

**KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS**



Annual Meeting
Banquet

June 29, 2016

East Kentucky Expo Center
Pikeville, Kentucky

KACAA 2016 Annual Banquet

Menu

Buffet

Salad
Beef Brisket
Oven Roasted Chicken
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Country Style Green Beans
Buttered Corn
Rolls

Desserts

Peach Cobbler
Chocolate Cake

Beverages

Iced Tea
Lemonade
Water
Coffee

KACAA 2016 Annual Banquet Agenda

Welcome

Lori Bowling, President

Invocation

Dinner

*Warren Beeler,
Executive Director, Governor's Office
of Agricultural Policy*

Introductions

Lori Bowling, President

Recognition of Sponsors

Tad Campbell

Greetings

David Beck, KY Farm Bureau

*Jeff Smith, District 1 Director,
Cooperative Extension Service*

*Dr. Gary Palmer, Assistant Director
Agriculture & Natural Resources*

*Dr. Jimmy Henning, Associate Dean for Extension
& Director, Cooperative Extension Service*

Presentation of Awards

AA & DSA Awards

Presented by Gary Hamilton

Communication Awards

Presented by Vicki Shadrick

Professional Excellence Awards

Presented by Jay Hettmansperger

Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award

Presented by Jason Phillips

Extra Effort Agent Award

Presented by Jason Phillips

Excellence in 4-H Youth Programming Award

Presented by Chad Conway

2016 Poster/Abstract Awards

Presented by Amanda Sears

Agricultural Service Awards

Presented by Suzanne Stumbo

Outstanding Specialist Awards

Presented by Philip Konopka

Life Members Memorial Reading

Presented by Curt Judy

Closing Comments

Lori Bowling, KACAA President

Achievement Awards

Shannon Farrell—6 Years of Service

Since 2009, Shannon has established a Beef Cattle Association that holds an annual meeting, active advisory council, and Junior Agriculture Club. She began the Phase 1 Extravaganza that serves 125-200 people each year and started a hay testing program to improve county forage quality. To enhance youth agriculture involvement, Shannon started an annual 4-H/FFA livestock sale, Livestock Club, Livestock Judging, Land Judging, and Country Ham project. She also reaches FFA students by facilitating AG Reality Store.

Kristin Hildabrand—6 Years of Service

Since 2009, Kristin has offered an effective, overall program in consumer and commercial horticulture as the Horticulture Extension Agent for Barren County, Kentucky. Her accomplishments include initiating the Master Gardener program, installing raised bed demonstration gardens, assisting 4-H Horticulture Club members, and establishing a horticulture newsletter, which earned a national finalist communication award in 2013. She has received numerous communication awards within KACAA, and presently serves as the Horticulture and Turfgrass committee chairperson.

Courtney Jenkins—6 Years of Service

Courtney Jenkins, Magoffin County ANR Agent, focuses on diverse programming efforts to reach diverse audiences. She supports producers as they transition to more efficient, more profitable operations through the use of research-based information and is well-known for her beef, forage, and horticulture programs, as well as facilitating the establishment of Magoffin County's first Farmers' Market. She has also secured more than \$50,000 in grant funds for various programs and demonstrations throughout her career.

Distinguished Service Awards

David Appleman—*18 Years of Service*

During David's 18 years with the Bracken County Extension Service, he has assisted producers with the largest transition in county agriculture history, going from a tobacco-based economy to more diversified agriculture, with a strong emphasis on beef production. During this transition, Bracken County has invested \$4,292,180.67 under the Phase I Cost Share Programs and David has worked closely with leadership to administer these funds and provided many educational programs to enhance these investments.

Keith Hackworth—*21 Years of Service*

Keith serves as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent in Floyd County. During his years, Keith has been instrumental in educating his producers, encouraging them to diversity, and make additional income from their agricultural operations. Since most of his producers have smaller diverse operations, he has placed an emphasis on the total Extension program. His efforts have prepared many livestock producers, forest land owners and small scale vegetable growers to develop a profitable operation.

