



# FARM & RANCH CLUB FLASH

Volume 9, Issue 7

JULY 2005

## PRESIDENT'S PEN

Nan Fidler

I hope all of you have been enjoying the bounty of the earth. Summer is progressing at high speed. I have been doing my daily rain dance to no avail. Hopefully, I will get the steps correct in a few days. There are times I would love to see those beautiful glaciers again that I saw last month to cool down.

Well, Dairy Month has passed. I hope all of you ate your share of products. July 4<sup>th</sup> has come and gone. I know all of you share with A. J. and me in our thankfulness and appreciation for this wonderful country. At times we go through tribulations, but we are still the most blessed people on the planet. Quoting Robert Jackson "There is no such thing as an achieved liberty; like electricity, there can be no substantial storage, it must be generated as it is enjoyed or the lights will go out".

I heard that last month's luncheon was great! I was glad to hear about the turn out for the program and presentations. I'm sure all of you will want to attend this month's meeting to learn valuable information about our trees.

It's time to start thinking about nominees for the W. A. "Bill" King Award. Mr. King, one of the founders of this club, used his position as livestock superintendent for the stock show and his work with the Chamber of Commerce to promote the future of agriculture. Gather your thoughts and get your letters of nomination together for this prestigious award. There are a number of folks in this area who have worked to further agriculture who would be worthy. Please send your letters to Ken Leiber, c/o National Finance Corp., 410 E. Weatherford, Fort Worth, Texas, 76102, 817-882-4700. The deadline for nominations is September 15<sup>th</sup>.

I read an article in the June 18th, Star-Telegram about master saddle maker Bill Gomer. He recently taught classes in Fort Worth. Many of you have spent countless hours in the saddle. I know that it is a comfort to you that Mr. Gomer is teaching the technique of cut, bend, twist, smooth, glue, tack and stitch to create a good hand-made saddle. Maybe this will insure keeping this craft going for future generations.

Mark July 26<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for our next meeting. Bring a guest to hear Melinda Adams, City Forester.

*Nan Fidler*

## JUNE MEETING:

Hugh Ross

Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – 12 Noon  
TSCRA Brand Room  
1301 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Worth 76107

Fajitas - \$10.00

Melinda Adams – City Forester

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**Our speaker this month is Melinda Adams, Fort Worth's City Forester. Melinda holds a Bachelors of Science in Forestry from Stephen F. Austin State University with a minor in Biology and is a member of Xi Sigma Pi, the National Forestry Honors Society. She has been a certified arborist since 1997 and sat on the International Society of Arboriculture, Texas Chapter Board of Directors from 1998 to 2004.**

**Prior to her current position, she spent five years as an Arborist with the Department of Planning and Development for the City of Dallas. Melinda's job description as City Forester includes overseeing the Forestry Section, managing trees on public property throughout the city, and assisting citizens with tree care concerns. What she enjoys most about her job is shepherding the city's public trees, which she feels are one of Fort Worth's richest historical and cultural resources.**

## CLUB NOTES:

### Results of BSE Test Announced, June 29

The Texas Department of Agriculture reported that DNA has confirmed the 12-year-old cow testing positive for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy was from a Texas herd. The cow, which was originally tested and sampled in November 2004, was blocked and removed from the human food supply last year at the time of testing.

"Texas cattle producers are committed to ensuring that the nation's beef supply remains safe for all consumers both here and abroad," Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said. "It is important to remember that this animal was banned from the food or feed chain and that long-standing safeguards have been in place to protect public health."

For more information, visit the TDA website at [www.tda.state.tx.us](http://www.tda.state.tx.us)



# FARM & RANCH CLUB MEETING MINUTES

TEXAS & SOUTHWESTERN CATTLE RAISERS MUSEUM, BRAND ROOM  
TUESDAY, June 28, 2005

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27 Members and Guests Present

## **CALL TO ORDER – Hugh Ross**

## **INVOCATION – Bill Ward**

## **WELCOME AND RECOGNITION-**

Buddy Almy introduced Shannon West.

Hugh Ross introduced his wife Kathy, brother Albert Ross, an attorney in Arlington, and Syble Miller.

Butch Beardsley from Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show introduced himself.

## **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS-**

### **Treasurer's Report – Ending Balance of \$7474.94.**

It was moved by Buddy Almy and seconded by Pam Wright to approve the minutes as written.

**Presentations –** Hugh Ross presented Butch Beardsley with \$1000 for the Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show. Robbie Robertson was presented with \$1000 for the Tarrant County Pizza Ranch

## **PROGRAM – Roger Stiles**

Roger is a 12<sup>th</sup> generation member of the Stiles family who emigrated from England for a better life in the United States. They moved all across the US, farming apples before settling in south Texas. Roger's grandfather was attracted to south Texas, as he was an accomplished horticulturist who was asked to help the locals determine what the arid south Texas land could be used for. The land was already being used for cattle raising, which the Spanish vaqueros introduced to the area. His grandfather became involved in learning the cattle business and was constantly looking for ways to improve production and management. During this time, Mr. Stiles began using branding irons for identification of free range cattle which covered the countryside. His son, Roger's father, purchased land in 1924 adjacent to the King Ranch about 15 miles inland of the Gulf. Roger's brother Leonard also became involved in the cattle raising industry. He worked with TSCRA for about 9 years, where he was charged with investigating cattle thefts which sparked his interest in the collection of branding irons. After TSCRA, Leonard went to work for the King Ranch for 40 years, where he collected and provided information on all of his collection of branding irons which eventually were put on display at the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raiser's Museum. Roger's brother Don also works in the cattle industry and lives in Cuero.

## **DOOR PRIZES – Roger Stiles won a free lunch.**

John Merrill won a pocket knife donated by Albert Ross.

Patti Beckham won a leatherman tool donated by Albert Ross.

Pam Wright won a 10-in-1 tool kit donated by Albert Ross.

Bob Thomas won a box of golf balls donated by Ag Workers Mutual Auto Insurance Company.

**ADJOURNED –** Hugh Ross adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.