

Conservation District Celebrates 500th Meeting

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Lancaster Farming Staff

LANCASTER (Lancaster Co.) — It's official — the Lancaster Conservation District celebrated its 500th (yes, five *hundredth*) meeting, doing it in grand style Wednesday afternoon with a banquet at the Stock Yard Inn.

It has been nearly two decades since the first annual meeting, Feb. 3, 1953 at Penn Manor High School, with no refreshments. Even at the second meeting, held in February 1954 at the Lititz High School, the same thing — no funds, no refreshments.

But through years of cooperation with the county board of commissioners, the projects and purpose of the district lives on. And those former directors, officers, and county commissioners who served on the board from its inception were in attendance.

The county conservation movement was organized in the southern part of the county back in 1938. Although the district was officially formed until 1950, it wasn't until 1957 that the district office got the first county appropriations (of \$500). In the years since, the district has expanded and increased its scope in the county and region.

"From 1957 until today, the county commissioners have been very supportive of our efforts," said Amos Funk, member of the district's charter group of board members.

Terry Kauffman, vice president of the county commissioners, reaffirmed the county commitment to

the district, despite increasing cut-backs in appropriations from the state. "We're trying to be frugal in a tough year when we have at least \$4 million in deficiencies not coming from the state," he said. "We want to keep the programs fully funded, but we have to be more creative. We don't want to just raise taxes."

Kauffman asked the district board to review their program budgets to find ways to keep costs down, but assured them the commissioners will help them to ensure the continuation of district programs.

Don Robinson, of the district, spoke of ways of revamping the annual stormwater award to expand it and to show ways existing systems have been improved or to branch out to more candidates worthy of county recognition.

The Soil Conservation Service has compiled a record of the following better management practices implemented on county farms to date: cropland terraces (529 miles), grassed waterways (467 miles), pipe outlets (13 miles), diversions (130 miles), contour strips (101,830 acres), and ag waste storages (261 units).

The Lancaster Conservation District's part in the Chesapeake Bay Nutrient Management program has 157 farmers that have received a total of \$2,342,854, according to the district. The Pequea Millcreek project had \$730,000 to cost-share with farm cooperators.



Directors and guests celebrated the 500th meeting of the Lancaster Conservation District on Wednesday at the Stock Yard Inn. Seated, from left, Aaron Stauffer, Bob Wagner, and Jim Huber. Standing, Ken Depoe, Herb Myer, Don Robinson, and Amos Funk.

Tractors Lead Accident Statistics

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Farm tractors continue to be the primary cause of accidental death among farmers and farm workers in the Northeast and America's corn belt, according to a farm safety specialist in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

Sam Steel, extension project

associate in agricultural and biological engineering and program director for the Pennsylvania Agricultural Safety Council said that, tractor overturns account for a large portion of the accidental deaths on Pennsylvania farms.

Statistic's based on a 1989 Penn State survey indicate that about 70 percent of all tractor-related fatali-

ties involve a rollover. Another 25 percent involve extra riders and tractor operators falling off moving tractors.

"Tractor overturns are placed in two categories — side overturns and rear overturns," said Steel. "In a side overturn, which is most common, operators have a 50-50 chance of survival.

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From Lancaster Rt. 283 to The
722 Exit Turn Right Towards
East Petersburg, Make First
Right Onto Colebrook Rd.
First Farm On The Left

IN FREDERICK, MD.

THURS., NOVEMBER 12, 1992
10 AM TO 2 PM

AT: THE GLENN EAVES FARM
WOODSBORO, MD.
One Mile North Of Woodsboro
On Route 194, Turn Left
Onto Oak Hill Road

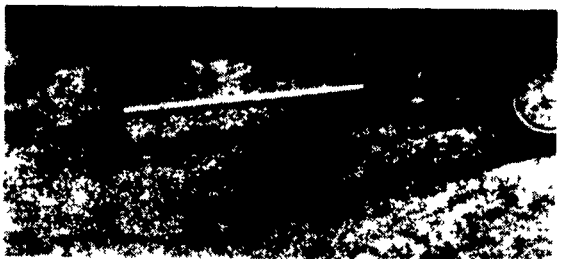
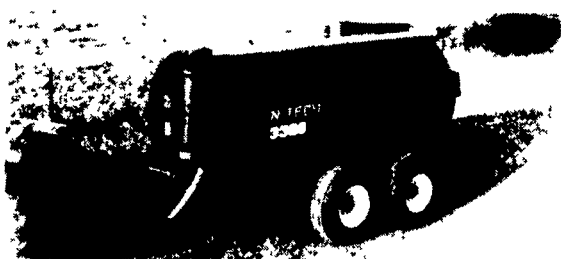
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