

## Middle Tennessee State Alum Turns Green Thumb into Landscaping Empire

Printed with permission from Gwinnett Magazine



Bill Russell, Middle Tennessee State.

Yes, the touch of Bill Russell is hard to miss. The 50 year old has his hands in seemingly all of his county's marquis venues. "We work in twelve metro counties," he says of the two firms (Russell Landscape Group and Chem-Turf Russell and Companies) that employ 75 people and gross \$3 million a year, "but we've made Gwinnett our

first priority. It's very exciting to drive around my home county and see the results of our projects here. It far outweighs even the 60 miles of interstate we landscaped for the '96 Olympics."

Russell may not have had Olympic aspirations when he began his entrepreneurial career, but he knew he was in the right field -- one he had been in all his adult life. After earning his Ph.D. in agricultural chemistry from Ohio State University, he worked in the private sector as a landscape pesticide researcher. That path led him to Eli Lilly & Company, a Fortune 100 firm that was working on the grounds of the nation's most prestigious golf courses... Augusta National and Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club to name a few.

"I have to give Mr. Palmer credit," Russell says of one of the game's greatest legends. "He saw the work I was doing and told me I ought to start my own business."

In 1987, Palmer's advice proved as true as one of his classic 10 foot birdie puts. Russell opened Chem - Turf that year with a standing contract worth \$300,000 from a major client in California. Within three years, the company

had grown so fast it was listed in an Atlanta Business Chronicle Top 20 list.

Along the way, he also brought to life three other companies. One builds and finances starter homes - Russell Family Limited Partnership. Another, Russell Development and Holding Co. Ltd., buys tracts of land and places mobile homes on them. The third, Fundraisers Group, Inc., is aimed at helping nonprofit organizations raise money through auctions.

Looking back to his years as an undergraduate at Middle Tennessee State University, Russell has fond memories of being an AGR Brother. Russell says that his AGR Brothers are "permanent influences and business partners." He vividly remembers the friendships that he made with his AGR Brothers and recalls the relationship as being like an "extended family." Russell believes that his membership in Alpha Gamma Rho has instilled a sense of teamwork in him, a quality that Russell places a high value on.

(Continued on next page)

## 79 farm show host still running strong Ag careers take Priebe's on diverse paths

By Tom Campbell, Purdue Agriculture Connections



The Priebe family no longer farms, but as district sales manager for Specialty Hybrids, Terry is deeply immersed in agriculture.

For three September days, 22 years ago, the 3,500 acre Priebe farm was the agricultural version of Woodstock, minus, of course, the music, the mud and the madness. More than 400,000 people toured the Indiana farm to see the latest and greatest that the agriculture industry had to offer as part of the *Prairie Farmer Magazine's* 1979 Farm

Progress Show.

It seemed all roads led to the farm 40 miles south of the Purdue University campus, and many of those roads ran over, around and through crops planted for the show.

"They had to build a network of streets throughout the exhibition area on our farm," Terry Priebe, Purdue AGR '69, remembers. "Thank God it didn't rain, because the mud would have been an unbelievable mess."

The Priebe farm made sense for a site for the show, which rotates annually between Indiana, Illinois,

and Iowa.

"The farm was close to two interstate highways, so lots of people could get there. We had large fields that could host the vendors' area, an airstrip, as well as plots for demonstrations and parking. Plus, we were close enough to hotels in Crawfordsville and Indianapolis, so people had a place to stay," Terry explains.

The Priebe Farm also had name recognition. Terry's grandfather, Fred, started buying Montgomery County farmland during the Depression. With the exception of the five years Terry was earning his degrees and running track and cross-country at Purdue, he worked the family farm with his younger brother, Tim, Purdue AGR '74, and his father Lincoln.

(Continued on next page)

### IN THIS ISSUE

- AGR Member Chosen for National Leadership.....2
- 9th AGR Congressman elected.....3
- Coffey Helps Brew Ag Lobbying Effort.....6
- Moulton Family Tree Farmer Award.....7

## Florida AGR Member Chosen for National Leadership

National FFA Organization Names 2001-2002 National FFA Officers



Barrett Keene  
Florida

The National FFA Organization has selected 21-year-old Barrett Keene, Plant City, Florida, as the 2001-2002 National FFA Southern Region Vice President. Keene is a member of the Plant City FFA Chapter and Alpha Gamma Chapter of AGR at the University of Florida. His parents are Julie and Travis Keene.

Keene is one of six individuals chosen for a national officer position out of a field of 41 candidates. The University of Florida junior, who is majoring in agricultural education, hopes to "serve as a true friend and servant to my biggest role models, my fellow FFA members."

These members will spend a year traveling the United States and abroad. They will become premier representatives of agricultural education and FFA, meeting with top executives throughout the agricultural industry. In addition, these young people will meet thousands of their peers in FFA chapters throughout the country, sharing their needs and ideas with the National FFA Organization. ■

## Middle Tennessee Alum turns Green thumb into Landscaping Empire

(Continued from front page)

"I stay pretty busy," he says, "but I don't work 100 hours a week like I used to. You can't do that at my age."

One of the keys to his success was actually reducing his workload, a decision he made when confronting a scenario entrepreneurs know so well.

"I was using cheap labor and doing as much as I could myself," he remembers. "That helped me keep my costs down. Five or six years ago, I realized that my companies could only be as strong as my weakest employee."

Russell beefed up his labor force by hiring college graduates with degrees in landscape architecture and horticulture.

"I give them assignments and responsibilities and now I act more like a CEO," he says.

Despite his new role, many clients say he's kidding himself if he doesn't think he's still involved in personal oversight. They see his car passing through all the time, says Cabot Industrial Trust Vice President JennyLen Bowden.

Though Russell is well-compensated for most jobs, he puts the same quality into the ones he does for free. Twice a year, he takes on community service projects. The Russell Companies have won environmental community service grand awards in metro Atlanta for the past three consecutive years. ■

### Correction

The following error was reported in the Fall 2001 edition of SICKLE & SHEAF:

In the article entitled "That a Chapter Opens doors to New Home," it was reported that Mrs. Jerry Litton attended the house dedication. This was actually Mrs. Mildred Litton, the mother of the late Jerry Litton.

