Thieme Pursues Many Interests in Retirement

Romona Thieme sometimes shakes her head in wonder at how her smartphone represents how things have changed since she worked for Extension.

Today’s Extension agents use smartphones to connect with the office or clients, in contrast to the past, as information is moved more rapidly than ever before. An Arkansas State University graduate, Thieme started at Extension in 1974 as a clerk stenographer in her hometown, Jonesboro. After two years, she decided to study home economics at the University of Arkansas. She earned a master’s degree from Mississippi University for Women. She then came back to Extension as a 4-H agent in Mississippi County.

Next, she was a county agent in the EFNEP program in Osceola, then Blytheville in 1998, retiring in June 2011 after a 30-year career as a county agent. When she left Extension, Thieme’s husband, a teacher, had already retired. They set out to see new lands together, traveling to the Caribbean and the Panama Canal.

They love to antique and made new finds on a trip to the Gulf Coast recently. Thieme enjoys Depression-era glass. They are both big readers, so that’s an enjoyable pastime. Another joint venture has been gardening. Since retiring, Thieme and her husband have tended two very large gardens. They also enjoy canning and preserving their homegrown veggies.

Overall, Thieme is enjoying her retirement and now marvels that she had time to get it all done when she was working full time.

“There’s always something to do!” she said.

To reconnect with Romona Thieme, contact her at (870) 561-3603, P.O. Box 826, Manila, Ark. 72442-0826.

— Shannon Magsam

Pearl Ray, Retired Shipping and Receiving Clerk, Dies

Allie Pearl Ray, 81, of Little Rock, died Jan. 27.

Ray worked for the Extension Service from 1980 when she was hired as a clerk-typist until she retired in 1994 from her position as shipping and receiving clerk.

She is survived by her brother, Bud Gotherman of Hot Springs; sister, Alice Mason of Bismarck; daughters, Linda Holmes of Alexander and Janie Diggs of Little Rock; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was held Jan. 29 at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Saline County.

— Laura Goforth
Hornsby Recalls Productive Years With Extension

Since retiring from Extension in June 2009, Quinton Hornsby has kept busy.

He and his wife, Paula, took a cruise to Alaska. Still on Hornsby’s to-do list is restoring a 1940 John Deere B model tractor that he owns.

Hornsby and his wife, who is also retired, have been cleaning up his old 20-acre home place in DeQueen.

Hornsby enjoys hunting, fishing and camping. He’s also a grandfather to four— with his youngest daughter, Shea Wilson, due in April with number five.

Hornsby, a father of three, calls Shea his “legacy child” since she also works in Extension as an FCS agent. In fact, she’s working in the very place where his dad got his start—Prairie County.

Hornsby started with Extension as a county agent in Prairie County. He had managed the dairy farm at the University of Arkansas from 1972 to 1977 while earning his master’s degree and serving with the National Guard.

He continued as a county agent in Clay County and transferred to Wynne in 1980 and was promoted to staff chair. He then moved to Lonoke before being promoted to district director, Ouachita District, in 2000 and then the Delta District, retiring in 2009.

“Extension was good to me,” he said. “I loved helping people solve problems.”

Hornsby recalled a few highlights, including being involved in the infancy of the irrigation scheduling program while in Wynne. While in Clay County, he enjoyed experimenting with sulfur-coated urea, which helped save some farmers time and money.

Mostly, Hornsby spent his career working with row crops, including rice, soybeans and wheat.

His expertise comes in handy in retirement when he helps his son farm in Brinkley and occasionally his son-in-law’s farm as well.

To reconnect with Quinton Hornsby, contact him at (501) 676-5145, 10 Sunset Loop, Lonoke, Ark. 72086-3616.

– Shannon Magsam

Honoray and Memorial Gifts

The following honorary and memorial gifts were received to support the professional development opportunities for faculty and staff of the Cooperative Extension Service. This list covers honorary and memorial gifts recorded Jan. 1-31, 2014.

- Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship
  In memory of LaVerne Feaster Portia Short
  Honorary or memorial donations made payable to the UA Foundation, Inc., may be forwarded to the Development Office, Cooperative Extension Service, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, Ark. 72204. To ensure that proper 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.

