

FUTIAWA

Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture *Workers' Association*

NEWSLETTER

Volume 19, Number 2

April 2007

NEW CASNR DEAN NAMED

Dr. Caula A. Beyl has been named as dean of the University of Tennessee College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. Since January, Beyl has been serving as Interim Dean of Graduate Studies for Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University. Prior to then she was director of Alabama A&M's Office of Institutional Planning, Research and Evaluation.

Beyl will be the first female dean of UT's nearly century old college of agriculture. She is among a handful of female leaders of such land-grant colleges across the nation. Her



appointment recognizes a shift from traditionally male-dominated programs to studies that are attracting nearly equal numbers of male and female students.

As dean, Beyl will oversee the college's academic programs, which serve approximately 840 undergraduate and 225 graduate students.

Beyl, who plans to be on campus on June 1, says she is looking forward to an intense summer of orientation and preparations for the opening of the 2007 fall semester.

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DISTRICT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Four district association meetings are planned this year. The locations are Crossville, Jackson, Murfreesboro and Knoxville. The meetings will be held during the second and third weeks of May.

Association members and their guests may attend any or all of the meetings. The locations selected provide an opportunity for most members to attend at least one meeting within a two-hour drive from their home.

Each meeting provides some program features that are different from other locations. Visiting with former co-workers is a meeting highlight for many retirees.

Starting times, locations, program details, lunch prices and registration information for each meeting is printed on page 6 of this newsletter.

Members are encouraged to register now using the registration form provided on page 7. Also take a few minutes to make a few phone calls to invite new retirees and other former UTIA workers living in your area who didn't go to the meeting last year to attend your area meeting.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual members are reminded that now is the time to renew your association membership for the 2007-2008 fiscal year which will be beginning in a couple of months.

State and district officers for the new year will be elected and installed at the May meetings. Their duties will begin soon after the meeting and no later than July 1, 2007.

Membership dues can be paid to the district secretaries at the May meetings if you prefer to hand them the money or checks may be mailed directly to the state secretary-treasurer Bob Burney.

Please use the membership enrollment form printed on page 9 of each newsletter when you renew. This assures that your membership will be recorded correctly as the money is being transferred from the district secretaries to the state treasurer.

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UTIA employees who retired before 1980 will be featured in the June newsletter.

All UTIA workers who began retirement at any time before 1980 are encouraged to send the editor their name, where they worked, date of retirement, years of service, highlights of their activities after retirement, where they live now, their current health status and any other items that they would like to share with others. Also send names of others that you know who retired from UTIA before 1980. Please take time now to send the information before you forget.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

by: Harry D. Bryan
FUTIAWA President

Ethics as Learned in Kindergarten

We have heard a lot about ethics lately with the General Assembly requiring municipalities to adopt a code of ethics by July 1, 2007. Since this law was passed by our state legislature, one might think ethics only applies to elected officials.

Ethics should be applied to all professions, but it is hard to legislate things that should come from the heart and knowing what is right and wrong. Common sense should tell us when we are crossing the line of something we know is wrong.

I admit, it has been a long time since I read the Tennessee Extension Workers Code of Ethics, but after reviewing the code pulled out of some boxes I brought home from work, I am including some excerpts from that document.

1. Being fair, understanding and courteous, and having proper respect for human dignity in all work situations
2. Holding confidential information as a trust
3. Not allowing self-interest to jeopardize effectiveness of the Extension effort
4. Strictly adhering to prescribed limitations on personal partisanship
5. Refusing to accept gifts and favors
6. Not endorsing particular commercial products
7. Maintaining an attractive and efficient office worthy of Extension

These were things we learned early on, but some things are just common sense or as Robert Fulghum said in his essay, "*All I really need to know, I learned in kindergarten*" Some excerpts from that essay were:

1. Put things back where you found them.
2. Clean up your own mess.
3. Don't take things that aren't yours.
4. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

So, why do politicians take money that is not theirs? Why does a government create a mess that has to be cleaned up following an election? Why is it so hard to admit you are wrong and apologize?

Sure, it is easy to point to government and say our leaders need to live by a code of ethics, but what about the rest of us. When we were working with the university, how did we respond in certain situations. Is it easier to recommend a product such as a pesticide if the manufacturer or distributor is giving money to the university?