The Home Office apologizes for this mistake and any confusion it may have caused.

## 79 farm show host still running

Terry was in the middle of the "Priebe pipeline" to Purdue. For 13 consecutive years, there was at least one son enrolled in Purdue's School of Agriculture. (first was Ted, former AGR Grand President, who is now the owner of Meyocks and Priebe, a Des Moines based advertising firm, then Terry, and then Tim.)

Still within a few pounds of his college running weight, Priebe has run both the Chicago and Indy marathons. But commitments to spring planting always kept him from properly training for the Holy Grail of American distance events, the Boston Marathon, held every April.

Priebe still runs every day, usually the 10-mile loop through the rolling farmland of southern Montgomery County. On weekends, the route stretches to Crawfordsville and back, a 20-mile loop near the farmland that hosted the Progress Show 22 years ago.

It was the last time a single family hosted the show.

"It was a real working show," says Terry. "We harvested 1,500 acres of corn and soybeans in just three days. We ran field equipment from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day of the show. We used six grain dryers non-stop and dried about 50,000 bushels of corn each day. It was a very good working show.

Companies were thrilled they could run their equipment, kind of show it off, and the farmers could see it happen. Not everything falls into place that often."

Included was a 70-acre plot of oats and grass the Priebe family had to sow, grow, and mow to create a

parking lot for visitors. The nonstop parade of car and truck traffic left a depression in the landscape that lasted for years.

The Priebe family got out of farming in 1996. Commodity prices were high, but morale on the farm

"Still within a few pounds of his college running weight, Priebe has run both the Chicago and

was low. Sapped by the death of Terry's mom, Margaret, it seemed a good time for Lincoln to retire and for Terry and Tim to try something else.

"Mom (Margaret) kept all the books on the farm. She was

the one who kept everybody going, she was the hub of the operation," says Terry. "When she died in 1991, it was like a big part of the farm was gone. Nobody had the desire to go at it like we wanted to, or needed to, to continue to be successful. The interest just wasn't there like it wasn't there like it was before."

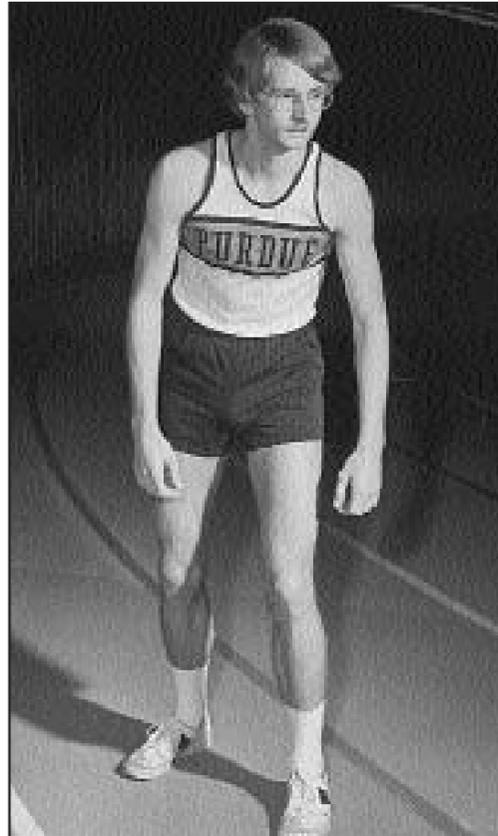
The Priebe family farmed for a few more years, then made a joint decision to get

out of farming in 1996. Lincoln retired, and, depending on the weather, can be found in Florida or Canada. Tim got into agricultural sales, and Terry cemented a bond that began while he was farming, joining Specialty Hybrids as a district sales manager for a 10-county market in southeast-central Indiana.

"The farm

bill had just come out, and it looked like things might not get too much better over the next few years," Terry remembers, "so dad just decided to retire.

Using a lesson he learned in distance running, Priebe never looked back. ■



Terry Priebe hasn't stopped running since his days as a member of the Purdue track team.

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## Car accident claims life of K-State Undergraduate Brother

Lance Christopher Donley was in an early morning car accident on November 21, the day before Thanksgiving. He was hospitalized and died the afternoon of the same day. Donley was an agricultural education student from Brookville, Kansas. He joined Alpha Gamma Rho in the fall of 1998 and was scheduled to graduate this year. Donley was 21 years of age.

## Benjamin Davis named as new RVP-



*Benjamin P. Davis  
RVP-Northeast  
Cornell*

Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity is proud to announce that Benjamin Davis has been named the new Regional Vice President for the Northeast Region. This region includes the chapters of Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, Cornell, and Maine.

He is a member of Zeta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho at Cornell University and was initiated in the Fall of 1985. Davis graduated from Cornell University in May of 1988 with a B.S. in Animal Science and received a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of New Hampshire in December of 1996. Davis presently serves as the Associate Director of Development for

the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. Prior to his position at Cornell, Davis served as the Executive Director and State Resource Development and Program Coordinator for the New York State 4-H Foundation. Davis was also an International 4-H Youth Exchange Representative and a 4-H Program Assistant.

He has volunteered as a 4-H Project and Activity Leader for the past seventeen years, and has been honored with an Achievement in Service Award from the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. Davis is also a member of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, and served as president and treasurer for the New Hampshire/New York Association of Extension 4-H Educators. ■



## 2nd Century Vision

By: Allan R. Johnson, Past Grand President,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Century Planning Task Force Chairman

On a cold November day a year ago, a group of AGRs hunkered down in a meeting room at an O'Hare hotel to ponder the challenge presented by Grand President Bill Boehm, "What should AGR look like a hundred years from now and what changes need to be made to get there?"

Zane Akins, Past Grand President, led the group through the thought provoking exercise. Will the ideals, values and traditions developed since 1904 still serve AGR into the next century, or has college life and the young men attending universities today changed so much that AGR has to change to survive and prosper in this new age? What will it take to "Make Better Men" in the next century?

