

BLUE LETTER

The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Monthly Letter

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Spotlight:

From the Director

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Ivory W. Lyles
Associate Vice President
for Agriculture-Extension

In January the Arkansas 4-H Foundation honored 11 retiring board members with a reception at the University of Arkansas System office. The retiring members had almost 100 years of service combined on the foundation board, so it seemed fitting that we show these individuals our appreciation for their years of service at the end of the Arkansas 4-H Centennial Celebration.

The retiring members included Dr. Joel Anderson, who joined the foundation board in 1997 and served three years as board president. Mark Bryles, retired Mississippi County agent, joined the board in 1995. Alice Eason began serving on the board in 1997. Sen. Jean Edwards retired from the foundation board after 14 years of service.

Don Freppon joined the board in 1989. Karen James joined the board in 2006, as did Elaine Stoll. Pauline Myrick and Loretta Johnston each served on the 4-H foundation board as the Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council representative and then continued to serve on the board after being appointed by their fellow foundation members. Myrick began her service on the board in 1980 and Johnston joined in 1993. Nan Snider, a lifelong Arkansas 4-H supporter, began serving on the board in 1997, and Diane Miller joined the board shortly after Snider in 1998.

The Arkansas 4-H Foundation was established in 1951 to support the positive youth development

From the Director



Retiring 4-H Foundation board members include, from left, Sen. Jean Edwards, Pauline Myrick, Mark Bryles, Nan Snider and Don Freppon.

opportunities that come from the Arkansas 4-H program.

The reception also honored Charlene Reed and Ann Shult for their tireless dedication as the co-chairs for the Centennial Celebration planning committee. These two women did an outstanding job organizing the celebration. Their leadership ensured the Centennial Celebration, particularly the green-tie gala, would be a celebration to remember for another 100 years.

— Ivory W. Lyles

Honorary and Memorial Gifts

The following honorary and memorial gifts were recently received in support of programs and funds within the Cooperative Extension Service. This list covers gifts deposited December 1-31, 2008.

Extension Service Retiree Scholarship

*In honor of J. W. Lehman
Merritt Royal*

*In memory of Beverly Holcomb
Fann Woodward*

*In memory of Bringle Jennings
Dr. Randel and Margaret Price*

*In memory of Jerry Moss
Dr. Ralph Williams*

*In memory of Robert Vandivere
Dr. Ralph Williams*

*In honor of Fann Woodward
Merritt Royal*

Honorary or memorial donations may be forwarded to the Development Office, Cooperative Extension Service, P.O. Box 391, Little Rock, AR 72203. To ensure that proper

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notification is sent, please also include in whose honor or memory the gift is made and the mailing address of the person to receive the notification.

– Merritt Royal

Arkansas 4-H Foundation, Inc. Memorials and Honorariums

The following honorary and memorial gifts were received in support of The Arkansas 4-H Foundation, Inc.

Seidenstricker Scholarship

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Beatrice Leder*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Glenn and Barbara Schenk*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
James and Martha Schenk*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Eric and Kayce Pepper*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Dr. Randel and Margaret Price*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Patricia Townsend*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Raymond and Connie Bednar*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Jason and Renee Grady*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Karla J. Booe*

*In memory of
Fred Seidenstricker
Ronald and Kathy Goss*

Memorials

*In memory of John Wilbanks
Martha Taylor*

*In memory of John Wilbanks
Mrs. Howard S. Young*

Honorariums

*In honor of Dr. Ivory W. Lyles
Bernadette Hinkle*

*In honor of Dr. Darlene Millard
Bernadette Hinkle*

*In honor of Dr. Mike French
Bernadette Hinkle*

*In honor of Dr. Anne Sortor
Bernadette Hinkle*

*In honor of Dr. Tony Windham
Bernadette Hinkle*

*In honor of Merritt Royal
Bernadette Hinkle*

Donations Year to Date

Year-to-date (July 1 to December 31, 2008) donations to The Arkansas 4-H Foundation, Inc., equal **\$69,928.**
– Brad Davis

Division of Agriculture and John W. White Awards

John W. White Outstanding Teaching Award: The John W. White Outstanding Teaching Award for 2008 recognizes **Mary Savin**. Savin is described by her department head as “a moving force in the teaching program who has developed courses and helped structure the crop, soil and environmental sciences curriculum.” She teaches six courses ranging from Introduction to CSES to a colloquium and several related to environmental

and ecosystem issues. She has advised the CSES Club since 2002 and advises more than 20 students and mentors students on honors thesis projects. Her dedication to teaching has been recognized by the American Society of Agronomy, which selected her to chair a task force on the future of agronomy education and to represent ASA in a National Science Foundation conference on biological education. Savin has a B.S. degree in biology from the University of Notre Dame and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in natural resources and biological sciences, respectively, from the University of Rhode Island.

