



Berks County Farm Bureau Berks Newsletter

Robin Lincoln, Editor

August Edition 🍂 2022

The newsletter is always available online at www.pfb.com/berks

Thanks to those of you who have opted to receive your newsletter electronically. So far, 2% of our members have agreed to stop their paper/snail-mail newsletters. We encourage you to help us move into the 21st century by letting us know that you want electronic only, or that you'd still prefer the paper version.

Please e-mail robinl@ptd.net to let us know your preference: paper vs. email/online.

Berks County Farm Bureau Board of Directors

President

Larry Gelsinger _____ 610-678-0912

Vice President

Paul Hartman _____ 484-955-8590

Secretary/Treasurer

Robin Lincoln _____ 484-925-4132

Directors

Raechel Sattazahn _____ 717-495-5075

Joe Rosenbaum _____ 610-323-4448

Kyle Mackes _____ 610-914-5605

Bobby Tercha _____ 610-682-4526

Charles Seidel _____ 610-562-4137

George Moyer _____ 717-933-8748

Mark Wicks _____ 610-721-2538

Matt Schantz _____ 610-462-7233

Dwayne Salem _____ 717-926-4355

Governmental Relations Director

Larry Kehl _____ 484-256-5322

Membership Chair

Sarah Miller _____ 610-972-3562

Women's Leadership Committee Director

Open Position

Young Ag Professionals

Rachael Kirkhoff _____ 610-750-1531

CID/Newsletter Editor

Robin Lincoln _____ 484-925-4132

Regional Organization Director

Thomas Austin _____ 610-533-2558

State Director District 3

Howard Robinson _____ 717-529-2508

Fall Banquet

Friday, September 30, 2022

Check in time is 6:30pm

Policy Time: come help decide and vote on future policies!
This event will be held indoors at the Oley Fair Center:
26 Jefferson St, Oley 19547.

Kathryn's Katering: Fruit Cup, Tossed Salad, Roast Beef,
BBQ Pork Ribs, Potato Filling, Green Bean Almondine, Corn,
and Dessert will all be on the menu.

\$15 a person, kids 10 and under free

Mail your check for \$15 a person (kids 10 and under free)
made out to: **BCFB**
Mail to: Robin Lincoln
315 S Baumstown Rd
Birdsboro PA 19508

This will secure your reservations. (no tickets)

Reservation Deadline is Friday, September 16.



Note: The "Country Focus" news mailing is now re-done
and is called "Grassroots Advocate!"

MEET THE CANDIDATE

Friday, October 21 @ Fleetwood Grange

6pm Social Hour with light refreshments

Fleetwood Grange Rt
662 Moselem Springs Rd, Fleetwood 19522



PFB Hosts Dairy Pricing Discussion Meetings

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau (PFB) held its most recent dairy pricing discussion meetings on Monday, July 10th in Ebensburg at Hoss's, and Friday, July 15th at Brubaker farms in Mount Joy. The discussions have been ongoing across the state this past year. The main part of the discussions revolved around PFB policy regarding the over order premium, allowing members the opportunity to learn about milk pricing to influence county policy as policy development gets underway. Attendees heard from multiple speakers, including PFB State Board Director David Graybill, PFB State Dairy Committee Director of Region 3 Ron Wenger, Pennsylvania Milk Marketing Board Executive Secretary Carol Hardbarger, American Farm Bureau Federation Economist Danny Munch and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Executive Deputy Secretary Greg Hostetter. PFB is encouraging members to attend county policy development meetings and the state annual meeting to have their voices heard in impacting policy.

Pictures from Harrisburg lobbying trip on March 30, 2022



Berks County attendees right to left:
 Paul Hartman
 Joe Rosenbaum
 Dorothy Wagner
 Larry Gelsinger
 Gary Wegman
 Mark Hoch



PFB President
 Rick Ebert



PA Secretary of Agriculture
 Russell Redding



Minority Chair of Senate Agriculture Committee
 Judy Schwank



For your always growing side.

We help protect your farm, family, finances and future. As a Farm Bureau member, you may be eligible for a discount on your farm insurance from the #1 farm insurer.¹

Learn more at nationwide.com/pfb.