The first assignment from Brother Akins was to develop the AGR vision statement. This vision statement emerged as a result of discussions involving many undergraduate and alumni AGR members. This was a process that took several months. Here is the result of the Task Force work along with the review and input from hundreds of AGRs since our first meeting:

To be the premier  
fraternity  
building values, skills and  
relationships  
for lifelong personal  
and professional success  
in the food, fiber and  
life sciences industry

Let's take a closer look at the elements of the vision statement.

To be the premier fraternity. AGR will continue to be a leading fraternal organization with all of the traditions of the past. We believe in

the Greek mythology built into our ceremonies and feel that it should continue to be an important part of AGR. Our fraternity is unique in the Greek world because of the social and professional culture, but the organization must understand that we will always be a part of the larger fraternity movement and will be impacted by their performance as well as our own. The organization must continue to grow in membership and number of chapters.

Building values, skills and relationships. Brotherhood bonding is vital to AGR. We continue to see the AGR experience developing leadership skills and moral and social values. Many AGR alums tell us they developed their social and leadership skills while members of undergraduate AGR chapters, and these skills have given them an edge throughout their careers. Strategic planning will become even more important to the chapters and the national AGR organization.

For lifelong personal and professional success. AGR is not just an undergraduate experience, although the experiences and skills gained while in college will be used throughout life. AGR is a brotherhood relationship for life and many AGRs find that the AGR relationships developed after college have been as important to them as those developed in college. We need to continue to challenge AGR brothers to stay involved at the local and national level with their time, talent and monetary support. A strong AGR fraternity cannot be built without the personal commitment of AGR alumni.



*Allan R. Johnson*

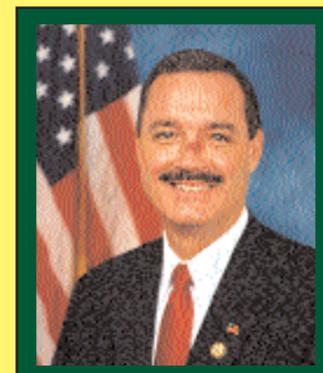
In the food, fiber and life sciences industry. Agriculture is a very diverse industry today compared to when our founders gathered in 1904. Today, agriculture can mean food technology, biotechnology, forestry, horticulture as well as agronomy, animal science or agriculture economics. Production agriculture is no less important to AGR today, but there are many quality young men pursuing these new careers who also deserve the opportunity to share in the AGR experience. Our chapters, our fraternity and our industry will all be better as our chapters become more diverse.

What our task force found to be very gratifying is that we saw no need to radically change the purpose that has served us so well for this past century. We may define our industry different today, but the ideals and traditions that made good AGRs in the past will continue to make good AGRs in the future.

AGR would like to thank other members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Planning Task Force: Allan R. Johnson, Chairman, Past Grand President; Zane Akins, Past Grand President; Gene Lemon, Past Grand President; Bernie Staller, Past AGR Foundation President; Joe Coffey; Current AGR Foundation Director; Kraig Wagenecht, Grand President Award Winner; Phil Josephson, AGR Executive Director. ■

**Please comment by sending  
a message to:  
agr@AlphaGammaRho.org**

## 9th AGR Congressman Elected



*Jeff Miller  
Florida*

United States Representative Jeff Miller was elected to Congress in October of 2001 with 66% of the vote. He received over 54% of the popular vote in a six-way Republican primary election in July of the same year.

After taking the oath of office, Congressman Miller was appointed to the House Armed Services Committee. He also serves as a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. Miller was first elected to the state house in 1998 and re-elected in 2000 to serve as State Representative of District 1. He has served as Chairman of the Utilities & Telecommunications Committee. He was also a member of the Congressional Redistricting Committee, the Committee on General Government Appropriations, the Committee on Rules, Ethics, & Elections, and the Council for Ready Infrastructure. He is the past Chairman of the Escambia County Legislative Delegation for 1999-2000.

In addition to his prior service as a State Legislator, Congressman Miller is active in the community as a board member of the Santa Rosa County United Way, the Pregnancy Resource Center of Milton, the Gulf Coast Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Florida FFA Foundation.

Representative Miller is married to the former Vicki Griswold. They are both active members of Elizabeth Chapel United Methodist Church in Chumuckla. They have two children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Miller is a member of Alpha Gamma (University of Florida) Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho. He served as Noble Ruler as an undergraduate.

Alpha Zeta  
Alumnus  
Named  
Recipient of  
the



*Arnold Appleby  
Kansas State*

Arnold P. Appleby, Professor Emeritus at Oregon State University, has been named the 2001 recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in Teaching and Research from the Kansas State University College of Agriculture. Appleby was born and raised near Formoso, KS, graduated from Courtland H.S., and received his B.S. in 1957 and M.S. in 1958 from Kansas State. He joined the Crop Science Department at Oregon State as a weed scientist in 1959, and received his Ph.D. from OSU in 1962.

Among the honors and recognition he received are Fellow Awards from four professional societies, three Distinguished Professor Awards at Oregon State, the 1971 Outstanding Teacher Award and the 1983 Outstanding Research Award from the Weed Science Society of America, the Outstanding Weed Scientist Award in 1990 from the Western Society of Weed Science, the Outstanding Teacher Award in the College of Agriculture in 1980, and several departmental teaching awards. He has served as major professor or co-major professor for 74 graduate programs. The award was presented on December 8 at the commencement ceremonies in Manhattan. ■

ON THE MOVE ON THE M

**Dennis G. Hackett**, Illinois, was named chairman of American Bankers Association, Agricultural and Rural Bankers Committee for 2001-2002.



*Dennis Hackett  
Illinois*



*Jacob Dunn  
Cal Poly State*

**Jacob L. Dunn**, Cal Poly State University, is completing his masters degree and teaching credential in June 2002. He will then begin teaching high school agriculture in California.

**Mark A. Bemis**, Illinois, has been named president of ADM Cocoa. Bemis will be responsible for the company's global cocoa business and will relocate to Decatur. He has been with the company since 1983.

