

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We have all been dealing with changing weather patterns. Probably a few of us have had to deal with comments about harmful algal blooms in the lakes being our fault. We decided to use our annual policy meeting to discuss the issues not just with our members, but also with our neighbors. Please join us on Sept. 28 at 1 p.m. for *Nutrients in the Watershed, Unusual Weather, and Harmful Algal Blooms: A Public Conversation* to be held at South Seneca School in Ovid. Two of our local farmers, Bruce Austic of Bruce Austic Farms and Bruce Murray of Boundary Breaks Vineyard and Winery, have agreed to speak to explain what they are doing to protect the watershed. Additional details on this event are located on page 3 of this newsletter. You may have seen, and hopefully attended, one of our Twilight Farm Tours along with the Farm to Table Dinner over the summer. Cornell Cooperative Extension and Seneca County Soil and Water partnered with Seneca County Farm Bureau to hold tours showcasing the projects

Wagner Vineyard, Autumn Harvest Farms, Person Farm, and Lott Farms had undertaken to help protect the watershed. As you can tell, watershed issues are a big concern now.

Of course, the crazy session in Albany that ended with the new Farm Labor Bill and quite a few other laws has been a major concern. We are all going to need to work together if we are going to stop the bans on many of our commonly used herbicides and pesticides. If you have not looked at the NYFB Alert regarding changes to the definition of a farm building in the NYS Building Codes, you should. You need to stay vigilant and be ready to e-lobby, pick up the phone and even travel to Albany as new threats to our farms are proposed in Albany. While the county Farm Bureau board does what it can to help, board members are volunteers with farms to run just like you. Things this important we cannot fight on our own, numbers matter. Seneca County Farm Bureau needs every farmer and every farmer needs Seneca County Farm Bureau. Please ask your neighbors if they are members. If they are not, have them go to www.nyfb.org and join!

Please note, we have a new address: P.O. Box 11, Fayette, NY 13065. We no longer have an office phone number. Please contact a board member if you have a concern or question.

We will see you at the County Annual Meeting dinner on Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. at the Ginny Lee at Wagner Vineyards (details are on the front page of this newsletter). We owe Kathy Lott a big THANK YOU for fundraising to cover the cost of the dinner, keeping it **FREE**. Thank you Kathy!

Thank you for your continued support.

Ann Marie Heizmann
President

2019 PROMOTION & EDUCATION SUMMIT

THE POWER OF MAKING CONNECTIONS NOV. 2-3, 2019 DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, SYRACUSE, NY

- Explore resources and ideas to engage those around us
- Share tools to connect with consumers who are eager to learn about food and farming

Workshops on:

- Social Media
- Consumer Engagement
- GMO's
- Telling Your Story
- Tools and Resources

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Kim Bremmer
from Ag Inspirations in Wisconsin

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:

800-342-4143 * NYFB.ORG/EVENTS



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Nutrients in the Watershed, Unusual Weather, and Harmful Algal Blooms: A Public Conversation

Please join us for this important community discussion. The Cayuga and Seneca Lake communities have been confronted by harmful algal blooms (HABs) on the lakes, changing weather patterns, and nutrients throughout the watershed. This forum seeks to address complex issues through public dialogue between community members and a panel of experts.

Saturday, Sept. 28

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

South Seneca School

7263 Main St. Ovid, NY

Refreshments will be provided by a generous donation from the Seneca Meadows Landfill

Panelists will provide 10 minute presentations on their topics prior to an open discussion

Greg Boyer, Director, Great Lakes Research Consortium and Professor of Biochemistry, SUNY - College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Cyanobacteria , Blooms, and Nutrients

Greg Albrecht, Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Coordinator, NYS Soil & Water Conservation Committee and NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets

Nutrient Management and Conservation Practices by Farms

Bruce Austic, Owner, Austic Farms

Nutrient Management and Tile Lines

Bruce Murray, Owner, Boundary Breaks Winery

Storm Water Design

Stephen Penningroth, Executive Director, Community Science Institute (CSI)

Long-Term Nutrient Data Sets in the Cayuga and Seneca Lake Watersheds

Mark W. Wysocki, Senior Lecturer in Meteorology and New York State Climatologist, Cornell University

Floods, Droughts, and Temperature Swings: Not Your Grandfather's Weather

2:15 - 2:30 p.m.: Break to submit questions and for refreshments.

2:30 p.m. - Close: Questions from the audience and community. Time for guided discussion.

We invite you to come and listen to the discussion, and we encourage you to participate!

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FOR HELPING TAKE OUR
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