

FARM BUREAU NEWS

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Farm Bureau Mission Statement

Forging a partnership between farmers and consumers that meets consumers needs, addresses public expectations and ensures agricultural prosperity in a global marketplace.



Cuyahoga County
Farm Bureau
8460 Ridge Road
North Royalton OH
Phone: 440-877-0706
Email: cuyahoga@cfbf.org

2013—Year in Review

2013 was a productive year for the Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau (CCFB). Here are highlights of the activities:

Membership coordinators, Fred & Gail Holzman kicked off the year with a successful volunteer membership campaign, meeting the goals set for volunteer workers to increase our active farmer membership. Volunteers were rewarded for their efforts and recognized at the annual dinner meeting.

A luncheon was held for our Nationwide agency affiliates, building on the partnership between the our two organizations.

CCFB sponsored the North Union farmers market *Time to Grow* Conference where over 100 area farmers gathered to network and learn new marketing techniques.

CCFB members attended Ag Day at the Capital to meet with local legislators about agriculture—related issues.

President David Peth and Public Policy Action Leader Donita Anderson visited our legislators in Washington D.C. with all county presidents statewide.

Over 300 horse enthusiasts attended the Equine Committee annual used tack sale at the county fairgrounds In March.

CCFB co-hosted a 4Rs water quality and nutrient management program with Cuyahoga Soil and Water for farmers in a five county area and FB members participated in a four county EASE training to help farmers learn how to have productive conversations that build trust and confidence in food, farming and agriculture.

Over 800 school children and preschoolers benefited from our Ag in the Classroom activities and grant program, learning about Ohio agriculture either in their classroom or hosting them at Stearns Homestead, a historic farm in Parma. This year we also sponsored a classroom incubator for science lab Byron Elementary where students hatched duck eggs; we collaborated with the science teacher to post progress and updates on our facebook page, from candling the eggs to duck races at the end of the school year.



More than 80 CCFB volunteers assisted at various promotional events including Vintage Ohio, and at the County Fair, and the Garlic Festival promoting Ohio agriculture and Farm Bureau.

Policy development meetings were held with various agriculture-related organizations to surface concerns and issues to be considered as part of an action plan for the program year.

Thirty-six CCFB members participated in our annual bus trip to the Ohio State Fair on July 26.

The county fair display included the antique farm equipment museum, pedal tractors, and the youth group incubator, and our annual support to the 4H market auction. In addition, Farm Bureau supported the Trash Gardening category in the Floral Barn with the Cuyahoga County Extension Master Gardeners and Cuyahoga Solid Waste District.

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Member Benefit Minute

Did you know?

Farm Bureau primarily focuses on two goals: Legislative representation for members and promotion of agriculture. We work on issues important to you and strive to keep consumers connected to producers and local farmer businesses.

2013 Year In Review - continued from page 1



During installation of the new President, Thomas Kaskey (right) accepts the president's gavel from David Peth.

Thirty FB members traveled to the Farm Science Review on a bus chartered by Cuyahoga and Lorain County Farm Bureaus.

Action Leaders Gerald Wilson—Communications, Donita Anderson—Public Policy, and Tom Kaskey—Organization were recognized for program achievements, trustee elections were held, new county Farm Bureau president Thomas Kaskey was introduced and installed, Tractor Club and Equine Committee attendees were acknowledged, and scholarship recipients were recognized at the County Farm Bureau annual dinner meeting in September.

The Farm Bureau equine committee hosted a horse march in September to benefit the Cleveland Mounted Police Unit. Over 160 horses and riders, and horse-drawn wagons rode the streets of downtown Cleveland, then enjoyed a "tailgate" party in the municipal parking lot with music, food truck vendors and photo ops with the CMPU horses.

Over 500 people attended Farm-City Days hosted by the County Farm Bureau - a family fun event held at Stearns Homestead in September.

Farm Bureau members attended a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) School planning session at Tri-C West for Parma City Schools.

*Are you interested in serving on a Farm Bureau Action Committee? We could use your creativity and expertise! Contact the County Farm Bureau office to get involved in your organization
Phone: 440-877-0706 Email: cuyahoga@ofbf.org*

Eight students were recognized and awarded a Betty Hansen Memorial Scholarship at the Cuyahoga Farm Bureau annual meeting in September 2013. The Betty Hansen Memorial Scholarship program recognizes outstanding Farm Bureau member students for their scholastic and leadership achievements, job and volunteerism, and involvement in their school, community and the Farm Bureau. *Scholarship information is available on our website:*

www.northcoastfarmbureau.org



Congratulations to:
(L-R)
**Amanda Stack,
Forrest Andrew,
Ramon Adams,
Jeremy Polcar,
Christopher Polcar.**

