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CULTIVATIONS

Fall 2009

www.payoungfarmers.com

NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA YOUNG FARMERS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With summer finished, and fall well underway, I just hope you all had plentiful harvests and some time to enjoy family and friends as well.

PA Young Farmers had some good activities this summer. I traveled with Linda to California – an interesting experience. She has written on this elsewhere, so please read her report for more detail.



It was a very productive time for those who traveled to Conneaut Lake for our summer meeting in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Association of Ag Educators. There were some interesting aspects – if you have a chance, talk with someone who attended about the Hotel Conneaut - a throwback to an earlier era, and about the unusual activity of feeding the carp at Pymatuning Lake – talk about a feeding frenzy! One of the advantages of being a member of Young Farmers is the opportunity to have new experiences – and those who traveled to Western Pennsylvania certainly did! An important part of the joint meeting is interacting with ag teachers to find ways to work together more closely. There is a separate article inviting young farmer members to offer their experience, expertise and time to local ag teachers and FFA advisers to help with contests and offer concrete agriculture experience. Remember, there are many young ag teachers who come with little or no actual farm experience, but with tremendous enthusiasm and energy. We can work together to make ag programs as effective as possible.

This year's national meeting will be in Alabama – a state many of you have probably never visited. The dates are December 10-12, and, again, it offers a tremendous opportunity to meet with young farmers and agricultural leaders from around the country. Make your plans now to be part of the meeting.

Most importantly, PYFA is going to be 50! Make sure you are at the convention in Grantville, Feb. 2-4, to celebrate this milestone. Cedar Crest Young Farmers is hosting this year's meeting, and they want to make it memorable. If you have memorabilia, including photos and booklets from the early meetings, let Linda Krall know. Cedar Crest wants to have a display. If you know some folks who were involved in the early organization of Young Farmers, please get in touch with either Linda or Sally Bair – their contact information is on the back of this newsletter.

Hope you're looking at PYFA's great new web page. There are photos from the summer meeting, information on the upcoming meetings and applications for our awards program. Please note the deadlines for the awards program – we appreciate your consideration of sending in applications.

Continue to be safe!
Keith Leydig

50th Anniversary Winter Conference

Don't miss the 2010 Pennsylvania Young Farmers 50th Anniversary Winter Conference! It will be held February 2-4 at the Holiday Inn in Grantville, and is being hosted by the Cedar Crest Young Farmers. It is sure to be a memorable occasion, recognizing 50 years of serving Pennsylvania's agricultural community!

Linda and Glen Krall are chairs of the conference and a large number of Cedar Crest Young Farmer members are serving in other leadership capacities. Committee Chairs are: Registration - Carol Kreider, Jamie Risser, co-chairs; Tours - Tim Gettle; Finance - Brian Kreider; Education Workshops - Tom and Joel Krall; Centerpieces and Decorations – Trudy Seyfert; Entertainment – Calvin Zimmerman; Hospitality – Sharon Wampler; Ladies Program – Peg Maurer, Rita Moore; Door Prizes – Ammon Peiffer; Displays – Don Bollinger, Auctioneer – Elvin Gingrich.

The tour committees have been working hard to find tours of interest to everyone. Tours will be offered on Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning, featuring an interesting mix of agricultural enterprises and attractions. *See separate article on women's activities.*

On Tuesday, the men will visit Fort Indiantown Gap, home to the Pennsylvania National Guard and other military reserve units. It covers 17,500 acres, and you'll have the chance to tour the new military museum, aviation facility, Stryker vehicle repair facility and tank-weapons-helicopter training facility. The National Guard has many soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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Request for Memorabilia!

Organizers of the 50th annual PYFA Convention would like to display old photos, old program booklets and other memorabilia from the early years of PYFA. If you can contribute something, please contact Linda Krall. PYFA is also interested in hearing from Charter members or those who have some knowledge of the early years. Again, please contact Linda Krall or Sally Bair with names and other information. All members will enjoy learning about those early years, so if you can contribute something, please let us know!

Mark Your Calendars!

December 10-12, National Young Farmer Educational Institute, Mobile, AL
January 5-7, Keystone Farm Show, York Fairgrounds, York
January 9-16, Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg
February 2-4, PYFA Winter Conference, Grantville
February 3-4, Pa Dairy Summit, Lancaster

Deadline for entries for Pennsylvania recognition contests: Adviser award, community service award and outstanding young farmers, over and under 30: December 1, 2009. Spokesperson for Agriculture contest, January 15, 2010.

