



**NACAA 2019**



**104<sup>th</sup>  
Annual Meeting  
and  
Professional Improvement  
Conference**

**Fort Wayne, Indiana  
September 8 - 12, 2019**

**2019**  
**RECOGNITION AND AWARDS**  
**COMMITTEE**

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**National Association of**  
**County Agricultural Agents**  
**2018 — 2019**

**OFFICERS**

President	Richard Fechter	Kansas
President-Elect	Gene McAvoy	Florida
Vice-President	J. Craig Williams	Pennsylvania
Secretary	Virginia Rosenkranz	Maryland
Treasurer	Lenny Rogers	North Carolina
Past President	Alan Galloway	Tennessee

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North Central Region	Connie Strunk	South Dakota
Northeast Region	Dwane Miller	Pennsylvania
Southern Region	Andrew Overbay	Virginia
Southern Region	Michael Reeves	Alabama
Western Region	Scott Jensen	Idaho

**VICE DIRECTORS**

North Central Region	Jerry Clark	Wisconsin
Northeast Region	David Handley	Maine
Southern Region	Stuart Gauthier	Louisiana
Southern Region	James “JJ” Jones	Oklahoma
Western Region	Kurt Jones	Colorado

# National Association of County Agricultural Agents Committee Chairs 2018-2019

Association Policy.....	Stan Moore
Life Member.....	Dave Phillips
Program Recognition Council.....	Keith Mickler
Communications.....	David Marrison
Search For Excellence.....	Amy-Lynn Albertson
4-H & Youth.....	JJ Jones
Professional Excellence.....	Mike Haberland
Public Relations.....	Kathryn Hopkins
Recognition & Awards.....	Joni Ross Harper
Scholarship.....	Donna Hamlin Beliech
Extension Development Council.....	Brian Haller
Leadership & Administrative Skills .....	Nathan Winter
Early Career Development.....	Gregory Strait
Ag. Issues and Public Relations.....	Paul Pugliese
Teaching & Educational Technologies.....	Jennifer Rees
Professional Improvement Council.....	Bill Burdine
Agronomy & Pest Management.....	Aaron Esser
Agriculture Economics and Community Development.....	Richard Brzozowski
Animal Science.....	Ashley Wright
Natural Resources/Aquaculture/Seagrant.....	Jessica Warren
Horticulture & Turfgrass.....	Karla Kean
Sustainable Agriculture.....	John Porter

# 2018 - 2019 RECOGNITION AND AWARDS COMMITTEE Joni Ross Harper Missouri National Chair

**NORTHEAST REGION**  
Amber Yutzy, Vice Chair  
Pennsylvania

**State Chairs:**

- Laurie Wolinski- Delaware
- Kathryn Hopkins- Maine
- Virginia Rosenkranz - Maryland
- Jeremy Delisle- New Hampshire
- Nicholas Polanin- New Jersey
- Daniel Welch - New York
- Amber Yutzy - Pennsylvania
- Jeff Carter- Vermont
- Daisy Bailey - West Virginia

**SOUTHERN REGION**  
Paula Burke, Vice Chair  
Georgia

**State Chairs:**

- Jimmy Smitherman - Alabama
- Brett Gordon - Arkansas
- Bridget Stice - Florida
- Wade Hutcheson - Georgia
- Christin Herbst - Kentucky
- Ron Strahan- Louisiana
- Thomas Brewer - Mississippi
- Kathryn Holmes - North Carolina
- Coy McCorkle - Oklahoma
- Jeff Fellers - South Carolina
- Shannon Dewitt - Tennessee
- Brian Triplett -Texas
- Adam Downing- Virginia

**WESTERN REGION**  
Donna Cuin Hoffman, Vice Chair  
Wyoming

**State Chairs:**

- Stephen Brown - Alaska
- Ed Martin- Arizona
- Robin Young - Colorado
- Kiersten Akahoshi - Hawaii
- Sarah Baker- Idaho
- Wendy Becker- Montana
- M L Robinson- Nevada
- Patrick Kircher - New Mexico
- Pamela Monnette - Oregon
- Jerry Goodspeed - Utah
- Dale Whaley - Washington
- Donna Cuin Hoffman - Wyoming

**NORTH CENTRAL REGION**  
Edwin Lentz, Vice Chair  
Ohio

**State Chairs:**

- Dennis Bowman - Illinois
- Kelly Heckaman - Indiana
- Ron Lenth - Iowa
- Keith VanSkike - Kansas
- Paul Gross - Michigan
- Nathan Winter - Minnesota
- Tim Schnakenberg - Missouri
- Larry Howard - Nebraska
- Gregory Endres - North Dakota
- Edwin Lentz - Ohio
- Connie Strunk - South Dakota
- Katie Wantoch - Wisconsin

# ANNUAL DSA BANQUET MENU

- Ribeye steak with Port Wine Sauce
- Traditional garden salad
- Green Beans w/ Bacon & Onion;
- Oven Roasted Potatoes, quartered and buttered
- Rolls & Butter
- Dessert

## Wednesday, September 11, 2019 NACAA DSA BANQUET PROGRAM

- Presiding ..... Richard Fechter, President
- Invocation.....Michael Reeves, Southern Region Director
- Introductions:
  - Head Table and Special Guests .....Richard Fechter, President
  - Past Officers and Life Members ..... Stan Moore, Chair,  
Policy Committee
- Dinner
- Recognition Program:
  - Distinguished Services &  
Hall of Fame Awards .....Joni Ross Harper, Chair,  
Recognition & Awards Committee
  - Special Recognition..... Stan Moore, Chair,  
Policy Committee
- Invitation to Virginia Beach..... Theresa Pittman & Andy Overbay  
2020 AM/PIC Co-Chairs
- Happy Faces Video
- Installation of President and Past President .....Alan Galloway,  
Past President
- Passing of the Gavel ..... Richard Fechter, President
- Adjourn .....Gene McAvoy, President-Elect

# 82nd ANNIVERSARY

This is the eighty-second year that the Distinguished Service Awards have been presented by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. The first time was in 1938 at the annual meeting in Chicago when twenty-two members were honored. Tonight, an additional sixty-two distinguished colleagues are being recognized, joining a very distinguished group of 7,395 NACAA members that have been so honored in the past.

## CONGRATULATIONS HONOREES

The Recognition and Awards Committee of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Association takes great pride in presenting the year's Distinguished Service Award Recipients. This Annual Banquet is prepared in their honor.

The honorees who will be recognized tonight are representatives of the top two percent of the membership of NACAA as chosen by their peers and the Directors of Extension of the various states. They represent a careful search by the members of each State Recognition and Awards Committee, each of the State Associations of County Agricultural Agents and the coordination of these efforts by the Regional and National Committee members.

Please share the pride of these committees by noting the accomplishments of each honoree as indicated by his/her citation. These NACAA recipients represent the wonderful work that is being carried out across the nation by the membership of the association. Our humble congratulations to each honoree.

## County Agents Receiving the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

From The National Association of  
County Agricultural Agents  
2019

Winners are listed below by regions and states.

### NORTH CENTRAL REGION - INDIANA

#### Kenneth J. Eck - 22

Kenserves as the Dubois County Extension Educator, Ag and Natural Resources, for Purdue Extension. During his twenty-two year career he has worked as a Purdue Soil and Water Conservation Specialist as well as the County Extension Director for Pike County. He serves as part of the Purdue Field Crops group, and his major areas of educational programming for Indiana have included soil health and water quality, biofuels production, pork production, and poultry emergency preparedness.



### NORTH CENTRAL REGION - INDIANA

#### John E. Woodmansee - 23

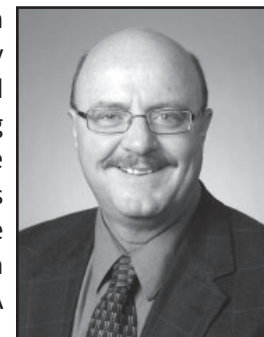


John Woodmansee is Extension Educator in Whitley County, having also served in Fountain, Grant and Noble Counties in Indiana. In his 24th year in Extension, John has specialized in forestry-related training throughout his Extension career, teaching Master Gardeners, local residents, civic groups, and youth. John oversees an active Master Gardener program. He writes a weekly news column that reaches over 50,000 readers. He also helps facilitate field days and events at Northeast Purdue Agricultural Center.

### NORTH CENTRAL REGION - IOWA

#### Terry Janssen – 18

Active member of the Iowa Agriculture Extension Association for 18 years, serving as state secretary for two years, and president for one year. Has held various committee leadership roles, attending four National Association of County Agriculture Agents (NACAA) AM/PIC meetings, serving as the state voting delegate in 2012. Terry was the state NACAA Communications Award winner in 2003 and a member of state and regional NACAA Communications Awards in 2008 and 2011.



### NORTH CENTRAL REGION - KANSAS

#### Rachael Boyle – 14



Rachael Boyle has provided leadership in agricultural programming in Northwest Kansas for 14 years. Her emphasis has been developing rations for beef producers, sheep and goat production trainings, range management, and estate planning. Rachael's passion is teaching ATV safety to youth audiences. Additionally, Rachael has lead the Rooks County 4-H program by working with volunteers and developing teen leadership opportunities. Rachael has been a leader in KACAA by serving in various offices and committees.

### NORTH CENTRAL REGION - KANSAS

#### Kurt Werth – 25

As an Agriculture Agent Kurt has been part of a multi-state Cover Crop grazing study, and a 10-year Wheat-Variety grazing study. These studies have helped producers make decisions to financially improve their farms and ranches. In the spring he hosted a southwest area Calving School. Producers learned proper administration and handling of vaccines, suitable supplements, and how to decrease calf mortality rates. These practices will help improve profitability and success of a cow-calf operation.





## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - MICHIGAN**

### **Jill O'Donnell – 36**



Jill O'Donnell, a senior educator for Michigan State University Extension, is nationally recognized as an expert in Christmas tree production. The hallmark of her 36-year career is her ability to develop relationships of trust and respect with producers while helping them address critical issues in their Christmas tree crop. She has played a critical role connecting growers with MSU researchers to keep Michigan a national leader in the Christmas tree industry.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - MINNESOTA**

### **C. Robert Holcomb – 15**

Rob Holcomb has been a University of Minnesota Extension Educator since 2004, developing and delivering programs on agricultural risk management with an emphasis on taxation, farm analysis, business planning, and labor management. He has been faculty director for the University of Minnesota Income Tax Schools since 2011. He serves on the National Extension Tax Education Committee and recently served two terms on the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation board of directors.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - MISSOURI**

### **Karisha Devlin – 16**



Karisha Devlin is a Field Specialist in Agricultural Business. She specializes in areas of value-added agriculture, farm management, business development and marketing. She is passionate about educating farm women and helped to develop curriculum for Annies Project. She is on the Annies Project Education for Farm Women board of directors and serves as the co-state coordinator for the program in Missouri. Karisha is an alum of ALOT (Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow) Class XI.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NEBRASKA**

### **Brandy VanDeWalle – 13**

Brandy VanDeWalle started in 2005 in Fillmore County reaching farmers through irrigation and risk management programming. She transitioned to 80% youth development and 20% cropping systems with key programming which engages youth in crops and increased awareness of STEM career areas. This is accomplished through the Innovative Youth Corn Challenge, Youth Crop Scouting Competitions, ag literacy festivals, Agriculture Education partnerships, NDE partnerships, among others. Another strength is coordination of the Farmers & Ranchers College.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NORTH DAKOTA**

### **Craig Allen Askim – 17**

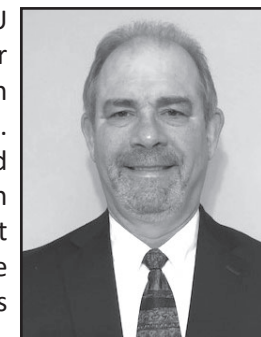


Craig started working for the NDSU Extension in 2002. In 2004, he became the County Extension Agent in Mercer County, North Dakota. Over his seventeen-year career, Craig has served on many county and state boards along with serving as the National Chairman of the NACAA Agricultural Issues and Public Relations committee in 2018. Craig has conducted numerous educational programs in the areas of crops, livestock, horticulture and 4-H. Craig and his family live in Beulah, North Dakota.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - OHIO**

### **F John Barker III – 28**

John Barker is an Extension Educator for OSU Extension - Knox County. During his 28 year career he has focused his Educational programs in agronomy, farm management and ag technologies. He is Co-Leader of the Precision Ag Team and has based his specialization around precision agriculture, specifically data management, nutrient application and most recently drone imagery. He is very involved in on-farm research and enjoys his time in the field working with local farmers.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - OHIO**

### **Christopher Zoller – 27**



Chris Zoller has specialized for more than 25 years in farm management including agricultural labor, farm transition planning, financial management, and farm bill education. He has taught farm management topics statewide and nationally and has authored or co-authored multiple journal articles, fact sheets, and popular press articles. Additionally, Chris has taught topics related to livestock and crop production including pesticide application, forage production, livestock quality assurance, and conducted on-farm research trials with local farmers.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - SOUTH DAKOTA**

### **Adele Harty – 14**

Adele Harty's 14 year career with SDSU Extension has focused on cow/calf producers across the state. She developed a multi-state Cattle Mineral Nutrition program, with plans to expand in 2019. Adele is part of a team of educators who developed and deliver beefSD, an intensive 2-year program for beginning beef producers. She also works with Annie's Project and Cattlemen's Conversations. Adele is currently serving as the SD Association of Agriculture Extension Professionals Vice President.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - WISCONSIN**

### **Mark A. Hagedorn – 12**



Mark Hagedorn has served as an Agriculture Agent since 2006 for UW-Extension in Brown County, and currently is serving in Eau Claire County. His programming focuses on dairy farm management, employee safety, and on-farm research related to the analysis of dairy heifer costs of production. Mark has served as President for the WI Association of County Agricultural Agents. He is currently the county-based faculty co-leader for the UW-Extension State Dairy Team.

## **NORTHEAST REGION - MARYLAND**

### **Charles F. Schuster – 18**

Charles Schuster is an Extension Educator serving the tri county cluster of Frederick, Howard and Montgomery Counties as the commercial horticulture agent. His programs involve landscape, nursery, greenhouse, small farms, vegetables and fruit. With new regulations in recent years he has spent a great deal of time providing programming for the commercial turf management industry in nutrient management. He works with the Maryland Department of Agriculture on pesticide and nutrient management programming.



## **NORTHEAST REGION - NEW HAMPSHIRE**

### **Carl Majewski – 16**



Carl's work with dairy and livestock producers across the state focuses on corn and forage production, balancing strong yields with stewardship of soil and water resources. In his programming, he strives to take the best of both traditional and modern approaches to create effective learning environments and keep audiences engaged. Based in Cheshire County, he works and increase the public's awareness of the impact that local agriculture has.

## **NORTHEAST REGION - NEW YORK**

### **Elizabeth Claypoole – 30**

Elizabeth (Beth) Claypoole is the Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County, her latest position serving the farmers of New York in a 30-year extension career. Throughout her career, her programs have had significant state-wide impact, from a dairy management curriculum to increasing the use of cooling systems on produce farms. Beth has invested considerable time in professional development in extension work, culminating in service as the President of ESP in 2018.



## NORTHEAST REGION - PENNSYLVANIA

**Gregory P. Martin – 17**



Gregory has served Penn State Extension for over 17 years as a member of the statewide Poultry Team. His extension programs are centered on bird health, poultry management, emergency management, poultry welfare, food safety and Integrated Pest Management. Gregory has also participated in national programs including Poultry Handling & Trucking, 4-H, eXtension and multistate extension efforts in mortality and nutrient management. His focus is to help clientele make decisions based on current science available.

## NORTHEAST REGION - WEST VIRGINIA

**Jodi Richmond – 15**

Jodi Richmond serves as Extension Agent, Associate Professor and County Program Coordinator for Mercer County. Her primary focus is increasing the profitability and sustainability of small farming operations providing educational programming in production, agricultural business management and food safety. In addition to her adult audiences, she offers ag literacy and safety programming for youth in schools and through the 4-H program.



## SOUTHERN REGION - ALABAMA

**Thomas G. Agee – 27**

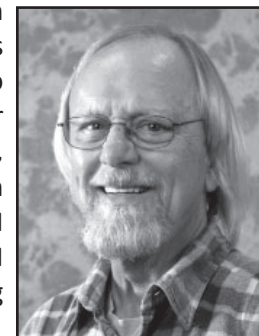


Thomas began his career as assistant county agent in Dale County with programmatic assignment in 4-H and youth development, home horticulture, forestry, wildlife and natural resources. Currently, he serves as the County Extension Coordinator for Dale County overseeing Extension programming, office leadership and administration. Thomas has maintained strong collaboration with community partners for continuous support and impact through educational outreach in Dale County.

## SOUTHERN REGION - ALABAMA

**Lawrence C. “Fudd” Graham – 19**

Currently a Research Fellow IV and Extension Specialist at Auburn University, Fudd worked as an Extension Agent for six years. He returned to Extension in 2007 as Pesticide Safety Educator and now serves as a resource on invasive ants, other urban pests, pesticide safety, calibration and IPM. He is a member of the Southern IPM Center Advisory Council, the Southern School IPM Work Group and the National School IPM Steering Committee.



## SOUTHERN REGION - ALABAMA

**Daniel S. Miller – 11**



Danny S. Miller has served the Ag community in NE Alabama for 26 years. Miller was employed by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System in 2007 and is currently serving as Cherokee CEC. Miller spent his career promoting agriculture as a viable and productive lifestyle. He has been an integral mentor of young agents and worked hard to refocus 4-H programming efforts by implementing successful statewide youth livestock programs such as Chick Chain and Pig Squeal.

## SOUTHERN REGION - ARKANSAS

**Brad McGinley – 15**

Brad McGinley started his Extension Career in 2004 and has served as Extension Agent in Stone, Fulton, Montgomery, and Grant Counties. Currently he serves as the staff chair and lead agent for Agriculture/4-H in Grant County. He has developed a variety of educational programs in the areas of livestock production, wildlife, home horticulture, and 4-H with an emphasis on 4-H STEM programs. Brad and his wife, Serena, have 4 children, Graice, Gavin, Miley, and Eva.





## SOUTHERN REGION - ARKANSAS

**Bill Robertson – 15**



Bill has served as the Cotton Extension Agronomist with the University of Arkansas System, Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service for 15 years. In his current position he provides leadership for educational programs in cotton production and agronomic systems that improve yield, profitability, and sustainability. He has been active with the Arkansas County Agricultural Agents Association serving as State President in 2004-2005.

## SOUTHERN REGION - ARKANSAS

**Amy Simpson – 16**

Amy has been with the Cooperative Extension Service for over 16 years. She began her career in Calhoun County, and then moved to Clark County as the 4-H/Agriculture Agent. She became the Staff Chair in 2017, and now works in the areas of row crops, beef and forages, natural resources, horticulture and 4-H. Amy and her husband Jonathan of 17 years, have 15 year old daughter, Gracie, and 11 year old son, Jon Ross.



## SOUTHERN REGION - FLORIDA

**Mary Elizabeth Henry – 12**



Mary-Beth Henry provides county and statewide leadership for small farms programming. Mary-Beth typically serves 4,000 youth and adult clientele annually and maintains a significant online presence. She works with multi-disciplinary teams of state and county faculty to implement immersive educational experiences for clientele. Mary-Beth is well-respected by her clients and peers because she honors her commitments, is resourceful, makes decisions for the greater good, and willingly shares her extensive knowledge of Florida's farming systems.

