



Volume 4, Issue 2, July 2011

Around the Horn... *News from the Farm*



Second Annual TomatoFest Slated for Saturday, August 13th

Join us at the farm for the 2nd annual TomatoFest to be held on Saturday, August 13th from noon to 5 - rain or shine. We will celebrate the heritage of the tomato with tastings, live music, games, food, fun and more!



Heirloom tomatoes are making a much-deserved comeback. An heirloom tomato is a variety grown for more than 50 years or one that was introduced before 1940. Maybe your family has saved and passed down open-pollinated seeds of a favorite tomato. Explore the different shapes, sizes, colors and tastes of heirloom tomatoes.

Don't miss this day filled with all things tomato! Learn about heirloom varieties and get some tips for growing and caring for heirloom tomatoes, including seed saving and how to

organically control pests. Explore the many ways to cook with heirloom tomatoes and preserve them for enjoyment during those long, cold days of winter. Buy fresh produce grown at Horn Farm Center from one of the Horn Farm Incubator Farmers. Treat the kids to a day of tomato fun – games, activities, crafts and entertainment. There will be live music – and much more. Save the date!

Volunteers are needed. If you are interested in helping to plan, or wish to volunteer the day of the event, please contact Metta Barbour at 717-368-2266.

59 Gardeners Tending 102 Plots at Horn Farm's Community Gardens

There is a lot of activity happening on Horn Farmland these days!

Our three Incubator Farmers have been busy planting a variety of crops in the fields west of Horn Road. Jeremy Kilgore, Jon Darby and Kevin Strouse made good use of the Center's newly acquired tractors, attachments and other farm equipment to prepare for the array of vegetables that they will be selling this season through their CSAs and at local markets and restaurants. In addition, they will be manning a farmstand at the Horn Farm's Corn Barn on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Be sure to watch for signs along the roads to the Center announcing when the farmstand is open.

After a weather-related delay, the Community Gardens opened late in April for the third season. This year 59 gardeners – old-timers and newcomers – are using the 102 plots at the Gardens, raising vegetables and flowers, sharing

gardening tips and stories, and enjoying the abundant sunshine, fertile soils and gardening camaraderie the Horn Farm offers. We encountered gardener Joe Mowery planting heirloom tomato plants he had raised from seeds saved from the Heirloom vegetable patch he had at the Horn Farm last year! Thanks to long hours of hard work by dedicated volunteers a new system has been put in place to bring water from a spring north of the Gardens area down to faucets on the northern edge of the gardens. This water supply will supplement the rain collection cisterns at the farmhouse during the hot, dry summer months.

The Potato Patch Project also got off to a bit of a late start because of the excessive wet weather in the spring that made the soil too wet to till for a while, but now the 15 patches are planted and each is sporting four straw-mulched rows of rapidly growing potato plants. Four kinds of potatoes – red, white, blue and

yellow – will be harvested from the patches later in the summer, and Patch Project participants will help to compile a *Potato Recipe Cookbook*, featuring favorite recipes using this versatile crop. Featuring a different theme every year and always a favorite family activity at the Horn Farm, the Patch Project is now in its fourth year.



From left to right: Steve Wolf, Steve Munchel & Gary Jones installing water system for the Horn Farm Community Gardens.

Incubator Farmers Project Off and Running

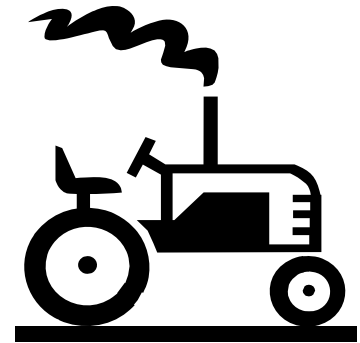
We think of farmers as standing outside the incubator, but in this age of huge agribusiness operations, small-scale farmers themselves need nurturing as well. The Horn Farm is providing just that through its Incubator Farms Project. According to David Dietz, chairperson of the Modern Homestead Farm Committee and local organic farmer, 3 plots (of 1 to 2 acres each) just west of the new Jeffrey Crist pole barn, will be farmed by local individuals (Jonathan Darby, Jeremy Kilgore, and Kevin Strouse.)

