



New Hampshire
Farm Bureau Federation

Celebrating 100 Years

The Voice of Agriculture



1916 - 2016

NEW HAMPSHIRE FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

1916 - 2016

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*The Voice of Agriculture
for 100 Years*



**New Hampshire Farm Bureau members at the
2016 Summer Picnic & Candidate Forum**
Pleasant View Gardens, Loudon, NH

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Foreword

The 100th anniversary celebration of New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation will be held on November 11 and 12, 2016 as part of the Annual Meeting. Church Landing at Mill Falls in Meredith will be the location. Over the past year, every county has hosted an event to highlight Farm Bureau's presence in the county and to celebrate the 100 years that our Farm Bureau members have been working for the benefit of agriculture and of New Hampshire as a whole.

Farming has certainly changed rapidly in the past 25 years, but its importance to our state has never diminished. Agriculture continues to be the economic driver of the nation and the world. Sheep and potatoes were large parts of the agricultural landscape in New Hampshire at one time. Dairy has been the largest economic force for much of the recent history only to be supplanted by horticultural products in the past year or so. The growth of organic production has added a new twist to the farming world. The forest industry, maple production, equine activities, apple production, ornamental plants, Christmas trees, agritourism and many others are part of the diverse agricultural economy of the state as well.

Farmers spend a considerable amount of time, now, worrying about environmental issues, animal welfare issues, plant breeding methods, product labeling, understanding government regulations, legal issues, and finding employees. Technology is changing the way we farm. It might be bookkeeping, computerized milking of cows, drones flying over crops to check on them, tractors that operate without a person on board, equipment that monitors quantity and quality of a crop as it is being harvested or any number of other things. The percentage of the population that farm now is small and we have entered a time when most of an entire generation of people has had no involvement with and thus no knowledge of agriculture.

Educating people about what it takes to grow their food, fuel, and fiber has become an important part of what Farm Bureau does. Government regulators are struggling to keep up with swiftly changing



agricultural innovation and often make regulations that require a lot of vigilance by Farm Bureau and others. Many Legislators do not have any first hand farming knowledge so they too need to be educated when they are trying to write legislation relative to farming. The Environmental Protection Agency, Food and Drug Administration, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Humane Society of the US, and other government and private groups are constantly forcing Farm Bureau attentiveness to monitor what they are attempting to do.

With a decreasing number of farms, an aging farm community, and changes in insurance company policies, Farm Bureau Membership has fluctuated over the years. Adjusting our membership goals and strategies in a changing world has led to new and exciting methods as well as foreshadowed challenges for the future. We will continue to adapt and recruit as individuals and as an organization.

Every part of New Hampshire benefits from having a strong, active farming industry. The importance of Farm Bureau will not diminish in the foreseeable future. Those of us in the agriculture community know what a treasure we have and are committed to insuring that future generations will be able to carry on.

Please enjoy the following history compiled by NHFBF Staff and volunteers.



Denis Ward
NHFBF President

New Hampshire Farm Bureau Membership & Philosophy

Farm Bureau is an independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm and rural families united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity and social advancement and thereby, to promote the national well-being. Farm Bureau is local, state, national and international in its scope and influence and is non-partisan, non-sectarian and non-secret in character.

The philosophy of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation is to assist in developing, strengthening and correlating the work of the County Farm Bureaus in the State of New Hampshire; to unite with other states in maintaining the American Farm Bureau Federation; to encourage and promote cooperation of all representative agricultural organizations in every effort to improve facilities and conditions for the economic and efficient production, conservation, marketing, transportation and distribution of farm products; to develop and maintain the best type of home and community life; to further the study and enactment of constructive agricultural institutions cooperating with Farm Bureau in the determination of state policies; and to inform Farm Bureau members regarding all movements that affect their interests.

In 1916, when the Federation was organized, officers were elected to oversee its direction. The elected officers formed the board of directors which consisted of the President, a Secretary and a three person Executive Committee. As the direction and needs of the organization grew, the commitment to leadership changed. Presently, elected officers consist of the President, a First Vice-President, two Second Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer. The Executive Committee is composed of the elected officers, the President of the Associated Women and the Chairperson of the Young Farmers committee. The Executive Committee along with Presidents of the ten affiliated County Farm Bureaus makes up the full Board of Directors. The Administrator keeps a complete and accurate record of all proceedings of the Farm Bureau as well as acts as an ambassador in the community.

New Hampshire Farm Bureau Membership & Philosophy

The Board of Directors is tasked with fulfilling the mission of Farm Bureau as representatives for the larger membership. The past 100 years have brought great change to the landscape of New Hampshire. Technology, population, and the economy have all transformed leading to a very different agricultural outlook. According to the US Census of Agriculture, in 1920 New Hampshire reported over 20,000 farms in operation. By 1950 that number had dropped to 13,000 and today sits at just over 4,000.

Despite the shrinking number of farms, Farm Bureau membership has continued to be a vital asset to the state's agriculture industry. Providing a voice in the legislature, offering educational and leadership training opportunities, and keeping its members informed are all important roles Farm Bureau continues to play. With the resurgence of local food initiatives and more informed consumers, agriculture in New Hampshire has bucked the national trend of decreasing numbers of farms in recent years. With that change, New Hampshire Farm Bureau has been steadily increasing its membership for the last four years.

Over the past 100 years, the New Hampshire Farm Bureau has had fourteen State Presidents at the helm who have acted as the image makers of the organization. They have steered the organization through the many economic and social changes that have taken place. With strong leadership and an active grassroots membership, New Hampshire Farm Bureau is excited to continue its work of educating about and advocating for agriculture throughout the next 100 years.

Presidents

(Dates Reflect Year Elected)

1916	Roy D. Hunter	1975	Lawrence Underhill
1917	George M. Putnam	1980	Errol Peters
1950	George A. Bassett	1986	Sheldon S. Sawyer
1954	Stacey Cole	1991	Gordon H. Gowen
1961	Richard G. Kelley	2000	Wayne A. Mann
1962	A. Paul Stimson	2007	Jeffrey A. Holmes
1965	G. Allen Holmes	2015	Denis P. Ward

Each president, officer, board member and staff person has accepted the challenge of carrying out the policies voted on and adopted by the members of the organization. Policy development begins in the county when members submit and adopt resolutions for their county. Those county resolutions are brought together for review at the state annual meeting and are voted on and adopted by delegates that represent each county. Farm Bureau's annual goals and program of work are established and carried out within the guidelines of these policies.

Concerns about land use & preservation, taxes, education, agricultural research, cooperative extension, crops and market transportation are just a few of the many subjects that have brought about resolutions at the county level. Presenting Farm Bureau policies to legislators and how they would affect agriculture in the state has been a constant effort. Farm Bureau, throughout the years, has worked with other farm organizations to achieve success in specific areas.