Mission Statement

The mission of The Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association is to educate and promote environmentally appropriate production, marketing and processing of food, feed, and fiber.



4711 Peach Bottom, PA 17563
690 Peters Creek Rd.
Debbie Zug

National Leadership Conference Report by Linda Krall, past president

Your delegates President Keith Leydig and Past President Linda Krall, along with our spouses, traveled to San Diego, CA, to attend NALC on July 5-6. At the delegates' meeting Johnny Lee reported that planning for the 2009 winter conference in Mobile, Alabama, is going well and that registration material should soon be out.

They have added some extra tour stops, and we may even see peanuts being harvested. The conference will be held December 10-12 so mark your calendars and plan to attend. The 2010 conference is scheduled in Monterey, California and the 2011 conference will be in Kansas City, Missouri.



Nominations for national officers are CJ Fleener from Indiana for President-elect and Lynn Wright from Colorado for Secretary. We were encouraged to send our young members to the Yale program, as this program continues to grow in numbers and popularity. Due to the declining number of attendance at NALC, the delegates will be voting in Mobile AL to discontinue NALC and go to a once a year National meeting like the FFA. They would like each State to send representatives to the Washington Forum in April. National would like at that time to do officers' training and help us to meet with our representatives in Washington.

On day two it was time to learn about San Diego County. Eric Larson, executive director for Farm Bureau, talked about labor being a big problem. Their growing season is 12 months so they need a lot of labor year 'round. Their number one crops are avocados and nursery stock. Ag Commissioner Bob Atkins spoke about his job which is pest control and prevention. He inspects fruit and vegetables going out of state and coming in from other countries. San Diego is a huge port; we saw a cargo ship caring Dole bananas come in, and were told that within two days the bananas were inspected and in the stores in the West coast.

Water is a major concern in California with 90 percent coming from the Colorado River through aqueducts and 10 percent coming from run off and reclaiming.

San Diego is a very nice place with our hotel along the bay we could see across the bay to Coronado Island and the Naval Base. There was a lot to see and do and we did take the opportunity to see old town, the gas light district. And, of course, to tour some of the oldest ships docked in the bay. We enjoyed the boat excursion around the bay. Keith and Linda will be your delegates in Mobile, AL, so please let us know of any issues or concerns.



Register for National Institute December 10 - 12, Mobile, Alabama

Deadline for early bird registration for NYFEA's National Institute is October 15, so register now to take advantage of the early bird fee of \$299. Later registrations will be \$25 more.

The Institute will be held in Mobile, AL, and planners have full days of agricultural tours, including the choice of a spouses' tour, and presentations by ag leaders. Saturday will feature a tribute to Alabama agriculture and Saturday evening's entertainment will be the musical 'Always Patsy Cline,' a musical play highlighting the legendary country singer's music and her long time friendship with a fan.

The Young Ag Leaders Event (YALE) will offer educational opportunities for identifying agricultural careers and enhancing success in those careers. This outstanding program brings together the next generation of young ag professionals and young/beginning producers for an uplifting event featuring leadership training and networking. PYFA is sponsoring three young people to attend, and Britney Marsh, named Spokesperson for Agriculture at the winter meeting, is also attending (see related story, page 3). All will participate in the Ag Communication Award program presented by John Deere.

Schedule and registration material can be found at www.nyfea.org. On Thursday optional tours at an additional cost include visits to Bellingrah Gardens or beautiful Biloxi. On Saturday there is a tour to the USS Alabama for an additional charge. Farm and industry visits on Friday will feature Alabama agriculture, and the optional spouses' tour will go to the arts and cultural center in Fairhope, AL. Headquarters hotel is the Riverview Plaza Hotel, 64 S. Water Street, Mobile, AL 36602. Deadline for hotel registration and the reduced room rate of \$109 is November 9. To reserve a room call 1-800-922-3298.

There is a special all-inclusive registration rate of \$700, plus \$250 for someone staying in the same room. This offer is only good until October 15.

Plan now to attend this national meeting, learn more about Alabama agriculture and network with peers from around the country. A link is also available at www.payoungfarmers.com.

Newsletter

This issue of the newsletter was edited by Sally Bair and designed by Basic Designs.