The incubator farmers will be able to make use of the Horn Farm's prime farm land, water supply, and farm equipment to grow vegetables and small fruit to be sold in local farmers' markets and to restaurants as well as at the proposed farmstand at the Horn Farm. After a three

to five year period, the Horn Farm Center plans to help this group of farmers get established in more permanent operations elsewhere. The vision is to provide new local farmers with the resources (infrastructure, equipment, marketing network, and prime land leased at a reasonable rate) to foster independent small-scale farm operations on available farmland. Dietz and his committee will use a grant provided by the York County Community Foundation to hire a Farm Manager to oversee the operation. Thanks to the generosity of local contributors like Evamae and Dale Crist, the pole barn is now available for cleaning and storing the produce and housing the farm equipment. The farm is still looking for several pieces of equipment, such as a tractor-mounted rototiller, a walk-behind rototiller, another cultivating tractor, a bush hog, farm

wagons and carts, as well as various hand tools. There is an urgent need also is for a walk-in cooler.

There is still some land available for future expansion of the Incubator Farms



Project. Anyone interested in more details

Elizabeth Otterbein Receives Girl Scout Gold Award

Elizabeth Otterbein, Girl Scout Troop 148, Hellam, Pennsylvania, received her Girl Scout Gold Award at a special Award Ceremony on April 30, 2011, at the Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education. For her Gold Award Project, Elizabeth created a compendium of oral histories gathered by interviewing persons who

had been involved with the Horn Farm. She interviewed Paul McCleary, Marie Horn Altland, Larry Gordon and Leonard Leiphart spanning the history of the farm from 1940 to the present. With the help of Sandra Pruitt, Professor at York College, she devised the interview format, conducted the interviews, transcribed the tapes, and put transcriptions and copies of photographs into a volume that is available to the public. Copies of this volume were given to The Horn Farm Center for Agricultural Education, York College, and Eastern York High School Library. Warren Evans, President of the Horn Farm Board, said that "the volume makes an extremely valuable addition to the Center's archives."

Using the information gathered in her interviews, Elizabeth also developed an historical walking tour entitled "The Horn Farm Picture Show." She has given the tour to over 300 people at various events held at the Center. Elizabeth wanted to work with the Horn Farm Center because of her passion for farmland preservation and the economic, and health benefits of buying locally produced food. Last summer she worked as an intern for YorkCounts promoting the "Buy Fresh, Buy Local" campaign. Elizabeth will be attending Cleveland State University to study English with a concentration in Creative Writing. So that her tours can continue after she leaves, she is training another Girl Scout to take her place. Historic tours are planned with patrons of the Kreuz Creek Library in June and at the Tomatofest event on August 13, 2011.



Elizabeth accepting roses from Rep. Gillespie on porch of Horn Farmhouse in recognition of her award.

Thank You!

To Board member Steve Wolf, in particular, for working with NuTec Designs, a local engineering firm, which created landscape maps of the HFC free of charge and secured the two large cisterns at below their retail cost, saving us a lot of money. Steve also spent long hours on the backhoe, expertly digging and refilling trenches and leveling out the landscape.

To Board member Gary Jones who also worked long and hard on the procurement, excavation and placement of the system's components and who rounded up volunteers to help: Steve Munchel, Dennis McAvoy and his nephew Steve, Chuck Reese and John Smith.

To Mike Flinchbaugh who helped to dig the trench for the water line.

To Mark Flaharty of the York County Conservation District, who laid out the plan and route of the water system components and created useful maps for the project.

HFC Wish List

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Walk-behind tiller | Directional signs |
| Mounted tiller | Permanent signage for trail |
| Trailer or wagon | Peg Board for pole barn |
| Bush hog | File cabinet |
| Front end loader | Historic researcher |
| Hi quality wheel hoe | Web designer/maintainer |
| Trimmer mower | <u>VOLUNTEERS</u> |
| 2 bottom plow | |
| Cultivating tractor | |
| Walk-in cooler | |
| Garden tools | |
| Computer | |
| Dehumidifier | |

Horn Farm Center Receives Generous Anderson Family Grant from YCCF

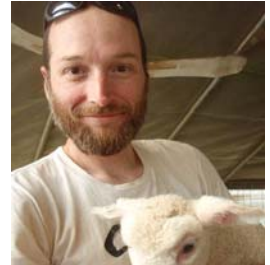
The York County Community Foundation recently awarded the Horn Farm Center \$18,000 to further the goals of the Modern Homestead Farm Project. This generous grant, made possible by the Robert S. Anderson Family Fund, will support the work of a part-time farm manager for one year.

