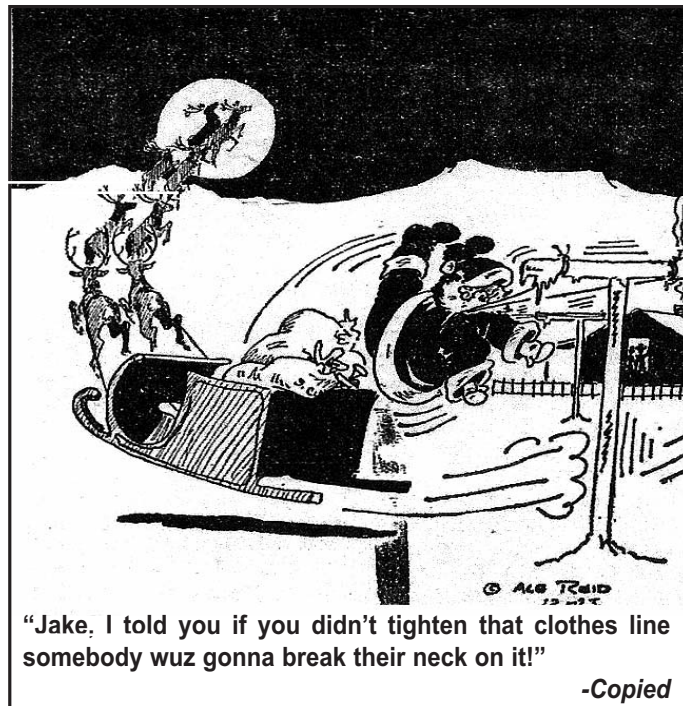


## Upcoming Events

- Nov 9      Equipment Auction  
Farmers Livestock Sales Barn  
Thomaston 10 AM
- Nov        14 MGCA Ladies' Night  
Thomaston Civic Center  
7 PM
- Nov 22    Replacement Cow Sale  
Mid-Georgia Livestock Market  
Jackson 7 PM
- Nov 28    HAPPY THANKSGIVING
- Dec 8-10   GA Farm Bureau Convention  
Jekyll Island
- Dec 12    MGCA Directors' Meeting  
Maxine's In Barnesville  
7 PM
- Dec 25    MERRY CHRISTMAS
- Jan 1      HAPPY NEW YEAR
- Jan 9      MGCA Membership Meeting  
UGA Griffin Campus 7 PM

## COW POKES

By Ace Reid



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association

1. Publication Title: *Bull Sheet*

2. Issue Frequency: *Bi-monthly*

3. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: *9-30-13*

4. Number of Issues Published Annually: *6*

5. Annual Subscription Price: *\$500 Dues*

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8. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):

Publisher	<i>Tom Freeman</i>	<i>1792 Freeman Rd., Foothill, GA 31029</i>
Editor	<i>Cynthia Douglas</i>	<i>The Rock, GA 30285</i>
Managing Editor	<i>Cynthia Douglas</i>	<i>5500 Barnesville Hwy, The Rock, GA 30285</i>

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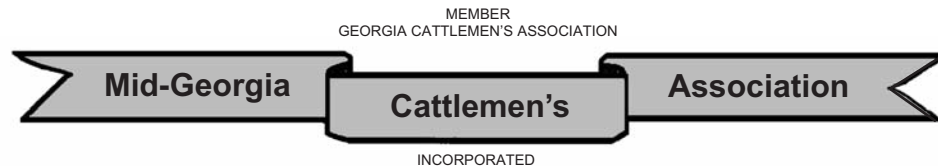
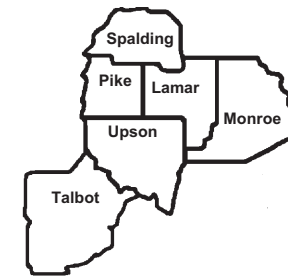
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VOL. XXXXVIII

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2013

No. 6

# MGCA LADIES' NIGHT

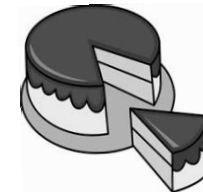
*November 14, 2013*

*At 7:00*

*Thomaston-Upson Civic Center  
101 Civic Center Drive, Thomaston, GA*

Join us for an evening of great food, special recognitions  
and a dessert auction.

We will be entertained by cowboy poet, Tom Kerlin.



