

(Continued from Page A1)

world and make them more profitable than they have been historically.

Ridge said he had fulfilled his campaign promise to change DER, sighting the change DER will show on July 1 of this year. DER is now not to be a policeman to catch you when you make a mistake but to help you understand and comply with the law.

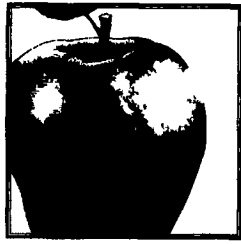
"Farmers are the best conservationists," Ridge said. "We need to bring a balance between protecting the environment and answering our economic capacity."

On the subject of state funding for Penn State College of Agriculture research and extension, Ridge said his administration realized that Penn State is a real resource for the entire Commonwealth, but no one gets everything he wants from the legislative and budget process.

"We have a good, working relationship with the University, and we will continue to build on that relationship," Ridge said. "In the situation in the state and federal level where resources are limited, we have to set target priorities. Families have to do this, business-

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PENNSSTATE



1995 College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society Annual Report



Gov. Tom Ridge, Dean Lamartine Hood, and Alumni President, Richard Hann at Ag Progress Days.

More than 25 years of service...

The College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society board directors, representing a broad spectrum of careers and interests as well as the geographic and age range of the College alumni, are very busy people who freely donate their time to service to their College and fellow alumni. On August 18, 1992, a year-long celebration of 25 years of CAAS began. Presidents who had served over the 25 years were honored, and a history booklet was compiled and published. In July, 1993, the National Agricultural Alumni and Development Association meetings were held at Penn State sponsored by CAAS. This year, May 1995, CAAS participated in the National Service Week project. A week-long food drive was held at the Creamery and netted 90 pounds of food for the local Food Bank. CAAS continues to carry out its mission of fostering fellowship among alumni, faculty, students, and friends of the College of Agricultural Sciences through various projects and events. CAAS committees supported many varied activities this past year, 1994-95.

The **Executive Committee** is responsible for budget and finance, long range planning, and nominations, as well as director training, evaluation of CAAS activities, and improving the image of agriculture. A new budget format was put into place beginning July 1, 1994; the long range plan was revised for the next five years, 1994-1999, and a diverse slate of nominees for board directors was presented. The long range plan and new budget format continue to serve the needs of the Board of Directors.

The **Activities Committee** has a mission of fostering fellowship, maintaining an alumni organization, and preserving the unique experience of the College through activities and assumed the duties of the former program committee. The committee sponsored Alumni Day at Ag Progress Days including staffing of the Alumni Pavilion, the graduation luncheon with 760 attending, and the annual tailgate with attendance of 411, bratwurst made by John Ziegler, and the band Bavarian Stompers. A new activity, a student/alumni event, is being planned for the future.

The **Alumni Committee** provides means for alumni to support the College and participate in activities such as Affiliate Group establishment, provides means for alumni to be active in College affairs and receive information through communications such as CONNECTIONS and a promotional piece (CAAS Membership Benefits brochure), assures the continuation of the society through membership development, fosters fellowship and provides a means for alumni to be active through networking; and maintains an alumni organization and fosters fellowship through membership recruitment and reunions. The committee helped advertise and support the activities of the six College affiliate program groups (listed later in report) and plans to help establish one new affiliate group next year. The committee previously developed a plan to enhance communication and to save money. Three yearly mailings are currently being done: a spring newsletter issue of CONNECTIONS, a ballot and APD luncheon invitation issue (summer), and an annual report and tailgate invitation issue (fall), saving the cost of two mailings per year. Support and assistance was provided for Penn State Alumni Association reunions. A new activity was sponsored this year--a food drive at the Creamery during National Service Week, May 15 through May 21. About 90 pounds of food was collected for the Interfaith Food Bank.

