



FARM & RANCH CLUB FLASH

Volume 14, Issue 8

February 2009

PRESIDENT'S PEN

Shanna Weaver

Happy 2009! That seems a little strange to say in February – but with no January meeting – it's the first opportunity we've had!

The 113th legendary Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo was a success in numerous ways. Attendance is heavily affected by the weather and we were fortunate enough to experience mild temperatures through the majority of the 24-day run. The Show welcomed over 926,000 guests this year (vs. 899,000+ in 2008). There were many highlights to celebrate but one thing that stands out is the Sale of Champions. The Grand Champion Steer sold for \$140,000 which is impressive! However, the media's knee-jerk reaction was to quickly compare that to last year's champion that sold for \$185,000 rather than to be optimistic, keeping the "big picture" in mind. At their first glance, it must have been easier for them to simply assume and imply with a head line the sale was down due to the economy. But, as we all know, it is *imperative* not to judge the whole sale on one lot (by the way, the exhibitor of the grand steer was overjoyed with her whopping paycheck!). While there was an obvious decline in price for the grand steer, how about the rest of the exciting story? How about the grand barrow selling for \$14,500 compared to last year's \$10,000? Or the grand lamb that brought \$20,000 vs. last year's \$15,000? All the other livestock offered through this sale went higher as well. The sale grossed \$2,011,571 on 278 lots vs. last year's \$1.9 mill on 291 head. That's obviously a significant boost over and above market-value. In light of the struggles of the current economy, that speaks volumes, don't you agree? Huge congratulations are in order to the Fort Worth Stock Show Syndicate and everyone else whose tireless efforts went into ensuring these hard working students got what they deserved. And hats off to the local business folks that understand the underlying meaning of this sale and that the dollars they spent go a long way towards securing the future of our industry. The rest of us get it – even if some reporters did not.

On another note - it was a pleasure to be able to congratulate the Edwards Family Ranches on behalf of our club for receiving the highly regarded W. A. "Bill" King Award –they are very deserving of that honor.

The 59th Annual Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show is upon us this week, which is one of our club's main projects. Be sure to go out and support our Tarrant County students if you get the chance. It's at the Will Rogers Memorial Center, Swine Barn, Feb. 19 – 21.

Looking forward to seeing you soon ~

Shanna Weaver

November:

Jim Bradbury

Tuesday, February 24
12 Noon
TSCRA Brand Room
1301 West 7th Street, Fort Worth

Fried Catfish - \$10.00

Speaker = Representative from the
Natural Resources Conservation Services

CLUB NOTES:

Save the Date – April 23: Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show and Tarrant Ag Scholarship Corporation Gala at Bass Hall! More details to come!





FARM & RANCH CLUB MINUTES

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Museum, Brand Room

November 18, 2008

81 MEMBERS AND GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER: Shanna Weaver

INVOCATION: Matt Brockman

WELCOME AND OVERVIEW:

Keri Moorhouse was a guest of Kathy Wood at the November meeting.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The directors of the Farm and Ranch Club were reminded that a directors and officers meeting will be held on December 10, 2008, in the Stock Show Board Room.

PROGRAM:

Kerry Cornelius, Director of the TCU Ranch Management Program, welcomed everyone to TCU and then allowed his class of 28 students to introduce themselves to the group. Faculty of the TCU Ranch Management was also introduced. Two students, Kay Henderson and Richard Myers, gave their TCU Ranch Management testimonies to the audience. Mr. Cornelius then entertained questions from the floor.

DRAWINGS: No drawings were held at the November meeting.

ADJOURNED: Hugh Ross adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.