

PFA faces challenges with record of progress

MOUNT POCONO - Charles R. Ord, administrative secretary of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association (PFA), presented a progress report Monday to voting delegates and others attending PFA's 28th annual meeting.

Voting delegates, numbering 166, were gathered at Mount Airy Lodge, Mount Pocono, Nov. 12-15, to hammer out statewide policies and elect officers.

Ord told the general session gathering that PFA's public affairs department dealt with 215 policies adopted by voting delegates at last year's convention. He listed legislative victories on farm truck licensing and oversized vehicle permits,

guarantees for lime and fertilizer ingredients, increased funding for agricultural research, veterinary medicine and more.

He also noted PFA has been recognized by newspapers as one of the top ten lobbying organizations in the state.

Ord outlined organization achievements in other areas such as farm management service, legal service, cooperative marketing and purchasing, volume purchasing, and more. He also urged a program for capitalization of all PFA programs and services.

PFA is a general farm organization with 21,255 farm family members in 53 county associations. It is affiliated with the American Farm Bureau Federation.

PFA president Eugene

Thompson, an Indiana County dairyman, said, "Farmers must concern themselves with more than just the weather. Decisions in Harrisburg and Washington, D.C. can affect our livelihood just as much. That's why we set policies to be enacted at local, state and national levels."

"Unfortunately," Thompson continued, "this past year, as in 1977, most of our concerns aren't with the legislatures but with regulatory agencies like OSHA and DER. There are 87 federal regulatory agencies alone. We'd like to see more legislative control over the regulatory process."

Voting delegates, devoted three days to discussing and deciding official stances on subjects ranging from dairy barn inspections to public utilities.

PFA honors John Smith

MOUNT POCONO - John Smith, the York County Cooperative Extension Agent and community leader, was presented the distinguished service award of the Pennsylvania Farmers' Association (PFA) Monday afternoon.

The award was made during a general session of voting delegates and farm leaders attending PFA's four-day convention at Mount Airy Lodge, Mount Pocono. PFA is a general farm organization with 21,255 farm family members in 53 county associations.

Smith has served agriculture 31 years in the Cooperative Extension Service - 26 of those year in York County.

In receiving the award, Smith was praised for his educational efforts to improve the county's production of potatoes, corn, alfalfa, milk, soybeans, poultry and fruit.

Smith has promoted



John Smith

agriculture on radio and television workshops, through farm city tours and through his numerous associations with civic groups. In addition, he has worked with farmers and many organizations to improve the environment and to increase soil conservation.

He has already received many awards from government, farm groups, educators and environmentalists for his numerous achievements. He is also active in many civic groups and community projects outside of agriculture.

Christmas tree directory

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - The popular "Choose And Cut" Christmas tree directory published by the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the Maryland Christmas Tree Association will soon be ready for free distribution.

George Roche, of MDA's Division of Marketing, says the directory for 1978 will list 27 growers located in the following counties: Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery, Prince Georges, Talbot and Worcester.

The directories will be mailed free of charge to those who request them on a first come-first serve basis. Judging from the past popularity of the directory, requests should be sent to MDA by Thanksgiving. Copies will be sent out December first.

One should send his name and address (a postcard will do) to: "Christmas Trees" care of Maryland Department of Agriculture, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

The directory lists growers, gives road directions to their plantations, and also details their hours of operation, dates, and types of trees they have for sale this year.

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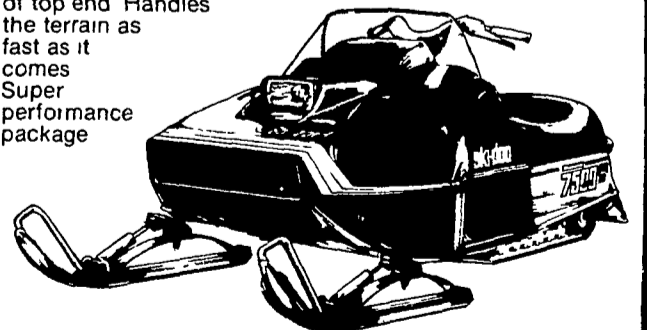
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