

FUTIAWA

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

NEWSLETTER

Volume 18, Number 4

August 2006

Forestry Research Station Receives Governor's Award

The UT Agricultural Experiment Station Forestry Resources Research and Education Center has been selected as the winner of the 2006 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award in the Agriculture/Forestry Category.

The award recognizes outstanding achievement by individuals, businesses, organizations, educational institutions, and agencies for successful environmental projects and conservation measures.

The center initiated the project to improve water quality and habitat of the Hornyhead Branch, as well as provide better access to forestry research along 3,100 feet of the branch contained on the UT Cumberland Forest Unit in Morgan County.

The project demonstrates the use of six different types of bank stabilization methods as options for stream restorations.



Tennessee Environment and Conservation Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan (left) joins University of Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station Manager Martin Schubert, UT Forest Resources Center Director Richard Evans and Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke to recognize the UT Forest Resources Center's Restoration of Hornyhead Creek in Morgan County with the 2006 Governor's Award for Excellence in Agriculture and Forestry at the Adventure Science Center in Nashville.

PRESIDENT's COMMENTS

by: Harry D. Bryan
FUTIAWA President

I am truly honored to serve as your president of the *Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers Association* for the coming year. At our recent state meeting held in May, David Hunter said he was honored to be asked to speak to our group. He said of all the people who could have been asked to speak, he was chosen and for that reason, he felt very much honored to have been the one chosen. I feel the same way about serving as president of FUTIAWA. Of all the more qualified people that could have been asked, you chose me and I am truly honored to have that much trust given to me.

One of the purposes of our organization is to provide social contact with former co-workers. After retirement, it is easy to lose contact with people we have worked closely with through the years but that does not need to happen if we really want to maintain those ties.

On a recent trip to the British Isles, I was in a group of people sitting around and telling where they were from and when this lady said she was from Buckingham County, Virginia, I said, "perhaps we went to school together". Would you believe that after 49 years and over 4000 miles from where we went to school, we were able to renew an acquaintance in London, England. We did go to school together and rode the same school bus, having lived only 5 mile apart in the 1950's.

It is much easier to maintain contact through an organization such as the *Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers Association*. George Mays does an excellent job of compiling our bi-monthly newsletters and keeping our website updated with news about former colleagues. District and state meetings also provide additional opportunities to renew acquaintances. Additional informal get-to-gathers of various groups help to maintain those ties with former co-workers.

On page 7 of this newsletter you will see the names of all the officers of your organization for the coming year. We welcome your suggestions on how to make our

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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

by: Harry D. Bryan

FUTIAWA President

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organization more effective in maintaining those ties with co-workers. Also, if you have ideas of how our organization can be more effective in serving the needs of retirees, please let us know.

Our immediate past president, Martha Jo Tolley, and Ray Humberd before her, had a philosophy of short meetings, good food and lots of fellowship. There is no need to fix something that is not broken. I look forward to serving as your president during the coming year and renewing old friendships.



Outgoing President Martha Jo Tolley (left) shares helpful information relating to her duties as a president with incoming President Harry D. Bryan during a meeting of state FUTIAWA officers conducted in Morgan Hall on June 16.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Information About Retirees

Philip Hoskinson, retired research scientist at the West Tennessee REC, fell recently and broke his hip. At last report, he was in Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, Room 434. Philip and wife, Oleta, are residents of Elmcroft Assisted Living and Alzheimer's Care, 911 Old Humboldt Road, Jackson, TN 38301. The phone number is 731-664-7787.

Kathryn Warmbrod, widow of Jim Warmbrod, former forestry specialist, is also in Elmcroft Assisted Living Center in Jackson.

