

Pa. Farmers' Union convention Feb. 1-2

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania Farmers' Union's annual state convention will be held at Hotel Hershey, Feb. 1 - 2. Over 200 locally elected delegates will be considering and adopting organization policy on farm issues, according to PFU President James Brown.

Banquet speaker Tuesday evening will be Minnesota Congressman James Oberstar, who will be leading an effort in the U.S. House of Representatives to replace the milk producer levy, passed last year, with a milk surplus reduction plan that will permit the family dairy farmer to survive.

The 5th-term congressman had introduced a National Farmers Union-backed bill last spring which would have combined a milk production reduction plan with price incentives, allowing the average small farmer to meet expenses and make a modest profit. The Oberstar bill was rejected in favor of the two-tier \$1 a hundredweight producer levy now in place, during hectic maneuvering on the Budget Reconciliation bill last August.

Other speakers include Dr. Jon Wefald, chancellor of the State University System of Minnesota and formerly the state's secretary of agriculture. Wefald's address on Wednesday morning will examine the crisis in American agriculture in the context of American and world economic conditions and U.S. government policies, including international trade.

Pa. Secretary of Agriculture Penrose Hallowell, Senators Ed Helfrick and Patrick Stapleton and Representatives Samuel Morris and Roger Madigan will cover highlights of farm related state government issues for the convention delegates. The participating legislators are agriculture committee leaders.

Another highlight of the Farmers Union convention will be a panel on farm organization coalitions with other groups. Panelists are Pa. AFL-CIO President Julius Uehlein; Pa. State Education Association Associate Executive Director Roger Erskine; and Pa. Citizens Consumer Council Chairwomen Jean Ann Fox.

Yesterday's farmers were energy managers

UNIVERSITY PARK — Alcohol production in pot stills was a process known for generations before it was thought of as a possible alternative for the '80s. Solar energy was used to dry crops and corn cobs were burned to warm pigs long before energy analyses were used to confirm such benefits.

Most rural residents grew up knowing how to cope without electricity or liquid fuels for days at a time.

"Farmers applied energy logic more often than they applied fertilizer," says Jim Garthe, Penn State Extension agricultural engineer. They were energy managers without ever having heard the word.

USDA was involved in biofuels potential and in the energy conversion process long before OPEC was a household acronym. Fuel energy values were not important when energy was cheap.

Garthe says that has changed now. Agricultural Energy Centers were established under the 1977 Flood and Agriculture Act to coordinate the energy component of USDA's projects with other organized research. The basic goal of the Centers is to discover, develop, and demonstrate technology which will permit agriculture to become energy self sufficient on a net basis under conditions which will sustain productivity.

The Northern Agricultural Energy Center is located at the ARS Northern Regional Research Center in Peoria, IL. This laboratory is well known for basic research on corn, soybean, and

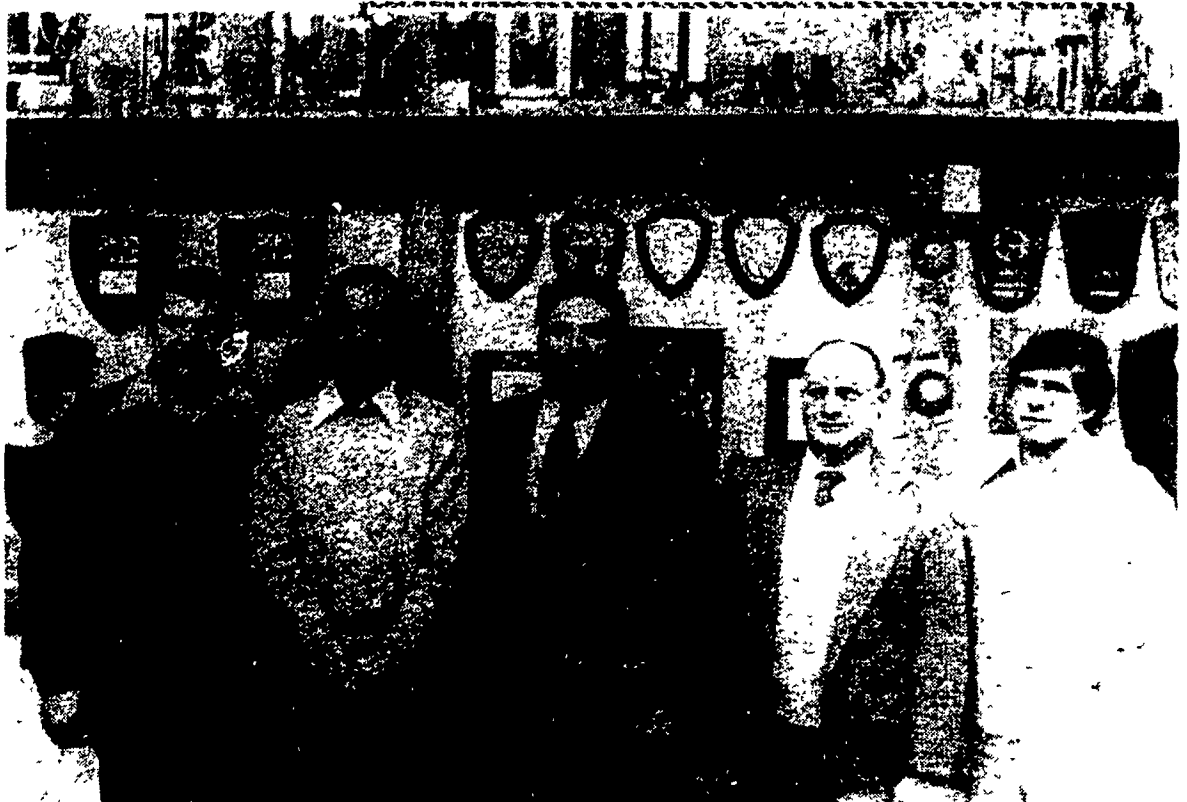
cereals; germ plasm culture and fermentation; grain proteins and vegetable oils. NAEC is organized to gain new knowledge of the chemical and physical properties of agricultural materials building on the fundamental knowledge of chemical, physical, and biological sciences.

