



New Ground

The College of Agriculture and Technology Newsletter



Fall/Winter 2008-2009

<http://agri.astate.edu>

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FROM THE DESK OF THE DEAN

In a recent interview, Dr. Greg Phillips, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Technology, emphasized the importance of funding for next year, and he shared his vision for both agriculture in general and specifically our college's work to prepare future agriculturalists in emerging technology.

Agriculture is facing many challenges, including a push for turning previously private farm lands into new subdivisions. The dean feels that this push is significant, as urban sprawl continues to expand into farmlands. In the light of the current economic problems and food crises that the world is facing, modern agriculture must be prepared. Dr. Phillips also stated the need for expanded courses here at the College of Agriculture, saying "Technology is playing a larger role in agriculture, and we need technical-minded students who can keep up." Technology will continue to be emphasized in the college, adding courses in such areas as GPS, computer technologies, laser leveling and other fields. His advice for students? "Take as many courses in these technical areas as you can, because they are going to become more and more important in the future."



Greg Phillips, Dean

Dr. Phillips wants our alumni and friends to understand that university funding levels from the state have been essentially stagnant in recent years. The current national economic crisis has our legislators talking in terms of no increases and even reductions in our budgets this upcoming biennium. As a College, we will not be able to meet the increasing demands of technological innovation impacting our curriculum without additional funds. Through the generous private donations of our alumni and friends, we have been able to provide new student programming to enhance our outside-of-the classroom activities, but the college needs more private assistance. "We have to raise awareness" for the benefit of the College, he stated.

Dr. Phillips estimates that the College needs a \$20 million private endowment in order to provide sufficient discretionary funding to hire crucial faculty, to update curriculum, and to embrace the technological innovations impacting agriculture. Private funding at this level, made available as discretionary funds to the College of Agriculture and Technology in the ASU Foundation would enable the College to survive economic crises and reduced state funding. This is the level of private giving that is needed to take the College to the next level of instruction, public outreach, and research prominence. The dean would be pleased to speak with any of our alumni and friends about opportunities to support the College.

Josh Pippenger, Senior Ag Education major, Bradford AR

ALUMNI AND FACULTY MINGLE AT THE HOMECOMING TAILGATE PARTY



From left to right;

Dr. Bud Kennedy – Animal Science

Dr. L.E. Brinkley Professor Emeritus in Agribusiness

Dr. Paul Armah – Agribusiness

Dr. Bert Greenwalt – Agribusiness

Mr. Jody Nail – graduated in Agribusiness in 1978 and is father of Mitchell Nail

Mr. Mitchell Nail – Jody's youngest son – ASU

Agribusiness graduate 2007 – currently

employed by AgWatch Network in

Jonesboro (Co-sponsor of the tailgate)

Jody's father-in-law.

AGRICULTURE STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

New Scholarship Honoring Kelsey Hall



Tiffany Kirklin (center) of Rector, first recipient of the Kelsey Hall Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship. Making the notification were Hall's children, Sam (left) and Evan (right), both of Jonesboro. Evan is a student in the College of Agriculture.

In honor of Mr. Kelsey Hall, a new scholarship has been founded at ASU. Tiffany Kirklin, a junior agribusiness major from Rector, Ark., is the first recipient of the Kelsey Hall Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship at Arkansas State University. Kirklin is a graduate of Rector High School. Her campus involvement includes the Agribusiness Club and the Collegiate Farm Bureau, and she participates in the ASU Honors College. Following graduation, Kirklin hopes to pursue a career in agricultural marketing or finance.

The scholarship was established by friends and family of Kelsey Hall, who died in 2007. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a junior or senior agribusiness major that is an Arkansas resident with a 2.5 or higher grade point average. Hall was a graduate of Valley View High School and a prominent Craighead County farmer. His family was named the 1993 Farm Family for Craighead County, and he was named 2006 Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce Farmer of the Year. Hall had also held seats on the boards of the Craighead County Farmers Co-op and the Community Leadership Board of Mercantile Bank.

Article and picture provided by the ASU Herald

Alpha Tau Alpha Scholarship Winner



Philip Ives, a senior Agricultural Education major from Cave City, is currently student-teaching at Batesville High School under ASU Ag Ed alumnus Mr. Randy Jones. Philip graduates in December of 2008. Philip is the 11th recipient of the Alpha Tau Alpha Scholarship, worth \$500.

