

## Upcoming Events

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| July 7     | Estate and Will Planning<br>Upson Extension Office - 7 pm   |
| July 10-12 | GJCA Field Day<br>Junior Beef Futurity show                 |
| July 17    | MGCA Family Picnic<br>Pippin Lake - 6:00 pm                 |
| Aug 6      | Wildlife Field Day<br>Upson County                          |
| Aug 14     | MGCA Board Meeting<br>7:00 pm – Maxi's                      |
| Aug 22     | Winter Grazing Meeting<br>Upson Extension Office            |
| Sept 2     | GCA Region Roundup Meeting<br>Upson Extension Office - 6 pm |
| Sept 3-5   | Upson Farm Tour   |
| Sept 15    | Hay Contest Samples Deadline                                |
| Sept 20-21 | Buggy Days &<br>Inman Heritage Days                         |
| Sept 25    | Sprayer Calibration Clinic                                  |

## Hillbilly Motorcycle



COW-A-SOCKY

### Message from MGCA Officers and Board

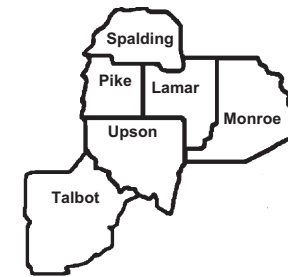
We encourage all property owners to speak up and let EPA and the Corps know how you feel about this issue. Please visit the website below and respond. If you need help, stop by your local Farm Bureau Office.

#### YOUR PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE AT RISK!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) have proposed a rule that would expand federal regulatory authority over virtually all waters in the United States. If this rule is finalized, EPA will regulate practically all land that has water on it - even if the area is wet for a brief period of time.

This rule is currently in a public comment period. Farm Bureau urges ALL landowners to make a public comment telling EPA and the Corps to withdraw this rule. Join Farm Bureau in its "Ditch the Rule" campaign.

To submit your comment, go to [www.gfb.org/ditchtherule](http://www.gfb.org/ditchtherule)  
Georgia Farm Bureau,  
1620 Bass Road, Macon, GA 31210  
478-474-8411



Mid-Georgia

MEMBER  
GEORGIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Cattlemen's

Association

INCORPORATED

USPS 080-170

# BULL SHEET

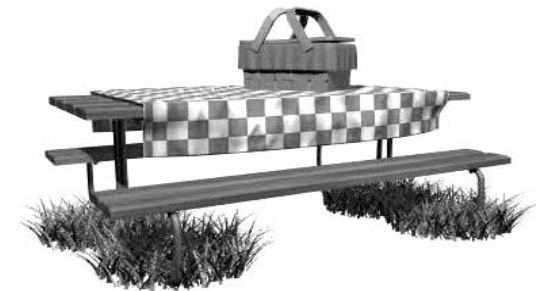
VOL. XXXXIX

JULY - AUGUST, 2014

No. 4

## PICNIC TIME!

### Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Family Picnic



Saturday, July 19th

ARRIVE at 6:00 pm and EAT at 6:30 pm

Pippin's Lake House – 1693 Ramah Church Road - Culloden

*Come any time after 5:00 if you want to get an early start on fishing.*

Our sponsors are the Farm Bureau Insurance Agents  
from Lamar, Monroe, Pike, Spalding, and Upson County.

Hamburgers, hotdogs, beans, slaw, chips and drinks will be served.  
Please bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share.

Bring your chairs, fishing poles, and shotguns for an evening by the lake.

We will have a skeet shooting contest so bring your shotgun and shells.

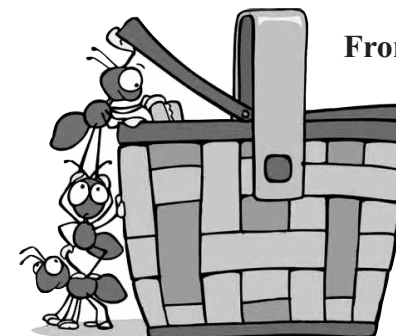
Come join a fun time with games, swimming, fishing, and good ole fellowship.

#### Directions to the Lake House:

From Forsyth: Take Highway 83 south and go past Monroe County Hospital...  
Go approximately 7-8 miles ... after the 3rd bridge turn right on Forsyth-  
Yatesville RD...at the 4 way stop...turn left on Ramah Church RD...take  
the 2nd drive on the right to lake house.

#### From Griffin and Barnesville:

Take Highway 341 south...go approximately 7-8 miles... go past golf  
course...take first paved road to left... which is Forsyth-Yatesville RD...  
go to 4 way stop turn right onto Ramah Church RD...take 2nd drive to the right to lake house.



#### From Yatesville and Thomaston:

Take Highway 74 to Yatesville ...turn left onto Rock Quarry RD...cross Highway 341 and road will turn  
into Ramah Church Road...after you pass the dirt road it will be the first driveway to the left.

## BULL SHEET

of the  
Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association  
5500 Barnesville Hwy., The Rock, GA 30285

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## THE BULL SHEET

Published Bi-monthly by the  
MID-GA BEEF CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Postmaster send address changes to:

Bull Sheet, 5500 Barnesville Hwy., The Rock, GA 30285

Periodical Postage Paid in Thomaston, GA 30286

USPS 080-170

Membership meetings are held the 2nd Thursdays in  
alternate months starting in January.

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.  
**2014**

### Officers and Directors of the Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association

Danny Bentley .....President  
Butch Copelan .....Vice President  
Rodney Hilley .....Secretary  
Tom Freeman .....Treasurer

|                    |                  |                |
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| James Vaughn   | Shane Eason        | Steve Douglas    |
| Marcia Dugger  | Roger Greuel       | Harold Fallin    |

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GCA Region & VP .....Rodney Hilley  
Editor .....Cynthia Douglas  
Mailing List .....GCA Office & Cynthia Douglas  
Queen .....Caroline Waldrep

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### GCA Dues

☐ State & Local Dues - 1 yr. .... \$ 50.00  
Total. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Georgia Cattlemen's Dues

☐ State Dues - 1 yr. .... \$ 15.00  
Total. .... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Junior Cattlemen's Dues (Ages 21 and under)

☐ State Dues - 1 yr. .... \$ 15.00

### NCBA Dues

☐ 1-100 Head .....Dues \$100

☐ 101-250 Head .....Dues \$200

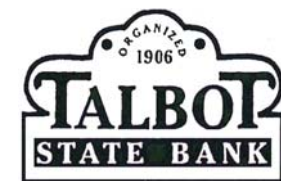
☐ 251-500 Head .....Dues \$300

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

☐ 1001-1500 Head ..\$550 +Fair Share \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 1501 & Up Head ..\$750 +Fair Share \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** ..... \_\_\_\_\_



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## RECIPE CORNER



### GRILLED RIBEYE STEAKS AND POTATOES WITH SMOKY PAPRIKA RUB

Steak and wedged potatoes grilled to perfection and served  
with a simple sour cream and onion sauce.

### INGREDIENTS

2 beef Ribeye Steaks Boneless, cut 1 inch thick  
(about 12 ounces each)

2 tablespoons vegetable oil

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 large russet potatoes, cut lengthwise into 8 wedges ea.  
Salt

1 tablespoon minced green onions

Sour Cream and Onion Sauce (recipe follows) (optional)

### Seasoning:

2 tablespoons smoked or Spanish paprika

1-1/2 teaspoons sugar

1-1/2 teaspoons chili powder

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

1/2 teaspoon ground red pepper



### Directions:

Combine seasoning ingredients in small bowl; remove and reserve 2  
tablespoons. Press remaining seasoning evenly onto beef  
steaks; set aside. Combine reserved seasoning, oil and salt in  
large bowl. Add potatoes; toss to coat.

Place steaks on grid over medium, ash-covered coals;  
arrange potatoes around steaks. Grill steaks, covered, 10 to 14  
minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, 9 to 14  
minutes) for medium rare (145°F) to medium (160°F) doneness,  
turning occasionally. Grill potatoes 14 to 17 minutes (over  
medium heat on preheated gas grill, 13 to 15 minutes) or until  
tender, turning occasionally.

Carve steaks into slices; season with salt, as desired.  
Sprinkle green onion over potatoes. Serve potatoes with Sour  
Cream and Onion Sauce for dipping, if desired.

Sour Cream and Onion Sauce: Combine 1/2 cup dairy sour  
cream and 2 tablespoons minced green onion. Sprinkle with  
smoked or Spanish paprika, as desired. Yield: 1/2 cup

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the producer has met all of the rules and requirements. Samples must be taken from a single cutting, with a hay probe, from a minimum of 5 randomly sampled square or round bales. Hay or baleage entries must have been harvested from fields with a minimum maturity or regrowth of 25 days. Forage samples with nitrate levels over 5000 parts per million (PPM) will be disqualified. Hay samples with more than 18% moisture will be disqualified, but there are no moisture requirements for baleage samples.

For specific questions concerning the contest entry or the directory, contact:

University of Georgia's Feed and Environmental Water Lab (UGA-FEW) at 706-542-7690, or email [sahau@uga.edu](mailto:sahau@uga.edu).

Download the complete rules and entry information:

2014 SE Hay Contest Rules and Entry Form

For more information on hay and forage quality, download:

UGA Understanding and Improving Forage Quality

**True Police Report from  
Wisconsin Newspaper**  
*Send by former MGCA Members  
Jim & Julie Grandy*

**2:30 p.m.** Caller in Stanley Township says there is a loose cow. It is in deep snow.

**2:59 p.m.** Officer advises it may belong to sales barn.

**3:14 p.m.** Sales barn says it was sold to a man from Amery. The man was trying to get the cow into the trunk of his car and it got away.

**3:32 p.m.** Officer says the cow owner couldn't fit the 800-pound animal in small car because there was a 400-pound cow in the back seat and one in the trunk.

**4:17 p.m.** Sales barn will take possession of the cow for now.



Greetings,

These are exciting times for Mid-GA Cattlemen, as well as our GCA. Membership is up for us and state wide as well. Our local young cattlemen's group is on fire and excited about the industry. We recently held a young cattlemen's meeting at the Bentley's Farm with 53 people attending. It was mostly for fellowship, fun and games. Anthony Greene gave us a short report on the World economy as it relates to the cattle industry. Anthony has a Masters in economics, working for Invista, a company owned by the Koch Brothers, who by the way own the Matador Ranch in Texas. Anthony travels the world for his company and also owns a herd of Angus cows.

This meeting was a good kick off to Beef Month and was followed by Hamburger Day at Akins in Barnesville where we grilled 160 burgers. Thanks to Akins for their support of the Mid-GA Cattlemen. We had some twenty members, cattlemen and cattlemen, that participated at Akins. While I would like to thank all of them and your general officers that helped with the cook-out, I want to thank all of them and Thomaston Meat Market for their donation of meat to the meeting at our farm.

Rachel and I just returned from a trip to Dallas/Ft. Worth where we visited the old stock yards, and watched long horns

**PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT**

**DANNY BENTLEY**  
MGCA PRESIDENT

herded down the old brick streets. We also attended the last concert by George Strait at Cowboys Stadium. George is a real cowboy, gentlemen and absolutely a class act.

Central Texas is still in some drought, but Louisiana and Mississippi have had a lot of rain. We saw corn eight feet tall and a lot of it. Indications are that corn will be abundant which should keep the price a little lower. Hopefully, feed lots will expand, keeping prices high for us.

In closing I would like to remind you that the Region round up meeting for us will be held in Thomaston at the Upson Extension Office, September 2, 2014 and will begin at 6:00pm.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Picnic at the Pippin Brothers' Farm on July 19, 2014.

*Danny*

**MID-GEORGIA CATLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
MAY 8, 2014  
BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA**

President Danny Bentley called the meeting to order.

Danny introduced all new members who were present.

Rachel Patrick, Pike Middle School Ag Teacher, invited everyone to the upcoming FFA Banquet to be held on May 16th at Life Springs Church in Pike County.

Danny gave out prizes for everyone that has signed up new members since the last membership meeting.

Tom Freeman gave the Financial Report. Tom discussed the financial report and it was approved as presented.

The minutes as published in the Bull Sheet were approved.

**GCA Report-Rodney Hilley**

Rodney discussed the recently passed state Beef Check Off, in which 76% of the ballots voted for it. He reminded everyone that the GCA Summer Conference will be held at

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and  
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Unicoi State Park on July 24-27th and encouraged everyone to attend.

Also, the remodeling of the GCA building has begun.

### Cattlemen's Report – Cynthia Douglas

Cynthia discussed the updating of ads in the Bull Sheet. If anyone is not receiving the Bull Sheet, membership dues may need to be paid. With the next issue, Ray Brumbeloe will begin adding links to advertiser's websites on the MGCA website if available. Neely South, Ruth Hice and Cynthia recently participated in the Iron Chef Beef contest at Upson Lee High School. The South Family has been hosting school kids at their farm since the recently scheduled Farm Day in Upson County had to be cancelled.

On June 9th, Laranda, Norma and Cynthia will teach a Beef Cooking Class for Upson 4-H'ers.

Hamburger Day will be held on June 14th at Akins Farm and Home. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Cynthia discussed ideas for Beef for Father's Day promotions.

The Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association will be featured in a story in next month's GCA magazine for winning the Beef Month Award at the recent GCA Convention.

Cynthia reminded everyone about the Mid-GA picnic to be held at the Pippin's Farm on July 19th.

### New Business

Millie Alexander, Farm Service Agency County Executive Director, discussed the signup for drought programs under the new Farm Bill.

Danny announced that a picnic for the GJCA and Young Cattlemen will be held at the Bentley Farm on May 17th.

Danny reminded about Hamburger Day on June 14th at Akins.

Danny discussed the upcoming Beef Month promotions. One is giving \$100 to a local food bank and the Georgia Beef Board will reimburse us for \$50.

Buggy Days and Inman Heritage Days will be held on

September 20-21st. Any help from members will be greatly appreciated.

Danny discussed the mentor program and encouraged anyone who would like to serve to let him know.

Will Bentley, GCA, discussed the recent GCA Tour and what a great success it was.

### County Agent Reports

Wade Hutcheson discussed the upcoming Wildlife Field Day to be held in Upson County on August 6th from 9:30-1:30.

The Calhoun HERD sale will be held on May 28th.

There will be a winter grazing program in Thomaston on August 22nd.

The Upson Farm Tour will be on September 3-5th and will go to NE Georgia and South Carolina.

Mid-GA Livestock will have a Bred Cow Sale on May 16th in Jackson.

Benson Ham gave a report on the recent successful Monroe HERD sale that averaged \$2300.

Danny introduced Barry Robinson, Farmers Livestock Market in Thomaston who presented a program on what they have to offer and recent sale results. He stated that he appreciated everyone who has done business with them and offered to help in any way if needed.

Danny read a card of thanks from the Nash and Douglas families for the recent passing of Mr. Bob Nash.

Randy Fordham with Boehringer-Ingelheim presented a program on herd vaccinations and management.

Thanks to both of these companies for their sponsorship!

The next Directors' meeting will be June 12th in Barnesville.

The next Membership meeting will be July 19th in at the Pippin's Farm in Lamar County.

Minutes taken and submitted by:

Rodney Hilley



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## Southeastern Hay Contest

If you raise good quality hay, the Southeastern Hay Contest offers you the opportunity to document your quality, gain some recognition for your farm, and new this year, have your farm included in the Southeastern Hay Directory. Most hay farms are frustrated by the fact that they raise quality hay, but have to sell on a commodity market. The ultimate goal of the Southeastern Hay Contest is to recognize farms that produce top quality hay, and with the addition of the directory, give hay buyers a list of farms that test their hay for quality. Whether you are looking to broaden your customer base, or simply provide better information for your current customers, the Southeastern Hay Contest and Hay Directory have a lot to offer.

The Southeast Hay Contest is currently accepting entries of hay and baleage entries from forage producers. Entries must be received by the lab no later than 5:00 PM on September 22, 2014. The \$17 per sample fee provides both entry in the contest, as well as a complete lab analysis that provides dry matter, crude protein (CP), total digestible nutrients (TDN), and a Relative Forage Quality (RFQ) score.

This year, your farm can also be listed in the new "Southeastern Hay Directory" of farms who participate in the Hay Contest. Hay buyers will now have a listing to use to purchase hay from farms with quality test results on their hay. For an additional \$30 annual fee, you can advertise your farm and the products you produce in this

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**DAVID WHITE - Owner**

web based directory. The SE Hay Directory will be maintained on the University of Georgia Feed Lab with links provided to it from the state forage websites (Alabama Forages, Georgia Forages, and Forages of Florida).

Each forage sample entry will compete in one of six categories, with the top entries being recognized in October, at the Sunbelt Agriculture Expo, in Moultrie, Georgia. Hay and baleage samples will be evaluated in the following categories:

1. Warm Season Perennial Grass Hay (bermudagrass, bahiagrass, etc.)
2. Perennial Peanut or Alfalfa Hay
3. Cool Season Perennial Grass Hay (tall fescue, orchardgrass, etc.)
4. Mixed, Annual Grass, or Other Hay (clover/fescue, clover/ryegrass, millet, ryegrass, etc)
5. Grass Baleage (high moisture grass forage ensiled in wrapped bales)
6. Legume Baleage (high moisture legume or grass/legume ensiled in wrapped bales)

For the first time this year, there will also be cash awards in addition to the recognition:

- Overall Highest RFQ Prize: \$150
- 1st Prize in Each Category: \$50
- 2nd Prize in Each Category: \$20 + 1 Free Forage Quality Test
- 3rd Prize in Each Category: 1 Free Forage Quality Test

This contest is open to any forage producer in the southeastern U.S., but entries must be submitted by the farm where the forage was actually grown. Each entry form must be signed by your county agent, to verify that



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Saturday - Parties

## EXTENSION NEWS

By Wes Smith

### Upson and Lamar Extension Services

**TAX MEETING** ---- On Monday, July 7, at 7:00 p.m., we will have a tax meeting in the Upson County Extension Office. There have been major changes to the tax law for 2014. We will have Keith Kightlinger as the speaker that night. He will also address wills and estate planning. If you plan to attend, call by Wednesday, July 2. We will serve refreshments.

**WILDLIFE FIELD DAY** ---- We will hold a Wildlife Field Day on August 6 at Joe Tanner's property, 3740 Waymanville Road, Thomaston. We will have educational programs on soil fertility, soil sampling, weed control, plant selection and rules and regulations. Lunch will be included with the registration fee which will be collected at the door. Please call us by Friday, August 1st so we can get a count for the number of lunches. Several sponsors have signed up for this event.

**FARM TOUR** ---- I am working on the Annual Farm Tour. This year we are planning to go to Northeast Georgia to Franklin County to look at sheep and beef cattle. Then we will continue to South Carolina to possibly see forage work at Clemson University on the Yon Family Farms, a poultry feed mill, and go to Edisto Bull Test Station and Research Farm. The dates are September 3-5, and the cost is \$175.00. Please register by August 15.

**WINTER GRAZING/SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION** ---- We will hold our area Winter Grazing meeting Friday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Upson County Extension Office. We will also add Small Grain Production to the meeting since we are growing more small

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grain again in the area. We will give a one hour pesticide credit. There will be a registration fee paid at the door. Please let us know by August 19 if you plan to attend.

**SPRAYER CALIBRATION CLINIC** ---- I will hold a sprayer calibration clinic September 25 at Trice Farm on Race Track Road in The Rock. There will be a morning session at 10:00 a.m. and an afternoon session at 3:00 p.m. You will get a one hour pesticide credit. You can only get one hour, so choose the session that best fits your schedule.

**BERMUDA STEM MAGOT** ---- Be watching your Bermuda hay fields for the stem maggot. Behind baling at the end of June, first of July, you may want to apply a permathrin and then again 10 days later to protect the hay. If a field becomes infected you will need to harvest for hay or mower as it will not grow. If you have any questions, please call me.

**HAY SAMPLES** ---- Call me to schedule a time to get your hay or haylage samples pulled. The Southeastern Hay Contest has prize money on it this year. Cost for the sample is \$17.00 and they are due in our office by September 15, 2014.

## Celebrating an event

An aged farmer and his wife were leaning against the edge of their pig-pen when the old woman wistfully recalled that the next week would mark their golden wedding anniversary.

"Let's have a party, Homer," she suggested. "Let's kill a pig."

The farmer scratched his grizzled head. "Gee, Ethel," he finally answered, "I don't see why the pig should take the blame for something that happened fifty years ago."

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### MID-GEORGIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING June 12, 2014 BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA

President Danny Bentley called the meeting to order.  
President Bentley led the Invocation.

There was a motion to accept the May minutes, motion was seconded and carried.

Financial report presented by Tom Freeman, motion made to approve, seconded and passed.

Danny read 2 cards of thanks from the Pike County FFA, one to Mid-GA and one to the Pike County Directors, thanking them for the recent donations to the FFA Barn Project.

Danny reported on the recent Young Cattlemen's Council meeting, held at Bentley Farms. An excellent crowd of 53 people in attendance. Thomaston Meat Market donated half of \$140.00 worth of meat to the meeting and other Mid-GA Cattlemen also donated to help cover the cost.

#### GCA Report-Rodney Hilley

The GCA Summer Conference will be held at Unicoi State Park on July 24-27th. New NCBA President Bob McCann from Texas will be the featured speaker. Everyone is encouraged to attend as there will be committee meetings as well as time for fun.

#### Cattlemen's Report-Cynthia Douglas

Cynthia also discussed the YCC meeting, as well as the recent trips to the South's Farm of Upson County school kids. Norma Sword, Laranda South and Cynthia held a cooking class for Upson 4-H'ers.

Cynthia discussed the specifics of the upcoming Hamburger Day to be held at Akins Farm and Home in Barnesville on Saturday, June 14th. A donation jar will be available and all donations will be donated to Food Banks in the Mid-GA area.

#### Old Business

The July meeting will be held at the Pippin Farm in Lamar County on July 19th. At least \$400 has been donated by area Farm Bureau Agents to help cover the cost.

Buggy Days plans are being made and Larry Walker is Chairman of the event. As well, plans are being finalized for the Inman Farms Heritage Days in Fayette Co. on the same weekend. Discussion was held as to whether a price increase will be needed, the topic was tabled until the next Directors' meeting.

#### New Business

Shane Eason discussed a request by the Conservation Trust Fund for Mid-GA to cook and provide Ribeye Steak sandwiches for their event on Thursday, June 19th at Inman Farms. This will not be a fund raiser, but all expenses will be reimbursed to Mid-GA and it will be a good opportunity to get exposure to another group of people. Motion was made, seconded and approved to provide 2 checks to Shane to cover expenses and he will reimburse MG with check from the Trust Fund afterwards. Anyone who can help will need to be there at 5 p.m.

Danny and Butch Copeland discussed an event to be held in Forsyth County. The discussion was tabled until more information is obtained.

Danny noted that the GCA remodel project is underway and will hopefully be completed in August.

Tracy Boyt announced that one of Benji Bridges hay barns had recently burned and suggested that anyone who had some hay to donate for replacement of the lost hay to let him know.

Roger Greuel gave a crop report on the Midwest and said that all crops look good at this time.

The Georgia Junior Cattlemen's Association will have their Field Day on July 10th in Perry. Also, the Junior Beef Futurity show will be held in Perry in July.

Harold Fallin, Danny and Butch discussed the proposed



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rule change by EPA to take control of all waters in the U. S. Butch suggested that everyone go to the Georgia Farm Bureau website where they can send in a written objection to EPA about the rule change.

Cynthia suggested we make a \$50.00 contribution to the GCA Foundation in honor of Dr. Jack Tuttle. Motion seconded and approved.

**County Agent Reports**

Wes Smith announced the following trainings or meetings:

- June 14th – 4-H Skeet shoot at the Trice Farm
- July 7th – Estate and Will Planning at the Upson Extension office at 7 pm
- August 6th – Wildlife Field Day, Upson County
- August 22nd – Winter Grazing meeting at the Upson Extension office
- September 2nd – GCA Region Roundup meeting at the Upson Extension office, beginning at 6 p.m.
- September 3-5th – Upson Farm Tour
- September – Sprayer Calibration Clinic

Wes discussed whether the Mid-GA and West Central Georgia shows should be shortened to one day or left as is. Danny asked that the idea be discussed further at the August Board meeting and everyone give it some thought by then.

Tracy Boyt reminded everyone to go to the FSA office and sign up for the Livestock assistance program.

The next Membership meeting (Summer Picnic) will be held at the Pippin Farm in Lamar County July 19, 2014.

The next Directors' meeting will be held on August 14, 2014 in Barnesville.

Minutes taken and submitted by:  
Rodney Hilley

## CattleWomen's Report

By Cynthia Douglas, MGCW President

Where did spring time go? Here we go again with scattered showers and The Rock is one of those areas missing those rains. We will take what we can get.

Our ladies have been busy helping the association spread the news about BEEF. Several of us assisted with the young cattlemen's cook-out. It was great to see so many families come and participate. Danny and Rachel did a great job hosting this event.

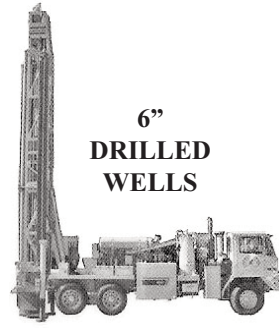
On June 9th, the Upson County 4-H'ers created delicious beef dishes at the Cookin' with Beef Class. The 4-H'ers learned about the beef industry and food safety from Norma Sword, Laranda Wainwright, and me. They were given beef materials that were donated by the GA Beef Board. The Mid-GA Cattlewomen sponsored this event.

We had a great turn out to assist with Hamburger Day at Akins. We collect \$105.00 to purchase beef to distribute to a food pantry. The cattlemen officers chose to donate it in Lamar County since the event took place there. Thanks to Akins, County Line Farm, and Char-No Farm for donations and all the cooks and servers for making this event a success.

In closing, I want to thank all of you that have called, visited, sent cards, made donations, or provided food when dad passed away in April. It is always a great feeling to have friends that care. Thanks from all the Nash and Douglas family.

Hope to see you at the picnic!

Cynthia



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the fact that this is an export driven industry. Uruguay exports over 65% of their beef to the European Union, Turkey, Russia, and Israel. Uruguay achieved Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) free status with vaccination, and has been so since 2001. In order meet international traceability standards; Uruguay has implemented a national traceability system to keep up with each animal through its life all the way to the meat packing plant. The first traceability system was implemented in 1973 and became mandatory in 2006. The Uruguayan government provides electronic ear tags and producers are required by law to register all of their animals in the national database. Because of the grass-fed beef production systems, traceability, and their meat safety standards, Uruguay has found and export market to over 125 international markets, making it the sixth largest beef exporter in the world.

I encountered many things on this trip that reminded me of Georgia cattle production; one of the things was INIA, which serves farmers much like the UGA cooperative extension services, helping farmers when they have issues and by experimenting with different types of production techniques, and providing technical assistance to producers. The Uruguayan Hereford Breeders Association Bull Testing Station reminded me of the bull testing stations in Calhoun and Tifton. The Bulls were raised on grass for 200 days then after the testing was done the cattle were put on grain for three months before the bulls were sold at auction.

Contemplating on these similarities, I began thinking about agricultural production in Georgia and in the US. It is amazing to me that despite being a world away and speaking a different language, we were able to develop such close ties with our hosts in such a short period of time. I believe this is largely because of the passion we share for agriculture and the way of life that comes with primary production. Despite the fact that this was a foreign country, we met with producers who share the same challenges and ambitions that we have here at home. We saw producers who gleamed with pride when showing us their bulls, or their soybean crop, but that



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knew all too well, just like us, the challenges and struggles that come with pursuing dreams that are so heavily dependent on Mother Nature, and so many other variables. So I have returned from this trip excited about my ever nearing graduation date, I feel this trip has better prepared me for my hopeful career, and I am anxious to be a part of and contribute to this wonderful industry.

## Conservation Corner

Carmen Westerfield  
District Conservationist

This has been a strange and frustrating year. Those of you who have worked with me know that I work diligently on working on projects and plans in a timely manner. This year has been the exception. With furloughs and budget wars and farm bill debates, many of the rules and guidelines and funding have trickled down to the field. We have plodded along working on the things that we could control such as developing the conservation plans and designing practices in these plans. We have also worked with those who do have contracts to get practices installed and to finish up. We are finally working on the 2014 applications with a smaller allocation than in the past.

In spite of this, there are some things that remain constant. Any practice that receives funding must meet NRCS standards and specifications and requires a field office check-out. All approved contracts must have a practice installed within the first 12 months. Check your conservation plan to see what is scheduled for this year. We send out reminder letters routinely. The ranking questions for the programs penalize those who are behind schedule if they apply again.

I am hopefully wrapping up 2014 and preparing for 2015 which for us, starts in October. We have high hopes that the next year will be more timely. Happy New Year!!

[Carmen.westerfield@ga.usda.gov](mailto:Carmen.westerfield@ga.usda.gov)

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## Beef Production: A World Away

By Tyler Dungan

My name is Tyler Dungan I recently graduated in May from the University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences with a degree in Agribusiness. In March I was fortunate to travel to Uruguay to study and observe Uruguayan Beef Production and other forms of agricultural production.

Growing up in Forsyth, GA and showing cattle through Mary Persons FFA Chapter, I never thought that when I went to college I would one day travel to a foreign country to study agriculture. However the best decision I made while pursuing my bachelor's degree at UGA was to travel to Uruguay and participate in College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Sustainable Livestock and Grain Production and Marketing Systems Program. While other students were packing their cars for a fun packed spring break vacation at the beach, I along with 18 other students from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science (CAES) and our instructors, Dr. Curt Lacy (UGA's extension livestock economist), Dr. Nathan Smith (UGA extension crop economist), and Eric Rama (Graduate Student at UGA), boarded a plane for the small beef producing country of Uruguay.

When arriving in South America I had no clue what to expect, but our host Bruno Lanfranco, an economist for the National Institution for Agricultural Investigation (INIA) and an UGA alumnus, greeted us with open arms. He along with Mauricio Rodriguez, a veterinarian and cattle manager for several farmers, and Gabriel Oleggini, an UGA alumnus and administrator for CONAPROLE (the national dairy cooperative), guided us on a weeklong tour of different agricultural enterprises in Uruguay. That week we visited different operations that comprised the dairy, beef, grain, olive and lamb/wool supply chain. Many of these enterprises



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Uruguay is known for their beef cattle, so much so that the shape of the country is referred to as the "porterhouse shaped country". Uruguay is 68,000 square miles, making it slightly bigger than Georgia (59,000 square miles). Home to 3.3 million people and 11.1 million head of cattle, Uruguayan's are outnumbered 3.4 head of cattle to ever person in the country. A country rich in culture, Herford cattle make up about 80% of the national beef herd and serve as the image associated with the Uruguayan beef industry. The Angus breed comprises most of the difference, and is rapidly gaining popularity amongst cattle producers who seek the carcass traits that are associated with this breed. Seeing as how beef forms such an integral part of both the Uruguayan culture and economy, it is no surprise that Uruguayans consume the most beef per capita in the world, approximately 128 pounds of beef per capita, per year. This may seem like a lot and that's because it is! In the United States we consume approximately 65.8 pounds per year, a trend that has been declining since the mid 1970's. After a few in-country meals it was obvious that there was something different about Uruguayans eating habits, beef was present at virtually every meal and more often than not, beef was the main ingredient in our meals. Here in the United States, we tend to enjoy a larger selection of different meats, and accompany these with various sides.

Uruguay is a place with plentiful land to raise cattle, which is based on a grass-fed system due to high grain prices. Eighty-three percent of the country's surface area is used in raising cattle; of the land used for raising cattle 84% is in natural pastures while the other 16% of pastures are improved pastures. I would have never thought that a place based on grass-fed beef would call Bermuda grass a weed, however due to the absence of improved Bermuda grass varieties; it is more cost effective to utilize other perennial and annual forages for summer pasture.

Government regulation has issued laws that ban the use of animal anabolic and growth hormones; this is largely due to

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## Remembering My Father

By Cynthia Nash Douglas

As Father Day comes and goes, I want to write about a father and a cattleman that taught me to care for the land, promote the cattle industry, and treasure memories and friends. He provided me with so many opportunities to learn and share my knowledge of agriculture to others as my parents did for so many years. I am talking about my father, Bob Nash. I remember as a young girl helping stamp and lick envelopes to mail out Beef for Father's Day letters and going to Lenox Square to promote BEEF. Yes, cows at the mall.

The Georgia Cattlemen's Association and Mid-Georgia Cattlemen have had many great leaders in forming these associations and several have come from this chapter. As the GCA Executive Secretary, Bob Nash (my father) worked with Mid-Georgia members to form this association. At that time, he was living in Coweta County and didn't realize that one day he would be a Mid-Georgia Cattleman and raise his family here. I remember traveling many miles with him to meetings, conventions, farms, field days, shows, fairs, and other special events to promote beef, talk agriculture, or visit a farm.

He always had the youth in mind when it came to educating and training future cattle producers. He judged shows, provided special Club Calf Sales, conducted numerous Judging Field Days for 4-H and FFA members, and sponsored many other events at

our farms. Many of these members have gone on to be great spokespersons for agriculture and others have become productive citizens.

He helped organize many events and sales within our state and area. Dad assisted with special feeder calf, cow, and bull sales that MGCA organized. He spoke at many meetings promoting the cattle industry. He served on many state and local boards for the association. He always encouraged the ladies and youth to be involved with beef promotion and activities.

In 1978, he was elected GA Farm Bureau President where he worked for 10 years to tell the agriculture story. He was very devoted to all commodities and tried to do what was best for the farmers.

On April 25, 2014, he left this farm land that he had helped cultivated, preserve and raise cattle on to join his wife (my mother), Betty, and all his friends, cattlemen, and cattlemen, and family members that had already passed on to Heaven. We will always miss his leadership, guidance and words of support in the agriculture arena. But most of all, we will miss him cheering on his family, youth, and members as we carry on a legacy that both mother and dad helped start.

The Nash and Douglas Family thank each of you for all the kind words, cards, calls, visits, donations to organizations, food, and plants sent our way during this sad time in our lives. Our family truly treasures all the friendships we all have made in this association.



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## Upson 4-H'ers in the Kitchen

On June 9th, Upson 4-H'ers learned to cook BEEF. They were taught food safety, cooking techniques, and facts about the beef industry. They cooked four beef dishes for their lunch. They learned more about Beef By-Products and raising cows by playing "Beef Bingo". This event was sponsored by the Mid-GA Cattlewomen and conducted by Norma Sword, Laranda Wainwright, Cynthia Douglas and 4-H Program Assistant Mandy Gassett.



## Yummy Hamburgers!

Mid-Georgia Cattlemen and Cattlewomen did an excellent job cooking and serving 160 hamburgers at Akins Farm and Home during Father's Day weekend. This was a great event for us to showcase BEEF. A total of \$105.00 was collected to purchase beef for a food bank in Lamar County as a Beef Month Promotion. Thanks to Akins for helping sponsor and to everyone that came out to assist or made donations for the event.



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## Young Cattlemen's Cook-Out

One June evening, the Mid-GA Young Cattlemen and their families attended a cook-out at Bentley Farm. This was a great evening for them to socialize and learn more about the cattle industry. About 53 were in attendance and they learned how to judge a set of heifers and answered questions about some old tractors. Anthony Greene spoke to those attending about the economic outlook. The children had a great time playing together. Bo Huddleston and Danny Bentley did an excellent job planning this event. Thanks to Thomaston Meat Market, Bentley Family, Rodney Hilley, Cynthia Douglas and Ashley Basilici for helping with the food.



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