## SOUTHERN REGION - FLORIDA

**Brooke L. Moffis – 12**

Brooke Moffis is the Residential Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Coordinator in Lake County where her educational programs reach over 4,000 residents annually. She serves FACAA by chairing the New Member Relations Committee, as a committee chair for the 2022 NACAA AM/PIC and previously served FACAA as a Central District Director. She presented to her peers both nationally and internationally and won NACAA regional awards for newspaper article, radio broadcast, and television segment.



## SOUTHERN REGION - FLORIDA

**Shawn T. Steed – 10**



Shawn Steed has served ten years as the environmental horticulture production extension agent in Hillsborough and Polk Counties. His clientele base are mostly woody ornamental nursery growers. His programming is focused on industry sustainability and efficiency, weed control, propagation and pesticide licensing and he serves in numerous capacities in the state association. His work has been awarded at the state and national levels. His efforts have returned approximately \$10,000,000 in economic benefits to the local economy.

## SOUTHERN REGION - GEORGIA

**Gary L. Hawkins – 18**

Dr. Hawkins has worked for the University of Georgia for 18 years and served as the Water Resources Specialist the past 4 years. He provides statewide training and programs in the areas of pollution prevention, alternative energy, water quality, and water quantity. Dr. Hawkins has served as a GACAA committee chair and is currently GACAA Vice-President. He has also served as President of the GA ANREP, GA JCEP Chair, and on the Galaxy planning committee.



## SOUTHERN REGION - GEORGIA

### Raymond Joyce – 32



Raymond has served with UGA Extension as a county extension agent for 32 years. He provides agricultural and natural resources education opportunities for the citizens of Laurens County. He writes a weekly gardening column for a local newspaper reaching over 10,000 subscribers. His program efforts have included the recycling of old pesticides, pesticide safety for farmers and homeowners, farm bill education, training of potential master gardeners, home horticulture trainings and commercial agriculture trainings.

## SOUTHERN REGION - GEORGIA

### Monte Stephens – 17

Monte Stephens has made UGA Extension and agriculture a priority for 17 years. In rapidly growing Oconee County, his programming includes livestock and forage management; water quality; agricultural awareness; beginning young farmer and multi-species junior livestock program. His work addresses livestock health and herd management; agribusiness skills; profitability and increased appreciation for agriculture. Monte builds community relationships by constant stakeholder investment in program development to guide Extension efforts for farm and non-farm communities.



## SOUTHERN REGION - GEORGIA

### Amanda Tedrow – 13



As the UGA Extension Athens-Clarke County ANR Agent, Amanda worked to build her local, state and national reputation in volunteer management and composting education. During her twelve years of service at the county level, she served as the president of the Georgia ANREP Chapter (2013-2014) and vice-president of ANROSP at the national level. She has now moved into the Program Development Coordinator position where she helps Agriculture and Natural Resources agents across Northeast Georgia.

## SOUTHERN REGION - KENTUCKY

### Linda K. McClanahan – 11

Linda is the Mercer County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources. Mercer County is diverse agriculturally with commodities including beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, forages, corn, soybeans and tobacco. Her programs have focused on helping producers maintain or increase profitability. She has developed or co-developed a number of agriculture awareness activities and was instrumental in getting a \$430,000 farmers market multi-purpose community facility built at the fairgrounds.



## SOUTHERN REGION - KENTUCKY

### Glenn Roberts – 21



Glen Roberts serves as the Wayne County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources. Throughout his career, he has focused on a diverse range of programming to better the farmers and residents of Wayne County, including a fall garden project for the local schools, where produce harvested by students is utilized in school cafeterias. In addition, he initiated a Stewardship Verified Program for beef producers and recruited a poultry feed mill to the local area.

## SOUTHERN REGION - LOUISIANA

### Andre Brock – 11

Mr. Brock began his career as a split Ag Agent / 4-H Agent, a position he held for ten years in West Feliciana Parish, north of Baton Rouge. In 2017, he filled one of the new roles created by the LSU Ag Center as a multi-parish Horticulture Agent. He has worked in this capacity in three parishes west of New Orleans for about two years, working mainly with homeowners and small-acreage fruit and vegetable farmers.



## SOUTHERN REGION - MISSISSIPPI

### James Henderson – 11



James E. Henderson served as a state specialist from 2007 to 2017 with the Mississippi State University Extension in the Department of Forestry. Since 2017 Dr. Henderson has served as the Head of the Coastal Research and Extension Center. He earned his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Louisiana State University, Master's degrees in Business Administration and in Forestry at Mississippi State University, and a Bachelor of Science in Forestry at Louisiana Tech University.

## SOUTHERN REGION - MISSISSIPPI

### Amanda Masholie – 21

Served MSU Extension Service for 21 years as Lawrence County Extension Coordinator (2005) and prior as Lincoln County 4-H Agent. Programming focus is Agriculture, Natural Resources and 4-H. Awarded Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents Outstanding County Director (2012). Past president of Mississippi Association of Extension 4-H Agents and currently the 2nd Vice President for the Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents. B.S. in Animal Science and M.S. in Genetics & Animal Breeding from MSU.



## SOUTHERN REGION - MISSISSIPPI

### Tracy Robertson – 10



Tracy N. Robertson has served as extension agent for 13.5 years primarily in Carroll County. She provides programs in forestry, cattle production, horticulture, agronomy, and wildlife management. She also works with 4-H and local schools helping to bring more science based activities into the classrooms and has had great success with pallet gardening at the schools. She holds her B.S. in Animal Science and M.S. in Extension Education both from Mississippi State University.

## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Mike Carroll – 20

Mike Carroll promotes field crop production through continued evaluation of new management strategies, collaboration on projects, one-on-one consultation, and educational events. His efforts solve problems, develop leadership, foster teamwork and encourage advancement. Over \$300,000 of grant projects, 87 grower meetings, 22 NCSU On-farm test sites, and 18 demonstrations over the past ten years has resulted in savings or additional earned farm income valued between \$3-\$5 million annually.



## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Tiffanee Conrad – 15



Tiffanee Conrad has been the Extension Livestock Agent in Richmond County and before that in Robeson, Hoke, and Scotland Counties for fifteen years. Tiffanee's programs concentrate on animal waste management, forage production, beef cattle, meat goats, horses, ponds, wildlife, and youth livestock. Tiffanee works closely with the Specialized Livestock Advisory Committee to ensure that programs are relevant and responsive to the needs of Richmond County. She helps producers achieve increased profit by adopting new technologies.

## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Seth Nagy – 20

Seth Nagy has a love for North Carolina agriculture and farmers in Caldwell County. As a field crops and livestock agent with County Administrative duties, Seth spends his time in the field helping farmers as well as supporting and leading the County Extension Program. Seth said "I'm proud of the Caldwell Extension Center Team and the work we do with farmers, families, and nutrition education. It's rewarding work. We grow as much as those we help."





## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Paul W. Westfall – 36



A veteran of 36 years of work as a Cooperative Extension Agent, Paul has been a member of NCACAA since 2008. He serves as County Extension Director in Granville and Person Counties, has served as President of NCACAA, and as NACAA Southern Region Vice-Chair for Administrative Skills. His programming areas include livestock and forages. His work with Beef Breeding Soundness Exams since 2009 has had an economic impact of over \$750,000 to producers.

## SOUTHERN REGION - OKLAHOMA

### Brian Freking – 14

Brian began work in May of 2004 and now serves as an area Livestock Specialist. He also serves as the nutritionist in the Oklahoma Forage Buck Test. He's a team member of the Oklahoma Cow/Calf Boot Camps and Goat Boot Camps. Brian has served OAEAA at various leadership roles. He has a BS and MS Degree in Animal Science from SDSU. Brian has been a member for 14 years.



## SOUTHERN REGION - SOUTH CAROLINA

### Jonathan Croft – 12

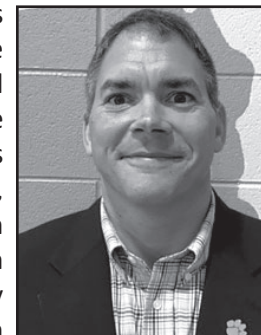


Jonathan is an Agriculture Extension Agent based in Orangeburg County South Carolina. His primary responsibility is conducting programming and working with producers of row crops (corn, cotton, peanuts, and soybeans). He also conducts programs for livestock producers focusing on forage production. Jonathan also helps teach selected topics for Master Gardener trainings in SC and makes appearances on SCETV's award-winning gardening program, Making It Grow.

## SOUTHERN REGION - SOUTH CAROLINA

### Lee Van Vlakte – 13

Lee has been an Area Livestock and Forages Extension Agent with Clemson Extension Service since 2006. Lee is responsible for livestock and forage educational programs for 8 counties in the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina. The programs concentrate on beef cattle, small ruminants, swine, and backyard poultry. He also works with the Confined Animal Manure Manager Program which certifies confined swine, poultry, and dairy operations in proper animal waste application practices.



## SOUTHERN REGION - TENNESSEE

### Adam M. Hopkins – 11



Adam has had direct contact with over 50,000 clients in program areas including 4-H, Agriculture, and Farm and Financial Management. He currently serves a 16 county area assisting producers with business plans, budgeting, and financial analysis. In addition to serving his local area, he has presented at or facilitated many county, region, state, and multistate events. Adam served on the TAA&S executive committee for 6 years and has represented the organization in committees across campus.

## SOUTHERN REGION - TENNESSEE

### J.C. Rains – 14

J.C. has worked as an Adult Agriculture Agent in Bledsoe county since 2005. The major focus is beef and forage production. J.C. conducts Advanced Master Beef Producer Programs at least twice a year in Bledsoe and Hamilton counties. He promotes and assists producers with the Tennessee Agriculture Enhancements program. Bledsoe County producers have been approved for more than 5.6 million in cost-share dollars since 2006. J.C. has served as County Director since August of 2018.





## SOUTHERN REGION - TENNESSEE

### Lena Beth Reynolds – 21



Lena Beth has worked with farmers in four counties, as well as various agencies and organizations, to implement restoration projects and Best Management Practices to improve water quality. Improvement has been documented by outside agencies and companies, with decreases in sediment and E. coli levels. Research included source and sediment tracking. Recent work includes developing a Tennessee 4-H Water Project for 4-H members and piloting activities within McMinn County.

## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Jody Bradford – 33

Jody Bradford has worked for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for 33 years. Jody has served constituents in Wilbarger, Stonewall and Carson County. His dedication to agriculture is evident through programming in cotton, wheat, corn, grain sorghum as well as beef cattle. Jody also has a passion for the 4-H program and knows a strong youth program is vital to compliment Ag programming efforts.



## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Virginia Easton-Smith – 26



Virginia Easton Smith has served as Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent in Aransas County, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, for 9 years, providing programming in water quality, conservation, landscape best practices, tree care and related topics. She spearheads a very active Master Gardener program and also leads the 4-H program in the county, with a wide variety of projects for youth. Prior to moving to Texas, she was an Ag Agent in Hawaii for 17 years.

## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Steve Estes – 17

Steve has served as a County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources for 17 years in Fisher and Jones counties. During his career, he has had the opportunity to work with agricultural producers and industry partners in a wide array of programs, including; cotton, field crops, livestock, wildlife, and economic development. Steve has also shown a dedication to youth through strengthening 4-H programs and providing youth with the skills needed to be successful leaders.



## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Jamie Sugg – 15



Jamie Sugg has served the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for 15 years in Rusk and Nacogdoches Counties, providing educational leadership in beef cattle and forage production, horticulture and wildlife management. Jamie is also heavily involved in the local 4-H program, providing leadership and expertise in livestock projects as well as the state 4-H program where he is heavily involved in the Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador program and Outdoor Challenge.

## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Dr. Brian L. Triplett – 25

Brian Triplett is the County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources in Red River County. In addition to Red River, he has served the residents of Nacogdoches, San Jacinto, Smith, and Bowie Counties during his 25 years career. His major programming areas have included natural resources, beef and forage production, field crops, small scale vegetables and consumer horticulture. Brian is proud of his work with the 4-H program and the Texas 4-H Outdoor Challenge.



## SOUTHERN REGION - VIRGINIA

### Melanie W. Barrow - 18



Environmental and Commercial Horticulture is big business in Henry County/Martinsville. Master Gardeners, Project Learning Tree and Agriculture in the Classroom for youth, along with Horticulture programming are included in Melanie's Extension program. She provides quality Private and Commercial Pesticide Certifications and Recertifications in the county and region. She serves on the Pesticide Program Team becoming Co-chair. Her work ethic and willingness to share her knowledge with her clientele and co-workers has earned her their respect.

## SOUTHERN REGION - VIRGINIA

### Tim Mize – 13

Tim Mize has served as the Agriculture and Natural resource agent in Fauquier County since 2006. His programming has focused on livestock, forages, and youth and fund raising. He is committed to enhancing the viability of livestock production through programs such as Beef 20/20, which addresses upcoming issues and technology, related to the beef and forage industry. He is also active in youth livestock activities such as coaching the judging and stockman's teams.



## WESTERN REGION - COLORADO

### Adrian Card – 15



Adrian Card has worked as an Agricultural and Natural Resources Agent for 15 years. He is responsible for providing educational outreach and technical support to Boulder County staff as well as analyzing data and utilizing new technology. His specialities are in crops production and marketing, beginning farmer development, small farm management, organic production practices, market farms, and sustainable agriculture. Adrian is a wealth of knowledge and is always willing to share his vast expertise.

## WESTERN REGION - IDAHO

### Sarah D Baker – 10

Sarah D. Baker serves as an Associate Extension Professor with the University of Idaho Extension, where she provides programming focusing on livestock, range management and 4-H youth development. She conducts numerous beef cutting demonstrations and educational programming focusing on beef end-product quality and range management for both adults and youth throughout the state and region. Sarah grew up on her family's cattle ranch and is the 6th generation to live and work there.



## WESTERN REGION - MONTANA

### Bruce Smith – 23

Bruce Smith was raised on a diversified farm and ranch in northeastern Montana. Bruce graduated from Montana State University with degrees in Ag Production and Ag Business and earned an MBA from Cal Poly – SLO. He worked eight years managing food manufacturing plants for three different multinational food companies. Bruce became an MSU Extension Agent in 1994 and has been active in value-added agriculture, rural leadership, local food systems, and community and economic development.



## WESTERN REGION - NEW MEXICO

### Steve M. Lucero – 12

Steve Lucero is the County Director of Sandoval County NM and County Agriculture Agent. Steve's youth programming is school enrichment or special interest with an emphasis on agriculture and water resource protection. Steve is a presenter for the NM Youth Ranch Management Camp and a regional livestock school. Adult programming includes livestock reproductive physiology and cattle marketing. These programs are part of the NM Pueblo Beginning Farmer and Rancher Program.



## WESTERN REGION - OREGON

### Dr. Clive Kaiser – 13



Dr. Clive Kaiser's extension programs help move growers towards improved economic and environmental sustainability. He has achieved significant impacts in reducing pesticide usage across the entire Walla Walla watershed. His research efforts have resulted in several US and international patents. He has an outstanding record of service. He has published 25 peer refereed journal articles and 31 peer reviewed publications and raised more than \$1 million in grant funding directly for his own programs.

## WESTERN REGION - UTAH

### Matt Palmer – 19

Matt Palmer is the Sanpete County Extension Director and Extension Agent for Utah State University. He serves as NACAA Sustainable Agriculture Regional Vice Chair and completed the SARE Fellows training. He has obtained external grants totaling \$1.5 million to improve agriculture and 4-H programs. Matt has created the Sustainable Agriculture Education Center, a research and demonstration facility in Sanpete County, and the Sustainable Grazing Institute which teaches the art and science of sustainable grazing practices.



## WESTERN REGION - WASHINGTON

### Linda Chalker-Scott – 15

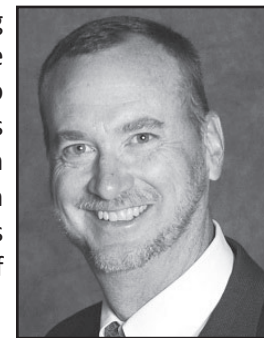


Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott is WSU's Extension Urban Horticulturist, bringing science-based information to gardeners and landscape professionals. She is the award-winning author of five books, including the latest edition of Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest. She is featured in The Science of Gardening video series produced by The Great Courses, and was the first recipient of the Cynthia Westcott Scientific Writing Award from the Association for Garden Communicators.

## WESTERN REGION - WYOMING

### Jeff M. Edwards – 10

Jeff Edwards is the Pesticide Applicator Training Coordinator and a Small Acre/Horticulture Educator for the state of Wyoming. In addition to pesticide use education, Jeff's programming areas include production of small fruit in the western Great Plains and how to economically build high tunnels from locally available materials. Jeff is a past president of the Wyoming Association of County Agriculture Agents (WACAA).



## NACAA Hall of Fame Award

The NACAA Recognition and Awards Committee is proud to present these four recipients with the NACAA Hall of Fame Award. The Hall of Fame Award recognizes one member or life member from each NACAA region. Each state can nominate one individual. Based on a 500 word summary and three letters of support, the state nominees are evaluated on their Extension programming, state and national association activities and humanitarian efforts beyond the normal call of duty.

## Our thanks to Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance for sponsorship of the NACAA Hall of Fame Awards



2019

North Central Region  
Hall of Fame Award

**Bradley T. Brummond**

North Dakota  
36 Years

Brad began working with North Dakota State University Extension Service in 1982 as an assistant county agent in Trail County. His early career focused on strengthening 4-H programming with an emphasis on developing judging teams. As a county agent in Hettinger and Walsh Counties he conducted extensive programming in crop marketing





and crop scouting. Early in his career Brad began providing quality education for clientele concerning non-conventional agriculture practices with a focus on no-till farming. He continues to lead the fight against pest resistance focusing on resistance in Colorado potato beetles, cercospora in sugarbeets, and weeds. He remains hands-on with 4-H programming strengthening local 4-H efforts through judging teams and youth leadership. Brad has been heavily involved with underserved audiences throughout his career and is best known for his work with organic and sustainable agriculture programming in North Dakota. Since the late eighties, he has taken the lead as NDSU Extension's liaison in organic programming. Working directly with organic producers he helped build North Dakota's organic industry into a viable production system. Through 2015 he served as the chair for the North Dakota Department of Agriculture Organic Advisory Council serving through both Democratic and Republican Commissioners of Agriculture. Through his work with sustainable agriculture Brad became more directly involved with the native nations of North and South Dakota and the agricultural challenges they face. In 2009 he began serving on the North Central Regions Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE) Circle of Sustainability outreach. For his work and impact on sustainability in the region he was honored as a North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture and Research Hero. Brad has been a member of NACAA since 1982. He served as President of the North Dakota Association Extension Agents in 2004. In 2004 to 2010 he served as a National Chair of the Search for Excellence Committee and in 2011 was elected North Central Region Director and Vice Director. He served on the original Futuring Committee. In serving as a regional director his passion for diversity was demonstrated in expanded outreach efforts to the 1890 and 1994 land grant universities. Diversity of religion and culture played important roles in his leadership. Brad is the recipient of numerous awards, including the NACAA Achievement Award, Distinguished Service Award and NDSU's diversity award. Brad is active in various community affairs serving on the Park River Area School Board; North Valley Career and Vocational Center Board (chair); Walsh County Arena Commission (president) fighting to keep affordable winter activities available to rural youth; religious educator and lector with St. Mary's Catholic Church; and 4-H volunteer coach for crop and land judging teams. He is an active member of the Sons of the American Legion and Knights of Columbus. He continues to work with low income Latino families within the migrant school system educating on sustainable horticulture practices.

DSA awarded in 2008.

**2019  
Northeast Region  
Hall of Fame Award  
James E. Welshans  
Pennsylvania  
36 Years - Retired**



James E. Welshans' Extension career began in 1969 in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania as the 4-H Coordinator. Jim's ability to have major subject matter changes with new clientele added to his 41-year career. Jim's extension philosophy did not change during his tenure; Clients' needs come first.

