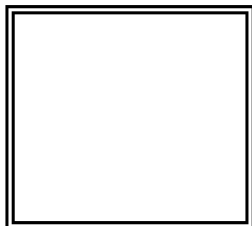




CENTRE COUNTY FARMLAND TRUST  
P.O. Box 604  
Centre Hall, PA 16828



### Centre County Farmland Trust

420 Holmes Street,  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

Phone: 814-355-6791

Fax: 814-355-8661

[centrecountyfarmlandtrust.org](http://centrecountyfarmlandtrust.org)

*Saving farms, preserving our  
common ground.*

*Supporting our heritage. Enriching  
our agricultural community.*



## Membership

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member (\$50)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (\$100) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (\$250)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership (\$500) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steward (\$1000)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$25)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Amount: _____ |   |

**Please return this form with a check made payable to:**

The Centre County Farmland Trust  
P.O. Box 604, Centre Hall, PA 16828  
or visit our website to donate online,  
[www.CentreCountyFarmlandTrust.org](http://www.CentreCountyFarmlandTrust.org)

\*It costs approximately \$5,000 to preserve an average size farm.  
CCFT is a 501(c)(3) organization.

*A CCFT Membership makes a great gift.*

*Consider giving a membership to someone you love!*

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CENTRE COUNTY



FARMLAND TRUST

Volume 4, Issue 1

April 2014

## News from the Trust President



Greetings from Centre County Farmland Trust and welcome to Spring, which hopefully will have arrived in earnest by the time you read this! It won't be long before locally grown foods will once again be abundant.

I'll begin with a report on our annual meeting that took place on January 14<sup>th</sup> at the Happy

Valley Winery, 576 S. Foxpointe Dr. in State College. The evening began with a tasting of selected Happy Valley wines and delicious heavy hors d'oeuvres prepared and served by Laura's Home Cooking of Boalsburg. Following a brief business meeting where interim board members Dane Hooper, Rich Button and Bill Heald were formally elected by the general membership to serve on the board, several awards were presented.

Kim Tait of Tait Farm Foods and John Tait of Tait's Trees and Bassets were given plaques in recognition of providing the venue for our Summer Solstice event, and the Boalsburg Fire Police and the Harris Twp. Lions were given plaques for managing traffic and parking during the event. Past President Larry Hutchinson and past Executive Director Norm Lathbury were also presented plaques recognizing their service in the Trust's leadership positions. Karen Myford, our former Marketing Director who was unable to attend, is slated to receive a plaque as well.

Several former board members received much deserved recognition for their service in farmland preservation, each one being presented with an inscribed picture of the round barn, the Trust's logo. The past board members were: Bob Eberhart, Roland Leach, Brian Burger, Herb Cole, Lynda Powell, Larry Harpster, Mickey Peters, Bill Beck and Bob Anderson. Last but not least, two Co-Founders of the Trust, Lynn Miller and Bill Keough were also presented pictures and both provided classic historical perspectives on the beginning of our organization.

Following the awards, Carla Snyder from PSU outreach gave an interesting program on marketing farm products and services that in turn was followed by a light dessert. It was a great evening and a good time was had by all!

The second event of the year was our annual retreat for board members held on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Of note for our membership is that the four officers from last year volunteered to serve another term and were duly elected by the board: Pete Schempf – President, Walt Witmer – Vice President, George Moellenbrock – Secretary and Danan Sharer – Treasurer. The board also welcomed our newest interim appointed member, Dan Guss, who will fill Mickey Peters' vacancy until elections at the next annual meeting. Our new board members are all very enthusiastic and are already making a positive contribution to CCFT.

Thank you.

*Pete*

## GOOD LAND - THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME

Centre County has been blessed with the gift of **rich, productive farmland and beautiful scenic vistas and landscapes**. This land has supported our values and reinforced the quality of life we all enjoy in **"Happy Valley."**

By making a **simple bequest in your will** that will benefit the Centre County Farmland Trust, you can help **preserve in perpetuity, this land and these values that we cherish.**

2013 Easement Inspections

Once an easement is in place, the work isn't over. The Centre County Farmland Trust has a responsibility to monitor and defend all of its easements in perpetuity (forever). Monitoring easements for violations is a very important part of what we do, and we do it every year.