*A "Dessert Auction" will be held to raise funds for the GCA Building Fund, , so bring your cake, pie or special dessert to be auctioned off that evening. You can auction off an "I OWE YOU" dessert to be delivered at a later date. We will not have a silent auction this year.*

A prime rib dinner will be served by The Prime Palate. The cost is \$10 per person.

Our sponsors for this meeting are  
Ag South Farm Credit, ACA of Thomaston and Farmers Livestock Market, LLC

We hope to see you at our  
Annual Ladies' Night.

## BULL SHEET

of the  
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2002 - Edwin D. Foshee, Sr.  
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2005 - Wyatt Childs  
2006 - Harry Waller  
2007 - Joel Edwards  
2008 - Ben T. Smith, Sr.  
2009 - Edward Trice, Sr.  
2010 - Dr. James King  
2011 - Fred Greene  
2012 - Chuck & Norma Sword

**County Extension Agents:**

Lamar: Wes Smith, 770-358-5163  
118 Academy Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204  
Monroe: John Pope - 478-994-7014 E-mail: jpope@uga.edu  
P. O. Box 70, Forsyth, GA 31029  
Pike: 770-567-2020  
P. O. Box 190 Zebulon, GA 30295  
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THE BULL SHEET

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Directors' meetings are held the 2nd Thursdays in months alternating with membership meetings.  
Editor: Cynthia Douglas  
5500 Barnesville Hwy., The Rock, Georgia 30285  
douglasfarm@windstream.net  
50¢ of annual membership dues is for subscription to Bull Sheet.  
2013

Officers and Directors of the Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association			
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Danny Bentley	.....	Vice President	
Rodney Hilley	.....	Secretary	
Tom Freeman	.....	Treasurer	
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GCA Regional Director	.....	Danny McLeod	
Editor	.....	Cynthia Douglas	
Mailing List	.....	GCA Office & Cynthia Douglas	
Queen	.....	Caroline Waldrep	

Cattlemen's Dues

\_\_\_ Local Mid-GA Dues - \$ 5.00  
\_\_\_ State Georgia Dues - \$15.00  
\_\_\_ National Dues - \$50.00  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Susan Allen  
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Barnesville, GA 30204

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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☐ 1-100 Head .....Dues \$100  
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☐ 251-500 Head .....Dues \$300

☐ 501-1000 Head . .\$400 +Fair Share \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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RECIPE CORNER



BEEFED UP SWEETISH MEATBALLS

Total Recipe Time: 35 to 45 minutes  
Makes 4 servings

INGREDIENTS

1 pound Ground Beef  
1/4 cup seasoned dry bread crumbs  
1 packet (1 to 1.4 ounces) dry onion soup mix, divided  
2 egg whites or 1 whole egg  
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
1/4 teaspoon pepper  
2 cups milk  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
2 tablespoons water  
Hot cooked pasta  
Freshly chopped parsley (optional)

Instructions:

1. Combine Ground Beef, bread crumbs, 2 tablespoons onion soup mix, egg whites, nutmeg and pepper in large bowl, mixing lightly but thoroughly. Shape into 12 1-1/2-inch meatballs. Heat large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Place meatballs in skillet; cook 17 to 19 minutes, turning occasionally to brown evenly on all sides. Remove from pan; keep warm.  
2. Pour off excess drippings from skillet, if necessary. Add milk and remaining onion soup packet to same skillet, stirring until browned bits attached to bottom of skillet are dissolved. Combine cornstarch and water; add to skillet. Bring to a boil. Cook and stir 1 to 2 minutes or until sauce is thickened, stirring frequently. Return meatballs to skillet; cook 3 to 4 minutes or until heated through.  
3. Serve over pasta. Sprinkle with parsley, if desired.



Test Kitchen Tips

Cooking times are for fresh or thoroughly thawed Ground Beef. Ground Beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160°F. Color is not a reliable indicator of Ground Beef doneness. Meatballs can also be served as an appetizer.



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## Did we have too much rain this summer? How will it affect our winter-feeding strategy?

