

TEXAS COUNTY AGRICULTURE
AGENTS ASSOCIATION



**Man of the Year In Texas
Agriculture Award &
Recognition Banquet**

July 15, 2014

**PITSER GARRISON CONVENTION CENTER
ANGELINA ROOM**



2013-2014
Texas County Agriculture Agents Association

Officers

President.....Wade Hibler
President-Elect.....Cary Sims
Vice-President.....Brent Batchelor
Secretary.....Robert Scott
Treasurer.....Brian Yanta
Past President.....Terry Millican

District TCAAA Directors

District 1..... Josh Brooks
District 2.....Bryan Reynolds
District 3..... Jay Kingston
District 4.....Ralph Davis
District 5..... Chad Gulley
District 6.....Rebel Royal
District 7..... Tom Guthrie
District 8.....Zach Davis
District 9.....Ricky Thompson
District 10.....Bryan Davis
District 11..... Pete McGuill
District 12.....Dale Rankin
Early Career.....Brandon Boughen
Life Members..... John Farris

District TCAAA Alternate Directors

District 1..... Leonard Haynes
District 2.....Greg Gruben
District 3.....Toby Oliver
District 4.....Laura Miller
District 5..... Rick Hirsch
District 6.....Tommy Yeater
District 7.....Rocky Vinson
District 8.....David Groschke
District 9..... Tyler Fitzgerald
District 10.....Pascual Hernandez
District 11..... Jason Ott
District 12.....Jamie Lopez
Early Career.....Caleb Eaton
Life Members.....Eddie Holland

Man of the Year In Texas Agriculture Award & Recognition Banquet

Presiding.....Wade Hibler

TCAAA President

Burnet County Extension Agent

Invocation.....Truman Lamb

Anderson County Extension Agent

Introductions of Guests.....Cary Sims

TCAAA President-Elect

Angelina County Extension Agent

Award Presentations.....Ralph Davis

Chairman, Awards and Recognition Committee

Kaufman County Extension Agent

Closing Remarks.....Wade Hibler

TCAAA President

Burnet County Extension Agent

Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture

The “Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture” Awards program has been proudly sponsored by the Texas County Agricultural Agents Association for the past fifty years. The members, directors, and officers of the TCAAA are privileged to bestow this award to eight individuals in recognition of their outstanding leadership in agriculture, agribusiness and their support of the educational program efforts of the County Extension Agents of Texas. Their unselfish service has contributed to improving the economic well-being and quality of life in their community, our state and our nation.

Past Decade of Recipients Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture Award

2000

Willie Wieck, Moore, D-1
Jerry D. Harris, Dawson, D-2
Rick Hardcastle, Wilbarger, D-3
Jerry Stone, Henderson, D-5
Robert A. Junell, Tom Green, D-7
Bill Goldsmith, Harris, D-9
Marsha Moulder, Victoria, D-11

2001

Robert Duncan, Lubbock, D-2
Dwyatt Bell, Hopkins, D-4
Susan Combs, Brewster, D-6
Randy Carson, Taylor, D-7
Gary Murphy, Navarro, D-8
Ferrell Davis, Bandera, D-10
Fritz K. Jaenike, Cameron, D-12

2002

Leon New, Potter, D-1
Tom Woodward, Wise, D-3
Wayne Christian, Shelby, D-5
W.F. “Red” Kitchen, Houston, D-5
Billy Warrick, Tom Green, D-7
Bill Dishman, R., Jefferson, D-9
Judy Hawley, Nueces, D-11

2003

Gary Walker, Yoakum, D-2
Jack Brainard, Denton, D-4
Henry Bonilla, Bexar, D-6
Gene Jernigan, Johnson, D-8
Dr. Charles Graham, Bastrop/Gonzales, D-10
Jimmy Dodson, Nueces, D-11
Stanley Schilling, Live Oak, D-12

