

Saratoga County Farm Bureau News January 2019



To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture

President's Message: Hello folks! It has been a



while since I have written you. I had every intention of writing to you before the holiday season, but that has come and gone! It is funny how that happens with life! I hope that every one of you had a safe and happy holiday season with friends and family. Now, I hope that you are staying warm and healthy and

preparing for a busy spring ahead. As everyone of you knows, it will be here before we are ready for it! I will now get you updated on what Saratoga County Farm Bureau has been doing the last few months.

The last time I wrote to you was in September before the County Annual Meeting. The officers of the board of directors for Saratoga County Farm Bureau were all re-elected for the coming year. We also reaffirmed many old policies and passed, with some discussion, many new policies.

In November, we had our normal business meeting and a District 8 resolutions meeting at CCE in Ballston Spa. I was the only one that attended the resolutions meeting. I followed up with Vice President Mike Schwerd after the meeting and before State Annual Meeting.

In December, Saratoga County Farm Bureau was represented at the State Annual Meeting by Mike Schwerd and myself. The county Farm Bureau won all four of the County Awards of Excellence and I received the Distinguished President award. In case you were wondering, they changed the Silver Key awards to the County Awards of Excellence with only four categories instead of eight. Unfortunately, we weren't able to get any of the resolutions from Saratoga County passed at the State Annual Meeting. At our December board meeting we discussed the State Annual Meeting, membership, and started planning for the upcoming year. This included the Saratoga Plan Conference, Lobby Days, the Rural Urban Dinner at Panza's, Sundae on the Farm and membership.

Cont'd on back:

Saratoga County Farm Bureau Scholarship Available Now

APPLY NOW

A \$250 scholarship will be awarded to high school seniors pursuing post-secondary education for a career in agriculture or agribusiness. Farm Bureau membership is not required to complete an application. Applicant must be a graduate of a Saratoga County, NY school. If interested, contact New York Farm Bureau Eastern Regional Office at eny@nyfb.org or 1-866-995-7300. Deadline is Apr. 1.



SAVE THE DATES

- **Friday, March 2**
Rural Urban Dinner
- **Monday, March 4**
Taste of NY Reception
- **Tuesday, March 5**
Lobby Days
- **March 18**
Agricultural Literacy Week
- **Sunday, June 16**
Sundae on the Farm



NYFB members can now save up to \$2,500 on new CAT machines.

Including: wheel loaders, skid steers, backhoes, excavators and more.

Members must provide a valid Member Verification certificate at the time of purchase. Go to NYFB.org/member-benefits to obtain your certificate.



1.800.342.4143

NYFB.org

President's Message (cont'd):

We confirmed the Rural Urban Dinner will be at Panza's restaurant on March 2 at 6 p.m. with dinner being served at 7 p.m. Our speaker this year is Jim Myers, a grape specialist with the CCE ENY Horticulture Team. This year we will also be raising money for the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY by doing raffle drawings for local products and to local restaurants. We will also be presenting the Conservation Farm of the Year award with the help of Saratoga County Soil and Water. We also discussed Lobby Days and came up with a plan for Saratoga County Farm Bureau's representatives. John Arnold is going to the Saratoga Plan Conference again this year to represent Saratoga County Farm Bureau. We discussed the annual budget and came up with the

spending plan for the year. The last thing discussed at our January meeting was membership and how to get the remaining non-renewals to rejoin the organization.

As you may have noticed, Saratoga County Farm Bureau has been busy the last few months. I have mentioned membership numerous times because Farm Bureau is only as strong as its membership. If you like the good things Farm Bureau has done for us, I encourage you to sign up new members or go out and remind the non-renewals about the good things the organization has done. I want to thank all of you for being members of this great organization. Without you, we wouldn't have been able to score the legislative victories we did last year, and this year is only going to be tougher! Until the next time, stay strong and farm on!

Sincerely, Jamie Pettis III



159 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205



Saratoga County Farm Bureau President Jamie Pettis and Vice President Mike Schwerd, Jr. taking a moment together for a picture at this year's State Annual Meeting.

Saratoga County Farm Bureau Board of Directors *Remember to dial 518 first.*

Jamie Pettis, President	695-4725
Mike Schwerd, Vice President	699-3173
Amy Larmon, Secretary	755-3781
Jeremy Knight, Treasurer	399-6503
John Arnold, Membership Chair	743-8473
Bud South	882-1571
Joe Battaglia	664-9070
Kristie Beals	N/A
Kim Trombly NYFB Field Advisor	935-8569
Dean Casey, NYFB Director	796-4874
NYFB Regional Office	866-995-7300