

**KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF  
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS**



**Annual Conference  
Banquet**

**July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

**Cumberland Falls State Resort Park  
Corbin, Kentucky**

**KACAA 2015 Annual Banquet**

***Menu***

***Plated Meal***

Combo Plate  
6 oz. Ribeye & Chicken  
Tossed Salad  
Vegetable Side  
Bread

***Desserts***

Assorted Cake  
Assorted Cheesecake

***Beverages***

Iced Tea  
Water  
Coffee

## **KACAA 2015 Annual Banquet Agenda**

### **Welcome**

*Daniel Wilson, President*

### **Invocation**

*Ray Wilson– Leslie County*

### **Dinner**

### **Introductions**

*Daniel Wilson, President*

### **Recognition of Sponsors**

*Ty Back-Breathitt County*

### **Greetings**

*Louise Moore, District 2 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 Order**

### **AA & DSA Awards**

*Presented by Paul Sizemore*

### **Communication Awards**

*Presented by Whitney Carman*

### **Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award**

*Presented by Traci Missun*

### **Extra Effort Award**

*Presented by Jason Phillips*

### **Extension Program Awards**

*Presented by Jay Hettmansperger*

### **Excellence in 4-H Youth Programming Award**

*Presented by Chad Conway*

### **2015 Poster/Abstract Awards**

*Presented by Don Sorrell*

### **Service to Agriculture Award**

*Presented by Daniel Wilson, Paul Sizemore, Garrard Coffey*

### **Outstanding Specialist Award**

*Presented by Charles May*

### **Life Members Memorial Reading**

*Presented by Curt Judy*

### **Closing Comments**

*Daniel Wilson, KACAA President*

## AA Awards

### **Ty Back—4 Years of Service**

Ty Back began his extension career as a Research Assistant for Horticulture at Robinson Center at Quicksand Ky. In his short time there he conducted 20+ variety trials on many different crops. While speaking to the local ANR Agent in the research field one day, it was then he realized he wanted to become an agent. He soon realized that goal and has since conducted hundreds of programs relaying research based information to the people who use it every day.

### **Brandon Sears – 8 Years of Service**

Brandon has served as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent in Madison County KY since January of 2007. Areas of educational emphasis include beef cattle management and marketing as well as forage production. Recent programming efforts include CPH-45 feeder calf sales, a local hay auction, replacement bred heifer sale, BQA/Cattle Handling and Care trainings, a beekeeping workshop, KY Farm Start beginning farmer program, numerous commodity production meetings, welding school for farmers, Extension farm field days and demonstrations.

### **Mary McCarty – 9 Years of Service**

Mary's successful programs have been centered on 4-H Livestock and Agriculture in the classroom. A Grant was received from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture for \$93,000 and matched by Farm Credit to build a livestock facility. Ag in the classroom was taught in the middle school that showed the interest in returning the Agriculture Program to the High School Curriculum. Other successful programs have been Master Cattleman, Master Grazer, Beef Short Course and Master Gardener.

## DSA Awards

### **Robert Smith—15 Years of Service**

Through my service to the Nelson County Community there are several programs for which I am very proud. Building relationships through the construction of a farmer's market facility and training nearly 100 Master Gardeners are highlights. However, educating the community through a strong outreach program is one of my proudest accomplishments. An offering of over two dozen formal educational opportunities annually and thousands of individual consultations keep the program in the forefront of the community.

### **Ted Johnson—20 Years of Service**

Ted has worked 20 years as an Extension Agent, his accomplishments include: Being instrumental in the Phase 1 Tobacco Settlement Fund and developing on farm infrastructure for the state of Kentucky and preparing farmers for the 21st century. He has organized several demonstrations and field days demonstrating new and innovative farming practices. Working with other organizations in the communities to address issues and challenges that emerge as progress takes place. Ted is very proud of the work he has done in the field of food production to address family income and healthy eating habits.

### **Doug Shephard – 31 Years of Service**

Doug's responsibilities include evaluation, program planning, and implementation based on the County's needs relating to agriculture, community development, leadership development and youth work with main emphasis in the area of animal science, specifically beef cattle production. Major program impacts include: UK Beef IRM program including coordinating the UK Beef IRM Biltmore Beef Industry Leadership Conferences, Kentucky Heartland Festival Ag Village, and Beef Retained Ownership Program with Iowa State Extension's Tri-County Steer Carcass Futurity Coop.

## **Communication Awards**

### **Audio Recordings**

Greg Drake, *Butler County/District 6*

### **Computer Generated Presentation**

Tom Miller, *Ballard County/District 7*

### **Program Promotional Piece**

Amanda Sears, *Madison Co/District 4*

### **Personal Column**

Eric Baker, *Estill County/District 4*

### **Feature Story**

Joanna Coles, *Warren County/ District 6*

### **Newsletter, Individual**

Amanda Sears, *Madison County/District 4*

### **Video Recordings**

Joanna Coles, *Warren County/District 6*

### **Fact Sheet**

Traci Missun, *Oldham County/District 3*

### **Publication**

Daniel Wilson, *Wolfe County/ District 2*

### **Web Page**

Cary Hicks, *McLean County/District 6*

### **Learning Module or Notebook**

Leann Martin, *Logan County/District 6*

### **Bound Book**

Megan Bailey, *Warren County/District 6*

## **Professional Excellence Awards**

### **Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award**

*Joanna Coles– Warren County (National Winner)*

The Warren County Agriculture Advisory Council identified agriculture awareness the number one program priority. As the population gets further removed from the farm, it is essential to teach agriculture awareness to ensure the general population understands the importance of agriculture and is more likely to support agricultural endeavors. The ag council and extension agent outlined goals, which include: 1) to increase media exposure through at least a monthly presence on one media outlet featuring agriculture events, promotions, and agriculture education, 2) increase attendance at agriculture awareness events, 3) get more farmers involved in the planning and implementation of ag awareness promotions and events 4) increase awareness of farm to table connections with promotion of local food and farmers over the next two years. Agriculture awareness through media exposure included the agriculture agent hosting a 30 minute weekly radio show, a daily 30 minute television program on a local cable channel, a 5 minute daily television segment on the ABC affiliate and being a guest on a 5-8 minute monthly television segment on local network affiliates.

### **Extra Effort Award**

*Luci Hockersmith-Mercer County FCS Agent*

Luci has assisted with the Mercer County Farmers Market offering cooking demonstrations featuring in season products from our farmers on a monthly basis. In addition this agent has collaborated with the ANR agent on Estate Planning and Financial Planning programs for the past five years. The nominee is also chair for the Youth Grill Off competition at KY's Fort Harrod Beef Festival where youth competitors prepare steak, brisket or hamburger from a local farmer. The nominee has also partnered with the ANR Agent to offer Landscaping 101 classes, a Rain Garden Workshop and assist with Master Gardeners Educational Demonstration Garden.

## **Young, Beginning, or Small Farmers/Ranchers**

*Joanna Coles, Greg Drake and Jason Phillips.*

Agriculture depends on skilled and passionate leaders who can be effective advocates for issues facing agriculture, our local communities, Kentucky and our nation. For the last 5 years the Motivating and Educating Agricultural Leaders (MEAL) program has provided leadership development experiences and training for south central KY agricultural leaders. Extension Agents in Butler, Simpson and Warren Counties facilitated and taught engaging classroom presentations, experiential learning opportunities, individualized coaching for participants to acquire skills to enhance leadership ability and contribute to the long-term success of their farms, businesses and communities. Sixteen young agricultural leaders participated in the 2013-14 MEAL class. An end of course evaluation indicated 100% of participants had a better understanding of the legislative process and are more comfortable talking with their elected officials after the program. A six month follow up survey illustrated that the MEAL participants were becoming an influential network of agricultural advocates. 100% indicated because of the knowledge and critical thinking skills learned in the MEAL program, they were more readily equipped to have discussions affecting agriculture and their communities.

## **KACAA Excellence in 4-H Youth Programming Award**

*Greg Drake– Butler County*

Working with 3 different 4-H agents in the Mammoth Cave area Greg has performed a variety of educational service or training for the 4-H program. He has taught a class on basic parliamentary procedure in Simpson County, facilitated leadership and fundraising opportunities for the Butler County 4-H teen club, and presented a beekeeping program for the Metcalf County 4-H agent about beekeeping for 884 students. These diverse programs are a continuation of his work to help young people develop their leadership skills and become good citizens.

## **2015 Poster/Abstract Awards**

*Don Sorrell– Campbell County*

## **2015 Service to Agriculture Award**

**Bill Hatton– *Farmer and Extension Volunteer***

Bill has owned and managed the Wolfe County Farm Supply since 1981 which has been the primary source for farmers in Wolfe County to purchase their agriculture and farm products. Earlier in life Bill received his B.S. Degree from Eastern Kentucky University and since then has been an avid leader in local agricultural. Bill has served on the Wolfe County Farm Bureau Board since 1982; he serves on the Whitaker Bank Board, and has served on the Cattleman's and Goat Producers Associations in the past. He also serves on the Wolfe County Extension District Board, Wolfe County Extension Council and Wolfe County Agricultural Extension Council. During his time on the District Board Bill was the Chairman for 6 years and overseen the purchase/construction of a new 1.4 million dollar Wolfe County Extension Service in Campton, KY. Bill and his wife Pat are model citizens in Wolfe County and progressive leaders in Agriculture.

## **Service to Agriculture Award, continued....**

### **Craig Callahan - *Farmer and Extension Volunteer***

Craig became a member of the Owsley County Agriculture Advisory Council eighteen years ago and soon after became a member of the Owsley County Extension Council where he was elected to serve as chair. He was nominated and appointed to the Owsley County Extension District Board where he now serves as the District Board Chair. During this time he has been instrumental in the construction of a new Extension Office in 2006 and recognizing the need for a 4-H Agent in Owsley County which resulted in the hiring of the first 4-H Agent in the county in 2013. He is also the chair of the Owsley County Beef Cattle Producers that he helped form and a member of the Mountain Cattlemen and the Kentucky Cattlemen's association. He has completed various Extension Programs such as Master Cattleman, Master Grazer and Master Marketer. He has served on the County Agriculture Development Council and serves as a county representative at the District Extension Council Forums. Craig is a successful business man in Owsley and surrounding counties, along with his family they currently own and operate a Cow Calf operation of 250-300 cows and sometimes more. They are completely self-contained and even market their cattle from the farm.

### **Harry Alder - *Farmer and Extension Volunteer***

Harry retired from the Federal Government and his past interest in Gardening and in starting his own Cow/Calf Operation brought him to the Whitley County Extension Service. Since then he has interacted with the Extension Service for 15 years. He is currently a member of the Whitley County Ag Advisory Council, the Kentucky State Extension Council and Whitley County Cattleman's Association. Harry was President of the Cattleman's Association for 6 years and currently serves as the Secretary/Treasurer. His work also includes being the CAIP Administrator for Whitley County. Harry's wife Sharon has been active and very supportive of Extension over the years as well.

## **Outstanding Specialist Award**

*Dr. Les Anderson*

Les is originally from Missouri. He received a B.S. in agriculture in 1990 from the University of Missouri. He completed his M.S. degree in 1992 from Iowa State University and completed his PhD in 1996 from Ohio State University. Les was on faculty for one year at Ohio State University. In June of 1997, Les was hired by University of Kentucky Animal and Food Sciences Department in Lexington. As a Beef Extension Specialist and Professor, his responsibilities include Statewide Extension education in beef cattle with an emphasis on reproduction management. Les's Extension programs are focused on enhancing reproductive management of beef cattle and range from classroom to on-farm work. Les is Chair of the UK Beef Integrated Resource Management Committee. Under his leadership, the UK Beef IRM committee has developed numerous educational programs that have impacted thousands of cattlemen in KY. These programs include Master Cattleman, Applied Master Cattleman, Master Grazer, Master Stocker, Master Market-er, and Cow College just to name a few. The newest programs developed by the IRM committee are taking the education from the classroom to the farm. The Eastern Kentucky IRM program involves enrolling producers and establishing demonstration farms in District 1 & 2 and Madison, Clark, Powell and Estill Counties that will document the impact of controlling reproduction. Other duties as IRM coordinator is advanced agent training in reproductive management, review of the IRM beef calendar and promotion of the Kentucky Beef Book as well as editing and publishing the monthly newsletter Off the Hoof. Arguably the program that Les is most known for, at least in eastern Kentucky, is the Kentucky Heifer Development Program. This program is designed to assist beef producers by establishing heifer development centers. The centers are responsible for nutrition, health and reproductive management of the heifers. This program has generated over one million dollars in additional income for participants in eastern Kentucky alone.

## **Outstanding Specialist Award Cont'd...**

Les is also heavily involved in several research projects. His research with Estrus Synchronization and AI has made a significant impact to beef producers across the state. Through this research Les conducted trials on beef cows and yearling beef heifers examining many different protocols to synchronize estrus and ovulation suitable for timed artificial insemination. His work as resulted in countless man hours saved, and increased AI conception rates. Les has also conducted research in methods to increase embryo survival, he has looked at how nutrient effects fertility in yearling heifers and has done research on how endophyte infected tall fescue grass effects fertility in postpartum beef cows. Les has authored several publications, abstracts and journal articles. Les has been married to Cindy for 26 years and has 5 children ranging in age from 16-24. Les and his family live in Versailles.

## **Outstanding Young Farmer National Winner**

*Ryan and Misty Bivens*

Ryan and Misty Bivens have been farming for 13 years, and are currently farming over 6500 acres in LaRue and surrounding counties. Both Ryan and Mistry are involved in Farm Bureau and other organizations. They have two sons, Cyrus and Avery. Misty is an agriculture teacher at the county high school.

## **Life Members Memorial Reading**

*Curt Judy, Todd County ANR Agent*

## **KACAA 2015 Annual Conference Sponsors**

**Altria**

**Bluegrass Stockyards (Richmond)**

**Bluegrass Stockyards (Stanford)**

**Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative**

**Cal-Maine Foods**

**Drexel Chemicals**

**East Kentucky Heifer Development Program**

**Jackson Energy**

**Kentucky Corn Promotion Council**

**Kentucky Pork Producers**

**Kentucky Poultry Federation**

**Leslie County Extension Service**

**Monsanto**

**Southern States**

## 2015 KACAA Annual Meeting Committee Members

Charles May

Jeff Casada

Chad Conway

Ty Back

Garrard Coffey

Ted Johnson

Paul Sizemore

Tom Mills

Jeff Henderson

Glenn Williams

Bonnie Sigmon

Stacy White

Jeremy Williams

Shad Baker

Ray Wilson

Paul Dengel

Daniel Wilson

Wayne Kirby

Vickie Shadrick (Honorary District 2)

## 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