The leadership of the organization, regardless of personal agricultural interests have worked to provide educational, economic and legislative input directed to all commodity concerns of the organization's members.

Executive Directors Administrators

In both the fifty and seventy-five year history publications, it was stated, “this organization can attribute quite a lot of its success to the dedication and loyalty of its Executive Secretaries.” After 100 years, we solidly reaffirm this.

Executive Directors/Administrators

1921	H. Styles Bridges	1996	Donna Grusell-Miller
1924	Nat Flagg	1998	Omer Ahern
1934	Francis E. Robinson	1999	Wayne Mann
1941	Alfred L. French	2000	Allan Hall
1963	Richard G. Kelley	2000	Wayne Mann, NHFB President
1977	Maurice Chapin	2001	Rob Johnson, II
1983	Kenneth R. Marshall	2012	Diane Clary

Through the years, job descriptions and titles have changed to meet the needs of the organization and to allow the personal expertise of the individual to achieve their fullest potential. These people have excelled in membership growth, member services, county and state organization, marketing, leadership training, public relations and being the legislative “watch dog” for Farm Bureau.

Responsibilities of Farm Bureau positions over the years fall into in-house office management, meetings, county “field person,” marketing, public relations and legislative coordinating on all levels.

Maintaining an atmosphere of professionalism at our state headquarters is something we can all be proud of. The state headquarters is shared with other agricultural organizations that need a meeting place. As members, you have the benefit of knowing the staff has presented an image of Farm Bureau that others highly respect.

These people have been the “right-arms” of our elected leadership and have made every effort to enhance our county, state and national team effort to represent agriculture.

Associated Women of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau



The Associated Women of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau have long been an integral part of the Farm Bureau, creating interest in and knowledge of world relations, government, education,

health, safety and standards of living as they affect the farm family.

In 1923, Abbie Sargent was chosen as Chairwoman of the Home and Community Welfare work, which later was renamed the Associated Women. The first annual meeting of the Associated Women was held in 1924, and by 1930, every county was represented.

Seminars, workshops (including estate planning, skin cancer screening, food safety and respiratory health awareness) and multi-state conferences have played a part in keeping members informed with the fast changing times for women in agriculture. Over the past 100 years, the percentage of women farmers has grown substantially, particularly in New Hampshire.

The Associated Women have continued throughout the years to participate in programs to benefit the organization and its members. Direct Marketing (bulk food ordering) was started by the efforts of the Associated Women. Educating the non-farm public has also been a goal for the Associated Women. During the eighties, the women helped establish "Ag in the Classroom" programs throughout the state. School-to-Farm Days at UNH and the Morrill Farm were held in the spring for several years with the support of Granite State Dairy Promotion. This activity continues under the direction of Ag in the Classroom in several counties.

In 1962, the Abbie Sargent Memorial Scholarship was established by the friends of Abbie Sargent in memory of her distinguished career of active leadership throughout the state and nation, and especially for her work with farm families. She was the first president of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Associated Women and of the American Farm Bureau Associated Women. Geraldine S. Phelps of Webster, NH was the first recipient of an Abbie Sargent Scholarship. She was given \$100 to help further her education in the field of agriculture.

Associated Women of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau



Mrs. Abbie Sargent

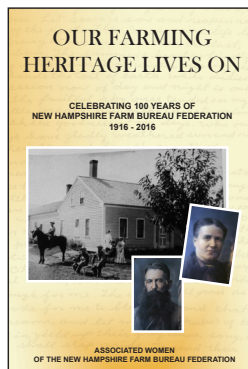
From 1979 to 1983, AW President Marilyn Campbell organized the development of a legislative survey sent to candidates for Governor, U.S. Senate, and other state offices. The results of these surveys helped Farm Bureau members in making voting decisions.

Other projects the Associated Women have taken part in include raising funds for David's House at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center,

being featured on WMUR's 'Cook's Corner' segments,

and representing their communities on town agricultural commissions and on the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food's Agricultural Advisory Committee.

This year, the Associated Women published *Our Farming Heritage Lives On: Celebrating 100 Years of New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation, 1916-2016*, a book about New Hampshire farms that have been farming for 100 or more years.



Associated Women Presidents (Dates Reflect Year Elected)

1929	Abbie Sargent	1979	Marilyn Campbell
1945	Louise Stoddard	1983	Margarite Hall
1947	Flora King	1985	Edith Bascom
1950	Dorothy Nedeau	1989	Edwina Morrill
1955	Edna Weeks	1993	Ruth Mann
1957	Harriet Ellis	1998	Irma Goodrich
1959	Dorothy Cotton	2000	Lynne Bly
1963	Ernestine Ingalls	2003	Peg White
1967	Patricia Moore	2007	Sandy Salo
1971	Clara Weld	2011	Naomi Scanlon
1975	Edythe Atherton	2015	Ruth Scruton

Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee



The New Hampshire Farm Bureau Young Farmers Committee was formed on December 27, 1945 when twenty-three representatives from ten counties met in Laconia. Originally called the New Hampshire Young Farmers' Association, and going through a few more name changes over the years, the purpose of the program has always been to provide opportunities for leadership development and to enable young adults to be actively participating members of the Farm Bureau.

Working towards that purpose, the Young Farmers have engaged in many activities since the formation of the group including farm tours, leadership conferences, school-to-farm programs, summer games, and community service events. Meeting regularly for business meetings and events, the Young Farmers Committee has been a great incubator for future NH Farm Bureau county leaders and even State Presidents.

In recent years, the group has taken several trips to Washington D.C. to speak to lawmakers and advocate for New Hampshire's unique agricultural positions. Another recent project taken on by the group is the Harvest For All Campaign. Through this program, the Young Farmers have organized the collection and donation of farm fresh produce to food banks and soup kitchens across the state. In August of 2016 the Young Farmers collected nearly 8,000 pounds of produce in one day!

In order to fund their endeavors, the group has had to take on lots of different fundraising activities. They have held raffles, auctions, and organized contests. Some of their largest undertakings consisted of operating food booths at various events including New Hampshire's Own Macaroni and Cheese Bake Off (taking first place in 2011), the "Cream of the Crop" sale in Durham, and the New Hampshire Pumpkin Festival.

New Hampshire Farm Bureau and its members recognize the hard work and dedication of the Young Farmers each year through several awards and competitions. Each year at the State Annual Meeting,

Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee

Young Farmers can participate in a Discussion Meet with a chance to move on to compete nationally. The Young Farmer Excellence in Agriculture Award is given out to an outstanding Young Farmer who is actively involved with agriculture but does not have the majority of their income subject to normal production risk. The Young Farmer Achievement Award is given out to a recipient who does have the majority of their income subject to normal production risk. The winners of these awards also move on to compete nationally.