As a county agent, it just seemed natural when someone asked where to purchase a particular pesticide, that it could be purchased at the Coop. But, what about the other businesses in the county that sold the same product?

When I was working in Morgan County as an assistant county agent years ago, Wartburg incorporated and I was asked to run for alderman. This was an unpaid position and I felt honored that people felt enough of me to ask me to run.

When I mentioned this to my good friend and major professor in graduate school, Dr. Haley Jamison, he said, "son, you cannot do that, you come under the Hatch Act." As employees under the Hatch Act, we could certainly exercise our opinion at the polls and vote for whomever we chose but it served us well that we were not openly involved in partisan politics.

Now the argument seems to be that as government employees, you do not give up your right to citizenship and should be eligible to run for public office.

I understand a bill is being introduced in the General Assembly this year that would prohibit people on the public payroll from running for office. There can certainly be arguments for and against this policy.

Some would say that government employees are more aware of government programs and would be in better position to decide on issues. Others would argue these same people could have a conflict of interest if they were directly or indirectly involved in an issue.

If a school teacher cannot run for public office, where do you draw the line if that person's spouse wanted to run for office. If this law passed, would there be a conflict of interest since the family income might be affected?

Here in Knoxville, we read in the daily paper several times each week about "term limit turmoil in Knox County." Before we throw rocks at that glass house, we have to think about our own house and source of employment during our careers, The University of Tennessee.

In the past few years, two UT presidents left in disgrace and a dean embarrassed us all when he was arrested in a Nashville park. Wouldn't it have been great if they had just applied the things they learned or should have learned in kindergarten?

Oh yes, a couple of other items that were suggested in the essay by Robert Fulghum, "warm cookies and cold milk are good for you and take a nap in the afternoon." As a retiree, I will vote for that.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Information About Retirees

Mike Smith, retired Extension director in Crockett County, was involved in a bad fall from the top of a cotton trailer on February 11th. He suffered a broken leg and extensive knee damage and is having a lot of pain. He has been told that he will need a knee joint replacement. Mike would appreciate hearing from his many friends. His e-mail address is: pmsmith@crockett.net.com Postal service address: 4550 Chestnut Bluff – Maury City Rd., Friendship, TN 38034, Phone: 731-656-2676.

Joe Winsett's telephone number has been updated for the next membership directory. Joe retired in 1989 as Extension agent and Lincoln county Extension director. He currently lives at: 35 Johnson Rd., Fayetteville, TN 37334, phone: 931-433-7386, e-mail: joew@vallnet.com

Larry Archer's e-mail address is listed incorrectly in the current membership directory. Larry retired in 2001 as Extension agent and Unicoi County director. He lives at: 2804 Highway 107, Unicoi, TN 37692, phone: 423-743-5975, e-mail: utarcher@earthlink.net

Jamie H. Jenkins, former UTIA worker, has been appointed FSA state executive director for Tennessee. USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Teresa Lasseter credited Jenkins' strong background in education and agricultural extension as being central to his new role in assisting Tennessee farmers. For three decades, Jenkins was county leader at the University of Tennessee's Extension office in Fayette County. He later served as director of research for Agricenter International in Memphis.

Mary McGuffey Harrison, Extension agent in Loudon County during the 1950's, has been diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor. She is the wife of Charles Harrison, a widely-known retired dairy farmer, and mother of John (Sweetwater Valley Farm Cheese), Steve, Paul and Amy. Mary's home address is: 234 Harrison Rd., Loudon, TN 37774.

Jean Delozier McCall, former Extension agent and widow of UTIA retiree Charles F. McCall, has been undergoing 'chemo' for several months and at last report was hospitalized with pneumonia. Her home address is: 555 Robinson Road, Loudon, TN 37774.