October 13, 2013, Dr. Lawton Stewart  
in Forage / Weed Management, Nutrition

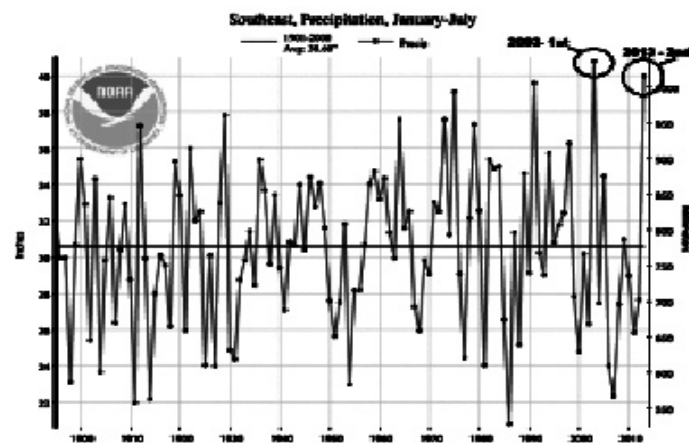
For most of us, this summer was a complete 180 from previous years. The rainfall total for January to July for the SE United States was the second wettest on record. That is great if you are trying to grow forage, but its bad if you are trying to cut, rake, and bale hay. For many, this has resulted in: 1. grass harvested at much higher maturity than anticipated and/or 2. hay that was cut, but rained on before it could be raked and baled. This can have major implications on utilizing the hay for winter-feeding programs. Given the dilemma, here are a few strategies to consider:

1. **FORAGE TESTING.** Hands down, this the first and foremost step. The cost of the test will pale in comparison to the money saved either in feed cost if the forage is better than expected, or the cost of lower conception rates if the forage is not as good as expected.

2. **Liquid or Dry Protein Supplements.** There are three major advantages to liquid, block, or tub-based protein supplements; those are convenience, reduced labor, and increased forage intake. These can be an excellent source of protein when a small amount is needed to bridge the gap with marginal hays, especially with dry cows. However, like with any other feed, they need to be analyzed to ensure they are meeting the nutritional needs of the animals in a cost effective manner. Another positive for many of these is the addition of essential vitamins and macro- and trace-minerals.

3. **Byproduct Feeding.** Many producers do not have the facilities or machinery to handle large amounts of commodity or byproduct feeds. However, with a little ingenuity, such as ton-tote bags, 50-gallon drums, etc., there can be a real opportunity to utilize these. The strategy then becomes pricing and getting these early enough to insure an economical price. Often times, something as simple as a 50:50 mix of corn gluten feed and soybean hulls or straight whole cottonseed can be a versatile ration that can be fed at variable rates to match the hay and cattle stage of production.

These are a few strategies to help deal with low quality hay this winter. No matter the size of your operation, always start by understanding your available nutrients in you forages, and then develop your supplementation strategy around maintaining production in an economically feasible manner. For more information on winter-feeding strategies, contact your local Cooperative Extension Office.



Precipitation in the Southeast from January 2013 through July 2013. 2013 is the second wettest year so far for this region. Image Credit: NCDC



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RAY BRUMBELEE

MGCA PRESIDENT

Greetings,

Two years have come and gone in a blink of an eye and so has my term as President. I am grateful to the Directors of MGCA for allowing me the opportunity to serve as MGCA's President, but the time has come for me to step aside. I hope that I have contributed in keeping MGCA moving forward in as much as being President of MGCA has done for me personally. I will always cherish the relationships that I have made as President and I look forward to serving the Mid-GA Cattlemen's Association in another capacity.

As I look back over my tenure as President the one thing that I remember doing the most was saying "thank you". Thank you is a phrase that is well deserved for MGCA members for their willingness to volunteer their time for our many events such as Steer and Heifer Shows, Health Fairs, Beef Month Celebrations, Buggy Days & Inman Heritage Days, Spalding Fair, Bi-monthly Membership Meetings, and many other functions all year long. Not every member can attend every event and every meeting, but a thank you is deserving to every member of GCA and MGCA for supporting Georgia's beef industry through your membership. For next year, I want to encourage each member to volunteer for at least one event and experience how great MGCA is at reaching out to our younger generation, to consumers, and to other cattlemen.

I strongly believe that we need to continue to invest in our young people through organizations such as FFA, 4-H, and Young Farmers Associations to make sure there is a next generation of beef producers and leaders for the cattle industry. Our world is changing faster and faster and it is our responsibility to be aware of the constant challenges the cattle industry faces from restrictive legislations and activist whose mission is to cripple the cattle industry.

