

Lancaster Farming

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Happy Thanksgiving!



Five-year-old James Martin thinks feeding corn to these capons and ducks is great fun, but the pleasure will soon end for these birds when they become somebody's Thanksgiving feast. Capon meat is tender, flavorful, and juicy and is often used for holiday feasting because it provides twice the breast meat of a roasting chicken. Turn to page B12 to read about the capon raising business of Vernon and Sue Martin. Photo by Lou Ann Good.



ADC Challenged To Face Future With Confidence At 74th Annual Meeting

LOU ANN GOOD

Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (LANCASTER CO.) — About 965 members were encouraged to face the future with confidence at Atlantic Dairy Cooperative's (ADC) 74th annual meeting held Thursday and Friday at the Lancaster Host Resort.

"ADC is the largest and most financially sound cooperative in the region," Dr. Paul Hand, gener-

al manager for Atlantic, told members. "We are facing the future with confidence."

Among a splash of yellow ribbons, Hand gave a passionate plea for unity among milk producers and commodity groups to change national policy to assist dairy farmers.

This year, Atlantic and other cooperatives struggled unsuccessfully to promote a two-tier pricing

system as a means to manage the nation's milk supply and to increase dairy farmer income.

"Such a system would reduce surpluses and bring Class I prices at free market levels well above prices recently experienced by the industry," said Hand.

"There was enough disunity from other milk producers and commodity groups to prevent the
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PFA President Keith Eckel, left, presents the Distinguished Service Award to E. Chet Heim, former lobbyist credited with establishing the current lobbying and legislative program within the organization.

PFA Meets, Sets Policy, Recognizes Dedication

VERNON ACHENBACH JR.

Lancaster Farming Staff

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — Representatives of members of the Pennsylvania Farmers Association (PFA) met this past week at Hershey Motor Lodge and Convention Center for its state convention.

The theme of the convention, "Together We're Making A Difference!" was emphasized through numerous statements about the benefits of being united, especially with the economy and farm prices being as low as they have.

The convention also reached strong emotional levels along the same theme of unity, loyalty and dedication, during its banquet when its first president and founder, and the man who founded its lobbying efforts were both presented with the PFA Distinguished Service Award, normally presented to one individual each year.

The PFA represents 23,049 farm families in 54 local associations and is affiliated with the

National Farm Bureau. While most states carry the words "farm bureau" in their own organization names, the PFA was named to avoid confusion with a long-defunct commercial business which was called the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

During the PFA annual convention, delegates from all of Pennsylvania's local (mostly county) organizations vote on issues each county group presented for discussion.
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Build Relationships, Hood Tells Farmers

ANDY ANDREWS

Lancaster Farming Staff

GUTHRIESVILLE (Chester Co.) — Dean Lamartine F. Hood remembered driving across Rt. 322 to give a speech to Chester Countians at the fire hall.

Along the way, he encountered the odor of freshly spread manure.

"I must tell you, for an old farm boy, it was wonderful," he said to the crowd of about 400 on Wednesday night at the Chester Co. Extension dinner meeting. "But I can imagine that for some it might be very difficult."

An increasing amount of city

dwellers have relocated to the countryside — right next to established area farms. This development pressure has driven some farmers out of farming.

Build relationships

But Hood, dean of Penn State's College of Agriculture Sciences, told the countians the time is right to "build relationships with those people who live next to our farms."

"Farmland is under enormous pressure in this county," he said. "It's declining. But you still have a significant number of high-quality areas of good farmland."

Hood called it a challenge for farmers to continue the kinds of traditional agricultural practices "when we have the tremendous pressures we are seeing from not only developing, but from simply having a much more dense population in the area."

Hood recalled speaking with a farmer recently on a trip to New York. The farmer frequently strives to build relationships with the neighbors who live close the farm. The farmer holds cookouts, provides manure for neighbor gardens, and "does a lot of things to
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Holiday Deadlines

The Lancaster Farming office will be closed Thursday, November 28 in observance of Thanksgiving. Deadlines for the November 30 issue are as follows:

• Mailbox Market Ads — Noon, Monday.

• Public Sale Ads — 5:00 p.m., Monday.

• General News — Noon, Wednesday.

• Classified Section C Ads — 5:00 p.m., Tuesday.

• All other Classified Ads — 9:00 a.m., Wednesday.



Lamartine F. Hood, dean of Penn State College of Agriculture Sciences, spoke at the Chester Co. Extension dinner meeting Wednesday night. Hood told the countians the time is right to "build relationships with those people who live next to our farms." Photo by Andy Andrews.