

# FUTIAWA

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

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 19, Number 5

October 2007

### DEAN BLACKWELL ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Dr. Michael Blackwell, dean of the UT College of Veterinary Medicine has announced that he plans to retire. Blackwell, who came to UT in 2000, will leave his position January 1, 2008, with his retirement effective March 1.

Blackwell says he came to Knoxville with specific goals in mind for the college, and he found the faculty, staff and students have provided support and guidance to achieve them. CVM has experienced many advances during Blackwell's tenure, including an ongoing \$9 million expansion of the veterinary hospital that will add approximately 32,000 square feet for small animal medicine.

In 2000, Blackwell became the second African-American dean in the university's history. He came to UT from the federal Office of the Surgeon General, where he served as Chief of Staff. Prior to that position, he was deputy director of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine.

Upon retirement, Blackwell plans to create The Blackwell Group, a management and venture capital corporation.

Dr. Joseph DiPietro, UT vice president for agriculture, is planning to meet with college faculty and administration to discuss a national search for a new dean. "We are grateful to Dean Blackwell for the strong and effective leadership and service he has provided the college and University of Tennessee during his tenure," DiPietro said. "We wish him the very best with new ventures and opportunities upon his retirement."



Dean Blackwell

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To learn more about the newly created Office of Bioenergy Programs at UTIA, visit their web site at: [www.UTbioenergy.org](http://www.UTbioenergy.org)

### BIOFUELS PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHED

The executive committee of the UT Board of Trustees has approved a business partnership between the university and cellulosic biofuels pioneer Mascoma Corporation to establish Tennessee as a biofuels industry leader.

The University of Tennessee and Mascoma plan to jointly build and operate a 5 million gallon per year cellulosic ethanol biorefinery in Monroe County.

The business partnership and plans for the facility are a result of the UT Biofuels Initiative, a research and business model designed to reduce dependence on foreign oil and provide significant economic and environmental benefits for Tennessee's farmers and communities.

The principal product of the facility will be cellulosic ethanol – ethanol fuel derived from plant material. Unlike traditional corn ethanol, cellulosic ethanol is made from grasses such as switchgrass, wood chips and other non-food plant material.

Because it does not compete with food or feed uses, using dedicated energy crops like switchgrass to produce cellulosic biofuels on marginal crop land is widely seen as the answer to producing affordable, domestic, renewable fuel without raising food or feed costs.

When operating at full capacity, the facility will require 170 tons per day of switchgrass and other agricultural and forest biomass. An \$8 million farmer incentive program is under development to encourage local production of this new energy crop, switchgrass.

The planned facility will be located 35 miles south of Knoxville in the Niles Ferry Industrial Park in Vonore. Pending a successful permitting process, construction is expected to begin by the end of 2007 and the facility will be operational in 2009.

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Numerous retirees were spotted visiting with friends and having fun at the UTIA campus on Saturday, September 22 at the annual UT Ag Day. Attendance was good and the weather was great – much better than last year's rain. The food was also very good.

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

by: Harry D. Bryan  
FUTIAWA President

### We Do Have A Choice

I received several nice compliments on the article my granddaughter wrote in the last newsletter with someone suggesting she write all my articles. I would agree to that, but Megan has other ideas.

We have been hearing for several months about the silent phase of The University of Tennessee fund raising campaign. I appreciate the university giving supporters a choice of where to spend the dollars they contribute to various causes. In order to establish a priority for purchasing tickets to athletic events (no talk of football in this newsletter), some universities require donations be made to the athletic department rather than to some other program within the university.

*We do have a choice of how our money is spent* and that is one reason Laura and I have been contributors since 1967. Our donations have not been great, but they have been consistent. I must say that I do get a little upset that we started giving prior to purchasing any tickets and now are considered donors when purchasing tickets rather than a retired staff member and it becomes necessary to continue those donations in order to keep my priority. Oh well, it is just money and there are many good causes for which the money can be used.

