



THE CATTLE CALL
Newsletter for Alumni of the
TCU Ranch Management Program
Winter 2021

RANCH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

FROM THE PRESIDENT, JEFF MITCHELL '02

(806)680-4325 jmitchell@tootntotum.com

Merry Christmas, Alumni!

I hope this letter finds everyone healthy, happy, and surviving the sometimes hectic holiday season. It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the first semester of this year!

This first semester comes to an end after this week's finals and it has been one for the books. This small, but mighty class is a force to be reckoned with and has worked extremely hard to balance the fluid situation that Covid has created. To say that I am proud of this group of young men and women is an understatement. I tip my hat to them.

The last year and a half has brought great collaborations and much needed conversations about our Ranch Management program and the continuing efforts to keep everything moving in a positive direction. The Alumni Committee, Board of Directors, and TCURM Personnel have worked tirelessly to organize, plan, and finally execute an update for our Alumni as a whole.

Our Alumni Executive Committee has worked hard to make this Alumni Association the best it can be. I truly believe we are on a path to continue our successes and continue to grow our Alumni Association to be the strongest it has ever been.

In order for us to continue on this path, I must reiterate the importance of participation. Our Annual Alumni Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 22nd with the Class Agents meeting being held the night before (January 21). It is vital to have as many Class Agents and Alumni attend these meetings as possible due to important discussions, voting, and business that needs to be conducted.

Please make every effort to attend this event. We are excited for a great weekend highlighting insight into the successful collaborations happening between TCU, TCURM, & the TCU Institute of RM.

I look forward to seeing you all in January and can only hope for a "packed house." Many Blessings to you and your families during this Holiday Season. Thank you for allowing me to serve in this position.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Chris Farley
Assistant Director
Southwestern E & L S Professorship
j.farley@tcu.edu

TCURM Internships

Internships are a vital part of the future of the TCU Ranch Management Program. Whether the potential student was born and raised on a ranch or they found their love for ranching later in their educational career, working on different types of ranches can be critical to the success of a student in the TCU Ranch Management Program. There is a direct correlation between prior experience level and academic success of students while in the program. The Ranch Management Alumni Board has worked very hard to identify how the program could improve the vetting process of incoming RM students. One of the Board's suggestions is to **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** incoming students to have a minimum of two separate internships prior to entering the program. This would definitely expand the knowledge level of the students prior to entering the program and greatly increase the student's success of employment after graduation.

As the program expands its recruiting efforts to a wider variety of students from different avenues, the need for internships is increasing. The term "internship" should not imply *beginner* level of skills. Many students that show interest in the program can ride and perform higher-level skills, but need involvement in other segments of the industry. Many students need exposure to the same segment of the industry in different geographical regions of the country.

A group of alumni in the Coastal region comprised of 4 ranches rotate 3 or 4 interns introducing them to different management styles. This group has been doing this for a couple of years now and it has been very beneficial to our students. They have also helped with the vetting process of these interns to determine if the program is a good fit for them. Some applicants get great recommendations and some are advised to get more experience. Matt McLennan and Chad McCormick have provided many feedyard internships prior to coming, and after graduation, to students that want to learn the feeding side of the business. This has served a great void of knowledge for individuals that have never been around a feedyard.

We need more alumni to engage in the internship process. This is your chance to support future RM alumni and complete summer projects that never seem to get done. Please contact me with questions or concerns. I currently have a list of 5 to 6 students that need an internship. I try to start making these connections in January and get confirmation of placement February-March. Send me an email with your contact information and a brief explanation of your preferred intern's qualifications. After you and I communicate, I will send the interns your contact information and you guys work out the details.

Thanks for your participation and have a blessed holiday season.

TCU RM Alumni Roundup 2022

Saturday, January 22

8:30 a.m. - Registration, Lite Breakfast, and Visit (TCU, Brown-Lupton University Union/Ballroom, 2901 Stadium Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76129) **\$10/person**

9:00 a.m. - Morning Session with Margaret Byfield, Executive Director: American Stewards of Liberty and Chad Ellis, CEO: Texas Agricultural Land Trust

6:30 p.m. - Cocktails (Stockyards Station/Stampede Room, 130 East Exchange Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76164) cash bar, nothing brought in

7:00 p.m. - Buffet Dinner and Auction (Stockyards Station/Stampede Room, 130 East Exchange Avenue, Fort Worth, TX) **\$35/person**

8:00 p.m. - Silent Auction ENDS

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Dance with music by Jake Hooker & The Outsiders

Payment for ALL events due by Friday, January 14, 2022

Hotel Reservations:

Hyatt Place/FW Historic Stockyards, 132 East Exchange, Fort Worth, TX 76164 (\$289/night)