John W. White Outstanding Research Award: The John W. White Outstanding Research Award for 2008 recognizes **Navam Hettiarachchy**, University Professor of Food Science. Hettiarachchy has made significant contributions to the rice and soy industries through research to develop value-added uses for rice and soy products. Her research includes patent-pending technology to produce nutraceutical ingredients from rice bran. She has engineered edible and biodegradable protein films for packaging, as carriers for antioxidants and antimicrobials and as capsules for pharmaceuticals. She has documented benefits of several plant extracts as antimicrobials and antioxidants for use with meat, vegetable and fruit products. She has been published in 106 scientific publications and developed a grant-funded summer internship program for minority scholars. Hettiarachchy’s degrees include a B.S. from Madras University, India; an M.S. in biochemistry from University of Edinburgh Medical School, Scotland; and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from University of Hull, U.K.

John W. White Outstanding Extension State Faculty Award: The John W. White Outstanding Extension State Faculty Award for 2008 recognizes **Gus M. Lorenz**, Professor and Extension Entomologist and Associate Department Head for Extension Entomology. Lorenz develops and implements educational and applied research programs on insect pest management for cotton, soybeans and other crops. His responsibilities include working with area producers to implement cooperative integrated pest management (IPM) programs. He initiated a training program for crop consultants that became the annual Arkansas Crop Management Conference, which provides technology updates for more than 200 certified crop consultants. Lorenz is chairman of the Cotton Insect Research and Control Symposium of the Beltwide Cotton Conference and serves on the advisory board to the National Cotton Council and the National Boll Weevil Technical Advisory Committee. His degrees, all from the University of Arkansas, include a B.S. in plant protection pest management and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in entomology.

John W. White Outstanding County Extension Educator Award: The John W. White Outstanding County Extension Educator Award for 2008 recognizes **Andy Vangilder**, County Agent and Staff Chair in Clay County, who leads a multifaceted program in a large and diverse county that is split by Crowley’s Ridge. He supervises a staff based in Piggott east of the ridge, where cotton and corn are primary crops, and a staff at Corning west of the ridge, where the main crops are rice, soybeans and corn. He

conducts active programs to educate growers about new technology. Since he arrived in Clay County in 1995, county average cotton yields have more than doubled. He also promotes and oversees a very active program of community 4-H clubs. Vangilder has B.S. and M.S. degrees in general agriculture from Arkansas State University.

John W. White Outstanding Team Award: The John W. White Outstanding Team Award for 2008 recognizes the Arkansas Soybean Rust Working Group established in 2004. Their efforts have helped farmers avoid overuse of fungicides by providing accurate information about the risk of rust infection each year. They have created educational materials, trained hundreds of "first detectors," monitored the progress of soybean rust in the state each year and assisted the State Plant Board in securing EPA registration for new fungicides. Currently led by Extension Plant Pathologist **Scott Monfort**, other team members are **Jeremy Ross**, Extension Soybean Agronomist; **Cliff Coker**, Extension Plant Pathologist; **John Rupe**, Professor of Plant Pathology; **Sherrie Smith**, State Plant Diagnostician; and Program Associates **Amy Carroll**, **Amanda Greer** and **Michael Emerson**.

Division of Agriculture Non-Classified Support Personnel Award: The Division of Agriculture Non-Classified Support Personnel Award for 2008 recognizes **Howard Lester**. Farm manager Lester has operational and maintenance responsibilities for poultry science facilities at the Arkansas Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Fayetteville. He is manager of the Poultry Feed Mill, joint supervisor of

the Poultry Research Farm and assists with maintenance and operation of the J. K. Skeeles Poultry Health Laboratory. He assists faculty scientists and graduate students in many research projects in addition to ensuring efficient operation of major support facilities. In 28 years with the Division of Agriculture, he has participated in the design, construction, renovation and operation of poultry research and extension facilities. Lester has 100 hours of course work toward a B.S. degree.

Division of Agriculture Agricultural Experiment Station Classified Support Personnel Award: The Division of Agriculture Agricultural Experiment Station Classified Support Personnel Award for 2008 recognizes **Clayton Treat**, Farm Foreman at the Lon Mann Cotton Research Station at Marianna, which is a unit of the Northeast Research and Extension Center. Treat supervises a staff that manages field research operations on the 650-acre station. He also oversees operation, maintenance and repairs of facilities and equipment. Treat has been instrumental in planning and implementing the installation of new irrigation systems, buildings and equipment. He works closely with research project leaders to assure timely and accurate procedures in experimental plots to provide reliable data. Treat joined the Division of Agriculture in 1986 as an hourly worker. He earned a GED high school diploma and was promoted to his present position in 1993.

Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service Classified Support Personnel Award: The Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service Classified Support Personnel Award for

2008 recognizes **Angela Stacy**. Stacy is an accountant for Cooperative Extension Service grants management and accounts receivable at the state headquarters. She provides accounting services to assist in efficient operation of grant-funded projects. She is considered a "go to" person for her expertise in accounting procedures and regulations. Her excellent communications skills help provide quick resolution of accounting issues and effective use of budgeted funds. Stacy is a McClellan High School graduate and has taken several accounting courses since joining the Division of Agriculture as a clerical assistant in 1995.

Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence: The Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence for 2008 recognizes **Park Waldroup**. The worldwide respect in academia and industry for Waldroup's program of applied and basic research in poultry nutrition reflects very favorably on the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture as a leading center for poultry research and education. His career has been defined by innovation in ingredient evaluation; nutrient requirements of broilers; mineral requirements with special emphasis on phosphorus, protein and amino acids; and use of biofuel byproducts. His work, including 450 refereed papers, has resulted in significant savings and improved performance in broiler production. He has also taught an average of four courses per year and guided 65 students to advanced degrees. His many leadership roles include the Animal Nutrition Research Council, which develops standards for human and animal nutrition research, and the poultry nutrition subcommittee of the National Research

Council, which recommends appropriate nutrition levels for poultry feeds. Waldroup's degrees include a B.S. in poultry science from the University of Tennessee and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in animal nutrition from the University of Florida.

2009 Arkansas Farm Show Cancelled

The 2009 Arkansas Farm Show has been cancelled, according to Ewell R. Welch, executive vice president, Arkansas Farm Bureau. Given the economic situation and other factors, several long-time exhibitors have decided they cannot participate in this year's show. As a result, Arkansas Farm Bureau was not able to get commitments from enough exhibitors to put on a show that met the standards it felt attendees would expect and feel was worth their time to attend. Rather than put on a subpar show, they felt it was in the best interest of any possible future shows to cancel the 2009 show. Over the next few months, the Arkansas Farm Show board (a private, nonprofit corporation) will be meeting with interested supporters to evaluate future alternatives.

Arkansas Farm Bureau does not plan to advertise the cancellation of the 2009 Arkansas Farm Show, but rather use other communication channels to spread the word. Extension has been requested to assist by making our employees and clientele aware of this decision.

— *Ivory W. Lyles*

Personnel Changes

Please help welcome the following:

Shanna L. Cunningham, Secretary, Crop, Soil and Environmental Science, effective January 2, 2009.

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William A. Flanders, Assistant Professor - Agricultural Economics, Northeast Research and Extension Center, effective January 5, 2009.

Kristen N. Huckins, AIMS Development Manager, Program and Staff Development, effective January 6, 2009.

Stephen W. Hughes, Printer, Print Shop, effective January 2, 2009.

Amy J. Moses, Program Technician - Health, Family and Consumer Science, effective January 5, 2009.

Allyson N. Ramsay, Program Assistant - Youth, Dallas County, effective January 15, 2009.

Allysa J. Signorelli, Secretary, Community and Economic Development, effective January 5, 2009.

Brenda L. Throckmorton, Program Associate - Community and Economic Development, Community and Economic Development, effective January 20, 2009.

Kathryn M. Tumlison, Program Associate - SNAP-ED, Family and Consumer Science, effective January 5, 2009.

Extension says goodbye to:

Frank E. Groves, Area Agronomist - Cotton, Crop, Soil and Environmental Science, effective January 30, 2009.

Sarah L. Harrison, Program Technician - 4-H Events, 4-H and Youth Development, effective January 2, 2009.

Rosemarie McKenzie, County Extension Agent - Family and Consumer Science, Izard County, effective January 15, 2009.

Richard L. Moss, Program Associate - Community and Economic Development, Community and Economic Development, effective January 9, 2009.

Connie S. Phelps, Assistant Professor - 4-H Youth Development, 4-H and Youth Development, effective January 2, 2009.

Karen K. Shearer, Secretary, Cleburne County, effective January 26, 2009.

Larry W. Smith, Program Technician, Bio and Agricultural Engineering, effective January 9, 2009.

Grants and Contracts

Project Title	Award Amount	Principal Investigator	Granting Agency
Disaster-Resilient Communities	72,456	Deborah Tootle	Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Services
Organic Dairy Training Conferences and Educational Materials for Professionals	97,456	Jodie Pennington	University of Georgia
TOTAL =	\$169,912		