Dr. **Alvin Rutledge**, retired professor of Plant Science -- Extension vegetable production specialist, was in the hospital several weeks during February and March. At

last report, Al was recovering at home and is making some notable progress. You may want to send him a card or contact him by e-mail. His home address is: 1624 George Whittaker Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931. e-mail: aldorutledge@comcast.net

Raymond E. Cobble, retired Extension Service agronomist who also worked with the Tennessee Certified Seed Association, celebrated his 90th birthday on February 3 at Fox Den Country Club in Knoxville. Raymond was born February 6, 1917 at Midway, in Greene County, Tennessee. He retired almost 25 years ago – October 31, 1982. Raymond has been married to Ernestine Smith Cobble for 64 years. They have three children: Dr. Clarke R. Cobble, Philip E. Cobble, and Dr. Steven R. Cobble. They also have eight grandchildren. The Cobble's home address is: 500 Wyndham Hall Lane, Knoxville, TN 37934. E-mail: ercobble@esper.com

It was reported that Dr. **Hugh McCampbell**, former Extension veterinarian, had surgery for prostate cancer in February. His home address is: 407 Mayes Avenue, Sweetwater, TN 37874.

We have learned that **Ralph Meacham**, former Extension agent in Maury County, has been diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gherig's Disease). *Don't have contact information for Ralph.*

IN SYMPATHY

We express sincere comfort and speedy healing to the following UTIA employees or retirees:

Margaret Ashe, Extension agent in Hardin County, in the death of her husband Albert Ashe on February 16. Her home address is: Margaret C. Ashe, 325 Morningside Circle, Savannah, TN 38372.

Mark Halcomb, Extension Service area horticulture specialist in Warren County, in the death of his mother, Ora Lee Halcomb, age 86, on February 25. Cards may be sent to: Mark and Ann Halcomb, Warren County Extension, 201 Locust Street, Suite 10, McMinnville, TN 37110.

Former Clay County 4-H Agent **Reyes Rich** whose father passed away suddenly on February 26. The home address for Reyes L. and Carla C. Rich is 1227 Mill Rd., Moss, TN 38575.

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IN SYMPATHY

(continued from page 3)

We express sincere comfort and speedy healing to the following UTIA employees or retirees:

Stephen P. Oliver, Professor of Animal Science, in the death of his father on February 27 in Arizonia. Dr. Oliver's e-mail address is: soliver@utk.edu

Paul Denton, Extension tobacco specialist, and **Neal Denton**, Knox County Extension agent and director, in the death of their father Harry C. Denton of Bybee, TN on March 31.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. **Naomi M. Davies**, former secretary for almost 20 years in UT-Extension, passed away on Sunday, February 25, 2007, at age 78. Naomi retired from the Smoky Mountain District Office in 1999. She passed peacefully after a history of cancer and lung disease. Naomi was a member of Church Street United Methodist Church. She is survived by: her son, Richard Lee Davies; her sister, Helen Warfield; her two daughters, Beverly Martin and Wendy Moss of Florida. Graveside services were conducted February 28 at Highland West Cemetery. For those wishing to send cards to her son, his address is: Rick L. Davies, 9716 Panama Drive, Knoxville, TN 37923.

RECENT UTIA RETIREMENTS AND TERMINATIONS

The UT Human Resources Office reported the following persons have retired from UTIA:

- **Edwina Catron**, Administrative Support Assistant II, Hamblen County Extension, retired 06-01-2006, information was not reported at time of her retirement and years of service was not listed.
- **Clyde R. Mellon**, Service Supervisor IV, East Tenn. REC, retired 02-28-07 with 32.08 years of service.
- **Ramona A. Robertson**, Administrative Support Assistant II, Central Region Extension Office, Nashville, retired 02-28-07 with 27.17 years of service.

The UT Human Resources Office reported the following employees with more than five years of service have left UTIA employment:

- **Rebecca L. Cochran**, Research Associate II, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Experiment Station, terminated UTIA employment 01-31-2007.

- **Freda Renee Crawford**, Extension Program Assistant, Shelby County Extension, terminated UTIA employment 01-19-2007.
- **Amy O. Dario**, IT Specialist, CVM, terminated UTIA employment 06-12-2006.
- **James C. Garner**, Clinical Assistant II, Large Animal Clinical Science, CVM, terminated UTIA employment 02-23-2007.
- **Preston S. Loshbaugh**, Service Aid II, Plateau REC, terminated UTIA employment 06-12-2006.
- **Mark D. Porter**, Extension Agent I, Washington County Extension, terminated UTIA employment 05-31-2006.
- **Renee Inez Revell-Brown**, Service Aid II, Clyde York 4-H Center, Crossville, UT-Extension, terminated UTIA employment 03-18-2007.
- **Janie S. Rose**, Extension Program Assistant, Knox County Extension, terminated UTIA employment 01-03-2007.