MGCA recently participated in Buggy Days and Inman Heritage Days in September by selling those world famous Ribeye Steak Sandwiches. Buggy Days was a sellout again and Inman celebrated a fantastic first year selling the sandwiches while overcoming the heavy rains on Saturday. I want to send a special thank you to Shane and Betts Eason & Roger and Janet Greuel for heading up the Inman Heritage Days event. In October, MGCA had a booth at the Spalding County Fair. MGCA volunteers greeted attendees by passing out recipe pamphlets while discussing the proper ways to prepare and cook beef and informed them of the Mid-GA Cattlemen's Association and what we stand for. The younger attendees were treated to a balloon and an activity book about beef. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make all three of these events a success. I would be remiss if I did not send a thank you to the MGCA Cattlewomen, and especially Cynthia Douglas, for the effort that they put into making sure that all the MGCA events are planned for success. Cynthia, thank you for everything that you do for our Association.

I want to be the first to wish everyone a Wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. I look forward to seeing everyone at "Ladies' Night" on November 14th in Thomaston.

Ray



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### MID-GEORGIA CATLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 FORSYTH, GEORGIA

President Ray Brumbeloe called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Butch Copelan welcomed everyone to Forsyth and thanked the sponsors.

Tom Freeman led the Invocation.

Minutes-Minutes of the July meeting were approved as printed in the Bullsheat.

Financial Report-Tom Freeman presented the Financial report.

#### GCA Report

Rodney Hilley & Danny Bentley are at the Region Roundup in Perry GA tonight. GCA is requesting help for the Georgia National Fair & Sunbelt Expo.

#### Cattlewomen's Report

Cynthia mentioned that queen applications are available and due by the board meeting. She encouraged members to get involved with reading AG books to students. The Georgia Cattlewomen are planning to have a spot where children can listen to an AG book at the Beef exhibit in Perry. She encouraged members going to stop and assist with the booth. She thanked everyone that went to Fort Benning and helped serve steaks. She encouraged everyone to come and help with the ribeye steak booths.

#### Old Business:

Scholarship – Charlsy Annisetti from Pike County has been awarded this year's Harvey and Fred Greene Scholarship. Butch Copelan mentioned that the Monroe County Cattlemen were assisting with the scholarship by donated \$1000.00 to have the Fred Greene Scholarship.

Butch recognized the members of the Greene family that were in attendance, Betty Jo Greene, Hunter Defore, Jeff Defore. Chairman Wade Hutcheson mentioned that the committee had changed the 2014 scholarship deadline to March 15 in order for students to be recognized at their high school. The scholarship forms are now available for 2014.

**GCA Kitchen & Lobby Renovation** – the fundraiser is ongoing. Funds are required by 2014 Convention. There have been articles on this in past Bull Sheets.

**Buggy Days and Inman Heritage Days** – These two big events are on the same weekend Sept 21 & 22. Please – we need everyone that is able to help to please help!!! MGCA will be serving Ribeye Steak Sandwiches at both events. Please signup on the signup sheets for the date and time that you will be available to work. These are our fundraisers for the year to support our youth projects, community outreach, and association activities. So participation from everyone is critical to our success.

**Spalding County Fair** – MGCA will again have a booth at the Spalding County Fair. The dates of the Fair are Oct 3-12. Please signup on the signup sheet for the night or nights that you are available to work the booth. We need a good participation from our members to make this a success. Our main mission is to reach out to consumers, the youth, and to possible future members by promoting Beef in our local area.

**Website** – Please email suggestions, dates of events or auctions, and pictures to midgacattlemen@yahoo.com or to reb4243@yahoo.com

#### Extension Agent Reports

Wade Hutcheson reminded everyone about the Sprayer Calibration Sept 24 @ Trice Farms, The Rock GA. 10:30am & 3:30pm.

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producers must vote.

- Producers must vote to approve the commission by a two-thirds majority.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this form is to establish a list of all cattle producers who produce cattle within the state's borders. Administrators will use the list to determine who should receive a ballot and if the voting qualifications are met. By submitting this form, you will be added in the total number of cattle producers and you will be mailed a voting ballot. Additional information about the commission will accompany your ballot after a 90 day sign up period. Participation in the voting process is highly encouraged because it is intended to reflect the wishes of cattle producers.

