 20 - 24:

We are looking for volunteers in each school district in Columbia County to go to an elementary classroom to read Pa Ag Literacy Book of the Year. CCFB has ordered enough books for each for each private and public school in the county, thanks to the sponsorship of Mainville Ag Services. In addition to bringing the donated book to the school, volunteers will be asked to give the schools two brochures on Farm Bureau programs, Pennsylvania Educators Ag Institute and Mobile Agriculture Education Science Labs.

Pennsylvania Educator Ag Institute, July 10 -13:

This is a week long program where educators from all over the state come to State Collage to experience and witness the relationship between food we eat and our environment. One of the goals is for educators to better understand agriculture and integrate into curriculum.

Mobile Agriculture Education Science Lab:

This is a program where a Mobile Ag Lab and accompanying teacher go on site for K-8 instruction. Several schools in our county have participated in this program.

Columbia County is sending three representatives to the Ag Promotion County Chair Conference on March 11. One of the major topics of discussion is local business discounts for Farm Bureau members. We will learn more about programs where businesses increase volume and members receive discounts worth much more than the price of their dues.

Farmers are stewards of the land. Our stewardship needs to involve as more and more of our population become removed from the farm. We are recruiting for volunteers to serve on our Ag Promotion and Education Committee. Please offer your services and call either Delroy Artman at 570-394-4316 or Charlie Porter at 570-672-9894.

Columbia County Policies:

At the 2016 Annual Meeting, members passed six policies. Those six policies along with policies from all Pennsylvania County FB affiliates were deliberated at the state policy meeting. A total of 358 policies were either accepted, combined or rejected.

At the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Convention in Hershey, member delegates passed 57 policies which were listed in the January Country Focus.

The following policies from Columbia County were adopted at the state level and will be added to PFB's Policy Book:

1. We recommend that Act 38 (ACRE Law), be amended to authorize local government to submit proposed ordinances to the Attorney General for an opinion regarding an unauthorized local ordinance.
2. We recommend changes in law interpretive policing to transfers of real property to a family farm business you an individual family member with any ownership interest in that business qualify for an exemption from reality transfer tax if the family's total ownership is at least 75 percent of the business's total ownership.
3. We recommend a defendant who prevails under Right to Farm Law protections or in other legal cases be reimbursed by the plaintiff for all legal fees and cost incurred by the defendant.

All of our state legislators are given copies of the PFB State Policy Book. Our local state representatives have indicated that they refer to the PFB Policy Book when considering proposed legislation. In addition, PFB staff are guided by approved Policy when doing legislative, regulatory and public relation work.

We encourage members to contact CCFB Policy Committee members with suggestions for change or suggestions for ways we can protect and prosper the business of agriculture.

CCFB Policy Committee members: Steve Chapin, Rob Davidson, Kurt Lehman, Jim Levan, Cliff Miller, Charlie Porter, Boz Robbins, and John Zaginaylo.

**Columbia County Farm Bureau
STATEMENT OF INCOME and EXPENSE
Month/Year Ended September 30, 2016**

INCOME

Non-County Income		<u>\$ 30,012.00</u>
PFB Dues, AFBF Dues, AD/D ins, The Country Focus		
(\$53.25)	(\$3.50)	(\$1.75)
(\$3.00)		
 Related County Income		
Dues	\$ 6,885.00	
Dividends and Interest	<u>33.90</u>	
Meetings	<u>2,474.20</u>	
Fund Raisers	<u>0.00</u>	
Other: _	<u>511.50</u>	<u>\$ 9,904.60</u>
 Unrelated County Income		
Member Service Incentive	-	
Other: _Advertising	<u>0.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
TOTAL		<u><u>\$ 39,916.60</u></u>

EXPENSES

Non-County Expenses		<u>\$ 30,012.00</u>
PFB Dues, AFBF Dues, AD/D ins, The Country Focus		
(\$53.25)	(\$3.50)	(\$1.75)
(\$3.00)		
 Related County Expenses		
Contracted Services	\$ 600.00	
Meetings	<u>3,701.72</u>	
Fundraisers	<u>0.00</u>	
Phone-Postage	<u>982.35</u>	
Supplies	<u>440.98</u>	
Other: Adv, Donation, Ins, Dues, Copier Exp.	<u>2,011.81</u>	<u>\$ 7,736.86</u>
 Unrelated County Expenses		
Contracted Services	<u> </u>	
Meetings	<u> </u>	
Phone-Postage	<u> </u>	
Supplies	<u> </u>	
Other: _advertising	<u> </u>	<u>\$ -</u>
TOTAL		<u><u>\$ 37,748.86</u></u>

Net Income

Net Non-County Income	\$ -	(+)
Net Related Income	<u>2,167.74</u>	(+)
Net Unrelated Income	<u>0.00</u>	(+)
Total Net Income	<u><u>\$ 2,167.74</u></u>	(=)

Cash Proof

Cash on hand at Beginning of Year	\$ 17,304.63	(+)
Following year's dues collected (Deferred Income)	<u>15,900.00</u>	(+)
Deferred Income Reported from Prior Year	<u>17,550.00</u>	(-)
Following year's PFB Paid (Prepaid Expense)	<u>13,038.00</u>	(-)
Prepaid Expenses Reported from Prior Year	<u>14,391.00</u>	(+)
Total Net Income	<u>2,167.74</u>	(+)
Capital Purchase	<u> </u>	(-)
Depreciation and other non-cash expenses	<u> </u>	(+)
Cash on hand at End of Year	<u>\$ 19,175.37</u>	T