



NEW YORK FARM BUREAU STATE ANNUAL MEETING

DECEMBER 5 – 6, 2017

DESMOND HOTEL
& CONFERENCE CENTER
ALBANY, NY

GENERAL INFORMATION

New York Farm Bureau, the voice of NY agriculture, will conduct its 61st State Annual Meeting at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center, 660 Albany-Shaker Rd., Albany, New York, on December 5 – 6, 2017.

Farm Bureau's grassroots policy development process begins at the county level with problem identification, and culminates at the New York Farm Bureau State Annual Meeting with a resolution addressing the issue in delegate session. The meeting will officially begin with the Opening General Session at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5.

The agenda is enclosed. Once again this year, the meeting will end after the Nationwide Banquet & Evening Program on Wednesday, December 6. **District Caucus Reports, ByLaws and the Dues Resolution will all be done at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 6.** If resolutions are not done, the delegate body may decide to continue after elections, or reconvene Thursday morning. Please note this when making your reservations. Delegate reimbursement includes two nights lodging (Tuesday and Wednesday nights, based on double occupancy), Tuesday dinner, and Wednesday's lunch and banquet. If you make a reservation for the banquet, but leave after delegate session ends, you will not be refunded for the banquet.

The Executive Director's and Treasurer's reports, and the President's Address, will be presented at the Opening General Session on Tuesday. National resolutions will begin following those presentations.

There will be a Membership Breakfast on Wednesday morning. This breakfast is paid for by New York Farm Bureau, however, **reservations are required!!!** Please make your reservation on the meal reservation form.

REGISTRATION/RESERVATIONS

The **Hotel Reservation Form** should be completed and returned directly to the Desmond Hotel for overnight rooms. The New York Farm Bureau rate is \$119.00/night, single or double. With taxes, the one-night charge will be \$135.66. A deposit of at least one night equal to one night's charge needs to be sent with the form. There is also a link on our website, www.nyfb.org, to reserve a room online.

The **Meeting and Meal Registration Form** needs to be sent directly to New York Farm Bureau, along with full payment. This form will be used for name badges and meal reservations. All attendees must check-in at the NYFB registration desk to get a name badge. Attendees will not be admitted to any event at the meeting without a NYFB-issued name badge. Again, there is a link on our website, www.nyfb.org, to register for the meeting and meals. Checks for meal reservations should be made payable to New York Farm Bureau. MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover credit cards will also be accepted.

If you have additional questions regarding State Annual Meeting, please contact Pamela Rafferty at 518-431-5606, or by email at prafferty@nyfb.org.

MEAL PACKAGES

The full meal package consists of Tuesday dinner, Wednesday lunch, and dinner. There are no general breakfasts on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, and there will be no general lunch on Tuesday. The hospitality area will again be open with coffee, muffins, etc. for those who don't need a big breakfast. In addition, the hotel restaurant will be open for breakfast and lunch. Attendees are encouraged to have lunch before reaching the hotel on Tuesday. Lunch is at the attendee's expense, and will not be reimbursed as a delegate expense. The hotel restaurant will be open, and there are other restaurants in the area.

Special Meals

Following are special meals that have been arranged.

Tuesday, December 6:

Young Farmer & Rancher Lunch/Business Session – 11:45 a.m. - \$35/person

Elections for chair and district representatives, other business, and lunch will be conducted at this time. All young farmers are encouraged to attend. Young farmers are between 18 and 35 years of age. Only young farmer and rancher delegates authorized by their county Farm Bureau are permitted to vote. Reservations are required in advance, along with payment.

Promotion & Education Lunch/Business Session – 11:45 a.m. - \$35/person

Elections for chair and district representatives, other business, and lunch will be conducted at this time. All county promotion & education chairs, along with those interested in this program, are encouraged to attend. Only ProEd delegates authorized by their county Farm Bureau are permitted to vote. Reservations are required in advance, along with payment.

Wednesday, December 7:

Membership Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. – No Charge

All members are invited as NYFB's guests to this Membership Breakfast. Individual membership awards, along with other awards, will be presented during this breakfast. Although there is no charge for the breakfast, reservations are required in advance.

The reservation deadline is November 17, 2017!!