

Rhea Seminar Examines Industry's Future

BIRD IN HAND (Lancaster Co.) — The National Rhea Seminar board of directors met recently here at the Plain and Fancy Restaurant.

Approximately 60 people attended the meeting, including breeders and prospective breeders.

Speakers at the meeting included John Poehling, president of the national association, who spoke on the future of the rhea industry. The USDA recently approved rhea products.

Cecil Ward, vice president of the national association from Ten-

nessee, spoke on the marketing aspects of the rhea, including how to market the eggshells and other products, including rhea oil, meat, and leather.

Ken Hoyt, board member from Oklahoma, discussed the importance of developing and maintaining the best possible herd and his theories on genetics and raising big, healthy birds for processing. Hoyt has his own cosmetic line with rhea oil and leather goods. He also sells his own brand of rhea jerky sticks, summer sausage, and ham.

Donna Smith discussed processing in Pennsylvania. Smith is from Sharon and is now processing birds. She also is selling the meat and is involved in marketing to grocery stores and restaurants.

Wayne Waggoner from Biglerville discussed how to promote your own birds and products and the importance of supporting the business by using the products and joining an organization.

Several area vendors were also present at the show. Donations for the raffle and silent auction for rhea research came from various area organizations.

For more information on the association, contact Ron Grove at Nan-Jac Farm in York County, (717) 244-6571 or Vicki Grove in Lancaster County, (717) 284-2551.



Recently the Rhea board of directors meeting was held in Bird In Hand. From left, Cecil Ward, vice president of the national association and Nancy and Ron Grove, Nan-Jac Farm, Red Lion.

NFO Convention Dec. 4-7

AMES, Iowa — On its 40th anniversary, the National Farmers Organization's national convention is coming to Madison, Wis., capital city of "America's Dairyland."

"It's appropriate that this landmark anniversary convention be held in a state where support for the National Farmers Organization has always been so strong," said Steve Halloran, National Farmers president. "It will be easier for many of our members to attend and help celebrate this milestone."

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman will address the convention delegates Tuesday morning, Dec. 5.

Focal point of the convention will be the election for national president and vice president. Three candidates have announced

their intentions to seek the presidency. They are Halloran, Hastings, Neb., who is seeking his second and final term; John Garland, vice president, Dale, Ind., and Gene Paul, Delavan, Minn., director of dairy operations.

Two candidates have announced their intentions to seek the vice presidency. They are William A. "Bill" Goettemoeller, national director, Versailles, Ohio,

and Paul Olson, national director, Taylor, Wis. The election will be held Thursday, Dec. 7.

The public information meeting will kick off the convention on Monday evening. The communications department will demon-

strate National Farmers' new home page on the Internet. A panel discussion on the topic "How will agriculture communicate in the year 2010?" will follow the Internet demonstration.

Panelists include Gene Johnston, managing editor of Success-

ful Farming magazine; Roger Olson, executive director, National Association of Farm Broadcasters; Matt Joyce, vice president, farm business services, Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, and Stacy Crull, former Wisconsin FFA vice president.

Tobacco Farmers: We will be receiving tobacco Mon.-Fri. 7am - 3:30pm

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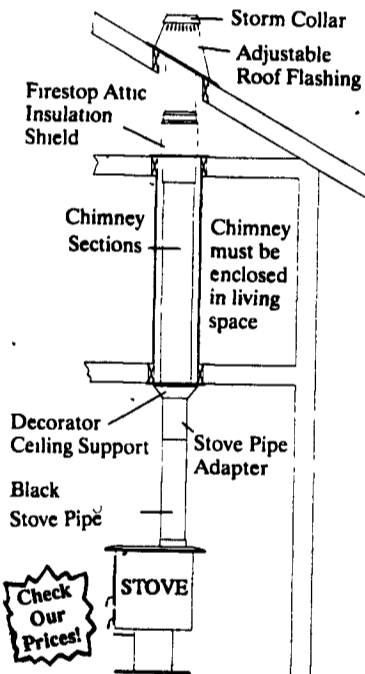
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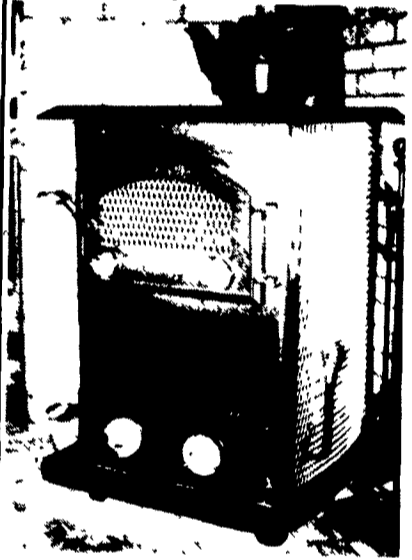
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