NH State Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee Presidents and Chairpeople

1946	John Perkins	1978	Perry Sawyer
1947	Dwight Stiles	1979-80	Richard Lawson
1948	Edwin Frizzell	1981	William Minot
1949	Stacey Cole	1982-83	John Saturley
1950-51	Richard Smith	1984-85	Larry Moore
1952	W.T. Jordan	1986-87	Robert Morrill
1953	George Cross	1988-89	Sabrina Matteson
1954-55	Roger Starkey	Co-Chair	Karen Mosley
1956-57	Warren McKenzie	1990-91	Scott Mason
1958	Betty Knight	1992-93	Jeffrey Holmes
1959	Robert Moore Jr.	1994-95	Jamie Robertson
1960	George Cole	1996-97	Joyce Brady
1961-62	Walter King	1998-99	Cassie Sullivan
1963-64	David Osborne	2000-01	Jamie Brisson
1965-66	Francis Stoddard	2002-03	Benjamin Cargill
1967-68	Glenn Bohanan	2004-05	Dana & Tiffany Briggs
1969-70	Errol Peters	2006-07	Donald Ross
1971-72	Robert Robertson	2008-09	Bethany Hodge
1973	Carol Sawyer	2010-11	Lynn Silva
1974-75	Letty Barton	2012-13	Jill Dumont
1976	John Saturley	2014-15	Valerie Drown
1977	Jay Morrill	2016	Amy Matarozzo

Member Benefits: Then

Economic Services: In 1924, Agricultural Service, Incorporated was formed and an affiliated cooperative to buy supplies for members at substantial savings. Canning supplies, thread, milk strainers and apple trees were made available for members to purchase during its first year in operation. The following year, automobile tires, barn and poultry supplies, electrical and plumbing equipment were added. During the thirties, it helped NH farmers to market fruits and vegetables directly from the farm to the market. In the 1940s, the NH Forest Products Association Inc. was formed to assist with marketing pulpwood and Christmas trees, and financial services were added as another benefit.

Over the years, purchasing products through this service helped members keep their costs down and was a wonderful benefit. Services included: tires, batteries, grease, oil, baling twine, retail farm market supplies and direct member marketing. This service ended circa 1999 when the warehouse was converted into office space.

Insurance: In 1928, in order to provide insurance benefits to members, Farm Bureau Insurance was established. The company, called Farm Bureau Mutual, Fire, Auto and Casualty Insurance, served membership needs for insurance coverage. It also provided an office building and meeting center for farmers and related organizations.

In 1966, the NH Farm Bureau delegated votes and approved the sponsorship of Farm Family Life & Mutual Insurance Companies in New Hampshire to provide the needed coverage for members. We continue our partnership with Farm Family Insurance in 2016.

Health Insurance: In 1940, the NH Farm Bureau became an agent for Blue Cross Hospitalization Services. Farm Bureau continued to work with Blue Cross Blue Shield officials to provide group benefits to members at considerable savings. Farm Bureau's involvement with Blue Cross Blue Shield continued until late 1989 when they decided to terminate business with the Farm Bureau County Groups. Currently, we are contracted with New England Employee Benefits Company (NEEBCo) to provide discounted health insurance to our eligible farmer members.

Member Benefits: Now

Today, NH Farm Bureau partners with many companies to provide discounts on products and services that farmers use.

Insurance & Health Programs: NHFB has been a partner with Farm Family Insurance since 1966, which offers discounts to members on their insurance policies. Farmer members may qualify for a health insurance plan through NEEBCo. Another benefit to all members is an Accidental Death & Dismemberment insurance, that can reach up to \$15,000 in coverage. Members also have access to a free prescription drug card and dental discounts with U.S. Dental Access, and health screening with Life Line Screening - The Power of Prevention.

Farm Vehicles: Members can save money on new Chevrolet, Buick or GMC vehicles. Discounts are also available for Polaris off-road vehicles, Case IH agricultural equipment, and CAT equipment.

Travel: Choice Hotels and Avis & Budget rental vehicle discounts are available to members.

Services & Finances: Members have access to Farm Bureau Bank, MJM Associates for merchant & credit card processing, and AgriPlanNOW for tax savings.

Publications: *The Communicator*, NH Farm Bureau's official newspaper is mailed to all members six times a year, which includes the supplement *The Small Farm Quarterly* for farmer members.

The Friday Review, a weekly newsletter for farm, forest & rural interest, gets published Fridays during the legislative session.

The Post is a weekly e-newsletter that provides a listing of NH agricultural events straight to members' emails.

A new benefit that was developed this year was *The New Farmer Toolkit*, which provides helpful information for anyone looking to start a farm in New Hampshire.

Other Benefits include Grainger discounts, Farm Bureau apparel, and select Carhartt clothing at Osborne's Agway and The Barn Store of New England.

Communications

The evolution of communications strategies and platforms used by New Hampshire Farm Bureau mimics that of society in general. As new forms of communication have been developed, Farm Bureau has worked to adopt them into their approach. From the days of communicating with only newspapers and radio, advances in technology have brought forth over the past 100 years a faster and more efficient means of communicating. Although, now, Farm Bureau works to provide greater amounts of information more quickly, the earliest newsletters and promotional materials set the foundation for how and what we do today.

Over the last quarter century, advances in technology have rapidly increased bringing with them new avenues of communication between New Hampshire Farm Bureau and its members, partners, and the public. With the explosion of internet connectivity during the turn of the 21st century, most folks are now connected in more ways than ever before. Although traditional mail is still a vital communications tool, e-mail is essential for instantaneous formal and informal correspondence. Cell phones, and more recently smartphones, allow farmers to stay in touch with their suppliers, customers, and industry professionals nearly 24 hours a day. These electronic communications tools along with the rise of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter have also allowed New Hampshire Farm Bureau to inform and spread knowledge instantly to those we serve.

In 2013 NHFB launched their website, www.nhfarmbureau.org. It has grown into a powerful resource for up-to-date information on Farm Bureau news, policy development, and promotion. Farm Bureau Memberships can be purchased or renewed directly from the website 24 hours a day. A catalog of NHFB's publications and visual media are also available to peruse on the website along with an extensive listing of scholarship opportunities and links to our partner organizations. Another recent communications tool that is published weekly, is the electronic newsletter *The Post*, which highlights events, workshops, and important information for the agricultural community.

Communications

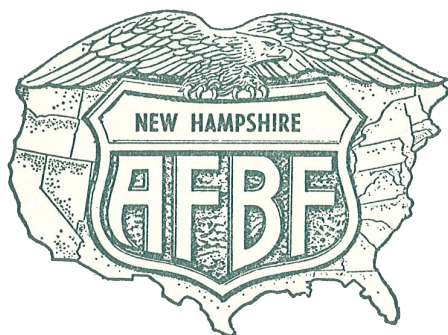
NHFB's print publications continue to keep our members informed on the latest issues facing agriculture in New Hampshire whether it be at the State House or in the community. *The Friday Review*, NHFB's public affairs newsletter, is published most Fridays while the New Hampshire Legislature is in session and other times as news warrants. It contains information on scheduled legislative hearings and affairs affecting New Hampshire farmers.

