

## In This Issue

- Russell Redding
- Spring Meeting
- Soil Quality Meeting
- From the State
- Board of Directors

**Brian Davis**  
President 717-528-4485

**Debra Stock - Secretary**  
/Treasurer- 717-624-2592

**Sally Scholle First Vice -**  
President 717-359-9472

**Earl Stock Second Vice-**  
President 717-476-5920

**Brock Widerman**  
717-752-5402

**Robert Niner**  
717-334-1937

**Bob Clowney**  
717-334-7269

**Frank Penning**  
717-465-8115

**Gene Moose**  
717-334-5684

**Amy Welker**  
717-580-0562

**Suzanne Shea**  
717-321-6514

**District 9 Director**

**Kevin Mountz**  
717-377-0297

**ROD Ken Sechrist**  
717-409-9170

## Local News First!

### Adams County Activity <sup>□</sup>

Local farmers working together

Welcome New Members: John Selter, Ben Mearns, Ivan Fisher, Tim Phlegar and Isaac Miller.

## ***Congratulations!***

Congratulation to our own Adams Countian, Secretary of Agricultural, Russell Redding for the Distinguished Service To Agriculture Award during the PFB Annual meeting. This was well received with Secretary Redding receiving two standing ovations.



## **Spring Meeting**

The Spring Meeting this year will be held at **The Farmhouse Restaurant**, 75 Cunningham Rd., Gettysburg, PA. 17325. On Thursday, **April 3, 2025**, starting at 6:00 pm. This is a buffet style dinner. Cost for the dinner will be \$20.00 per person. RSVP to [edstock1005@gmail.com](mailto:edstock1005@gmail.com) or 717-476-5921 by **March 27, 2025**

## Calendar of Events

### January

- 1 – Happy New Year's
- 2 – Monthly Meeting
- 4 -11 – PA Farm Show
- 7-9 – Keystone Farm Show
- 20 – Martin Lither King Day
- 24 –29** AFBF Annual Meeting
- 28-29** – Mid-Atlantic Fruit & Vegetable Convention

### February

- 2-** Groundhog Day
- 6-** Monthly Meeting
- 14** – Valentine's Day
- 17** – Presidents' Day
- 21** -YAP/Ag promo Conference

### March

- 3-** Region 3 Farm Bureau Days
- 4- Fastnacht Day
- 5- Ash Wednesday
- 14 – Farmers Care
- 17- St. Patrick's Day
- 17-21 – Ag Literacy Week

Service Provider  
Quick Reference

### Nationwide Insurance Providers

**Pabody Insurance**  
**Larry Blount**

**147 Carlisle St.**  
**Gettysburg**  
**717-339-0055**

The monthly Board Meetings will be held January 2, February 6, and March 6, at the Ag Center, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd., Gettysburg, PA. 17325, starting at 7:30 pm.

WE are looking for a few good policies

One of the Farm Bureau's most important activities is policy development. Members of each county Farm Bureau submit ideas and suggestions regarding issues that affect the farming community. These ideas are written as resolutions and voted on at the county annual meeting in November. Topics cover a wide range of ag issues including wetland management, wild game, commodities, animal health, vehicles, health and safety, taxes and water quality. If an issue involves agriculture in any way, it can be developed for policy.

After the county meeting, voting delegates from each county attend the state annual meeting and decide by majority vote which resolutions will be adopted as Pennsylvania Farm Bureau policy. While policies are not laws, they're supported legislatively by the Farm Bureau at either the state or national level.

Ideas, issues and topics can be submitted at any time of the year via anyone on the county Farm Bureau board of directors or to policy chair Sally Scholle at 717-359-9472.