The Energy Center emphasizes production of crops for energy, conversion of plant biomass to liquid fuels and petroleum sparing chemicals, identification of potential energy crops, and evaluation of vegetable oils as diesel fuels.

Breakthroughs in agricultural energy are not expected to come frequently nor to be of great magnitude because the easy technology is already in place. Since its beginning, agriculture has been the industry which managed natural resources for the production of food and fiber. A growing crop is a botano-chemical factory where photosynthesis combines simple chemicals into energy products.

Farmers are not only custodians of soil but are experienced managers of all production resources including energy. Market economics never allowed them to fall behind the state-of-the-art of applying these resources effectively, or they were soon making their living in some other way.

The USDA Agricultural Energy Centers will be involved with all new technology to modify, convert, or use the energy content in plant materials. They will translate basic research and extend the findings for practical application.



Standing in front on numerous awards of Ephrata Young Farmers Association are new officers, from the left, Ira Martin, president; Tom Bollinger, vice president; Kenneth Hertzog, secretary; Ray Bollinger, treasurer; and Jim Hess, public relations director.

Ephrata Young Farmers to install officers

EPHRATA — The new slate of officers of the Ephrata Area Young Farmers Association will be officially installed at the chapter's annual banquet next Saturday night at the Mt. Airy-Durlach Fire Hall.

Heading the new officer slate as president is Ira M. Martin, steer farmer, 1967 W. Main St., Ephrata.

Other officers include Tom A. Bollinger, dairy farmer, R4 Lititz, vice president; Kenneth B. Hertzog, beef farmer, R2 Ephrata, secretary; Ray P. Bollinger, dairy

farmer, R1 Stevens, treasurer; James D. Hess, beef and poultry farmer, 825 E. Newport Rd., Lititz, public relations director.

The new officer team will be installed by Henry E. Givler, vo-ag consultant, at the annual banquet which begins at 6:45 p.m. next Saturday.

Other features of the banquet program planned by retiring president Clark Stauffer and the other outgoing officers include special appreciation awards, greetings from the Cloister FFA

and the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association.

In addition to production achievement awards and the awarding of door prizes, the evening's entertainment will be provided by the Joyful Strings.

The menu features baked ham with pineapple sauce and all the trimmings prepared and served by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Mt. Airy-Durlach Fire Company.

Serving as hostesses will be Mr. and Mrs. Earl F. Smoker and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Leininger.

FARM COMPUTER SEMINAR

Topics to be discussed:

- What can a computer do for me on my farm?
- How do I decide which computer to buy?
- How much will it cost?
- How do I learn how to operate it?

Plus demonstrations and operation of farm programs

Seminar will be a "hands-on" seminar, with the participants operating the computers. Wives are encouraged to attend. Apple computers will be used in seminar. Cost Per Person...\$20.00; or \$25.00...For Husband & Wife, Lunch included. Call now for reservations. Maximum number of persons per session is 20.

LANCASTER, PA

THE OFFICE WORKS

Computer Learning Center

29 E. King Street, Lancaster, PA 17603

FEBRUARY 8, 1983 (Open)

FEBRUARY 15, 1983 (Open)

HERSHEY, PA

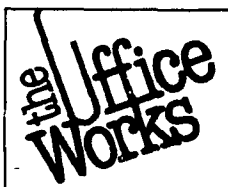
THE OFFICE WORKS

Computer Learning Center

241 Chocolate Ave.

Hershey, PA 17033

FEBRUARY 22, 1983 (Open)



CALL FOR RESERVATIONS

717-397-7721



Complete Apple Sales, Service and Support
Specializing in Agricultural Computers

