

THE CATTLE CALL

Newsletter for Alumni of the TCU Ranch Management Program

Volume 38 Number 2

Summer 2011

From the President Missy Bonds 2001

Summertime is here and the lack of rain, mixed with the hot temperatures and high winds, seems to be the topic of most discussions. With the plaguing drought mixed with the wild fires, it makes for an interesting time to be in the cattle business. I hope that everyone stays safe from the fires and that rain finds everyone very soon.

Our summer roping was held June 11 in Alvarado, TX. Bob Payne hosted this event and did an outstanding job. Thank you very much to all of our event sponsors, and to Mr. Dick Winters for being the entertainment/announcer for the roping. The festivities began on Friday evening with a poolside barbeque at the hotel. Saturday all of the roping events took place, followed by a dinner and awards ceremony that evening at the Diamond W Arena. There were 18 ropers that participated in the calf roping, ribbon roping, buckle team roping, and class roping. Congratulations to all our winners: Buckle Calf Roping- Craig Buford; Ribbon Roping- Jamie Donnell; Buckle Team Roping- Stephen Kirkland and T E Warren; Class Roping- Jim Link and Pete Bonds. Next year's roping will be held in San Angelo. Hope to see all of you there next year the second weekend in June!

The professors are slowly recovering from the end of the school year while starting to prepare for the incoming class. I urge each of you to help out by promoting the TCU Ranch Management Program to perspective students. We are fortunate to have a great scholarship program, so let's get out there and find hard working, intelligent people who are looking for a career in ranching.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with your comments, concerns, questions, or suggestions. I look forward to talking to each of you.

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2011 TCU Alumni Roping Results

Buckle Calf Roping

1st place: Craig Buford
2nd place: Stephen Kirkland
3rd place: David Mayfield

Ribbon Roping

1st place: Jaime Donnell
2nd place: Rob Borchardt
3rd place: Chad Miller

Buckle Team Roping

1st place: Stephen Kirkland/
T E Warren
2nd place: David Mayfield/
T E Warren
3rd place: Ricky Day/
Pete Bonds
4th place: Mack Newman/
John Meador

Class Roping

1st place: Jim Link/ Pete Bonds
2nd place: Ricky Day/ Pete Bonds
3rd place: Mack Newman/
Steven Mafrige



Perseverance

That old saying "when the going gets tough, the tough get going" certainly is being tested for most folks in the state of Texas. I know that not everyone is from Texas, and some of you may actually be getting some rain, but for most of the southern states it has been extremely dry. And if drought conditions alone weren't bad enough, several ranchers have lost thousands of acres of grass to wildfires. With hurricane season approaching there may be some much needed relief around the corner. While visiting with a young man the other day, I made the comment that typically droughts end in a flood. This summer will definitely be one to remember for sure, but especially in tough times the most important thing to remember is to stay positive.

We finished off the spring semester with a great group of students and added twenty-four new alumni. We are very proud of the effort they all put into this past year. Next year's class is shaping up to be a good one as well, and we are looking forward to their arrival in August.

It isn't too early to start making plans for Roundup 2012. Mark your calendar now for January 21 and plan to be in Fort Worth for a great weekend with your fellow alumni. Watch for more "Roundup 2012" information in the next issue of *Cattle Call*.



Institute Update

As one of my favorite authors once penned, “The reports of my demise are greatly exaggerated.” For the three or four of you out there that read my column and have expressed concern about my whereabouts, I am happy to say I am still here in the Ranch Management bunker diligently seeking truth, justice, and defending the American way. I am humbled by your concern and interest.

I thought it might be a good time to catch everyone up on some the exciting things taking place in the Institute of Ranch Management. As many of you know the Institute has, over time, been approached by many entities (mostly non-domestic) with the purpose of building relationships centered on the notion of providing educational and technical resource management assistance. As TCU in general continues to fulfill its mission of becoming a world class institution, it only seems fitting that the role of the Institute of Ranch Management focus on a global outreach mission that spreads the good word and good will of the RM Program and all of us associated with it. To that end I am extremely pleased to announce that this past spring the University established an official advisory board to the Institute to help lead and direct this global outreach effort. The board members consist of Mr. Bryon Gossett, Mr. Roger Welder, Mr. Paul Hicks, Mr. Jesse Womack, and Mr. Chris Farley. I can tell you that I am exceptionally fortunate to work with these gentlemen in an advisory capacity and the knowledge, experience, and wisdom they bring to the RM Program is unequaled.