### ***Renew Your Membership Now!***

**Reminder:** If you have not renewed your membership already, now is the time to do it! Farm Bureau affects so many areas besides crop and livestock farmers. The policies that are passed and brought to the attention of the Pennsylvania legislators affect so many people from wineries, horse owners, to produce owners and sellers to commodity companies. If you know someone that isn't but should be a member, ask them to join, the Farm Bureau is there to help all the agricultural community. You can renew your membership by mail or online at PFB.com

**The Hunterstown Ruratsins will be hosting their monthly breakfast at the Great Conewago Presbyterian Church at 174 Red Bridge Rd. The dates are February 8, March 8 and April 12. Breakfast runs from 7 – 10:30 a.m. and the cost is \$9.00 for adults, \$4.00 ages 5-12, under 5 is free. This helps support their scholarship program.**

**There is an opening for a Board Member. If you are interested in sitting on the Board, contact President Brian Davis at 717-528-4485.**

21 St Annual Soil Quality Meeting  
Brian Sneeringer  
Adams County Conservation District

**Jillian A. Mylet Insurance**  
**Jillian Struble**

147 N. Fourth St.  
Gettysburg  
717-334-1161

**Adamik Insurance Agency**  
5356 Baltimore Pike  
Littlestown, PA. 17340  
717-359-7380

**PFB Health Services**  
**1-800-522-2375**

**Check us out of**  
**Facebook**

**Visit our web page.**  
[www.pfb.com/adams](http://www.pfb.com/adams)

**Newsletter Editor**  
**Deb Stock**  
**359 Brickcrafter Rd**  
**New Oxford, PA. 7350**  
**717-624-2592**  
[edstock1005@gmail.com](mailto:edstock1005@gmail.com)

**BE SAFE!**

**Farming is a profession**  
**of hope.**

Planning continues but we have several things nailed down for the Annual Soil Quality Meeting. First, the date will be Wednesday March 5, 2025. We will be returning to the Adams County Emergency Services Building for our meeting. I have Tom Novak, a farmer and crop consultant from Madison Wisconsin coming in to talk to the group. Tom is very big on test trials and evaluating products on your own farm to make good decisions. He focuses on return on investment as opposed to just evaluating yield data. I have folks from PSU coming to share some research they are doing on remote sensing to document residue levels and no-till production. This technique might replace the tri-annual survey that the district currently does to help you gain credit in the Chesapeake Bay Model. I am also looking to bring in an agronomist to talk about ways to make your yield monitor and maps work for you in making future decisions. Of course, we will have some of our local ag related vendors, the presentation of annual awards and some updates from District staff on current programs. So, mark your calendars now and look for more information in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or suggestions for topics and/or speakers, let me know.

### **Empowering Agricultural leaders: AFBF Leadership Development Opportunities**

The American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) is committed to empowering farmers and ranchers by offering exceptional leadership development opportunities. Through its programs, AFBF equips participants with the skills and confidence to be effective advocates for agriculture and influential voices in their communities. From sharpening public speaking skills to understanding the nuances of agricultural policy, these programs are tailored to meet the diverse needs of today's agricultural leaders.

Key offerings include the Women's Leadership Committee Boot Camp, Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) programs, and the Advocacy Conference. These initiatives provide hands-on training in media relations, grassroots advocacy, and effective communication with legislators. Participants gain practical experience and connect with like-minded individuals across the nation, building a network of support to share ideas and resources.

Whether you're an experienced farmer or just starting out, AFBF's leadership development programs are a valuable resource to grow personally and professionally. By fostering strong leadership in agriculture, the Farm Bureau ensures that the voices of farmers and ranchers continue to shape the future of agriculture in America. To learn more about these opportunities, visit [fb.org/leadership-](http://fb.org/leadership-)

**Brian Brett**

**The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.**

**The greatest mistake you can make is to be continually fearing that you'll make one**

**Elbert Hubbard**

**Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow; it only saps today of its strength**

**A.J. Cronin**

**Kindness is one thing you can't give away. It always comes back**

**George Skolsky**

**"You'll have true happiness when you live to give, not to get.**

**Noa Shaw**

**Living is the art of getting used to what we didn't expect**

**Eleanor Wood**

**Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day**

development. Adams County Board Member, Suzanne Shea, attended the WLC Boot Camp, and this is what she had to say.

This past October, I had the incredible privilege of attending the 2024 Farm Bureau Women's Communications Boot Camp in Washington, D.C. Over four intensive days, I learned how to sharpen my public speaking skills, navigate live radio and television interviews, and build strong relationships with lawmakers to advocate for agriculture effectively. Meeting with congressional assistants and learning how to connect through storytelling was transformative and gave me the confidence to amplify the voices of farmers in our community.