In 1984, Jim was appointed County Extension Director of Dauphin County. The position included working with the commercial horticulture community. The CED's goal was to upgrade and expand Extension in Dauphin County. In 1988, Extension moved to the Dauphin County Agriculture Center. This enabled the office to expand by two agricultural agents, one family living agent and two support staff. The Extension program expanded quickly to become one of the top in the state, under Jim's leadership.

In 1986, Jim was contacted by several Amish farmers interested in diversifying their livestock operations to be sustainable in the future. After reviewing several options, vegetable production was the best choice. Visits were made to local markets in Dauphin County, Philadelphia, New York City, and Baltimore. In the first year, the small Dauphin County co-op had seven producers. Tomato grading at the co-op averaged 70% market production. The remaining 30% was provided to food banks, shelters, and local communities. By year three, the number of producers doubled. They also started growing peppers, hand-picked green beans and expanded to processing onions for a local fresh food packaging plant. The processing operation quickly outgrew its original facility. A new processing plant was built and, within 2 years, became the largest onion processor on the east coast, supplying major pizza and fast food companies.

Jim was appointed to Turfgrass Specialist in 1994, covering 9 counties. His responsibility was to develop a program for anyone who worked, managed, or built sports fields. The Keystone Athletic Field Manager Organization was formed. The members were field managers for major & minor leagues, universities, schools, and municipalities. This group of 33 was the core that led a state-wide educational program. Today's membership is 357. Jim became known as "Jim, the Turf Guy". He established turfgrass variety plots at the Penn State Research Center to be used for educational purposes as well as the Capital Area Turf and Horticulture School. These educational classes average over 400 participants each year.

Jim attended his first AM/PIC in 1973 in Baltimore, MD with his county 4-H Jug Band performing in the 4-H Talent Revue. He served as chair for the AM/PIC Annual Awards Banquet in Hershey, PA (1985), and New Brunswick, NJ (1989). He was the NACAA Northeast Director from 1998-1999. Jim also served his state association as president and chair of several committees.

Jim's international service includes two assignments to the Kingdom of Swaziland, helping to establish an extension system. He assisted and lectured to agricultural professionals in Zimbabwe and served as an advisor for a student work study in Puerto Rico.

Jim currently volunteers for the Urban Youth Gardening Program and drives the van for the Elder Express of Hummelstown, providing free transportation to those in need.

DSA awarded in 1993.



**2019  
Southern Region  
Hall of Fame Award  
John C. Campbell  
Tennessee  
35 Years - Retired**



John Campbell positively impacted numerous farm families, 4-Hers, colleagues, stakeholders and community members at the local, state and national levels during his 35 year Extension career and in retirement. John's commitment to quality Extension work, association involvement and community service has been a model to others.

For 27 years, John served 9 counties as an Area Farm Management Specialist. He assisted producers with more than 1,200 farm financial management plans and management and marketing decisions, taught more than 300 educational sessions, authored a Web site and newsletters, and produced a monthly milk outlook. For 20 years, John summarized a comparison of feeder cattle tele-auction to weekly auction markets income. John coordinated development of a workshop curriculum for small farmers that has been used statewide. John was the lead author on a goat meat budget publication with accompanying spreadsheets and led a team in developing and teaching management and marketing for the state's Master Goat Producer Program. John began his career as a 4-H agent where he successfully increased local sponsorship and participation at the county, district and state levels.

John has been a dedicated, hard-working member of the state and national associations. He attended 35 of 36 state annual meetings held prior to his retirement. He completed a special assignment as policy advisor to the state board, creating a valuable, detailed document outlining the policies adopted over time. He served as state secretary and district and region secretary/treasurer. John's efforts were recognized with the District Agent-of-Year in Youth and Adult Work Award, District Outstanding Young Agent Award and the TAAA&S/Hicks Award of Excellence.

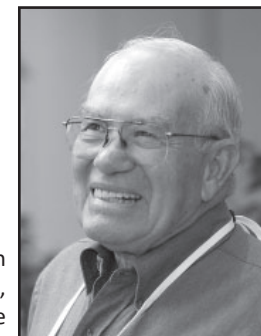
John has attended 29 NACAA AM/PICs. John and his wife, Sarah, served on the Life Member Planning Committee for the 2018 AM/PIC and showed their generosity through a \$5,000 sponsorship. John served as state chair, region vice-chair, and national chair of the Extension Programs Committee and the Program Recognition Council Chair. He was recognized as National Finalist and Winner in Farm and Ranch Management, National Winner in Young, Beginning or Small Farmers and Ranchers, Regional Finalist and National Finalist in Communications. He participated in the Poster Session, attended the Dow Study Tour and Livestock Hedging Seminars and is a \$1,000 donor to the NACAA Scholarship Foundation.

John has also served as a community leader. A Lion member for 40 years, John has held most offices, chaired the committee for the club's 75th anniversary celebration and served for two years as the District Newsletter Editor. He has chaired and served on many

committees in his church, including the building committee for a \$1 million project, taught Sunday School and served as a leader for youth mission trips. John has also been an active supporter of his fraternity's alumni organization serving as treasurer and director of development. He served as a director for the Middle Tennessee State University Agricultural Alumni and as a 4-H volunteer leader. In retirement, John has volunteered for the Maury County Fair, Volunteers in Tax Assistance, Medicare counseling, and the Marshall County Agriculture Appreciation Breakfast.

DSA awarded in 1997.

**2019  
Western Region  
Hall of Fame Award  
Dave Mcmanus  
Colorado - Retired**



Dave McManus began his extension career in 1967 as an assistant extension agent in El Paso County (Colorado Springs, Colorado) where he served for two years there before transferring to Gunnison County, Colorado to serve as the "Agent in Charge" in 1969.

Gunnison, Colorado, is a picturesque mountain community that often "competes" as the icebox of the United States during the long winter months. It is not unusual for temperatures to hover below zero for weeks at a time, even though the sun is shining brightly. It takes a special person to be a successful agent in such a place.

Dave was a valuable resource for 4-H members, leaders and extension agents across the state in the horse project area. He served as the National Western Stock Show Horse Show Superintendent from 1969 to 2000. Later in his career he served as the Colorado State Fair Horse Show Assistant Superintendent from 1987 until 2003. Whenever an agent had questions regarding horse show rule clarification or just needed to vent about a horse parent, Dave was a calm, understanding voice on the other end of the telephone.

During his time in Gunnison, Dave expanded his involvement in NACAA. He received the Achievement Award in 1977, and the Distinguished Service Award in 1981. He served in many state leadership positions in the Colorado County Agent's Association during this time.

In 1982, an opportunity opened-up to serve as an area extension agent about 100 miles west of Gunnison as the 4-H Youth and Agriculture extension agent for a three-county region in Western Colorado, serving Montrose, Grand Junction and Delta, known as the Tri-River area. Dave's leadership in the Horse project area continued throughout his tenure in the Tri-River area up until his retirement in 2003 (and for a few years after his retirement as a valued county fair judge). His skill working with groups of people and with youth was well-known. Dave remained in this role until his retirement in 2003.

He also expanded his leadership roles with NACAA after moving to Montrose. First, he served as the AM/PIC chair for the NACAA national meeting held in Colorado Springs, then only time Colorado has hosted this valued meeting. He served as the national Extension Programs Committee chair in 1995-1997. He also served as the first Extension Development Council Chair upon its inception in 1997-1998. In 1998, Dave was elected as the NACAA Vice-President. His national leadership experience culminated as NACAA President in 2000 at the AM/PIC held in Albuquerque, NM.

He has continued to be an active member of NACAA since serving as a national officer and after his retirement. He was a valued member of the NACAA Educational Foundation Board of Trustees for five years after retirement, and has served the Western Region as a Life Member Vice-Chair as recently as 2012-2014. This year, Dave is attending his 35th AMPIC, often with his wife Kathy also participating. His children were also often active in the Sons and Daughters activities throughout the years.

DSA Awarded in 1981.



**2019**

## **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD HONOREES**

It is with great pride that the Recognition and Awards Committee of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents salutes the Achievement Award Honorees for 2019. The recipients of this award have less than ten years of service in the Cooperative Extension Service. They have been selected by their peers and are being recognized for excellence in their field of professionalism. Each state can select up to two percent of their association's membership for this award. The year's sixty-six recipients join 2,238 Achievement Award winners who have been recognized since this program began.

Please share the pride of the Recognition and Awards Committee by noting the accomplishments of each honoree as indicated by her or his citation. NACAA is exceptionally pleased to recognize their achievements.

### **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

### **BREAKFAST AND PROGRAM SPONSOR**



**P.O. Box 50158**

**Indianapolis, IN 46250**

**(317) 849-5545 | (800) 849-4820**

# ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS RECOGNITION BREAKFAST

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

## MENU

- Scrambled eggs
- Applewood Bacon
- Deluxe Breakfast Potatoes
- Baskets of miniature pastries

## PROGRAM

- Welcome ..... Joni Ross Harper  
Chair, NACAA Recognition & Awards Committee
- Thought of the Day..... Donna Cuin Hoffman  
Western Region Committee Vice Chair
- Introductions ..... Joni Ross Harper
- Remarks .....Erin Bain  
American Income Life Insurance Company
- Presentation of Awards .....Joni Ross Harper  
(Assisted by Vice Chairs; President Richard Fechter and Erin Bain)

# County Agents Receiving the Achievement Award From The National Association of County Agricultural Agents 2019

Winners are listed below by regions, state and year of service.

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION - ILLINOIS

**Andrew Holsinger, Jr. – 7**



Andrew Holsinger is a Horticulture Extension Educator for University of Illinois Extension. Andrew provides horticultural education for novice and experienced gardeners of all ages, including programs designed to meet the needs of residents and organizations, or encourage experimentation with new practices. Andrew obtained his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Plant and Soil Science from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Andrew offers expertise in pruning techniques, plant identification, tree fruit culture and using technological methods for teaching.