COPIED FROM: Georgia Department of Agriculture  
Website: <http://agr.georgia.gov/beef-commission.aspx>

*EDITORS NOTE: You can go to this website and fill in the ballot or go to our mgcaonline.com site and click on links.*

## Fall Equipment Auction

Farmers Livestock Market Equipment Auction will be held Saturday, November 9, 2013 at 10AM. It is located at 2626 Yatesville Hwy, Thomaston (Farmers Livestock Sales Barn). You can start bringing equipment all week of November 4th-8th. Seller's commission and buyer's fee are 7% with \$500 Max. and \$5 Min. per item. No charges for No Sales! Pre-register Friday, November 8th 9 AM to 7 PM.

For more information contact: Barry Robinson – 256-453-6123; Brian Johnston - 770-550-1990; Steve Douglas – 770-550-2005 or Call the barn at 706-647-6895.

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## Area Hay Winners

This year in the Southeastern Hay Contest, Middle Georgia Cattlemen was well represented. There were 22 samples that came from this area. John Sullivan placed 4th in Warm Season Perennial Grass Hay, Timberline Farm placed 3rd in Cool Season Grass Hay, The Rock Ranch placed 5th in Mixed Annual Grass and County Line Farm placed 4th in Grass Baleage. There were 109 samples submitted from the Southeast. The contest was held in Moultrie during The Sunbelt Ag Expo. Congratulations to our winners!

## Junior News

Congratulations to the following Mid-Georgia Showmen for their outstanding placings at the Hills Fall Classic. Anna Sizemore – Grand Champion Limousin Heifer; Gayla Sizemore – Reserve Champion Limousin Heifer; and Max Tilson – Class winner September Limousin Heifer.

## Replacement Cow Sale

There will be a Replacement Cow Sale at Mid-Ga Livestock Market in Jackson on November 22. The sale will begin at 7:00 pm.



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Plans can be modified and updated to reflect current conditions and to meet contract requirements. These contract requirements outline that practices must be started in the first year and the funded applicant must show continued progress. Lack of activity – practices not applied – could affect future funding in Georgia as more accurate reports are now generated which show dollars obligated and dollars spent. NRCS field offices are now required to send out practice reminder letters. Anyone having questions on the status of their plan should call the local NRCS field office.



## News from GCA

Contributed By Rodney Hilley, Regional Vice President

The Agricultural Commodity Commission For Beef or Beef Checkoff will be voted on after the first of the year. The Georgia Cattlemen's Association resolves to fully support the passage of a referendum to create the Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Beef for the purpose of making a positive impact on the cattle industry through research, education, and promotion of cattle and beef.

In order to vote, you must register for a ballot on the Georgia Department of Agriculture website before December 31st. If you do not have computer access, you may go to your County Extension office or Farm Bureau office for assistance. The first Beef Checkoff in Georgia dates to 1922, which was a “voluntary” checkoff. The Georgia Beef Board was established in 1976, and the National Beef Checkoff was passed in 1985. Most of the states surrounding Georgia have already or are in the

process of passing a Beef Checkoff. All funds from this checkoff will remain in Georgia and can be used for other purposes, such as research, which the national checkoff dollars cannot. Please support this effort so that we can enhance the beef industry in Georgia!

Below you will find more information from the Department of Agriculture.

### Ballot Request for the Georgia Commodity Commission for Beef Referendum

Background:

The Georgia Commodities Promotion Act was originally established in 1961 under code section 2-8-1. The "Act" creates a mechanism for agricultural producers to pool their resources together for the purposes of research, promotion and education of the affected commodity. The collection of money is done on per unit or per head basis when the product is sold. The farmer-funded initiative is governed by a 5 member commission of producers with oversight provided by the Commissioner of Agriculture. Since 1961 a number of different commissions have been formed which include: apples, blueberries, corn, cotton, milk, peaches, pecans, soybeans, tobacco and vegetables.

Georgia cattle producers have expressed an interest in the creation of a commission for beef cattle. During the 2013 legislative session, Senate Bill 97 amended Georgia law allowing cattle producers the opportunity to decide through a vote of eligible producers. An eligible producer is defined as anyone who has owned cattle in Georgia within the last twelve months. In order for the commission to be created, a vote or referendum of the affected producers must be held. Two important qualifications must happen for the ratification of a proposed commission.

- At least 25 percent of the total number of balloted

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### New Business:

A Cowboy Salute to Military Families - October 5, 2013 - Calvin Center, Hampton, Georgia. A fundraiser to support the Horses & Warriors program for wounded warriors. There will be a Cowboy Poetry Competition during this event.