This year we at the Centre County Farmland Trust decided to conduct our annual Easement Inspections a little differently. In the past, our Executive Director undertook the easement inspections independently, a task that involved driving for 100 miles around Centre County and checking for violations on all of our 11 easements.

In an effort to break up the workload and get some new boots on the ground, we enlisted the help of four of our volunteer board members to complete inspections for 2013. When Pete said that our new board members were enthusiastic and making positive contributions - he wasn't kidding! Steve



Maczuga, Dane Hooper, Richard Button, and Bill Heald all volunteered to carry out easement inspections. Between December and the end of February, they visited properties, took notes, and snapped photographs. Their contribution and enthusiasm for this critical task was such a big help this year.

Board Member Bio: Bill Heald



William "Bill" Heald started his conservationist thinking in his childhood working with his maternal grandfather gardening and following granddad around doing crop reporting for USDA in the 1940's. As a youth, he raised chickens for his father and sold meat capons to

neighbors earning pocket money. During his teenage years, he worked part-time during the school year and overtime in the summers on his Uncle's dairy farm and later, for his cousin, when the farm passed to the next generation in the late 1950's.

This 120 acre Century Dairy Farm was started by Bill's grandfather in 1909 and is still in the family today, milking approximately 900 cows in Chester County. The fifth generation will graduate from Penn State this year. Parts of the expanded dairy farm have been placed in the Farmland Preservation Program with additional land in the process. Bill was

also influenced by the conservation principles taught in boy scouting. Bill left the dairy farm when he and his wife Judith moved out of state to attend graduate school. Bill graduated with a PhD in Animal Science from Va Tech and served on the faculty there teaching and researching for 12 years, while owning a farm where the family raised cattle. Bill and his family moved to the 75 Acre Penns Valley Farm in 1981, when Bill joined the Dairy Extension Faculty. The Heald's daughter, Beth, became the County and State Dairy Princess and now teaches in Washington County MD providing leadership in the college readiness program. Their son, Evan, teaches and practices medicine at UVA.

Bill, now retired from PSU for 11 years, is interested in period furniture making and preservation. Much of their farm is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program with approximately 20 Acres in riparian buffer and 43 Acres in warm season grasses (prairie grass).

SAVE THE DATE - CENTRE GIVES 2014

**Centre Gives** is a 36 hour, on-line only, fundraising event sponsored by the Centre Foundation to provide **matching** support for eligible Centre County non-profit organizations like the Centre County Farmland Trust.

**How does it work?** Go to **CentreGives.org** anytime between **midnight on May 6 until noon on May 7...** make your online donation by selecting "Centre County Farmland Trust", complete the displayed form and click "Submit." **That's all it takes!**

Your tax deductible donation will then be matched by the Centre Foundation. All matching funds will be transferred from Centre Foundation to the Centre County Farmland Trust at a later date.

- 2014 Calendar
- Look for us at these upcoming events!
- February 1-March 31: Farmland Preservation Artists Exhibit
- Village at Penn State
- We hope you didn't miss this one!
- April 1-30: Farmland Preservation Artists Exhibit
- State Theatre, State College
- April-November: Farmland Preservation Artists Exhibit
- Centre furnace Mansion, State College
- June 21: Summer Solstice Celebration
- Tait Farm, Centre Hall
- June 19-August 13: Farmland Preservation Artists Exhibit
- Foxdale Village, State College
- August 1-2: PCO Farm Fest
- Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall
- August 12-14: Ag Progress Days
- Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall
- August 21-28: Grange Fair
- Grange Fairgrounds, Centre Hall



Photographs from the CCFT annual Meeting at Happy Valley Winery in State College, PA.