**Daniel A. Ashworth, Jr.**, Mississippi State, was recently elected as the Student Representative to the Board of Trustees of American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). This post is the highest position a student can hold in the ASLA's national governance. He is also the first Landscape Architecture student from Mississippi State University to be elected to this position.

**Randy A. Marten**, Illinois, is the Chief Operating Officer for Miller Milling Company.

**Daniel E. Larson**, Southern Illinois, has been named vice president of the specialty ingredients division at Archer Daniels Midland. Larson will be responsible for overseeing sales of the lecithin and mono-glyceride business units. He has been with the company since 1979 and was most recently with the protein specialties division.

**Tim Luginsland**, Kansas State, and **Paul Fredrichs**, Kansas State, are members of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program class. The two-year

training class began in fall 2001 and includes ten in-state seminars, a national study tour to Washington, D.C., and a ten-day international study tour in 2003.

**Scott Shuey**, Kansas State, is a partner/owner in the Adams County Veterinary Services. He and his wife Karin Tan have a daughter, Morgan Lynn, born on November 26, 2000. Their other children are Ryan and Madison, and they live in Corning, Iowa.

**Mark Winslow**, Connecticut, has joined the United Cooperative Farmers Incorporation as director of sales. Winslow will be responsible for the expansion, training, development, and leadership of the dairy specialist team. He was previously with Shur-Grain USA.



*Mark Winslow  
Connecticut*



*Terry Geurink  
Wisconsin-River Falls*

**Terry Geurink**, Wisconsin-River Falls, has joined Associated Bank as Vice President of Business Banking for the Wausau Banking office. In his new position, Geurink will provide commercial lending and related financial services to the business community. Before joining Associated, Terry worked as a Business Manager for a Regional Cooperative and prior to that spent six years as a loan officer/manager at a financial institution.

**David B. Reis**, Illinois, has been honored with the ACES Alumni Association Outstanding Young Alumni Award. Reis is a farmer and business man. As a partner and manager of Reis Farms, he continues to build and upgrade the 1,150-acre grain operation and finish out 12,000 hogs annually. He is co-founder of JC Co-op, an organization that maximizes the buying and selling power of local small independent farms.

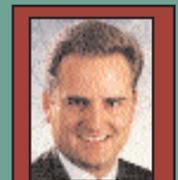
**John Chick**, Maryland, was promoted to Division Director at ROW Sciences, which provides research support to the biomedical research community.

**Ronald Mack**, Purdue, was named president of SJC Lubricant Specialists, a distributor of Shell, Texaco, Valvoline and D.A. Stuart Lubricants & Fluids. Offices are located in Cayuga, IN; Lafayette, IN; and Taylorville, IN.

**Phil Francis**, Illinois, was presented with the 2001 Illinois 4-H Alumni Award. Francis is chairman, president, and CEO of PETSMART.

**Dr. Steven Stice**, Illinois, has been presented with the ACES Alumni Association Outstanding Young Alumni Award. Dr. Stice is a world renowned cloning researcher. Stice has conducted cloning and embryonic stem-cell research with several institutions. He is currently the Eminent Scholar in Animal Reproductive Physiology at the University of Georgia in Athens, splitting his responsibilities between academic research and business.

**Greg Nickerson**, Iowa State, has been named president of Bader Rutter & Associates. Nickerson joined Bader Rutter in 1985. Throughout his 16-year career he has held numerous positions, most recently as executive vice president. Bader Rutter is now the third largest business-to-business marketing services agency in the country. Clients include units of well-known Fortune 500 companies such as Dow Chemical, Boise Cascade and Merck.



*Greg Nickerson  
Iowa State*

**BJ Shipp**, New Mexico State, recently opened an Edward Jones office in Fort Collins, Colorado.  
**Richard C. Wahlstrom**, Nebraska, will

USDA Appoints Kappa Chapter AC as Deputy



Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman announced the appointment of Michael E. Neruda as the Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development.

Neruda, raised on the family farm near Dorchester, Nebraska, brings extensive knowledge of agriculture and management issues to USDA as a result of his many years of service for the U.S.

Congress and USDA. During his years of congressional service, he worked for a number of U.S. Senators and Members of Congress and served as the staff director for the House Committee on Agriculture's Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Resource Conservation and Credit that was chaired by former Congressman Bill Barrett. Neruda also served during the previous Bush Administration as the Executive Assistant to then Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan where he provided direction and guidance on field structure and management issues.

Neruda holds a bachelor of science degree in general agriculture from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he was a member of AGR, Kappa Chapter. During his senior year, he

MOVING? CHANGING JOBS? RECEIVING AWARDS?

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HOME PHONE: ( )	AWARDS & LEADERSHIP POSITION IN INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY:
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CITY:	
STATE: ZIP:	
SOCIAL SECURITY NO.:	

Please enclose a photo to be used in a future issue of SICKLE & SHEAF.

Send to: Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, 10101 N. Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153 or FAX: (816) 891-9401. (FAX label on reverse as well.)

# MOVE ON

be travelling to Haiti for two weeks in February 2002 to train people on using solar ovens for their cooking. They will be cutting out the parts of the ovens here, send to Haiti, where they assemble them and distribute with instructions on their use. This is all volunteer effort.

**Robert L. Hurst**, Purdue, will celebrate sixty years farming his family farm this spring. Mr. Hurst is a fourth generation farmer on his farm and graduated from Purdue in 1942.

## Have you moved?

Have you recently been promoted or changed jobs?

Your fellow Brothers want to know!

Notify the Home Office using the information card provided below.

## AGR Mike Neruda

served as Noble Ruler of Kappa Chapter. In addition, he served as president of Block and Bridle and Vice President of the Innocents Society, a senior men's honorary. Neruda also holds a master of arts degree in public administration from the University of Oklahoma.

