

Susquehanna County Farm Bureau

September 2018



Susquehanna County Farm Bureau

ANNUAL FALL MEETING

October 4, 2018

Montrose Bible Conference Lake Avenue Dining Hall

Social Time 5:30 PM

Roast Turkey Dinner 6:30 PM

\$18 per person Reservation Deadline: September 28th
Policy Recommendations w/ Jim Barbour & Dave DeLeon
Nationwide Incentive
MSC Account Supervisor, David Moyer
Chinese Auction
Great Food ~ Great Fellowship

***NOTE - 2019 Membership Drawing for those whose 2019 dues are paid by October 4th and also present at the October 4th Annual Meeting.*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Diane Armetta	Joseph Blaisure	Gregory Clouthier	John Dovin
Kerry Foose	Harry Gardner	Allen Gillingham	Richard Graf
Roderick Grosvenor	Michael Lopatofsky	Bradley Marcho	
Susan Nardone	Stephanie Swetter-Jones	Michael Teddick	
	Rebecca Tweed	Nicole Urban	

Members, get a quote on Nationwide farm insurance and earn some money for Susquehanna County Farm Bureau! For each member that gets a quote from a local Nationwide Farm Certified agent, between September 1 and November 30, the county will earn \$15. If interested, contact Regional Organization Director, Bob Perhacs at 570-814-3511. *Local agents include the Rick Leet Agency and the Mancini Insurance Agency w/ Tina Furman, Ext. 3. Find their contact information on page 4 of this newsletter.*

Membership - Joe Decker/Joe Loomis We are hoping to reach our 5% goal by November 16th.

Ag Promotion - Jim Barbour In June, Jim and his grandson James participated in the 26th Annual Richard Prether Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Golf Classic. SCFB gladly gave a \$100 donation. On August 15th, Jim & Kim Barbour attended the Governmental/Industry Day Luncheon at Ag Progress Days. On the 24th, Jim Barbour and Dave DeLeon attended the Annual Economic Development Breakfast meeting.

Women's Leadership - Emma Hinkley We have purchased a tablecloth with the SCFB logo embroidered for use at various promotions. Many thanks to all volunteers at our Fair Booth. The fresh picked 4-bushel Paula Red apples were donated by Jayne's Orchard. We sold 400 cups of white milk and 640 cups of chocolate milk. Kiddie Tractor Pull contestants redeemed 67 coupons for a cup of cold milk. Three SCFB Family Fun certificates were redeemed for a free cup of milk and an apple. Two people were registered to vote and we were busy working membership. The winner of our Cowtail (candy) guessing contest was Jeremiah Hobbs.

Local Affairs - Bill Bayne & Thom Helmacy Bill and Tom faithfully attend county commissioner meetings and report at board meetings. John Benscoter has been nominated for consideration for the Leopold Conservation Award. A donation was given to the Relay for Life fundraiser.

Government Relations - William Shay On July 24th, seven members attended the Legislative update. On August 27th, the Legislative Farm Tour was held at Brown Hill Farm and was hosted and sponsored by the Wyoming/Lackawanna County Farm Bureau and SCFB. John Benscoter is to be commended for his expertise in planning and leadership. Phil and Scott Brown grow grain corn, soy beans, sunflowers, hay, and industrial hemp. They also raise beef cattle. 4-H served a great lunch. Congressman Tom Marino's staff, Senator Pat Toomey's staff, Congressmen Lou Barletta's staff, Senator Lisa Baker, Susquehanna County Commissioner Betsy Arnold, and Cooperative Extension staff were present. It was a very educational and informative day. On August 30th, the SCFB & District 8 Summer Picnic took place. We were pleased and appreciative to have PFB President Rick Ebert and his wife attend and share his leadership with us. Representative Jonathan Fritz and County Commissioner Alan Hall attended and shared important information with us. Jim Barbour and Dave DeLeon led in policy development. Many thanks to Ervin and Jerry Belcher, John Granick, and Angelo Paoletta (barbeque chicken chefs) and Dave DeLeon for fresh sweet corn. Excellent shared dishes of food and desserts were enjoyed.

More News We have purchased new SCFB logo shirts for board members and program committee chairpersons. On July 30th, Donna Williams participated in the County Presidents Conference Call led by CAO Sam Kieffer. On August 30th, Donna Williams, a member of the PFB nominating committee, participated in a conference call with other nominating committee members.