**GCA Events** – October 3-13 Georgia National Fair in Perry & October 15-17 Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie. GCA needs members to volunteer to man the booths.

**Free Cattlemen's Education Opportunities Saturday September 14** - @ 9am the GA Angus Association is sponsoring a cattlemen's seminar at the ABAC campus. Speakers include Mark Gardiner from Ashland KS, and Gary Fike with Certified Angus Beef. Pre-registration is required call Christy Page 770-307-7178.

**Agricultural Commodity Commission for Beef member Named** – cattleman John Callaway Troup Co; Jeff Duncan Madison Co; Ernie Ford Calhoun Co; Marketing Rep Allen Wiggins; Dairyman Kenneth Murphy will work to establish a timeline and process for executing the referendum. Vote in early 2014

**Hay Contest Deadline Local Extension Office** – Monday September 16. Contact Wes Smith for more information

**Southeastern Hay Contest Deadline** – September 23. Submit samples to Wade, Wes, or John.

**MGCA Awards Deadline** – Ray encouraged members to nominate members for these awards. The deadline is October 8th.

### Ladies' Night

The November membership's meeting is on November 14th and will feature the Queen contest, Silent Auction and Cake Auction, Awards/Nominations – Wes is contact

person or your county agent

**Steer & Heifer Show** – Mark your calendar for 2014 Steer & Heifer Shows. Dates for the Mid-GA & West Central Georgia Steer & Heifer Show is Friday & Saturday Feb 7 & 8.

### Upcoming activities:

175 Years of Trains Beef Cook Off, November 9th in Forsyth, will have a beef booth

Buggy Days & Inman Heritage Days

Spalding County Fair

Georgia National Fair

Sunbelt Expo

**Next membership meeting** – Nov 14 “Ladies' Night” at Thomaston-Upson Civic Center, Thomaston

**Next directors' meeting – October 10**

### Program

Curt Lacy, University of Georgia presented the program. Sponsors for the meeting were: Country Oaks Farm and Pet Supply, Farmers Bank, Monroe County Bank, Monroe County Farm Bureau, Plantation Center Animal Clinic.

Minutes submitted by Rodney Hilley  
Approved 10/10/13

### MID-GEORGIA CATLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING OCTOBER 10, 2013 BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA

President Ray Brumbeloe called the meeting to order. Tom Freeman returned thanks.

Tom Freeman gave the Financial Report and it was approved.

Rodney Hilley presented the minutes of the August



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membership meeting and they were approved as presented with the exception that the information on the sponsors of the meeting was to be added.

#### GCA Report

Rodney Hilley discussed the upcoming Beef Check Off referendum.

#### Cattlemen's Report – Cynthia Douglas

No applications have been received for the Queen's Contest, so Caroline Waldrep will serve another year. Cynthia reported that they will have the same officers as last year and that a shower was held recently for Rebecca Allen. She also reported that the Ag teachers from Pike and Upson want to get involved with the association.

Discussion was held about the upcoming November membership meeting. Motion was made, seconded and approved to have Prime Rib for the meal. Motion was made, seconded and approved to NOT have a silent auction this year, but to have a live auction of cakes and pies. However, if someone wants to donate a large item, it will be accepted and auctioned in the live auction. Motion was made by Roger Greuel to invite cowboy poet Tom Kerlin to be the entertainment for the evening.

#### Old Business

Ray also thanked everyone for their help at Buggy Days and Inman Farm Heritage Days. Shane Eason discussed the Inman Farm Days and thanked everyone who helped and felt that it was well worth doing again next year. Discussion was held about things that can be done to improve both events.

Ray discussed the GCA Building Fund and at this time, Mid Georgia is in the lead for donations. Motion was made, seconded and approved to use the money received from the live auction to donate to the building fund.

Ray mentioned that Harris Brantley wanted to request that each county Farm Bureau make a contribution to the building fund and that Upson Farm Bureau was making a donation.

Ray discussed the ongoing Spalding County Fair and the booth that MGCA has had at the fair.

Ray reported that the deadlines for the MGCA awards was October 8th and the deadlines for several GCA awards was coming soon.