Neruda, a Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve, received the Bronze Star for his service on active duty during Operation Desert Storm. After the war he was chosen the return to the USA with General Norman Schwarzkopf to manage all aspects of the General's participation in public events. He is the father of two children, Michael and Stephanie, and currently resides in Bethesda, Maryland. ■

## Brothers Both Elected to Presidency positions for National



*Kent Ames  
Ohio State*



*David Ames  
Ohio State*

Kent and David Ames, who are fraternal brothers (both are alumni from Ohio State) and blood brothers, were both elected to presidency positions with national organizations for the 2001-02 year.

Kent Ames DVM, MS began a one-year term as president of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) at its annual meeting on September 15, 2001, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Dr. Ames is a professor in the Dept. of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary

Medicine, Michigan State University. His area of expertise is clinical medicine and surgery of cattle, of which he teaches prospective veterinarians.

Following eight years on the AABP board of directors, Dr. Ames was elected to the position of Vice President in 1999, progressing to president elect in 2000, and the presidency in 2001.

The AABP is an international association of 6,000 veterinarians organized to enhance the well being of cattle through relevant continuing education, increased awareness, and promotion of leadership for issues critical to cattle industries.

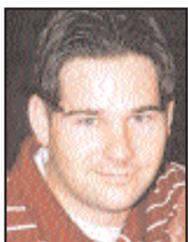
Dr. David R. Ames, Ohio State, was named as president of the American Society of Animal Sciences. Established in 1908, the ASAS is a professional organization for animal scientists designed to help members provide effective leadership through

research, extension, teaching, and service for the dynamic and rapidly changing livestock and meat industries. David also serves as a RVP for the West Central region for AGR.

The mission of ASAS is to discover, disseminate, and apply knowledge for sustainable use of animals for food and other human needs.

Dr. David Ames said that "AGR has given me the opportunity to gain leadership experience while introducing me to many of my lifetime friends and professional colleagues." ■

## Oklahoma State Alumnus Tackles Environmental



*Cody White  
Oklahoma State*

Cody White, Oklahoma State, has worked for the Modoc Tribe in Miami, OK, for the past couple of years as an environmental director. As director, White has the opportunity to work closely with EPA Region VI, as well as the BIA and other government agencies.

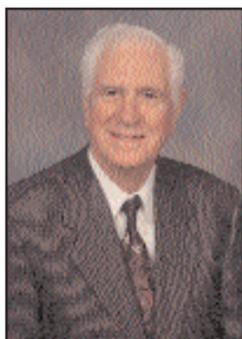
Miami, Oklahoma, where the Modoc tribe is located, is the location of the Tar Creek Superfund site. This area in Northeast Oklahoma was mined extensively for lead and zinc from the early 1900s to the 1960s. The site was then abandoned, and groundwater filled the old mine excavations. The pyretic materials left over lowered the pH of the groundwater, and in 1979 surfaced through old airshafts and various other openings. Large piles of the mine tailings remain around the 40-square mile section of the Tri-State Mining Region. These piles are laced with heavy metals, and have posed a threat since the early 1900's.

Although the Modoc tribe that White works for does not own any land in the Superfund Site, the tribe is affected by its presence. There have been increased lead levels detected in children that live in and around Miami, and the lead has affected groundwater and surface water quality in the area.

To deal with these issues, the EPA has spent millions over the past 21 years remediating and studying possibilities. The tribes, EPA, and the community have all contributed to lead awareness education.

White and his wife Aimee are the proud parents of their first son, Blake Justus, who was born on September 15, 2001. Blake is already excited about becoming a third generation AGR, and went to his first Oklahoma State homecoming this Fall. ■

## L.S. Bill Pope Inducted into Adult and Continuing Education



*L.S. "Bill" Pope  
Michigan State*

L.S. "Bill" Pope (Michigan State, '42) was recently inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, sponsored by the College of Education at the University of Oklahoma. He was selected as one of seven outstanding educators from across the U.S. to be so honored. Dr. Pope has been a staunch supporter of Alpha Gamma Rho while serving three universities. The award cites a remarkable career, spanning half a century of teaching, research, and administration at three major land grant universities: Oklahoma State, Texas A&M, and New Mexico State.

Among his many areas of service, Pope was cited

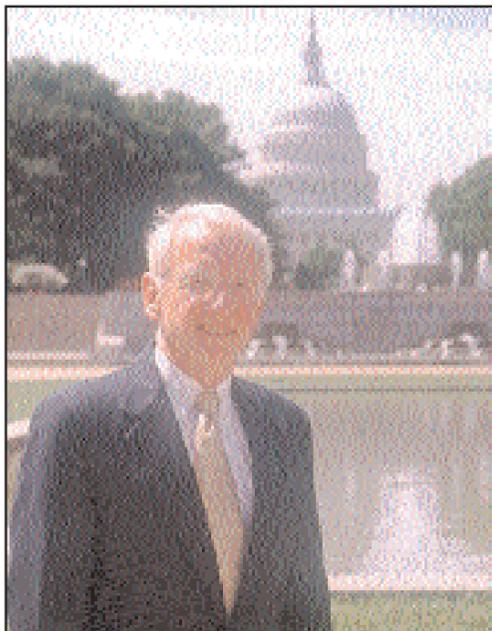
for leadership in the beef industry, serving cattlemen in three states. At Texas A&M, he launched the Master of Agriculture degree, modeled after the MBA so prevalent in many Colleges of Business. At New Mexico, he was named Man of the Year in Agriculture for contributions to industry and the formation of a range improvement task force to foster better relations between ranchers and government agencies.

Of special importance has been his leadership in developing the Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership program, designed to enhance the skills and abilities of young adults. Even though he is retired, he continues to serve as executive secretary of the Association of Leadership Program Directors, involving 37 states, Canada and Australia.

The citation commends Dr. Pope for a career of dedicated service which has opened new doors of opportunity for tomorrow's leaders. ■

# Coffey Helps Brew Ag Lobbying Effort

By Chris Sigurdson, Purdue Agriculture Connections



A love for agricultural policy and a belief in the benefits of agricultural research have sent Joe Coffey back to the nation's capital as a secretary-treasurer of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research.

