



# TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL AGENTS & SPECIALISTS

**2022 - 2023  
Annual Meeting Report**

**Paris Landing State Park | Buchanan, TN  
June 21st - 23rd, 2023**

# - 2022/2023 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS -

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# - 2022/2023 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS -

## State Officers

President	Aaron Smith
President Elect	Laurie Mobley
First Vice President	Jason de Koff
Second Vice President	Seth Whitehouse
Third Vice President	Lindsay Stephenson
Secretary	Matthew Deist
Treasurer	Amanda Mathenia
Past President	Chris Hicks

## Regional Officers

Western Region Director	Celeste Scott
Western Secretary / Treasurer	Jerri Lynn Sims
Central Region Director	Jason Evitts
Central Secretary / Treasurer	Les Humpal
Eastern Region Director	Seth Whitehouse
Eastern Secretary/Treasurer	Ty Wolaver

## Committee Chairs

Agronomy & Pest Management	Ranson Goodman
Ag. Econ & Community Development	Rachel Painter
Animal Science	John Goddard
Natural Resource / Aquaculture	Bruce Steelman
Horticulture & Turfgrass	Celeste Scott
Sustainable Agriculture	Haley Treadway
Public Relations & Ag. Issues	Hannah Wright
Early Career Development	Rebekah Norman
Administrative Skills Development	Martin Koon
Teaching & Educational Technologies	David Yates
Communications	Anna Duncan
Search for Excellence	Jerri Lynn Sims
4-H Youth	Darby Payne
Professional Excellence	Lindsay Stephens
Public Relations	Jake Mallard
Recognition & Awards	Shannon DeWitt
Scholarship	Timmy Mann
Life Members	John Campbell

## **- A word from the TAAA&S President -**

**TAAA&S Members and Life Members,**

**The 2023 TAAA&S state meeting at Paris Landing State Park is upon us and will undoubtedly be a great time for all members, life members, and their families. I want to thank everyone for all the hard work and countless hours that went into planning and delivering this professional development meeting. I would specifically like to recognize Laurie Rollins for everything she has done to make this event happen. Her efforts and attention to detail will serve her well as the incoming TAAA&S President.**

**It has been an honor to serve in a leadership role this past year. I have seen firsthand the tremendous work being accomplished at the county, regional, state, and national level by TAAA&S members. Congratulations to all the award winners and I encourage all members to nominate a colleague or apply for TAAA&S, NACAA, Extension, and University of Tennessee awards to recognize outstanding achievements in Agricultural and Natural Resource Extension programming. Your dedication and commitment to the communities you serve, by providing science-based information on agricultural and natural resource topics, makes a positive impact for all Tennesseans.**

**Finally, I would like to thank all the TAAA&S board members, regional officers, and committee chairs. Without their substantial time commitment and effort, the organization would not be nearly as effective and impactful for University of Tennessee Extension. For those that are interested in entering a service role for the organization, I would encourage you to do so! The rewards of serving TAAA&S far out way the time and effort.**

**Thank you for all you do!**

**S. Aaron Smith**

# - Treasurer Report -

## State Funds - Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet					
	5/14/2019	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/2022
<b>ASSETS</b>					
Checking	250,642.88	250,008.61	261,321.12	251,855.19	250,289.64
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>250,642.88</b>	<b>250,008.61</b>	<b>261,321.12</b>	<b>251,855.19</b>	<b>250,289.64</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
LIABILITIES	0	0	0	0	0
<b>EQUITY</b>					
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>250,642.88</b>	<b>250,008.61</b>	<b>261,321.12</b>	<b>251,855.19</b>	<b>250,289.64</b>

**Banking Summary - 2022**  
1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022

Category	State
<b>INCOME</b>	
Dues	11,065.00
Refund	-40
State Meeting Registration Fees	2,940.04
State Meeting Sponsorship	3,200.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>17,165.04</b>