A big basketball fan was telling me he had received a letter and phone call from the athletic department requesting a commitment for the next three years of making a donation every quarter of \$500 for a total commitment of \$6000 over the next three years. This fan and his wife sent their son to the university as a freshman. In August of this year, the son was assigned to the 61 year old Melrose Hall with no air conditioning. With several days in August of 100 degree temperatures and the local TV station showing room temperatures of over 93 degrees, how receptive do you think he was of sending in that request of \$6000? Even though it is unlikely they could designate their gifts be spent on air conditioning, they could however request their money be spent on many programs benefitting students in their quest for an education.

I realize as a land grant university, our university has a responsibility in teaching, research and public service, but, perhaps even our tax dollars as well as our private dollars could be spent more wisely in all areas of higher education. Sometime ago, Dr. Alan Mathew, head of the Department of Animal Science asked me to serve on a committee whose purpose would be to enhance the horse

educational program within the department.

I thought it would be a great idea to incorporate a horse program into the new research program that is replacing the Cherokee Farm. From 1997 to 2002, the number of dairy cattle in Tennessee declined from 110,000 head to just over 84,000 head—a decline of about 5 percent per year. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Tennessee reported 67,000 dairy cows in 2006. During this same period of time, horse numbers in Tennessee have gained and the present estimate is around 200,000 head of horses. I would think we would see a higher number of students enrolling in courses related to horse sciences rather than dairy sciences. With dairy research being conducted at Lewisburg and Spring Hill, how many stations do we need to support our declining number of dairy farmers? Perhaps sometime in the future, we can have a horse program that will attract top students interested in equine science.

The present Cherokee Farm operation is going to be relocated to Blount County and there seems to be a turf war going on between President Petersen and Chancellor Crabtree about control of the new Cherokee Campus. The chancellor wants the Knoxville Campus to be in control and the president wants the UT System to be in control. I have a suggestion, since the Cherokee Campus is to be research oriented, let the headquarters of both, the Experiment Station and Extension Service, be part of the campus and the Vice President for Agriculture could be in control which would be part of the UT System. I wonder if the chancellor would buy into that suggestion.

As in the past, no one has asked for my advice, but it is still **free**.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

*Information About Retirees*

**James G. O'Neal**, retired UT Extension swine specialist, has established the Barbara O'Neal Memorial Scholarship in memory of his wife Barbara. The scholarship is for Tennessee 4-H members involved in the beef, sheep or swine projects with preference given to those with a swine background. Applicants must have been accepted as a freshman at a Tennessee university or college with a major in animal science. Jim retired in 1985 after 30 years of Extension service as an agent and later as a specialist and leader of the swine section. His home address is: 552 Link Dr., Alcoa, TN 37701.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Information About Retirees

(continued from page 2)

**Jim Bond**, retired Hamblen County Extension Director, has been busy this summer working as a volunteer 4-H leader who coached the Hamblen County 4-H dairy judging team. The team represented Tennessee in the All-American Dairy Judging Contest in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Team members Bradley Gilbert, Maura Gilbert, Samantha Gilbert and Cody Wisecarver placed 11th in the event at the Farm-Show Complex on September 17. The team was first in placing and high team on judging and reasons. Individual team members also received several awards. The team had previously won the right to represent Tennessee at this contest by winning at the State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest, held in August at the Williamson County Fair. Bond was assisted as coach by volunteer leader John Baskette.

The Hardin County Extension Office, Savannah, Tennessee has announced the **retirement of Extension Agent Margaret C. Ashe**. Margaret will be retiring from the UT-Extension on October 5, 2007, after 37 years of dedicated service. If you would like to send Margaret your congratulations and best wishes, her address is: Mrs. Margaret C. Ashe, 325 Morningside Circle, Savannah, TN 38372.

Dr. **R. L. 'Bob' Murphree**, retired animal science professor, celebrated his 90th birthday with several friends, family and former co-workers on July 21, 2007. Cards may be sent to Bob at: 1074 Scenic Dr., Knoxville, TN 37919. At that party, Bob also announced the establishment of the Dr. R. L. and Alice K. Murphree Endowed Scholarship. Bob said he felt it was a tremendous way to reward outstanding animal science students while honoring his wife's many years of devotion and service to the Knoxville community. If you would like to contribute to the fund, you may do so by mailing a check to: 114 Morgan Hall, Attn: Murphree Fund, 2621 Morgan Circle, Knoxville, TN 37996.