2004

Dan Krienke, Ochiltree, D-1
Emory Boring, Wilbarger, D-3
M.S. “Bud” Wright III, Nacogdoches, D-5
J.W. “Dub” Vinson, Taylor, D-7
Arlene Wohlgemuth, Johnson, D-8
Talmadge Heflin, Harris, D-9
L.G. Raun, Jr., Wharton, D-11

2005

Tommy Womack, Swisher, D-2
Lori Cope, Hopkins, D-4
George “Tee” Knox, Martin, D-6
Vince Neuhaus, McLennan, D-8
Carter Casteel, Comal, D-10
Ed Ritchie, Zavala, D-12

2006

Vernon Cook, Roberts, D-1
Rayford Pullen, Montague, D-3
Alan Ritchey, Cooke, D-4
Glenn Richardson, Gregg, D-5
Roger Q. "Jake" Landers, Tom Green, D-7
Frank Greenway, Brazoria, D-9
Bob Gayle, Goliad, D-11

2007

Steve Verett, Lubbock/Crosby, D-2
Marcus Hill, Tarrant, D-4
Robert Steakley, Ector, D-6
Larry Don Womack, Comanche, D-8
Mike Douguet, Jefferson, D-9
Wayne Geistweidt, Gillespie, D-10
Dr. Randall H. Williams, Kleberg, D-12

2008

Lewis Britt, Wheeler, D-1
C.E. Williams, Carson, D-1
Minnie Lou Bradley, Childress, D-3
Ted F. Conover, Smith, D-5
Jerry Lackey, Tom Green, D-7
Jim McCord, Brazos, D-9
Jeff Nunley, Victoria, D-11

2009

David Gibson, Swisher, D-2
Phil Sadler, Rains, D-4
Guy Patrick "Pat" Peacock, Pecos, D-6
Mike McCravey, Bell, D-8
Alfred "Mac" Gilliant, Real, D-10
Michael Kuck, Caldwell, D-10
Dale Murden, Hidalgo, D-12

2010

Levon Harman, Swisher, D-1
Gerald Hobson, Parker, D-3
Albert Thompson, Nacogdoches, D-5
Allen McGinty, Tom Green, D-7
Jack Wendt, Fort Bend, D-9
Gerald Eckel, Wilson, D-11
Mike Petter, Atascosa, D-12

2011

Giles W. Dalby, D-2
Larry Pratt, D-3
Brian Cummings, D-4
Ronnie Keith Wood, D-6
Jim Farley, D-8
Edward Meier, D-10
Robert Fulbright, D-12

2012

Warren Chisum, D-1
Dan Taylor, D-2
Greg Tyra, D-3
Dr. Jesse Richardson, D-5
Clay Jones, D-7
John Geisenshlag, D-9
W. James Grichar, D-11

2013

Mark Marley, D-2
Charles Snhowden, D-4
Mike Hill, D-6
Perce Miller, D-7
Dr. Dan E McBride, DMV, D-7
Neil Walter, D-8
Charles Willman, D-8
Ray Prewett, D-12

Past Recipients
Man of the Year in Texas Agriculture Award
Extension District 5

| | |
|------|-------------------------------------|
| 1962 | V. A. "Bill" Clements, Gregg |
| 1964 | Troy E. Kern, Delta |
| 1966 | Doyal T. Loyd, Upshur |
| 1968 | V. B. Shaw, Wood |
| 1970 | Jack Dillard, Harrison |
| 1972 | Joe Winston, Smith |
| 1974 | M. Don Blacketer, Fannin |
| 1976 | Carl P. Harrison, Delta |
| 1978 | Jerry Lucy, Gregg |
| 1980 | Harvey Loupee, Morris |
| 1982 | James B (Jimmy) Owen |
| 1984 | Arnie A. Lawler, Camp |
| 1986 | Horace McQueen, Smith |
| 1988 | Kenneth R. McGee, Henderson |
| 1990 | Jack Cross, Wood |
| 1992 | L. P. (Pete) Patterson, Lamar |
| 1994 | Jerry K. Johnson, Nacogdoches |
| 1996 | Wyndel Tackett, Henderson |
| 1998 | W. I. Davis, Shelby |
| 2000 | Jerry Stone, Henderson |
| 2002 | Wayne Christian, Shelby |
| 2002 | W. F. "Red" Kitchen, Houston |
| 2004 | M. S. (Bud) Wright III, Nacogdoches |
| 2006 | Glen Richardson, Gregg |
| 2008 | Ted F. Conover, Smith |
| 2010 | Albert Thompson, Nacogdoches |
| 2012 | Jesse Richardson, Henderson |