New Leadership Scholarship



Drake Martin, on the left with Dean Phillips, was the winner of the first College of Agriculture and Technology Leadership Conference Scholarship, worth \$500. Drake is an Animal Science major from Forest City.

Conservation District Scholarships



Ashtyn Wilkison (center) and Andrew Knight (left) each received a \$1000 scholarship from the Craighead County Conservation District. Presenting the scholarship was Mr. Brown Lacy (right), Chair of the Craighead County Conservation District.

For more information about these and other scholarships, visit our webpage:

<http://agri.astate.edu/Scholarships/scholarshipfirstpage.htm>

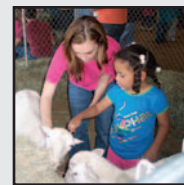
BILL AND ALICE NIX PETTING ZOO GROWS IN POPULARITY

Visitors to the fall petting zoo could see it was a big hit with the children by the smiles on their faces as they ran from one animal to the next. On October 9-11, the semi-annual Bill and Alice Nix Petting Zoo in Jonesboro hosted 11 public schools and 3 home school groups – about 725 children total - for Thursday and Friday, and around 3,500 children and adults on Saturday. The free petting zoo is a great opportunity for the people of Jonesboro to interact with farm animals and learn how to care for them. The visitors were provided educational information on the animals. The hard work and effort from the faculty, staff, and students in the college to host this event is tremendous, and greatly appreciated. According to Dr. Kim Pittcock, whose office coordinates the petting zoo, it “allows children the opportunity to observe and interact with various types of animals. We feel this is very important since many youth do not have the access to live animals. Several children asked if the sheep was real when they felt the wool.” The petting zoo has ten different kinds of animals, including calves, ponies, chickens, rabbits, and sheep. Hayrides were provided each day, and horse rides were provided on Saturday. This fall for the first time there was a donation box for anyone who wished to show their appreciation. Donations go toward the up-keep and maintenance on the barn and feeding the animals. The petting zoo is a great place for families to go and enjoy a Saturday and learn about farm animals. Please see the calendar in this issue for spring dates for this and other COA events.

Marcus Orf, Junior Ag Ed major from Calico Rock, AR



Above left: the barn crowded on Saturday



Above right: petting a sheep

Below: aerial view of farm during the petting zoo on Saturday reveals the scope of the event



Agribusiness Students Visit St. Louis



Back row - left to right; Dave Devoe (with Bunge, Milling Division Manager), Dr. Bert Greenwalt, Andrew Knight, Ashtyn Wilkison, Marshall Sigby, Taylor Burdett, Justin Earls, Cole Briggs, Drew Robey, Jason McGarrh
Front row - Left to right; Bunge employee, Brandon Featherston, Evan Hall, Johnathan Moreland, Tiffany Kirlin, Micha Gairhan, Catlin Maki, Garrett Murray, Casey Flemon, Justin McAllister (Bunge, Rail Trader) Craig Schleiter (Bunge Employee HR Director)

Sixteen members of the ASU Agribusiness club and advisor Dr. Bert Greenwalt visited five St. Louis based companies on an October 16th-18th field trip. At Bunge North America, the group met with business unit managers and discussed career opportunities and internships with the Director of Human Resources over dinner in the Bunge College training facility.

The club visited the American Soybean Association and learned about the organization's mission and leadership training programs. After a lunch provided by Rabo AgriFinance, club members learned about the company's plan for growth in the United States and heard a presentation on how to build a good credit score. After touring the Monsanto Crop Research Center laboratories and greenhouses, the group visited with Dr. Beth Holmes, a soybean breeder and graduate of the ASU College of Agriculture.

Jason McGarrh, Secretary of the Agribusiness Club, said "We learned that good communication skills are important to recruiters and often make the difference in who is hired. During the company visits, we had the opportunity to directly interact with officers of multinational companies. This was a great opportunity to establish a personal connection with potential employers."

The trip was organized by ASU Agribusiness Club President Ashtyn Wilkison and Dr. Greenwalt, and was funded by contributions from the L.E. Brinkley Endowment, the College of Agriculture Dean's Office, and funds raised by the Agribusiness Club.

AGFest Fall 2008 Student Excitement on Campus!