**Retirees from the former District III counties** will be getting together in Lynchburg at Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House on **Thursday, November 8** for their **annual fall meeting**. Activities begin promptly at 11:00 a.m., Central time. Miss Mary Stanfill started this holiday celebration many years ago with a group of retired home economists. Recently the group has been made up of male and female retirees from that area. The boarding house has been renovated and is now open again. If you have ties with the former district III and would like to attend the luncheon, send a reservation of \$20 per person to Jeanne G. Webb before October 17.

Jeanne's address is 6830 W. Gum Rd., Murfreesboro, TN 37127, phone 615-893-4935.



The 1964 Fentress County 4-H Soil judging team recently got together for a reunion in Allardt, Tennessee at the home of **Charlie Whitehead**, UT assistant extension agent in Fentress County in 1964 and coach of the team. Whitehead (pictured first on left) is shown with team members (left to right) **Pat Garrett** of Jamestown, **Bobby Gunter**, retired Georgia extension agent, and **Lacy Upchurch**, former Cumberland County extension agent and currently president of the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation. The fourth team member, **Julius Johnson**, chief administrative officer for the of Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation, was unable to attend the reunion.

### E-Mail Address Changes

**James Anderson**, retired superintendent of the Research and Education Center at Ames Plantation, janderosn@hotmail.com

**Robert Freeland**, retired superintendent of the Plateau Research and Education Center, at Crossville rdfreeland@frontiernet.net

**Linda Howard**, retired administrative specialist, Agricultural Experiment Station, lhoward946@comcast.net

### Postal Service Address Changes

**Denver O. Baxter**, 820 E. Moravian Bnd., Chatsworth GA 30705.

**Cora McCann**, 310 S. Rose St., Wartburg, TN 37887, 423-346-3306.

**Clarence A. Speer**, PMB 269, 1817 Cumberland Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Vera Sue Griffin**, retired administrative assistant at the Western Regional Extension Office in Jackson, died May 30 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi at age 82. She was the widow of James Van Griffin. She is survived by a brother, Wayne Griffin. Graveside services were held Saturday, June 2, 2007 in Ridgecrest Cemetery. Mrs. Griffin was a former Jackson resident. No additional details were available from Lawrence-Sorensen Funeral Home, Jackson.

More IN MEMORIAM on page 6

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## FEATURES from FUTIAWA members

by: Gene Turner

Former FUTIAWA President

A particular event stands out in my mind as an example of the confidence and trust that the citizens of Decatur County and Tennessee have in the Agricultural Extension Service. It happened in the 1950's when I was County Agent there.

One day a farmer, I knew well, came into the office and requested that I go out to his farm. He was an Extension supporter and also a test-demonstration farmer. H. D. Gordon was the agent who worked directly with the test-demonstration program, so my reply was, "Gordon or I will be out to see you in the next few days." The farmer's answer, "I don't want Gordon, I want you."

That was a strange answer! I knew that Gordon and the farmer got along well and that the farmer appreciated and respected Gordon's capabilities. But I made an appointment and visited the farmer within the week. Upon arrival at the farm the mystery was solved.

The farmer's mother had recently died, his father had died several years before I became agent and he never knew me. His father's will had stated, "The County Agent in Decatur County will appraise the farm upon my wife's death and the estate will be settled based on this appraisal."

With assistance, I made the appraisal and it was used as the basis for family settlement.

The father had placed faith in the Extension organization, not in a particular person.

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## UPDATES from 1980's Retirees

*We continue to receive reports from individuals who left UTIA employment during the 1980's and will continue to feature this group in the next newsletter. Members of this group are encouraged to send in a brief report on their employment information and an update of their activities after retirement.*

**A. C. Clark**, retired from UT Agricultural Extension in 1985. He served as district supervisor, county agent, and 4-H Club agent in District IV for 37 years beginning in 1949. Mr. Clark also served in Africa, Italy, France and Germany as a combat infantryman for two years where he was wounded twice.