Man of the Year in Agriculture

District 1

Harold Grall



Harold Grall came to the Texas Panhandle in the mid 70's to attend college and pursue a career path in the agribusiness sector of farming. While at West Texas State University he reached out and applied for a farm manager's job in Moore County. After graduating from WTSU with a degree in AG-Economics he moved to Moore County and began his mentorship with one of the area's premier farming operations owned and operated by Dale and Joan Coleman. After almost a decade later under his mentor's leadership, Grall moved into a large farming operation in his own right. He began a buyout of his mentor in 1986.

Grall is forward thinking and aggressive in his farming practices. He was elected to the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors as the Moore County representative in 2008, but he was applying conservation practices long before joining the district board. Under Coleman's direction, and based on his own convictions, Grall developed a farm management philosophy centered on maximizing efficiency of all resources. Grall is an innovator and early adopter of a variety of irrigation efficiency technologies and crop production strategies including LESA and LEPA center pivot irrigation systems, minimum tillage practices and crop residue management. He works to develop and manage soil conditions that lead to optimum crop production per inch of available water, using high efficiency irrigation systems he helped develop. As a member of the district agriculture committee, Grall was one of the founders and original cooperators in the district's award winning "200-12 Reduced Irrigation on Corn Demonstration Project." The "200-12 Project" demonstrates the best practices for saving water and allowing agricultural irrigation producers to remain profitable and financially viable with restricted and diminishing groundwater resources. Over the first five years of the project Grall has been a guiding force and one of the project's most successful cooperators. During that time, the "200-12 Project" was awarded the TCEQ's Environmental Excellence Award for Agriculture and the Texas Water Conservation Advisory Board's Blue Legacy Award for Agriculture, and has received grants totaling almost \$700,000 from the Texas Water Development Board and the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Grall and the rest of the board are committed to continuing to demonstrate and provide current and developing crop production data and all advancing technologies that support and sustain agriculture into the future.

Grall has a positive attitude, is giving and a true leader. He believes that his employees are an investment and he strives each day to carry on the Coleman legacy: mentoring others, especially the young.

Grall has three passions: 1. Growing God's Kingdom 2. Family (home and farm) and 3. Farming. This man has served and continues to serve on many Boards including the North Plains Water Conservation District; the Dumas Economic Development Corporation and the YMCA of Moore County. He is a past member of the Texas Agriculture Lifetime Leadership and has been featured in various farming publications such as High Plains Journal, Progressive Farmer and others. Harold is a winner in his own right.

Dale Coleman said it best when he was quoted in an interview for Progressive Farmer Magazine: "Harold Grall is the best crop I ever raised."

Man of the Year in Agriculture

District 3

Van Baize



Mr. Van Baize is a longtime supporter of Agriculture and the youth involved in this area of interest. He graduated from Texas A&M in '77 with Animal Science Degree and went to work in and around the feed yard industry and eventually a manager for a 30,000 head yard. He then shifted his interest into agriculture banking in Texas and Oklahoma and has been involved in it for over 30 years.