EXPENSES	
Annual Meeting Expenses	3,439.57
Board Expenses	1,824.59
Gift	67.04
National Dues	7,000.00
National Meeting (West Palm Beach)	5,068.07
State Meeting Fishing Tournament Reimbursement	-40
State Meeting Hospitality Reimbursement	1,371.32
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>18,730.59</b>

<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-1,565.55</b>
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**Banking Summary - 2023**  
1/1/2023 through 05/31/2023

Category	State
<b>INCOME</b>	
Dues	1,545.00
State Meeting	4,406.13
State Meeting	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>6,951.13</b>

EXPENSES	
Annual Meeting Expenses	842.34
Board Expenses	1,852.54
National Dues	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,194.88</b>

<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>2,756.25</b>
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# - Treasurer Report (Cont.) -

## FOUNDATION FUNDS

### Balance Sheet

12/31/2019    12/31/2020                    12/31/2021                    12/30/2022

ASSETS				
Checking	235,492.00	237,752.00	-248,412.00	-238,742.00
Raymond James	570,100.76	610,619.13	661,564	544,867.39
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>334,608.76</b>	<b>372,867.13</b>	<b>413,152</b>	<b>306,125.39</b>
LIABILITIES				
Liabilities	0	0	0	0
EQUITY				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>334,608.76</b>	<b>372,867.13</b>	<b>413,152.00</b>	<b>306,125.39</b>

#### Banking Summary - 2022 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2022

Category	Foundation
<b>INCOME</b>	
Transfer	17,190.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>17,190.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Awards	6,060.00
College Scholarships	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>7,560.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>9,630.00</b>

#### Banking Summary - 2023 1/1/2023 through 05/31/2023

Category	Foundation
<b>INCOME</b>	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
College Scholarship	1,500.00
Fees (State Fair)	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-3,000.00</b>

	12/31/2019	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/2022
State Checking	250,008.61	261,321.12	251,855.19	250,289.64
Foundation Checking	235,492.00	237,752.00	-248,412.00	-238,742.00
<b>Total Discretionary Funds</b>	<b>14,516.61</b>	<b>23,569.12</b>	<b>3,443.19</b>	<b>11,547.74</b>
Raymond James Investment Account (Foundation BASE)	424,958.30	517,788.72	589,676	589,676
Raymond James Investment Account (Foundation Operating)	145,142.47	92,830.42	71,887.64	-22,404.49
UT Account (R12-1040-048 TAAA&S Travel Fund)	1,504.16	1,404.16	1,404.16	1,371.31
UT Account (R12-0140-005 TAAA&S Endowment)	8,907.82	8,163.60	5,138.30	5,231.67
<b>Total Investment and UT Accounts</b>	<b>580,512.75</b>	<b>620,186.90</b>	<b>668,106.46</b>	<b>573,874</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>595,029.36</b>	<b>643,756.02</b>	<b>671,549.65</b>	<b>585,422.23</b>

NOTE: TAAA&S sponsors two accounts in the UT System (technically, these are UT funds with no legal ties to TAAA&S). The first account is what many TAAA&S members refer to as the "B" account or "travel" account and its UT account number is R12-1040-048, account name "TAAA&S Travel Fund." The May 31, 2023 balance was \$1,371.31. This account is listed as a "public service" account.

The second account is F12-0000-006 and is called "TAAA&S Endowment." This account is on the list for the UT family campaign and is set up as an endowment where the principal balance cannot be touched. The original value of this account was \$44,871.49 and the May 31, 2023 market value was \$67,474.00. Additional contributions can be made to the balance of this. The earnings of this account are placed into UT account R12-0140-005 from which the Hicks Award is paid. The May 31, 2023 balance is \$5,231.67.



# Western Region Report - 11/18/22

The Western Region TAAA&S held their annual meeting at WTREC. Meeting was called to order by Celeste Scott, presiding.