We invite each former employee to become an active member of the Former UTIA Workers' Association.

NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

*Former UTIA workers or retirees who have recently joined FUTIAWA as **lifetime members** are:*

- **Loretta Wade**, 454 Old Piney Rd., Maryville, TN 37803, Phone: 865-984-2593, *Administrative Services Specialist, Institute of Agriculture Administration, Director of Services Office, 105 Morgan Hall.*

Annual membership renewals received since last newsletter:

- **Jack McDaniel**
- **Rose Welch**

UTIA EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

Several retirees are making plans to attend the annual TAAA&S State Meeting at the Music Road Hotel in Pigeon Forge on April 18-20.

TAE4-HW will recognize charter and life members on Thursday, May 3 at their 30th annual professional improvement conference. The state meeting is set for May 2-4 at the Music Road Hotel in Pigeon Forge.

A Turfgrass Field Day and Workshop is scheduled at the East Tennessee REC in Knoxville on May 15-16.

The Former UTIA Workers' Association sponsors two youth activities at the annual Tennessee 4-H Congress—the Poster Contest and 4-H Essay Competition. The ten state winning posters selected for the Poster Contest will be displayed at each of the district meetings next month. The top essay written by Greer Goddard, a Loudon County 4-H member is printed below. Pictured below are four retirees who stopped by to view the poster display at 4-H Congress. They are (from left) Cherry Lane Darken, Shirley Miller, Ruth McQueen, and Ben Powell.



"Tennessee 4-H: A Timeless Tradition"
by: Greer Goddard, Loudon County 4-H Member

"Hugh Kyle Johnson, cabin six." From the first time my grandfather went to 4-H camp, until now, as I am helping my younger brother begin his first year in the livestock project, 4-H has become a family tradition that everyone participates in. My mom and dad were both very active in 4-H as youth. My mom began in the personal development project where she was a national record book winner. She also competed in many of the clothing projects and competitions. She then went on to become state All Star Big Chief, and I plan to keep that title in the family. My dad was very involved in the livestock projects. He showed cattle all his life and has been a 4-H agent for many years; he now happens to be our county extension director. So, I guess you could say 4-H is in my genetics.

With all this tradition and the expectations that come along with it, my 4-H enrollment card was filled out with my birth certificate. I attended my first official event with my parents at the age of six months old and have been to countless shows, meetings and competitions since then.

The number one characteristic I have noticed when evaluating my family's education, jobs and 4-H careers themselves is everything that this organization taught them and how it helped them prepare for the future. This obviously had a huge impact on many of their choices throughout life. For instance, it was at 4-H camp where

my parents met, and their dates usually included shearing a sheep. So, I guess I can thank 4-H for my existence.

"I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living." Short and direct, but reading between the lines, I find the pure and powerful virtues of integrity, love, trust, enthusiasm, dedication, courage, persistence, and commitment; the foundation blocks of the ideals of the 4-H club participation. I have noticed that throughout the years, the 4-H traditions and principles remain the same. Regardless of what year it is, the number one objective of every 4-H project or activity is to help youth develop the ability to think independently and make sound decisions based on a knowledge of facts. Because anything the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve.

As a third generation 4-H member, I have learned so many things and been through tons of unforgettable experiences. 4-H has definitely prepared me for the future, as it has done for the rest of my family. I know that 4-H will remain a huge part of my life and someday will be as impacting on my children as it has already been on me. You can go to so many 4-H events and see the tradition itself as you look into the eyes of the families that remain involved.

4-H, a timeless tradition.

UTIA FACULTY AND STAFF HONORS AND RECOGNITION

Karen Jackson, Lawrence County Extension, and **Shaun Jackson**, Wayne County Extension, are the proud parents of a baby boy, Samuel Foster Jackson, born February 20, 2007.