Through the group’s recent efforts along with the support of Provost Dr. Donovan and Associate Provost Dr. Melhart, we have recently completed a

memorandum of understanding with an agricultural university in Brazil. We feel this agreement will afford us great opportunities for students, alumni, and ranchers from both countries and industry associates alike.

In addition, we are also currently in discussions with the ministry of agriculture in the country of Ghana. There are several other parts of the world that have expressed interest in working with us and hopefully we can establish a Ranch Management presence in many of these areas as well. Our obligation and responsibility to provide the very best global education we can for our students while exploring opportunities for our alumni is the driving force behind these efforts.

It is truly an interesting, challenging and exciting time in agricultural production and resource management and we feel we can position TCU, the RM Program, and the Institute of Ranch Management at the tip of the spear. All of us know we are part of a world class program whose solid foundation is you the alumni and supporters of Ranch Management. We are proud to be in a position to continue to tell our story and globally demonstrate to others who we are and what we are. I look forward to providing you all with updates on our progress in the future.



All Aboard the Ranch Brigade Train

The Ranch Brigade train has left the station, thanks to the many individuals who traveled to the Ranch Management building for the initial planning meeting. This group included representatives from NRCS, AgriLife Extension, retail meat business, animal health industry, TSCRA, ranch real estate, as well as a brokerage/cattle producer, ranch owners, and managers.

I say “Ranch Brigade” but in actuality we did not come to a consensus on the name of the camp. We will decide on a name with more input from you guys. In the meantime, I will throw out the top names being tossed around as possibilities for the planned camp: Ranch Brigade, Beef Brigade, Bovine Brigade, or Cattle Brigade. However, thanks to the entire group we did finalize the mission statement of the camp, which I am very proud of. The Mission Statement is: “Educating and empowering the next generation of resource managers with the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully manage and promote sustainable beef production.” This mission statement puts a dead center target on my passion for reducing sustainable beef production illiteracy.

The discussion in the meeting brought out many good questions such as who would be the ideal student. The ideal student is one that has been exposed to livestock production and has the curiosity and desire to know why we do all that we do in beef production, from conception to the consumer. This led into a great dialogue on what the outcomes of these students should be. This is where we discussed, and started planning for, our next meeting to actually begin writing the camp curriculum. Now here is where you as alumni can help; some specific volunteer needs for the camp would be a cooking crew that could feed 50 to 75 people, a person with marching or military experience for training students to march with cadence, and a facility to hold this camp. The camp facility will need to be able to sleep up to 75 people, have an A/C meeting room for 35, and a large cooking facility.

The committee is still in need of many volunteer industry leaders. Many of you have shown interest in participating in the camp, but could not attend the June meeting. The next meeting is being planned for the first part of August. The date and place is yet to be determined, but if you want to be a part of this awesome ride, or know someone who does, please pass their name on to me.

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We want to build a solid foundation of committed volunteers of all ages who want to make a difference in the next generation of natural resource managers.



TSCRA Convention Highlights

TCU Ranch Management was proudly represented at the 134th Annual Convention of the Texas and Southwestern Cattleraisers Association (TSCRA). There seemed to be an invasion of purple Horned Frogs on the TSCRA name badges! A great group of alumni enjoyed a time of visiting and catching up with classmates at the TCU Ranch Management Reception on Saturday evening. Thank you to alumni president, Missy Bonds (2001) for coordinating the reception. And a huge "THANK YOU" goes to Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health for their generous sponsorship of the event this year, as well as their continued support of our program. Our program is very fortunate to have many great friends in the industry.

TCU Ranch Management is proud of our many alumni that serve as leaders in TSCRA. At the convention this year, Pete Bonds (1973) was named second vice president; Jim Link (1972) was elected to the board of directors; and David Killam (1975) was named honorary director.

Another "Thank you" goes to the TCU Ranch Management Alumni who serve as TSCRA Board of Directors. Your sponsorship of the CattleFax Outlook Session at the convention has brought great publicity to the program, as well as encouraged student prospects to visit with alumni and staff with questions regarding the program. As always, the CattleFax Outlook Session is one of the favorites of the spring convention and

is always well attended. This sponsorship has been a great way for TCU Ranch Management to show its presence in the TSCRA, as well as in the ranching industry.