When Van moved to Montague County in 1998 he went right to work in the community and surrounding counties as a volunteer, committeeman, and chairman as well. He currently serves on the Montague County Ag Committee and is an absolute value of knowledge and information to help lead them in the right direction of becoming a more informed and aggressive producer. His work with committees doesn't stop at the county level as he sees that reached out to others across the north Texas area will help others stride forward as well. Van takes pride in helping the extension agents with programming needs, ideas and speakers. His background provides him an opportunity to present programs himself from all aspects of agriculture issues from back grounding cattle to current trends of the ag markets.

As Van has progressed in Montague County he has taken some vital roles as a leader among the man volunteers. He currently serves as Director for the Cross Timbers Commercial Steer program which teaches youth about the different aspects of the feeding cattle industry. Students must take this program to heart and learn about buying a calf to purchasing bulk feed and the whole time trying to make this project profitable as would the feed yard production. His contacts have made this program a great learning experience while each youth becomes more familiar with the cattle markets.

He has helped to coordinate relief from fires in Wheeler, Carson, Gray, Donley and Montague County. His efforts in Montague County alone provided a quick outlet market for cattle that had survived the fire. Because of this momentous task he was asked to be on the County Veterinary Medical Operations Disaster Recovery Team to make sure that all producers have an opportunity to make good of a bad situation.

The Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association has used his vast knowledge to make him a Director for the north Texas and southern Oklahoma area and served on the Executive Committee from 2008-10. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Association and Promotion Committee for TSCRA. He has also helped with the Ranching 101 Series by providing educational information to new and existing cattle producers, quarterly programs for them and presented programs for Agrilife Extension as well. Mr. Baize has published articles in Beef Magazine and Drovers Journal about the different aspects of the cattle industry.

Van has been married for 44 years to his wife Rene', and proud parent of Todd and Vanessa. He currently serves another role as grandfather to Savannah, Scarlett and soon another.

Man of the Year in Agriculture

District 5

Mark Chamblee



Mark Chamblee, owner of Chamblee's Rose Nursery, is an advocate of agriculture and horticulture, not only for the northeast Texas region, but for the entire State of Texas. He grew up in the family rose business, managing the business since 1974. He received a business degree in accounting, and purchased the family business, Chamblee's Rose Nursery, in 1982. Chamblee's Roses is a successful wholesale/retail/mail order nursery north of Tyler, shipping container-grown rose plants, propagated on their own roots nationwide. He was recently asked by Senator John Cornyn, "Did you build your business?" To which Mark replied, "Yes, I built it not one time, but three times due to freezes, snow storms and a devastation tornado!"

Mark's leadership in agriculture is evidenced by his many years of service to the Texas Farm Bureau and Texas Nursery and Landscape Association. He is a 25 year board member and past president of the Smith County, and is currently a State Director. He also has served on their Farm Labor Committee and the Nursery and Greenhouse Committee. Mark is also currently the Chairman of the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association Board of Directors, having served in several other capacities, including regional president and a State Director. He is strong advocate for agriculture and the green industry in Texas and beyond.

Mark is a Texas Master Certified Nursery Professional, and has received the AgriLife Extension Award of Excellence, and V.A. "Bill" and Mary Clements Outstanding Leadership in Agriculture Memorial Award for his active involvement in Texas agriculture and his advocacy for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, for which he has served on several advisory boards.

He and his wife Sharon have a son and daughter and 3 grandchildren.

Man of the Year in Agriculture

District 5

Dr. Dale Perritt



Dr. Dale Perritt grew up in Winnsboro in Wood County on his family's dairy farm. Dairy farms of the 1960s were not nearly as highly mechanized and automated as those of our current day, and thus many of his early educational opportunities were earned through the character-building manual labor required by farm chores. He's a man who knew dirty jobs before dirty jobs were cool, which may be why he is today a Professor of Agricultural Education.