UTIA won an Award of Excellence from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) for the **Third Thursday Newsletter**. Congratulations to all who contribute to producing and publishing Third Thursday. In the Marketing and Communications unit, **Margot Emery** spearheads the production with assistance from **Patty McDaniels**, **Donna Hundley** and **Garvin Quinn**, the unit director.

The Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association has honored **Charles Hall**, professor in the Agricultural Economics Department, for his Extension program, which focuses on the economics of producing and marketing horticultural products grown in Tennessee.

CUMBERLAND DISTRICT MEETING

by: *Clare Nell Breeden, Vice-President*

The Cumberland District Chapter of the Former UTIA Worker's Association will conduct its annual spring meeting at the Clyde York 4-H Center in Crossville on **Tuesday, May 8, 2007**. Members will gather at **9:30 a.m.** (CDST) for refreshments and the morning program. A steak meal will be prepared by the 4-H Center staff and served at noon.

All association members from Cumberland District counties are encouraged to attend and participate in the meeting. The program will include informative updates on UTIA, the Plateau Research and Education Center (formerly the Plateau Experiment Station), and UT-Extension; a report on the 'Camp Crossville' project conducted by the Crossville Exchange Club; the State FUTIAWA Report by Harry Bryan; and lots of fellowship and updated visits with former co-workers and friends.

Please begin now making your plans to be in Crossville on **May 8, 2007** for an enjoyable and fun-filled day with friends and former coworkers in UTIA. To adequately prepare for lunch and refreshments, it is important that you let us know of your intentions to participate. Therefore, would you please **mail lunch reservations** in the amount of **\$12.00 per person** to **Alma Jean Johnson, 1030 Locust Grove Rd., Cookeville, TN 38501**.

Checks should be made payable to FUTIAWA and received no later than **May 3rd**.

We look forward to seeing you in Crossville.

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WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING

by: *Joyce Hastings, Vice-President*

Members living in the Western District will hold their spring meeting at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center in Jackson, on **Wednesday, May 16, 2007**. You are invited to come at **9:30 a.m.** for coffee and an opportunity to visit with friends and former co-workers.

The program will be held at the West Tennessee Agriculture Center Headquarters Building. A beautiful day is planned for laughter and learning. The program topics will include the Lemon Drop and Funny Extension Stories from Yesteryear. Dennis Jones will give the Institute of Agriculture Report and a highlight of What's Happening at the UT Experiment Station and UT-Extension.

Gourmet Your Way will serve our lunch at a **cost of \$11.00 per person**.

After lunch, Kayo Mullins will lead a workshop on Hyperfufa. He and Helen have invited us to come to their home for the workshop. If you plan to attend the workshop, wear casual, comfortable clothes.

We hope you will come and have a good day!

Mail your reservation to Joyce Hastings, 800 Bear Creek Rd., Paris, TN 38242-6766 **by Friday, May 11**.

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CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING

by: *Glenda Booker, Vice-President*

The Central District FUTIAWA meeting will be held **Thursday, May 17** at Through The Grapevine, 630 Broadmor, Murfreesboro, phone 615-890-7346.

Driving Directions: From I-840 and I-440, go to I-24 (towards Chattanooga). Take Exit 78 off I-24 which will put you on Highway 96-E to Murfreesboro. Continue on 96-E, which becomes Old Fort Parkway, for approximately 2.3 miles. Turn left on Broadmor.

The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. (CDST). Coffee will be ready for those who left home too early to enjoy a second cup and for those of us who enjoy third and fourth cups.

The meal cost will be \$15.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to Central District FUTIAWA. Reservations should be sent to John Basinger, Rutherford County Extension, 315 John R. Rice Blvd., Suite 101, Murfreesboro, TN by **Friday, May 11**.

Come and enjoy visiting with old friends, meeting new people, and sharing a wonderful meal. There may even be a surprise!

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SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING

by: *Elmer Ashburn, Vice President*

The annual Smoky Mountain District meeting of the Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers' Association is scheduled on **Friday, May 18, 2006** in the Hollingsworth Auditorium on the Ag Campus in Knoxville.

This year's program will feature a discussion on the UT Trial Gardens by Dr. Susan Hamilton. Dr. Hamilton is director of the trial gardens which serve as one of the premier evaluation sites for new ornamental varieties in the entire U.S. You will hear about the exciting new varieties and how they perform in East Tennessee.