Since graduating, I've been putting these skills into action—having discussions with local leaders, preparing workshops for farmers, and raising awareness about the Farm Bill and other issues. Advocacy for agriculture is more important now than ever, as we've nationally lost the equivalent of 77 farms per day over the last five years. Programs like AFB WLC Communications Boot Camp help bridge the gap between farmers and legislators as well as the public, ensuring that the future of agriculture remains strong.

I'd be happy to speak at your events or meetings. Please feel free to contact me at [OldSwordFarm@gmail.com](mailto:OldSwordFarm@gmail.com). Together, we can support and celebrate the vital work of our farmers.

## From the State

### **Tracking Legislative Developments**

Even though the 2025 legislative session hasn't officially begun, the flurry of co-sponsorship memos already circulating is setting the stage for a busy year. These memos give us insight into potential legislation and allow us to proactively prepare for the issues that will impact agriculture. With nearly 300 memos already released, we're closely monitoring and analyzing the proposals to ensure Pennsylvania farmers' voices are heard and their priorities are addressed. Stay tuned—there's a lot to look forward to!

### **Looking Toward Next Year**

As you well know, our Annual Meeting took place in November, and the official PFB priorities will be released early next year. In the meantime, here are some of the legislative initiatives we are already pursuing to support Pennsylvania's agricultural infrastructure and farming communities.

## **FARMLAND PROTECTION**

### **Solar Decommissioning**

Establishing clear guidelines for the responsible decommissioning of solar energy facilities is essential to protecting landowners from financial and environmental burdens. These measures ensure agricultural and rural lands

**Sally Koch**

**In the face of uncertainty, there is nothing wrong with hope.**

**Bernie Siegel**

**No day in which you learn something is a complete loss**

**David Eddings**

**Love doesn't make the world go round. Love is what makes the ride worthwhile.**

**Franklin Jones**

**The most sincere compliment we can pay is...Attention .**

**Walter Anderson**

can be restored for future use while fostering sustainable solar energy development.

## **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

### **Addressing Deer Overpopulation**

Farmers face significant losses from deer overpopulation and crop damage. We're advocating for modernized wildlife management practices, including:

- Expanding Sunday hunting opportunities.
- Increasing access to hunters for wildlife population control.
- Strengthening trespass laws to protect private property.
- Ensuring farmers have a stronger voice on the Game Commission.

## **INVESTING IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION**

### **Support for Penn State Ag and Penn Vet**

Sustained investment in institutions like Penn State's College of Ag and Extension and Penn Vet is critical. Increased funding ensures these programs can continue training future farmers and advancing agricultural research, even as inflation pressures grow.

## **DAIRY INDUSTRY SUPPORT**

### **Fair Compensation and Efficient Transport**

Dairy farming remains a cornerstone of Pennsylvania's agricultural economy. Key initiatives focus on:

- Reforming payment systems to ensure dairy farmers receive fair compensation in a competitive market.
- Allowing milk hauling 24/7 to prevent delays in transporting perishable goods, supporting farmers and the agricultural supply chain.

## **BEGINNING FARMER SUPPORT**

### **Tax Relief for New Farmers**

Proposals to provide tax credits for those selling agricultural assets to beginning farmers aim to reduce barriers to entry. These efforts encourage growth and sustainability by making it easier for new farmers to join the industry.

## **LAST WEEKS OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS**

Congress returned from recess on November 12. Congress' first priority will be appropriations until they pass a fiscal year (FY25) package. However, two other critical questions remain for agriculture – a natural disaster package and a farm bill.