Please offer comments/suggestions to either of them. Sally can be reached at 717-285-4926 or sbair14@yahoo.com; Debra @ 717-548-4240 or basicd@dejazzd.com

Dues Increase Takes Effect in 2010

At the 2009 annual business meeting, NYFEA delegates approved a tiered dues structure to allow states to enroll all their members in NYFEA for a per person fee of \$2. Delegates at the February PYFA board meeting voted to increase state dues to \$15, beginning January 1, 2010. This minimal increase provides the state association with an additional \$2 to be passed on to NYFEA for national membership, plus \$3 to stay in the state to cover increased operating costs.

Discussions on this change have taken place over several years. Other levels of national membership, including life membership, will not change with regard to costs and benefits. If you have questions about life membership and other benefits, please contact NYFEA – you can visit their website, www.nyfea.org or call them at 334-213-3276 or email them at natloffice@nyfea.org.

In 2009 the PYFA had 1024 members of which 184 are state life members. We had 51 paid national members and we have 64 national life members. Dues packets will be mailed to chapter treasurers the beginning of December. Please watch for the material and pay your dues promptly.

PYFA Supports Ag in the Classroom

PYFA annually supports Ag in the Classroom. This year's recipient of our sponsorship was Carly Wertman Roaring Springs. She joined teachers from around the state in learning current and accurate information about Pennsylvania agriculture, while gaining ideas for projects and materials for immediate use in their classrooms. The program also connects teachers with agricultural resource people who can continue to offer support.

Fire Prevention Week ♦ October 4 - 10

While recognition of Fire Prevention Week is the first week of October, farmers need to practice fire prevention on a daily basis. It's a good time to review general fire safety precautions for your farm.

- Practice regular fire drills so that family members and employees are familiar with their responsibilities should a real fire occur.
- Do not allow smoking in any barn, hay/bedding storage area or farm shop.
- Clearly mark all exit doors.
- Sweep and clean all aisles of hay and bedding; vacuum or sweep up cobwebs and dust regularly. Wipe dust off surfaces.
- Keep weeds mowed and pick up trash from around the buildings.
- Manure piles should be at least 20 feet away from the barn to reduce the chance of a spontaneous combustion fire spreading to the barn.
- Keep hay/bedding storage away from lights, fans, electrical boxes, heaters or outlets.
- If at all possible, hay, straw and other bedding should be stored in a building separate from where livestock are housed.
- Keep flammable substances stored outside the barn.
- Store vehicles and machinery in separate storage areas.



New Agriculture Secretary

Russell Redding, Adams County, has been named interim Secretary of Agriculture, and has been nominated to become Secretary upon Senate Confirmation. Redding succeeds Dennis Wolff who resigned to enter the private sector. Redding brings a wealth of experience and knowledge, having served in Washington and as a Deputy at PDA since the administration of Charles Brosius. You'll recall that he spoke at last winter's convention in Carlisle. He is definitely a friend of Pennsylvania Young Farmers, and we wish him well in his very important leadership role at a crucial time in the agriculture economy.

PYFA MEMBERSHIP SIGN UP FORM JOIN US TODAY!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

\$15 annual fee, checks made to: PYFA

Mail to: Debbie Zug
390 Peters Creek Rd., Peach Bottom, PA 17563

Summer Conference Offers Education and Interaction

Eighteen PA Young Farmer members and advisors participated in the PAAE summer conference at Conneaut Lake in July. The meeting was an outstanding opportunity for PYFA members to interact with ag teachers as they held their annual get-together, “Escape to the Lake.”

Members arrived at the historic Hotel Conneaut on Monday evening and enjoyed dinner and relaxation. On Tuesday, it was down to business with a board meeting, followed by a day of interesting tours of agriculture in western Pennsylvania. The day concluded with a picnic at beautiful Presque Isle State Park and then a visit to Pymatuning Lake, where members had the unique experience of feeding the carp and viewing the sunset.

The tours included visits to industry, horticulture and production agriculture, and PYFA members were divided among the three buses to get different experiences. One bus went to Dad’s Dog Food, Channellock Tools and Grimm Plastic Injections. A second went to Sperry’s Chicken Farm, Waddell Dairy Farm and Mason Farm, while a third went to Ernst Conservation Feed Company, Walker Hydroponics near Edinboro and Asbury Woods, an environmental Center in Mill Creek Township.

Leisurely discussions among ag teachers, young farmers and the state FFA leadership team created new opportunities for collaboration. New PAAE President-elect John Wardle expressed his support for working together more closely, encouraging PYFA members to use their experience and enthusiasm to support ag teachers. Further discussions will follow, but all members are encouraged to support the ag program and the FFA chapters in their areas. Nearly 120 ag educators attended the conference. Wardle extended an invitation for PYFA members to participate in the 2010 conference that will be held at Raystown Lake, Huntingdon County.