Marilyn Geraldson, retired Extension food marketing area specialist in the Chattanooga area, has just completed writing and compiling a new cookbook. Marilyn reports, "the cookbook will be out in October and has 585 recipes and tips. BiLo will be handling it

in our area as well as some church and school groups for money makers. After I retired I continued the TV work I was doing as a food marketing area specialist. The television anchor has been after me to do a cookbook for year so this year I did it. A portion of the benefits will go to the Chattanooga Food Bank. I'm glad it's done. Someone told me it was like giving birth and now I am tempted to believe them." *Congratulations Marilyn.*

Bob V. Conger, UT Austin Distinguished Professor of Plant Sciences, Emeritus, received the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Plant Sciences Section of the Society for In Vitro Biology at their annual meeting in Minneapolis, June 4, 2006. He will also receive the Agronomy/Soil and Crop Sciences Honored Alumnus Award for 2006, from Colorado State University, Department of Soil and Crop Sciences on September 1. Dr. Conger began his career at the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory – later named Comparative Animal Research Laboratory – in 1968. He was an internationally known plant radiation biologist and mutation geneticist before transferring to the UT campus in 1976 and initiating research in the newly emerging field of biotechnology. With support from NASA, some of his experiments were performed on the space shuttle Discovery.

Don Richardson reports that 18 retirees and guests attended the Central District Picnic at the Richardson home in Murfreesboro on July 20th. Don said all had a great time with an abundance of food and lots of fellowship.

We learned a few weeks ago that **Arnold Hunter**, retired Extension District III program supervisor and long-time Extension agent and leader in Greene County, had a massive stroke about two years ago and underwent major brain surgery at that time Arnold told me recently that he was out of the hospital quickly and has a very rapid recovery. He said he has enjoyed excellent health for the past two years. He said that he can drive his car and do all of the things that he did before having the stroke. We wish Arnold continued good health. You may contact Arnold at: 1718 Brentwood Drive, Greeneville, TN 37743.

Joe Overton, retired Plant and Soil Science Professor at Jackson, has moved to Columbia to be closer to family members. His address is: 915 Hillcrest Ave., Columbia, TN 38401.

NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

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

- **Virginia Atkins**, 12101 Mapleton Rd., Charlotte, NC 28273, 704-583-9616, *Department Secretary, Ellington Plant Sciences.**
- **RosaLynn Brackin**, 2556 Allen Cox Rd., Ripley, TN 38063, 731-772-1348, *Secretary, Lauderdale County Extension..*
- **June Finchum**, 2640 Topside Rd. Louisville, TN 37777, 865-984-0725, *Senior Secretary, Department of Animal Science.**
- **Virgie B. Gentry**, 642 Sugar Creek Rd., Laurel Bloomery, TN 37680, 423-727-6738, *Senior Secretary, Johnson County Extension.**
- **Sharon F. Littlepage**, 5816 Peshurst Court, Powell, TN 37849, 865-938-1388, *Director of External Relations, UTIA Agricultural Development.*
- **Jo Ann H. Sims**, 2114 Bradley Ln. Sevierville, TN 37876, 865-429-4181, *Administrative Assistant, UT-Extension, Dean's Office.**
- **Claudia Sprinkle**, 19066 Lake Rd., Abington, VA 24211, *Extension Agent, Sullivan County.*

* Upgraded from annual member.

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

- **Rose Welch**, 3046 POW Camp Rd., Crossville, TN 38572, 931-788-2129, *Cook, Clyde York 4-H Center, Crossville.*

Annual membership renewals received since last newsletter:

- James Anderson
- Marcus L. Davis
- Mary Francis Carter
- Eunice Wylie Doty
- Louise O. Morris
- Barbara S. Myers
- Jesse E. Pipkin
- Gertie Porter
- Virginia U. Roos

RECENT UTIA RETIREMENTS AND TERMINATIONS

The UT Human Resources Office reports the following persons retired recently from UTIA:

- **Mary Leslie Dotson**, Program Administrator for the Human Animal Bond in TN (HABIT) Program, CVM Comparative Medicine.

- **Shelia Gardner**, Principal Secretary, UTIA Information Technology, 06-30-06.
- **Cora L. Tilson**, Adm. Support Asst., UT-Extension, Polk County, 06-30-06.