March Birthdays

Peter Faison, March 1
Cordy Ramer, Jr., March 1
Lynn Whitlock, March 1
Carolyn Hester, March 2
Earlene Larry, March 2
Janet Hill, March 3
Glenda McLaughlin Rushing, March 5
Danny McCarter, March 8
Ann Brown, March 9
Ethelyn McKinney, March 9
Alene Bates, March 10
Bobbie Floyd, March 10
Bonita Mueller, March 10
Dorothy Rodgers, March 12
John Baker, Jr., March 13
Danny Allen, March 14
Kent Rorie, March 14
Sue Seevers, March 14
Dorene Wills, March 16
Doris Markle, March 17
Nina Boston, March 19
Larry Pitman, March 19
Danny Walker, March 21
Charlie Parsons, March 23
John Robinson, March 24
Reathel Hicks, March 25
Helen Morris, March 26
Thomas Moody, March 27
Debbie Henry, March 28
Patsy Hall, March 29
Eddie Hubbell, March 29
Karen Fite, March 31
From the Editorial Board

We need your help. The vacancies on the Extension Cord Editorial Board left by the death of J. W. Lehman and the resignation of Fann Woodward need to be filled.

If you are interested or know of someone else who might be, please let us know. The Board meets the first Wednesday of each month, lunch provided.

Mark your calendars for the 2014 Galaxy Conference, March 19-21 at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain.

This year’s retiree luncheon will be Thursday, March 20, at 11:30 a.m. You will have the opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal, reconnect with other retirees and meet the 2014 winners of the Extension Retiree Scholarship.

The luncheon meal is free of charge for you and your spouse, courtesy of Dr. Tony Windham. We need some information from you, so please fill out the information form below and mail it to us if you plan to attend the luncheon.

The Galaxy Conference web site is http://intranet.uaex.edu/galaxy/. For a description of conference sessions and activities, click on Session Description. If you wish to attend other portions of the Galaxy Conference, select Conference Registration Online to register. If you wish to participate in the culinary classes, select Culinary Classes Registration Online to register.

Attending the conference is free to retirees, but retirees have to pay for meals other than the retiree luncheon, and there is a cost for the two culinary classes.

Please consider attending the retiree luncheon and the entire Galaxy Conference.

Editorial Board Members

Fann Woodward
Mike Wright Lorraine Hupp
Stan Chapman Lott Rolfe, III
Earl Wilson Gene Woodall
Bob Reynolds, Editor

2014 RETIREE LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

Fill out the registration form if you/your spouse will be attending the retiree luncheon on March 20 at the Galaxy Conference. **Registration must be returned by Friday, March 7, 2014.** The luncheon will be provided free of charge to retirees and spouses, but it will be necessary to register on the form below.

You can also register for other portions of the Galaxy Conference online by going to this web site, http://intranet.uaex.edu/galaxy/, and completing the registration process. If you have questions about registration, contact Laura Goforth at 501-671-2113.

❑ I would like to attend the retiree luncheon.  ❑ My spouse would like to attend the retiree luncheon.

RETIREE’S NAME: _______________________________ SPOUSE’S NAME: _______________________________

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS FOR RETIREE: _______________________________ SPOUSE: _______________________________

ADDRESS: _________________________________________________________________________________________________

CITY: __________________________________________ STATE: ______________  ZIP: _______________________

PHONE #: _________________________________________ E-MAIL: _________________________________________________

Please send this completed registration form by **March 7, 2014**, to Laura Goforth, 2301 S. University Ave., Little Rock, AR 72204.
Yes, I will subscribe to the *Extension Cord*.

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Please make check payable to **UA CES** and mail to Martha Thorpe, Communications Department, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-4940.

Yes, I want to support the *Advance 25K: Continuing a Legacy* fundraising initiative in support of the Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship.

Enclosed is my gift of ❑ $20.12  ❑ Other $__________________________________________

My gift is ❑ in honor / ❑ in memory of ________________________________________________________.

Name/Address for notification of honorary and memorial gifts:

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Please make check payable to the **UA Foundation** and mail to Martha Thorpe, Communications Dept., 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-4940.