Ray discussed the MGCA website and said that it is receiving an increase in the number of views and had received 1 recent favorable comment from a chapter president from South Georgia. Anyone who has suggestions, dates of events, etc. to add to the website can send an email to: [midgacattlemen@yahoo.com](mailto:midgacattlemen@yahoo.com) or [reb4243@yahoo.com](mailto:reb4243@yahoo.com).

#### New Business

Ray and Rodney discussed the new Commodity Commission for Beef, which will come to a vote sometime after the first of the year. Rodney handed out information to each director so that they will be well informed in case they get questions.

A motion was made, seconded and approved for the Mid Georgia Cattlemen's Association to fully support the passage of the referendum.

Ray discussed the current delinquent list and asked each director to take names from their county and contact them to try to get the rejoin. Right now, Mid Georgia is tied for the lead as the largest chapter in the state. Rodney discussed an idea that was presented at the recent Region Roundup in Perry; that each member Pay It Forward, in other words, pay the dues for a non-member to join the association and in return, ask that person to do the same for

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## Conservation Corner

Carmen Westerfield, District Conservationist,  
Barnesville Field Office

October 1 brings the start of Fiscal Year 2014 to our agency. While a signup period for programs has not been announced, Natural Resources Conservation Service takes applications for programs on a continuous basis.

Eligible programs include both EQIP and WHIP. Both are voluntary programs. EQIP helps fund conservation practices based on identified natural resource concerns such as forestry, grazing, soil erosion, water conservation, and water quality. There are about 60 EQIP conservation practices including, but not limited to: pasture and hayland planting on cropland conversion, heavy use areas, waste storage facilities and watering facilities. WHIP is a voluntary program providing financial incentives to landowners for the development and improvement of high quality habitat that supports wildlife populations. Participants agree to implement a wildlife habitat development plan and NRCS agrees to provide financial assistance for the initial implementation of the development practices. Priority is given to the establishment of long leaf pine and bobwhite quail. Both programs require a conservation plan.

Conservation Planning is the foundation of our work. You do not need to enroll in any program to receive technical assistance from our agency. For new farmers and for those wishing to improve their operation, NRCS offers Conservation Planning. We provide technical assistance to landowners interested in managing their land to protect their natural resources. Based on an inventory of the producer's resources as well as needs and desires, we give



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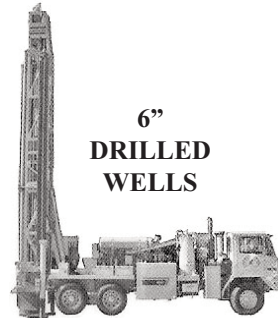
them information and develop management alternatives. From this information we help them develop a conservation management plan, with a time line for implementation, which addresses as many aspects of their operation as possible. As the producer's needs and resources change over time, the written plan is revised to meet the owner's new objectives.

Conservation Planning requires a level of commitment from the landowner in the form of participation. Once a conservation plan is developed for a landowner, the landowner is encouraged to implement the plan to the best of their ability.

This is the time of the year when farmers look into planning the year. This is also a good time to check progress on conservation plans. I encourage all farmers to keep current on practices outlined in their conservation plans for any program contracts, particularly the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) this spring. Farmers should always review their conservation plans in order to stay current with their EQIP contract.

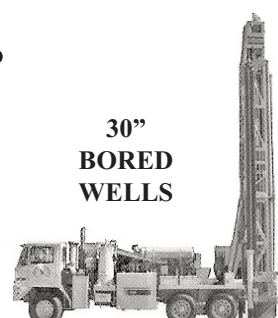
EQIP contracts are carried out according to a conservation plan developed in conjunction with the farmer, identifying the appropriate conservation practice of soil, water, air, plant and animal and addressing the resource concerns on the farm. Plans address the primary natural resource concerns. All plans are subject to NRCS technical standards adapted for local conditions and are approved by the conservation district.

The most common ways farmers get out of compliance with their conservation plan is by putting off implementation of practices due to inclement weather, rising energy costs and changes in their operation. In order to continue funding of their EQIP contracts, practices outlined in the conservation plan must be installed.



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**FAIR TIME!** Mid-Georgia Cattlemen and Cattlewomen promoted the beef industry at the Spalding County Fair for nine days. The theme focused on beef cuts. Kids were treated with balloons and activity books. Members were there in the evening to distribute beef recipes, discuss ways to cook beef, and promoted our association. A special thanks to Sidney Lee Welding for donating the helium and our members that manned the booth.