As a young man hand milking the six cows on his grandparent's dairy farm near Martinsville, Ind., Joe Coffey, Purdue AGR '57 and Director for the AGR Educational Foundation, knew there had to be a better way.

While wired for electricity and phone, the small farm still relied on horse power for some of the field work. A militia of volunteer corn had to be uprooted one at a time. A modern cow could outproduce the entire dairy on a daily basis. Christmas vacations were spent gleaning fields—walking the rows in winter coats and picking up the ears of corn left behind by the early mechanical harvesters.

The difference between then and now is what's made Coffey a believer in the benefits

of agricultural research.

"I've seen science-based technology change the face of farming," Coffey says. "Mechanization, hybrid corn, weed killers, feed supplements, I've personally witnessed the changes in agriculture and how they've benefited producers and consumers."

He should know. In the 40-some years since he left Martinsville, Coffey has looked at agriculture from all possible angles. With an undergraduate degree earned at Purdue University and advanced degrees from North Carolina State University, his jobs have included academic counselor to students in Peru, economic analyst to former AGR Grand President Earl Butz's U.S. Department of Agriculture, assistant professor of ag economics at Berkeley, and ag econ department head at Virginia Tech. From 1981 to 1999, Coffey was the chief economist for Southern States Cooperative, helping grow the enterprise from \$400 million to \$2 billion.

In his spare time he also served as national president of the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching, a grass-roots group comprised of community leaders who support land-grant universities. The position allowed him to combine a love for agricultural policy and a belief in agricultural research while working with people he admired. He says he regretted stepping down, but he believes strongly that organizations need fresh blood and a fresh perspective.

"There are tremendous individuals in CARET, but there is also a need for an independent stakeholder group supported by the major food and agricultural organizations," Coffey says.

When he was asked to help develop a national coalition of commodity, farm and food groups to lobby for and help direct feder-

al food and agriculture research programs, Coffey took his suit and tie out of the closet and headed back to Washington D.C. As a secretary-treasurer of the nascent National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research, Coffey is in charge of recruiting new members, coordinating Congressional testimony, and creating conversations between members of Congress, producers, consumers, and scientists.

"It (N-CFAR) had the most potential of any organization I've ever seen to do something at that level," Coffey says. "There is a place for big and small organizations, for a broad cross-section of people to work together."

Coffey says the organization's goal is to double in five years the federal dollars invested in food and agricultural research, extension and education. The challenge is twofold, too. A successful effort will require that a largely urban Congress understand the payoff and that farm and consumer groups see they'll all benefit from additional public research and education.

Coffey tries to maintain his ties to agriculture research and education by continuing to teach. A professor in Purdue's Executive MBA in Agricultural Economics, Coffey gets to test his theory that the Internet is the next best thing to classroom instruction. The computer-mediated classes allow him to pass on policy insights from wherever he happens to be to students around the world.

"I've enjoyed the diversity of the students and I've always gravitated to teaching adult students," Coffey says. "And our Internet discussion groups come very close to a lively classroom discussion."

And it's a long way from gleaning corn. ■

## Transitions

The following deaths were reported to the Home Office since the last publication.

### Arkansas

Donald L. Toon, 1958  
Marvin L. Cole, 1965

### Auburn

Merrill J. Beard, 1937  
Jack S. Butler, Sr., 1939

### Cal Poly State

Carl E. Anderson, 1931

### Colorado State

Allen E. Hurt, 1930  
Carlton S. Fonte, 1934

### Cornell

David R. Lanigan, 1941

### Florida

Charles R. Williams, 1948  
Marshall S. McGregor, 1950  
John M. Hughes, 1978

### Georgia

Don R. Newton, 1977

### Illinois

Raymond N. Ammon, 1931  
Larry G. McCrery, 1959  
Raymond D. Hart, 1922

### Iowa State

John D. Phillips, 1942  
Dean D. Kingston, 1950

### Kansas State

Lance C. Donley, 1998

### Kentucky

Billy R. Walls III, 1992

### Louisiana State

Loy H. Dobbins

### Maine

John R. Arno, 1933

### Maryland

Howard L. Stier, 1929  
Robert D. Nicholls, 1938  
David G. Sheibley, 1939  
James F. Keefer, 1950  
James Scott, 1950  
Richard Welton, 1955

### Michigan State

Lee E. Townsend, 1937  
Robert K. Turner, 1945

### Murray State

Reese Adams, 1999

### Nebraska

William J. Simic, 1927  
Orville E. Chesley, 1930  
Albert L. Pearl, 1935

### New Hampshire

Stanton E. Cull, 1926

### North Dakota State

Harold L. Schafer, 1930  
Gordon B. Hanson, 1943

### Ohio State

Jack R. Blair, 1949

### Penn State

Ernest M. Karger, 1929  
Melvin L. Reimer, 1931

### Purdue

Carl M. Oldham, 1932  
Ernest P. Hassler, 1939  
Robert F. White, 1941  
Craig S. Hancock, 1988

### Southern Illinois

Edward G. Dugan, 1970

### Tennessee - Knoxville

R.T. Piercy, 1951  
William H. Brown, 1954  
Maurice L. Hill, 1957

### Washington State

James C. Greenway, 1926  
Myron G. Estill, 1930  
Samuel F. Olsen, 1937

### West Virginia

Oshel P. Westfall, 1925

### Western Kentucky

Don F. Carlisle, 1969

## Hankes: Swine Family of the Year

Showing livestock in the Illinois State Fair Junior Department is a tradition for many families. This year the Illinois State Fair Junior Department recognized the Jim and Kae Hankes family of Galesburg as Swine Family of the Year. The award goes to one Illinois family that exemplifies the sportsmanship and togetherness associated with 4-H and junior competition.

Jim Hankes earned both a B.S. and M.S. in animal science and currently serves as the Alpha Chapter adviser. Kae Stegall Hankes is a 1976 home economics education graduate of Illinois and a former Rho Mate. Doug Hankes, currently a sophomore at Illinois, is majoring in animal science. Jeff, 17 years, is a senior and Richard, 14 years, is a Freshman at Galesburg High School.

