

# Warren County Future of Ag Task Force

## MONTHLY MEETING NOTES

January 27, 2010

### Members Present:

Les Sanford, Mark Lawson, Karen Davis, Lee Curtis, Joan Hammel, Pam Stoleson, Heather Wilcox, George Wilcox, Cindy Paulmier, Linda Nichols

### Extension Update:

Pat Strickland retired on January 15. George hopes to have the position filled by the middle of February. Chris Mosbach has been doing several educational programs including the upcoming Eagle watch. The programs have been receiving a lot of good publicity.

### Producer Committee Report:

1. **AG Week:** George passed out a set of leaflets promoting Ag Week 2010. George will get the material to Joan for the web site. These leaflets are being sent out in the mail in the next few days. Karen will put the information on the Warren Cable Channel 11. Cindy will work on getting an article to the Warren Paper, Valley Voice, Corry Journal, Steppin' Out as well as PSAs on the radio.
2. **Farmer Market at the Fair:** The committee discussed this idea as it has been done in past years. A new idea to try for this year would be to have an individual farmer take a day to sell produce from a truck throughout the camp ground rather than selling from a stationary stand.
3. **Signs:** John Eggleston had offered to let us use his large political signs and having them re-lettered to promote agriculture. Cindy is going to talk to John about using his signs and look into what it would take to have the signs re-lettered.

### Consumer Committee:

1. **PA DEP Environmental Education Grant request for Mobile Ag Lab:** Heather applied for a DEP-EE Grant to bring the Farm Bureau Mobile Ag Lab to the Warren County School District for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade students. We will not know till near the end of April if we will receive the grant.
2. **Warren Ag Web Site:** There is continued concern about wither or not the web site is getting enough usage. There is also a need for additional article submissions from additional writers. Karen suggested that we have a blank form that can be used to interview producers and then showcased them on the website. Karen will make an interview form that can be used for all interviews. Cindy suggested that we do an article on all the producers listed in the current producer's brochure. George suggested that we work on some timing with those producers. For example post an interview with a blueberry producer during blueberry season, a maple syrup producer during maple season and so on. Several ideas were discussed. All members will think of who they would like to have interviewed. And also think of a writer who can put the stories together for the web site.
3. **Producers Leaflet:** Supplies are running low. Should we do another producer leaflet and try to get even more producers listed? It was suggested that we do not rush to get another brochure done but rather take the time to get as many producers listed as possible. Producers need personal contacts as a follow up to the letter.

### Date & Time of Next Meeting:

February 24, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

**Other Notes:** Send list of committee members to all task force. Consumer committee will meet again in April or May depending on if we receive the EE Grant. We will also discuss the fall tour then too.