- **Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Appropriations:** On September 26, President Biden signed H.R.9747, the Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act of 2025, which was a continuing resolution (CR) to extend government spending levels to December 20 to prevent a government shutdown. PFB will keep members apprised of specific provisions in each Department's bill that we will taking a position on.
- **Natural Disaster Relief Needed:** 2024 was a devastating natural disaster year for farm families across the nation. Whether it was wildfires, drought, or hurricanes, rural America needs financial assistance to restore their land, crops, and/or livestock.
- **Farm Bill Extension Likely:** On November 18, Senate Ag Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow released farm bill text titled the *Rural Prosperity and Food Security Act*. Farm Bureau is appreciative of the Chairwoman looking to make progress on farm bill, but we are concerned with how little time is left in Congress to negotiate a bill both chambers can agree on and pass. Staff is working through Chairwoman Stabenow's text, but our focus remains passing a farm bill that aligns with Farm Bureau policy no matter which party introduced it because the agriculture economy is in dire need of assistance. At this point, a one-year extension is likely, which is not what we wanted at the end of the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress. However, staff will keep members apprised of anything new, and we will also be providing updated talking points in the near future.

#### **CORPORATE TRANSPARENCY ACT (CTA)**

- **Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI) Deadline:** Over 230,000 farms are up against the deadline of January 1, 2025, to file their BOI with the Treasury Department under the requirements of the CTA. The CTA is an added burden for small business owners nationwide, including farmers and ranchers. With unclear guidance and a lack of public awareness, businesses of all sizes are struggling to comply with new BOI requirements and are quickly approaching a deadline that bears criminal consequences. There have been unsuccessful attempts to extend the filing period for small businesses, but Congress has a long laundry list of other legislation to pass before the end of the year, including a much-needed modernized farm bill and disaster relief. For now, business owners should anticipate a crackdown on CTA filings starting January 1 and take steps to ensure they are in compliance.

#### **LABOR**

- **Worker Protection Rule Nationwide Injunction:** On November 25, AFBF successfully blocked key elements of the Department of Labor's (DOL) H-2A Worker Protection Rule nationwide. Judge Ozerden in the Southern District of Mississippi agreed the rule exceeded DOL's regulatory authority by affording H-2A workers union-like rights while at the same time restricting employers from discouraging unionization. This means that the rule's grant of labor-organizing privileges for agricultural workers cannot and will not be enforced.
- **OSHA Extends Comment Period for National Heat Index Standards Rule:** On November 29, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) extended the comment period for the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for the Heat Illness Standard by 15 days. Comments are now due January 14, 2025. Farm Bureau's major concern with this proposed rulemaking is it would implement a national heat index standard of 80 degrees and would mandate 15-minute rest breaks at 90 degrees every two hours. A universal federal heat standard fails to account for diverse regional and commodity-specific needs. AFBF will be submitting comments. There is a one pager and talking points available for this rule. Please email Bailey Fisher at [bmfisher@pfb.com](mailto:bmfisher@pfb.com) for those materials.

## **DAIRY**

- **USDA Releases Final Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) Decision:** On November 12, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) issued a final decision proposing amendments to all eleven FMMOs. The final decision is very similar to the recommended decision. Producers whose milk was pooled on an FMMO in January 2024 are eligible to vote on the final decision's proposals in the referendum. Eligible producers and qualified cooperative associations will have ballots mailed to them. Ballots postmarked by December 31, 2024, and returned by January 15, 2025, will be counted. It will become a final rule in each market if and when it is approved by farmers and cooperatives representing two-thirds of the farmers or two-thirds of the milk in the market.

# "RAISE THE BARN" fundraiser

Help us raise \$100K!



Pennsylvania Friends of  
Agriculture Foundation  
A Charitable Organization Supported by  
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

We're raising funds to keep our education programs alive and thriving in Pennsylvania!

Your donation will support...

- Mobile Ag Ed Science Labs
- Immersion Lab
- Ag Literacy Week
- Remake Learning Days
- Educator's Ag Institute
- Winter Ag Workshop

and so much more!

Go to [pfbfriends.com/donate](http://pfbfriends.com/donate) to help Raise the Barn!

## Are You Turning 65 This Year and Going on Medicare?



Choosing your Medicare plan can be overwhelming. It can be hard to figure out what you want, or more important, what you need.

Farm Bureau's experienced and trained staff are ready to help. At no cost to you, we can:

- Answer your questions
- Explain and compare options
- Work within your budget
- Help with informed Medicare coverage decisions

*Knowledgeable. Helpful. Dedicated.*

To check availability in your county call **800.522.2375**.



