

PSU Alumni Society

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rams, and generally spreading the word about opportunities within the College.

Bair, who is director of member and public relations for Atlantic Breeders Cooperative, is in his first year of a two-year term as president of CAAS. He says he has chosen to be involved in CAAS "because Penn State had a big influence on my life and got me started on my professional career in agriculture. I think it's important to give something back to the University and to offer others the same opportunities I have had." Bair, who grew up on a dairy farm in York Co., received his B.S. in dairy science in 1967 and his M.S. in 1970.

Bair says his work with CAAS is enjoyable in part because, "There is an active network of people who work in agriculture. A lot of people know each other. Graduates of the College are a close group because we have a common bond that goes beyond the fact that we happened to graduate from the same University. We work together daily in all phases of agriculture."

A personal goal, Bair says, is "to raise the level of awareness

that there is an active College of Agriculture Alumni Society. Any alumnus who is a member of the Penn State Alumni Association is automatically a member of the College's alumni society."

In addition to a newsletter that is mailed to members up to four times a year, CAAS maintains a presence at Ag Progress Days. There is an alumni booth, but there is also an Alumni Day, with the annual meeting being held at that time. Annually CAAS sponsors a tailgate party at the Ag Arena during the last football game of the season. In 1989, over 300 people participated in the tailgate. CAAS also has a booth at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

But CAAS does not serve just its members; part of its mission is to serve the students who will become the newest members as they graduate. To this end, CAAS is visible in many Ag Hill functions throughout the year.

At spring graduation, CAAS sponsors a luncheon for graduates and their families, with over 1,000 participating last year. CAAS supports the Ag Hill Festival Banquet, and sponsors an awards and scholarship program for students, faculty and alumni.

Another activity of CAAS, according to Bair, is to provide continuing financial support for the Pasto Agricultural Museum, which is now located at Rock Springs. They are investigating long term programs to showcase the important agricultural artifacts which are preserved there.

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Members of Penn State's College of Agriculture Alumni Society gathered recently on Ag Hill, University Park, to discuss the future agenda for agriculture and the role Penn State graduates will play. Members included: (left to right, bottom to top), Alan Bair, Lancaster, president; Sheila Miller, Womelsdorf, vice president; Senator Roger Madigan, Towanda, director; Russ Seward, Bellefonte, director; Karl Girton, Millersville, director; Paul McPherson, New Park, director; Keith Stevens, executive secretary; Warren Mathias, Hummelstown, director; John Ziegler, Stockmen's Club; Albert Barnett, Boswell, director; Paul Girton, Food Science Club; Andy Hipple, Mr. College of Agriculture; Roger Perl, Dairymen's Club; and Stanley Zahora, Conneaut Lake, director.

Directors not present for the photo include: Laura England, Warrington; Dr. Harold Harpster, University Park; Mee Cee House, Millerstown; Deiter Krieg, Litz; and Wayne Mortensen, Cromwell, CT.

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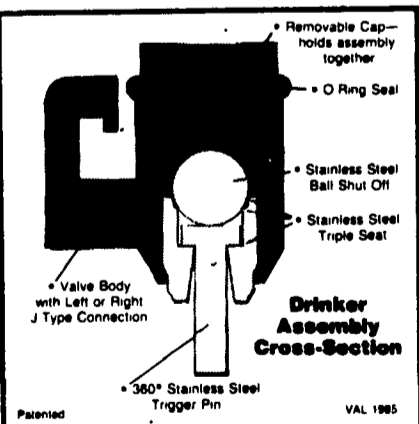


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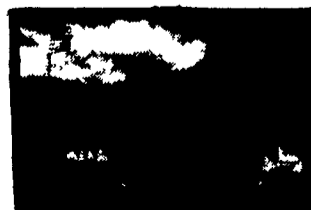


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