The following employees with more than five years of service recently left UTIA employment:

- **Pamela S. Boruff**, Administrative Support Assistant III, 4-H, UT-Extension, 05-05-06.
- **Kathryn L. Nicholson**, Extension Program Assistant, UT-Extension, Cheatham County, 06-30-06.
- **Rosemary A. Hall-Valentine**, Extension Assistant I, UT-Extension, Montgomery County, 06-30-06.
- **Keisha R. Williams**, Extension Assistant I, UT-Extension, Montgomery County, 06-30-06.
- **Charity F. Worrick**, Clinical Assistant II, Large Animal Clinical Science, CVM, 05-12-06.

IN MEMORIAM

Elizabeth V. Lane, who retired at UTIA in 1982 with 30 years of service working in the Agricultural Education Department (later called Agricultural and Extension Education), passed away Tuesday, June 13, at age 81 after an extended illness battling cancer. She was a member of Fountain City United Methodist Church. Elizabeth was preceded in death by her husband, Carl Lane; parents, Anna and William Jefferson Vaughn. Survived by two sons, Mike and wife Theresa Love of Flint, MI, and Ronald Love of El Reno, OK; two grandchildren, two great grandchildren, one sister and brother-in-law, and three nieces. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery. Memorials may be made to: the Library Fund at Fountain City United Methodist Church, Knoxville or American Cancer Society.

Janice Hale, of Russellville, who worked as an Extension home agent in Hamblen County during the 1950's, passed away April 26, 2006 at age 73. She was active in Ladies Reading Circle, Farm Bureau Women's and W.M.U. Director at Rocky Point Baptist Church. Preceded in death by her husband, Robert Hale, Jr. Survivors: children, John Robert Hale of Russellville, Susan Elise Hale and husband, Charles David Weaver of Franklin, Tenn.; brother, Jerry Hixson of Strawberry Plains; five grandchildren, three great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. Funeral at Rocky Point Baptist Church, Russellville, with interment in Rocky Point Cemetery.

IN SYMPATHY

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

Timothy Hicks, Tipton County Extension Agent, in the death of his sister, Joan Crawford.

The family of **Sib Brower**, the widow of John Brower, former Extension District V program leader, who passed away June 19 in Knoxville.

Charles Click, Research Associate, Research and Education Center at Greeneville, in the death of his father, Harold Eugene Click, age 75, on June 15 due to injuries received in an automobile accident.

Pauletta Lenoir, Shelby County EFNEP Program Assistant, in the death of her mother, Ruby S. Halmon of Memphis.



Curtis Melton, (left) outgoing secretary-treasurer, and Bob Burney, incoming secretary-treasurer, discuss the financial bookkeeping system used by FUTIAWA. The state officers met in mid June to review and transfer responsibilities to the newly elected officers whose terms began July 1.

UTIA NEWS and INFORMATION

FCS Career Edge Interns

Four college students are participating in an eight-week UT–Extension internship program, which began June 1. These students will have the opportunity for an in-depth look at Extension as a career choice. They will observe and take part in all phases of the Extension program. They will be exposed to a variety of effective teaching methods, a diverse clientele and a wide range of program responsibilities.

The four interns, counties where they are working, the school they are currently attending and their

mentoring FCS agents are: **Amanda Gibson**, Jefferson County, The University of Tennessee, Michelle Parrott. **Saundria Murphy**, Cheatham County, Tennessee State University, Nancy Rucker. **Ashley Riggs**, Knox County, The University of Tennessee, Clint Cummings. **Kiffany Williams**, Haywood County, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennille Blakemore.

The internships are funded in part by the Mildred F. Clarke Extension Home Economics Development Fund, the FCS Development Fund and the Lovelace McKinney Fund.

Dr. Charles Goan, Interim Dean of UT–Extension, recently made the following announcements concerning Extension publications. “To continue supporting our educational programs, we are implementing a new policy for Extension publications. Printed publications more than eight pages long that are not intended for limited resource audiences, and that are not supported with grants, gifts, or revenues generated from fees, will be sold at a price which recovers the cost of printing, handling, and shipping.” Dr Goan also explained that all fee-based publications will be available from the Extension publications web site <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/publications> where they may be downloaded and printed for free.

