

Maryland Farm Bureau
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2015 CENTENNIAL CONVENTION

Nationwide Farm 101

Maryland Farm Bureau and Nationwide Insurance have partnered for more than 80 years to provide farmers with the very best promotion and protection of agriculture. One of the many opportunities Nationwide offers our members is the Farm 101 presentation. Certified farm agents have attended many state and county Farm Bureau meetings to share their various farm insurance options.

To ensure the highest levels of professionalism and service, Nationwide provides a specialized farm training to their farm insurance agents. They have the knowledge to ask the right questions and evaluate a farm's total operation to help ensure the farmer has enough protection and pays only for insurance they really need.

During a recent Farm 101 presentation at Baltimore County Farm Bureau, Roy Crow, owner of Crow Insurance Agency, stressed the importance of his agents visiting farms. "We won't write a risk until we actually see the farm and understand how it works," said Crow. "We need to evaluate the conditions of the operation so it's a fair policy."

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President's Message

Welcome to the fall edition of the MFB newsletter. We are trying some new things on the communications front. We are rebranding our publications. The new title, "Chesapeake Bay Farm and Food" reminds all of our readers that Maryland farmers are protecting the Bay and providing our food – both are critical to the future of our state. We have also launched sites on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram. Check them out. We would love your feedback.

We have also undertaken a major effort to better understand the needs of our members. We want to know what current members value about our organization, what we can do better, and how to attract new members. I want to thank all of you who participated in the online survey in the spring and those who came out for the Focus Group meetings in September and October.

One prevalent response from members is that you appreciate being asked what you think - about our organization and about the future. As leaders, our biggest challenge is making sure we are steering the ship in the right direction. On behalf of Wayne, John and myself, I thank you for your guidance. Our professional consultant will put together all the survey and focus group data to form a membership development strategy, which we will launch later this year.

Finally, I want to remind you to tune in to Maryland Farm & Harvest on MPT. Season 3 kicks off on Tuesday, November 10 at 7:30pm featuring a visit to UMES to look at drone technology, an interview with a dentist for the horses and a demonstration of soil science and no-till practices in Maryland. These 30-minute shows have a huge following and they are helping to connect our farms to the living rooms of our neighbors in all corners of the state.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving and thank you for being a Farm Bureau member!

Charles E. Fry

Remembering Past MFB Leaders

We would like to recognize and honor the lives of three Maryland Farm Bureau members who recently passed away: Helen Logan Astle, Jack Irving Matthews and Phyllis Jane Horsmon. These members were dedicated to promoting and preserving Maryland agriculture and rural life, and for that we thank their families and offer our condolences.

Helen Logan Astle, age 85, passed peacefully surrounded by loving family on Friday, October 2, 2015 at Christiana Hospital. Helen was born January 7, 1930 in Havre de Grace, MD, to the late Wilmer B. and Margaret A. Logan. Helen was the beloved wife of Norman E. Astle. She and Norman enjoyed serving with the Cecil County Farm Bureau. Helen also served on the Cecil County Women's committee, working with the Miss Cecil County Farm Bureau contestants.

Jack Irving Matthews passed peacefully in his home on Saturday, October 3, 2015. Jack was born in July of 1925 to the late I. Waugh and Margaret E. Matthews on their family dairy farm in Baltimore County. Jack married his wife Patricia Wheaton in 1949 and had two children, Joan Whitney (Jody) and Bryan Leigh. Jack was the Maryland Farm Bureau Administrator from 1972-1979.

Phyllis Jane Horsmon, 68 of St. Leonard, MD, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on October 2, 2015. She was born August 25, 1947 in Washington D.C. to the late Everett C. Loveless and Catherine Lomax Swann. Phyllis was very active with the family owned farm known as Horsmon Farm. She was one of the founding members of the Calvert County Young Farmers and a long-time member of Calvert County Farm Bureau.



If you would like to join us at the AFBF 2016 Convention in Orlando from January 8-12, call MFB at 1-800-248-9012.

The Maryland Farm Bureau – 100th Annual Meeting & Centennial Celebration
 December 6-8, 2015
 The Clarion Resort Hotel
 101st Street, Ocean City, Maryland

Saturday, December 5, 2015

- 11:00am Young Farmer Committee
Pre Conference Tour
- 4:00pm Women's Leadership Committee
Business Meeting

Sunday, December 6, 2015

- 8:30am Women's Leadership Committee
Engage Training
- 8:30am Young Farmer Excellence in Ag
and Achievement Awards Interviews
- 10:00am MFB Registration Desk Opens
- 10:00am Young Farmers' Committee Meeting
- 11:00am YF Discussion Meet Orientation
- 11:30am YF First Round of Discussion Meet
- 12:15pm General Luncheon
- 1:00pm YF 2nd Round of Discussion Meet
- 2:30pm YF Final Round of Discussion Meet
- 2:30pm Breakout Session
- 2:30pm PAC Board Meeting
- 3:30pm Meet our Exhibitors w/
Cookies & Milk in the Exhibit Hall
- 5:00pm Dinner on Your Own
- 8:00pm Vespers & Dessert Reception
Sponsored by Nationwide
- 9:00pm Pool Side President's Reception