Deb Kammerer, adviser to the Gettysburg Young Farmers, will be PAAE’s representative to the PYFA Board. We look forward to a closer working relationship.



Doyle Paul, right, listens carefully to Calvin Ernst talk enthusiastically about Ernst Conservation Seeds.



The entire PYFA delegation posed for a photo at Presque Isle, with beautiful Lake Erie in the background.



The wine industry is growing in western Pennsylvania, and one tour visited vineyards.



Asbury Woods Nature Center boasts a “green” building, including this green roof where visitors can gain a closer understanding of the benefits of a green roof.



Plant tours offer close-up views of important agricultural industries.



Linda Krall and the Sumner family enjoyed the serenity of Conneaut Lake as they took an evening boat trip.



Visits to dairy and poultry operations made for interesting learning experiences.



This tractor brought a lot of comments and seemed the perfect backdrop for a photo with some of the PYFA members who attended the summer meeting in western Pennsylvania.

Caleb Wright Represents FFA on the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Board

Caleb Wright, 18, FFA South Central Region Vice President, has joined the PYFA Board as FFA representative. He attended his first board meeting in July at the PYFA summer conference and joins Britney Marsh on the board, replacing Christine Oellig.

The son of Jim and Becky Wright, Alexandria, Huntingdon County, Wright is a member of the Blue Juniata Chapter where he was president, secretary and reporter. His SAEs included sheep production, sheep finishing and goat finishing. CDE’s include parliamentary procedure, dairy judging, ag sales and public speaking. He has received a silver in the 2009 National Proficiency Awards program for sheep production–entrepreneurship/placement.

In addition to his FFA activities, he has been a member of 4-H for ten years, the school band and chorus, National Honor Society, and TATU (Teens Against Tobacco Use). He has shown livestock and dairy cows, and plans to attend Penn State University and study animal sciences with a science option with the goal of attending veterinary school. Wright’s favorite quote is “Leadership is action, not a position.”

You can learn more about Wright and the rest of the state FFA team by visiting www.paffa.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association Awards Stipend

Kutztown Students will travel to Mobile, Alabama

Casey A. Trexler and Jordan Rice, both of Kempton, Berks County, received a PYFA stipend to attend the National Young Farmer Educational Institute in Mobile, AL in December. Both seniors at Kutztown Area High School, they will participate in the Young Ag Leaders Event (YALE), a leadership training program for the next generation of agricultural leaders, and meet with young people from throughout the country. This is the third year PYFA has sponsored youth to attend their national meeting as a way of encouraging the future leaders in Pennsylvania.

The daughter of Brian and Kimberly Trexler, Casey has been a member of the Kutztown FFA Chapter for three years, serving as historian, vice-president and, currently, secretary. Casey helped organize the first Agricultural Awareness Community Day and has worked with the Food for America program in the district elementary schools for two years.

In 2007 she received sixth place in the state Creed Speaking event, and in 2008 she received fourth in extemporaneous speaking. She has participated in dairy judging, interview and poultry judging. In 2008, Casey joined her chapter at the FFA National Convention where she was part of an agricultural communications team which represented Pennsylvania and received a silver medal.

She hopes to study either agro-ecology, an interest she developed at the 2008 Governor’s School for Agricultural Sciences. Another strong interest is holistic medicine.

Casey said she is looking forward to meeting her peers from across the country and making connections to enhance her future in agriculture. She said, “Strengthening the relationship between FFA and the Young Farmers would help keep the legacy of the agricultural community strong.”

Jordan is the son of David and Beth Rice, and is president of the Kutztown Chapter of FFA where he has been a member for four years, also serving as reporter and parliamentarian. Last year Jason was second in the state in the small engine competition. He has participated in livestock judging at KILLE and in the Stockman’s contest. He has shown dairy cows with FFA, and works with FFA in the Schools, helps recruit new members and helped with the first Agriculture Awareness Community Day.

He attends Berks Carrier and Technology Center for small engines, and plans to attend a technical school after graduation to further develop his skills with small engines, and hopes to take business management courses.

He is also an active member of the Salem E.C. Church in Lenhartsville, a self-employed small engine mechanic, dairy farm and part time employee of Shick’s Hog Farm.

Rice said he looks forward to getting to know Young Farmer members, adding, “It is important that youth and adults team up, educate each other and build relationships that will inspire and ignite a whole new appreciation for the value of agriculture and our environment.”