The Communicator is the official newspaper of NHFB and comes out six times a year. Over the years *The Communicator* has grown in size and scope and is currently mailed to NHFB members and all state legislators. *The Communicator* aims to keep our membership informed and entertained through news stories, event notices, and feature stories spotlighting New Hampshire agriculture. The added services of a classified section and listings for local meat producers and fruit & vegetable growers connects and promotes NHFB members with each other and the community.

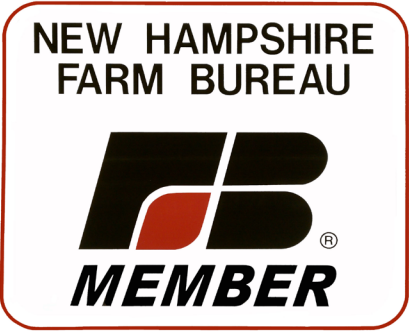
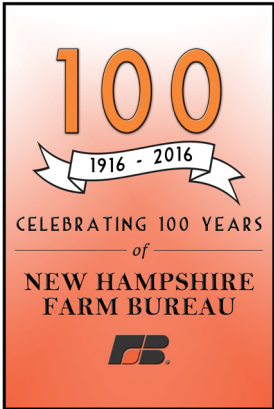
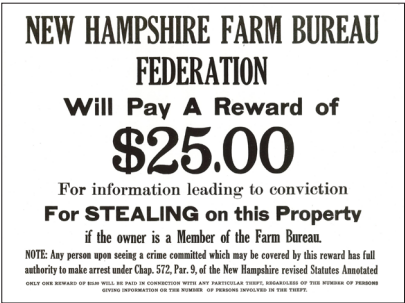
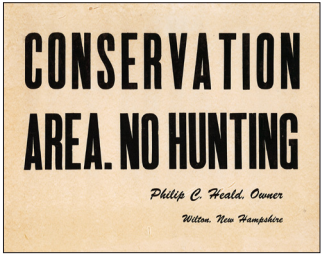
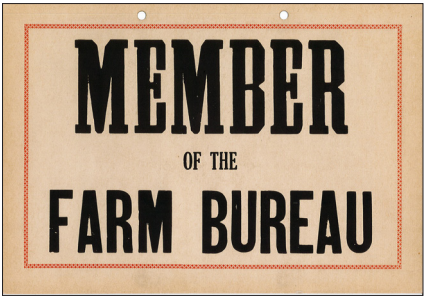
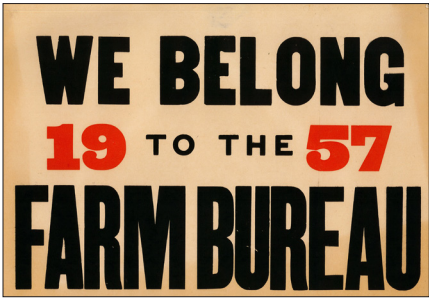


The Communicator, which originated in 1976 as *The Monthly Communicator*, has undergone many changes and expansions over the years. Above, an issue from Volume 24 in 2002 compared to a recent issue from 2016.

New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation Logos Over the Years



New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation Member Signs Over the Years



Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

It is important to note that only a very few of the most significant legislative issues are discussed in this section. Over the past 100 years, New Hampshire Farm Bureau has played a significant role in helping to pass legislation favorable to agriculture. In addition to advocating for the passage of legislation, it should also be mentioned that some of the most important legislative work that has been done by Farm Bureau is in defeating legislation deemed bad for agriculture or a violation of policy.

Up until 1984, biennial sessions of the legislature were held, however Farm Bureau worked continuously on legislation even during the off-years.

At the very first meeting of the NH Farm Bureau Federation in 1916, a resolution was passed to establish the New England Milk Producers Association. NH dairy farmers joined with other New England states in forming this much needed association. In 1917, Farm Bureau, under the direction of President Roy Hunter, established the first Legislative Committee to review issues before the State Legislature.



NH dairy farmers joined with other New England states to form the New England Milk Producers Association in 1916.

In 1925, a bill introduced by George Duncan, passed and provided for the improvement of rural roads. With great persistence, in 1930, the Farm Bureau and the Grange became successful in bringing about power and lights to rural areas at minimum cost. By 1934, the chaos in the Boston milk market prompted Farm Bureau to join forces with the Granite State Dairy Association to gain legislation aimed at controlling prices and securing a stable market for distributors and producers. Also in 1934, the Farm Bureau established a Tax Study Committee that made recommendations that taxation should be based on the ability to pay

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

on a broader basis than solely real and personal property. This committee also recommended a gasoline tax which continues to finance much of New Hampshire's road building today.

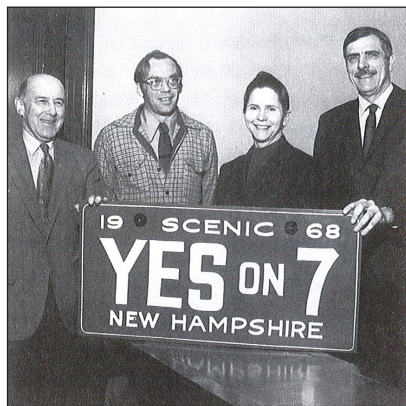
(It is important to note that there was a limited amount of legislative information available between the late 1930's and the early 1960's. Farm Bureau has always played a significant role in advocating for legislation and the lack of information by no means should reflect anything different).

During the 1963 legislative session Farm Bureau played a significant role in passing two pieces of legislation. House Bill (HB) 248 passed and required the state of origin be used on any sign advertising produce in which the word "native" is used. The other, HB 510, established a committee to study future pesticide legislation. (This is also the year that *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson hit the bookstores all over the nation).

In 1965, the Legislature passed a bill that established the first New Hampshire Pesticide Control Law. In 1967, the legislature passed Concurrent Amendment Concurrent Resolution 18, formulating a question to provide assessment of land based on current use. During the election of 1968, voters approved the constitutional amendment (Question 7) from the 1967 legislative session, which provided for the assessment of land at valuations based upon current use.

Finally in 1973, the legislature passed a Current Use law. This landmark legislation provided open space land, including farm land, may be taxed at current use rates upon application of the landowner. The law was implemented on April 1, 1974.

Since 1973, every session of the legislature has found Farm Bureau and others defending the Current Use



Pictured R-L: Richard Kelley representing Farm Bureau, Paul Bofinger representing Forests Society, Miriam Jackson representing SPACE, and Tudor Richards representing the Audubon Society.