The Jersey herd at the Dairy Research and Education Center in Lewisburg has been recognized by the American Jersey Cattle Club for milk with top fat production during 2005. The center’s Jersey herd is one of the largest and highest milk producing herds in the world.

UTIA EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

Summer Celebration held July 13 at the West Tennessee Research and Education Center was bigger and better than ever, with over 2200 attendees. Carol Reese, Extension ornamental horticulture specialist, reports, “the basil cooking demonstration was a HUGE hit! Folks who couldn’t get in were ganged up in the hallway sniffing the savory smells wafting from the kitchen. The plant and insect diagnostic tent was buzzing, and both inside talks and outside tours were crammed with an enthusiastic audience.” If you haven’t attended summer celebration, mark your 2007 calendar now for the second Thursday in July.

UTIA EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

Tennessee 4-H Roundup and All-Star Conference was conducted July 17-21 at The University of Tennessee at Martin. For a complete list of the activities, award winners, newly elected state officers, etc., check out the web site at <http://4h.tennessee.edu/roundup/>

The Fitzgerald family (Frankie, Susan, Katie, Rob, Laura and Sarah) from Macon County was honored as a Hale Master 4-H Family award winner at State 4-H Roundup in Martin. The W.M. and Ruth Hale Tennessee Master 4-H Family recognition honors 4-H families who have shown consistent leadership ability and exceptional participation in all phases of 4-H work. The Hales of Bradley County established an endowment in 1983 – prior to Mr. Hale's death – to provide funds for the Master Family recognition. Mrs. Hale is an active member of FUTIAWA.

It's almost UTIA Ag Day Time Again! Bring family and friends to the Agriculture Campus on Saturday, September 23, four hours before kickoff for the UT vs. Marshall Homecoming game. Enjoy free music, meet former faculty, or browse departmental displays and exhibits. UT President Dr. John Petersen will be on hand to introduce the new Vice President for Agriculture Dr. Joseph DiPietro. Kids and grandkids are also welcome and can enjoy many fun activities like the insect petting zoo and face painting. For more information, contact Amy Jenkins at 865-974-8622 or jenkins@tennessee.edu or visit us on the web at: agday.tennessee.edu.

UTIA FACULTY-STAFF TIDBITS

NEW UTIA EMPLOYEES

Felicia Ferrell was appointed Extension Agent responsible for 4-H in Jefferson County effective 06-01-06.

Anthony Shelton was appointed Extension Agent responsible for 4-H in Washington County effective 06-01-06.

Wendy Whitaker was appointed Extension Agent responsible for FCS and 4-H in White County effective 06-01-06.

Daniel Sarver has been named Extension Specialist, 4-H Youth Development. He started working in the State 4-H Office on July 3, 2006. Daniel comes to Tennessee from Louisiana. He has over 12 years experience as a 4-H agent and also worked with the

University of Louisiana, Lafayette. Daniel's responsibilities will include camping, environmental education (specifically at the 4-H centers), science and technology.

UTIA JOB POSITION CHANGES

Booker Leigh was promoted to Extension Agent and County Director in Tipton County effective 04-01-06.

Mark Porter resigned as Extension Agent responsible for 4-H and Agricultural Programs in Washington County effective 05-31-06.

Tiffany Rogers resigned as Extension Agent responsible for 4-H in Hamilton County effective 06-09-06.

Lesley Smith resigned as Extension Agent responsible for FCS in Clay County effective 04-11-06.

Christopher Sneed transferred to Blount County as Extension Agent responsible for FCS effective 06-01-06.

Renne Tolbert transferred to Hawkins County as Extension Agent responsible for FCS effective 06-01-06.

UTIA FACULTY AND STAFF HONORS AND RECOGNITION

Congratulations to **Beth Street**, Carter County Extension Agent, who received a master's degree.

