***President’s Message***

Greetings,

I hope this message finds everyone well rested and ready for another growing season.

The SHAP Apple Booth at the Farm Show had very good sales again this year. We were able to fund almost all of the submitted extension and research projects. I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who helped at both booths and the apple sampling station. At no other place can we have contact with so many consumers in such a short period of time.

The Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention went very well with record attendance. This year we hosted a farm market tour on the Monday prior to the convention with two buses visiting three farm markets and a winery. We had very positive feedback and I would like to thank everyone who made the bus tour so enjoyable.

I would also like to thank our Executive Secretary, Maureen Irvin, for her dedication to making the convention a success. I would also like to thank the other sponsoring associations, university and extension personnel, and all other volunteers who helped make this year’s convention a success.

Several months ago I had mentioned that we needed new housing at FREC for graduate students. After several meetings, things came together and we have kicked off a Capital Campaign to raise the money needed to construct a building that can house up to 8 graduate students and/or visiting researchers.

You will find on page 9 of this newsletter a pledge card for donations for the project. It can be filled out and sent to SHAP’s Executive Secretary. Phil Baugher is chairman of the Capital Campaign and any questions can be addressed to Phil or anyone else on the committee.

Let’s hope for a good growing season, quality time spent with family, and

much needed leisure time.

***Tim Weiser***