Also attending the National Institute will be Britney Marsh, Cumberland County, former state FFA reporter, who was named Spokesperson for Agriculture at the winter convention in 2009. Caleb Wright, the newest FFA representative to the Board will also participate.

Congratulations to Britney Marsh and Caleb Wright!

Congratulations to the FFA Representatives to our Board – Britney Marsh and Caleb Wright who have both been recognized nationally for their hard work in FFA.

Britney will receive the American FFA Degree at the 82nd National FFA Convention Proceedings on October 24th in Indianapolis, IN. This puts her in a very select group of young people who are recognized for their academic and professional excellence and leadership ability. To be eligible, members must have earned and productively invested \$7,500 through a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program in which they start, own, or hold a professional position in an existing agriculture enterprise. Recipients must also make it their mission to demonstrate outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement. Each award recipient receives a gold American FFA Degree key, and certificate in a blue leatherette frame. The degree recognition program is sponsored by Case IH, The Farm Credit System, Pioneer Hi-Bred, Inc. and Syngenta as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Caleb received a silver in the 2009 National Proficiency Awards program for sheep production–entrepreneurship/placement. He is one of 19 FFA members from Pennsylvania who was recognized for his outstanding achievement. (See PYFA Board article for more information on Wright.)

Chapter News

Cedar Crest

John Bray, left, extension crop expert and chapter adviser uses a chlorophyll meter to evaluate the cornfields for nitrogen at the 6-leaf stage. Gordon Hitz, center, owns the farm and Delmar Brubaker, right, planted the corn and applied the post emergence herbicide. The field exhibited extensive side-wall compaction due to wet soil conditions at planting – resulting also in reduced germination and uneven growth. This was noted often in Lebanon County due to excessive rainfall. Also, many fields exhibited heavy grub infestation where leaf damage extended to the fifth leaf which made it difficult to take fifth leaf readings with the chlorophyll meter. A late season Constalk Nitrate Test will be conducted in the field to determine whether the crop had the right amount of N, too much N, or was deficient in N.



Somerset Young Farmers

Well, summer finally made it to the Laurel Highlands just in time for Autumn to arrive. The week of Ag Progress Days brought the first really warm weather we have had all summer. Hope all of you have had a productive summer with your own farms.

My family has been busy this summer with a few tractor square dances, trying to get hay and straw in the barn and preparing for a new school year. This year Brandon will be in the 6th grade. He really is becoming a great help around the farm, as he is old enough and big enough to drive the tractors and help with some of the raking and hauling wagons. Don't know what we would have done without his help this summer:

My wife and I recently celebrated a wedding anniversary and I promised her a wonderful and exciting evening. I told her I would cook if she would help with a side dish or two. I guess I forgot to mention that we would be spending it at our chapter picnic. BBQ chicken, prepared by Doyle Paul, Craig Leydig, David Holliday, Keith Hay and myself, along with a variety of covered dishes filled the stomachs of nearly 100 of our members and families. The Somerset County Dairy Princess, Melissa Paul, was in attendance and served ice cream sundaes. The younger children had the opportunity to play in a large pile of shelled corn and search for candy among the kernels. The adults enjoyed many games of the ever popular game – Farmers Bingo. Keith Leydig, State YF President, had the opportunity to present certificates and pins to five life members at the picnic as well.

The next project on the agenda was the produce booth for the Somerset County Fair. The committee chose a theme of "Fresh Produce from the Field to the Family" for this year's booth. Members depicted an older man tending some plants and his wife in the kitchen working to preserve them for winter's use. The booth included real, growing plants and a kitchen "sink" with running water. It earned a blue ribbon in its division and the State Young Farmer display earned a third place in the same division.

The Somerset County Young Farmers picnic will end the activities for the summer. It will be held at the Kingwood I.O.O.F. Picnic grounds and will be hosted by the Rockwood Chapter. As always, it is a good time to get the County's Young Farmers together and fellowship.

We will gather one more time before Thanksgiving for a planning meeting of next year's activities and then will adjourn meetings until January 2010.

Before we know it, the snow will be flying, Christmas and New Years will be here and gone, and we will be heading to the Winter Conference hosted by the Cedar Crest Chapter to celebrate Young Farmer's 50th anniversary!



Somerset County Dairy Princess
Melissa Paul dishes up ice cream
at the Chapter picnic.

Somerset Young Farmers
earned a blue ribbon for their
display, "Fresh Produce from
the Field to the Family."