Phone: (817)626-6000 and refer to Group Code G-TCSM

Online: https://www.hyatt.com/shop/dfwzf?location=Hyatt%20Place%20Fort%20Worth%20Historic%20Stockyards&checkinDate=2022-01-21&checkoutDate=2022-01-23&rooms=1&adults=1&kids=0&corp_id=g-tcsm

Reservation Due Date for discount rate: Friday, December 31

Hyatt Place /TCU, 3029 Sandage Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76109 (\$179/night)

Phone: (682)385-9743 and refer to Group Code G-4MUD

Online: https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/texas/hyatt-place-fort-worth-tcu/dfwzu?corp_id=G-4MUD

Reservation Due Date for discount rate: Monday, January 10

Courtyard/FW Historic Stockyards, 2537 North Main Street, Fort Worth, TX 76164 (\$195/night)

Phone: (817)624-1112 and refer to TCU Ranch Management

Online: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1628177116187&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Reservation Due Date for discount rate: Friday, January 7



Thank You

Many thanks to



for sponsoring the 9th Annual
TCU RM Alumni Reunion and
Recruitment Tailgate!



1996

*TCU Ranch Management
Class of*

25 YEAR
REUNION:
ROUNDUP
2022

FRIDAY, JAN. 21@6:30 P.M.
FAJITA DINNER
TCU RM BUILDING
2800 STADIUM DR, FW, TX 76129

SATURDAY, JAN. 22@6:30 P.M.
COCKTAILS, DINNER, AUCTION, DANCE
STOCKYARDS STATION
130 EAST EXCHANGE AVENUE, FW, TX 76164

CONTACT CHRIS FARLEY J.FARLEY@TCU.EDU 817.374.9805 OR
QUITA WITTENBACH QUITAWITTENBACH@GMAIL.COM 956.245.4172

2022 ROUNDUP RESERVATION FORM

Morning: No. _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Dinner/Dance: No. _____ x \$35.00 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Payment Is Due By *Friday, January 14, 2022*

Online registration and payment with e-check or debit/credit card:

https://secure.touchnet.com/C21491_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=20&SINGLESTORE=true

OR mail registration form and check to:

TCU Ranch Management, TCU Box 297420, Fort Worth, TX, 76129

Your Name: _____

Grad Year: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Guest Names: _____

AUCTION DONATION

(Please include *value* of item(s) listed)

Item(s): _____



2022 ROUNDUP AGENDA Saturday, January 22, 2022

8:30

REGISTRATION, LITE BREAKFAST, & VISIT

Brown-Lupton University Union/Ballroom
Texas Christian University
Fort Worth, TX

9:00

MORNING PROGRAM and ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Speakers:

Margaret Byfield, American Stewards of Liberty and
Chad Ellis, Texas Agricultural Land Trust

6:30

COCKTAILS

Stockyards Station/Stampede Room
Cash Bar (nothing brought in)
130 East Exchange Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76164

7:00 – 8:00

DINNER and AUCTION

Auction ENDS at 8:00

8:00 – 11:00

DANCE

Jake Hooker & The Outsiders



**THREE WAYS TO REGISTER/PAY FOR
ROUNDUP 2022:**

• **ONLINE**

https://secure.touchnet.com/C21491_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=20&SINGLESTORE=true

• **MAIL**

TCU RANCH MANAGEMENT

TCU BOX 297420

FORT WORTH, TX 76129

• **CALL**

(817) 257—7145

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DUE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2022



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Russell Carrell '17 call/email TCURM for email update



Kelley Sullivan Georgiades '12 call/email TCURM for address/email update

David Henke '78 call/email TCURM for address/email update

Abbye and **Cale Jahn '20** call/email TCURM for address update



Neil Sutfin '19 call/email TCURM for phone update

Kelley Sullivan Georgiades '12
Owner/Operator, GKG Land & Cattle

Cale Jahn '20
Manager, REHCO Ranch



Our sympathy to the family of
Mike Hodgson '00
who passed away December 2021.

Hello, all!

In an effort to keep alumni in the loop and attempt to help us all reconnect, we, as the TCU RM Alumni Association, are proud to add a new section to the Cattle Call. Every edition will feature an *Alumni Spotlight* where we show off what a few of our own are doing these days; our first two alumni featured are on the following page. We hope you enjoy this new feature and look forward to seeing you all this January at Roundup!

Matt McLelland '12
Vice President

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Name: *Jose Santiago Gallardo Espinosa '18*

Current Employer: Ministry of Agriculture and Cattle Development Panamá

Job Position/Title: Ministry of Agriculture and Cattle Development Vice Minister's Technical Assistance

Job Duties/Responsibilities: Evaluate livestock projects presented to MIDA by producers and associations. Help and evaluate in social development projects related to the agricultural sector.