Another feature will be the update on what is going on in the Institute of Agriculture. You will want to

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RESERVATION FORMS FOR DISTRICT MEETINGS (clip and mail)

Cumberland District Meeting, Clyde M. York 4-H Center, Crossville, Tuesday, May 8, 2007, 9:30 a.m., CDST

Please reserve lunch for _____ people x \$12.00 each = \$_____

Name _____	Guests' Names _____
Street _____	_____
City, State & ZIP _____	_____
Phone _____ - _____ - _____	_____

Make check payable to **FUTIAWA** and mail by **May 3** to: Alma Jean Johnson, 1030 Locust Grove Rd., Cookeville, TN 38501 Alma Jean's Phone: 931-526-7980, email: ghjajj@tnaccess.com

Western District Meeting, West Tenn. Center, Jackson, Wednesday, May 16, 2007, 9:30 a.m., CDST

Please reserve lunch for _____ people x \$11.00 each = \$_____

Name _____	Guests' Names _____
Street _____	_____
City, State & ZIP _____	_____
Phone _____ - _____ - _____	_____

Make check payable to **FUTIAWA** and mail by **May 11** to: Joyce Hastings, 800 Bear Creek Rd., Paris, TN 38242 Joyce's Phone: 731-642-4268, email: th8001@bellsouth.net

Central District Meeting, Through The Grapevine, 630 Broadmor, Murfreesboro, Thursday, May 17, 10:00 a.m., CDST

Please reserve lunch for _____ people x \$15.00 each = \$_____

Name _____	Guests' Names _____
Street _____	_____
City, State & ZIP _____	_____
Phone _____ - _____ - _____	_____

Make check payable to **Central District FUTIAWA** and mail by **May 11** to: John Basinger, Rutherford County Extension, 315 John R. Rice Blvd., Suite 101, Murfreesboro, TN 37129, Phone 615-904-5966, johnu@dtccom.net

Smoky Mountain District Meeting, Hollingsworth Auditorium, Knoxville, Friday, May 18, 9:30 a.m., EDST

Please reserve lunch for _____ people x \$ 12.50 each = \$_____

Name _____	Guests' Names _____
Street _____	_____
City, State & ZIP _____	_____
Phone _____ - _____ - _____	_____

Make check payable to **FUTIAWA** and mail by **May 11** to: Shirley P. Hensley, 139 Moose Trail Lane, Powell, TN 37849 Shirley's Phone: 865-945-2157

SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT MEETING

by: Elmer Ashburn, Vice President (continued from page 6)

catch up on the latest exciting changes and new initiatives that are shaping the future of our land-grant university in Tennessee.

Another very important feature will be the opportunity to visit with other retirees and catch up on the latest goings-on in their lives. Please call a friend and make plans to attend.

Registration and the get-acquainted session will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the formal program beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The price of registration which includes coffee and donuts and lunch will be the same as last year – **\$ 12.50 per person**. Please send in your registration before the deadline of May 11. We need an accurate count for the Knox County Volunteer Leaders who will be preparing our meal.

You should park in lot 66, behind the College of Veterinary Medicine Those who have UT parking permits will want to hang them on their rear-view mirror. We will have permits available for those who do not have them.

We look forward to seeing you on May 18.

YOUR ASSOCIATION *'Editorial'* NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

During the last few weeks your editor has observed a handful of people working diligently to secure locations, make meal arrangements, and develop the program for the four upcoming district meetings. Their reports indicate that excellent activities are being planned. However, it appears that in most cases very few association members have assisted the district vice presidents with these tasks, leaving all of the work to be done by a faithful few.

It is often difficult for the nominating committees to find members who are willing to serve as district and state offices of our association. Also, we have very few, if any, functioning committees in some of the association districts because many of us are unwilling to serve on committees and to devote the time that is needed to do the work of the association.

Perhaps now is the time for YOU to step forward and volunteer to help with one of the association committees, functions or activities.

I have also observed that each year the number of active sub-district and other regional UTIA retiree groups operating within the four districts is becoming

smaller. There are a few exceptions and we are proud of the leaders who are continuing to provide leadership in bringing groups together and conducting sub-district and regional activities for retirees.