AGFest, the major recruitment event for COA clubs, was held this year on September 18, 2008 at the ASU Farm Show Barn. AGFest is an opportunity for freshman, or anyone interested in joining an agriculture club, to see what the clubs are about and join on the spot. AGFest began at 4 p.m. with clubs holding games to raise money. CFFA returned to its popular long-standing "Kiss the Pig" contest where people donated money to see their favorite professor kiss a pig. The lucky professors were Dr. Kevin Humphrey and Dean Phillips. Other activities included a roping event and a dart game. The Dean's band, Snap Crow Legs, and Bo Ashmore provided the music. A hamburger grill-out, including sides, desserts, and drinks, kept hunger at bay while clubs signed on new members. The auction began at 6:00 p.m. and raised \$379. Many thanks to this year's auctioneer: Mr. Tim Wilf, from Pleasant Plains, Arkansas. All in all this year's AGFest was a successful event filled with fun, food and fundraising!

Mandy Reilly, Senior Ag Ed Major from Greenbrier, AR

Agribusiness Conference Receives Award

For excellence in publicizing and enhancing the image of Jonesboro, ASU's College of Agriculture received the 2008 Betty T. Sloan Promotion Award for its annual Agribusiness Conference. The Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce presented the award to Dr. Bert Greenwalt, Director of the Agribusiness Conference, at the Chamber's annual Awards Banquet on October 2nd.

Established in 1995, the ASU Agribusiness Conference provides current information on the trends and issues which are affecting agriculture. The conference annually attracts over 500 guests from five states, and its programs have featured over 115 agricultural and business speakers including American Farm Bureau President Bob Stallman and former Secretaries of Agriculture Earl Butz and Dan Glickman. Nationally syndicated farm broadcasters Orion Samuelson, Al Pell, and Ken Root have also appeared on the program. According to Dr. Greenwalt, "Our guests tell us the conference provides unique information not available from other sources in the region. It provides our students a tremendous opportunity to learn directly from agricultural experts and newsmakers."



The 2009 ASU Agribusiness Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11 and will include general session presentations on the commodity market outlook, the world fertilizer market, and the impact of the macro economy on agriculture. Afternoon special interest sessions will include presentations on the 2008 Farm Bill and agritourism. Registration forms are available on the college website, as well as by mail.

The Jonesboro Promotion Award is named after Mrs. Betty T. Sloan, a long-active Jonesboro community and agricultural leader. Mrs. Sloan received the ASU College of Agriculture Distinguished Service Award in 1992, and was inducted into the Arkansas Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2007.

Ms. Samantha Dunivan, Student Writing Tutor

(Photo supplied by the Jonesboro Chamber of Commerce)

Farm and Home Safety Expo

The 9th annual Farm and Home Safety Expo was held October 1, 2008. The expo hosted approximately 200 east Arkansas 5th graders, who were given the opportunity to learn about 10 different safety units including; ATV Safety, Electrical Safety, Farm Animal Safety, Farm Medic and 9-1-1 Safety, Fire Safety, Food and Hand Washing Safety, Grain Bin Safety, Lawn Mower Safety, Tractor and Roll-over Safety, and Water Craft Safety. The students, teachers, and helpers were provided a free lunch. This year the 5th grade teachers received 11 lesson plans with activities compiled in a notebook to take back to their schools. I had the opportunity to write lesson plans and develop the activities, as well as put the notebooks together. Dr. Kevin Humphrey did another wonderful job of organizing the Farm and Home Safety Expo and compiling the notebook. The teachers enjoy bringing their students every year and the students seem to enjoy it just as much. Here is to hoping next year's expo is just as fun and successful!

Mandy Reilly, senior Ag Ed major from Greenbrier, AR

ALPHA TAU ALPHA, AG ED MAJORS PERFORM SERVICE TO THE KAYS FOUNDATION



ATA members Josh Pippenger and Eddie Hendrix making sure landscaping brick are straight.



Marcus Orf, Lane Lenderman and Eddie Hendrix placing blocks along the walkway.

On November 5th and 19th, the ATA organization got their hands dirty laying brick with a community service project at the Kays Foundation on the Arkansas State University campus. Nine ATA members, Dr. David Agnew-ATA advisor, and three Arkansas Forestry Commission employees assisted with the project. The project placed landscaping bricks around a walkway that extended over 1500 feet behind the Kays Foundation office. This walkway is used by many people in the community who enjoy a quiet walk near the lake.