Jim and Kae both grew up on family hog operations. "We're firm believers in family activities and thought this [showing hogs] was a good family activity" says Jim. "From their 4-H and their FFA projects, the kids kind of grew into the showing of swine and pork projects."



*The Illinois State Fair Junior Department recognized the Jim and Kae Hankes family as Swine Family of the Year. Pictured are Doug ('04), Richard, Jeff, Kae, and Jim ('75) Hankes.*

This was the second year the Junior Department officials have selected a Swine Family of the Year. Swine Superintendent Marty Lathom says he's known the Hankes family for a long time and feels the Hankes' are outstanding ambassadors for 4-H, FFA, and the state fair. "The boys are so courteous and helpful anytime we need anything" Lathom said. "They're just a super fami-

ly to work with."

Doug Hankes also won the Second Annual ADM Master Showmanship Contest, held at the Illinois State Fair. Doug and thirty-seven Illinois 4-H and FFA state finalists earned the right to compete at the Junior Department, state level by winning similar contests in their county fairs. Each finalist showed three species in the competition: sheep, swine, and beef cattle. Hankes was named winner of the swine showmanship division and overall winner. ■

## Moulton Family Receives Outstanding Tree Farmer Award

As a tree farmer, Bill Moulton, University of Maine AGR '65, clings to old Yankee ways.

"I try not to waste anything," he said. When select hardwood trees on his land are dropped to the ground, the logs are cut into boards for flooring and furniture, and the sawed-off tops eventually find their way into wood stoves to warm homes.

For those efforts, and others, the Maine Tree Farm Committee recognized Moulton earlier this year as the outstanding tree farmer in Kennebec County. He was also named runner-up for the state award.

"My family moved here around 1840. We got into tree farming in 1985," the bearded Pittston native said. Since retiring from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1994, Moulton has used that extra time to develop the wood lot and market the wood.

"My son, Peter, and I do all the tree harvesting," Moulton said. The men plan to take to the woods next week for their annual winter tree felling operation. They rely on chain saws to level trees and a 22-horsepower tractor, equipped with a winch and steel cable, to yard the logs.

Moulton prefers cold-weather cutting.



*Bill (Psi '65) and Pat Moulton receive the Maine State Tree Farmer Award.*



*The Moulton Family Tree Farm*

"I like to cut them in the winter when the ground is frozen so I don't rut up the soil. I'm an old soil-and-water conservation guy," he said. For 25 years, Moulton worked in several Maine communities as an erosion control specialist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He tries to move as many downed trees as possible with the low-impact tractor. But a skidder and driver are hired when trees are too weighty for the 15-year-old, four-wheel-drive tractor to drag.

A few hundred yards from the

edge of the managed forest, Moulton stores an inventory of hardwood boards and planks in a red barn.

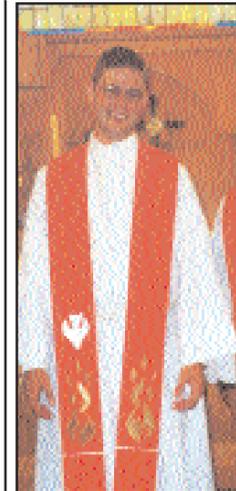
They are stacked neatly in a snug space, with splines between each piece to aid the drying process. Local residents who know about the ground floor stockpile visit the tree farm to purchase what they need for home projects.

The most abundant hardwoods on the property are oak, birch, ash, cherry, maple, poplar, basswood and butternut. Moulton cuts the latter two varieties to sell to knife-wielding hobbyists and professionals who carve duck decoys and other specialty items.

The Moulton spread actually covers 40 acres, with 10 acres in fields. In keeping with his approach to farming, Moulton also works most of his open land. His main cash crops are pumpkins and winter squash, which are sold in roadside stands and in local markets.

Moulton also deals in hay and straw. He buys the coarse material from suppliers and then sells the animal food and fodder locally. ■

## Meet A Member of The 2002 Convention Committee: Reverend Kevin J. Woestehoff



*Reverend Kevin Woestehoff*

Pastor Woestehoff grew up on a thousand-acre live-stock and grain farm in central Minnesota. He enrolled in the University of Minnesota's agricultural engineering program in

the fall of 1991. Kevin became a brother in Alpha Gamma Rho as a freshman under the Brotherhood Program. He grew in brotherhood by immediately serving on the alumni relations committee. As a sophomore, Brother Woestehoff was elected VNR-Recruitment. In his junior year he served as Noble Ruler.

Kevin changed majors to scientific and technical communications in the College of Agriculture and graduated in 1996. His next move was to serve the Alpha Gamma Rho as a chapter consultant responsible for restarting the Psi undergraduate chapter at the University of Maine. Brother Woestehoff's professionalism saw that effort through a successful recruitment venture.

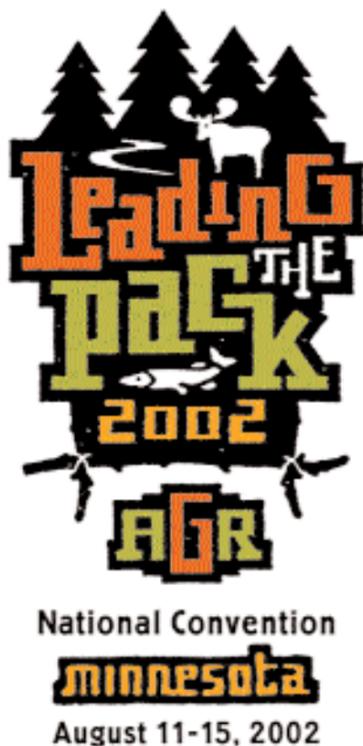
Early in Pastor Woestehoff's University education he heard God's call to the ordained ministry. In the fall of 1996, Kevin began classes at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. During this four-year Master's program, He served in pastoral roles at Roseville Lutheran and Zion Lutheran in Minneapolis. His intern year was at Calvary Lutheran in Rapid City, SD. After graduating from Luther Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree, the new pastor received a call to Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Spring Valley, MN. He was ordained into the ministry on July 23, 2000 and continues to serve that congregation.