# KEEP YOUR EQUIPMENT WORKING HARD

AGRICULTURE / TRUCKING / EXCAVATION

- Reduce Down Time
- Decrease Wear and Tear on Parts
- Increase Fuel Efficiency

Dan Miller  
717-465-6738  
danmiller4@verizon.net



**DREAM IT.**  
*Own It.*

Loans for farms, land  
and country properties.

 **FARM CREDIT**  
888.339.3334 | [HorizonFC.com](http://HorizonFC.com)

FINANCE MEMBER

The advertisement features a black and white photograph of a tractor in a field with several people walking in the distance. The text is overlaid on the image.

Do you have a Business?

Would you like to advertise in the Newsletter?

The Adams County Farm Bureau would love for you to advertise in their newsletter. A full page ad cost \$100.00, half page ad cost \$60.00, and a quarter page cost \$40.00 per newsletter.

Your ad will be seen by all Adams County Farm Bureau Members. Contact Deb Stock at [edstock1005@gmail.com](mailto:edstock1005@gmail.com)



**Nationwide®**

**Nationwide is on *your* side. Visit a Nationwide Agent today!**

**Jillian Mylet Insurance**

**Jillian Struble**

147 N. Fourth St, Gettysburg, PA 17325

- 717.334.1161

- [mylet@nationwide.com](mailto:mylet@nationwide.com)

**Pabody Insurance**

**Larry Blount**

147 Carlisle St., Gettysburg, PA 17325

- 717.339.0055

**John Adamik Insurance Agency**

5356 Baltimore Pike

Littlestown, PA. 17340

717-359-7380





**Protect your next**

Whether you're focused on business success, family security or community prosperity, Nationwide® can help you constantly evolve to ensure a bright future.

Learn more at [Nationwide.com/PFB](http://Nationwide.com/PFB)

The Farm Bureau, FB, and the FB National Logo are trademarks of American Farm Federation and used with permission under license by Nationwide. Nationwide and the Nationwide H and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2021 Nationwide FBO-0205A0



# **FUEL DISCOUNTS FOR PFB MEMBERS** in Adams County!



Ask for Todd Horner



Diesel



Propane



Heating  
Oil



Tank  
Monitoring



Gasoline



Electricity



Natural  
Gas

**855-626-4088 | [ShipleEnergy.com/PFB](https://ShipleEnergy.com/PFB)**



**We have Hay Equipment in Stock. Call for details.**

Vermeer Corporation reserves the right to make changes in engineering, design and specifications; add improvements; or discontinue manufacturing or distribution at any time without notice or obligation. Equipment shown is for illustrative purposes only and may display optional accessories or components specific to their global region. Please contact your local Vermeer dealer for more information on machine specifications. Vermeer and the Vermeer logo are trademarks of Vermeer Manufacturing Company in the U.S. and/or other countries. © 2021 Vermeer Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

**Are You Ready To  
Buy A Tractor?**

**LS TRACTOR IS  
READY TO MAKE  
YOU A DEAL!**

**LS** Tractor USA

**NEW  
PRODUCT**



**Barlow Ag Service & Sales, Inc.**

676 Barlow Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325 • (717) 334-8418 • [www.barlowagservice.com](http://www.barlowagservice.com)

**Now Open!**

Pennsylvania  
**FB**  
Farm Bureau

# MERCH SHOP



**T-shirts, hats, sweatshirts, polos and more!  
Multiple colors to choose from!**

Check us out online at  
<https://pa-farm-bureau-retail-store.itemorder.com/shop/sale/>



Local Small Tractor and Implement Supplier Located in Biglerville, PA

Call: **717-253-1736** for Wayne or **717-752-7837** for Aaron

Specializing in:

- Dirt Dog Attachments ( Box Scrapers, Landscape Rakes, Tillers, Mowers)
  - Danuser ( Intimidator Post Pullers, Pounders, Augurs)
  - Ideal ( Trailer Movers, 3pt Attach, ATV/UTV Accessories)
    - Baumalight ( Stump Grinders, Forestry Mulchers)
      - If You Have a Need, We Can Get a Price!