¹SNL Financial, 2017 (National) Market Share Report. Products underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies. Home Office: Columbus, OH 43215. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review, and approval. Products and discounts not available to all persons in all states. Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle and Nationwide is on your side are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. The Farm Bureau and the letters FB are registered service marks of American Farm Bureau and used under license by Nationwide. © 2019 Nationwide AFC-0315AO.2 (05/19) 11091933

Berks County Nationwide Agents

Kathy Barry *
 Robesonia
 610-693-5000

Michael Davidheiser
 Boyertown
 610-367-6095

Brian Hunsinger*
 Douglassville
 610-582-5204

David Koeffler
 Reading
 610-929-9951

James McIntyre*
 Morgantown
 610-286-6170

Jeffrey Spotts *
 Wyomissing
 610-374-2911

Tompkins Insurance
 Wyomissing
 888-601-2611

The Deangelo Company
 Wyomissing
 484-334-4132

David Wilson
 Birdsboro
 610-582-9233

William Young
 Reading, PA
 610-779-8064
 * Farm Certified

MSC Business Services Account Supervisors

David Mory
 717-908-0552

Jason Seibert
 717-908-6972

Confused by healthcare options?

Our emphasis is Customer Service - at no cost to you.

We can provide premium rates for:

- Individual & Family Insurance
- Group and Business Insurance
- Senior Medicare Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Vision Insurance



800.522.2375

www.pfb.com/healthservices

Knowledgeable | Helpful | Dedicated

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Applauds Agriculture's Inclusion in 2022-23 State Budget

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is pleased that the 2022-23 state budget will institute a program for conservation funding on farms, with \$220 million in funding to create the Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) to the clean streams fund, aimed at reducing nutrient and sediment runoff, which comes as a huge victory for farmers as PFB's biggest legislative ask of the year. While information regarding how the funds will be administered to county conservation districts is not yet available, a burden will be lifted off a lot of farmers that can now implement their best land management practices on their properties to keep the environmental impacts to a minimum. As a whole, conservation districts will receive an increase of \$6.8 million, with \$5 million coming from the Department of Environmental Protection and the other \$1.8 million coming through the Department of Agriculture. The 2022-23 state budget also notably includes \$32 million to help combat avian influenza, with \$25 million of the funding coming in the form of indemnity payments to the impacted farmers. An additional \$6 million is available to increase laboratory surveillance activities while another \$1 million was allocated for additional staffing for the Department of Agriculture. An increase of funds to the Animal Health and Diagnostic Commission was also a part

of the 2022-23 budget, which is a win for Pennsylvania farmers. When the original budget proposal was rolled out the program was essentially going to be cut, but the final iteration of the budget saw the commission reinstated with an increase in funding. Agricultural research and extension were given an increase of five percent, which is just shy of \$3 million worth of funding for the 2022-23 year. The budget also reinstates a \$5 million general fund appropriation for the Farm Show, reducing the reliance on Race Horse Development Fund dollars. The budget increases funding for the State Food Purchase Program by \$2 million as well, to provide emergency food assistance and purchase surplus agricultural products. Overall, the Department of Agriculture will see just shy of a 30 percent increase this year in funding. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Rick Ebert shared the following thoughts on the 2022-23 state budget: "I'm really happy with the passage of the state budget this year with agriculture being the number one industry. We had our priorities of the extension service and the diagnostics lab supported. It really shows legislative support for the ag industry. In addition, the added funding for conservation will help us reach our 2025 water quality goals for the Chesapeake Bay. We have a lot more funding resources to go back to the conservation districts to work toward that goal so farmers can implement practices to reach those goals."



MSC
BUSINESS SERVICES

Affiliated with Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

**Focused on Agricultural
and Small Businesses**

717.731.3517

www.mscbusiness.net

Rosetree  Consulting
Agricultural • Environmental

Rosetree Consulting provides soil sampling, crop consulting, and government regulatory documents for agricultural operations of all sizes. Our goal is to provide clients with the information and understanding needed to make better decisions and have a more profitable operation. Rosetree Consulting offers a 5% discount on regulatory services (manure management plans, nutrient management plans, conservation plans, odor management plans) to Berks County Farm Bureau members.

Contact Eric Rosenbaum

Berks County Farm Bureau
Robin Lincoln, Newsletter Editor
315 S Baumstown Rd
Birdsboro, PA 19508

PRSR T STD
U S . P O S T A G E
P A D
H A M B U R G , P A
P E R M I T N O . 1 0 2

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
August 24	Policy Development Meeting	Outside D Wagner's pavilion	7:00 p.m.
September 9	Board Meeting	Ag Center	7:30 p.m.
September 30	Fall Banquet	Oley Fair Center	6:30 p.m.
October 14	Board Meeting	Ag Center	7:30 p.m.
October 21	Meet The Candidate	Fleetwood Grange	6:00 p.m.



Interested in receiving the online version of our Newsletter?

So far, 2% of our members have agreed to stop their paper/snail-mail newsletters.

We encourage you to help us move into the 21st century by
letting us know that you want electronic only!

Please e-mail robinl@ptd.net to let us know!



Check out Berks County Farm Bureau website:

www.pfb.com/berks
See more information in the