

# Pennsylvania County Agents Name Officers

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and president-elect prior to election as president.

Filson's leadership abilities have been recognized by the College administration as he has been called on many times to be involved in policy-making groups. His experience was broadened in 1990 by a two-week project in Guatemala. For his efforts to assist area dairy farmers during the drought of 1991, he was recognized by the county Farmer's Association as spokesman for agriculture.

Durst is an Extension agent specializing in dairy and manure management. His program area covers Montour, Columbia, Northumberland, Snyder and Union counties. He is also the County Extension Director for Montour County.

Durst served PACAA as its vice president in 1994. He received recognition recently for educational work in the area of nutrient management by his peers at the national association meeting in Casper, Wyoming as a national finalist in the Crop Production awards program and also from the farmers with whom he works at the Northumberland County Farm Bureau annual dinner.

Watts' Extension career began in 1980 in Cumberland County. From 1984 to 1987, she served as a computer specialist in Extension at Penn State University during which time all Extension offices

were equipped with computers and linked to the University through the PEN system.

Watts returned to Cumberland County in 1987 where she is responsible for education in the areas of livestock, farm management, farm safety and recycling. She has served the PACAA as the membership secretary from 1987 to 1991, treasurer in 1991, 1992 and 1994.

Bilik is an Extension agent specializing in consumer and commercial horticulture, as well as working with the 4-H horse programs. She began her career in Blair County in 1980 and expanded her area in 1992 to include Huntingdon County.

Most recently, Bilik chaired the PACAA Communication Committee which handled an awards program recognizing excellence by agents in various communication methods.

Bilik's horticultural program includes the recent development of a handicap garden. Her leadership brought together many different individuals and businesses to support this project.

Schurman, who serves as the 4-H coordinator in Indiana Coun-

ty, began her Extension career in 1977. During that time, county 4-H enrollment has nearly tripled. She has been innovative in delivering 4-H programs to an increasing audience. At the national association meeting held in Casper, Wyoming, Carol received the Search for Excellence award for her environmental day camp program.

Schurman has also been active in the state association of 4-H agents, having served that organization as vice president, president-elect and president. In 1986, Schurman was awarded the PACAA Achievement Award given to a top Extension Agent with less than 10 years on the job.

Larry Yager of Adams County will continue on the PACAA Board as past president. Having served the association as vice president, president-elect and president, the past three years, Yager's experience on the PACAA board will be an asset as he continues on the board for another year. At the annual meeting, Yager also received recognition for 30 years of membership.

Larry Yager has been recognized for his marketing expertise and

has been a national officer of the National Farmers Direct Marketing Association and the Pennsylvania Milk Juggers Association. Yager's experience includes terms of service in Swaziland, South Africa and Poland to teach marketing.

These Extension agents were inducted into office at the PACAA annual banquet on November 15 in State College.

The purposes of PACAA include providing an opportunity for professional development, maintaining a standard of excellence, recognizing distinguished service and the development of effective relationships among members and leaders of Extension clientele.

Through involvement in the state and national association, local Extension agents learn from their peers and bring ideas home to implement in their own coun-

ties to meet the needs of local citizens. This gives counties the benefit of the best educational program ideas in the nation.

PACAA's active members are involved in Extension education programs as diverse as forestry management, community economic development, urban horticulture and the economics of emu production. Honorary members include current and past state legislators, university presidents and media leaders.

Pennsylvania's association has been a national leader having provided more national officers than all but one other state. As recently as 1993, PACAA member, William Kelly of Westmoreland County, served as president of the national association. PACAA has a long and proud heritage of serving Pennsylvania.

For more information, contact Phil Durst (717) 275-3731.

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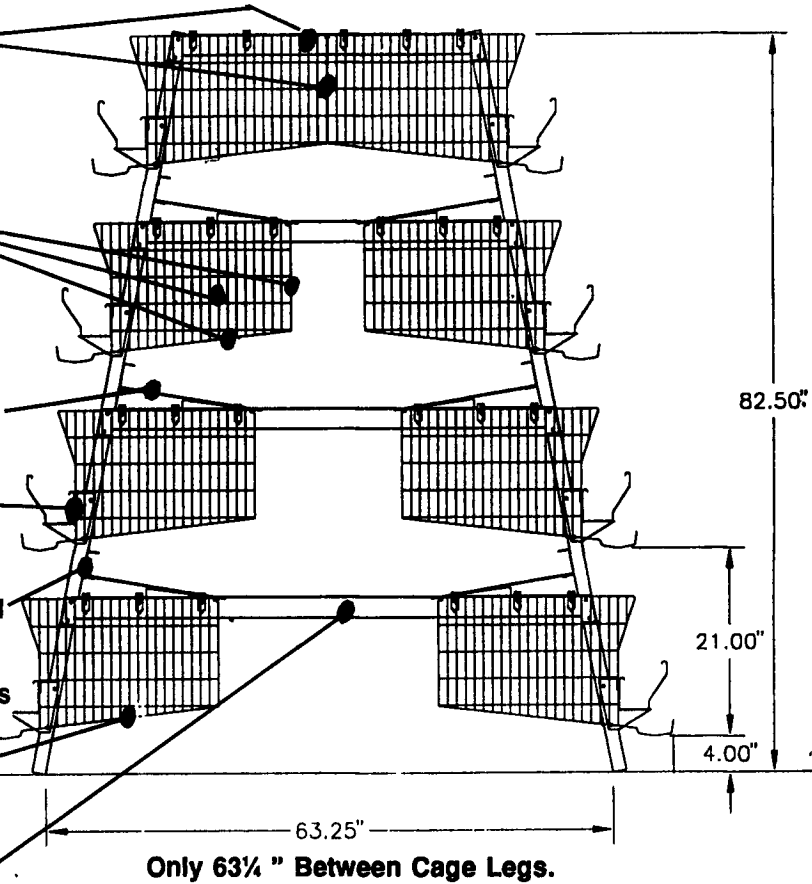
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