Jason Phillips—*10 Years of Service*

Since beginning his career in 2005, Jason has developed and implemented county programs based on the direction of local leadership, the structure of the agricultural community and the overall diversity of agriculture in Simpson County. As a result, his programs have focused on traditional commodities such as grain, beef and tobacco production as well as non-traditional operations. He has also placed a particular emphasis on agricultural awareness through leadership programs and media.

Communication Awards

Audio Recordings

Curtis Dame, *Hopkins County/District 7*

Published Photo and Caption

Eric Baker, *Estill County/District 4*

Computer Generated Graphics Presentation

Cary Hicks, *McLean County/District 6*

Program Promotional Piece

Nicole Bell, *Marshall County/District 7*

Personal Column

Annette Meyer Heisdorffer, *Daviess County/District 6*

Feature Story

Matthew Chadwick, *Calloway County/ District 7*

Newsletter, Individual

Amanda Sears, *Madison County/District 4*

Newsletter, Team

Kristin Hildabrand, *Barren County/District 6*

Chris Schalk, *Barren County/District 6*

Video Recordings

Joanna Coles, *Warren County/District 6*

Web Page

Nicole Bell, *Marshall County/District 7*

Professional Excellence Awards

Excellence in Consumer or Commercial Horticulture

Kristin G. Hildabrand– Barren County

In Barren County, several clientele in the community requested educational classes from the Extension Service on growing home fruits and vegetables. To address this need, a raised bed vegetable gardening class was offered through the Gardener's Toolbox Class Series. The Horticulture Extension Agent instructed 50 interested individuals about information related to constructing and growing vegetables in raised bed gardens. Information in the presentation included site selection, materials needed to construct a raised bed garden, soil preparation, planting recommendations, maintenance tips, and the advantages to raised bed gardening.

Since the educational class was well received program in the community, the horticulture extension agent installed 8 raised bed demonstration gardens behind the Extension Office in Glasgow, KY. Master Gardeners assisted with the installation of the project and have spent hours in maintaining the gardens appearance through the seasons. Later, the agent posted a step by step photo book to the Barren County Cooperative Extension Service Facebook page to show the entire project from start to finish.

As a result, several home gardeners have stopped in the Barren County Extension Office to receive more information about raised bed gardening. When possible, the horticulture extension agent takes clientele to the raised bed demonstration gardens so they can get a better idea of how to build a raised bed to grow small fruit and vegetable crops. Most recently, a teacher from the Middle School toured the gardens and later installed similar raised bed gardens close to their greenhouse to use in their school curriculum. So far, the school has grown and sold 1.5 pounds of a salad mixed lettuce to the cafeteria which was later served to students in the lunch line.

Excellence in Young, Beginning, or Small Farmers/Ranchers

Greg Drake, Butler County and Jason Phillips, Simpson County

The UK Grain Marketing Series via Skype for Business program was designed to provide clients an introduction to using risk management and grain marketing tools. The course was divided into five, one hour sessions that were delivered via the Skype for Business web conferencing system. Sessions were held on the following topics: risk management overview, using futures and options, understanding the cash market, tools that have worked in the past, and developing a marketing plan. There is a risk management tour scheduled for the summer of 2016. Participants were also encouraged to play the Commodity Challenge online trading game and use a dedicated online discussion board. Dr. Todd Davis, UK Grain Marketing Specialist was the instructor for each session. Dr. Davis used informational slides and the web conferencing software. The county agents assisted producers in getting Skype for Business on their computer. The participants joined each session on their home or office computer or their cell phone. The county agents participated on their home or office computer. Each session was evaluated using the online polling capabilities of Skype for Business. There were 7 participants from 2 counties. Delivering the program over the internet allowed participants to join wherever they happened to be. The class never met at a physical location. Participants reported increased knowledge after each session. An overall program evaluation will be completed during the risk management tour.

Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award

Greg Drake, Butler County

Public relations efforts are an important part of any county extension agent's job. The farm population is declining every year. Those involved in agriculture must do a good job of promoting the industry to stakeholders and non-farm people to insure a favorable environment to produce the nation's food and fiber.

In Butler County, Greg Drake does a weekly radio program to promote agriculture. It airs weekly and provides ag and rural living information. The program was successful in helping people in the community understand where their food comes from and what is happening in the rural community.

Excellence in 4-H Youth Programming Award

Tom Miller–Ballard County

As a part of a larger nutrition program for second graders, Tom Miller, Ballard County Extension Agent for Ag and Natural Resources developed a module to teach kids where the food they eat actually comes from. A power point presentation was developed that starts with pictures of each food group in the food pyramid from the local grocery store. It then takes each of these products eventually back to the local farm level. Since its inception in 2013, over 360 kids have been through the program. Post program surveys have shown that 95% of the children that responded did have a better understanding of where their food came from and could recognize the connection from the grocery store to the farm. It was very gratifying to see the look of understanding come on their faces when they realized that the cow in the neighbor's pasture could be the hamburger that they ate for supper and that farmers were really responsible for all the food that they ate.

Extra Effort Agent Award

Leslie Workman, Pike County

Leslie Workman, Pike County FCS Agent, is always willing to help with all ANR programming. She particularly enjoys being involved in programs which include fresh produce and nutrition. Leslie assists the ANR agent with demonstrations at the Pikeville Farmers' Market, and with school gardens, food preservation programs, KY Proud Plate it Up recipe demonstrations, leader trainings, and much more.

She also dedicates much of her time to reaching underserved audiences and those who lack knowledge of how to use or prepare fresh fruits and vegetables.

Leslie possesses a knack for working with Extension clientele and the general public, as well as other agents, administrators and community leaders.

2016 Poster/Abstract Awards

Amanda Sears– Madison County

2016 Agricultural Service Awards

Extension Lay Leader

Joyce Pinson, Pike County

Joyce Pinson has served Extension and agriculture well in Eastern Kentucky. She is the Pike County Extension Council chairwoman, Vice-President of the Pikeville Farmers' Market and is a strong advocate for agriculture in the county and in the state.

Joyce was the lead writer for several Pikeville Farmers' Market grants in which the market received \$150,000 from the Kentucky Ag Development Board Fund and \$250,000 in other funds from various sources for a new market pavilion.

In addition to being actively involved in the community and operating her farm with her husband, Charlie, she is the co-founder of the Appalachian Seed Swap and the Appalachian Food Summit, and is an avid supporter of the Junior Chef Program at Pikeville High School and is a Master Gardener.

Excellence in Agriculture

Cathy Rehmeyer, Pike County

Cathy Rehmeyer is an avid supporter of agriculture in Pike County and in Kentucky. She is a Master Gardener who volunteers her time and shares her skills with Extension clientele, Grow Appalachia participants, and youth through school programs. She conducts workshops and webinars with various organizations and has presented her work with heirlooms, winter vegetable gardening, and low tunnels at many conferences (Southern Sustainable Ag Working Group, Ohio Ecological Food and Farming Association, Organic Association of Kentucky, and the Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference).

Cathy is also an award-winning blogger. Her blog, *Mother of a Hubbard*, won the "Best Writing" award in the 2015 Garden Bloggers Hall of Fame and was named one of the "Top 10 Garden Blogs" in 2014 by *Better Homes and Gardens*.

Outstanding Specialist Award

Dr. Shawn Wright, Extension Horticulture Specialist

Dr. Shawn Wright has been a great supporter of eastern Kentucky agriculture since being hired at the Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability.

He is an advisor to the Kentucky Vegetable Growers Association, the Kentucky State Horticultural Society, the Kentucky Hops Growers Alliance, the Kentucky Strawberry Association, and the East Kentucky Sweet Potato Growers Association.

His responsibilities include fruit and vegetable production research at RCARS, along with specialty crop research such as hops, persimmons, and hazelnuts. Recently, he has been working with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture on a statewide ginseng initiative to assist producers with growing and marketing ginseng.

Dr. Wright has co-authored several Extension publications, including the Midwest Blueberry Production Guide (ID-210), Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers (ID-36), Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky (ID-128), Midwest Strawberry Production Guide (Ohio State Bulletin 926), and Midwest Commercial Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide (Ohio State 506B2).

He is a great resource for agents in all areas of horticulture and beekeeping and he is eager to assist growers with all their home and commercial horticulture needs. Dr. Wright offers a realistic approach to production and is consistent in answering questions from both producers and agents.

Outstanding Specialist Award

Tom Keene, Extension Agronomy Specialist

Tom Keene, is a tremendous asset to the Cooperative Extension Service. In addition to coordinating grazing schools and assisting agents and producers with educational demonstrations, Tom organizes various tours to allow producers an exciting learning opportunity. He also works with groups and organizations on both the state and national levels to improve forage production practices in Kentucky.

Tom dedicates a large portion of his time to work in Eastern Kentucky. He helps with various projects at the Morgan County Extension Educational Farm and the Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability, where he also served as interim director.

Tom is always eager to work with agents to educate producers. His outstanding work ethic and ability to communicate at all levels make him one-of-a-kind!

Service to American/World Agriculture Award **(National Winner)**

Dr. Lloyd Murdock, Extension Soils Specialist

Dr. Lloyd Murdock has always been the farmer's scientist. His career of more than 45 years as Extension Soils Specialist at the UK College of Agriculture's Research and Education Center at Princeton has been devoted to conducting applied research focused on farmers' most significant production problems. His research projects and Extension educational efforts have helped farmers develop and maintain sustainable operations by adopting cropping and soil management methods that conserve topsoil, increase yields, improve water quality, and enhance profitability. Dr. Murdock's efforts have not only benefited tens of thousands of producers in the mid-western and southeastern states, but also around the world.

Life Member Memorial Reading

Tom Miller, Ballard County ANR Agent

Annual Conference Sponsors

Hinton Mills

KY Pork Producers Association

Bluegrass Stockyards East

Bluegrass Stockyards Richmond, LLC

AGRI-POWER, Inc.

Cal-Maine Foods

Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative

Hutson, Inc.

Southern States

Greenup County Master Gardeners

KY Poultry Federation, Inc.

KY Farm Bureau Federation

East KY Heifer Development Program

Rowan County Master Gardeners (Citizens Bank)

KY Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company

KY Corn Growers Association

Boyd County Master Gardeners

2016 KACAA Annual Meeting
Planning Committee Members

Suzanne Stumbo

Tad Campbell

Philip Konopka

Gary Hamilton

Ron Catchen

Courtney Jenkins

Sarah Fannin

Shannon Farrell

Linda Hieneman

Bob Marsh

Lyndall Harned

Ben Hubbard

Mary McCarty

Myron Evans

Brian Jeffiers

Keith Hackworth

Roger Mollette

Keith Center

David Appleman

Laura Maggard

Lori Bowling

The County Agent

Throughout the day the people call
The person they think should know it all;
My tree is getting yellow now,
My lawn is turning brown somehow
My bush is losing all its leaves.
My garden's dying! Someone grieves.

They bring the bugs they find at home;
They cart in soil from sand to loam
And spiders, crickets, worms and weevils.
They want to know if their bites are evil.
They bring the limbs of ailing trees;
They ask advice on killing bees
And how to rid their barn of bats.
They want a trap for critters and cats.

They question when to plant their beans
And when to harvest their turnip greens.
They bring in sickly-looking shoots
And unknown weeds pulled up by roots.
They ask them to stop by their house
To trap a skunk or kill a mouse,
Get rid of pesky hornet's nests,
Identify a garden pest.

They seek to know how much to water
And when to send their pig to slaughter.
From eight to late the Agent hears
Complaints and questions, dreams, and fears;
He/She does their best to help them all,
Extending knowledge with each call.
On their advice, folks can depend;
The County Agent is their friend!

~Grace Jessen