TCU RM Reflections: 1) RM prepared me to evaluate break-even points and the financial reasoning of the projects loaned to the ministry, and evaluate the feasibility and analyze the economic development of the projects and how it is developed in the country. 2) Advice to students: take advantage of the experience of visiting farms, operations, companies with real examples, on how to solve day-to-day situations; take advantage of the debates and talks that take place after each field trip; and take advantage of the experience of the teachers, TCU RM alumni, and contacts associated w/TCU RM.

Prior Experience/Education: Coordinator of logistics and distribution of bags with food distributed by the government of Panama, in charge of inventory management, logistics of distribution of supplies, coordination of production and administrative personnel. Reception of approximately 25 containers daily with dry goods, storage, and distribution of merchandise. Coordination of daily production of 25,000 units of bags to be distributed in the national territory of Panama. March, 2019 – December, 2020



Name: *Ashley House '16*

Current Employer: Washington Cattlemen's Association

Job Position/Title: Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Job Duties/Responsibilities: Administer the directives of the WCA who mission is to protect and grow the cattle industry in the state of Washington. I'm a lobbyist, an event planner, a fundraiser, membership liaison, and everything in between!

TCU RM Reflection: The thing about our industry that is required to be successful is to know a little bit about everything—production, finance, international trade, animal health, management, conservation, leadership, etc. TCU RM gives you a comprehensive background in most of those areas, and there's not another program out there that is equal to us in what you gain. It's been invaluable for my career.

Prior Experience/Education: I have a BA from TCU in History and have worked for TSCRA, Lone Star Ag Credit, and Texas Agricultural Land Trust prior to moving to Washington.

Other: I can't thank Jesse Womack and Mr. Geider enough for inviting me to be involved with TCU Institute of Ranch Management's work in Scotland with the James Hutton Institute. The international perspective has been wholly enriching and importantly informative as a policy developer; I'm looking forward to the collaboration between our two constituencies.



- **Alumni Roundup** - Fort Worth, TX - **January 22**
- **NCBA** - Houston, TX - **February 1-3**
- **TX A&M AGLS Career Fair** - College Station, TX - **February 1**
- **West TX A&M Univ. Career Expo** - Canyon, TX - **February 17**
- **Univ. of WY Career Fair** - Laramie, WY - **February 23**
- **Cattle Raisers Convention** - Fort Worth, TX - **March 25-27**
- **TX Tech Job Fair** - Lubbock, TX - **April 13**
- **Alumni and Family Summer Gathering/Roping** - Amarillo, TX - **June 17-18**

TCU Ranch Management Alumni Association, Inc. Executive Committee and Board of Directors

President: Jeff Mitchell '02

(806)680 – 4325 jmitchell@tootnotum.com

Wayne Cockrell '98

(817)946-4465 flashcockrell@gmail.com

President Elect: Matt McLelland '12

(806)778-8679 mjmclelland1@gmail.com

Paul Hicks '81

(817)917-2523 phicks@swbell.net

Secretary: Amanda Dyer '08

(432)386-6642 amanda.j.dyer@gmail.com

Chad McCormick '06

(620)952-9927 chad.mccormick@5rcattle.com

Treasurer: Patrick Murray '02

(214)679-4341 prmurray76@gmail.com

Bryan Morris '02

(940)257-5654 bryan.l.morris@live.com

Treasurer Elect: Dustin Valusek '15

(832)788-5610 dustinsvalusek@gmail.com

Gilly Riojas '02

(361)231-2279 grijas@silverventures.com

Communications Director: Jessen Tucker Cowen '13

(940)203-1893 jtcowen89@gmail.com

WHO DID WHAT:

- mail: TCU Box 297420,
Fort Worth, TX 76129 OR
- call: (817)257-7145 OR
- email: ranching@tcu.edu



Thank You!!!

We are pleased that so many of you take advantage of this form to indicate change of address, marriage, birth, or job.

You are helping us keep up with you and that's what we want to do!



As a reminder, due to the rising cost of postage, printing, and budget cuts, **Cattle Call will ONLY be sent via email.**

You are able to view past issues on the TCU RM website <https://cse.tcu.edu/ranch-management/alumni/cattle-call-newsletter.php> or <https://www.facebook.com/TCU-Ranch-Management-269381929485>

Please make sure we have your most recent email address.

If you do not have access to a computer or email, let us know and a copy will be mailed to you.

Grad Year _____

Name _____

NEW ADDRESS/PHONE/EMAIL

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

E-Mail _____

JOB CHANGE

Company _____

Position _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Work Phone _____

Work E-Mail _____

WEDDING

Spouse's Name _____

Date Married _____

BIRTH

Baby's Name _____

Date Born _____