The TCU Ranch Management Program continues to be well represented in the Young Leadership Series (YLS) of the TSCRA. The YLS meeting at the spring convention was attended by many of our outstanding young alumni, present to continue the efforts of the YLS group. This year, two of our alumni were selected to attend the NCBA Young Cattlemen's Conference. We are proud to have Zeb York (2004) and Skyler Flake (2006) to represent our program, our state, and our industry at the national level. If you are interested in the YLS group contact Stacy Fox at TSCRA or call the TCU Ranch Management office. We would love to have even more TCU representation in the group.

TSCRA Young Leadership Series -- Update

The YLS group met on June 17, for an afternoon meeting following the TSCRA summer meeting. The group enjoyed a presentation by Meagan McCoy Jones, director of field support for McCoy's Building Supply. The program involved making oneself more marketable in today's job market, and included resume information, developing marketable skill sets, as well as information on interviewing and developing oneself for their current position.

Be sure to mark your calendar for upcoming YLS events. TCU Ranch Management Alumni have played a key role in the development of YLS program. We hope that our outstanding alumni continue to get involved in YLS, as well as other areas of leadership in our industry. The next YLS meeting will be August 12-13 at the TSCRA Headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas. The fall YLS meeting will take place in Lubbock in conjunction with the TSCRA fall meeting, though it will continue past

the closing of the fall meeting, September 30-October 1. For more information, contact our office or Stacy Fox at TSCRA.



The Business of Mother Nature

In our business there is always an evolving set of obstacles to deal with concerning Mother Nature. Currently she is throwing a tough set at us that can cause some real problems. The hot dry weather coupled with scorching winds poses a serious threat to our livestock and ranches. I have been receiving calls from producers concerning these problems as they relate to animal health. Many ranches have had to de-stock or resort to moving cows, many of them further north. This is certainly a tough decision to make in itself. Remember, if you relocate cows or restock, keep Trichomoniasis in mind. There is still a tremendous amount of Trichomoniasis out in the country. Wherever you are, you need to be vigilant about your own cows as well as what is across the fence from them. A lot of questions need to be asked when purchasing or moving cows. Also quarantining new purchases is an excellent idea. Bull testing is a must for ranches, along with good records and keeping an eye out for strung out calf crops. Which under current circumstances may not just be caused by nutrition, but could be Trichomoniasis. There are a number of management strategies to help combat Trichomoniasis (e.g. bull testing, vaccination, culling, bio-security), but you need a plan.

Along with the dry weather we will see Vitamin A deficiencies and mineral deficiencies due to lack of adequate forage. Vitamin and mineral deficiencies lead to reproductive

(See **Mother Nature** on Page 4)

(Mother Nature cont'd from Page 3)

problems (including retained placentas), eye problems, and poor immune systems that often result in respiratory disease. There have been reports of grass tetany caused by low Magnesium levels in Texas cattle moved north to pastures made lush by high rainfall and cool weather. We also need to watch out for dust pneumonia in calves on cows. The dust that calves inhale while following cows, coupled with heat stress, can cause severe respiratory problems. When treating sick calves on cows or lightweight purchased stockers, especially from dry weather situations, do not forget about oral and IV electrolytes to help survival rates in this heat. A good mineral program can also help on these purchased calves with health and electrolyte imbalance. Remember that low water supplies in creeks, rivers, and dirt tanks not only cause problems with bogging down, but lower water volume can concentrate problems such as Lepto. Which can be spread in drinking water.

I hope this information helps as you work with your veterinarian to plan a health program to combat the tough circumstances we are facing. Please call on us here at Ranch Management if we can help in any way. Good luck and keep praying for rain.



A Fond Farewell

I have had the honor and privilege of being the Administrative Assistant of the Ranch Management Program since the spring of 2005. In this time, I have watched as seven groups of students walked through the doors; many of you, with the traditional “deer in the headlights look” in your eyes and asking, “What in the heck have I gotten myself into?” in order to embark on an

educational journey that is both world renowned and unsurpassed.

As funny as it was to see this, I knew your gained knowledge and experiences would surpass all first day jitters. I watched each of you grow and mature and graduate from the program with increased knowledge in the agriculture industry, more confident and with lifelong friendships to carry you on your path. I am proud to have been a part of your success!