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one of their friends. In doing so the membership would grow tremendously. This has already proven to work in the Dade County Association.

Steve Douglas discussed the equipment sale that will be held at the sale barn in Thomaston on November 9th.

Tom Freeman suggested that we pay the dues for each Ag Teacher in our association. Discussion was held about which teachers should qualify since some are not active or interested in cattle. Motion was made, seconded and passed to table the idea until the next meeting in order to gather more information.

**County Agent Reports**

Wes Smith reported that the Steer and Heifer show will be held on February 7 & 8, 2014 and that the show will be dedicated to Pete and Betty Copelan.

Ray mentioned the following dates for upcoming events:

Georgia National Fair- Now through October 13th.

Sunbelt Expo- October 15-17th

175 Years of Trains Beef Cook Off, November 9th in Forsyth, will have a beef booth

Emerging Leaders Conference- January 27-28th

NCBA Convention- February 4-7th

Beef Industry Scholarship Challenge-March 7-8th

GCA Convention and Beef Expo- April 2-5th

GCA Tour to Nebraska and Kansas- April 22-26th

GCA Summer Conference at Unicoi State Park- July 24-26th

The next Membership meeting will be November 14th in Upson County.

The next Directors' meeting will be December 12th

Minutes taken and submitted by:  
 Rodney Hilley

**CattleWomen's Report**

By Cynthia Douglas, MGCW President

Thank you ladies for all your assistance with Inman, Buggy Days and the Griffin Fair! It takes a whole herd of workers to work all our events just like it takes all the cowhands to work the cows. Our association's cowgirls and cowboys are very versatile when it comes to setting up, taking down, cooking, and promoting our product. We all worked very well together to pull off these events with success.

The booth at the Spalding County Fair was focused on Cuts of Beef. We had a cow outline with the cuts of beef highlighted. Our helpers distributed balloons, activity books and beef brochures to the consumers for nine days. A special thank you goes to Sidney Lee Welding for donating the helium and to Ray Brumeloe for all the trips he made to the fair. We had 10 members working at this booth. Thanks everyone!

We met at the September meeting and discussed upcoming events. Your officers were re-elected. We voted to have Caroline Waldrep to continue as queen if we didn't have any applications. At deadline time, we have not received any applicants for our 2014 queen. At the end of the meeting, we honored our bride-to-be, Rebecca Allen, with a shower. She is now married and our secretary's new name is Rebecca Estes.

Our steer and heifer shows will be here before we know it. The shows will be February 7th and 8th. So mark your calendars to come and help. More info will be in the next issue.

Please help the cattlemen raise money at Ladies' Night by donating a cake, pie, or dessert to be auctioned off. You can even have an "I OWE YOU" cake to be delivered closer to a holiday. We look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

*Cynthia*



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## RIBEYES WERE A HIT!

Despite the rain, we had two fun filled days selling ribeye steak sandwiches. Hurray! We sold out of 1250 juicy, tender, and mouthwatering beef sandwiches in Barnesville. We sold 400 at Inman and would have sold all 500 if it had not rained out their event on Saturday. This was our first time at Inman and they already want us to come back. Thanks everyone that assisted in any way! Special thanks to The Rock Ranch, United Bank, Petro Flame of Fayetteville, NAPA of Turin and other individuals for their donations! Thanks to Monticello Family Food for making sure our steaks were cut just right. Workers...You were awesome! Thanks



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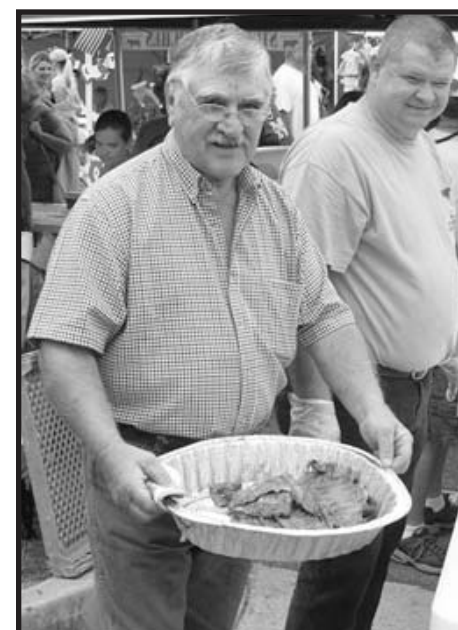
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