Tim Gettle

Newest Board Member Tim Gettle, Eastern Region Vice President, presents a workshop on Tractor Safety at the Lebanon County's countywide Farm Safety Day. Gettle is a member of the Cedar Crest Chapter, whose members and spouses play a large role in this important community education event.



50th Anniversary Winter Conference - Continued from Page 1

A visit to the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority which operates a 3.2 megawatt landfill methane gas-to-electricity plant that fuels two Caterpillar engines that produce 25.2 million Kilowatt hrs of electricity per year. That's enough electricity to power 2,500 homes in Lebanon County and is equal to planting 38,000 acres of trees. Talk about energy efficiency!

On Thursday morning members and spouses will tour together, visiting several state-of-the-art agricultural facilities.

They'll begin at Wen-Crest Farms, LLC, owned by Steve and Bonnie Wenger. The operation consists of 1500 acres of owned and rented cropland along with custom farming and seed sales. In 2008, they raised 600,000 turkeys in eight barns, producing over eight million pounds of turkey. They're currently working on a solar panel project to produce their own electricity.

Then it's on to the Brian and Amy Boyd Farm, where they recently completed construction of a new operational farmstead on 14 acres of purchased land. In just one year they built two broiler houses, a large family home and a 60 x 100 ft. equipment storage building with heated portion to work on field equipment. Brian has a full-time job as manager at Mark Hershey Feed Mill and, somehow, finds time to operate his custom planting business.

At Jeff and Karen Zuck's dairy farm, you'll learn about the great strides they have made in improving the facilities and management practices since they began renting it in 1993. They purchased the farm in 2002, and increased the Holstein herd 48 to 104 after they built an extension in 2004. Also, a concrete manure storage was constructed along with tunnel ventilation and sand bedding. The current DHIA production is 25,700 lbs. milk on 2x milking. Crops on the 160 acre farm include corn, soybeans and double crop rye/age.

Details of the planned activities and registration material will be mailed in early December, so watch your mail.

This will be an outstanding opportunity to recognize the achievements of PYFA for over 50 years! Don't miss any of the special recognition festivities.

Exciting Activities for Ladies!

The women of the Cedar Crest Young Farmer Chapter are anxious to welcome the wives of the PYFA members attending the Feb. 2 – 4 winter convention. Come early because Tuesday afternoon will feature a flower arranging demonstration by Amanda Furmansky, followed by a trip to the Annville Antique Station.

On Wednesday, ladies will tour two historic homes in the area. Tulpehocken Manor dates to 1769 and on three occasions, George Washington reportedly slept in this 27-room Victorian home with large porches and a mansard roof. The first through third floors will be open to tour participants. The ladies will then visit the Patches Family Creamery, a family dairy store opened in June, 2009, featuring their farm fresh pasteurized, homogenized milk and homemade ice cream. The facility includes the processing area which can be viewed from the retail store, plus a drive-up window. Stephanie and Mark are also welcoming ladies to their 1850's stone and frame home which features a remodeled kitchen area and which, to quote Stephanie, "... is a lived-in house".

After lunch in Palmyra, women will have their choice of destinations in Hershey. ChocolateWorld features a free Hershey's Great AmericanChocolate Tour aboard a train that takes visitors through a simulated rainforest and continues through a chocolate factory where they see, feel, smell and hear the story of bean to milk chocolate. There are also shops and an optional 3D show. The other option is The Hershey Story, the museum on Chocolate Avenue where, with breakthrough technology from start to finish, visitors are placed inside the imagination of Milton Hershey as his life is traced from humble beginnings through bankruptcy to brilliance. There is a charge for the museum.

On Thursday, all PYFA members and spouses will tour agricultural enterprises together.

Cedar Crest wives hope that you will have an enjoyable time with them, and are looking forward to a memorable 50th Anniversary meeting!



PYFA had a presence at Ag Progress Days, with a variety of members and advisers taking turns manning the booth and talking with visitors about PYFA. Linda and Glen Krall, Cedar Crest, left, and Bob Pardoe, Lewisburg, spent time there and we appreciate everyone's efforts



Share Your Expertise

At the Summer Conference, PAAE President John Wardle suggested that a very concrete way in which PYFA can work more closely with the ag education programs is for members to share their experiences with students in the classroom. Another opportunity is to serve as judges for the many contests that are held in FFA. If you're willing to donate some time to mentor and support the next generation of ag leaders, call your local ag ed teacher and let him/her know that you're available should the need arise. Let's work together to offer young people support and encouragement.