After military service, he returned to Tennessee Technological University and received a B.S. degree in 1949. He received an M.S. degree at UT in 1957. He and Katherine Terry Clark were married in 1948. And will celebrate their 60th anniversary on March 18, 2008. They have four children who have completed college,

five grand-children and three great-grandchildren. Katherine is a retired high school teacher.

After retirement from UT, A.C. served in state government from 1987 to 1991. Also served for ten years as president of a small corporation, The Rehabilitation Corporation, that gave over two million dollars in scholarships to young men and women studying agriculture and human ecology.

At age 83, he decided to hang up his spurs. At age 85, he goes to heart rehab, visits with friends for coffee, makes a garden and mows the lawn. He and Katherine attend Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ in Cookeville. Their home address is: 5237 Bartlett Rd., Cookeville, TN 38501.

**Betty Joe DeJarnatt**, retired as home demonstration agent with UT-Extension in Lincoln County in 1987 with 37 years of service. Her home address is: 1321 Bagley Drive, Fayetteville, TN 37334.

**Arnold F. Hunter**, retired from UT Agricultural Extension Service in 1984 with 26 years of service. He joined the Extension Service team in 1959, after graduating from the UT-Knoxville with a B.S. degree in Agriculture. His first employment was in Greene County where he worked in the area of adult agriculture.

In 1972, he was selected as county extension leader for Greene County and continued to provide educational training in adult agriculture and community development.

Arnold relocated to the Chattanooga area in 1978, where he worked as the agricultural programs supervisor for District III Extension. He retired in 1984.

After retirement, Arnold moved back to Greeneville where he continued to serve the community as agricultural representative for a local bank and as a volunteer for community activities. Arnold had a massive stroke a few years ago and underwent major surgery. He made a quick recovery and has enjoyed good health since that time. You may contact him at: 1718 Brentwood Drive, Greeneville, TN 37743.

**Gene Turner**, retired from UT Agricultural Extension Service in 1987 with 35 years of service providing leadership in several educational programs. He started in Hardeman County where he worked for two years in 4-H, county agent in Decatur County for six years, in Lawrence County as assistant agent in farm management for two years, two years in the Resource

*(continued to next page)*

## **UPDATES** from 1980's Retirees (continued from page 7)

Development Department at UT, Knoxville, two years in the Agricultural Economics Department, and 21 years as associate district supervisor in District I.

After retirement, Gene spent time as a tour guide with an organization in Jackson, worked with and was president of the local Literacy Council in Jackson, went on three church mission trips—two to Scotland and one to Paris, and headed up a \$100,000 fund drive for District I to match that amount given by the state of Tennessee to support 4-H youth educational programs.

In 1966, Gene and Charlotte moved to Brentwood to be closer to their sons and other family members. Dr. Turner was elected president of FUTIAWA in 2001 and provided leadership to the state association during 2001 and 2002. Under his leadership, the association established a web site for posting information for members on the UTIA Internet computer system and began electronic delivery of e-mail updates to members. Gene and Charlotte currently reside at: 1419 Plantation Drive, Brentwood, TN 37027.

**Herbert Loftis 'Dick' Williams** reports that he was born at midnight on February 28, 1913 at the family home on a dairy farm located on Edmondson Pike in Davidson County. As a youngster he worked on the farm bringing in wood, and coal and feeding the chickens. At 13, he started working on the milk route delivering milk, eggs, butter and strawberries in Nashville.

Dick attended grade school at Oglesby, high school at Central High near the Tennessee State Fairgrounds, and drove from home for classes at David Lipscomb College. Throughout his school years, he continued to work on the farm stacking grain, thrashing wheat, barley and oats and doing farm work at his family farm and other neighborhood farms.

Williams said, "my father paid for my first quarter at college, but I had to pay for the remainder of my schooling because my father died in January of my freshman year." Money earned from the milk route and his share of farm income was used to pay for the remainder of his two year study at David Lipscomb College.