The **Students Committee** is responsible for supporting student programs and Career Day, recognizing alumni, faculty, and friends, providing the Outstanding Advisor Award, encouraging excellence in education by providing scholarships for students, recognizing outstanding students by awarding Lion statues at graduations, supporting the programs and activities of the College by recruiting students to the College (mainly through NAC), and supporting programs and student activities through students internship awards and coffee house. Eleven students were awarded \$500 for outstanding internships. Career Day received financial support of \$500. Paul Shellenberger received a brass plate and \$1000 honorarium as the Outstanding Academic Advisor, and five students were recognized as outstanding students at various program commencements. The College Agricultural Sciences Alumni Scholarship Endowment yielded \$6,670 to sponsor a total of eight scholarships for the 1994-95 academic year.

The **Pasto Museum Committee** has the mission of preserving experience with the College and agriculture through support of the agriculture museum. Guides are trained and provided for Ag Progress Days and tours of the museum. A fund-raising subcommittee was established for the purpose of funding the endowment and building fund. As of June 1995, the endowment contained \$24,357.35, and the building fund contained \$5,610.

Affiliate program groups provided a way for Penn State alumni and friends to get together and enrich their respective departments and the University. Affiliate groups and their representative(s) to the CAAS Board include: **Ag and Extension Ed**, Don and Betty Jane Mincemoyer; **Dairymen's**, Mary Ann Keith; **Food Science**, Larry Campbell; **School of Forest Resources**, Albert Schutz and Glenn Haney; **Horticulture**, Tracey Harpster; and **Stockmen's**, John Ziegler. These groups provide additional avenues for contact with a particular academic, professional, or extracurricular activity, unit, or program.

*This report will be included in the tailgate invitation issue of CONNECTIONS as a cost-saving measure. Please watch for this issue in late October.

Penn State Alumni Hold 1995 Meeting

EVERETT NEWSWANGER
Managing Editor

ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.) — The Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences alumni day luncheon at Ag Progress Days was well-attended with opportunity to "catch up with each other." The event was staged in the special events building. Karl Girton, president, conducted the business meeting and presented the alumni society's report. (See full report as a sidebar to this story.) The incoming president, Richard Hann, presented a lion statue with an inscription to Girton for his service to the society.

Dean Lamartine Hood gave the college status report and said Penn State is what the land grant tradition is all about: teaching, research and public service. Hood said the public did not understand this system, and the land grant colleges of agriculture across the nation faced some real challenges.

Research is the generator of new knowledge and the foundation of "all we do in the college." Many education programs are intertwined with research efforts.

"What makes the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences unique is that research and extension education and resident education is really integrated into a single effort to develop information and transfer that information to the people," Hood said.

The faculty and extension staff initiated \$20 million income for the college for research. Private research funds have increased by 57 percent in the last six years. Of course, these funds come with a set of expectations, and these funds are influencing the research emphasis of the college. While the college has a large number of research programs, the flexibility is not as great as in earlier times.

Hood said the new four-year plan of work for extension has just been completed. The stated goals include:

- To strengthen families, enhance children and youth development and build community and invest in human capital.

development and build community and invest in human capital.

- To foster development and maintenance of productive, profitable and competitive businesses and sustainable food systems in our changing economic climate with a long-term commitment to production agriculture.

- To develop the long-term vitality of natural resources and natural environment.

- To help people to become involved in the public arena.

Extension has a significant role in urban area. A new Penn State office has just been opened on Market Street in Philadelphia where the extension office has been for the last eight years. Of the 117,000 4-Hers in Pennsylvania, 12,000 are in Philadelphia and 6,000 are in Pittsburgh.

Resident education enrollment in the college increased 12 percent in the 1994-1995 year. That makes a 60 percent increase since 1989. "Paid accepts" for the students coming on campus this fall indicate another 10 percent increase in student enrollment this year. The 3,000 students in the college of ag makes Penn State the largest in the Big 10 and sixth in the nation.

The college has the best facilities that include a new poultry and research center, new green houses and a new dairy research facility. And unlike most other colleges, these facilities are accessible to students on campus.

The financial situation for the college is not good with the same funding from federal and state sources at 1990 levels. Hood said the low funding is very difficult and unfortunately overshadows the agenda of many people at the college.

For the alumni, Hood said the challenge was to continue to help recruit students and help consumers to understand the contribution the college makes to their well being.

"We need to put the institutional good ahead of personal benefit," Hood said. "I am bullish about our future, and I hope you share that enthusiasm."