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

Law from attack ranging from those who would repeal it to those who have various ideas on how they feel it should be changed to suit their purposes.

HB 1, establishing the Business Profits Tax, passed during a special legislative session in 1970. This law repealed all livestock and poultry taxes.

Throughout the remainder of the seventies, Farm Bureau played a significant role in defeating legislation that would have proved harmful to agriculture. In 1979, one of the more important pieces of legislation passed was HB 153 which provided for the first purchase of developmental rights law and three million dollar bond issue. In that same session, the Legislature passed House Concurrent Resolution 13 establishing a committee which issued a report Recommendations for a New Hampshire Food Policy.

In 1981, nuisance suit legislation was passed (RSA 432:32-35, Right-to-Farm) which protects farmers from lawsuits over noise, odor, or dust under most circumstances. Farm Bureau worked diligently on two particularly significant issues that would have been bad for agriculture in 1983. Legislation was introduced to completely dismantle the NH Department of Agriculture through the Sunset process. It failed. The other, was an effort to reorganize some state departments, including the NH Department of Agriculture, into a new Department of Commerce. This effort also failed. A bill, significant to apple producers that passed that year, established an apple marketing order, marketing agreements, and a promotional fund (RSA 434:33-40).

During the next annual session of the Legislature in 1985, two million dollars of additional money was appropriated via a bond issue for agricultural development rights. Also during the 1985 session, HB 589 was passed adding language to current law that municipalities could not use municipal ordinances to discourage legitimate agricultural activities (RSA 672:1, Declaration of Purpose under general zoning and planning provisions). In addition, HB 689, which was defeated, would have established a Department of Natural Resources that would have included the Department of Agriculture.

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

The Legislature tried again in 1986 to pass a bill that would have established a Department of Natural Resources, once again it would have included the Department of Agriculture. This legislation also removed the Pesticides Control Board from the Department's authority. The bill was once again defeated.

In 1987, W. Douglas Scamman Jr., a dairy farmer from Stratham and a Farm Bureau member, was elected Speaker of the House. Once again a bill to establish a Department of Natural Resources and to include the Department of Agriculture was introduced. The bill failed again. During the same year, the legislature passed a landmark bill, SB 1A, which established the Land Conservation Investment Program and appropriated the first twenty million dollars of a fifty million dollar goal. Significant effort toward passage of this bill was made by many associations, groups and thousands of interested people. The Trust for New Hampshire Lands was formed with the Farm Bureau as an incorporator.

In 1989, the legislature appropriated 75,000 dollars for the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Pesticides Division to conduct a collection program for unwanted pesticides owned by farmers. In addition, SB 59 and Governor Judd Gregg's budget included eighteen million dollars as another installment toward the fifty million dollar goal for the Land Conservation Investment Program.

During the 1990 session, another amendment to RSA 672:1 passed which today sets public policy for the state. By changing a few words, the key language read at the time, "Agriculture activities are a beneficial and worthwhile feature of the New Hampshire landscape and shall not be unreasonably limited by use of municipal planning and zoning powers." A similar statement also passed regarding forestry activities, including the harvest and transport of forest products. In 2016 SB 345 added "agritourism" to RSA 672:1.

In 1993 Farm Bureau put substantial effort towards passage of legislation (HB 119 introduced by Rep. Marilyn Campbell) to preempt local control of pesticide regulation. The new law established authority over the use, regulation, registration, sale, and transporta-

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

tion of pesticides within the Department of Agriculture's Division of Pesticide Control. It provided for the administration and enforcement of the pesticide laws in an equitable manner throughout the state. (RSA 430:49)

HB 793 became law in 1998. Modeled on legislation passed in other states, it limited the liability of equine activity sponsors, equine professionals, and other persons engaged in equine activities by recognizing inherent risks and an assumption of risk by individuals engaged in, and those around, equine activities (RSA 508:14). The same year HB 170 passed into law exempting temporary, demountable, plastic-covered greenhouses from property taxation. (RSA 72:12-d)

In 1999, with Fish and Game ignoring its obligation under statute to pay for game damage suffered by farmers, Farm Bureau was instrumental in the filing and the passage of the Wildlife Damage Control Program. The legislation (HB 704) provided for general wildlife damage mitigation, established the Cooperative Fencing Program, and streamlined the process for farmers needing deer depredation permits. Under the Cooperative Fencing Program \$350,000 was dedicated out of the Fish and Game Fund toward a cost-share fencing program for commercial fruit growers in which Fish and Game paid the full cost of fencing materials. The Program was instrumental in cementing Fish and Game's responsibility for game damage and changing attitudes at the Department towards game damage.

Legislation (SB 401) establishing the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) was signed into law by Governor Jeanne Shaheen in 2000. It established in statute a comprehensive program to conserve and preserve the state's most important natural, cultural, and historical resources for current and future generations through public-private partnerships. Farm Bureau was part of a coalition of many organizations that worked to pass LCHIP.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 passed the Legislature in 2005 calling on the Governor to establish a Farm Viability Task Force to take a comprehensive look at agriculture in New Hampshire and make

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

recommendations on what the state could do to further its support for agriculture. The Task Force appointed by Governor John Lynch consisted of a majority of Farm Bureau members, including NHFB President Wayne Mann, and issued its report *Cultivating Success on New Hampshire Farms* in the Fall of 2006. The report served to promote awareness about the importance and value of agriculture to the state and as a blueprint moving forward helping to promote the value of agricultural programming at UNH, laid the groundwork for legislation enabling agricultural commissions and defining agritourism in state law, and in removing certain regulations burdensome to agriculture in state law.

Farm Bureau scored major victories in 2006. One was in response to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Kelo v. City of New London* when SB 287, defining the term "public use" under eminent domain, was passed into law. The definition of "public use" contained in the law came from language submitted by NH Farm Bureau that was developed by American Farm Bureau. The other big victory came as a result of a state Supreme Court redistricting scheme that effectively took representation in the NH House away from citizens in many rural towns. In response the Legislature approved sending Constitutional Amendment Concurrent Resolution (CACR) 41 to the voters. The ballot question guaranteed in the state constitution any town or city ward having enough residents its own representative in the NH Legislature. Pundits predicted it would fail, saying the ballot wording was confusing. The NHFB Board of Directors authorized significant resources toward its passage in the form of roadside signage, newspaper advertising, and staff time and mileage towards promoting its passage. Question 2 passed comfortably with over 70% (two-thirds needed) of the nearly 350,000 votes cast.

