



WEEK OF DECEMBER 4, 1988

STATION NOTES



REMEMBER? This photo of an unexpected storm was taken Oct. 22 of this year at the Darrow farm woodlot.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY RESTATED

Although the Station has not experienced a major shutdown due to inclement weather within the past decade, the inevitable onset of the snowy season prompts the following reminder regarding procedures for any interrupted work schedules. Decisions about weather emergencies are made by the Director's office, if before

working hours, by 6:30 a.m. These will be communicated to a network of cooperating area radio stations (listed on P. 2). If bad weather occurs during the day, decisions will be communicated through regular department and unit channels. In some cases involving essential Station services, special payroll and travel provisions become effective.

JAPANESE HONOR WAY WITH IMPRESSIVE GIFT

Roger Way shared his experiences in Japan with Station colleagues at a special seminar just before Thanksgiving. He had been invited to Japan so that growers there could meet the "inventor" of 'Jonagold,' a popular apple variety in that country.

Among the interesting facts he shared:

- apples are not daily fare. They are largely reserved for gifts of respect.
- apples are usually wrapped individually and carefully packed. They cost about \$3 each.
- prime sponsor of the visit was a large agricultural cooperative, not unlike Agway. No less than four escorts met him at the airport in Tokyo.
- only about 20 percent of Japan's land mass is arable due to the mountainous topography.
- apple trees in Japan are "manicured." The fruit is turned, leaves are trimmed and reflective foil is spread under trees to permit maximum ripening and color through increased exposure to the sun.
- most workers in orchards are women, who earn about half as much as men in Japan. Some farmers have a job as well as an orchard to supplement their income.
- contests are popular with apple growers. They conduct about three a year.
- Jonagold represents about 6 percent of the country's apple production.
- another popular fruit crop is persimmon, which is "grown everywhere."
- during his stay, Way was interviewed twice on national television, each interview lasting 3-4 minutes.



Roger Way looks at the ornate and colorful samuri helmet that was sent to him by his appreciative Japanese hosts.

And, on lifestyles:

- Way and his wife Mary traveled north to the Aomori Apple Research Station by elevated bullet train that reached speeds of 144 mph.
- the Japanese are ample eaters. Sometimes as many as 20 items including fish, eggs, rice and seaweed are presented during a meal.
- trains are never late in Japan. But they are crowded. Attendants are hired to push and pack passengers into cars so that doors can be closed.

Changing DEC Rules Could Re-attract Industry

PROPER HANDLING OF PROCESSING WASTES NEEDED: PLANE

Geneva, N.Y.-- In remarks prepared for delivery to Gov. Mario Cuomo's "Agriculture and the Environment" meetings in Albany last week, Director Robert A. Plane said that waste materials from processing the state's fruits and vegetables might well be beneficial, not damaging, to the environment.

Plane said that the waste, rather than being harmful, can represent a usable and valuable "raw product."

"Processing wastes (unlike most other industrial wastes) are similar to food-grade agricultural products... pure, wholesome and safe," Plane said. "Clearly, the way food processing wastes are handled presents a challenge that will not be met by treating them the same as wastes from other industries." He noted that a DEC conditional exemption for vegetative products supports the contention that processing wastes can be utilized and "recycled" for such uses as animal feed and plant fertilizer.

"It is perhaps unfortunate that only a minority of industries have seized upon this opportunity. Some research may be needed, but in partnership with the farm community and with the development of some innovative technology, opportunities exist for all concerned."

Plane pointed to what some processors term "over-regulation" as one reason for a decline in the food-processing industry in New York. He said that the loss of food-processing jobs since the '60s has been dramatic. In 1963, an estimated 128,800 people were at work processing and packaging food in New York. In 1985, the figure had dwindled to 63,900. He said that 3.8 jobs are dependent on every one job in the food industry. Applied to the decline since 1963, that represents a loss of more than 180,000 workers in just over 20 years.

"The regulatory climate, which has been cited as restrictive (by processors) in the past, and which has discouraged capital expansion, is undergoing changes for the better," Plane said. "Now is the time for the food industry to adopt a widespread program of beneficial re-use of its wastes through the production of marketable products such as animal feed and compost." He said that the state currently has a "golden opportunity" to encourage the return and expansion of the food processing industry.

"Research on the unique and positive aspects of food wastes could lead to new processes and new regulations that will give New York State an edge in

agriculture-related industrial expansion, thus more jobs; in marketing aid to farmers; in maintaining soil fertility, and in ensuring a safe and healthy environment," Plane said.

"In all of this," he concluded, "the farmer is the central figure. No one has a larger stake in conserving the environment. History has shown agriculture to be a better husband to our land than any other segment of society."

The two-day Albany sessions also featured talks by Ag & Markets Comm. Donald G. Butcher, DEC Comm. Thomas C. Jorling, Gov. Cuomo, IPM's Jim Tette, and scientific and industrial representatives from California, Wisconsin, Washington and Indiana as well as New York.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, December 7, 8:00 a.m.,
auditorium, Jordan Hall: *Forage Congress*

Wednesday, December 7, 4:00 p.m.,
director's office: *Geneva department chairs meeting*

Thursday, December 8, 8:00 a.m.,
auditorium, Jordan Hall: *Small Grains Congress*

Friday, December 9, 8:00 a.m., staff room,
Jordan Hall: *Cooperative Extension meeting*

CLIP AND SAVE THIS LIST OF WEATHER INFO SOURCES

The radio stations listed below serve communities in which most Station people live. They have agreed to participate in weather alerts affecting work schedules for the coming winter season. Do **not** call the radio station. Simply tune in for information.

