



Friends of Farm Show *Tails & Trails*



The Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. is pleased to share information and updates with friends, sponsors and anyone interested in the enhancement of one of our state's greatest treasures, the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

5/2

Winter 2017



What's New at the 2018 Farm Show

More PA Pride in the Spotlight!

More youth than ever will show off their skills in 2018. New Jr. Livestock Exhibitor classes include sheep, goats and swine. Qualifiers from each animal class compete for the title of Master Showman in four age groups. Cheer on Pennsylvania's finest young farmers as they strut their stuff!

Get messy and have a ball...a meat ball, that is.

The Meatball Showdown, on the Culinary Connection Stage at noon Monday, pits junior chefs against one another to see who is the fastest meatball in the West. (West of the Atlantic, that is.) Sit in the splash zone for a taste of some PA-sourced sauce!

STEM Stuff – An 1800s plow gave us the term, “cutting edge.” Today's agriculture careers use cutting edge technology to give us better food; healthier animals, plants and soil; and tools to conquer climate challenges. Boost your kids' **STEM** knowledge at the **PA Department of Agriculture booth** in the

Main Hall on Monday with bunny heartbeats, seed science, and much more. Check into conservation at Diversity on Display in the Expo Hall to learn how farmers put science to work to improve our soil, our water, and our world.

Travel Sherpa – Get real-time traffic conditions on the PA 511 app. Make a trip to your favorite app store for a free download that may save you travel headaches.

Hop on down and bid on a bunny!

Rabbits make their debut this year in the Jr. Livestock sale.

Be a Farm Show Internet Star – Farm Show is on Facebook, Twitter, and now Instagram! Tag us to share your adventures – @PAFarmShow

Visit **Diversity on Display** in the Expo Hall – learn about Beef, Poultry, Pork & Conservation – their impact on our economy, our communities, our environment — and of course, your palate!

Are you a wannabe? Find out how to fulfill your farm dreams in the Main Hall at **So you want to be a farmer?** Or just stop by to connect your love of food to the folks who make it happen.

Locally-grown, locally-sourced stars will shine on Tuesday in the Large Arena as an array of **Pennsylvania musical talent takes center stage** to cap off a day of Farm Show fun!

Mushroom Mysteries: Learn how to be a “Blenditarian” from the Mushroom Farmers of PA. Hint: it has something to do with adding delicious PA mushrooms to your meat, poultry and pork dishes.

A new place for all things PA Farm Show, **www.farmshow.pa.gov** – your go-to site for schedules, show results, daily photos and much, much more. Visit early, visit often!

102ND *Pennsylvania*
FARM SHOW
STRENGTH IN OUR DIVERSITY

JANUARY 6 - 13, 2018





Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation Board Members

William L. Piper, Chairman
Carlisle, PA

Michael H. Firestine,
Vice-Chair
Womelsdorf, PA

Beverly S. Gruber,
Secretary, Treasurer
New Tripoli, PA

Logan Hall
Mechanicsburg, PA

Bill Burgess
Ephrata, PA

Donald Hoover
Lititz, PA

Lela Reichart
New Oxford, PA

Gerald Reichard
Waynesboro, PA

Vicki Varner
McAllisterville, PA

The Friends of Farm Show Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that was developed to stimulate, facilitate, and support educational programs, incentives and events relating to the annual Farm Show event.

Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation Inc.
2300 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110

New in 2018: Calving Corner Presents New Life on the Farm

Every day, new life begins on the farm. At the 2018 Farm Show, visitors can witness the miracle of birth at the new Calving Corner. The Calving Corner is more than just an opportunity to share the miracle of life. Visitors will get an in-depth look at the care and stewardship farmers invest in the health and well-being of their animals. It will be located in the Northeast Hall.



The dairy cow birthing center provides a unique platform for farm families and agricultural representatives to interact directly with families visiting the Show. Farmers, volunteers, veterinarians and college interns will answer questions, explain the calving process, and describe how the people in the dairy industry work each day to ensure that the dairy products on store shelves are healthy, safe, and nutritious. The hope is that these conversations will build and strengthen relationships between consumers and the people who produce their food.

In addition to the cows and their newborn calves, interactive learning stations, including "Susan" the mechanical milking cow, will be featured at the Calving Corner.

Each participating farm will send four cows that will give birth during the week, providing the public with the opportunity to witness the birth of a calf. The cows and calves will receive 'round-the-clock care from onsite herdspeople, veterinarians and farmers.

The Calving Corner is a partnership of the Pennsylvania Dairyman's Association, the Center for Dairy Excellence, American Dairy Association North East, and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The Land O'Lakes Foundation and Professional Dairy Producers of Pennsylvania are key financial supporters.

Two Named to Board

The Friends of Farm Show added two board members this fall. Both new additions have been involved in Farm Show for many years.



Lela Reichart currently serves at the Vice President of Strategic Development at Serman Masser, Inc. in Sacramento, Pennsylvania. She joined the

company in 2016 following a career at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, as the Director of Marketing and Economic Development.

Lela is the principal owner of a 176 acre farm in Adams County where she and her husband Brian and their two children, Ryderlee and Artem have an orchard; and row crops.



Gerald Reichard, Waynesburg, PA, has been in the crop insurance business for the past twelve years. He was previously the Adult Farmer Education

Coordinator for the Shippensburg School District. He has worked as a floor coordinator at the Farm Show for about thirteen years.

Gerald is a graduate of Delaware Valley University, Doylestown, PA. He and his wife Teresa are the parents of two boys, Chad and Brett, and are soon to be empty nesters.

