

PennAg To Consider Opening Council, Merger With PAPA

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dent groups.

The details of the concept are to be worked out by the different groups that may wish to form an alliance or merger with PennAg, but the reality of representation of the state's agribusinesses is that each small faction can no longer afford to stand alone when it comes to creating effective public education programs or when campaigning for legislative reforms.

The main issue is that industry groups are finding themselves representing fewer and fewer entities as the businesses themselves merge or consolidate.

According to Brubaker, there is a growing consensus that there would be a great benefit to the entire agribusiness industry in the state if an agribusiness council structure were to be set up so that each different association would be represented and policy positions and educational information spread from a central location.

Brubaker said that toward this end there have been seminal discussions of a merger between PennAg and the Pennsylvania Poultry Federation.

In a late August letter to members, Brubaker stated, "It is anticipated that other groups may want to join with us to strengthen the

voice of agribusiness in our state, and to gain some economies of scale."

That is the concept, in a nutshell. To help make it a possibility, the PennAg members are to vote on proposed changes to its bylaws.

As it is, the PennAg bylaws provide for a "past presidents' council" to help guide the association.

The proposed amendment to the bylaws would change that to be an "industry council."

Also proposed are sections that would detail formation of the council, the purpose of the council, the self-determination of organization of the council, and council representation on the PennAg board of directors.

In other words, PennAg would continue to exist as it is, but a council would be formed from representatives of the different segments of the agribusiness industry (that with or without a current association).

The council would serve as a central focal point for agribusiness policy formation and for contact with legislators, possibly news media, and other outside groups.

In effect the council would become the main voice of agribusiness in the state.

With 430 active members, PennAg is the largest agribusiness

association in Pennsylvania. However, there are about 100 different agribusiness associations within the state, according to Dave Brubaker, executive vice president of PennAg.

Brubaker said this week that each of the associations which are specific to a segment of the spectrum of agribusiness at one time had enough members and money to be completely independent and effective.

However, most segments of agribusiness have undergone mergers and consolidations. That has

caused a diminished strength by each independent group to conduct effective public educational programs and also to lobby for beneficial legislation.

"One (of the reasons for the proposal) is influence," Brubaker said. "Much of agriculture is divided into (many specialized segments). One group with larger membership has more influence.

"Also, there are economies of scale," Brubaker said. "Each group has overhead costs and other expenses, publications. Hopefully, we can coordinate and get the most

for the dollar.

"We're in a consolidating industry," he said, "and we need to keep numbers up and not keep hammering people with increases in dues."

According to Brubaker, a new organization structure, with the industry council, can be structured in a way that each component can have a reasonable amount of autonomy.

As far as a merger with PAPA, Brubaker said, "I've been with PAPA since it was established and we're almost always on the same side of an issue anyway."

Youth Shows Reported At Maryland State Fair

LOIS SZYMANSKI
Maryland Correspondent

TIMONIUM, Md. — During the first half of the Maryland State Fair, Cow Palace housed 4-H and FFA dairy and beef cattle. During the second half of the 10-day affair open exhibitors moved into the barns. 4-H and FFA exhibitors from all across the state of Maryland brought the best of their stock to show during the last week of August. For many, the stock they raise is more than just a project. It is training for a future, and the Maryland State Fair is a great gauge to measure their growing successes, and to find out what areas still need improvement.

The six breeds of dairy cattle the youth exhibited included, Holstein, Ayrshire, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, Brown Swiss and Jersey. After careful evaluation of the Grand Champion in each breed category, a Supreme Dairy Champion was chosen.

Senior exhibitor, Donovan Hollingsworth of Queen Annes County impressed the crowds and the judges as well with his Grand Champion Holstein cow, a junior three-year-old. The cow, Tri Dee Skybuck Charcoal also exhibited in the 1996 Holstein Futurity on Monday, September 1, finishing in fifth place.

The Reserve Grand Champion of the Holstein Show, and also the Total performance winner and the Best Udder and Best Bred and Owned in Show was the senior dry cow, Ehrhardt Astro Jet-ET, owned and exhibited by Kevin Ehrhardt of Baltimore County.

The Grand Champion Ayrshire, Maple Dell Soldiers Aur, was the senior two-year-old cow, out of Maple Dell Rebels All and sired by Maple Dell Soldiers. She is owned by Melissa Patrick of Howard County. The Reserve Champion Ayrshire, owned by Mark Creek of Howard County was an aged cow, (4 years old or older), called Palmyra Comet Blush. She was also the Best Bred and Owned in the show.

The Grand Champion Guernsey

was Gr-Dix Lee Smokey Whiskey, a senior 2-year-old, owned and exhibited by Katie Dixon of Kent County. According to Katie's Dad, the cow was one bred and owned by Katie on their farm, Dix Lee Farm. The Reserve Champion Guernsey was aged cow, Walnut Ridge Frank Maggie, owned and exhibited by Amber Myers of Frederick County.

The Grand Champion Milking Shorthorn, owned and exhibited by Sherry Albaugh of Frederick County, was a junior three-year-old cow called Horizon Cavilier Elsie. The Reserve Champion Milking Shorthorn was also the Best Bred and Owned of show. Owned and exhibited by Adam Harvey, Adams Elegant Kathy was the champion junior two-year-old cow.

The Grand Champion Brown Swiss, owned and exhibited by Aimee Smith of Frederick County, was her senior champion cow, Hoosier Knoll Mallet. The Reserve Champion cow, also owned by Aimee Smith, and also the Total Performance winner, was the senior class reserve cow, Towpath Pretus Fran. Aimee Smith's junior two-year-old, Dublin Hills JM Juice took the award for Best Bred and Owned in the Brown Swiss show.