Policy Recommendations - Dave DeLeon & Jim Barbour

- #1. We recommend that a couple receiving REAP credits not be required to file individual state income tax returns in order to receive REAP credits.
- #2. We recommend the elimination of direct advertising of prescription drugs to the consumer.
- #3. We recommend the Commonwealth of PA be required to cover any out of pocket costs incurred for treatment of potential rabies exposure
- #4. We support the legalization of the production and sale of industrial hemp.
- #5. We recommend local townships investigate green alternatives for dust control on roadways.
- #6. We recommend Susquehanna County make regular timely inspections to confirm Clean and Green qualifications.

Even More News The 2018 Recognition and Award Program book has been completed and submitted to PFB. Will we be the "premier" county in Pennsylvania for another year?? The 2018-2020 Program Committee chairs have been completed and submitted to the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

COMING SOON! Susquehanna County Career & Technology Center Opens Business Development Incubator The Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center has secured a grant from the USDA to fund a Business Development Incubator to meet the needs the business community. The Incubator is expected to open in September. As the project set-up nears completion, the SCCTC will release a notice to the public for the 2018-19 school year. Applications for the Incubator were made available September 1, 2018. Call the Business Development Incubator administrative assistant at 570-278-9229 ext. 6670 for details and scheduling. The SCCTC incubator will strive to meet the needs of the local entrepreneurial community. It will be a multi-functional incubator since services will be provided to a wide range of general and professional businesses. The incubator will follow the school's schedule and offer services including but not limited to office space, administrative services, marketing, computer and technology support and training, entrepreneur training and business plan development.

Look for local discounts at www.pfb.com/localdiscounts

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Dairy Report - Mickey Klim Dairy Committee and Women's Leadership members were at the I-81 Welcome Center in May promoting beef for Beef Month. We offered various beef dishes for visitors to sample. We met and visited with people from the U.S. and other countries who traveled through.

Spring, summer and, now, fall have been times of rain. Most crops were planted late, and it's been a challenge to bail hay. In August I recorded over 17 inches of rain and others have recorded more. Additionally, some dairy farmers lost their milk markets and some had to dump milk.

The labeling of 'milk' products continues to be debated. The label 'milk' for plant based drinks is confusing for some consumers. Parents need to understand that milk from cows has more nutrition than any plant based drinks. Children's health could suffer when parents do not fully understand the nutritional needs gained from cow's milk, except in cases of allergies and lactose-intolerance.

The Market Facilitation Program (MFP) is a tariff aid program. The USDA announced that farmers can apply for aid at local FSA offices beginning September 4, 2018. Forms will need to be completed for this program. An example of what a farmer could expect in payment is: a 60-cow herd (making 22,755 lbs. of milk) would receive \$820 and a 100-cow herd would receive \$1,365. The total package is split into three categories. The largest is direct payments to farmers, the next largest part of the package is food purchases (22%) and the last is agricultural trade promotion (3%).

May God Bless the farmer. They work long hours, battle low prices and the weather; they try to be good stewards of the land, be a good neighbor and citizen - and good husbands and fathers. May they outlast the bad times and have hope for the future.

Susquehanna County Farm Bureau Directors

Donna Williams, President.....	942-6348	Joseph Plonski.....	756-2901
Jim Barbour, 1st V. President.....	607-435-0830	John Bencotter.....	833-4250
David DeLeon, 2nd V. President.....	853-3250	J William Brooks.....	289-4706
Micheline Klim, Secretary.....	289-4756	Joseph Decker.....	756-2657
Emma Hinkley, Women's Leadership..	289-4943	Thomas Helmacy.....	833-2138
Non Director		Dennis Bunnell.....	934-2340
Barbara Roszel, Treasurer.....	278-2433	Dennis O'Reilly, Jr.....	278-2888

People Serving You

Nationwide Insurance

Charles Castrogiovanni.....	123 Church St., Montrose, Pa.....	278-3646
Richard Kresock.....	414 Main St., Forest City, Pa.....	785-5454
R. Leet Agency.....	18 Como Rd.Box 111, Lakewood, Pa.....	798-2666
	693 Main St., P. O. Box 431, New Milford, Pa.....	465-3296
Manci Ins. Agency.....	35 E. Tioga St., Tunkhannock, Pa. 18657.....	836-3372

MSC BUSINESS SERVICES

Harold Moyer, Acct. Supervisor.....	254 Chilson Road, Wyalusing, Pa. 18833.....	744-1773
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