Monday, December 7, 2015

- 6:30am Women's Leadership Committee
Breakfast
- 7:00am Continental Breakfast/ Exhibit hall
Sponsored by Farm Credit
- 8:30am Opening Ceremonies of Annual Meeting
Roll Call of Delegates
Address by MFB President Chuck Fry
Address by Sparky Weillau, Nationwide
Audit Report
Address by Jenell Eck, Miss MD Ag
- 10:15am Break
- 10:45am Break Out Sessions – Round 1
- 11:45am General Lunch
Sponsored by Delmarva Farmer
- 1:00pm Delegates Reconvene
Nominations Committee Report
Keynote Speaker Trent Loos
of Rural Route Radio
MFB Policy Resolutions Session
Address by Dr. Craig Beyroudy, AGNR
LEAD Maryland Presentation
- 3:30pm Break Out Sessions – Round 2
- 5:30pm Reception
Sponsored by The Clarion Resort Hotel
- 7:00pm 100th Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony
Dinner sponsored by Nationwide
Floral arrangements by Bell Nurseries
- 8:30pm Live Auction to benefit
MFB Scholarship Fund
- 9:30pm YF's Freezin' for a Reason

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

- 7:00am Board of Directors Breakfast & Meeting
Sponsored by MARBIDCO
- 7:00am Continental Breakfast/ Exhibit Hall
Sponsored by Farm Credit
- 8:15am District Farm Bureau Caucuses
- 9:30am Delegates Reconvene
Address by Sec. Bartenfelder, MDA
MFB Policy Resolutions Session
Roll Call of Delegates
Election of Officers

- 12:15pm General Lunch
- 1:00pm Hotel Room Checkout
- 1:30pm Delegates Reconvene
Policy Resolutions Session
Finalize National & State Policy
Closing Remarks
- 4:00pm Closing Motions & Adjournment



Celebrating 100 Years of Maryland Farm Bureau

Maryland Farm Bureau's 100th Annual Meeting, the Centennial Convention, will be held from December 6-8, 2015 at The Clarion Resort Hotel in Ocean City, MD. The convention will feature events for the Women's Leadership and Young Farmer's committees, breakout sessions with key agriculture leaders, awards for county Farm Bureaus and dedicated members and a special address from Trent Loos of Loos Tales on Rural Route Radio.

To commemorate this milestone, Maryland Farm Bureau will have items for our members in attendance with the Centennial Convention logo. There will also be farm artifacts from the past 100 years on display from each county to showcase how ag has evolved.

Last year, Maryland Farm Bureau moved its headquarters to a new building in Davidsonville and auctioned off the right to name the West wing Board room, now called The Kent Room. This year, we will auction off the right to name the East wing conference room during the live auction at the Banquet.

We are also going mobile this year with an event app! MFB has partnered with CrowdCompass to build an app that will make this year's experience more valuable for attendees, exhibitors and speakers. Look for more information on how to download the app on iTunes and Google Play mid-November. Use #MFB100 to talk about the Centennial Convention on social media.

If you or your business would like to attend, sponsor or exhibit, please call us toll-free at 1-800-248-9012.

New Maryland Farm Bureau Membership Benefits



Save up to \$2,000 on CAT ag construction equipment



InterContinental Hotels Group

Save up to 10% at over 1,400 IHG brand hotels.

National Benefit Builders, Inc.



Save anywhere from 10-85% on pet medications at USA PetMeds.

Upcoming Events

November

- 11/2: DNR Hunting Workshop - Baltimore County Ag Center - 9am
- 11/6: Calvert County Banquet - 6pm
- 11/7: Harford County Banquet - Level Firehall - 6pm
- 11/7: Dorchester County FFA Fun on the Farm - Breckenridge Farm
- 11/10: Baltimore County Banquet - 6pm
- 11/10: Montgomery County Banquet - Fair Grounds - 7pm
- 11/12: Howard County Banquet - Lisbon Woodbine Fire Hall - 7pm
- 11/13: Queen Anne's Harvest Breakfast - QA 4-H Park - 6:30am
- 11/14: Anne Arundel Banquet - Lady Sorrows Catholic Church - 6:30pm
- 11/20: Frederick Co. Women's Committee Bingo - New Midway Firehall

December

- 12/6-8: MFB Centennial Convention - Clarion Resort, Ocean City

January

- 1/4: Carroll County Legislative Dinner
- 1/6: Caroline County Legislative Dinner - Caroline Ag Center - 6:30pm
- 1/8: Harford County Legislative Dinner - Bayou Restaurant - 6pm
- 1/8-12: AFBF Annual Convention - Orlando, FL
- 1/25: Farm Trucking Forum - Baltimore County - 9am

Nationwide Farm 101 Continued

“This also starts the relationship between the farmer and insurer,” added Crow. “We visit all of our farms at least once a year to keep the connection strong and make sure nothing on the farm has significantly changed to effect the policy.” Prior to taking over the insurance agency in 2005, Roy was a dairy farmer for 23 years and still farms 365 acres in Kent County. The agency insures more than 250 farms and 85,000 acres of crops in MD, DE, PA, NJ, VA, WV and IA.

Nationwide Agribusiness insures five main areas for farmers: Home and Contents, Farm Personal Property, Farm Structures, Liability, and Optional Coverages to customize your farm policy to meet your protection needs. AgriChoice is Nationwide’s state-of-the-art farm policy with recently improved endorsements and additional products. AgriChoice lets you choose coverage levels for your home, contents and farm structures with Basic, Broad or Special coverage options.

“Insurance can be so complicated,” said Jules Hendrix, Agribusiness and Commercial Specialist at Crow Insurance Agency. “Having an agent who can discuss the options based on what they see on the farm from experience is the best solution.” Prior to working at Crow Insurance Agency, Jules worked on various farms and ranches in California.

Maryland Farm Bureau members receive the following new benefits from Nationwide Agribusiness with a farm insurance policy: emergency roadside assistance for farm machinery and equipment, arson and crime information reward, refrigerated farm personal property, fire department service charge, landlord furnishings, accidental death coverage for pets, identity fraud expense, coverage for youth organization livestock projects, deductible waiver and farm coinsurance waiver. For more information about Crow Insurance Agency, visit www.CrowInsuranceTeam.com or call 302-378-9592.



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