This joint effort to improve the grounds with the Arkansas Forestry Commission will help enhance the campus for all those who enjoy walking

The Foundation has been a long time supporter of ASU through a grants program that funds efforts to enhance or the teaching, research, and service goals of the University. It was established in 1911 by Mr. V.C. Kays, the first President of ASU.

This site is also where part of the Eastern District FFA Forestry Career Development Event is held each spring. The ATA also plans to help plant new varieties of trees on the Foundation property and add name tags to the trees.

(Photos courtesy of the Kays Foundation)

Marcus Orf, Junior Ag Ed major from Calico Rock, AR

ALL THE WAY FROM SOUTH AFRICA



Roan Farr, center

Recently I had the pleasure of visiting with Roan Farr, an agriculture major from South Africa. Roan is on the ASU-Rugby team and is also majoring in Horticulture.

Roan has lived in Zambia, Zimbabwe, and other countries throughout his life and primarily grew up on farms, which is one reason that he has such a passion for horticulture. Roan worked mostly on dairy farms growing up. In his spare time, he swam and played rugby, field hockey, cricket, and tennis. His favorite sport was rugby, closely followed by tennis. He has

been playing rugby since the age of ten. Roan came to the U.S. to pursue a degree in horticulture and because he received a scholarship to ASU to play rugby. Roan's main interest is landscape architecture, which is something he truly enjoys. After completing his degree he is considering joining the British Marines, but may stay in the states should the opportunity to do so arise.

The ASU rugby team this year is undefeated at the moment and is ranked 5th in the nation. The team has currently about ten international students and is optimistic about their upcoming games next semester. Roan is looking forward to a great season. Roan was one of four ASU team members selected to be on the all star team.

The biggest difference that Roan has observed in agriculture from his home in South Africa is the level of efficiency. "Here in the states, it is more mechanized" he states, "whereas in South Africa, it is cheaper and more efficient to hire manual labor than to get machines that no one can use or fix . His advice for incoming students: "To the international students, find something to affiliate yourself with. It makes things easier."

Josh Pippenger, Senior Ag Ed major, Bradford AR

MEET THE STUDENT WRITERS, CONTRIBUTORS, AND DEVELOPERS OF THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter issue was developed at the request of the Dean by Ag Ed majors in the Alpha Tau Alpha and the Collegiate FFA under the supervision of David Agnew and Joy Holmes and with help from students from other majors. A special thank-you to all who provided photos to include in this issue.

Student Contributors

Joshua Pippenger

Mandy Reilly

Marcus Orf

Ashyton Wilkison

Samantha Dunivan

ALUMNI NOTE:

Aaron Archer, a recent undergraduate in Ag Education, has just completed a Masters level research project which focused on the Impact of biodiesel production on Arkansas rural economies where soybeans (the feedstock for biodiesel) are produced.

Aaron has now moved to Rolla, Missouri to start his Ph.D. program at the Missouri University of Science and Technology sometimes referred to as the School of Mines

AGRICULTURAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

PREPARING RISING STARS FOR THE FUTURE



Senior Ashtyn Wilkison, like all student leaders in attendance, was presented with a certificate of completion

The 17th annual Agricultural Student Leadership Conference was held Saturday, October 4, at the ASU Convocation Center. The first session began with an ice breaker lead by L.C. Coghill from the ASU Office of Student Development and Leadership. Mr. Coghill, no stranger to leadership or agriculture, has an agricultural education degree from Western Illinois University. Session II featured a panel of business executives who provided perspectives on leadership. This panel included Sherry Williams, Senior Vice President of Human Resources with AgHeritage Farm Credit Services; Leha Rose, Human Resource Manager with Ritter Agribusiness; Rick Bormann, Vice President of Greenway Equipment Inc.; and Michele McLuskey from Sarah Lee Company. Panelists discussed what skills and abilities employers are seeking, and what students can do to succeed after college.



Alumnus Kyle Blankenship with First National Bank was the luncheon speaker. Mr. Blankenship, a 1997 agribusiness major, attended the second College of Agriculture Leadership Conference in 1993.

The luncheon address provided by Mr. Kyle Blankenship, Vice President of Lending at First National Bank. Session III consisted of a panel of interns and recent graduates who discussed leadership skills from the perspective of those who have recently entered the work world. This panel included students Caitlin Maki and Ashtyn Wilkison, and recent graduates Lindsay Penn with Lawrence County Farm Bureau, Mitchell Nail with AgWatch Network in Jonesboro, Michael Engelken with ADM in Memphis, and Stephanie Smith with Nestle Prepared Food of Jonesboro. The panel addressed concerns students might have in the transition from college to career. Markham Howe, Director of University Relations, spoke on promoting an organization's accomplishments.



Business and Industry panel from left to right: Ben Branch, location manager with Ritter Agribusiness; Leha Rose, HR Generalist, Ritter Agribusiness; Rick Boremann, Vice President, Greenway Equipment; Michele McLuskey, Quality Manager, Sarah Lee Company; and Sherry Williams, Senior Vice President of Human Resources, AgHeritage Farm Credit Services.

Overall, it was a great opportunity for agriculture students to enhance their leadership skills and get a head start on career planning. The panel gave students the opportunity to ask questions about resumé etiquette, interview processes, and internship experiences. One of the most important concepts I learned from the executive panel is that it is imperative to present a well-written, well-rounded resumé. The panel spoke on the importance of work experience and extra-curricular activities as well as communication skills. One student intern said that in his internship experience with AgHeritage Farm Credit Service, he learned that networking can be significant to any organization. Another important point taken from this conference is that employers expect potential employees to have the skills necessary to achieve the company's goals. Certain skills, such as communication and leadership, are required to advance in any industry. Also, traits such as perseverance and good work ethic lead to excellence in the work force.

Ashtyn Wilkison, Senior Agribusiness Major, Brinkley, AR



Back row standing: Edgar Kingston, Alex Ruan, Drake Martin, Noel Goodin, Garrett Murray, Andrew Knight, Darin Williams, Jason McGarrh, Hunter Jones, Eloit Craft, Brandon Featherton, Daniel Mayer, Eddie Hendrix

Front row Seated: Jesse Wright, Jeremy McAllister, Wendy O'Neal, Julie Taylor, Laura Simpson, Jamie Morton, Debra Blevins, Beth Killingsworth, Micha Garihan, Catlin Maki, Ashtyn Wilkison, Tiffany Kirklin, Nicole Nichols

The College of Agriculture and Technology expresses its appreciation to the sponsors of the 17th Annual Leadership Conference: Agribusiness Committee of the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce, Craighead County Farm Bureau, AgHeritage Farm Credit, Farm Credit Midsouth, Ritter Agribusiness, and Greenway Equipment, Inc.

Faculty Kudos

Drs. David Agnew and **Okoro Akinyemi**, doctoral student from the University of Kassel in Germany, have a manuscript accepted for publication in the International Journal of Learning. The article was based on the first phase of Okoro's doctoral research on the school gardens in Africa, Europe and the U.S. Okoro will be in the U.S. in the spring semester collecting data associated with his doctoral research.

Dr. Zac Chaudhury spent two months last summer at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan conducting research. He gave an invited lecture at Wayne State University, on July 25, 2008 on the topic "ISO-9001-2000 and Global Competitiveness." He also delivered an invited lecture to the senior students of Materials Science & Engineering at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio on May 28 on the topic "Total Quality Management."

Mrs. Fenner Receives Honorary State FFA Degree



Mrs. Fenner receives the Arkansas FFA highest honor

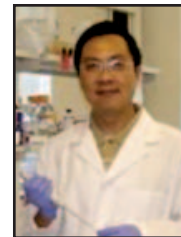
Mrs. Lori Fenner, a long-time instructor and advisor in the College of Agriculture and Technology, received the Honorary State FFA Degree at the 2008 Arkansas State FFA Convention held at Camp Couchdale in the summer of 2008. When asked what she did to receive such an honor, Mrs. Fenner told me "because of the work I have done with the FFA CDEs over the years. Several years ago before the scan sheets were used, I coordinated the data entry of the scores, developed computer spreadsheets to tally scores, coordinated the entry of scores by students." She was also responsible for printing labels for packets and set up an online registration for the FFA chapters. "Once we began using the scanner, Clay {Clay Ewell – the developer of the scanning system we now use} took over the online registration, but I still print labels, coordinate scanning of student response sheets. After scanning I review and upload the results to Clay's website. I help with little things that come up after the results are posted." Mrs. Fenner does this for the Eastern District FFA CDEs and also when ASU hosts a state level event. Those from Eastern Arkansas may also know of her involvement in the Buffalo Island Show held in Jonesboro each spring.