**Who knows your community better
than someone who lives there?**

November 7

**Vote YES
on Question 2**

**Be represented in the Legislature
by a neighbor!**

Paid for by the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation
www.nhfbureau.org



Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

In 2007 NHFB helped write and shepherd HB 293 enabling local agricultural commissions and HB 56, establishing a definition of agritourism in state law through the legislative process. Farm Bureau efforts were also instrumental in the passage of HB 407 which appropriated \$2.1 million from the state's General Fund in emergency assistance to the state's dairy farmers. 2007 also marked the retirement of Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Taylor after 25 years on the job. NHFB stressed the need that the new commissioner continue to have experience in, and a good understanding of, production agriculture. In one of his first acts as NHFB President, Jeff Holmes testified before the Governor and Executive Council in strong support of Governor Lynch's nomination of Lorraine Stuart Merrill as the new Commissioner.

2007 also marked the year we began to see the introduction of legislation drawn up by national animal rights organizations. That year HB 332, requiring the state procure only eggs and egg products that do not "intensely confine" their hens and HB 522, prohibiting the "intense confinement" of egg-laying hens were heard by the House Environment and Agriculture Committee. Referred to as the "Chicken Bills", Farm Bureau members turned out in mass at the hearings in opposition wearing red FB hats. The two bills were defeated handily as has similar or related animal care legislation filed nearly each year since. These bills have the following in common:

1. They do not address issues occurring in New Hampshire.
2. They are not necessary. Even if occurring, our cruelty statutes give the State Veterinarian and Department of Agriculture the authority to act on them.
3. They are not based on science and only open the door to legislating farm management practices.
4. They are drawn by out-of-state groups for their own political agenda.

Again in 2009 a bill to do away with the Department of Agriculture was proposed. SB 132 created a commission to study merging the,

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

Departments of Agriculture, Cultural Resources, Fish and Game, Division of Forests and Lands, and Division of Parks and Recreation into a newly established Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The legislation had the support of Governor Lynch and made it through the Senate before it was soundly defeated in the House.

2010 saw the first of eight “GMO” bills filed over the next seven years. These included bills in 2013, 2014, and 2016 mandating the labeling of genetically engineered foods. Farm Bureau opposed these bills on the grounds that they were misleading, had no basis in science or fact, and any regulation of genetic engineering (GE) should be at the federal level where the expertise lies. All eight bills were defeated in the body in which they were introduced.

Not all of Farm Bureau’s public policy efforts take place through the legislative process. No better example of this exists than NHFB’s efforts to maintain and enhance agricultural programming at the University of New Hampshire, our state land-grant university. In 2011 Farm Bureau aggressively opposed a proposed merger of the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture (COLSA) into one of the other (larger) Colleges. Our efforts culminated with the UNH Provost announcing at a NHFB Board of Directors meeting held in Thompson Hall on the UNH campus that the merger plan had been scrapped. In 2012 NHFB was vocal in our concerns and opposition to a UNH campus master plan proposal which effectively would have relegated much of agriculture away from the central campus. The response was a plan that embraced agriculture as a central part of the campus. That same year a plan to reorganize Extension, known as Re-Extension, was unveiled. Farm Bureau was key to ensuring an Extension presence was maintained in each of the counties.

Farm Bureau also worked in recent years to promote the value and ensure funding for the NH Veterinary Diagnostic Lab at UNH. In addition, Farm Bureau has been vocal in demanding the Dean of COLSA (who is also the Director of the NH Agricultural Experiment Station) maintain a focus on production agriculture. We have

Legislative Highlights of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau

been fortunate in recent years to have Deans who have reached out to work with us and share Farm Bureau's goals and commitment to agricultural programming at UNH.

In response to a hunter falling from a tree stand and suing the landowner - a Farm Bureau member - the NH Timberland Owners Association (TOA) and NHFB worked together to have HB 1551 introduced in 2012. The incident gained a great deal of attention statewide. The bill moved swiftly through the Legislature and to the Governor. It clarified the Duty of Care law (RSA 212:34) and added language that if a court finds there is no "reasonable basis" for a claimant's action, the claimant is liable for attorneys' fees and costs incurred by a landowner defending themselves.

A NH Supreme Court decision in 2015 regarding agritourism caused a stir statewide. The Court ruled the definition of agritourism, inserted in RSA 21:34-a in 2007 (as Roman VI), did not incorporate agritourism as part of the definition agriculture and farming that was spelled out in Roman II of the RSA. The placement of the definition in 2007 was to recognize agritourism as part of agriculture and provide guidance to municipalities. The Court decision and ensuing confusion demonstrated more than guidance was needed in statute. Farm Bureau was central in working with Legislators, the Municipal Association and others on the passage of SB 345 (2016). The rewrite essentially maintained the existing definition of agritourism but incorporated it into Roman II of RSA 21:34-a as part of marketing products from a farm under practices "incident to, or in conjunction with" a farming operation. Key also to the legislation was language added to RSA 674 under Agricultural Uses of Land, stating agritourism "shall not be prohibited on any property where the primary use is for agriculture."

President's Award & Shining Star Award Recipients

President's Award Recipients

The president's award recognizes a New Hampshire Farm Bureau member for their volunteer efforts on behalf of the organization.

1986	Thomas Fairchild	2005	Suzanne Roberts
1987	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stone	2006	Laura Gund & John Hodsdon
1988	Ruth Kimball	2007	Jay Phinizy & Tim O'Connell
1989	Fred & Shirley Sullivan	2008	Phil Ferdinando
1990	Lloyd & Anita Cate	2009	Denis Ward
1991	Stephen Taylor	2010	Sandy Salo
1992	Hazel Burns	2011	Seth Wilner
1993	Martin Mitchell	2012	Erick Sawtelle
1994	Edwina Morrill	2013	Bruce Cilley
1995	Sheldon Sawyer	2014	Chuck Souther
1997	Sherrilyn Scruton	2015	Joyce Brady
2004	Lisa Derby Oden		

Shining Star Award Recipients

The purpose of the Shining Star Award is to encourage County Farm Bureaus to greater accomplishments in connection with various activities which in themselves are essential to good County Farm Bureau work. It is designed to recognize the outstanding programs of Individual County Farm Bureaus.

