

The Year in Review

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Special points of interest:

- W.C.C.O.F.F. MEETINGS are the second Thursday of every month, 7:30 pm, at St. Marks Lutheran, Crim Street, Bowling Green, Ohio.
- See the Calendar of Events at the back of the newsletter for other upcoming events.

W.C.C.O.F.F. Organizational Update

Well a whole year has already flown by since the news of the large-scale dairy coming to Liberty Township. W.C.C.O.F.F. had undergone some changes since its first few months of existence. The first big change was that the meetings for W.C.C.O.F.F. were successfully moved from the Liberty Township Hall in Rudolph to St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Bowling Green. The meetings were also scaled back from two meetings a month to just one meeting on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm. So please feel free to attend and give us your support and suggestions.

Secondly, Trustee Randy Gallier has resigned from his post as of March 2002. Randy and his wife were able to sell their house and move to Michigan as they were planning to do before the dairy ever

moved into the neighborhood. We thank Randy for all of his time and efforts

on behalf of the organization. Herman McCreary agreed to take Randy's place and became a trustee for W.C.C.O.F.F. at the April meeting. The group would like to thank Herman in advance for his time and efforts.

W.C.C.O.F.F. has also become a member of a new group that will consist of a few people from all of the other opposition groups in Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana. This new group is being formed to help the groups communicate with one another and to pass information between groups so the same ground is being covered all of the time. These meetings will be



held quarterly and any information will be shared at our monthly meetings. The time and places for these

meetings will also be listed in the Calendar of Events at the back of this newsletter.

The last change is in concerns to the newsletter. At first the group thought that an annual newsletter would be sufficient but this has been rethought. One reason is that the dairy will be in operation by the end of the summer (barring any further weather delays) and there will be more information for our members. So the newsletter will now be a quarterly publication. If you have any ideas or suggestions for stories please let a board member know.

The Dairy Update

Not only has our organization seen some changes over the year but so has the dairy. It started construction in July 2001 and is nearing completion. The bunker silo was the first structure to be completed. The lagoons (one 2 million gallons and the other 7 million

gallons) are complete and have security fencing around them. The large barn to house the cows, and the second, slightly smaller, holding barn have also been completed. The milking parlor is currently in the last stages of construction and should be complete, by all

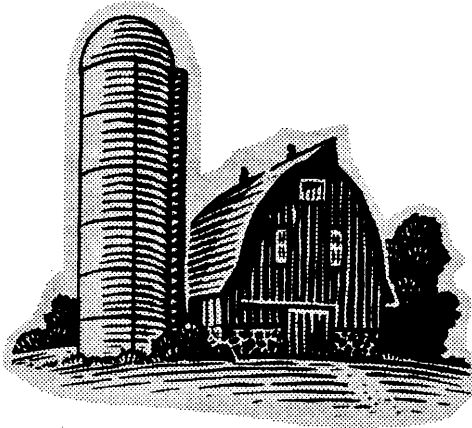
appearances, in the next couple of weeks. So far the dairy is still without electricity, silage, and most essentially, the cows. Stay tuned for further updates about the dairies progress.

MSU Also in the Business of Promoting Large Scale Farms

Ohio State University is not the only land grant college that has been caught promoting large scale farms. Michigan State University has also been actively promoting CAFO's to come into their area. A recent ad in the Farmer's Advance states:

"MOVE YOUR DAIRY TO NORTH-EAST MICHIGAN!

There is nothing worse than being hemmed in. Come to northeast Michigan where there are good areas to locate your large dairy." It then gives a phone number to call for a "Packet of Information". The phone number is that of the MSU Extension Office. The packet that they send out tells about all the advan-



tages of moving "your large scale dairy" to our area. The brochure promises and promotes the lack of environmental regulation. The brochure also takes this blatant promotion of large scale dairies to a new level. Three of the areas they want prospective farm owners to move to are areas that are high TB-risk areas.

The members of ECCSCM (Environmentally Concerned Citizens of South Central Michigan) have already met with Jeffrey Armstrong, Dean of the MSU College of Ag and Natural Resources and Natalie Rector, of MSU Extension (Feb. 13) to voice their concerns. The ad ran

again in the March issue of the Farmer's Advocate. Stay tuned for further updates.

With Special Thanks

W.C.C.O.F.F. would like to take a minute and thank several members for their additional contributions to the cause. First, Anissa Miller deserves a big round of applause. Anissa spent several months organizing the Factory Farm Symposium that took place in November 2001 at Bowling Green State University. She was able to get five guest speakers from several different states to come and speak for a day to a crowd of about 150 people. There is a video tape of the symposium available through the University at a cost of \$5.00 or W.C.C.O.F.F. has a copy to lend. Just contact Matt Baumgardner for further

details. Another round of applause needs to go to John and Holli Roller for their work at the Wood County Fair last year. They were not only instrumental in getting volunteers to man the booth but also made sure the booth was open and closed on time. They gave up a good part of their week to make the groups booth a success. Lastly, we would like to send out a thanks to the students of the BGSU Environmental Group who manned our booth for BGSU's Earth Week Activities. The students also organized a symposium on April 30th on the effects of factory farming.

A great big THANK YOU to all the members who have contributed either their time or money to help W.C.C.O.F.F. fight for a stop to these polluters of our County.

Wood County Citizens Opposed to Factory Farming

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Rudolph, Ohio 43462

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Family Farms NOT Factory Farms

We're on the Web!

www.wccoff.org

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **May 9, 2002:** W.C.C.O.F.F. monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Bowling Green.
- **May 19, 2002:** Bowling Green Community Days. From Noon to 4pm at the Bowling Green City Park. Look for W.C.C.O.F.F.'s booth.
- **June 6, 2002:** W.C.C.O.F.F. monthly meeting, 7:30 pm, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Bowling Green.
- **June 22, 2002:** New group meeting (as discussed in the cover story). To be held at Dick Bodenbender's, Putnam County. Starting at 9:00 am. Currently there is a fish fry to be held after the meeting concludes.

Yearly membership and donation drive

It is that time of year again to ask for a renewal of memberships. Please complete the form below and return it to W.C.C.O.F.F. at the address listed on the form. If you know of anyone else who would like to become a member or just donate to the cause, there are membership forms available from any of the board members or at the monthly meetings. Your donations are greatly appreciated and help our organization continue to attend such public events as Bowling Green Community Days and the Wood County Fair.

Wood County Citizens Opposed to Factory Farms Membership Form

Yes, I would like to support WCCOFF in protecting our WATER, LAND AND HEALTH by joining at the

\$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

Make checks payable to the non-profit organization:

WCCOFF

c/o Matt Baumgardner
19364 Mermill Road
Rudolph, OH 43462