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## Upcoming Events

### February

- 5th-Seminar
- 8th-10th SAEA
- 12th-Seminar
- 14th-Valentine's Day
- 17th-Faculty Meeting

## ***Rosson's Roundup***

The Southern Agricultural Economics Association (SAEA) meetings begin Saturday in San Antonio. Sunday afternoon is the Super Bowl Reception, so hope to see many of you there. Some of the other events to be aware of are the awards ceremony Monday, February 8 at 5:15 in the Regency West, 4-6. Daniel Chavez will receive the Outstanding Masters Thesis – Marco Palma advisor. Monday at 8 a.m. is the breakfast for Lifetime Achievement Award winners – Joe Outlaw will be honored at this event (Regency West). Monday at 10:30 is the Emerging Scholars Award and Rebekka Dudensing will receive this honor (Regency East). Also occurring throughout the SAEA meetings will be the Quiz Bowl and we will have many students involved in this. Please try to attend some of these activities if you can. Congratulations to our award winners and thanks for your hard work!

Congratulations to Mary Nowak (AGEC '09) who has been appointed by Representative Michael Conaway, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, to lead the Professional Staff for Nutrition and Welfare. Mary will head efforts related to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). She has been on the Committee staff for seven years and served most recently as Senior Legislative Assistant. She worked with both Chairman Frank Lucan and Chairman Conaway during this time. Mary had a key role in developing the nutrition title of the 2014 farm bill. Please join me in congratulating Mary on her promotion.

Tiffany Dowell Lashmet will be holding a half-day oil and gas workshop at the Equine Complex from 9 – noon on February 22. The purpose of this program is to assist landowners in negotiating leases, surface agreements and other aspects related to oil and gas. She will be assisted by Shannon Ferrell with the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University. Other main topics to be covered are impacts of oil and gas exploration on agricultural land, protection for landowners, negotiating pipeline easements, environmental risks and finding help in evaluating and managing oil and gas production risks. If you want more information, please contact Tiffany at 806 – 677 – 5668.

Steven Klose is heading efforts to survey landowners and producers to collect information on custom rates for agricultural operations. The survey is now open and you can participate by going to: <http://agecoext.tamu.edu/crs2016>. Please pass this along to those who may have an interest in participating.

Finally, a note of caution: I received word this week that the bats have returned (no, not to Olsen Field). Consequently, as in the past, a Bat Line has been established and if you come into contact with any of these creatures, please call 845-4311. Bats are high risk for rabies and should NOT be touched. Please pass this information along to your students, along with the phone number above. Thanks!

Have a great weekend – and I hope to see many of you in San Antonio!

## *Just For Laughs*

Man walking along a road in the countryside comes across a shepherd and a huge flock of sheep. Tells the shepherd, "I will bet you \$100 against one of your sheep that I can tell you the exact number in this flock." The shepherd thinks it over; it's a big flock so he takes the bet. "973," says the man. The shepherd is astonished, because that is exactly right. Says "OK, I'm a man of my word, take an animal." Man picks one up and begins to walk away. "Wait," cries the shepherd, "Let me have a chance to get even. Double or nothing that I can guess your exact occupation." Man says sure. "You are an economist for a government think tank," says the shepherd. "Amazing!" responds the man, "You are exactly right! But tell me, how did you deduce that?" "Well," says the shepherd, "put down my dog and I will tell you."



## *Upcoming Birthdays*

*Fred Boadu*            2/18  
*Ron Griffin*            2/18  
*Douglass Shaw*       2/18  
*Reid Stevens*         2/18



# *Thank You!!*

## *Commons Committee*

*for hosting Friday coffee*



## *Position Announcements*

**PhD Research Assistantships**, Colorado State University (Fall 2016): Area of Study: Applied Food Economics and Policy and Water Economics. The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (DARE) at Colorado State University is recruiting up to two PhD students to participate in research projects in the general area of Food Economics, Marketing and Policy, Economics of Local or Regional Food Systems, and/or Industrial Organization **and** two PhD students to participate in research projects in the general area of water economics. Apply online: <http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/apply/> Specific information about the program can be found at <http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/graduate/graduate-programs/> For more information, please contact Marco Costanigro, Chair of the Graduate Program: (970) 491-6948 [marco.costanigro@colostate.edu](mailto:marco.costanigro@colostate.edu)

[Click here for more position announcements](#)

Faculty, staff, and graduate students are encouraged to submit articles and photos on current events

Deadline for all submissions is noon, Thursday.

Please send your information to [valnoyes@tamu.edu](mailto:valnoyes@tamu.edu)