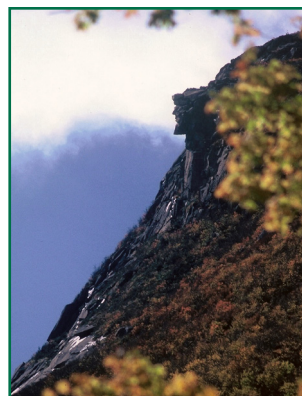
1973	Cheshire	1988	Sullivan	2000	Belknap
1974	Cheshire	1989	Strafford	2001	Rockingham
1975	Cheshire	1990	Strafford	2002	Merrimack
1976	Cheshire	1991	Sullivan	2003	Cheshire
1977	Merrimack	1992	Sullivan	2004	Sullivan & Belknap
1978	Merrimack	1993	Sullivan	2010	Sullivan
1979	Merrimack	1994	Sullivan	2012	Sullivan
1980	Cheshire	1995	Sullivan	2013	Strafford
1981	Merrimack	1997	Sullivan	2014	Sullivan & Strafford
1982	Merrimack	1998	Sullivan	2015	Grafton
1987	Sullivan	1999	Coos		

Mary Lee Ware Trophy Recipients

1941	Burton E. Davis	1964	Glenn & Elizabeth Bascom
1942	Bertha Campbell		Harold Hardy
1943	George A. Bassett	1965	Chester A. Marshall
1944	Jason C. Sawyer		William Putnam
1945	Herbert E. Webster	1966	Robert Blood
1946	James Redden		Stacey Cole
1947	J. Charles Williams	1967	Charles Jackson
	Frank P. Smith		John W. York
1948	Edward E. Baker	1968	Aubrey Reid
	George McDuffee	1969	Raymond Batchelder
1949	Arthur Hough	1970	Howard C. Townsend
1950	William Turner		Howard E. Turner
1951	Eldon J. Corbett	1971	Edna Weeks
1952	Arthur W. McDaniel	1972	G. Allen Holmes
1953	Abbie C. Sargent	1973	Ernest Campbell
1954	William T. Jordon	1974	Martha Frizzell
1955	Ira Hubbard	1975	J. Prentis Weston
1956	George L. Frazer	1976	Royal Smith
1957	Dorothy Nedeau	1977	George Clement
1958	Walter P. Tenney	1978	Dorothy Cotton
1959	Joseph C. Bodwell	1979	Norman Townsend
1960	Albert H. Brown	1980	Harriet Ellis
	Charles T. Richardson	1981	John & Esther Weeks
1961	Arthur P. Read	1982	Roe McDanalds
	Tracy A. Eaton	1983	Edith Atherton
1962	T.J. Frizzell	1984	Bernard & Marilyn Campbell
1963	Louise Stoddard	1985	Ivan Bohanan
	James Monahan	1986	Robert & Patricia Moore

Profile Award Recipients

In 1987, the name of the Mary Lee Ware Trophy Award was changed to the Profile Award. The recipient for this award is chosen based on his or her outstanding contribution to agriculture and agricultural life in New Hampshire.



1987	C. Freemont Ritchie	2002	Ernest Vose
1988	Edward Leadbeater	2003	Dr. Eugene Hussey
1989	Harvey & Edith Bascom	2004	Ken Bascom
1990	David & Edwina Morrill	2005	Richard & Pauline Price
1991	Sheldon Sawyer		Ben & Alice Holt
1992	Ruth Kimball	2006	Hans & Julia Eccard
1993	Stanley & Mary Grimes, Sr.	2007	William Stockman
1994	Walton & Ellen Stiles	2008	Royal Holmes
1995	Elmer Johnson	2009	Daniel & Louise Harvey
1996	Leroy & Phyllis Smith	2010	Lawrence Underhill
1997	Fred & Marguerite Hall	2011	Laura Gund
1998	Frank & Pauline Scruton	2012	John Porter
1999	Fred & Shirley Sullivan	2013	Chuck & Diane Souther
2000	Frank & Eleanor Whittemore	2014	Glenn & Sandy Pierce
2001	Gordon & Betty Gowen	2015	Richard & Ann Fabrizio

Young Farmer Awards Recipients

Young Farmer Agricultural Award Recipients

1946	George M. Putnam	1969	G. Allen Holmes
1947	M. Gale Eastman	1970	Maurice Chapin
1948	Fred Beane	1971	Edgar Winslow
1949	Alfred French	1972	Esther Weeks
1951	Abbie C. Sargent	1973	Richard Rutherford
1952	Eloi A. "Dan" Adams	1974	Howard Townsend
1953	Dorothy Nedeau	1975	Roy Howard
1954	Dr. Albert F. Yeager	1976	Ernest George
1955	J.F. Helper	1977	Clara Weld
1956	Philip Barton	1978	Marilyn Campbell
1957	Guy Angell	1979	Lawrence Underhill
1958	Stacey Cole	1980	James Cleveland
1959	Helen Atwood	1981	Winthrop C. Skoglund
1960	Edna Weeks	1982	Ken Fowler
1961	Harriet Ellis	1983	Kevin Kennedy
1962	Dorothy Cotton	1984	Tom Danko
	Perley I. Fitts	1985	Ed Upham
1963	Paul J. Fenton	1986	Tom Fairchild
1964	George P. Kittredge	1987	Chuck & Flossie Stone
1965	Ernestine Ingalls	1988	Ruth Kimball
1967	Charles M. Smith	1989	Fred & Shirley Sullivan
1968	Richard G. Kelley		

Young Farmer Spirit/Excellence in Agriculture Award Recipients

1991	James Carrabba	2009	Kimberly Hudson
1992	Lynne Bly	2010	Shawn Bersaw
1993	Tina Sawtelle	2011	Lynn Silva
1994	Jennifer Barton	2012	Valerie Drown
1996	Jamie Robertson	2013	Jill Dumont
1997	Joyce Brady	2014	Christina Murdock
2003	Kevin Briggs	2015	Alden Dill
2008	Jessica Edwards		

Young Farmer Awards Recipients

Young Farmer Achievement Award Recipients

1986	Larry & Melissa Moore	2001	Christy, Scott & Harry Johnson
1987	Miles & Jean Conklin	2002	Keith Batchelder
1988	Stuart Adams & John Matthews	2003	Beth & Courtney Hodge
1989	Jeff & Steve Holmes	2005	Don Ross
1990	Chuck & Cassie Sullivan	2006	Chris Brady
1991	Kenneth & Hope McGill	2007	Dorn Cox
1992	Tim & Deb Dodge	2008	Sean Trombly
1993	Bill & Jim Taylor	2009	Jessie Laflamme
1994	Jamie & Heather Robertson	2010	Ben Cargill
1995	Matt LeClair	2011	Keith & Elisabeth Kimball
1996	Patrick Connor	2012	Chris & Danielle LaValley
1997	Greg & Marcia Clark	2013	Trevor Hardy
2000	Howard & Dawn Pearl	2014	Adam & Patricia Crete
		2015	John & Heather Fernald

Young Farmer Discussion Meet Winners

1986	Patricia Hall	2003	Joanna Samuelson
1987	David Conway	2004	Samantha Stoddard
1988	Rebecca Nelson	2005	Ben Cargill
1989	Scott Mason	2007	Matt Scruton
1990	Jean Robertson	2008	Michael McPhail
1991	Jeffrey Holmes	2009	Erin Robblee
1992	Scott Bascom	2010	Theo Mongeau
1993	Jamie Robertson	2011	Valerie Drown
1994	Cassie Sullivan	2012	Rebecca Woodard Ross
1995	Mike Ahern	2013	Ray Conner
1996	Lynne Bly	2014	Amy Matarozzo
1997	Steve Holmes	2015	Alicia Pedemonti
2000	Jamie Brisson		