WGVA-AM	1240	Geneva
WECQ-FM	101.7	Geneva
WSFW-AM	1110	Seneca Falls
WACK-AM	1420	Newark
WCGR-AM	1550	Canandaigua
WFLR-AM	1570	Penn Yan
WHCU-FM	97	Ithaca
WHAM-AM	1180	Rochester

FARM SERVICES MAN HEADS TOY DRIVE FOR 17th YEAR

For the seventeenth year, Bob Nellis of Farm Services will don his Santa Claus outfit and provide toys and other items to needy families in the Geneva area.

Nellis, his wife Audrey and many dozens of volunteers, including many Station people, are keeping alive a holiday tradition that has grown appreciably since it began in 1971. Last year alone, more than 3,000 toys were dropped off to the delight of children who otherwise would have a less happy Yule morning.

Again, Nellis welcomes donations of new or good used toys and volunteers to help with driving and other chores associated with the project. He can be contacted at 716-526-5752 or ext. 296.

RACQUETBALL LADDER

Forsline def. McFerson; Burr def. Lewis; Lewis def. Burr;
Harman def Wilcox.

225	Rixana Petzoldt	246	Gary Harman
390	Phil Forsline	335	Wayne Wilcox
251	Matt Lewis	265	Ed Woodams
315	Tom Burr	209	Joe Kovach
203	Jason Boyd	239	Bruce Reisch
390	Jim McFerson	245	Chuck Simon
206	Curt Petzoldt	362	Walter Wolf

SEMINARS

HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

Date: Monday, December 5
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Place: Staff Room, Jordan Hall
Speaker: Anisio Camillo
Subject: Apple breeding in southern Brazil

SPECIAL

Date: Wednesday, December 7
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: A-133, Barton Laboratory
Speaker: Ron Coffman and James Haldeman
Subject: USSR scientific exchange - For interested faculty to discuss development of a proposal for scientific exchange with the USSR

POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND PEOPLE

Health Insurance Transfer Period Extended

The option transfer period for health insurance has been extended to December 15, 1988. If you have questions regarding your health insurance please call Charlie Hibbard, Personnel, ext. 204 or Nancy Zinzola, State Finance & Business Office at 8-5-7795.

The following is in response to a question raised during the last employee meeting.

Question: How many hours of accumulated sick leave can be credited towards health insurance premiums for a regular full-time, non-academic, employee upon retirement?

Answer: A maximum of 702.0 hours of accumulated sick leave can be credited towards health insurance premiums upon retirement.

Calendars Available

A limited supply of Credit Union calendars for 1989 are available to members only. If you would like to obtain one contact Charlene Dunham, Personnel Office.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mary-Howell and Klaas Martens, Horticultural Sciences, on the birth of son Peter Howell, Sunday, November 27.

PLAYERS DEAL THEMSELVES OUT OF EUCHRE LEAGUE

Due to inadequate player response, there will be no noon-hour euchre this fall/winter. Audrey Gardner reports that only a handful of card enthusiasts indicated that they'd like to play... too few to form a league. She plans to poll Station people again in mid-February to see if there is interest in a shorter tournament which would conclude before outside work starts in the spring.

STATION PEOPLE **45** DAYS WITHOUT
HAVE NOW WORKED A LOST-TIME ACCIDENT



SEVEN OPENINGS EXIST FOR SEATS ON EMPLOYEE COUNCIL

Individuals who are regular full-time or regular part-time employees and who are willing to serve on the Geneva Employee Council have until 5 o'clock Monday (Dec. 5) to place their name in nomination for one of seven positions open.

The terms of three non-academic/CP-classified representatives--Cathy Matteson (HS), Dave Lasher (B&P), and Bruce LeClaire (B&P)--expire this year. Three other seats will be vacated by retiring NP-GR members Penny Lynn (FST), Cathy Cigna (FST) and Jim Abbott (B&P). One academic seat will be vacated by Art Agnello (Ent.). All retiring members are eligible to re-apply.

In November, nomination forms were distributed to all employees. Expressions of interest in GEC service should be sent to nominations committee members Ken Livermore or Martin Goffinet (both HS) by



HOMEGROWN DECOY

The latest in a series of agricultural oddities to find its way into Station possession is this 20-inch zucchini squash that bent itself into the likeness of a duck. It was found recently growing against a garage wall in a backyard garden in Yates County.

Monday. In addition to Livermore and Goffinet, Don Johnson and Barry Smith, both B&P, are slated to repeat on the Council. Sue Dwyer (GR) and Charie Hibbard (Pers.) are ex-officio members.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED: Babysitting in my Seneca Castle home. Country setting, large play area, plenty of activities. Meals provided. Rates dependent on child's age. Call 716-526-5296.

FOR SALE: Six and one-half foot Mountain King Christmas tree and stand. Very good condition. \$25. Call Denise, ext. 280 or 526-6984.

FOR SALE: Sears/Kenmore refrigerator-freezer, 14 cubic feet; 3.4 ft. freezer, 10.6 ft. refrigerator. Frost-free, operates well, 8 years old. Used for lab chemicals. Available for removal shortly. See Jay Freer or Bruce Reisch, Hedrick Hall.

FOR SALE: Gold Star TV, 13 in. with remote control, 2 years old, excellent condition -- \$120 or best offer. Desk with organizer, including a drawer shelf, 2 hanging file cabinets (2 sizes) and a side desk for computer or typewriter -- \$100 or best offer. Call Bo at 789-4954 or 789-2710.

SAFETY WISE ADVICE

Holiday approaching often brings cheerful decorations into our homes. CULSS cautions you to be sure those festive ornaments are safe. Use only UL approved electric light strings. Outside, use only lights approved for outdoor use. Never overload electrical circuits. Use extension cords and multi-purpose taps with extreme caution. A safety message from Cornell Life Safety Services.