In 1936, after his brother bought the farm, Herbert started school in Knoxville at The University of Tennessee where he majored in agricultural education. He continued to work at several jobs to pay for lodging, food, tuition and other college expenses. He graduated in March 1939 and continued to live and work in Knoxville for three years. In 1941, Herbert and Mary Alice Isom were married. They had two children—a daughter, Alice Marr Williams, and a son Dale Wilson

Williams, who died last year from cancer.

His Extension Service career began in 1942 as a resource management agent in Polk County. In 1944, he transferred to Jackson County working first for Extension and later as manager of the Borden's Cheese Plant that he helped to locate in Gainsboro.

"Leaving UT Extension later became one of the worst mistakes on my life," Herbert said. In 1967, he returned to Extension working in Grundy, McMinn, Monroe, Blount, Meigs and Bradley counties. He retired in 1978, at age 65.

After retirement, he was employed two years at a local bank and did volunteer work for Soil Conservation Service. Later, Herbert and Mary Alice traveled to 48 states visting all U.S. states except Vermont and North Dakota. They visited all countries in Europe except Russia and Spain and traveled to most of the Middle East countries, Mexico, the Caribbean Islands, and South America. After a heart attack in 1997, travel has been limited to UT football games, trips to the beach and other short trips to visit with their daughter, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

"At 94, I am still able to grow my own garden and do other jobs around the house," he added. Herbert and Mary Alice live at 122 Country Road 671, Athens, TN 37303.

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## **UTIA NEWS and INFORMATION**

UT Vice President Joe DiPietro's **State of the Institute Address** was delivered to UTIA faculty, staff and students in Hollingsworth Auditorium and by closed circuit video webcast on September 21. You can view the webcast and slides by establishing a link from the UTIA web site.

**The search for the Dean of Research—Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station is now active** with a proposed time line for on-campus interviews to be held in January 2008. The search committee has a web site that can be linked from the UTIA homepage, or directly at <http://taes.tennessee.edu/deansearch/> This site is informational and can be accessed to monitor the search process. Questions regarding the search process should be directed to: Dr. Robert N. Moore, Chair, UTIA Research Dean Search Committee, Professor and Assoc. Dean for Res. and Grad. Studies, UT College of Veterinary Medicine, 2407 River Dr., Room A102, Knoxville, TN 37996-4550. Phone: (865) 974-0227, ax: (865) 974-4773  
e-mail: [rmoore1@utk.edu](mailto:rmoore1@utk.edu)

## UTIA NEWS and INFORMATION

*(continued from page 5)*

A search committee has been established to fill the **new position of Director of the UT Gardens**. The following individuals serve on the committee: Mary Albrecht, Chair, Sue Hamilton, Dennis Deyton, Amy Yancey, Mary Spengler, Sandra Leach, Curtis Stewart, Roland Mote, and Beth Babbit.

A search/advisory committee has been appointed to fill the **Western Regional Extension Program Leader Position for family and consumer sciences**. Committee members are: Richard Powell, chair, Denise Brandon, Patsy Ezell, Rita Jackson, Marcus McLemore, Charlotte Moore, Neal Smith, and Paula Spears.

Applications are now being accepted to fill the position of **Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Economics** at UTIA effective January 1, 2008.

This year 54 Extension employees will receive more than \$85,000 to cover professional development related expenses through the **Lovelace McKinney endowment**. Also, three support staff have applied for reimbursement for Certified Professional Secretary expenses.

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## IN MEMORIAM

*(continued from page 3)*

**Jesse Edward Pipkin**, retired Crockett County Extension Agent, passed away Wednesday, September 26, 2007 in Vanderbilt Hospital, Nashville, at age 88. Jesse, son of the late Louie and Minnie Pipkin, graduated from Sardis High School in Henderson County and from The University of Tennessee in 1948, after serving in World War II where he was discharged as a staff sergeant. He was employed by UT-Extension as assistant county agent in Tipton County in January 1949. He served in Tipton County for five and a half years and transferred to Crockett County where he was serving as Extension Service Leader at retirement in 1983 with 34 years of service.