Thank you Mrs. Fenner for all your help with the FFA and the CDEs! The College of Agriculture and Technology thanks you for your past service and look forward to your continued success in the future.

Mandy Reilly, Senior Ag Ed Major from Greenbrier, AR

Professor Receives Prestigious British Petroleum Award

Dr. Jianfeng Xu, Assistant Professor of Biochemical Engineering at the Arkansas Biosciences Institute and the Arkansas State University College of Agriculture, was presented with the 2008 British Petroleum (BP) Young Scientist and Student Award at the 13th International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition Oct.12-17, 2008, in Dalian, China. The International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition is held only once every four years and is recognized as the premier international conference in the field of biotechnology. Xu was selected from more than 200 applicants to receive this global award.



Adapted from university press release

Patrick Clinton, Agriculture Graduate Passes



On December 29, 2007, Patrick Lyn Clinton, a 1999 graduate with a BSA degree in Agricultural Business, died after a battle with cancer. At the time of his death, he was an Agricultural Statistician for the United States Department of Agriculture Statistical Service in Illinois. Patrick grew up near Walnut Ridge, Arkansas and was active in his high school FFA chapter and the Lawrence County 4-H Club. Patrick graduated with honors from Walnut Ridge High

School in 1994. At ASU, Patrick was active in the Agribusiness Club and the Ag Council, and attended the annual College of Agriculture Leadership Conference in 1997. Dr. Greenwalt, Patrick's advisor at ASU, remembers him as an effective president of the Agribusiness Club who represented the College of Agriculture in several quiz bowl competitions. Patrick went on to excel in graduate school at the University of Arkansas and graduated with his MS in Agricultural Economics in 2001. Patrick is survived by his wife Stacy-Dodd Clinton of Marmaduke.

Adapted from press release

Alumnus Receives Honor



Markham Howe, Director of University Relations at ASU and a graduate of the College of Agriculture, recently received the Crystal Award from the Arkansas Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) at the 2008 PRSA Arkansas Chapter Prism Awards reception and ceremony held at the Arkansas Governor's Mansion in Little Rock. Howe, a 1961 graduate in General Agriculture, received the Crystal Award in recognition of his service to the

community and to the public relations profession. Howe holds accreditation in public relations (APR) in the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) and is a two-time former board member of the board of directors, Arkansas Chapter, PRSA; is a past president of Civitan International, former chairman of the board of Civitan International, past president of Civitan International Foundation, and current member of Civitan; is a past member of the state March of Dimes executive committee and current member of March of Dimes Northeast Arkansas Community Council; is director of the Northeast Arkansas Chapter of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA); has spent six years on the board of directors of Youth Home of Arkansas, Inc.; has spent nine years on the board of directors of Junior Achievement of Arkansas; and is a lifetime member of the ASU Alumni Association and a former member of the board of directors.

Adapted from University press release

The College of Agriculture is delighted COA students have the life-enriching opportunity to travel.
Thank you to our donors who make their educational travel possible!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

- Fall commencement — Dec. 13
- Classes begin for Spring Semester — Jan. 12
- **Soil and Water Conference** — Jan. 22, Convocation Center 8:00-3:30
- **North Delta Farm Expo** — Feb. 4, 5, 6, Craighead County Fair Grounds
(Farm Equipment Auction — Feb 6)
- Scholarship Applications due — Feb. 15
See webpage for more details,
<http://agri.astate.edu/Scholarships/Scholarshiprequirements.htm>
- **Agribusiness Conference** — Feb. 11, ASU Fowler Center & the Convocation Center
professional development credits available for consultants & educators
- Job & Career Fair Registration — Feb. 19 College of Agriculture & Technology

- Spring Break — March 23-27

- **Spring Petting Zoo** — April 22-25
(22th, 23rd, & 24th for organized groups, 25th for general public)

- Last Day of Class — April 30

- Northeast Arkansas FFA District Career Development Events — March
- COA & T Honors Banquet — April 16
- **Farmers Market Opens** — Sometime in April

