

What Is The Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association?

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*Food And Family
Features Editor*

ELYSBURG (Northumberland Co.) — The Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association (PAA) was formed more than 50 years ago to strengthen the auction market.

The purpose is to speak with one voice to the auctioneer industry across Pennsylvania, to the public, and to government agencies. The PAA also offers tools to help auctioneers to make sound and profitable decisions.

The executive committee includes James A. Clayton, president; Jay Ziegler, president-elect; Harry Bachman, vice president; and Jerry Schwenk, treasurer.

Annual dues are \$75.

Bachman believes the cost is well worth it. He said, "PAA conventions and seminars offer learning experiences. It's a good place to mingle with other auctioneers all over the state. There is no better

place to ask (auctioneers): how did you handle this? Or to hear first-hand experiences about what works and what doesn't work for successful auctioneering."

After serving as vice president, Bachman will serve as president-elect and then as president of PAA in 2005. That's the same year the National Convention will be conducted in Pittsburgh, in July.

More than 1,000 people generally attend the annual convention, which runs one week.

PAA provides continuing education credits for licensing in other states and Auction Marketing Institute certification.

Educational seminars and opportunities for awards are available to members who participate in bid-calling contests, advertising contests, and a Hall of Fame awards program.

According to Bachman, six chapters make up the PAA. Each chapter sends a director or two to board meetings to help plan conventions and conduct general business.

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