Highlights of the Past 100 Years

- The first organized county effort in the state was founded on March 26, 1913 when a small group of farmers joined together in Newport, NH to start the Sullivan County Farm Bureau.
- Merrimack County Farmers' Association dues, including bulletin were \$1.00 in 1916.
- The Federated County Farmers' Association of New Hampshire (New Hampshire Farm Bureau) was founded on December 15, 1916 at the Eagle Hotel in Concord.
- George M. Putnam was a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors for 26 years and helped to organize it in Ithaca, New York in 1919.
- The first NHFB office location was opened in June 1921 at 59 North Main Street in Concord. As the organization grew, the need for office expansion became a necessity and the organization moved throughout the years to the following locations: 3 North State St., 28 South Main St., 5 South State St. (in 1952), 191 North Main St. (in 1954), and 99 North State Street. The present location of the NHFB office located at 295 Sheep Davis Road in Concord was dedicated on September 8, 1982.
- The hurricane of 1938 ruined several hundred million board feet of timber throughout New England.
- Merrimack County passed 1,000 in membership in 1953. R. French was organization director and Linwood Huntington was president. This was the largest membership any county in the state has achieved.
- Stacey Cole was elected to serve on the American Farm Bureau Board of Directors in 1957.
- In 1959, Farm Bureau dues were \$15.00. The Putnam Memorial Room was dedicated at the 191 N. Main Street office.
- President John F. Kennedy signed a new farm law in the fall of 1962 primarily for price support and adjustment programs that affected only wheat and feed grains.
- In January 1962, Dorothy Cotton presented President Stacey Cole with a picture of the late Abbie Sargent. That photo still hangs in the Abbie Sargent room at the state office at 295 Sheep Davis Road.

Highlights of the Past 100 Years

- Senator Styles Bridges, former Executive Secretary of the NHFB passed away on November 26, 1961.
- The rubber workers strike of 1967 greatly affected the Farm Bureau tire program.
- NHFB and Farm Family Insurance jointly sponsored the first spring insurance meeting in 1967 at the Highway Hotel in Concord.
- Farmers were greatly affected during the seventies when inflation forced buying prices to skyrocket and selling prices to drop.
- In 1984, NHFB President, Errol Peters personally met President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of Agriculture, John Block while attending a meeting in Washington, D.C.
- New Hampshire held the very first Young Farmer Summer Games on July 21, 1985 at The Rocks Estate in Bethlehem.
- In 1985, the Associated Women sent over 200 letters to Congress expressing their views on the 1985 Farm Bill.
- In 1988, NHFB reached a point where it was possible to hire a third staff person. This was due to a 33% increase in membership over an eight year period. Until that time, the NHFB state office only had two staff people.
- The NHFB Young Farmers made their first lobbying trip to Washington, D.C. in 1995. The Agricultural Service program ended when the warehouse was converted to office space for Farm Family Insurance Co. circa 1999.
- In July 2002, NHFB teamed up with the NHTOA to hold the first “olde fashioned” candidate stump speeches at D.S. Cole Growers in Loudon. The event took place in conjunction with the annual Summer Membership Picnic. The 250+ people in attendance heard from candidates for Governor and U.S. Senate. Farm Bureau and the TOA have teamed up every election year since (8x and counting) during the Summer Picnic.
- In 2004, NHFB membership reached an all-time high of over 6,000 members.
- NHFB launched their website in 2013.
- In 2016, the Associated Women published *Our Farming Heritage Lives On*, a book with stories about NH farms that are 100 years or older.

New Hampshire Agriculture in the Classroom



New Hampshire
Agriculture in the Classroom

New Hampshire Agriculture in the Classroom (NHAITC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational organization founded in 1991 as part of the National Agriculture in the Classroom network overseen by a Board of Directors. The goal of NHAITC is to help students cultivate an understanding and an appreciation of how agriculture is an integral part of their everyday lives. Only a small percentage of students nationwide currently understand the source of their food and fiber. It is our mission to improve that statistic.

New Hampshire Agriculture in the Classroom teams up with educators (formal, non-formal and homeschool parents) to help realize our vision of everyone developing a strong knowledge base of our food, fiber and fuel systems. NHAITC provides learning materials, lesson plans and local resources to help incorporate agricultural themes into core curriculum concepts. Each spring we offer our Annual Literacy Program where we choose an agriculturally accurate book and send volunteers into schools throughout the state to read the book and to share related information with the students. School to Farm Days bring together 4th grade students and agricultural professionals for a day of hands-on learning at a local farm. In partnership with County Farm Bureaus, students visit stations focused on areas such as dairy, bees, wool, maple, vegetable production, soil ecology and much more. In addition, we offer other vehicles for statewide agricultural education. Teacher workshops, a resource library, a monthly newsletter, a Facebook page and a Pinterest Board all combine to offer ways of educating New Hampshire's youth.

It is vital that we accomplish our mission. Today's students are tomorrow's professionals working towards a secure food supply, a stable fuel supply and a strong fiber industry. NHAITC is grateful to the Farm Bureau for housing our office and supporting our programs. A dollar of every Farm Bureau membership provides a significant portion of our financial resources used to provide programs. The New Hampshire Department of Agriculture also plays a role in our success with an annual grant and ties as an administratively-attached committee under their umbrella.

Closing

We have seen many changes in agriculture and Farm Bureau over the past 100 years. From the horse and buggy days to the beginning of the computer age, Farm Bureau has been involved, constantly meeting the challenges.

What that really means is that the agricultural community in New Hampshire, our members, has been dedicated and passionate about bettering their lives and the lives of those around them through championing agriculture and the rural way of life. From Farm Bureau's inception, through their support and involvement at the county and state level, our members have built an organization that has affected real change on the landscape of New Hampshire. Supporting and cooperating with like-minded organizations, building a reputation as the voice of agriculture to our legislators, and continually fostering the next generation of leaders has buoyed New Hampshire Farm Bureau's success over the past 100 years. In a rapidly changing world, the same principles will lead us to new successes and achievements over the next 100 years.

It is appropriate to close this brief history of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation with a statement made fifty years ago in the fifty year history that is still very fitting today.

"When Farm Bureau was first organized it was primarily concerned with the betterment of rural life. Today and in the future, we must be more concerned with national and world affairs, however, never forgetting the rights of the individual and that progress has always been closely tied in with free enterprise. As we face current trends, the challenge of standing up for and spreading our philosophy has never been greater."

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Strafford County Farm Bureau

Sullivan County Farm Bureau



The Voice of Agriculture