# Member Benefits

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau knows you work hard for your money and your membership should too. Visit [www.pfb.com/services](http://www.pfb.com/services) or scan the QR code to see how to get your share of **\$2.7 million** in annual savings.



To redeem discounts, use the required codes, websites, and/or phone numbers found by logging into the Member Only website at [www.pfbmembers.org](http://www.pfbmembers.org).

Member Benefits are subject to change without notice. Membership Dues Are Paid Separately.

## Home and Auto



[www.pfb.com/ford](http://www.pfb.com/ford)  
to download coupons.  
Must be a member for 30+ days.  
Vehicle not always available.  
Some restrictions may apply.

\$500.00 off exclusive Ford trucks



National Fleet Discount



Must show membership card.  
Restrictions may apply.



[www.nrg.com/energy/digital/pfb\\_2550](http://www.nrg.com/energy/digital/pfb_2550)



[www.StaplesAdvantage.com](http://www.StaplesAdvantage.com)  
Online purchases

## Farm and Business



[www.grainger.com/farm-business](http://www.grainger.com/farm-business)



[www.lancasterfarming.com](http://www.lancasterfarming.com)  
Renewals 10% off



1.800.8-SADDLE



[www.pfb.com/caseih](http://www.pfb.com/caseih)  
to download coupons



[www.pfb.com/cat](http://www.pfb.com/cat)  
to download coupons  
30-day waiting period



[www.johndeere.com/farm-bureau](http://www.johndeere.com/farm-bureau)  
Farm Membership with Life  
Deer Rewards Program  
30-day waiting period



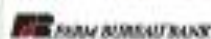
855.626.4088  
[www.pfb.com/shibley-energy](http://www.pfb.com/shibley-energy)  
Membership number required

## PFB Member Service



800.522.2375  
[www.pfb.com/healthservices](http://www.pfb.com/healthservices)

## Financial and Insurance



[www.bankofamerica.com](http://www.bankofamerica.com)



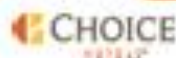
717.540.4332  
[www.hzkenzlawgroup.com](http://www.hzkenzlawgroup.com)



Nationwide® offers a variety of insurance and financial services to Farm Bureau members including farm\*, auto\*, home\*, pet\*, travel\*, powerports, commercial and life insurance.  
\*Default discounts may apply.

To learn more, contact your local Nationwide agent or visit [Nationwide.com/pfb](http://Nationwide.com/pfb)

## Travel



800.258.2847



877.670.7088



800.331.1212  
[www.avis.com/pfb](http://www.avis.com/pfb)



800.527.0700  
[www.budget.com/pfb](http://www.budget.com/pfb)

## Health and Wellness



[www.scriptsave.com](http://www.scriptsave.com)



800.974.7036  
[www.myfwbpharmacy/pfb-pharmacy](http://www.myfwbpharmacy/pfb-pharmacy)

## Additional Benefits

### Save even more with County Farm Bureau Local Discounts!

For a complete list of discounts offered by +375 locally-owned businesses in nearly 50 counties visit [pfb.com/localdiscounts](http://pfb.com/localdiscounts). Local discounts not offered in all counties.

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Member | Deals Plus



[pfb.org/dealsplus](http://pfb.org/dealsplus)

## Publication

PFB adds value to membership and keeps members informed through a variety of print and digital publications. Members receive 5% off advertising rates in our print publications. Contact advertising coordinator for details.

A total \$15 million of annual member dues covers subscriptions to *Positively Pennsylvania*. Members receive 4 issues of *Positively Pennsylvania* per year on a quarterly basis. Publication frequency and details are subject to change.



Pennsylvania Farm Bureau  
P.O. Box 8736  
Camp Hill, PA 17001-8736  
717-761-2740  
[www.pfb.com](http://www.pfb.com)

**Adams County Farm Bureau  
359 Brickcrafter Rd.  
New Oxford, PA. 17350  
17236**

**Presorted Standard.  
U.S. Postage  
Mercersburg, PA**

**Paid**

**Permit #**

**15**