Twenty-three UTIA faculty members were recognized for completing 25 or more years of service at UTIA during the past fiscal year. A reception for the recipients of these UTIA Service Awards was held on campus June 16. The honorees are: 25 years of service: John Barte, Greg Blaylock, Barbara Campbell, Debbie Hampstead, Catheryn Hance, Martha Keel, Herb Lester, Sandie Morton, Richard Powell, Andy Seals, John Teague, and Patty Witt. 30 years of service: Shirley Hartsell, George Killgore, David Lockwood, and Dan McLemore. 35 years of service: Clark Garland, Ken Goddard, James Hall, David Kirkpatrick, Jim Neel, and Pauline Willis. 45 years of service: Mabel Smith.

Bruce McNeil, director of pharmacy at the College of Veterinary Medicine, has been named president of the Society of Veterinary Hospital Pharmacists.

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UTIA FACULTY AND STAFF HONORS AND RECOGNITION *(continued)*

Greg Daniel, professor of radiology and Director of Radiological Services in CVM, has received the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association's *Outstanding Faculty Members of the Year* award.

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Harris Laughrey (left) of Carroll County wrote the state-winning essay at the 59th annual Tennessee 4-H Congress. Pictured with Harris is Martha Jo Tolley, past president of the Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers Association (donor representative) who presented the award. FUTIAWA sponsored the 4-H Essay Contest. The winning essay is printed below.

"4-H: Your Adventure Awaits"

by: Harris Laughrey

I crept tenaciously toward the front of the pack and looked apprehensively at the sea of piercing eyes, not knowing if they were friendly natives or hungry cannibals ready to swallow me whole. Should I bolt, or should I stand my ground? My legs are shaking, my hands are sweating, my heart is pounding. I open my mouth to speak and all I hear is a squeak. I clear my throat, take a deep breath and begin again. This time I hear my voice, confident and clear, and I am calmed by the reassuring smiles of this friendly tribe. One would suppose I am in the middle of a jungle adventure deep in the Amazon forest. However, this adventure is much closer to home and much more frightening - I am a contestant in a 4-H speaking contest.

Are you searching for adventure? 4-H will give you more excitement than even Indiana Jones bargained for! 4-H provides opportunities for growth, learning new skills and social development, each of which is an

adventure in itself. Many of these adventures are first time experiences for most of us. Our continuing participation in 4-H allows us to take these experiences, build upon them and hopefully achieve a higher level of mastery as we progress and succeed.

Academic Conference gave us first hand adventure in future career choices. Not only did this conference allow us to do in depth studies into our areas of interest, but we expanded our friendships and learned to develop social skills with fellow 4-H'ers in a setting we were not familiar with. I was able to take the information I learned about dogs and other animals in veterinary science back to the farm where I live. It is amazing how often I am able to apply this knowledge to the welfare of my own dog and other animals on our family farm.

Another first time adventure was the demonstration in front of our peers which helped us to develop organizational skills, looking at the details that formed the big picture. In demonstrating my "Breakfast Pizza" for the District Egg Cookery Contest, I discovered that each step was vital to the whole project. These demonstrations taught me to break down my activities each day to better organize and plan my life. It is also a great teaching tool. When teaching a little third grader to swim, I found that breaking the process into steps allowed him to succeed with small goals and then progress to the larger goal of swimming across the pool. Is participating in 4-H an adventure? Absolutely. As young adults, we are about to embark on the greatest adventure we will ever encounter, life itself. 4-H provides us the tools we need to transition into healthy, successful, contributing adults that we all envision of ourselves. The 4-H adventure will guide us through the jungle to face the world with confidence and bright expectations of our future.

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We want to include information about retirees in each newsletter. We encourage you to send us items about yourself and/or other retirees that you want to share with other retirees. Also district vice presidents, secretaries, and committee chairs are encouraged to send information about upcoming events and activities that are planned for your district, region, or sub group and to do follow up reports on activities and other happenings in your area to share with retirees from other parts of the state. The deadline for receiving information for the next issue is September 25th.

STATE and DISTRICT *FUTIAWA* OFFICERS

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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