

Future dairy leader scholarships available for attending the 2010 PA Dairy Summit

By SHERRY BUNTING
Special for Farmshine

LANCASTER, Pa.—It happens every year and it's been attracting increasing numbers of "future dairy leaders." The 2010 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit, planned for February 3 and 4 at the Lancaster Host Resort, offers a unique learning experience for students and young adults on the dairy farm.

The Summit is a premier dairy industry event, co-hosted annually by the Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (PDMP) and the Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders with supporting partners: Penn State Dairy Alliance, an initiative of cooperative extension; Center for Dairy Excellence; and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Summit attendance by young people is growing: Thanks in part to the sponsorship of a major portion of their registration fee by the Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders and Pennsylvania Dairyman's Association. The two organizations share the cost of the scholarship program for a total commitment of \$8,000.

Future Dairy Leader Scholarships for PA Dairy Summit attendance will be awarded in January 2010, so the application deadline is December 31, 2009.

"We love having young people participate in the Summit," says Alan Bair, facilitator for the Dairy Stakeholders. "Not only is it a learning experience. It is also a great way for students and young dairy operators and employees to network with others in the industry and to interact with positive-minded producers."

In the past, most applicants have been college students, particularly from Penn State and Delaware Valley College. However, Bair emphasizes the Summit Scholarships are not just for students. "This is a great opportunity for young people on the dairy farm to meet other producers and be exposed to new ideas," he adds. The purpose of these scholarships is to encourage younger persons who have an interest in the dairy industry to attend the 2010 Pennsylvania Dairy Summit.

Each individual scholarship will have a value of \$55 to be used as part of a full Summit registration of \$200. Persons qualifying for these scholarships will also qualify for the \$120 reimbursement made available through the Workforce Investment Board. The Scholarship recipient will be responsible for the remaining \$25 Summit registration fee.

Scholarships are also available to offset hotel costs. Up to 25 one or two night Hotel Scholarships are available for Dairy Leader Scholarship winners. These scholarships may only be used on February 2 and/or 3, 2010. Each Hotel Scholarship has a maximum value of \$110 per night or \$220 total. Preference will be given to groups of scholarship applicants who apply together and are willing to share accommodations, and to persons residing the greatest distance away from Lancaster. These scholarships will be paid as a reimbursement following the Summit. Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the participant.

Eligible Scholarship Applicants – Awardees:

1. The age of the participant must be between 17 and 25 on February 1, 2010.
2. The applicant must meet at least one of these criteria:
 - a. operates a dairy farm,
 - b. is employed on a dairy farm,
 - c. is enrolled in an agricultural degree program in a college or trade school.
3. Applicant must be a resident of Pennsylvania, or enrolled in an agricultural degree program in a Pennsylvania college or trade school.
4. Applicant must agree to register for and attend the 2010 PA Dairy Summit and pay \$25 at the time of registration.

Scholarship Selection:

Scholarships will be awarded on the following criteria and at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee

1. Date application is received.
2. Distribution of applicants from different geographic regions of the state, institutions represented, and overall demand for scholarships.
3. Applicant's expressed interest in the program and future plans for involvement in the Pennsylvania dairy industry.

Application process:

1. Applications are to be e-mailed to nab4@psu.edu or faxed to 717-948-6611. Applications may also be sent to N. Alan Bair, Pennsylvania Dairy Stakeholders, 777 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057.
2. Application must be received by December 31, 2009 to be considered.
3. Successful applicants will be notified by e-mail by January 7, 2010, and will be asked to remit the remaining \$25 registration fee indicating their acceptance of the scholarship, and the Dairy Summit registration form, to the PA Dairy Summit office.

Visit www.padairysummit.org

PDMP Dairy Industry Issue Forum

Thursday, November 5, 2009

West Pennsboro Fire Hall, Cumberland County, PA

"Dairy's Place in the Global Market"

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Featured Presentations

The Impact of World Trade on Domestic Marketing & Ingredients, *Alan Reed, Sr. VP, U.S. Manufacturing & Ingredient Marketing, DMI*

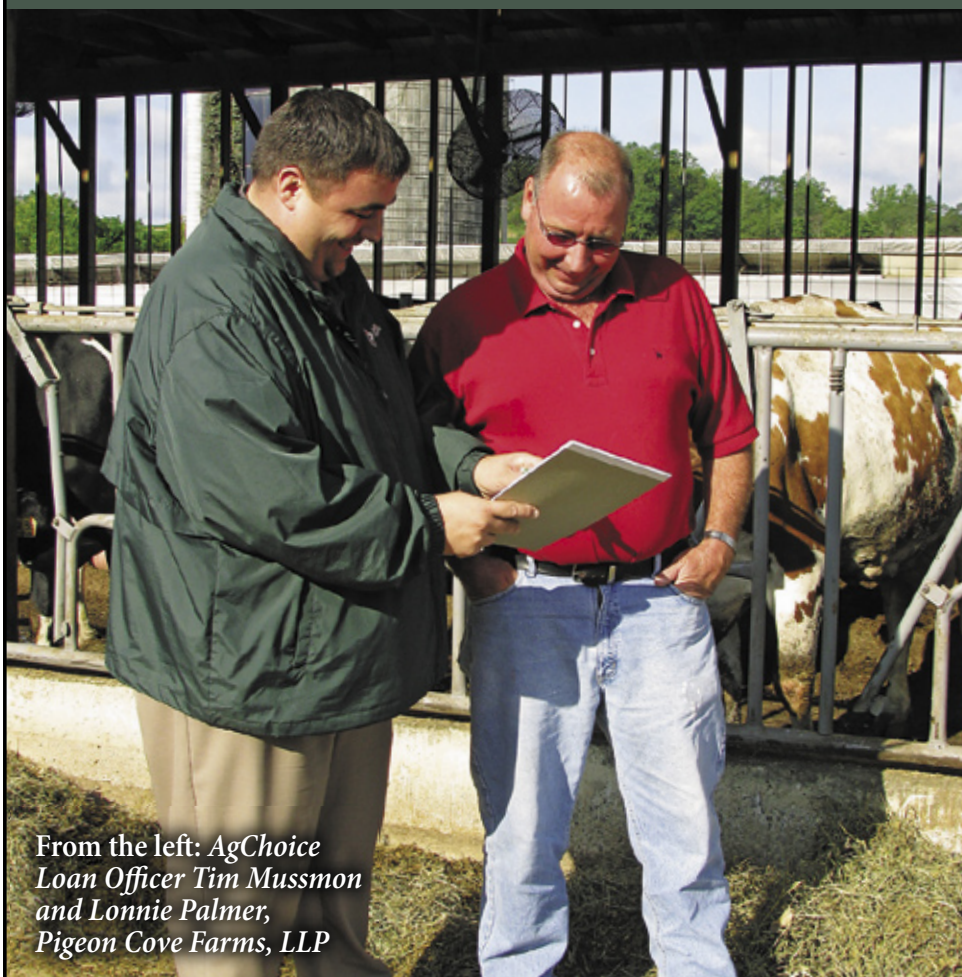
The Role and Influence of the PA Milk Marketing Board (PMMB) on Pricing, *John Howard, Staff Attorney, PMMB*

Retail Marketing and Pricing, *Robert Schupper, Dairy Category Manager for Giant Food Stores*

Lunch served at the Fire Hall Followed by a tour of Giant Distribution Center

Call 877.326.5993 to register or visit www.pdmp.org

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