

GYF JANUARY NEWS

Board of Directors 2015-2016

President

Carl Wilkinson
555 Rentzel Rd.
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325
752-8368

Vice President

Jason Rentzel
241 Rentzel Rd.
Gettysburg, Pa. 17325
334-1079

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Gettysburg, PA 17325
334-7894

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Mike Riser
91 Whisler Rd
Gettysburg, PA 17325
752-0929

Chris Smith
64 Tree Lane
Aspers, Pa. 17304
717-677-7693

Ed Wilkinson
880 Old Carlisle Rd.
Aspers, PA 17304
677-4477

PYFA State Officers

Jason Rentzel, President Elect
Becky Nas, Secretary
Dan Wilkinson, Past President

Advisor

Deb Kammerer
717-334-2760

PYFA Winter Institute ***February 7-9, 2017*** ***Courtyard Marriott of Shippensburg***



Members of the Shippensburg Young Farmers will host the 2017 Winter Institute on Tuesday, Feb. 7 through Thursday, Feb 9. This annual convening of the state Young Farmer membership is a multi function event. Members enjoy fellowship, educational tours, informative workshops and participate in a governing delegate assembly. Registration deadline is quickly approaching. Regular registration for the 3 day event is due to be postmarked by Monday, Jan 16. Fee of \$105 is due by the 16th. Late registrations will be charged \$110. Daily registrations of \$45/day for Tuesday and Wednesday and \$20 for Thursday are also available in advance or at the door. Registration includes lunches and evening banquet (Tues & Wed) as well as admission to educational sessions.

Planned schedule of events is as follows:

Tuesday, 2/7

PYFA board meets, 8 a.m.
Workshop sessions, p.m.
Evening banquet with presentation of Spokesperson Award

Wednesday, 2/8

Delegate Session, am
Lunch with preview of 2018 Winter Institute site
Tours, p.m.
PYFA Awards Banquet, pm

Thursday, 2/9

Tours, a.m.
Lunch
(schedule may be subject to change)

Tours:

Hard Earned Acres, Keefer Family dairy farm, a 543 cow dairy grown from Bob's original 27 head purchased after high school graduation. Features a manure digestion system and direct load trucking to eliminate bulk storage of milk. Fifteen full time employees manage 480 heifers in addition to milking herd, 2 milking parlors and approximately 1000 ac of cropland.

Martin's Famous Pastry Shoppe,

home of those delicious potato rolls. This family owned and operated bread and roll manufacturer began in the 1950's in the kitchen of Lois and Lloyd Martin. From farmers' markets and corner groceries (*tours*, pg2)

Dates to Note

Jan 11, Wednesday
Ag Breakfast, 7:15-9:00

Jan 6-14
Pa Farm Show, Harrisburg, Pa.

Jan. 17, Tuesday
GYF class on Precision Farming, see article pg 3, 7:30 p.m., GHS ag classroom

Jan 19-20, Thurs-Fri
Pa Agronomic Education Society Conference, Penn Stater Hotel, State College
Continuing ed credits for CCA, nutrient management and pesticide license. Registration contact abradford@pennag.com

Feb. 7-9 Tues-Thurs
PYFA Winter Institute, Shippensburg, Pa. See front page article

Feb. 21, Tuesday
GYF class on Microbial Products, presented by Mark Shannan, CCA and rep for Pathway Biologic. 7:30 p.m., GHS ag classroom.

Feb. 22, Wednesday
ACCD Soil Quality Day, contact B. Sneeringer at ACCD for registration and information
717-334-0636 or bsneeringer@adamscounty.us

"Young farmers are any farmers willing to learn"

Ag Breakfast, Jan 11

7:15-9:00 A.M.

MANAGING "HUMAN CAPITAL" IN AG INDUSTRIES

Guest Speakers:

Ross H. Pifer, Clinical Professor of Law; Sean High, Staff Attorney

Adams Co. Ag and Natural Resources Center
670 Old Harrisburg Rd. Gettysburg

Thanks to breakfast sponsors: AgChoice Farm Credit and Adams Co. Farm Bureau



Please bring cereal and/or oatmeal to the PYFA Winter Institute for donation to a local food bank.

(tours, from pg 1) demand and distribution grew until the products were on most regional supermarket shelves. Today the popular breads are produced at 2 commercial bakeries.