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION - INDIANA

**Robert Kelly – 6**

Robert Kelly has been an Extension Educator in Ag and Natural Resources and 4-H Youth Development for 6 years in Elkhart County. His programing focuses on Animal Science for both adults and youth, STEM and volunteer development. He is a planning team member for the Indiana 4-H Dairy Youth academy and has served as the co-chair of the Animal Science's Small ruminant focus group. Robert is a graduate of Morehead State University in Kentucky.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - INDIANA**

**Elysia Rodgers – 9**



Elysia has served as the ANR Educator for DeKalb County, Indiana for the past 9 years. Her Extension efforts include multiple programs addressing the various needs of small and large farmers along with homeowners. She assists with forage questions and talks across the State. Elysia is a valued member of her county's Plan Commission and active in agriculture awareness education. Additionally, she serves on the ANR Advisory Team and the Indiana Forage Council.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - IOWA**

**Kraig J Tweed – 5**

He grew up on a diversified small grain and cattle farm in North Dakota. He started with Extension by serving on the local county Extension Council in rural Iowa. As a Regional Director his dedicated leadership during stressful times of staff turnover, program transition and difficult financial times is highly beneficial to the counties and citizens he serves. He believes that ISU Extension and Outreach must be available and accessible to all citizens.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - KANSAS**

**Jenni Carr – 7**



Jenni Carr serves Harper County Kansas as an Agriculture & Natural Resources agent. She helps producers with crop, livestock, and horticulture problems and projects. Her main focus the past two years has been to demonstrate the value of alternative forage crops for year round grazing in a primarily wheat production environment. Jenni also organizes the local Extension Master Gardener program, helps local organizations with community development activities and shares responsibilities for the 4-H program.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - KANSAS**

**Chris Long – 9**

Chris Long is an Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent and Director in the Walnut Creek Extension District. His primary programming focus is in agronomy and horticulture. Along with providing programming efforts, Chris has taken part in the North Central Region Cropping Systems Academy, helping to produce educational materials used in Ag Technology, such as the use of apps in agriculture. Chris has also provided youth safety training as a licensed instructor for ASI's ATV RiderCourse.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - MICHIGAN**

**Ben Werling – 6**



Ben Werling has served as West Central Michigan's Vegetable Extension Educator with Michigan State University Extension for the past 6 years. Ben provides leadership in a region that includes national leaders in production of diverse vegetables, from asparagus to zucchini. Farmers and the industry benefit from his efforts.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - MINNESOTA**

**Sarah Schieck – 6**

Sarah joined University of Minnesota Extension in 2013 as a Swine Educator. She provides programming for Pork Quality Assurance and Transport Quality Assurance certification, PorkBridge and SowBridge distant education programs, biosecurity, other pork management topics and Women in Ag Network. Sarah delivers programs traditionally via workshops, teleconference, and written content as well as through videos and podcasts to reach a broader audience. Sarah currently serves as Secretary of the Minnesota Association of Extension Ag Professionals.





## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - MISSOURI**

**Kate Kammler – 9**



Kate Kammler is a Horticulture Field Specialist in Horticulture in Missouri. She enjoys teaching consumer and commercial horticulture. She specializes in vegetable and fruit production. Extension provides Kate with the opportunity to learn something new every day, with interesting questions on plants, bugs, soils and plant diseases that come into the office. She is currently serving as president of Missouri Agricultural Extension Professionals and appreciates the professional development opportunities that MAEP and NACAA provide.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NEBRASKA**

**Nicole Stoner – 8**

Nicole is an Extension Educator serving 11 counties in Southeast Nebraska, answering nearly 1,000 questions annually. As an ISA Certified Arborist, her programs cover tree care, insects, and plant management. She hosts a seasonal, Q&A radio show with 4,500 listeners weekly. Nicole manages 56 Master Gardeners volunteering 1,764 hours. Nicole is Unit Leader for Gage County, co-leader for Nebraska Water website and manages a blog followed by 76 people and viewed 8,700 times in 2018.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - NORTH DAKOTA**

**Lindy Berg – 4**



Lindy has served four years as the Towner County ANR Extension Educator. Lindy has co-developed programming for farm stress management, palmer amaranth awareness, and assisted in creating the first annual Women on the Farm Workshop. She has hands-on demonstration work in flax and soil health, restoring saline/sodic areas, and is striving to increase educational resources and new programming for small and beginning farmers. Her programming focuses on general agronomy, soil health, and horticulture.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - OHIO**

**Amanda Bennett – 3**

Amanda has been the Agriculture and Natural Resource Educator in Miami County for four years. The diversity of her county clientele allow her to provide educational programming in agronomic production, farm management, home horticulture, pollinator protection and management. Bennett served as Ohio JCEP Professional Development Chair and is an active member of many state-wide teams including: Agronomic Crops, New and Small Farms, Ohio Ag Managers, eFields, and the C.O.R.N. Newsletter Evaluation Committee.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - OHIO**

**Jason M. Hartschuh – 6**



Jason has been with OSU Extension since 2012 serving a diverse group of clientele specializing in agronomy and dairy. Jason is a certified crop advisor. He also works with dairy and beef producers on profitably raising young stock. He strives to make sure anyone who walk into his office leaves with a plan to help solve their problem from a bug in the flowers to farm budgets at won't stay positive.

## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - SOUTH DAKOTA**

**Amanda Bachmann – 6**

Amanda Bachmann is the Pesticide Education and Urban Entomology Field Specialist for SDSU Extension. She has a PhD in Entomology from Penn State. Her responsibilities include providing pesticide safety education and training for commercial and private applicators in South Dakota. As an urban entomologist, she works not only with the 'traditional' urban pests like bed bugs and mosquitos but also urban pollinators and other beneficial insects. She is currently the president of SDAAEP.



## **NORTH CENTRAL REGION - WISCONSIN**

### **Sarah Mills-Lloyd, DVM – 5**



Sarah Mills-Lloyd has been the University of Wisconsin-Extension Oconto County Agriculture Agent specializing in dairy and livestock since 2013. Her programming focuses on animal health and well-being, and farm financial health and management. She strives to incorporate new innovative technologies with university-based research to provide educational and outreach efforts for producers. Sarah is currently serving as the Wisconsin Early Career Development State Chair, and the North Central Region Early Career Development Vice Chair.

## **NORTHEAST REGION - MAINE**

### **Colt Knight – 2**

Colt has served as the state livestock specialist and assistant extension professor for 2 years. During that time, he has created educational programming for poultry, small ruminants, swine, and beef cattle, authored newsletters, advises industry leaders, and published peer-reviewed journals related to his applied research. In addition, Colt formed/manages the Grazing Behavior Lab on campus. He helped create GPSCows, a program that educates rural youth about precision ag.



## **NORTHEAST REGION - MARYLAND**

### **Andrew Kness – 3**



Andrew joined the University of Maryland in 2016 as a County Agriculture Agent with program areas in agronomy, plant pathology, vegetable production, pasture management and beef production and conducts an applied research program in plant pathology. Andrew also helped develop the statewide Maryland Beef Producer's Short Course. He serves as Editor of his County Agriculture Newsletter, the statewide Agronomy News newsletter and blog, and the Maryland Beef blog.

## **NORTHEAST REGION - NEW HAMPSHIRE**

### **Elaina Enzien – 3**

Elaina's work in extension focuses on providing innovative, hands-on programming in small scale livestock production and grazing management to commercial and backyard livestock producers in New Hampshire. Elaina integrates the holistic management framework into her work to help farmers make effective decisions that move them towards their desired goals. Additionally, as a state facilitator for Annie's Project, she has played an essential role in the expansion of exceptional programming for women farmers throughout the state.



## **NORTHEAST REGION - NEW JERSEY**

### **Salvatore Mangiafico – 9**

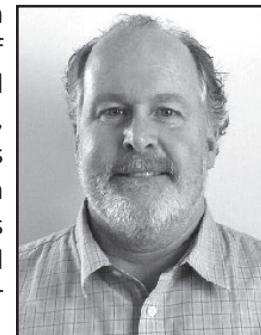


Sal has excelled in developing programs focusing on water pollution prevention and water conservation, delivering extension presentations to more than 3,500 clientele. He has developed three undergraduate courses, teaching over 250 students. He is co-editor of a book, *Water, Root Media, and Nutrient Management for Greenhouse Crops*, published by University of California ANR Press, and co-author of three chapters in the book. He is also co-editor of *The Green Knight*, an environmentally-focused newsletter detailing natural resource issues throughout NJ.

## **NORTHEAST REGION - NEW YORK**

### **Richard Toebe – 9**

Rich Toebe began his extension career in Wisconsin and then joined Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County. He energetically implemented a calf and heifer growth study on dairy farms, measuring more than 1500 calves and heifers on over 20 different farms and produced custom growth curves for each farm. One of his passions is helping farmers successfully adopt managed grazing. Rich has worked in Delaware County for three years, but has quickly made an impact.



## NORTHEAST REGION - PENNSYLVANIA

### Elizabeth Bosak – 3

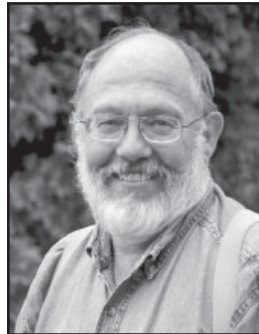


Liz Bosak joined Penn State Extension as an Extension Educator in August 2015. She provides programming in pesticide education, field crop production, and organic grain production and conducts on-farm research for field and forage crop farmers in Dauphin and Perry Counties.

## NORTHEAST REGION - WEST VIRGINIA

### Chuck Talbott – 9

WVU Extension Agent Chuck Talbott believes that the hope for food security in our communities will rely on getting our youth excited about agriculture. After five years of teaching students (currently >2,200) how to grow their own food, harvest it safely, taste it (many for their first time), sell it (>\$4000) to the BOE and consume it fresh in their school cafeterias.....Talbott is convinced that a garden-based learning curriculum should be in all WV elementary schools.



