

**On Being a  
Farm Wife  
(and other  
hazards)**  
**Joyce Bupp**



With summer coming fast, lots of folks are planning ahead for their vacations.

Vacations are generally planned around things we like to do — even if it's just nothing for a day or two. Visiting family and friends, sightseeing, outdoor activities, sporting, educational and cultural events all sound like great vacation plans. But I would never have guessed the number one item at the top of a "things we like to do on vacation" statistical list I recently ran across: dining out.

While we like to eat, I can't remember a vacation for which dining out was the prime focus. But it did bring to mind some meals eaten out that became especially memorable. And I do mean meals eaten "out."

One particularly breathtaking evening of dining occurred in the beautiful mountains outside Sun Valley, Idaho, camping with our daughter and son-in-law. A particular treat for them had been sweet corn, purchased from a roadside farm stand earlier in the day and steamed in the husk over an open campfire. It was the first sweet corn they'd eaten in two years after leaving York County.

While they reveled in its delicious flavor, darkness fell and a gigantic, white moon crept up over the tall peak across a small stream. A truly wonderful memory of dining "out."

In a different part of Idaho, two years later, five of us in the extended family huddled around another campfire. As a gray jay flew in to snatch bits of bread we tossed, the sun poked through the tall pines growing at 8,000 feet to begin thawing the ice frozen to our breakfast table that 28-degree, July morning.

And, dining out by a roaring breakfast fire was a welcome alternative after a night of freezing in our sleeping bags, in tents. Warmed by the fire, we discovered that our stiff joints still worked.

Dining out was a genuine high point of a recent weekend visit with friends who live 100 miles west of us. While there are several routes which can be taken to their mountain farm, on pretty days we favor making a portion of the journey on Route 30, where it climbs, sky high, over Tuscarora Mountain.

At the highway's summit is a side trip to a perch on the mountain's sometimes jagged spine, on a rock outcropping called The Pulpit. Hawk watchers frequent this site and we've seen numerous birds of prey during our few stops, including a mature bald eagle which inspected us one breathtaking afternoon.

As has become custom for The Farmer and I on these occasional visits, time and weather allowing, we stopped at a nearby small market for sandwiches for dining out at the peak. Toting those on the short hike to the peak, along with a pair of field glasses, we soon discovered there would be lots of company during our short stay.

Parked wing-to-wing on the steep, grass-and-rock slope were 17 hang-gliders in cheery, neon colors. Clustered near the peak were their pilots and assorted assistants, some pacing impatiently, waiting for the stiff wind pouring over the peak to slow so they could get airborne.

During our half-hour vigil with the gusty wind, The Farmer had to remove his hat to keep it from blowing off his head and down the mountain and the hang-glider pil-

## Two Fair Officials Receive Executive Certification

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Two Lehigh Valley fair officials are designated as Certified Fair Executives by the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. Bonnie Charles Brosious, marketing director of The Allentown Fair, and Beverly Gruber, who serves in various capacities with four Pennsylvania fairs including The Schnecksville Fair, were awarded the distinction at the association's annual spring management conference hosted this year by The Arkansas State Fair.

To qualify for certification, candidates must have demonstrated extensive service to their individual fairs and the fair industry. The association selects only 12 recipients from more than 3,200 North American fairs each year. Martin H. Ritter, president of The Allentown Fair, was certified in 1987. Including Brosious and Gruber, there are now six Certified Fair Executives in Pennsylvania.

Brosious joined The Allentown Fair in 1982 as its public relations director. Over the years, she developed the fair's first marketing department. As its director, she is currently responsible for fair programming, buying talent, advertising, promotions and public, media and corporate sponsor relations.

ots never got to hang out under their gossamer wings. Maybe next time.

Looking back, those impromptu, informal and inexpensive meals, out, are more special in our memories than the little fancy "dining out" we've ever done.

We do enjoy dining. Out. Way out.



Bonnie C. Brosious



Beverly Gruber

Brosious is a frequent seminar leader at the international fair association's national and district meetings and has been a three-time judge of its annual communications awards. She has had an article about buying big-name talent published in the national touring magazine, Performance.

Brosious serves as secretary of The Lehigh Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau and on the board of The Whitehall Township Chamber of Commerce. She resides in Whitehall with her husband Carl and three children.

Gruber is currently serving as promotion manager for the Keystone International Livestock Exposition in Harrisburg, competitive exhibit manager for both the Pennsylvania Fair at Philadelphia Park and the Philadelphia County Fair and on the board of The Schnecksville Fair. Previously, she was on the board of the Venango County Fair in western Pennsylvania for 18 years.

Involved in agricultural fairs

most of her life, Gruber has exhibited, judged, volunteered and managed. She has visited nearly 150 North American fairs and does presentations on her study nationwide.

In her fourth year on the board of the international fair association, she is the representative for fairs in the northeastern United States and Canada. She also is on the board of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs and had served that organization as its secretary-treasurer from 1987-'93.

Gruber is the secretary of the Lehigh County Farm Bureau, a board member of the Pennsylvania Travel Council and the Pennsylvania Logo Sign Trust, a member of the Liberty Bell Chapter of the D.A.R. and Seipstown Grange, and the chairman of Pennsylvania Ag Republicans.

Gruber owns S.C.S. Management, a management-consultant firm. She and her husband Henry reside in the New Tripoli area.

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