

**ED KONCLE**  
**Farm Seed Sales Manager**  
**P.L. Rohrer & Bro.**  
 Allow me to introduce myself. I'm Ed Koncle, president of the Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council (PFGC)

A native of Lebanon County, my career has been devoted to serving the farming community, a vocation I have thoroughly enjoyed for more than 40 years. I am the farm seed sales manager for P.L. Rohrer & Bro., Inc., Smoketown.

I am thrilled and honored to have been elected as this year's PFGC president, and I anticipate exciting times ahead not only for the council but our industry as well.

Our mission is "industry, farmers, scientists – working together toward

a sounder forage program." We continue to reap the benefits provided by industry's many improvements in alfalfas, ryes, forage soybeans, etc. We've experienced the breakthroughs of university and USDA scientists. Equally important is the opportunity to see these new products and initiatives at work on your farms.

I encourage our farmers to work with suppliers, crop consultants, and county agents to host a field day or share your knowledge and experience at a crop meeting. I also suggest planting some test plots or, if you are a grazer or thinking about grazing, take in some pasture walks this season. Your farms provide a valuable testing ground, and we can all learn from you.

I truly believe that the keys to our success are shared information, cooperative spirit, and join effort.

Help us celebrate our 40 years of success by attending the PFGC 40th Anniversary Celebration, Wednesday, Aug. 16, at Wayne Harpster's Evergreen Farm. Enjoy a great program, delicious food, and the chance to see old friends and meet new

ones.

Also, help us become a stronger organization by becoming an active member. Our future depends on you.

I welcome your input. If you would like more information or have questions, contact me by phone (717) 299-2571 or be email at PL\_Rohrer@compuserve.com.

**Current PFBC Officers And Board**

The following is a list of the current officers and board of directors of the PFGC. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions on how the PFGC could serve you better, please contact one of these people.

	<u>Officers</u>	
President	Ed Koncle	(717) 299-2571
President Elect		
Secretary-Treas.	Richard Hann	(717) 520-2349
Exec. Vice Pres.	Marvin Hall	(814) 863-1019

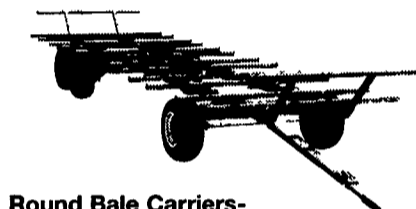
Board of Directors

<u>Producer</u>	
Edgar Rits*	(717) 734-3745
John Pergosky	(610) 298-2870
Jihn Thompson	(412) 533-3282
<u>Public</u>	
Craig Williams*	(717) 724-9120
Matt Sanderson	(814) 865-1067
Duane Pysker	(717) 237-2221
<u>Industry</u>	
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Richard Adams	(717) 355-3655
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\* last year of current term

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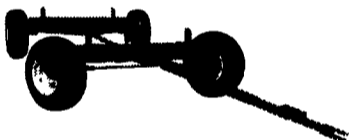
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**PFGC Ahead Of Its Time**

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) – Today, organizations across the world are restructuring how they do business by including consumers of "stakeholders" in the decision-making process.

National funding agencies (USDA, NSF, NIH) are now requiring the involvement of consumers as a prerequisite for research funding.

The Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council was ahead of its time because it has always had farmers as members and farmers have always had equal representation on the PFGC board of directors, as do industry and scientific components of the membership.

Inclusion of farmers in the organization has always been a key strength of the PFGC. Farmers played a key role in the formation of the organization in 1960 by assisting with writing the organiza-

tion's constitution and by-laws. The by-laws require that the PFGC's leadership be composed of farmers, industry, and scientist (educators). This is still true today, as farmers constitute one-third of the PFGC board of directors.

While other organizations are scrambling to build bridges and networks with their "stake-holders," the PFGC has had them as integral components since its formation 40 years ago.

To recognize this proud 40-year history, the PFGC is planning a 40th Anniversary celebration on Wednesday, Aug. 16 at Evergreen Farms covered bridge near Seven Stars, Pennsylvania. Mark that date on your calendar and make plans to attend.

For more information about the PFGC and its many programs, including the 40th Anniversary celebration, contact, Richard Hann at (717) 520-2349.

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