## SOUTHERN REGION - ALABAMA

### Kevin S. Burkett – 3



Completing his third year as a Regional Extension Agent, Kevin has displayed a unique list of skills and accomplishments. Having a background in marketing and financial management, Kevin has used that in his role to help Alabama producers. Major accomplishments include a \$27,000 grant project to conduct fruit and vegetable marketing workshops in the Blackbelt region and publications, meetings, and networking to promote farm financial management across Alabama.

## SOUTHERN REGION - ALABAMA

### Lucy E. Edwards – 5

Serving six counties in Southeast Alabama, she delivers programming in home horticulture. Her passion for horticulture and youth is evident through her work with school gardens, Junior Master Gardener program and summer gardening programs for the Boys and Girls Clubs. Additionally, she works closely with local Master Gardener associations, Southeast Alabama Community Action Partnership, and the Dothan Area Botanical Gardens.



## SOUTHERN REGION - ALABAMA

### Kelly R. Palmer – 3



As a Regional Extension Agent on the Animal Science and Forages team, Kelly serves eight counties in Southwest Alabama. She began her career with Auburn as a research assistant and graduate student in the Department of Entomology focusing on fire ant management. She continues to provide fire ant programming across Alabama and serves as a leader of the eXtension Imported Fire Ant CoP. Through SSARE, she's creating regional cattle IPM manuals and training materials.

## SOUTHERN REGION - ARKANSAS

### Terrell Davis – 3

Terrell Davis has served as the County Extension Agent in Pike County, AR for the past 3 years. Terrell's agricultural responsibilities include education in animal science, home horticulture, and forestry. He utilizes field demonstrations in forage production to educate producers about best management practices. Terrell conducts educational programming in 4-H animal science, shooting sports, and horticulture. He is known for his use of technology and social media as a platform to educate his clientele.





## SOUTHERN REGION - ARKANSAS

### Matt Fryer – 3



Matt Fryer served as county extension agent in Crawford County, AR for almost 3 years. His responsibilities included agriculture and 4-H. Matt predominantly conducted demonstrations in soybeans, corn, and forages focusing on soil fertility, weed control, and economically sound production. In January, Matt accepted a new position within Extension as a soil science instructor to support county agents across the state in the area of soil fertility and soil health.

## SOUTHERN REGION - ARKANSAS

### Brett Gordon – 5

Brett Gordon started his Extension career in 2013 as an Extension Agent in White County. Brett currently serves as Extension Agent–Agriculture in Woodruff County. He has conducted educational programs in crop production, irrigation efficiency, and pest management. Brett has utilized on-farm demonstrations as a major component of his educational programming. He has conducted numerous agriculture awareness programs for 4-H and youth clientele. Brett and his wife Meredith, have two children, Naomi and John River.



## SOUTHERN REGION - FLORIDA

### Laurie Hurner – 5



Laurie Hurner is a legacy extension agent in Highlands County Florida. Her father was the County Extension Director/Citrus Agent in Highlands County for over 30 years. Ms. Hurner's program areas include: leadership & administration, Citrus Production & Management, Ag Employee Safety & Regulatory Compliance and Community Engagement & Development. Ms. Hurner has served FACAA as district director, abstract judge, Administrative Liaison committee member, Administrative Skills committee chair and Educational Foundation Committee Chair.

## SOUTHERN REGION - FLORIDA

### Matthew J. Orwat – 7

Matt Orwat is passionate about sharing horticultural knowledge. He is co-editor for Gardening in the Panhandle electronic newsletter producing 49 issues annually, serving 3,400 subscribers. His extension programs are comprehensive and focused on commercial horticulture and homeowner horticulture. Professionally he has presented at one national and eight state association meetings. He serves as an affiliate faculty member for the Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology (CLCE). Matt's honors include 14 different team awards.



## SOUTHERN REGION - FLORIDA

### Nicole D. Pinson – 7



Nicole Pinson is the Urban Horticulture Agent for the UF/IFAS Extension Hillsborough County. Her programs focus on integrated pest management, soil testing, and water conservation. She enhances Extension programs with more than 100 motivated and trained volunteers. Nicole teaches youth about horticulture and pollinators, and she mentors high school students through one-on-one work experience. Nicole is active in supporting her professional associations and has won awards for her Extension work.

## SOUTHERN REGION - GEORGIA

### Joel Burnsed – 6

Joel Burnsed has worked as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent and County Coordinator for the University of Georgia since 2013. His programming focuses on urban homeowner issues, development of the Walton County Master Gardener program, and livestock management. Joel received the 2018 GACAA Young Professional Award and has been recognized for his efforts in research trials on horn fly suppression in beef cattle which has been published in state and regional publications.





## SOUTHERN REGION - GEORGIA

### Jason Edenfield – 9



Jason Edenfield is the County Extension Agent for Toombs County Georgia. During his career, his main research priority is the world famous Vidalia Onion. Jason has contributed to these trials a chief investigator. The results of these trials have been shared with producers through presentations, posters, journal articles, and extension publications. These projects have shown producers that UGA Extension is the best source of non-biased research based information on Vidalia Onion production.

## SOUTHERN REGION - KENTUCKY

### Chelsey Anderson – 5

As the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent in Cumberland County, Chelsey has offered a wide variety of programming since 2014. From farmer's markets, home horticulture, and master gardeners, to livestock production, forage management, and forestry. She has also recently started a Jr. Master Gardener program with the county Family and Consumer Science Agent and the SNAP-ED assistant. It is Chelsey's goal to educate and engage local producers and the youth of the community through researched-based resources.



## SOUTHERN REGION - KENTUCKY

### Levi Berg – 5



Being community service minded, Levi Berg is currently serving on or acting as an advisor to twelve different agricultural or community-centered boards such as cattlemen's, youth livestock, Chamber of Commerce, and emergency management. In addition to being a county advocate, Levi has emphasized on providing research-based education about livestock production, forage management, direct marketing, and soil conservation best management practices. Through community engagement and education, Levi has become a pillar for Henry County Agricultural producers.

## SOUTHERN REGION - KENTUCKY

### Lindie Huffman – 6

Pendleton County Extension Agent, Lindie Huffman, has developed educational programming as diverse as the county she serves. Entrepreneurial development, agricultural diversification, and community development are intertwined throughout her programs. From aquaculture to beef cattle; added-value product development to tobacco production. Supporting the restructuring and growth of the local farmers market to fill voids in the local food economy and provide farmers and artisans with a market for local goods is one of her flourishing achievements.



## SOUTHERN REGION - LOUISIANA

### Mark Carriere – 8



Mark began his career with the LSU AgCenter as a 4-H Agent in May of 2010. He has a bachelor's degree in animal sciences with a minor in Agricultural Business and a master's degree in Youth Development. He is married to his beautiful wife Karen and they have three children, Grant, Avery, and Karli. Mark as recently completed his specialization in Agronomy and has become the County Agent in Pointe Coupee working with agronomic crops.

## SOUTHERN REGION - MISSISSIPPI

### Jason R Barrett – 4

Dr. Jason R. Barrett resides in Starkville, MS where he began his Mississippi State University Extension career as a graduate assistant in the Food and Fiber Center and is currently an Assistant Extension Professor in the Center for Government and Community Development. He specializes in public utilities (water and wastewater), private well education and screening, and leading the Mississippi Well Owner Network. Research interests include the finance and economic development factors associated with public utilities.



## SOUTHERN REGION - MISSISSIPPI

### Suzanne Marie Rogers – 6



Marie Rogers is an Itawamba County Extension Agent with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. Her responsibilities include agriculture, natural resources, 4-H and economic development. Marie is a graduate from the University of Southern Mississippi with a degree in Biology and from Mississippi State University with a Master's in Agriculture and Extension Education. She and her husband, Joe, live on their farm with their children, Bo, Clara Beth, and Jack Henry.

## SOUTHERN REGION - MISSISSIPPI

### Christian Stephenson – 6

Christian Stephenson serves as agriculture and natural resources extension agent in Hancock County with MSU Extension for the past seven years. He received M.S. degrees in Entomology and Plant Pathology from Mississippi State University, and recently completed his Ph.D. in Horticulture also from MSU. Christian's work in Hancock County is primarily focused on small-scale producers and home horticulture. He also works with adult and youth volunteers on several community gardens within the county.



## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Erin R. Eure – 6



Erin Eure began her Extension career as a Commercial Horticulture and Forestry Agent covering 3 counties, and now serves as Area Specialized Agent in Commercial Fruit and Vegetable Production, spanning 35 counties. One of the impacts she is most proud of is seeing growers she works with one-on-one improve their IPM practices in ways that have ultimately increased farm income. Erin frequently partners with agents, specialists and industry to achieve local, regional and multi-state impacts.

## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Lauren Langley – 8

Lauren Langley began her career with North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service in February of 2011. As the Livestock Extension Agent in Alamance County she has successfully created a well-rounded livestock and forages program for producers and youth alike. Programming includes collaborative regional producer events, youth livestock, Beef Quality Assurance, and pasture management. Lauren provides excellent customer service to the livestock community and shows that same passion for service in broader leadership and community roles.



## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Matt Lenhardt – 8



Matt Lenhardt has been an Extension educator for NC Cooperative Extension in Iredell County for the past three years. He was also with University of Florida Extension for 5 years prior to his arrival in North Carolina. While in Extension he has developed and delivered programming for small farmers, green industry personnel, and residential clientele. Matt graduated from Clemson University with a BS in Horticulture, and earned his MAL from the University of Georgia.

## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Mac Malloy – 8

Intensive management of small grains has not been a traditional focus for producers in Robeson County. However, Mac focused on a Regional Small Grain Field Day which has included 24 on-farm research trials over a five-year period (2013-2017) assisting 271 producers to improve management decisions in wheat that has resulted in increased yields, profits, and feed supplies to support the local poultry and hog industry in southeastern N.C.