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please send a request to farmshowfriends@gmail.com

Amazing Dedication

The annual Pennsylvania Farm Show is held in January in the heart of the winter season. The challenges are more difficult when you deal with ice, snow and cold temperatures, add to that, the size of the event. Farm Show is one of the largest indoor, and successful agriculture shows in America. The success of the Farm Show is largely due to the many volunteers and the staff at the Farm Show Complex who are all eager to see that your experience at Farm Show will be the best ever.

This year's total number of volunteers will be approximately 2,893. Volunteers come from nearly all 67 counties in Pennsylvania, and from the states of Ohio, Maryland and Florida.

So, what do all these volunteers do?

It is the volunteers that answer your questions at both the information booth and the Penn State University booth.

It is the volunteers in Family Living and Farm Products who accept the entries, assist the judges and display the winning entries. Many of these volunteers come to Farm Show on the Wednesday before the show and don't leave until the day after the show closes.

It is the volunteers who organize all the animal shows and see to it that everything runs smoothly at each show.

It is the volunteers who run the sled and the horse and pony pulls.

It is the volunteers who operate the carousel and sell the ride tickets so the children can have a "fun" experience in January.

It is the volunteers who prepare and serve all that yummy food in the Food court. All eighteen commodity food booths in the Food Court are non-profits which reinvest their proceeds back into Pennsylvania agriculture.

So, what are the Farm Show employee's responsibilities? It is the Administration staff who receive all the entries, provide the judges, manage the many details of a packed filled show agenda.

It is the Security Staff that you meet as you arrive on site, traffic control, ticket taking, parking and security throughout the complex.

It is the Boiler Room staff who keep the complex warm and comfortable.

It is the Electrical staff who keep the lights on and supply electric to the Food Court, Vendors, and Exhibitors.

It is the Maintenance staff who do all the stall set-ups, maintain the arena floors, trash management and event set-ups. Yes, it is the volunteers and the Farm Show staff that make the Farm show the premier event that it is.

A big thank you to all of these volunteers and Farm Show staff for doing an amazing job – your commitment and passion for the show are greatly appreciated by everyone in the Commonwealth.



Volunteers at the 2017 Farm Show

Upcoming Events at the Farm Show Complex

January 2018

- 1/16-1/17 Mid Atlantic Breeders Sale
- 1/16-1/17 PA Draft Horse Sale
- 1/25-1/28 PA Auto Show
- 1/26-1/27 Harrisburg Heat Soccer

February 2018

- 2/3-2/11 Great American Outdoor Show
- 2/17-2/18 Motorama Arena Races & Speed Show
- 2/22-2/25 Harrisburg RV & Camping Show
- 2/23-2/25 Boys Atlantic Northeastern Volleyball
- 2/23-2/24 Harrisburg Heat Soccer

March 2018

- 3/1-3/5 Horse World Expo
- 3/1-3/4 PA Home Show
- 3/15-3/17 Keystone Truck & Tractor Pull
- 3/24-3/25 KRVA Girls Bid and Club Challenge Volleyball
- 3/24 Antique Tractor Pull
- 3/30 PA Holstein Association Show & Sale

April 2018

- 4/6-4/8 PA State Indoor Archery Championship
- 4/6-4/7 PA Relief Sale

For more information on these and other Farm Show Complex events, go to <http://pafarmshowcomplex.pa.gov/events>

Foundation Contact Information

Email Address: farmshowfriends@gmail.com

Website: www.friendsoffarmshow.com

Like us on Facebook: [FriendsofPAFarmShow](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofPAFarmShow)

In the News



With the commonwealth's budget package now complete, Governor Tom Wolf released funding for state-sponsored shows at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex and Expo Center, including \$215,000 for both the All-American Dairy Show and the Keystone International Livestock Exposition, and \$169,000 for youth shows. The General Assembly increased funding to all three appropriations in this year's budget.

Mike Firestine, Vice Chair of the Friends of PA Farm Show Foundation, was recently awarded the Bruning Award from the American Bankers Association.

This award is given annually to one person in the USA for leadership and outstanding dedication to providing credit and financial guidance to farmers and rural businesses. Mike is a senior vice president with Fulton Bank in Southeast Pennsylvania. Congratulations, Mike!



Mike Firestine, center, with his wife Martene and Phil Wenger, CEO of Fulton Bank.

Be sure to stop by the Outback Toys Booth behind the Food Court in the

Expo Hall to purchase your official Farm Show souvenirs. The featured tractor this year is an ERTL Production 1/16 1939 IH Farmall "M" in three colors. The bank is a 1/25 1957 Chevy Pickup and the truck is a 1/64 Peterbilt with Renegade Lowboy, Binkley & Hurst. Also available will be a mug, a hat and animal magnets.

As a fundraiser to support the Friends mission, a 102nd Annual Farm Show pin has been developed, featuring the 2018 theme, "Strength In Our Diversity." Stop by the Friends booth in the Expo Hall next to the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. Also available will be the 100th pin, the 101st pin and the 100th anniversary hardcover book, "Hold Your Horses" by Mary Klaus.

EDUCATE • FACILITATE • SUPPORT • STIMULATE

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE FRIENDS

717. 517.1351 • [HTTPS://FRIENDSOFFARMSHOW.COM](https://friendsoffarmshow.com) • [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FRIENDSOFPAFARMSHOW](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofpafarmshow)

Consider Joining the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. www.friendsoffarmshow.com

In 2010, the Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, Inc. was established to stimulate, facilitate and support educational programs, incentives and events relating to the annual Pennsylvania Farm Show. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

We encourage you to become a friend. Contributions are \$50.00 annually or \$500.00 to become a lifetime friend. An association contribution is \$500.00 annually and corporate/business is \$1,000.00. For a membership application, contact Larry Weaver, 2300 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA 17110 or call 717-443-0142 or email weaverland.lw@gmail.com.