



FARM & RANCH CLUB FLASH

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Breinn Richter

What's making news in agriculture?

Farm Bill Heads to House Ag Committee

After months of hearings and work at the subcommittee level, the full House Agriculture Committee will join forces this week on the much-anticipated 2007 Farm Bill. For Congressman Randy Neugebauer, one of four Texans serving on the House Agriculture Committee this year, several priorities are in place as lawmakers debate policy, and foremost is keeping commodity programs intact.

Corn Prices Have Small Impact on Higher Food Costs

The "food versus fuel" issue is one of rhetoric and not reality. Corn demand to make ethanol has little to do with the recent rise in food prices, according to the AFBF, instead weather and high energy costs are more to blame. AFBF said that nearly all the evidence points to factors other than ethanol demand, including an early freeze that zapped fruits and vegetables, low world supplies of wheat, milk producers' cutting back on production in response to last year's low prices and the rising cost of energy.

Texas Department of Agriculture 100th Anniversary

Texas agriculture has long been an integral part of the history and legacy of the Lone Star State. Early pioneers came to Texas in search of land and the promise and potential it offered to those who dared to dream big. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Texas Department of Agriculture, a chance to shine a spotlight on our vital agricultural industry and the tremendous impact it has had on Texas and Texans throughout the years.

Breinn Richter

JULY MEETING:

Shanna Weaver

Tuesday, July 24th, 2007

12 Noon

TSCRA Brand Room

1301 West 7th Street, Fort Worth

Fajitas- \$10.00

**Speaker – Mary E. Ridgway - DFW Area Volunteer
Coordinator for Heifer International.**

Heifer International's history is a simple idea of giving families a source of food rather than short-term relief caught on and has continued for over 60 years. Today, millions of families in 128 countries have been given the gifts of self-reliance and hope. Their mission is to work with communities to end hunger and poverty and to care for the earth. Their strategy is to "pass on the gift." As people share their animals' offspring with others – along with their knowledge, resources, and skills – an expanding network of hope, dignity, and self-reliance is created that reaches around the globe.

CLUB NOTES:

Encourage someone you know to join our club for lunch!

If you are interested in touring the Purina Mills plant – notify Breinn Richter.





FARM & RANCH CLUB MINUTES

Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Museum, Brand Room

June 26, 2007

37 MEMBERS AND GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER: Breinn Richter

INVOCATION: Bill Ward

WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS: Guests joining us for lunch this month were Kathy and Herb Middleton, Kent Lynch, Josey Triminicr and Todd Lawson

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Breinn Richter presented immediate past president Hugh Ross with a gift certificate to Reata and a bouquet of beautiful roses for his wife Kathy - in appreciation for his service as last year's president.

It was also reported by Breinn Richter and Sue Ann Claudon that June is Dairy Month!

Treasurer's Report given by Rosalind Sullivan reported an ending balance of \$8,326.62.

PROGRAM:

Dr. Tina Anderson gave an insightful presentation about Purina Mills and the significance of the Fort Worth Plant. The company was established in 1893 by William H. Danforth in St. Louis, MO. The Fort Worth plant was built in 1917-1918. It was built here because of the importance of the railroad and the ability to ship and receive. Our local plant is the largest plant in the U.S.

Animal feed is the leading agri-business sector in American agriculture today. Purina Mills is clearly the U. S. leader in animal nutrition products, research and innovation, and is the largest feed manufacturer in the country.

DOOR PRIZES:

Guest Drawing –Josey Triminicr - free lunch.

Member Drawings: Breinn Richter and Russell Marsh – artwork donated by Albert Ross.

Shanna Weaver and James Lopez – Dairy Month Shirts donated by Sue Ann Claudon/Dairy Max.

R.L. Feldt won a car kit and Willie Lawson won a picnic pack donated by

Kimberly Thomas/Lone Star Ag. Credit.

ADJOURNED: Breinn Richter adjourned our meeting at 1:00PM