Scholarship recipients Renee Kraft, Tricia Evans and Shannon Lott were away at school and unable to attend the annual meeting



Visit local farmers markets and orchards this year and meet the farmer that grows the food that you enjoy

For a listing of local orchards and other markets, log on to www.ourohio.org and click on the Buying Local Directory



The **Jolly Ranchers Youth Group** welcomes Farm Bureau member family children ages 8 years to 17 years. The Jolly Ranchers meet once a month at the Farm Bureau office in North Royalton. Their planned activities each year include community service projects and fun activities while

encouraging leadership development. In 2013 activities included hosting a carnival day, a fun day at Ramseyer's Farm corn mazes, participation at the Lakewood EarthFest, managing the incubators at the county fair hatching chicks, participating with games and activities at North Royalton's Harvest Fest, baking pies for Thanksgiving, holiday parties, and Christmas shopping for ten families in need.



Youth group members served as the "clean up" crew at the Cleveland Police Mounted Unit march in downtown Cleveland in September.

(Photo right) The Jolly Ranchers joined 30 other Farm Bureau members for the annual bus trip to the Ohio State Fair.



For additional photos and information about the Jolly Ranchers Youth Group, visit their Facebook page: *Cuyahoga County Jolly Ranchers* or call the county Farm Bureau office.

USED TACK SALE—February 23, 2014

Hundreds of horse enthusiasts are making plans to attend the Cuyahoga FB Equine Community Council **USED TACK SALE** on **Sunday, February 23, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the Cuyahoga Fairgrounds Home & Hobby Building.

Pre-registration for a table or floor space is required.

Registration form and location map available at cuyahoga.ofbf.org.



Building and Growing our Community



Membership campaign co-chairman Fred and Gail Holzman and Gayle Hansen challenge every Farm Bureau member to sign one new Farm Bureau member during the 2014 45-day volunteer membership campaign starting January 30, 2014.

Fred Holzman indicated that "you don't have to be a farmer to be a Farm Bureau member. While many Farm Bureau members grow food for a living, eating is inseparable from farming. Everyone should be a Farm Bureau member."

Membership in the Farm Bureau provides many benefits, but most importantly it provides strength and support to Ohio agriculture and Ohio's farmers. Ohio farms provide us with a beautiful countryside and access to fresh local food.

"Tell a friend or family member why you are a Farm Bureau member", said Gayle Hansen, "and ask them to join".

For additional details about the volunteer membership campaign and how to get involved, visit our county webpage at cuyahoga.ofbf.org. Sign one new member during the volunteer campaign and receive a steel tumbler travel mug.



Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau

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The Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau Newsletter is distributed to Cuyahoga County Farm Bureau members to keep them informed of Farm Bureau issues, events, member benefits and agriculture.

With direction from the county board of trustees, the organization supports Ohio farmers and promotes Ohio agriculture.

Executive Board

President:

Thomas Kaskey –Olmsted Falls

Vice-President:

Gayle Hansen –Olmsted Falls

Secretary:

Kim Rassi-Gollin -Brooklyn Hts.

Board of Trustees

Donita Anderson -Shaker Hts

Dennis Eck -Strongsville

Fred Holzman -North Royalton

Jim Lewandowski –Parma

Julia Murphy– Shaker Hts

David Peth—North Royalton

Jeremy Peth -Strongsville

Bob Tuma - Columbia Station

Thomas Washtock –Berea

Gerald Wilson –Cleveland

Office Staff

Organization Director -

Anita Cook

Administrative Assistants

Bev Cisar

Mary Wallencheck

Go to cuyahoga.ofbf.org to complete an online survey and give us your thoughts on the programs and activities you would like the county Farm Bureau to offer. All survey participants will be entered to win a **\$50 gas card** and the winner will be announced on the



Cuyahoga Farm Bureau facebook page.

The Farm Bureau
**OHIO
LANDOWNER
TOOLKIT**
is free to
Farm Bureau members

Owning land means big responsibilities.



The Toolkit provides valuable information on critical landowner issues such as:

- How to know when you are financially responsible for line fences;
- What EPA might consider open burning when you're ready to clear out that brush pile;
- What the law says about nuisance, dangerous and vicious dogs;
- Understanding how the CAUV tax rate is calculated;
- What the law says about All Purpose Vehicles (APVs) trespassing on your land and the legalities of trespassing in general;
- Understanding the basics of oil and gas leasing;
- And what you need to know as a landowner about eminent domain.

Request a kit today by contacting the county office via email: cuyahoga@ofbf.org or call 440-877-0706