

Lancaster Farm and Home Foundation Re-Elects Directors

BY SALLY BAIR

Lancaster Co. Correspondent
LANCASTER — Seven directors were re-elected to three year terms on the board of the Lancaster County Farm and Home Foundation at its 23rd annual meeting Thursday.

Re-elected were: Darvin E. Boyd, Akron; Orpah Graybill, Lititz; Robert C. Groff, Quarryville; Richard A. Haas, Lancaster; Evelyn Hess, Lancaster; George M. Lewis, Mt. Joy; and Kenneth M. Rutt, Quarryville.

Building manager Chester Neuin reported that over 55,000 people attended 1,055 meetings during 1986. Chairman of the building committee Kenneth Rutt pointed out improvements made to the physical plant, including new drapes at the stage, purchased through a contribution of the Farm Women Society of Lancaster

County. The board has also authorized repainting of the auditorium chairs and is having the floor refinished.

County Agent Jay Irwin, reporting on behalf of the scholarship committee, said the board awarded 16 \$1,000 scholarships to students in the fields of agriculture, home economics and nursing. This year 12 \$1,000 scholarships will be given to students entering the fields of agriculture and home economics. Applications are now available to high school seniors.

President Darvin Boyd said that the board has reorganized its committee structure and that those committees will be working to report to the total board.

Program for the evening was a multi-media presentation entitled, "The Beauty of it All," by Ronnie Reedy of Lititz.



Newly elected directors of the Farm and Home Foundation are, from left, Darvin E. Boyd, Richard A. Haas, Evelyn Hess, Robert C. Groff and George M. Lewis. Missing from photo are Orpah Graybill and Kenneth Rutt.

Agriculture Secretary Tabs Assistant

HARRISBURG — Acting Agriculture Secretary Boyd E. Wolff today announced his appointment of Steven Crawford of Bloomsburg, Columbia County, as executive assistant.

Crawford, 27, joins the state Department of Agriculture after three years as legislative director in the government relations division of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association.

"His experience in working with members of the General Assembly and agricultural leaders and his knowledge of agricultural issues will be of tremendous value to the Department," Wolff said.

"His primary, immediate responsibility will be assisting me in achieving a smooth, efficient and effective transition for the Casey administration at the Department," Wolff added.

In addition to handling many of the day-to-day details of the change in administrations, Crawford will be involved in policy

development, Wolff said.

At PFA, Crawford directed advisory councils and policy development committees for the 23,000-member organization, and oversaw the establishment and administration of the PFA Legal Defense Fund and Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation — both a first for Pennsylvania agriculture.

He played a leading role in presenting lawmakers at the state and federal level with the views of PFA and its members on major legislation, including The Worker and Community Right to Know Law, changes in unemployment compensation, Pesticide Control Act, Seasonal Farm Labor Act and the federal Insecticide Fungicide and Rodenticide Act.

He is a 1961 graduate of Mansfield State College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. He has participated extensively in local, state and national political campaigns in the past eight years.

Fruit Production Increases 17 Percent

HARRISBURG — Total production for Pennsylvania's six major fruit crops in 1986 was 430,050 tons, up 17 percent from 1985 according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. The value of utilized production for these six fruit crops was 87.3 million dollars, also up 17 percent from last year.

Pennsylvania's 1986 apple production totaled 620 million pounds, up 6 percent, valued at \$53.1 million. Peach production at 100 million pounds more than

doubled the 40 million pounds produced in 1985, and was valued at \$18.2 million. Pear production at 3,000 tons was up 30 percent, and utilized production was valued at \$950,000.

Tart cherry production of 12 million pounds was twice the 1985 level, valued at \$3 million. Value of the utilized production for sweet cherries was \$1.3 million, with production of 1,050 tons, up 110 percent from 1985. The 1986 grape production was 60,000 tons, up 20 percent, valued at \$10.8 million.

Farm Commodity Bill Reintroduced To Pa. House

HARRISBURG — Rep. John H. Broujos, D-199th, Adams, York and Cumberland Counties, and Rep. Kenneth J. Cole, D-91, Adams County, have reintroduced a bill to give farmers control over the farm commodity marketing programs in Pennsylvania.

The same bill was passed by the House in 1965 by a vote of 187-5. The bill died in the Senate.

"This bill is important to the fruit growers of Southcentral Pennsylvania and throughout the state, since it gives them the power to control marketing of their own commodities," said Cole.

A legal opinion of the Office of Counsel of Governor Thornburgh interpreted the Agricultural Commodities Marketing Act of 1968 to give absolute control in the Secretary of Agriculture with respect to administration of the

commodity marketing programs.


"For over 25 years, the system worked well when farmers had control over contracting and personnel. Since the farmers pay the program, they should have the final say," stated Broujos.

The bill was proposed by farm groups throughout Pennsylvania, who want the farmers to control the programs. Supporters included Pennsylvania Farmer's Association, the Grange, Pennsylvania Farmer's Union, Hor-

tical Society of Pennsylvania, fruitgrowers and milk producers. "The bill is in line with the policy in at least five other agriculture states," stated Cole.

The bill is one of the first bills introduced in the current session, being House Bill 62, with 38 sponsors.

During the last session, Governor Thornburgh opposed the bill. Gov. Robert Casey campaigned on a farm platform supporting the bill.



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