Dr. Perritt attended Winnsboro public schools, and, after his graduation in 1969, he enrolled at Tyler Junior College before transferring to East Texas State University where he completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education in 1973. He began teaching vocational agriculture at Forney High School that fall and remained there for six years. While in Forney, Perritt began graduate school at East Texas State and completed the Master of Science degree in Agriculture in 1976. Three years later, he returned to East Texas State as an instructor, but he left soon afterwards to enroll at Mississippi State University to pursue a doctorate in Agricultural and Extension Education, a degree he earned in 1981.

In the fall of that same year, Perritt joined the faculty at SFA as an assistant professor with teaching responsibilities in both agricultural mechanization and agricultural education. He progressed through the ranks and became Department Chair in 1997. Dr. Perritt has organized countless workshops and seminars for high school agriculture science teachers and FFA members. From 1997 to 2000, he served as superintendent of the National FFA Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event at the national FFA convention. He has also served as president of the Agricultural Consortium of Texas and currently serves on the advisory board for the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources. Additionally, he currently serves as SFA's Faculty Athletic Representative to the Southland Conference and the NCAA.

Dr. Perritt works with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to offer classes to Agricultural student at SFA about careers in Extension. Each year, Dr. Perritt invites the local county extension agent to come present a "day in the life of a County Extension Agent" to his class. Dr. Perritt has served on numerous committees for Extension including the annual Agriculture Banquet held in Nacogdoches County reaching over 350 producers each year. Dr. Perritt has worked for many years to assist County Extension Agents working on their Master's Degree. He works with the County Extension Agents to put together classes so Agents can obtain a master's degree while still do their daily jobs as Extension Agents. Dr. Perritt allows the faculty members in the SFA Department of Agriculture time to serve on various committees with Extension, to serve as guest speakers, and is a ready cooperator on numerous result demonstrations at the SFA Beef Farm. Dr. Perritt also hosts the TALL Tour that comes through East Texas every other year. The SFA Department of Agriculture also assists with 4-H and FFA projects at the annual Pineywoods Fair and Nacogdoches County Steer Show.

Perritt credits his success to God's blessings in his life, a supportive family, parents who taught him the value of hard work, an agriculture teacher who inspired him to teach, an English teacher who demanded perfection, and a football coach who taught him that he could persevere and succeed even in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

Dr. Perritt is married to Dr. Mitzi Perritt, professor of Human Sciences at SFA. They have two sons, Daniel, a recent SFA graduate, and Heath, a senior at Nacogdoches High School.

Man of the Year in Agriculture

District 9

Toni Carter Spencer



Born in Jefferson County, Texas and raised in a family rich with tradition, character and a pioneering spirit, Toni Carter Spencer is the third generation to make a living in agriculture! Toni credits being reared in the family rice farming and cattle ranching operation for giving her the ability to face and overcome challenges and the wisdom to appreciate the rewarding role that agriculture has played in her life.

A graduate of Lamar University, Beaumont, with a Bachelor of Business Administration Accounting Degree, Toni has extensive experience in the rice fields, horseback on the range, and in the herd. After several years of working part-time through her college schedules, Toni joined M&J Fertilizer Company full-time in the late 1980's. Since that time, she's been a mainstay in the company and in 2005 became a managing partner. It's been over twenty-five years now, and Toni continues to be a leader in Southeast Texas agriculture where she's lobbied relentlessly for the industry. Toni knows how to pull the best from the people who surround her by earning their trust and working right alongside them. As a tireless advocate for beef and rice producers, Toni has organized countless meetings and facilitated dialogue among legislative officials and industry leaders.

Having a working relationship with the Independent Cattlemen's Association, U.S. Cattlemen's Association, U.S. Rice Producers, and the Texas Beef & Rice Councils has enabled Spencer to travel to Austin & Washington, D.C., participating in meetings with Texas' delegation, as well as Senate and Congressional Agricultural leaders and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike, Toni helped organize efforts with the Texas Department of Agriculture under the leadership of Commissioner Todd Staples and the entire Texas A&M AgriLife Extension staff to create an incredible working relationship between policy-makers and the storm-ravaged producers struggling for aid while rebuilding the infrastructure of their operations.