Jesse received a NACAA Distinguished Service award and the Outstanding Agent award from TAAA&S, where he served as president and secretary. He is past president of the Rotary Club, member of the Phi Delta Kappa and Epsilon Sigma Phi and served as chairman of board of directors of County Welfare. He was also on the board of directors of the West Tennessee Resource Development Association in its early development and a member of First Baptist Church in Alamo where he served as deacon, teacher, committee member and Sunday School director.

Mr. Pipkin's surviving relatives include his wife, Marion Crisp Pipkin of Trenton; a sister; three brothers;

sons, Mike Pipkin and wife, Robin of Gilbertsville, KY, Dr. Jimmy Crisp of Dyersburg; daughter, Bettie Crisp of Trenton, TN and a grandchild, Austin Crisp. Mr. Pipkin was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Georgia Lee Pipkin. Funeral was September 29 with interment in Oakview Memorial Gardens, Alamo.

Marion Crisp Pipkin is a retired Gibson County Extension agent. Her address is: Marion Pipkin, 240 Dyersburg Highway, Trenton, TN 38382.

## IN SYMPATHY

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

**Walter M. Battle**, Haywood County Extension Director, in the death of his father, Mr. Walter Maxwell Battle Sr., in late July. Walter's address is: 438 Preston Place Drive, Brownsville, TN 38012.

**Margaret R. 'Peggie' Hall**, retired Rhea County Extension agent, in the death of her mother-in-law, Opal Beatrice Hall, on August 1, 2007. Funeral services were conducted in Dayton, Tennessee on August 4. Peggy's home address is: 171 Archer Lane, Dayton, TN 37321.

**Mary Ann Walkling**, who retired earlier this year as a UTIA accounting specialist, in the death of her son, Robert John Walkling who died suddenly September 2, 2007 in Okinawa, Japan at age 41. 'Robbie' was employed as a civilian contractor with the U.S. Government. The funeral service was conducted September 12 at Lynnhurst Greenwood Chapel with interment in Lynnhurst Cemetery. Mary Ann's home address for cards is: 8216 Rising Fawn Rd., Knoxville, TN 37923.

**Mary Whitford**, administrative support assistant, Montgomery County Extension, in the death of her mother, Mary Bryant who passed away September 11, 2007 in Montgomery County. If you would like to send Mary a card, her home address is: 542 Paula Drive, Clarksville, TN 37042.

**Diane Mehall**, accounting specialist in agricultural economics at UTIA, Knoxville, in the death of her mother, Hazel Slover Disney, on September 13, 2007 in Anderson County. Cards may be sent to Diane at: 2474 Disney Lane, Maryville, TN 37803.

**Laurie Brooke Mobley**, Houston County Extension agent, is resting at home and reportedly doing well after recent surgery. If you would like to send her a get well card her address is: 267 Raymond Drive, Tennessee Ridge, TN 37178.

## NEW ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

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

- **Carolyn Chapman Butler**, 560 Laurel Park Circle, Cookeville, TN 38501, 931-520-3969, CB560@frontiernet.net Assistant Home Agent, Scott and White Counties, 1956–59.
  - **Elmer Counce**, 643 Elm Street., Martin, TN 38237, 731-587-2750, ecounce@frontiernet.net Professor of Agronomy Emeritus, UT–Martin \*
  - **Joe F. Nichols**, 9414 West Ridge Trail Rd., Soddy Daisy, TN 37379, 423-842-8120, nicho4J@aol.com Extension Agent, Hamilton and Bledsoe Counties \*
  - **Fairene B. Sewell**, P. O. Box 242, Selmer, TN, 38375, 731-645-5872, Extension Agent and McNairy County Leader \*
  - **Ann P. Smith**, 5304 Bellcrest Drive, Antioch, TN 37013m 615-366-1022, annpsmith@comcast.net Extension Program Assistant, Davidson County.
- \* Upgraded from annual member.