## SOUTHERN REGION - NORTH CAROLINA

### Jessica Strickland – 9



Jessica Strickland is a horticulture agent for North Carolina Cooperative Extension in Wayne County with responsibilities in consumer and commercial horticulture. Extension is in Jessica's blood as she grew up with her father being an agriculture agent. She is passionate about sharing how local residents can benefit from Extension programs. She is seen by her clientele and coworkers as one who is willing to share and help others meet their needs.

## SOUTHERN REGION - OKLAHOMA

### Walter White – 7

As the Craig County educator Walter has offered agriculture programming such as Master Cattlemen's classes, Northeast Oklahoma Crops Conference and Dicamba Training. He works with and assists the Craig-Ottawa Counties Cattlemen's Association with their annual meeting and Select Heifer Sale. He along with the educators in the area, he assists with annual REC Day. Walter works closely with the area FSA and NRCS offices and with TSF and OYE sheep committee. He has helped with the State Poultry Judging contest by taking reasons.



## SOUTHERN REGION - SOUTH CAROLINA

### Kim Counts Morganello – 7



Kim Morganello is a Water Resource Extension Agent in Charleston County, South Carolina. Kim assists communities with implementation of education strategies to reduce pollution in stormwater runoff. She works with commercial, technical, residential and youth audiences to promote watershed stewardship with focus on landscape-level best management practices. Kim coordinates the statewide certification program, Master Rain Gardener, and serves as an instructor for Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, Master Pond Manager and Post Construction BMP Inspector.

## SOUTHERN REGION - SOUTH CAROLINA

### Zack Snipes – 5

Zack is an area horticulture agent in the coastal counties of South Carolina that works closely with both large scale commercial farms and small, niche, specialty growers. He can be found in the field on most days working with farmers on integrated pest management and variety trials. His work has saved farmers hundreds of thousands of dollars, improved environmental and economic sustainability, and helped develop emerging farmers.



## SOUTHERN REGION - TENNESSEE

### Matthew Deist – 3



Over the last four years in a split appointment, 61 clientele in Marion County have been certified Advanced Master Beef Producers, nearly 100 obtained their Beef Quality Assurance Certification, and 43 received cost-share from the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program totaling \$425,500. In this same time, the Friday Feed newsletter, which informs clientele of agricultural happenings, has grown to reach 90 clientele weekly, a farmers market has been reestablished and community garden plans are in motion.

## SOUTHERN REGION - TENNESSEE

### Thomas Greenlee – 5

Thomas has responsibilities in both Agriculture and 4-H. In 2018, thirty-one individuals completed the Advanced Master Beef Course and seven are now utilizing reproductive management through artificial insemination to shorten calving seasons and better manage calf crops. Thomas also completed a Small Scale Orchard Short Course where individuals learned about orchard management topics such as grafting, spray schedules and financial considerations.





## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Robert Ferguson – 6



Robert Ferguson started his career as the County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Nature Resources and now possesses the same role in Coryell County since 2016. He received his B.S. degree from Tarleton State University and her M.S. degree from Texas A&M University – Kingsville. Robert's programs target Beef Cattle, Small/New Acreage landowners, Horticulture, Crops, Science of Agriculture, and Livestock Projects. He utilizes numerous volunteer groups and committees that aide in program development and organization.

## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Roy Flora – 4

The 2018 Liberty County Ag & Natural Resources Educational Program endeavors under the direction and leadership of Roy Flora, Liberty County CEA-ANR, were structured, informative, and productive. With input from the various ANR PAC's, successful educational programs were offered to cover the interests of Liberty County residents including beef production, gardening, natural resources, and conservation. Liberty County education included both local and multi-county educational programs with five area counties.



## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Bobby McCool – 6



Bobby has served San Patricio County for the past six years as the Ag and Natural Resource Agent. Row crop profitability has and will continue to be the major programming effort with emphasis on grain sorghum and cotton best management practices, weed management, crop management, and variety trials. Bobby was instrumental in establishing the Coastal Bend Grain Storage and Handlers Safety Conference, and the San Patricio County Community Garden .

## SOUTHERN REGION - TEXAS

### Gary Roschetzky – 6

Gary Roschetzky, has served as the Agricultural and Natural Resource agent for Dawson County since 2012. He has received recognition for his superior leadership through the Early Career Agents Recognition Award (2015), Making a Difference Award (2018) and Superior Service Award for the North Region Cotton Resistant Weed Management Team. He currently oversees the agricultural committee, adult 4-H committee, youth leadership committee and 100% of 4-H clubs in Dawson County.



## SOUTHERN REGION - VIRGINIA

### Theresa Pittman – 7



Theresa is the Agricultural & Natural Resources Agent in Accomack County on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Throughout her years of service, she has worked with local organizations, businesses and stakeholders to offer programming in the areas of food safety, crops, pesticide education, water quality, soils and vegetables. Theresa's multi-faceted programming includes research, youth programming, and working cooperatively with other agents and specialists. She is committed to sharing university knowledge in order to improve lives.

## SOUTHERN REGION - VIRGINIA

### Laura Siegle – 6

Amelia County is diverse in agriculture enterprises. Laura strives to provide quality educational programs for dairy and livestock producers, private and commercial pesticide applicators as well as crops grown in the county and region. She has grown a program pertaining to hops production respected in Virginia. Her interest educating youth and public through Agriculture Awareness Days and a demonstration garden is outstanding. Her knowledge and work ethic is impressive to her clientele and co-workers.





## WESTERN REGION - ALASKA

### Casey Matney – 8



Dr. Casey Matney is the District Agriculture and Horticulture Cooperative Extension Service Agent for the Kenai Peninsula District of Alaska. His subject matter specialties are rangeland management and soils management. He has developed the first interactive soil test interpretation calculator for Alaskan soils and has been involved in several soil health studies aimed at improving soils for agriculture. When not at work, Casey can be found fishing and spending time with his family.

## WESTERN REGION - ARIZONA

### Joshua Sherman – 4

As Area Agent for Commercial Horticulture, Josh works closely with southern Arizona commercial fruit, nut, vine and vegetable growers to enhance stewardship practices, disease prevention, and economic viability of farms and products. Whether studying physiology, disease, nutrition, or general management, his applied research projects result in applicable data on prevailing issues which guide educational programs and publications to meet producer needs. The quality of his work is evident from two 2018 National NACAA Communications Awards.



## WESTERN REGION - COLORADO

### JD Sexton – 6



JD has been an outstanding agent for CSUE. He has brought diverse programming to his county and always has a smile on his face when he delivers. JD is reliable and knowledgeable in all of his Agricultural and 4-H programming. He's always willing to help out and lend his strong back and knowledge to any cause. He regularly works on issues to educate on and promote stewardship of ranches, small acreages, home landscapes, and community.

## WESTERN REGION - IDAHO

### Doug Finkelnburg – 6

Doug joined University of Idaho Extension as an Area Extension Educator for Cereal Cropping Systems in 2013. He serves the dryland cropping region of northern Idaho through hosting educational meetings, workshops and field days and conducting on-farm demonstration trials. Areas of emphasis include soil-acidity mitigation, cover-crop adoption, crop diversification and forage production. Doug is a Junior District Representative and has served as President, Vice-President and Past-President of the Idaho Association of County Agricultural Agents.



## WESTERN REGION - MONTANA

### Shelley Mills – 9



Shelley Mills is the Montana State University Agricultural Extension Educator for Valley County. She provides outreach and education in crop production, livestock production, horticulture and youth development. Her areas of expertise include pulse crop production, invasive weed management, pesticide use and misuse, beekeeping and pollinator protection, and pest and plant identification. Mills is also the Montana coordinator for Western SARE Professional Development Grants. Her research interests include weed management, viticulture, and tree fruit production.

## WESTERN REGION - NEW MEXICO

### Bonnie Hopkins – 5

Bonnie Hopkins has served her county as the Agriculture Extension Agent since 2013, disseminating information and educating the public on agricultural issues. She has represented Extension in multiple emergency response events including the Gold King Mine spill. In 2018, she was led the nationally awarded Local Foods, Local Places program for the City of Farmington. She is dedicated to Extension work, serving the NMACAA as treasurer and as a Western Region Vice chair for Professional Excellence.



## WESTERN REGION - OREGON

### Cassie Bouska – 4



Cassie Bouska serves as an Assistant Professor of Practice on the southwest coast of Oregon. She has engaged cranberry farmers, livestock producers, small farmers, and Master Gardeners with her creative and innovative programming. Her work in cranberry IPM has greatly influenced the economic and environmental sustainability of cranberry farming in southwestern Oregon. She is working now to incorporate IPM principles into true armyworm management programs with local livestock producers.

## WESTERN REGION - WYOMING

### Jeremiah D. Vardiman – 4

Jeremiah is a Northwest Area Extension Educator in Agriculture and Horticulture for the University of Wyoming and located in Powell, WY. The northwest area covers Fremont, Hot Springs, Washakie, Big Horn, and Park Counties, and the Wind River Reservation. His main duties focus on crop production; primarily forage production, seed production, sugar beets, dry beans and barley.



## WESTERN REGION - UTAH

### Joshua Dallin – 6

Josh Dallin is an Extension Assistant Professor for Utah State University where he leads livestock, range, and agricultural 4-H applied research and education programs in Box Elder County. Josh believes in the mission of Extension and works hard to bring the advancements of the University to the people that he serves. Just this year alone, Josh has created innovative Extension learning opportunities that have served over 1,000 youth and producers in hands-on, face-to-face learning environments.



## WESTERN REGION - WASHINGTON

### Stephen G. Bramwell – 3



Stephen Bramwell is the WSU Thurston County Extension Director and Agriculture Specialist. Current work areas include developing value-added markets for local agriculture, preserving farmland by utilizing working lands for habitat conservation, and training new farmers, among other work. Stephen works with grain growers to develop new marketing and storage opportunities, vegetable growers on developing infrastructure for value-added processing facilities, ranchers on co-managing for endangered species and grazing livestock, and several community partner organizations.