Toni has one daughter, Katie Nicole, an Ag Economics graduate of Texas A&M University. Together they raise registered Quarter Horses and run a commercial cow/calf operation. Spencer's ultimate goal is to leave the agricultural industry in a position that will pave the way for the next generation of producers to have the opportunity to manage profitable farming and ranching operations so that they might continue the tradition of nourishing all families with the safest and most wholesome food products in the world.

Man of the Year in Agriculture

District 11

Rep. Lois W. Kolkhorst



Rep. Lois W. Kolkhorst is a member of the Texas House of Representatives, serving House District 13, which includes Austin, Burleson, Colorado, Fayette, Grimes, Lavaca and Washington Counties.

Her district covers over five-thousand square miles of rural Texas from the Brazos Valley to the Coastal Plains. Her House District is famous across the state for being the home to both Shiner Beer (Shiner, TX in Lavaca County) and Blue Bell Ice Cream.

She currently serves as Chair of the House Committee on Public Health, she oversees the state's health care system and sets priorities for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. She is also a member of the House Committee on County Affairs, where she helps solve challenges facing the state's 254 counties, and is known for working with her seven county judges and commissioners courts. During her time in office, Kolkhorst also has spent six years on the House Appropriations Committee, where she managed funds for public schools, community colleges, universities, and medical schools.

As an advocate for education issues, she has been honored with awards by both the Texas Retired Teacher Association as well as the College of Education at Sam Houston State University for her longtime support of teacher and classroom issues

Long before the Tea Party even existed, she has been a champion for state sovereignty and constitutional issues. For her work she has received awards from conservative groups like the Texas Eagle Forum and Empower Texans.

She is respected by groups on the left and right: along with conservative groups like Texas Eagle Forum she worked with Austin Democrat legislator Rep. Eddie Rodriguez (D-Austin) to create the first Caucus in the nation dedicated to locally grown foods, called the Farm-to-Table Caucus.

She was invited to be a part of a historic meeting with Sen. Cornyn, Sen. Cruz and Governor Perry earlier this year (2013) to discuss the merits of Obamacare and its impact on Texas healthcare.

As an avid deer hunter, Kolkhorst has received the repeated endorsement of groups like the Texas State Rifle Association, the Texas Wildlife Association, and the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association.

A staunch supporter of property rights, Kolkhorst joined forces with grassroots groups and gained national attention in 2005 for questioning the proposed Trans-Texas Corridor system of privatized toll roads.

The Texas Farm Bureau has repeatedly recognized her for her support of agriculture issues.

Prior to public service, she served as CEO for the Washington County Chamber and the Economic Development Foundation of Brenham.

A native of Brenham, she is a graduate of Texas Christian University, where she was an accomplished golfer who played for the TCU Lady Frogs Golf Team, and was named to the Academic All-Southwest Conference Team. She enjoys the outdoors with her husband, Jim Kolkhorst and their two children, Lois Kate and Jake. The family lives in Brenham.

2014 TCAAA Distinguished Service Awards Recipients

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Bryan Reynolds | Lynn County | District 2 |
| Dwight Sexton | Gonzales County | District 10 |
| Cullen D. Tittle | Brazos County | District 9 |
| Todd Vineyard | Wise County | District 3 |
| S. Zachary Wilcox | Nolan County | District 7 |
| Lyle Zoeller | Bell County | District 8 |

2014 TCAAA Achievement Awards Recipients

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Zach Davis | Johnson County | District 8 |
| Lee Dudley | Panola County | District 5 |
| Benji Henderson | Parmer County | District 2 |
| Michael R. Hiller | Jackson County | District 11 |
| Jason Ott | Medina County | District 10 |
| Phoenix Roger | Galveston County | District 9 |

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