Annual membership renewals received since last newsletter:

- W. Harold Julian
- Ruth Maberry
- Ruth Penner
- Virginia Roos
- Catherine Campbell York

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## RECENT UTIA RETIREMENTS AND TERMINATIONS

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

- **Billy C. Adcock**, Extension Agent III and White County Director, UT–Extension, 33.42 years of service.
- **I. Katherine Brazier**, Administrative Support Assistant, Moore County, UT–Extension, 29.5 years of service.
- **Lucille M. Carleton**, Administrative Specialist, Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science, Knoxville, 5.67 years of service.
- **Gary R. Dagnan**, Graphic Designer, Marketing and Communications, Knoxville, 38.58 years of service.
- **Pauline C. Holland**, Extension Program Assistant, Davidson County, UT–Extension, 37.92 years of service.
- **Wyvetta M. Percell**, Research Technician III, Entomology and Plant Pathology, UT–Extension, Jackson, 10.42 years of service.

- **Ann P. Smith**, Extension Program Assistant, Davidson County, UT–Extension, 14.92 years of service.

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

- **Rita C. Ayres**, Administrative Support Assistant, Roane County, UT–Extension, 8.25 years of service.
- **Jayne L. Fowler**, Extension Program Assistant I, Carroll County, UT–Extension, 16.17 years of service.
- **Veronica C. Gibson**, Research Coordinator II, Entomology and Plant Pathology, 15 years of service.
- **William Warren Gill**, Professor, Animal Science, UT–Extension, Nashville, 21.5 years of UT service.
- **Allison R. Mains**, Research Associate I, Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, Agricultural Experiment Station, 6.25 years of service.
- **Philipus Pangloli**, Research Associate, Food Science and Technology, Knoxville, 7.0 years of service.
- **Anne R. Sortor**, Extension Program Leader II, Western Region, UT–Extension, Jackson, 10.58 years of UT service.
- **John E. Spears**, Medical Service Aide, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, CVM, Knoxville, 12.5 years of service.
- **Lareen J. Stevens**, Clinical Specialist I, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, CVM, 6.92 Years of service.
- **Susmit Suvas**, Research Associate Professor, Microbiology, CVM, 5.33 years of service.
- **Mingqi Tan**, Research Associate I, Pathobiology, CVM, 7.25 years of service.

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## UTIA JOB POSITION CHANGES



UT–Extension Dean Charles Goan has announced that **Rob Holland** has accepted the position of Director, Center for Profitable Agriculture. Rob was employed previously as an Extension specialist at the center. (continued to next page)

## UTIA FACULTY-STAFF TIDBITS

### Job Position Changes

(continued from page 7)

I am confident that Rob will provide excellent leadership to this value-added program, and will continue the good work that the center has become known for in the state, in the region, and nationally, Goan said. We appreciate the continuing partnership with the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation to support this joint effort, and look forward to new projects, opportunities, and ideas that the center will generate in years to come, Goan added. Holland joined UT Extension in 1993 as an area specialist in farm management. In 1998, he was appointed Assistant Extension Specialist in the Agricultural Development Center, which grew to become the Center for Profitable Agriculture and moved from Knoxville to Spring Hill in 2002

Dr. **Warren Gill**, Extension animal science specialist, left UT Extension after 25 years of service on July 30<sup>th</sup> to serve as director of the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience at Middle Tennessee State University. His new address is: Warren Gill, Director, School of Agribusiness and Agriscience, MTSU, P.O. Box 5, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. e-mail: wgill@mtsu.edu

The reporting structure and title for Dr. **Robert Orr** was changed effective August 1. His title is UTIA Director of International Programs. He will work out of and report to the Office of the Vice President for Agriculture. In this role, he will be a point of contact and coordination for international activities of the Institute. His activities will serve all divisions and departments of the Institute of Agriculture and cooperate with other divisions and departments of The University of Tennessee.

### Honors and Recognition

Former Vice President **Jack Britt** has been awarded the 2007 Fellow Award, Administrative Category, sponsored by the American Society of Animal Science.

Retired Associate Professor **Frederick Harper** has been honored as a Fellow of the Equine Science Society for his distinguished service to the horse industry.