I value the friendships I have developed with the students, alumni and friends of the program that I have been fortunate enough to meet. Each of you has touched my life in some way and for that I am truly grateful.

As for the Faculty/Staff of Ranch Management, we have been like family. I appreciate and love each of you very much and have enjoyed learning from you. I love your dedication and commitment to the success of the program, its current class as well as its alumni. My life is blessed and enriched because of you.

Many of you have asked what my plans are now. After much contemplation and even more prayer, I decided to enroll in the Patisserie and Baking program at Le Cordon Bleu. Attending a baking program has been a longtime desire of mine but being a single mother of four, it was often challenging to fulfill all my own goals and dreams since their needs always came first. Now that my children are all grown I have decided, with their encouragement and full-hearted support, to enroll in school.

My new schedule will not only afford me the opportunity to spend more time with my family but it will also allow me the chance to do more writing, which is also a passion of mine. I am so blessed to have so much love and support along my journey.

I will miss being a part of TCU and the Ranch Management Program. It has been one amazing opportunity that I will always cherish. I welcome hearing

from you. My email address is admireyourheritage@gmail.com. Farewell until our paths cross again and best wishes to each of you.

Take care,
Andria

Evening Graduates



Laura Davis of Denton & Janelle Davila of Grand Prairie.



Ruth Nethery and Dr. David Nethery, both of Fort Worth, with their proud daughter, Lauren Ruth.

Not pictured: Mike Barnard of Colleyville.

The Evening Division Graduation and Field Day was held at Burgundy Pasture Beef in Grandview, Texas on May 14, 2011. Jon Taggart, owner/operator gave a tour of his grass-fed beef operation. The ranch tour was followed by a delicious hamburger lunch at the Burgundy Boucherie, also owned and operated by Jon and Wendy Taggart.



Ranch Management Class of 2011

Graduation ceremony for the class of 2011 was held May, 5 in the Ballroom of the Brown Lupton University Union. Family and friends from around the country joined in the celebration. It was a pleasure and honor to work with this group of young people for the past nine months. We want to congratulate them on their accomplishments and welcome them into the TCU Ranch Management Alumni.

First Row (L to R): *Dr. Bonnie Melhart*; **Bryan Morris** (Seymour, Texas), Paul **Sammon** (Ontario Canada), **Max Jones** (Fort Lauderdale, Florida), **Daniel Brandstadt** (Delta, Colorado), **Jason Cranford** (Sims, Arkansas), **Josey Foscalina** (Fremont, California), **Christopher LanCarte** (Paris, Texas), **Cody Frantzen** (Fredericksburg, Texas), **William Cagle** (Dallas, Texas).

Second Row (L to R): *Missy Bonds* (Alumni President), *Kerry Cornelius*, *Jeff Geider*, **Michael Sasser** (Corpus Christi, Texas), **Cooper Johnson** (Harpersville, Alabama), **Chance Worrell** (Altus, Oklahoma), **Teke Eldridge** (Capitan, New Mexico), **Andrew Van Wart** (Burleson, Texas), **John Kane** (Bartlesville, Oklahoma), **Josh Carter** (Springtown, Texas), **Mitchell Aufdengarten** (Marfa, Texas), **Jack Sandford** (Greenwood, Texas), *Kevin Johnson*, *Dr. Nowell Donovan*.

Third Row (L to R): *Jason Faubion*, **Anthony Ruiz** (Mannsville, Oklahoma), **Royce O'Neal** (White Deer, Texas), **Chilton Miller** (Vernon, Arizona), **Jeremiah Moxley** (Mobridge, South Dakota), **Walker Milhoan** (St. Regis, Montana), **Kyle Bachman** (Welch, Oklahoma), *Chris Farley*.



**Summer Roping 2011
Diamond W Arena – Alvarado, TX**



Kevin Przilas and Allison Donnell

For over five years Kevin Przilas of Intervet/Schering Plough, along with Pete Bonds, has donated a beautiful Ranch Management saddle to be given away at the Summer Roping. The winner of this year's saddle was Allison Donnell, daughter of Jamie Donnell, class of 1987. Lunch was provided by Bayer, Walco International, and AgriLabs. A big THANK YOU goes out to all of our sponsors!!

See you in San Angelo next summer!!