The new farm manager, Jonathan Darby, will oversee the day-to-day operations of all the on-the-ground farming and gardening projects at the Center, including the Community Gardens and the Patch Project and

various aspects of the Incubator Farms Project. In addition to serving as an information resource for incubator farmers and gardeners, he will help to develop and coordinate farm and garden-related education projects and workshops, field demonstrations, and farm tours.

Jon is one of the Center's three Incubator Farmers. He has worked for more than six years at Goldfinch Farm CSA, where he participated in all aspects of the farm's operation. His Horn Farm Center Incubator Farm,

Sterling Farm, features a diversity of vegetable crops which he markets through his CSA and at local markets and farmstands, including the one at the Horn Farm.



New farm manager, Jonathan Darby

We are delighted to welcome this hardworking, personable, competent

Our Heartfelt Thanks to the Hogg Foundation

The Horn Farm Center Board wishes to send our heartfelt thanks to the James Hogg and Dave H. Hogg Family Foundations for the generous grants which were used to purchase a Farmall Cub cultivating tractor and a BCS tiller. The remaining funds were applied toward the purchase of a Case IH tractor and a trimmer mower. This equipment is essential to the Incubator Farms Project which began this year.



Leonard Leiphart teaches incubator farmers, Jeremy Kilgore and Kevin Strouse(on tractor), how to use the Case IH tractor purchased in part with the Hogg Grant.



Quotable Quote

**One sees the past better than it was;
One finds the present worse than it is;
One looks for a future better than it will be.**

Madame D'Epinay, 1726-1783



- 2-15 oz cans black beans, drained
- 1-1/2 c. corn
- 1 red or yellow bell pepper, diced
- 1 avocado diced (optional)
- 3 tomatoes chopped
- 4 green onions chopped
- 1/3 c fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1/3 c lime juice & olive oil
- 1/2 t salt, or to taste
- 1/8 t cayenne pepper

Southwest Bean and Corn Salad

Preparation:

In a large mixing bowl, combine beans, corn, bell pepper, avocado, tomatoes, onion and cilantro, and gently toss.

Whisk together the remaining ingredients, then pour over the beans mixture and gently stir to combine. Chill for at least an hour to allow flavors to mingle.

Recipe submitted by Kandace Huggins



HFC Salutes Eileen Campbell - Our Capable, Competent, Comptroller



A most important contributor to the success of the Horn Farm Center, who works quietly behind the scenes, is our Treasurer and Board Member, Eileen Campbell. Born and educated in Wrightsville, and now residing in her own historical home on Horn Road, she is an integral part of the day to day operation of the Horn farm and land which surrounds her home.

Eileen has a varied & illustrious background including office

management, advertising, and chief purchasing agent for a Fortune 500 company. She owned and managed a travel agency in York, then did travel consulting in the 1970's, while living in San Francisco with her late husband, Bill.

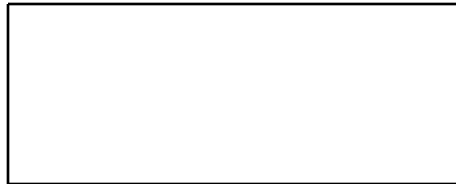
When Eileen returned to York in 1999, she became involved with the East York Smart Growth movement in Hellam, which later evolved into "Saving the Horn Farm." Working

on the Buildings and Grounds Committee, she was drafted into the HFCAE Board of Directors in 2007. In mid 2010, she got involved with the daily finance duties and was subsequently appointed Treasurer.

It's comforting to know that the Horn Farm finances are in such capable hands. Thank you Eileen – Our Gal Friday!



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In Memory of Charlie Siford

With much sadness we report that our beloved Horn Farm Center newsletter editor, Charlie Siford, passed away on July 7 at the age of 78 from complications following surgery. Charlie initiated the format of the HFC newsletter and its catchy title “Around the Horn” and faithfully produced it in a timely fashion for more than three years. He was putting the finishing touches on this edition the day before his surgery.

Charlie graduated from The Catholic University in Washington, D.C. with a degree in English, served in the U.S. Coast Guard, was a sales representative for 25 years

and retired from the Commonwealth of PA in 1996 as a telecommunications specialist. He enjoyed living in the country; he and his young family lived on a farm for 26 years and then moved to Hellam Township, where he was an active and enthusiastic supporter of anti-sprawl and land preservation initiatives.

Charlie was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, and our hearts go out to his wife, Verna, and his five children and 10 grandchildren. We at the Horn Farm Center will deeply miss him.



Charlie Siford
June 18, 1933—July 7, 2011