



FARM & RANCH CLUB FLASH

Volume 14, Issue 10

April 2009

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Jim Bradbury

Like many of you, I am involved in a number of community and business groups in Fort Worth. But to be real honest with you (this is rare for a lawyer), none of them are as enjoyable as the time that I spend at Farm and Ranch. And that's for two good reasons, the people and the reason we gather-farming and ranching. I am pleased to begin serving as President of Farm and Ranch for the coming year as we drift into late spring/early summer.

Blessedly, we got a dose of rain.

Before we move ahead, let's say a word of thanks where it's really due. Ever since I have been involved, Shanna Weaver has been a stalwart supporter of our group and always has a positive approach to getting it done. She is not going anywhere, but tell her thanks next time you see her. We are well prepared for this year, with Kimberly Thomas serving as Vice President and Patrick Murray serving as our Secretary.

Over the next year, I hope that we can do some looking back into the heritage of farming and ranching, think about where we are going as an industry but most of all concentrate on what we need to be doing today. In my work, I have occasion to meet with State agencies, legislators and other public and business officials. A troubling trend has developed. The presence of boots and hats on these folks is growing very rare. The thread of agriculture and land stewardship by producers is growing thinner among our leaders. Decision makers that have never stacked a barn with hay, cleaned a stall or branded an animal are highly unlikely to understand Ag issues or make the right call when asked to do so. This is a problem that we need to think about and work on. There are a tremendous amount of young folks coming up through school that need a strong and well respected Ag industry that they can lead forward.

Lastly, over the next several months give some thought to bringing a friend to one of our meetings.

I look forward to what the next year will bring.

Jim

April 2009:

Kimberly Thomas

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

12 Noon

TSCRA Brand Room

1301 West 7th Street, Fort Worth

Enchiladas/Tamales - \$10.00

Speaker = Ken Johnson,
Tarrant County AgriLife Extension Agent
will join us to speak about the upcoming
Tarrant County Pizza Ranch.

CLUB NOTES:

First week of May: Tarrant County Pizza Ranch





FARM & RANCH CLUB MINUTES

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Museum, Brand Room

March 24, 2009

35 MEMBERS AND GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER: Shanna Weaver

INVOCATION: Buddy Almy

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS:

Shanna Weaver welcomed members and guests to the March 2009 meeting.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A reminder was mentioned regarding the annual Gala on April 23 this year.

Shanna Weaver announced the current officer terms are up April 1st. The 2009-2010 officers were suggested by the nominating committee at the annual board meeting as follows: President – Jim Bradbury; vice president – Kimberly Thomas; secretary – Patrick Murray; treasurer – Rosalind Sullivan. Jack Chastain made a motion to accept the list as proposed, Sue Ann Claudon 2nd...motion carried.

Treasurer's Report from Rosalind Sullivan reported an ending balance of \$9,077.37.

PROGRAM:

Dr. Barron Rector, Associate Professor and Extension Range Specialist from Texas A&M University spoke mainly about native vs. introduced grass species. He gave some very notable pieces of information that all of us should have an interest in. He stated that 39 acres per day in Texas is lost to development. Another point of interest was that no species of Bermuda grass is native. It was introduced early on to help serve the needs of the demand of grazing livestock. Bermuda grass root systems are much more shallow than those of native species. Introduced grasses tend to saturate our grazing lands based on what grows on the top of the ground rather than what's going on under the soil. Prior to grazing and farming, around 90% of our state was prairie land. A wealth of information that can be found at www.texaserc.tamu.edu or www.texnat.tamu.edu

DOOR PRIZES:

Guest Drawing –Tim Hodges, free lunch

Member Drawings: Jim Link – Lone Star Ag Credit gift pack.

ADJOURNED: Shanna Weaver adjourned our meeting at 1:10PM