

The Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture



The Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture has been in continuous existence since 1785. Over these 231 years we have carried out a variety of advocacy, educational and informative programs to promote progressive, productive and sustainable agriculture. During the last 40 years our annual programs have consisted of visits to farms, universities and research institutes and presentations at our luncheons in Philadelphia covering a wide range of agricultural interests. Our members include large and small farmers, government and academic staff and industry representing every aspect of agriculture and the food system.

The 2017/2018 Activities Program reflects the eclectic interests of the Society over its history. Distinguished speakers on our theme will highlight our eight luncheons and two field trips. These meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month September through June. The luncheons are usually held at the Union League, 140 S. Broad Street, in Center City, Philadelphia and typically last from noon to two o'clock. Format of the meetings includes lunch, our speaker and time for a lively discussion of the topic. Our field trips will take place on the October and May meeting dates and details will be available closer to those events.

Our PSPA Web Site - We urge members, and non-members, to visit our continuously updated web site at WWW.PSPAONLINE.COM. Visitors to the web site can find information regarding our meetings, field trips, speakers and topics of agricultural interest. We attempt to link visitors to timely articles across the web concerning agriculture, food and marketing. Summaries of our speakers' presentations can be found there along with digital presentations and visuals.

The web site also provides access to the history of America's Oldest Agricultural Organization. We are connected to the Society's Library and Art Collection at the University of Pennsylvania, with its rich resources concerning the history and progress of agriculture in the U.S. and around the world. A beautiful, hardcover history of the Society, recently updated by Bettsey Mosimann, is available for purchase on the web site, too. Members are encouraged to use the web site for enhanced member services. Members can now reserve luncheons, make payments online, renew membership and access forms to invite new members to join. Non-members can now use the website to request reservations to attend meetings and learn about membership in PSPA.

Visit www.pspaonline.com today!

Successfully Meeting the Challenges in Agriculture in the 21st Century and Beyond
PSPA Meeting Schedule 2017/2018

September 7, 2017 - Delaware Valley University

Dr. Maria Gallo, President, Delaware Valley University, 700 East Butler Ave. Doylestown, PA - Presentation on current issues in agriculture education and preparation of students for careers in agriculture and food.

October 5, 2017 – Union League of Philadelphia

Fran and Mark Fischer - Union League of Philadelphia - Presentation of Castle Valley Mill's restored 18th century mill producing authentically stone ground whole grain products from locally grown grains.

November 2, 2017 - Union League of Philadelphia

Mr. Robert Dinneen, CEO Renewable Fuels Association, Washington, DC - Union League of Philadelphia - Discussion of industry that transforms grains and other ag materials into biofuels, corn oil and distillers' grains as well as current biofuels policy.

December 7, 2017 – Field Trip

Mountain Laurel Spirits, 925 Canal St., Bristol, PA

Mr. Herman Mihalich, Mountain Laurel Spirits LLC, 925 Canal St., Bristol, PA - Tasting and discussion of producing Dad's Hat Rye Whiskey from locally procured grains.

January 4, 2018 - Union League of Philadelphia

John M. Urbanchuk and Duncan Allison - Union League of Philadelphia – Presentation of the results of a study to determine the impact of the equine industry on Southeastern PA.

February 1, 2018 - Union League of Philadelphia

Mr. Scott Sheely, Special Assistant for Workforce Development, PA Department of Agriculture - Union League of Philadelphia - Workforce and labor issues facing Pennsylvania agriculture.

March 1, 2018 – Field Trip - JBS Beef Production

Field Trip to JBS Packing Facility / Lunch at Heritage Restaurant.

April 5, 2018 - Union League of Philadelphia

Delaware Valley University NAMA Team project presentation.

May 3, 2018 – Union League of Philadelphia

Dr. Abner Womack, FAPRI/Univ of Missouri-Columbia Ag modeling, forecasting and policy analysis.

June 7, 2018 - Union League of Philadelphia

Monika Crosby, Philabundance

Please note: All regular meetings of PSPA begin promptly at 12:15 PM. Reservations for the luncheon must be made by Noon of the Friday preceding the meeting (no meals guaranteed for late reservations). Deadlines for field trips will be announced.