**Margot Emery**, senior writer/producer and **Donna Hundley**, designer, of UTIA Marketing and Communications received the 2007 APEX Award of Excellence for the Institute's biannual magazine, *Tennessee Land, Life and Science*.

## UTIA EVENTS and ACTIVITIES

UTIA retirees and their family and friends are cordially invited to **UT West Tennessee Research and Education Center's Centennial Homecoming Celebration** on Friday, October 12, 2007. Activities begin at 3:45 p.m. at the West Tennessee REC (Experiment Station), 605 Airways Blvd., Jackson, TN 38301. The event will feature wagon rides, garden tours, pumpkin pickin', story telling, face painting, a bounce house-jumper for the little ones, live music, food, fun and friendly folks. RSVP to wtrec@utk.edu or call 731-424-1643.

The ninth annual **Fall Folklore Jamboree** is scheduled Saturday, October 20, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the **University of Tennessee West Tennessee Agricultural Museum**. The museum is located along highway 70/79 in Milan, Tennessee. Over 90 demonstrators with 45 different skills will participate. UTIA retirees and their families are invited to come early and bring the family. Admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children ages 3 through 12. Children two years and younger are admitted free. For more information, visit the REC at Milan web site at <http://milan.tennessee.edu> or contact the West Tennessee Agricultural Museum at 731-686-8067 or the Research & Education Center at Milan at 731-686-7362.

4-H SET – Science, Engineering and Technology, is the theme for National 4-H Week, scheduled October 7-13, 2007. 4-H SET is a renewed nationwide focus on 4-H's commitment to being a part of the science, engineering and technology education of America's youth. 4-H SET is identified as those projects related to animal science, plant science, agriculture, environmental science, engineering, technology, and other sciences. Its mission is to improve science literacy; increase the number of American students seeking undergraduate degrees in science, technology and engineering; and increase the number of young adults pursuing careers in these fields.

The **annual state meeting** for the **Tennessee Association for Family and Community Education** is scheduled **November 26–28, 2007** at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Nashville–Cool Springs. You can register online at the association's web site <http://www.tafce.org/>

A **Statewide Extension Conference** is being planned for January 12-15, 2009.

**STATE and DISTRICT *FUTIAWA* OFFICERS**

**State Officers**

**Harry D. Bryan, President**  
9628 Briarwood Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37923  
865-690-2813  
harry@bryangroup.net

**Martha Jo Tolley, Past President**  
8833 Shoreham Blvd.  
Knoxville, TN 37922  
865-691-5872  
mtolley@utk.edu

**Bob Burney, Secretary-Treasurer**  
1838 Poplar Hill Rd.  
Knoxville, TN 37922  
865-693-8196  
rjburney@comcast.net

**George C. Mays, Comm. Director**  
P.O. Box 1767  
Greeneville, TN 37744  
423-638-8624; 865-904-4743  
gmays @ utk.edu

**Central District**

**Glenda Booker, Vice President**  
103 Oakwood Drive  
Dickson, TN 37055  
615-446-5973  
Gkbooker@aol.com

**Robbie C. Adcock, Secretary**  
972 Rock Springs Rd.  
Christiana, TN 37037  
615-893-5511

**Cumberland District**

**Clare Nell Breeden, Vice President**  
P.O. Box 92  
Decatur, TN 37322  
423-334-5198  
wwcthouse@aol.com

**Alma Jean Johnson, Secretary**  
1030 Locust Grove Rd.  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
931-526-7980  
ghjajj@tnaccess.com

**Smoky Mountain District**

**Thomas J. Bundy, Vice President**  
217 Russell Drive  
Rogersville, TN 37857  
423-272-3123

**Alice F. Harless, Secretary**  
2100 Cecil Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37917  
865-522-6538  
af31581@bellsouth.net

**Western District**

**Jane H. Connell, Vice President**  
P.O. Box 455  
Ripley, TN 38063  
731-635-1951  
accentsgifts@bellsouth.net

**Helen B. Mullins, Secretary**  
137 Claiborne Drive  
Jackson, TN 38305  
731-668-0521  
kayohelen@jaxnet.net

***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](http://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**