

From Local Ag Teachers:



Thoughts in Passing



The article this week was contributed by Glenn Weber, teacher of agriculture at Manheim Central High School.

Show You Care

The Future Farmers of America organization serves as a laboratory providing students the opportunity to refine and develop knowledge and skills related to personal development taught in the agriculture classroom. Since the historical beginning of the FFA, millions of Americans have benefited from the educational training in leadership, communications, citizenship, service to others, social skills, and management of financial resources.

As a result, many of these former FFA members have become leaders in business, industry and government. Others have assumed responsible positions in their local communities.

Their FFA experiences have proved to be immeasurable in preparing them for their FFA activities and want to make sure that youth today and tomorrow have the same opportunity they had. With this concern for the nation's youth and its agriculture, these former FFA members organized the National FFA Alumni Association to promote and support the FFA organization and its activities, to promote a greater knowledge of agriculture, and to provide a tie for those who wish to help youth as they were helped in the FFA. Since the alumni was organized on May 12, 1972, over 33 states have chartered associations and the national membership is now well over 10,000 members.

The alumni's potential to promote and strengthen our FFA program at the local level offers many exciting possibilities. Local alumni chapters can help educate others in agriculture and



Glenn Weber

generate support resulting in greater community involvement and thereby strengthening their agriculture program. For example, several local FFA alumni chapters are cooperating with the agriculture teacher in the occupational experience program and in placing of graduating seniors in the business community. Alumni chapters have also sponsored chain animals for FFA members, assisted in class field trips, served as judges in FFA contests, and provided educational resource speakers for the agriculture instruction. Alumni chapters can give physical, intellectual, and financial assistance to their local FFA chapter.

Opportunities for assisting the local chapter are as limited as one's imagination. Alumni members will receive a newsletter that will keep them up-to-date on new developments and activities of the FFA, the alumni association, and agriculture education. But most important, alumni members will

have the satisfaction of joining together in a united effort to help educate others in agriculture—to build confidence in today's FFA members and provide inspiration to share experiences, ideas, and goals with fellow alumni members and students of agriculture.

The FFA Alumni Association needs your support now. Take a few moments to do the following:

Join the FFA Alumni Association. All former FFA members, honorary members, current and former teachers of agriculture are eligible.

Choose a person to lead the way in forming an FFA affiliate in your area.

Suggest a few people for him to contact that can help him with the organization.

Membership and additional information concerning the FFA Alumni can be obtained by contacting the agriculture teacher in your local high school.

If you are proud of the FFA, if you want to help youth, if you want to join with others with the same goals and ideals, then the FFA Alumni Association can help to satisfy those desires.

The Pennsylvania State FFA Alumni Association extends an invitation to all potential members to the first annual dinner meeting at the Gettysburg Senior High Cafeteria on Thursday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. National FFA Alumni president Gus Douglass, West Virginia Commissioner of Agriculture, and one of today's most dynamic leaders in our nation's agriculture, will address the group concerning the enthusiastic growth the National FFA Alumni has experienced recently.

A special program featuring the FFA Alumni Association will be presented by the Manheim FFA Chapter on December 4 on the WGAL TV Program "Noonday on Eight".

Hog Farmers Warned On Uncooked Garbage

A recent multiple outbreak of hog cholera in New Jersey has been tentatively traced to the feeding of garbage that was carrying hog cholera virus.

To prevent a similar occurrence in Pennsylvania, "It is imperative for swine owners to properly cook all garbage, table scraps or other unprocessed material fed to swine," said Dr. H. S. Forney, acting director, Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Feeding of raw garbage to swine is prohibited within the Commonwealth. It must be cooked at 212 degrees for a minimum of thirty (30) minutes. This destroys any residual virus, parasitic larvae and other potential infectious disease organisms which may affect swine and endanger the entire swine industry.

Dr. Forney reported, "Hog cholera does not affect humans,

but is highly contagious among swine. Full cooperation is mandatory to prevent this disease from being accidentally introduced into the Commonwealth."

All licensed garbage feeders have been warned to properly cook the material being fed or they will be forced to discontinue the practice of feeding garbage.

Individual farm owners must also be sure they thoroughly cook all table scraps, containing uncooked pork products, before feeding to swine on their premises.

Pennsylvania achieved Hog Cholera-Free status from the USDA on July 19, 1971.

First Beneficiary

Ida M. Fuller of Ludlow, VT., was the first beneficiary of monthly social security payments. She received check No. 00-000-01 for \$22.54, dated Jan. 31, 1940.

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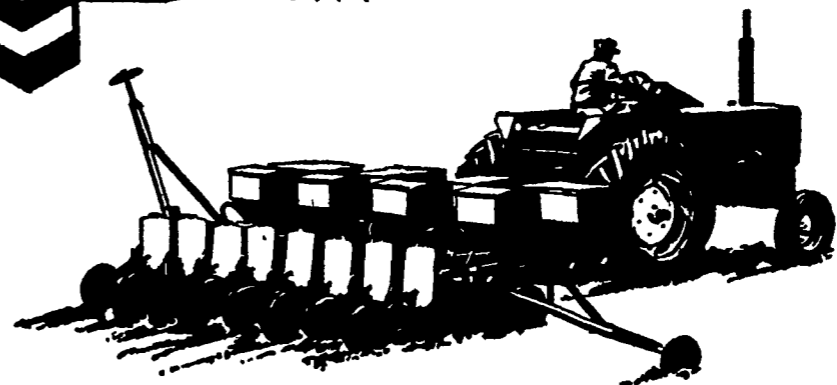
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