- Graduation — May 10

- International Agricultural Study Tour to Costa Rica — May 10-16 (tentative)
- **Golf Tournament** — May 24 at Sage Meadows (Check website for details)

- Summer Session I begins May 28th

- Summer Session 2 begins July 2nd

For more information, please call 870-972-2085 or visit the College of Agriculture Webpage at: <http://agri.astate.edu>

BSA Degrees in:
Agribusiness
Agricultural Education
Agricultural Science
Animal Science
Food Science
Plant Science
Technology, with emphasis in:
Technical Studies
Technology Management,
Computer Aided Drafting & Design
Computer Systems
Manufacturing-Industrial Technology
Metallurgical Technology

Associates Degrees in:
Technical & Vocational Ed
Food Technology

Endorsements in:
Adult Education
Career Education

— Please cut or tear along dotted line, place in envelope with check, and mail to appropriate address —

Please remember ASU in your Charitable Giving. If you would like to make a gift to the College of Agriculture & Technology or the scholarship fund please complete the information below, or go to the ASU Web site: <http://support.astate.edu/OnlineGiving.htm> and complete the form online.

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Your Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Amount of Gift: _____

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Send all gifts to the ASU Foundation, P.O. Box 1990, State University AR 72467-1990. If you have questions, you may contact the College of Agriculture at 870-972-2085 or the ASU Foundation Office at 870-225-8343

JUDD HILL FIELD DAY A SUCCESS

The Judd Hill Plantation saw a large turnout for its annual Field Day, an important regional agricultural event. The Judd Hill property is farmed by two families who share around four thousand acres. Thirty five acres are used by the University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University for research purposes. The plantation is primarily known for cotton, yet many research projects are underway to answer research questions involving variable rate herbicide and pesticide applications, variable rate center pivot irrigation experiments, and cotton-corn crop rotation practices. The field day also includes many speakers on the different practices dealing with agriculture and cotton specifically.

The Judd Hill Plantation was founded in the 1920's and named for Orange Judd Hill, a wealthy banker and business man from Kansas City, Missouri. Once a large wooded area, this research site has now been turned into a thriving farm region and has become a major player in the research and development of new technology in the cotton industry. This facility became a non-profit foundation in 1991.

Marcus Orf, Junior Ag Ed major from Calico Rock



Dr. Greg Phillips at the microphone

According Dr. Tina Teague, Professor of Entomology at Arkansas State University, "The annual Judd Hill Field Day provides cotton growers and their advisors an opportunity to interact with their peers, industry representatives, and extension educators on new technology decision aids for improving production efficiency." Cotton is great part of the agriculture income in our society because the whole plant from the stalk to the lint can be used. The Judd Hill Field Day enables the cotton producers of our area to learn how to become better producers of this great crop.

Three from ASU Participate in Biofuels Symposium

Three ASU faculty members participated in a symposium on biofuels and plant-produced products in October, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Worcester, Mass. The symposium was a collaboration between ASU's Arkansas Biosciences Institute and WPI's Bioengineering Institute and Department of Biology and Biotechnology. Representing ASU at the symposium were Dr. Elizabeth Hood, distinguished professor of agriculture; Dr. Carole Cramer; Director of the Arkansas Biosciences Institute (ABI), and Dr. Argelia Lorence, assistant professor of metabolic engineering.

According to Dr. Hood, the symposium at WPI was organized by Dr. Pam Weathers who held the Judd Hill Endowed Chair Professor at ASU for the last two years. Dr. Hood said "Dr. Weathers has now returned to WPI, but to ensure that collaborations continue, Dr. Weathers put together this symposium and invited three faculty members from ASU to come and meet and interact with WPI faculty." The symposium showcased new opportunities which have been developed between ASU's research in agriculture and human health, and WPI, where engineering and biology relate to plant-produced products and biofuels. Topics included the latest research on cellulosic ethanol, therapeutics produced from tobacco root, and other plant-based research programs aimed at improving human health and the environment. Topics included plant-produced production of small and large molecule therapeutics, "The many reasons why plants also need their vitamin C," "Cellulase enzymes from transgenic maize seed," "The awesome power of yeast," and "Biofuels: fuels controversy."

Adapted from a University press release

Do you have a story, idea, announcement, or up-date on a promotion or award you or someone else has received that you think should be in the newsletter? If so, please send it to Dr. Greg Phillips at agri@astate.edu

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