

# ***President's Message***

***February 2014***

If this winter is Global warming, I'm glad to see it. It has been twenty years since we had a cold spell like this. I would like to thank Carolyn McQuiston for doing an excellent job as president of SHAP for the past two years.

For those of you who don't know me, we farm as far north in Adams County as you can get. We have 110 acres of fruit, 20 acres of vegetables, four acres of PYO blueberries, 550 acres of row crops and a retail farm market along Highway 15 north of York Springs. We also have a retail and wholesale greenhouse operation with 18,000 sq. ft. under plastic and two high tunnel tomato production greenhouses.

The 2014 Farm Show is now history. Attendance was down but the SHAP and Young Growers Apple booths generated about \$25,000.00 to use towards research. THANKS to everyone who donated many hours of work to these booths. Without your help the research money would not exist.

The Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention at the end of January was very well attended. (The cold weather may have helped). We welcomed Virginia to the convention this year. I would like to congratulate Reed Soergel on receiving the 2013 Grower of the Year Award, and Bob Black on receiving Maryland's Harry G. Black Award, and to the winners of all other categories. The keynote speaker, Steven Wiley, gave us plenty to think about in this rapidly changing world. I want to thank the convention committee, especially Maureen Irvin, Bill Troxell and all the other people who helped to make this convention a success.

I hope you are getting pruning done, making plans for spring and hopefully had a chance to get away for some rest and relaxation. On a positive note about the cold weather, hopefully it will decrease some pests and diseases in our orchards.

Enjoy the rest of winter,  
***Tim Weiser, President***