Reverend Woestehoff is on the 2002 convention planning committee and will be working with Tim Heiller from Iowa State on various formal segments of the program. Newly elected Noble Rulers and future community leader aspirates should make a point to meet personally with Kevin and his new wife, Sally, during the convention. You will not want to miss this opportunity.

## AGR making better men, and stronger leaders

2002 AGR Convention strives to build leaders through experience

by Scott Whitman



The value of true leadership has never been more evident than over the past few months. Our leaders, from the President to local fire chiefs, and from battle commanders to office managers, have helped to lift our country from tragedy, rekindle a national spirit of citizenship and cultivate an international movement for peace and justice.

The vision and purpose of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity—to make better men—has never held more meaning than it does now. Our nation and world needs leaders. And the men responsible for planning the 2002 national convention of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity are answering the call.

Chuck Woodside, 2002 AGR Convention chair and Chief Financial Officer for MBC Holding Co. in Saint Paul, says the objective of the 2002 convention is to provide the types of experiences that will grow young men as leaders.

Bill Manwarren, convention programs chair and Crop Protection Products Supply Manager for Agrilience, says his committee set out to provide a unique experience.

“When we first sat down to talk about the 2002 convention program, everyone agreed

we should create an exciting environment where these guys could interact and experience the unique character of the Twin Cities and the region’s industry, whether it’s in workshops, or meetings or on the off-site tours,” says Manwarren.

### *Regional agribusiness industry leads the pack*

The Twin Cities and surrounding area hosts some of the world’s most successful agribusiness companies, cooperatives and food processors, including AgriBank, Agrilience, Cargill, CHS Cooperatives, General Mills, Land O’Lakes and Pillsbury; as well as market leaders like AgStar Financial Services, Accelerated Genetics, Hormel Foods, Malt O’Meal, the Minneapolis Grain Exchange and Zinpro. The area also is home to other nationally known firms like 3M.

Cargill, based in Minneapolis, is an international marketer, processor and distributor of agricultural, food, financial and industrial products and services with 90,000 employees in 57 countries.

CF Industries is one of North America’s largest interregional cooperatives, owned by and serving nine regional farm supply cooperatives. The Company’s nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers reach over one million farmers and ranchers in 48 states and the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec. The Pine Bend Terminal facility is the largest fertilizer river terminal in the United States.

### *Convention welcomes new sponsors*

The list of 2002 convention sponsors currently

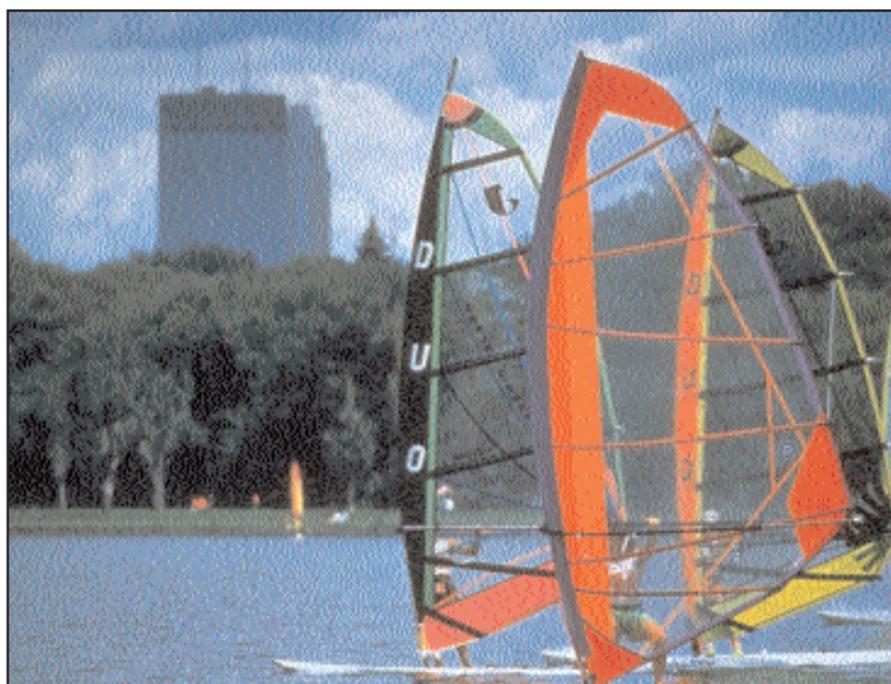
includes Agrilience, Cargill, CHS Cooperatives, the Arm & Hammer (Church & Dwight Co.) Animal Nutrition Group, Land O’Lakes, Minnesota Community Bankers, Syngenta Crop Protection, Syngenta Seeds, Zinpro Corporation and the University of Minnesota College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences Alumni Society.

“It’s a great investment for our corporate partners. They’ll be supporting valuable leadership development training, and they’ll have an opportunity to interact with more than 300 active AGR leaders throughout the convention,” says McClelland.

For more information about how to participate as a convention sponsor, contact Rob McClelland at (612) 845-3809, or [RMcClelland@AgTechIntl.com](mailto:RMcClelland@AgTechIntl.com).

### *Convention information*

For more general information about the 2002 AGR Convention, please contact the national AGR office at (816) 891-9200 or by email at [agr@AlphaGammaRho.org](mailto:agr@AlphaGammaRho.org), or the planning committee at [cwoodside@grainbelt.com](mailto:cwoodside@grainbelt.com) or [scotwhitman4147@msn.com](mailto:scotwhitman4147@msn.com).



*Sailing on Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis, Minnesota.  
Photo courtesy of the Greater Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association.*

## Dates To Remember

January 4 & 5 -	Adviser Forum
January 11 & 12 -	Recruitment School
February 15 & 16 -	Leadership Seminar - Philadelphia
February 22 & 23 -	Leadership Seminar - Kansas City
March 1 & 2 -	Leadership Seminar - Reno
March 8 & 9 -	Leadership Seminar - Baton Rouge

