



Those honored for preserving land include from left, back row, Tom and Lillie Kee-see, Glenn Ralling, and Dick Witmer. Front, from left, are Paul and Irene Helsey and Donna and Bob Kreider. Photo by Suzette Wenger.

## Lancaster Farmland Trust Marks 4,000 Acres Preserved

WILLOW VALLEY (Lancaster Co.) — Lancaster Farmland Trust marked its eighth year with honoring seven more benefactors who have committed their individual farms for preservation.

In just eight years, the trust has preserved 60 farms totaling nearly 4,000 acres, Tom Stouffer, the trust's executive director, said at the annual meeting held Nov. 1 at Willow Valley's Palm Court.

More than 300 members and friends of the trust attended the dinner where awards were presented to those enabling the preservation of farmland and where funds were raised through a silent auction.

The seven families who have recently donated easements on their farms include Richard H. Witmer Foundation, 77 acres; Charles W. Shoff, 73 acres; C. Dale and Cynthia Bollinger, 30 acres East Drumore; Conrad Nelson, 72 acres; Tim Martin and Christine Janouschek, 35 acres Manheim Township; Levi Ober, 51 acres in West Donegal Township; and Robert and Donna Kreider, 41 acres in Drumore Township.

Distinguished service awards were presented to outgoing board members George C. Delp and Dorothy L. Lyet for their service on the board.

A special presentation by the Earl Township Farmland Preservation Trust was made when it donated \$2,000 to the trust to continue its preservation efforts.

Youth awards were given to representatives from 4-H and from FFA, who also spoke on the importance of preserving agricultural land for future generations. These included Jimmy Mullen of Peach Bottom, Amy Becker of Manheim, and Richie Bollinger of Ephrata.

Daniel Sweigart received the Distinguished Donor Award, for his substantial monetary gift to the trust this past year.

Officers and board members elected at the meeting include Phyllis Whitesell, president; Ste-

phen M. Kraybill, vice president, Dr. John Schwartz, secretary, and Paul Whipple, treasurer.

New board members elected to three-year terms are Lee Dmitzak, Lucinda Hampton, Earl Horton, Rebecca Huyard, and Phil Kimmel.

Board members elected to one-year terms are Jay Clark, Jim Shirk, and Gini Wagner. Re-elected to a two-year term is John

Saeger.

Lancaster Farmland Trust is a private, non-governmental organization actively working to preserve farmland in Lancaster County. It is committed to supporting farmers who are good stewards of the land to encourage the growth of the agriculture industry, recognizing that the farm heritage has enriched the lives of all citizens.

## Insects Seek Indoor Shelter

COLLEGEVILLE (Montgomery Co.) — The approach of winter signals hibernation for many insects, but unfortunately, not all insects hibernate outdoors. Two insects, the boxelder bug and the multicolored Asian lady beetle (ladybug) are commonly found entering homes as the weather cools.

The boxelder bug is an oval-shaped, ½ inch long insect with black and red-striped markings. As the name suggests, the insect is partial to boxelder trees, but it can be found feeding on ash, maple, apple or cherry trees. It does very little damage to the trees, but becomes a nuisance when it enters the house.

Multicolored Asian lady beetles are oval, convex, ¼ inch long red with black spots and are commonly called ladybugs. Lady beetles are usually found congregating in groups on rocks or logs where sunlight is present. These are beneficial insects which feed on other insects, especially harmful aphids!

Both of these insects hibernate in the fall. They seek a warm, sunny spot to hibernate, and many times this means the south side of your house. If there are cracks

around the windows and doors, boxelder bugs or multicolored Asian lady beetles may enter your home in search of a warm, protected spot. Both are harmless, but can create a nuisance as they enter cupboards, clothes or furniture. When this occurs, the best thing to do is scoop up the lady beetles and send them back outside. Boxelder bugs can be either scooped or vacuumed up. Multicolored Asian lady beetles should not be vacuumed or destroyed as they are a beneficial insect.

Prevention is the best method of getting rid of these indoor pests. Cracks around windows, doors, siding, utility pipes, behind chimneys and underneath the wood fascia and other openings should be sealed with good quality silicone or silicone-latex caulk. Damaged screens on doors and windows should be repaired or replaced. Attics, fireplaces, chimneys, and exhaust vents should be covered with number 20 (or smaller) screen mesh.

If you would like more information on either the boxelder bug or the multicolored Asian lady beetle, contact the Montgomery County Cooperative Extension office at (610) 489-4315.

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