Tom Bundy, retired Hawkins County Extension leader, is doing an outstanding job of getting the former agricultural workers in the Knoxville area together on a regular basis for food and fellowship. Jeanne G. Webb, retired Coffee county Extension agent, has assumed leadership for the retirees group that gets together annually at Mary Bobo's in Lynchburg for a Thanksgiving/Christmas luncheon and other activities throughout the year.

Hopefully, there are other similar groups that I haven't heard from recently. I would like to report on these groups in future newsletters. Just let the editor know what you are doing.

But I am also concerned that many of the regional retiree groups that were active when I started editing the newsletter are no longer functioning. What has happened to the 'retiree-get-togethers' at the West Tennessee REC Summer Celebration, the retirees' lunch and activities at the Plateau REC Field Day, the Chattanooga area former workers group, and many of the other regional groups that have conducted UTIA retiree activities in the past during the summer, fall and winter periods? I haven't heard reports from many of these smaller groups at the annual district meetings I have attended in recent years.

We need new volunteers to step up and assume the leadership and work that was done in the past by people like Henry Ford, Marian Mariner, John Caldwell, Lawson Safley, Alta Thomas, Don Williams, Estelle Vines, Melvin Arnett, Eugene Bryan, Ruth Geary and many other deceased members who were active in the association.

Your editor feels that we all need to volunteer more and continue to work together better to make our association stronger. We probably need to restore some of the activities that were popular in the past and find new activities that appeal to the more recent retirees.

Perhaps it would be appropriate at the upcoming district meetings for members to get together with others who have similar interests to plan one or more activities for the upcoming year and then invite others to participate. I think this is another way we can make our association stronger.

Your suggestions and editorial comments on this and other topics related to UTIA retirees are requested.

STATE and DISTRICT *FUTIAWA* OFFICERS

State Officers

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Cumberland District

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Alma Jean Johnson, Secretary
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931-526-7980
ghjajj@tnaccess.com

Smoky Mountain District

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Shirley P. Hensley, Secretary
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865-945-2157

Western District

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kayohelen@jaxnet.net

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FUTIAWA

Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers' Association

Membership Enrollment Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone: Area Code: _____ - _____ - _____

E-mail address: _____ @ _____

I worked at: AG COLLEGE___; EXPT STAT___; EXTENSION___; VET COLLEGE___

Last UTIA Employment: Title_____

Department/Location:_____

New Member___; Membership Renewal___; *Lifetime Membership \$30.00 Annual Membership \$3.00*

A check payable to *FUTIAWA* in the amount of \$_____ for payment of dues is enclosed.

Mail to: **Bob Burney, FUTIAWA Secretary-Treasurer, 1838 Poplar Hill Rd., Knoxville, TN 37922**

FUTIAWA – The Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers Association is an organization of people who worked together and interacted with one another during their careers at The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture. Association purposes:

- To unite all former Institute of Agriculture workers.
- To serve as a communication liaison between the former employees and the present Institute of Agriculture administration and employees.
- To keep all former employees informed of policy and retirement benefit changes.
- To solicit all former Institute workers support for Institute programs.
- To provide social contact with former co-workers.

Membership Qualifications

Membership in the Association is open to all former workers at UT-Extension, the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the Agricultural Experiment Station, and the College of Veterinary Medicine, or a combination of these units at UTIA.

It doesn't matter if you were one of the support staff, a teacher, research scientist, Extension educator, a farm worker, custodian, laboratory technician or an administrator. If you worked at UTIA, we welcome you to join FUTIAWA.

Our newsletter and web pages are communication links with the Institute and current and retired employees. Check out the web site at: www.agriculture.utk.edu/FUTIAWA

When employees retire or terminate employment at UTIA, their names are added to our mailing list to receive a couple of complementary issues of the quarterly newsletter and an invitation to the next regional meeting located closest to their current residence. All retirees are encouraged to join the association. Lifetime membership is only \$30.00 or you may join for one year for \$3.00. Use the bottom section of this page for membership enrollment or to report an address change.

FUTIAWA Newsletter
P. O. Box 11628
Knoxville, TN 37939-1628

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED