

Upcoming Events

- Jan 8 **Bull Soundness Exam**
Monroe County
- Jan **14 MGCA Membership meeting**
UGA GRIFFIN, 7:00 PM
- Jan 29 **Middle GA Hog Show**
Upson-Lee AG Barn, 6:00 pm
- Jan 30 **West Central GA Steer and**
Heifer Show
Upson-Lee AG Barn,
12:00 noon
- Feb 12 **MGCA Directors' Meeting,**
7:00 PM
Café at Farmers Livestock Market
- Febr 14 **Happy Valentine's Day**

Bull Soundness Exam Opportunities

Our members have two opportunities to have your bulls examined for soundness. The first chance is in Monroe County at Sleepy Creek Farm. Dr. Jeff Davis will be there on January 8th. If you want more information contact Cody Ham at 478-398-1642.

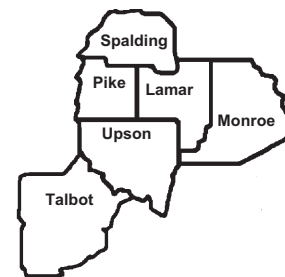
Another opportunity will be in Upson County. It will probably be at the end of January, either on a Monday or Tuesday. Historically, this test runs about \$50 depending on the number of bulls to be tested. For more information, contact Wes Smith or call the Upson County Extension Office at 706-647-8989 to sign up.

COW POKES

by Ace Reid



"Jake, I thought that games was over last year!"



MEMBER
GEORGIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mid-Georgia

Cattlemen's

Association

USPS 080-170

BULL SHEET

VOL. LI

JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 2016

No. 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MGCA

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, January 14, 2016

UGA Griffin, Stuckey Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Mid-Georgia Livestock Market, INC

Meal: \$5.00 per person
Catered by The Prime Palate

Program: UGA Extension Weed Specialist Dr. Patrick McCullough
will discuss getting the most from glyphosate and
pre-emergent herbicide applications on forages.

Sponsor : Line Creek Feed and Tack of Brooks, GA
Taylor Martin with Line Creek Feed and Tack will describe their product line and
have a Purina rep to discuss their line of Purina feeds.

Please help us get a head count for the meeting and RSVP at www.mgcaoline.com.
You don't have to RSVP in order to come, but it helps make sure we have enough food.

Thanks for your assistance!

CattleWomen's Meeting

Ladies, come join us for our January meeting that night and learn more about your association. We
will discuss upcoming activities such as the show and plan our mission for the year. Bring a friend
and join other ladies that are interested in the BEEF Industry.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 30th at 12:00 NOON
71st WEST CENTRAL GEORGIA SHOW AT UPSON-LEE AG CENTER
KNIGHT TRAIL IN THOMASTON

BULL SHEET

of the
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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 - 706-647-9414

Annual membership dues is for subscription to Bull Sheet.
2015

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RECIPE CORNER



MEXICAN STEAK SOFT TACOS

Total Recipe Time: 15 to 20 minutes

Makes 4 servings

INGREDIENTS

12 ounces grilled beef steak, cut into slices
1/2 cup sour cream
2 teaspoons fresh lime juice
1 clove garlic, minced
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup drained canned black beans
1/2 cup chopped seeded tomatoes
3 cups thinly sliced romaine lettuce
4 medium whole wheat or flour tortillas
(8 to 10-inch diameter)

Directions:

1. Combine sour cream, lime juice, garlic, salt and pepper in small bowl.
2. Spread each tortilla evenly with sour cream mixture leaving 1/2-inch border around edge. Top with black beans; place steak slices on 1 side of each tortilla. Top with tomatoes and lettuce. Fold tortillas in half to serve.



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Extension News

Wes Smith,
Upson and Lamar Extension Agriculture Coordinator

2016 FORAGE SCHOOL

The 2016 Forage School is scheduled for March 15th, 22nd, and 29th at the Upson County Extension Office. Cost will be \$55 each or \$75 per couple, this will include a notebook, cap, and meal the last night. The program will include intensive forage training as well as a pasture walk the last evening. Classes will cover establishment methods for hay fields, proper establishment of permanent grazing, soil fertility, poisonous plants and weed control, government programs that can help producers, and shade, water and rotational grazing. All classes will be held at the office starting at 7pm, except the last night on the 29th when we will start at 6:30 pm.

HAY WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Middle Georgia Hay Contest was successfully held again this year. For the cool season grass category, this year the winners were 1st Place Boyt Hay Service of Upson County, 2nd Wes Smith of Upson County, and 3rd

Timberlane Farms of Lamar County. Warm season grass category winners were 1st Place Timberlane Farms of Lamar County, 2nd Tom Daniel of Upson County, and 3rd Paul Wallace of Lamar County. In the Haylage category, 1st Place went to Walters Farms of Lamar County, 2nd SSS Farms of Upson County, and 3rd County Line Farms of Lamar County. The hay contest is a good way for producers to find out what quality of hay they are producing. Plan on participating next year and hay samples have to be turned in by October 1st. Contact your county agent to have samples pulled.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

TRACY BOYT
MGCA PRESIDENT

Let me wish each one of you and your family a Happy New Year! I hope your Christmas was filled with faith, family, and friends. Even with all of our country's problems, we are still blessed to live in the United States of America.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make Ladies' Night a great success! Congratulations to all the winners as well.

I would like to thank Danny for his leadership during the last two years. We have increased our membership to over two hundred and seventy-five members. Let's keep up the good work!

We now have a very diverse group of young farmers and seasoned veterans. I truly believe that we can all learn from each other as we improve our farms as well as our association.

I encourage you all to attend the January meeting. Please RSVP on the website. We will be discussing important events including the Steer and Heifer Show. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,
Tracy Boyt



Incoming President, Tracy Boyt thanks Danny Bentley for his service to the association as MGCA President.

MID-GEORGIA CATLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
November 13, 2015
THOMASTON, GEORGIA

President Danny Bentley called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Vice President Tracy Boyt gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Danny asked everyone to keep Mr. Harris Brantley in their prayers as he has been in the hospital recently.

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Danny also thanked all Veterans in attendance and asked them to stand to be recognized.

President Bentley thanked the sponsor for the meeting, AgSouth Farm Credit and recognized our guests for the evening:

Representative Johnny Caldwell and wife Rita.
GCA Executive Vice President Will Bentley
GCA Region Vice President Rodney Hilley
Ember Bishop, Deputy Commissioner of International Relations for the GA Department of Economic Development

County Agents and Vo-Ag Teachers
Freddie Butts of The Prime Palate for preparing the meal.
He thanked the Cattlewomen for preparation for the meeting.

Danny mentioned that there was a letter to support the election of Dr. Dan Brown, former UGA Extension Animal Scientist to the GCA Hall of Fame, for anyone who wanted to sign it.

Danny Bentley introduced Wade Hutcheson who presented the Mid-Georgia Scholarship to Caroline Waldrep.

Molly Rabalais announced and presented the new Mid-Georgia Cattlemen’s Queen, Tula Blue Waldrep.

Wes Smith announced the winners of the 2014 Mid-Georgia Hay Contest:

Warm Season-
3rd place- Paul Wallace
2nd place- Tom Daniel
1st place- Timberlane Farms
Cool Season-
3rd place- Timberlane Farms
2nd place- Wes Smith
1st place- Boyt Brothers

Haylage-
3rd place- County Line Farms
2nd place- SSS Farms
1st place- Walters Farms
Wes Smith presented the Producer of the Year Award to the County Line Farms, Sauney and Jackson Pippin of Lamar County.

Cody Ham presented the Dr. O. E. Sell Service Award to Bill Waldrep of Monroe County.

GCA Report-
GCA Executive Vice President Will Bentley gave a report of GCA activities:

Beef Cattle are now number two in farm gate value in Georgia. Will said this will help tremendously in supporting our causes in the upcoming legislative session.

He stated that the Mid-Georgia area now has approximately 20,000 head of beef cattle, worth an estimated \$21 million. Mid-Georgia is still the largest chapter in the state with 279 members, up 29 from this time last year.

Will mentioned that our own Bo Huddleston is now the Chairman of the GCA Young Cattlemen’s Council and they recently had a successful short course in Tifton.

GCA will once again push for passage of the Livestock Liability bill which did not get passed in this year’s session.

Will discussed the success of the GATE Card program and stressed that abuse of the program needs to be eliminated. All GATE cards will need to be renewed by the end of the year.

The WOTUS program, instituted by EPA is still moving forward.

The Trans-Pacific Partnership, a trade deal negotiated among Pacific Rim countries and the U.S. has the potential to expand Asian beef markets for producers.



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UGS Extension News

The Beef Team would like to make you aware of an issue we are observing. As we move through the wet fall in north Georgia, we are getting more and more calls regarding fescue toxicosis, specifically as it affects beef cows calving during this time of the year. We would like to offer a few signs to look out for, the cause, and potential solutions.

BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR:

- 1. Fall calving cows that are having premature and/or light calves.
- 2. Fall calving cows that are producing little or no milk (agalactia).

CAUSE:

1. The Plant: Kentucky 31 Tall Fescue is naturally infected with a fungal endophyte. The plant and endophyte have a symbiotic relationship; the plant provides an environment and nutrients for the fungus, and the fungus produces alkaloids that help the plant with drought, pest, and grazing tolerance

2. The Animal: These alkaloids affect animals grazing it, especially in extreme weather conditions (i.e. heat or cold). Typical symptoms include lower gains on growing animals and lower conception rates on cows. In Georgia, we typically do not see severe symptoms during this time of year, due to relatively mild conditions. Pregnant cows consuming “hot” fescue in the last trimester of pregnancy are more likely to be affected by the symptoms above.

3. The Climate: This year has created a “perfect storm” to create fescue toxicosis in brood cows. Due to the following three conditions happening, we have seen an increase in the reports of the condition.

- Drought stress: After fescue goes through a stress, such as drought, alkaloid concentration tends to increase. This

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is due the plant and fungus trying to recover.

- Temperature and moisture: This fall has been unseasonably warm and wet. Both of these conditions are favorable for increased forage production in fescue pastures and hay fields.

- Fertilization: The application of N increases the alkaloid concentration.

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS:

1. Short term. Although there is no immediate cure , the following may help alleviate the symptoms:

- Removal. The most effective strategy is to the animals from the infected Tall Fescue pastures. If you are seeing these symptoms, and you are unsure if your tall fescue is infected are not, there is a 95% chance that it is infected. If at all possible, move these animals to non-infected pastures (i.e. bermudagrass, winter annuals, etc.).

- Dilution. If it is not feasible to move the animals, then diluting the fescue with other feed sources will help. This could include free choice hay from non-infected fields, supplemental feed. Additionally, if temporary fencing is available, strip grazing can be utilized in addition to supplementation, to limit feed the remaining fescue.

2. Long term. Ultimately, the only long-term solution is to replace the endophyte-infected Tall Fescue with another forage. These can include fescue varieties with novel endophytes that do not affect the animals, bermudagrass, and/or other forages.

Unfortunately, these situations are usually not noticed until after the calving/milk issues are observed. By this time, it is too late to completely alleviate the symptoms. Most calves will need to be supplemented to compensate for the lack of milk. In most cases, if steps are taken this year, next year’s calf crop should not be affected.

UGA Beef Team



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visible “dust” or mold spores when disturbed) should be tested for mycotoxins before being fed. UGA’s Feed and Environmental Water Laboratory (our forage lab) is not equipped to conduct the mold spore count test or the mycotoxin screen. (To my knowledge, Waters Agricultural Labs in Camilla, GA is also not equipped for these tests, but you can contact them to confirm.) You can, however, work through the UGA lab to arrange for these tests to occur. Alternatively, you can submit samples directly to labs that do conduct these tests (e.g, Cumberland Valley Analytical Services, Dairy One).

Bales that are covered with black sooty mold on the exterior can be removed and discarded, and usually the interior bales are not affected. Bale stack design can help minimize the surface area exposed and, thereby, minimize the damage. Barn design issues can also be corrected to prevent this problem in the future. Barns that can be open to allow moisture to escape during the initial 2-4 weeks of storage and then shut during prolonged periods of high humidity and cool temperatures will offer flexibility in this regard.

For more information on forage management issues, visit our website at www.georgiaforages.com. If you have additional forage management questions, visit or contact your local University of Georgia Cooperative Extension office by dialing 1-800-ASK-UGA1.

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Will discussed the ACC for Beef and the projects that have been funded so far, including research on the bermudagrass stem maggot, pinkeye, etc.

He mentioned that the NCBA Convention will be held in San Diego on January 27-30, 2016, the GCA Convention and Beef Expo will be held in Perry on March 3 thru April 2, 2016 and GCA Tour will be June 7-11, 2016, going to Montana.

A cake auction was conducted by Barry Robinson to raise funds for the association. He mentioned the upcoming equipment auction to be held on November 14th at Farmers Livestock and that everyone will be served hamburgers at the last auction in December.

The October minutes, as published in the Bull Sheet, were approved as printed.

The Treasurer’s report was approved as presented.

President Bentley gave a Cattlemen’s report on the past year.

Cattlemen’s Report – Cynthia Douglas

There will be a Customer Appreciation Day held at Farmers Livestock in Upson County on December 11th.

The upcoming Steer and Heifer show will be held on January 30, 2016 in Upson County.

She also discussed all of their activities in the past year and thanked all who had participated in Mid-Georgia and GCA events during the year.

She mentioned that funds are available and some have been used to support beef purchases in MG counties.

Cynthia mentioned that we had another successful Buggy Days and all the help was greatly appreciated.

She discussed the work that the cattlemen had done in the schools this year.

Cynthia also talked about the Beef Checkoff and the positive effect it has had on the beef industry.

Mid-Georgia T-Shirts are available for purchase, and Barry Robinson will pay for a t-shirt for anyone 20 years old or under that is present at the meeting.

Cattlemen’s Report

Danny Bentley discussed the events of the year and how important it is that young cattlemen have become involved in the association. He thanked his wife Rachel for her vast support in all Mid-Georgia activities, along with all officers and Board members. He also thanked all of the county agents and Ag Teachers for their assistance.

He also talked about the growth in membership and the increased attendance at the GCA Region Roundup, where 11 Mid-Georgia members attended this year. Also, the success of Buggy Days and the event in Fayette County not only has helped awareness of the cattle industry, but helped Mid-Georgia financially.

New Business

Past President Ray Brumeloe gave the Nominating Committee report for the officers and Directors for 2016:

President- Tracy Boyt

Vice President- Cody Ham

Secretary- Rodney Hilley

Treasurer- Tom Freeman

Directors:

Spalding County- Roger Greuel, Chairman, Shane Eason and Jeffery Cosper

Pike County- Rusty Lanier, Chairman, Bo Huddleston and Megan Alexander

Lamar County- Russ Walters, Chairman, Glen Studle, and R.M. Hice

Upson County- Harold Fallin, Chairman, Chad Harless and Steve Douglas

Monroe County- Marcia Dugger, Chairman, Barry Peters and Charles Floyd

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“To worry about what you can't do, is to waste what you can do.”

Talbot County- Josh Buckner, Chairman, Omer McCants and Ken Chapman

Tracy Boyt presented President Danny Bentley with a handmade, engraved holster and knife, and thanked him for all of his hard work the last 2 years.

The next Directors' meeting will be December 10th, location to be determined.

The next Membership meeting will be January 14th in Spalding County.

Minutes taken and submitted by:
Rodney Hilley

**MID-GEORGIA CATLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
December 10, 2015
FORSYTH, GEORGIA**

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

Tracy welcomed all of the new Directors and thanked everyone for coming.

Minutes- Rodney Hilley

There was a motion to accept the November minutes as presented, motion was seconded and carried.

Financial Report-Tom Freeman

The financial report was approved as presented. Tom discussed the financials of the November meeting and reminded everyone that the \$5.00 collected at each membership meeting goes to support the November Annual meeting.

GCA Report-Rodney Hilley

The GCA membership is up over 189 members from this time last year and the Mid-Georgia membership is up 27

over the same period. The Emerging Leaders conference will be held on January 18-19, 2016 in Macon. Discussion was held as to who could attend. Omer McCants stated that he would like to attend as well as possibly Russ Walters.

Cattlemen's Report and Bull Sheet-Cynthia Douglas

Cynthia mentioned that the Steer and Heifer show will be held on January 30, 2016 only one day this year. Anyone willing to help would be greatly appreciated.

There were 101 people in attendance at the November membership meeting. Ideas were discussed as to how to get more members to attend the membership meetings.

YCC-Bo Huddleston

Bo discussed the recent YCC Shortcourse held in Tifton and plans for the next year.

Old Business

Tracy discussed the conflict of the September membership meeting in Monroe County with the annual Upson Farm tour. It was discussed to swap the Monroe with the July picnic, but Monroe County has decided that they want to keep their meeting in September.

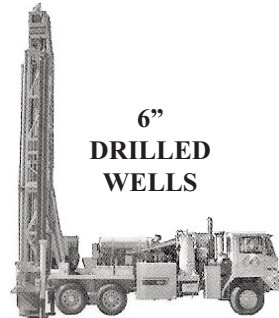
Wade Hutcheson discussed the scholarship fund. Application will be available at the Steer and Heifer show in January. Several ideas were discussed to raise money for the fund, including a rodeo, gun raffle, etc. Chad Harless and Megan Alexander were appointed to investigate having a gun raffle.

New Business

Discussion was held about holding more than one bull semen testing clinics around our 6 county area. Cody Hamm will be hosting one in Monroe County on January 8th and there is a possibility of one in Upson County later in January.

County Agent Reports

Wade Hutcheson discussed the January membership



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Greener Grass

Wade Hutcheson,
Spalding County Extension Coordinator
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With the weather that existed this fall, the potential for moldy hay is higher. Dr. Hancock provides information on handling it. Read on for more. You can sign up to receive automatic forage alerts by visiting www.georgiaforages.com.

Minimize Your Risks from Moldy Hay

By Dr. Dennis Hancock,
Associate Professor and Forage Extension Specialist

Because of the wet fall, many producers have faced extremely difficult field curing conditions for their hay. Additionally, hay that was bone dry in the field has, in many cases, developed mold problems in the barn. This later issue has been problematic for us in 2015, resulting in a large number of square and round bales covered with black sooty mold. It is arguably more problematic because this is often a barn design issue (e.g., open sides, poor air drainage, lack of ventilation, inability to close off ventilation, etc.). Under the high levels of humidity that we've had (because of periods of nearly continuous rain and cool weather) the last 2 months, dry hay will draw moisture from the moist air. For example, hay that is 12-15% moisture (the appropriate moisture for hay storage) may have a 6-12" layer along any exposed surface that may equilibrate at about 30%+ moisture if the surrounding environment is cool (< 70 F) and moist (relative humidity stays > 60%). Any moisture level greater than 20% on the



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surface could result in significant mold growth/discoloration, and levels greater than 30% moisture can result in the entire stack's exposed surface being covered in black sooty mold.

As a result, our County Extension Agents and I have had an extraordinary number of emails and calls about feeding moldy hay, especially to horses. First, let me clearly state: moldy or dusty hay should NOT be fed to horses. Moldy and dusty hay can lead to respiratory issues in the horse, and can also pose health risks to the men and women who feed the hay to the livestock (e.g., farmer's lung, etc.). Soaking the hay in a water trough before feeding will reduce the "dust" (which is usually mostly mold), but it will also leach out soluble sugars and lower forage quality. This may not reduce the risk of mycotoxins (and yes, hay can have mycotoxins in it just like moldy grain, peanuts, or oilseeds can have in them). Several companies now sell hay "steamers," which is a chamber or box wherein hay bales are placed and steam is pumped into the chamber. In addition to the expense, the downside of these steamers is that they will lower the forage nutritive value of the hay and they are unlikely to change the mycotoxin levels appreciably.

Ruminant animals aren't as sensitive to mold problems as horses, but they still can be negatively impacted if care is not taken to prevent health challenges. Feeding slightly to moderately moldy hay (mold spore counts up to 1 million cfu/gram) is relatively safe if feeding cattle or small ruminants, as long as the animals are fed outside or in a very well-ventilated feeding area. Keep in mind that palatability is likely to be a challenge. Hay that emits a substantial cloud of "dust" or continues to emit dust after the disturbance ceases should be assumed to be > 1 million cfu/gram. A test can confirm mold levels. Hay that is obviously moldy (moldy or "mousey" smell or sending off



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Vet Talk

Dr. Chanda Moxon Thompson, DVM

As the saying goes...if it wasn't for the last minute nothing would get done. This holds true each time I sit down to put these articles together. However, I have known what the topic for this article would be for several weeks now. A lot of my articles come from my encounters out in the field practicing veterinary medicine. This article focuses on Bracken Fern Toxicity in cattle; which can easily be confused with anthrax poisoning. Thankfully, anthrax has never been reported in Georgia. And though there is a first time for everything, this time bracken fern gets the blame as the cause of death. I chose this topic because this time of year our pastures are becoming bare and our animals are looking for forage in every corner of the field. While checking your cows, be sure to check your pastures for harmful weeds such as the bracken fern. Below is an overview of what bracken fern is and how it affects livestock that eat it.

Bracken fern is a natural plant of forest areas. On farms it is classified as a weed because it competes with pasture for moisture, nutrients and light and is poisonous to livestock. Ptaquiloside, a known carcinogen, has been identified as the toxic factor concern.

Two distinct clinical syndromes have been recognized in cattle, a chronic form and a sub-acute form. The sub-acute form is the more common and usually occurs when cattle have had access to bracken for at least 10 days. The toxin in the bracken affects the bone marrow which is the source of both red and white blood cells. Because the white cells are not properly formed the animals are susceptible to many forms of infection.

Common clinical signs therefore include: High temperature, diarrhea, panting respiration, abdominal pain, death. Because the red cells and platelets are also affected, the blood clotting mechanism doesn't function properly either. You may also see, bleeding from any external orifices; nose, anus, vulva, and mouth. Pale gums, eyeballs and other surface membranes, pinpoint hemorrhages in the skin, gums, and vaginal surfaces, blood in the urine, death.

Treatment of the condition is almost always unsuccessful. If diagnosed early, blood transfusions may be beneficial and antibiotics on a veterinary prescription can also be given to control secondary infections.



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meeting in Spalding County. Sponsor will be Mid-Georgia Livestock. Freddie Butts will be catering the meal. Discussion was held about future sponsors and meeting locations.

Tracy stated that the new officers met recently to discuss goals for the coming year. The consensus was to increase educational opportunities for the membership. A lot of discussion was held around how to accomplish this, such as field days and increased educational opportunities at the membership meetings. Also, it was discussed having several types of demonstrations at local farms. Vice President Cody Ham was appointed to develop a committee of each county Board chairman to come up with ideas.

Cynthia discussed the Steer and Heifer show and gave out the ad information to each county to sell ads. It was stressed to everyone to fill out the paperwork and turn it back in with the money collected. The prize money has been increased in order to try to attract more participants. A clean-up day will be held at the Upson barn on January 26th at 4 p.m. All help will be appreciated.

Roger Greuel stated that he talked to Dr. Cobb, State Veterinarian about the trichomonas situation in Georgia. He feels that there should be a consistent standard among all states in dealing with the disease.

Roger also mentioned that Dr. Mark McCann has returned to UGA.

The next Membership meeting will be held in Spalding County on January 14, 2016.

The next Directors meeting will be held February 11, 2016 at Farmers Livestock Market in Upson County.

Minutes taken and submitted by:
Rodney Hilley

CattleWomen's Report

By Cynthia Douglas, MGCW President

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful and healthy Christmas with your family and friends. As we look toward to 2016, may our association grow in membership and friendship. Your officers would like to see more ladies join us for fellowship and help us with our activities.

One goal is to communicate more with our ladies and let them know what is going on. We plan to increase our email list, so we can communicate with you. Please give us your email by emailing our secretary Pam Walters at grampam@comcast.net. We plan to keep you better informed of upcoming activities through emails.

Our association is still needing suggestions for food pantries, soup kitchens, or shelters that we can donate beef to this year. Please bring the name of a place in Pike, Talbot and Lamar County. Places have already been suggested for Spalding, Monroe, and Upson Counties.

The West Central Georgia Show will be January 30th at 12:00. We need help that day in the kitchen and with goodies and other items for the meals. If you can help, please text or call me at 770-550-1070 or just show up and assist. Our youth deserve our support.

Thanks to everyone that donated cakes or pies for the auction at Ladies' Night. We hope to see you at the Griffin meeting. We will be planning 2016 activities. Your Mid-Georgia CattleWomen's dues of \$5.00 may be paid at this meeting. Your Georgia CattleWomen's dues of \$15 are paid to the GCA office and you are billed on your anniversary date.

Hope to see you at the Griffin meeting and bring a friend!

Cynthia

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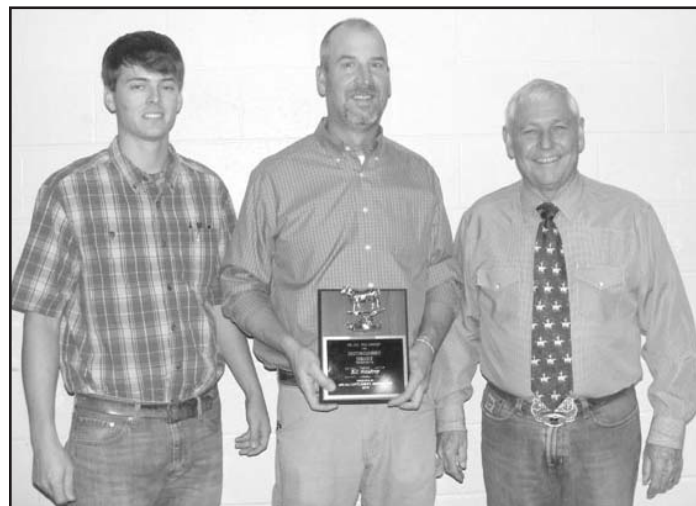


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Dr. O.E. Sell Distinguished Service Award



This award was presented to Bill Waldrep of Monroe County. Bill is a Vocational Agricultural Teacher at Mary Persons High School. He has worked in Toombs, Upson and Monroe counties where he was honored with the Teacher of the Year Awards in these school systems. Bill received the National Association of Agricultural Educator's Teacher of the Year.

He has been very instrumental in teaching agriculture and developing leadership skills among his students. He has taught and prepared many state winning livestock, agriculture mechanics and land judging teams. He has had students win a total of 18 American FFA Degree Recipients and 70 State FFA Degree Recipients. He is always at the shows assisting his showmen and helping with the show.

Not only has he helped his students he has reached out and assisted with Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom

activities and Ag Education within his community. Bill has certainly touched the lives of many students and left a positive impact on them as well as telling the agriculture story to our younger generation.

2016 MGCA Queen

TulaBlueWaldrep was recognized as our 2016 MGCA Queen. She is the daughter of Bill and Sarah Waldrep of Forsyth. Tula is a senior at Mary Persons where she is active in FFA, FCA, Varsity Golf, and Co-Editor of Yearbook. She sings with the youth choir. She was a member of the area FFA Land Judging Team and placed 3rd as an individual.



She has grown up on the family farm and has had firsthand experience with cattle. She looks forward to helping publicize the association and wants to speak on behalf of the beef industry.

After graduation, she plans to attend Georgia State University and major in Political Science on a Pre-Law track. She hopes to one day attend a notable Law School and eventually work in politics.



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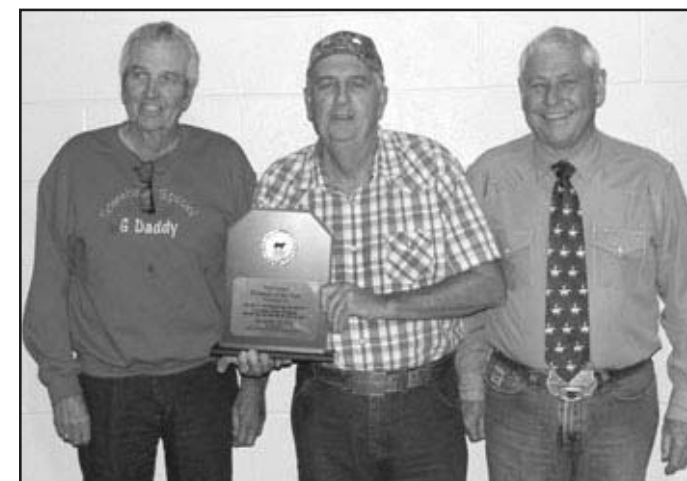


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2015 MGCA Producer of the Year



We are proud to present the Producer of the Year Award to County Line Farms of Culloden. The farm is owned and operated by Sauney and Jackson Pippin. They are 5th generation farmer and they began farming together in the early 70's and took over their parent's farm. They expanded the operation to include cotton, small grains, soybeans, and corn grown for grain or silage to fill local dairy silage needs. They have grazed cattle on contract for local purebred producers and began their own herd in 2005 with the purchase of 80 bred females. Their herd has grown to 300 mature females.

They graze primarily Russell Bermuda and oversee with winter annuals. They rotate their cattle around on multiple pastures. They sell their calves through load lots. They plan to start consigning heifers to the UGA H.E.R.D. program.

The Pippin families have opened their farm gates to many groups such as Leadership Classes to discuss the

importance of agriculture in the central Georgia area. They have hosted the Middle Georgia Hay Field Days and our Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's picnics for several years. Congratulations to Sauney & Geraldine and Jackson & Jackie Pippin for your outstanding operation!

MGCA Memorial Scholarship

We are proud to announce the 2015 recipient of the Mid-Georgia Cattlemen's Association Memorial Scholarship is Caroline Waldrep daughter of Bill and Sarah Waldrep.

Caroline graduated in the top 5% from Mary Persons High School and is now attending the UGA focusing on agribusiness and Ag Education. She participated in many MGCA activities including MGCA and West Central GA Livestock Shows winning class and showmanship honors; she served as the MGCA Queen for 2012-14. Caroline developed agriculture interests at a young age which is easy to do growing up on a farm and daughter to an FFA teacher. While in high school, she was active and held leadership positions in 4-H, FFA, FBLA, and student council among others. Some of Caroline's honors include: Star Student; Agriculture award 3 years; AP scholar with honor; GA Governor's Honors program in Agriscience/Biotechnology; state winner in JR & SR Land Judging and Extemporaneous Speaking; GA FFA National delegate; 8th place individual at State Livestock Judging.

Caroline has been a strong, engaged advocate for agriculture and beef industry and has strong desires to continue to do so in her professional career.

She is a proven leader with a dedicated passion for agriculture. It is with great pleasure that this scholarship is awarded to Caroline Waldrep.

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