The Jersey Show Grand Champion cow was owned and exhib-

ited by Emily Birch of Harford County. It was her aged cow, Cowbell Juno Dodie. The Reserve Champion Jersey was also the Best Bred and Owned Cow of show. The junior three-year-old, Jea Glen Cannoneer Brooke was owned and exhibited by Brandy Bussard of Frederick County.

The beef show held on Monday, August 26, featured judge Dr. Scott Schaake from Kansas State University. Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn, Simmental, and Crossbred or other breed steer were shown. The Grand Champion steer was owned by Carroll County 4-H'er, Brett Fogle. At the Wednesday night livestock auction the 1,240-pound steer was sold to Stop Corporation for \$3 per pound. The Reserve Grand Champion Steer was owned by Ryan Orndorff of Howard County. At auction the 1,205-pound steer brought \$2 per pound and was sold to Mid Atlantic Developing Corporation.

Also at auction were the Grand Champion swine, owned and raised by Erin Chaudry of Howard County. Her 245-lb. pig was sold to Mullinix Grain and Fertilizer for \$3 per pound. The Reserve Champion Swine, a 240-pound pig owned by Leroy Schaeffer of Carroll County, sold to Hatfield Meats for \$1.50 per pound.

Convention Heads West

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — For the first time in 10 years, the annual meeting of the state's leading farm and rural advocacy group, the New York Farm Bureau, will take place in Rochester.

Slated for December 2-5 at the Holiday Inn-Genesee Plaza in downtown Rochester, the New York Farm Bureau convention will feature the adoption of the organization's 1997 legislative policy, a host of interesting speakers, local farm tours, entertainment, and a reception featuring food products grown in western New

York.

At the convention, the organization will also name its Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award winner, choose its Young Farmer Achievement Award winner, and honor the county farm bureaus that have demonstrated superior performance in membership and program areas.

For more information on attending the NYFB state convention, call Pam Rafferty, NYFB Organization Dept., at (518) 431-5606 or contact your county Farm Bureau president.

Some markets
not available due
to the holiday

Kutztown Produce Auction

Fleetwood, PA

August 30-September 5

Hay and Straw at 9:00 a.m. Sat. followed by produce

Report Supplied by Auction

APPLES: 3.50-8.00 ½ BU., 12.00 BU.
BASIL: 1.00.
BEANS: GREEN 3.00-7.00; YELLOW 1.25-5.00; LIMA 7.00-10.00.
BLACKBERRIES: 6.00 12 PINT FLAT.
BROCCOLI: 4.50-7.00 BU., 1.50-4.00 BU.
CABBAGE: .20 HEAD, 2.50-5.50 BAG, 2.00-3.25 BOX.
CANTALOPES: .35-1.15 EACH.
CAULIFLOWER: .70-.85 EACH.
CIDER: 1.25 GAL.
CUCUMBERS: 1.00-5.50 ½ BU., 3.50-10.00 BU.
EGGPLANT: 2.25-4.50 ½ BU., 1.00-2.50 BU.
EGGS: .80-1.05 DOZ.
GARLIC: 1.40-1.50.
GRAPES: 4.50-7.00.
HONEYDEW: .70-1.00 EACH.
NECTARINES: 3.00-11.00 ½ BU.
ONIONS: 3.75-7.00 ½ BU.
PEACHES: 4.00-11.50 ½ BU.
PEARS: 2.00-9.00.
PEPPERS: 1.75-7.50 ½ BU., 3.00-14.00 BU.; HOT 3.00-5.00 ½ BU., 10.50-11.00 FLAT.
PICKLES: 1.00-8.00 ½ BU.

PLUMS: 4.00-17.00 8 QT. FLAT, 23.00 ½ BU.
POTATOES: 2.50 FLAT, 2.50-5.50 50 LBS.
PUMPKINS: NECK .25-1.30 EACH.
RASPBERRIES: RED 4.50-16.00.
RED BEETS: 2.00-6.50 ½ BU.
RHUBARB: .15 BUNCH.
SQUASH: ACORN 4.50-5.00; BUTTERNUT 2.00-3.50 ½ BU.
SWEET CORN: .60-2.40 DOZ.
TOMATOES: CHERRY 1.50-4.50 FLAT; YELLOW 2.50-5.00, 1.50-13.50 25 LBS. CASE.
WATERMELON: .30-2.75 EACH; SEEDLESS .35-1.20; YELLOW .30.
ZUCCHINI: 1.50-6.00.
FLOWERS: BOUQUETS .50-1.60; CUT FLOWERS 7.00; GLADIOLI 10-40 EACH; MUMS 1.10-2.50 POT; PERENNIALS 3.00.
ORNAMENTALS: GOURDS 2.00-9.00 ½ BU.; GOOSE GOURDS, SNAKE, BIRD 90-1.10; INDIAN CORN .25-.75, FINGERS .25-.75.
PUMPKINS: FACE SM. .20-.25, LARGE .60-1.10, GIANT 20.00, JACK-BE-LITTLES 3.50-9.00 ½ BU., SHRUBS: .75-1.50; ARBORVITAE 5.00-5.25; JUNIPERS 1.00-8.00.
TREES: .50.
SALE DAY ARE MON., TUES., THURS., FRI., AND SAT. AT 9 A.M. SATURDAY HAY, STRAW AND PRODUCE SALE.
TRUCKLOAD PUMPKIN SALE 10 A.M. EVERY AUCTION DAY.

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