BWISE Trailer Company, a metal fabrication company whose mission is to build innovative products of higher quality than competitors. In a 300,000 square foot facility a wide range of trailers are produced by 100 full time employees. Owner Brian Wise's interest in metal fabrication began in his high school vo-tech shop in 1981.

Ladies Program, including visits to a local antique mall, Amish greenhouse, country market and an artistic painting session. Take home your own 11x14 masterpiece!

Institute Registration: Mail form (see pg 4) and \$ to Ed Zug, 390 Peters Creek Road, Peach Bottom, Pa, 17563

**Hotel: Courtyard Marriott of Shippensburg, 503 Newburg Rd, Ship.
717-477-0680, Room Block Code: CYF Shippensburg Young Farmers,
\$79/night**

Precision Farming, Is it a fit for you?

January 17, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Gettysburg High School Ag Classroom (enter from back of building)

Transitioning to Precision Agriculture (PA) To Achieve “Sustainable Intensification”

Summarized excerpts from *Promoting sustainable intensification in precision agriculture: review of decision support systems development and strategies*, Lindblom, J, Lundstrom, C, Ljung, M, and Jansson, A., published online in *Precision Agric*, 21 December 2016.

New technologies have been available for a while to manage farm fields on the sub-field level, or heterogeneously, instead of treating every field as a unit, homogeneously. Yet ag producers have been slow to adopt these information and communication technologies entirely and so the full potentials of these systems has not been realized. Challenges to the modern farmer are numerous, sometimes even unrealistic! Society expects that agriculture will not only produce ample, safe food products for a growing global population but also conserve natural resources, represent cultural values, protect biodiversity, and contribute to economic prosperity. Most importantly, agricultural production systems are expected to operate “sustainably,” a term used to describe development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the resources needed for the future. Within agriculture sustainability has been additionally defined as “sustainable intensification” in recognition of the real mandate for food production to steadily increase.

In the face of these significant mandates, one might expect the adoption of precision ag technologies to be swift and wide spread, but that has not occurred. In examining this paradox researchers have suggested that the missing component is adequate “decision support systems” or DSSs. Information and communication technology (ICT) support systems developed for use in agriculture have failed to account for the type of “hands-on” knowledge common on farms and the practical needs of farmers. Among other factors which contribute to the poor adoption rate of ICT systems are poor user interface design, tedious data input requirements, lack of user confidence and reluctance to replace advisors.

Gettysburg Young Farmers Meeting Precision Agriculture

History of Precision Agriculture Where did this all come from?

Options and Technologies in Precision Farming

Zone mapping (Grid, EC, Yield Zones)

Variable rate fertilizer and seeding

Drone scouting and NDVI

Variable Rate Sidedress

Yield mapping

Data management

Implications and Possibilities of Precision Ag Financial benefits Regulatory implications Next 3-5 years

Developers of PA technologies and agricultural researchers have suggested that user centered design of ICT systems and ag DSS is needed. A user center design of technology would adapt the ICT system to the users’ needs as well as to the context of use rather than expecting the user to adapt behavior to the system. If these deficiencies were addressed, the advancement of sustainable intensification could be promoted with precision ag technologies.

Pennsylvania Young Farmers 2017 WINTER CONFERENCE

Hosted by Shippensburg Area Young Farmers

February 7 - 9, 2017

Courtyard Marriott & Shippensburg University Conference Center
Shippensburg, PA

FULL CONFERENCE PACKAGE

	# OF TICKETS	TOTAL \$
Early Bird Registration – Postmarked by Jan. 2, 2017	_____	_____
Regular Registration – Postmarked by Jan. 16, 2017	_____	_____
Late Registration – Postmarked after Jan. 16, 2017	_____	_____

PARTIAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Tuesday, February 7

Lunch	\$20	_____
Banquet	\$25	_____

Wednesday, February 8

Lunch	\$20	_____
Banquet	\$25	_____

Thursday, February 9

Lunch	\$20	_____
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LADIES PROGRAM (WEDNESDAY)

Paint Session (11x14)	\$20	_____
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TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: Payable to: "PYFA" \$ _____

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ Chapter _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Mail registration form & payment to:
Ed Zug
390 Peters Creek Road • Peach Bottom, PA 17563

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Courtyard Marriott of Shippensburg, 503 Newburg Road, Shippensburg, PA • 17257 • 717-477-0680
Room Block Code: *CYF Shippensburg Young Farmers* for \$79 per night plus tax.
Buffet Breakfast included. Restaurant/Bar/Starbucks on-site