## Members present:

Tori Marshall Griffin, Lee Sammons, Drew Vanatta, Jared Strickland, Amanda Mathenia, Daniel Wiggins, Rachel Howell, Ryan Blair, Terrell Davis, Vickie Witcher, Steve Rickman, Jerry Lamb, Cheyenne Rushing, Clint Plunk, Lindsay Stephenson, Bob Shumake, Laurie Rollins, Tracey Sullivan, JC Dupree and Jerri Lynn Sims

- The minutes from the November 2021 meeting were read and approved with a motion made by Jared Strickland and a second from Ryan Blair. All votes were for.
- Ryan Blair was congratulated for receiving the Hicks Award and recognition was given to Chris Cooper for his communication award wins.
- Terrell Davis serves at the Vice Chair for Ag. Awareness for the Southern Region and encouraged everyone to apply for this award.
- Laurie Rollins reported on the State TAAA&S meeting scheduled for June 21-23<sup>rd</sup> at Paris Landing.
  - Ranson is serving as the skeet shoot chairman
  - Clint as the gold chairman
  - Hargrove as the fishing chairman
  - There will be a pool, volleyball and other kid's activities. It was also requested there be a babysitting room. That was to be followed upon with Michelle and Staci from Henry County.
- Lindsay began discussion to change the directorship/President position from a 1-year appointment to a 2-year term.
  - Tori made a motion to extend all current roles for another year and then vote to change the bylaws that those appointments become two-year terms. Daniel seconded the motion. Vote passed with no objection.
- Discussion about reviving the Google drive that had been created by Lindsay, to keep track of awards received, membership and emails. Further discussion was about the rotation of awards between Directors – 1 year and the next year it is Specialist/agents.
- Tracey made a motion that our regional awards mimic the state guidelines for who is eligible and to amend in all aspects, including wording. Cheyenne 2<sup>nd</sup>, vote passed unanimously.
- December 14 – ANR Share Day
  - Doe's Eats catering
  - Rhinehart to be in attendance
  - Service Project
- Ryan made a motion that Celeste Scott move into the Presidents role, on July 1, 2023 for a 2-year term. 2<sup>nd</sup> from Lindsay. Motion passed
- Motion to appoint Terrell Davis to President elect was made by Lindsay, 2<sup>nd</sup> from Laurie. He was elected by acclamation.
- Laurie then made a motion to retain Jerri Lynn as Treasurer/Secretary. 2<sup>nd</sup> from Vickie. Motion passed.
- Awards were then given out.
  - Early Career Award – Jared Strickland
  - Outstanding Agent – Calvin Bryant
  - Friend of Extension – Martin Haggard Jr. – Wayne County Bank
- Tori made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> from Jared, motion passed.

After the meeting, the members went on a tour of the Middle Fork park reclamation area then shared a delicious lunch from Tulum at the shop of Mr. Scott's home outside of Bells, TN.

# Central Region Report - 10/24/22

Central Region TAAA&S Meeting  
Monday October 24, 2022  
10AM  
Williamson Co. Ag. Expo Park

The Central Region TAAA&S met at the Williamson County Extension Office on Oct. 24, 2022. Doug Burney introduced Jason Evitts. Jason called the meeting to order. Minutes had been shared via email. Larry Moorhead made a motion to approve minutes as read. Heath Nokes seconded and the motion passed.

Les Humpal then submitted the treasurers report. There is a current balance of \$3,716.81. A motion to approve treasurer's report was made by Keith Allen and it was seconded by John Teague.

Les told everyone that new members' first year of membership would be paid by association. Please let new agents know. Also we need to encourage more 4-H agents to join. Mostly our group is made of AG agents and very few 4-H agents. Must let Les know if it is their first year.

Matthew Deist reminded everyone about the Farm Bureau Luncheon on Dec 5th. Please let him know if you plan to attend. There are some questions about Extension Conference. Please send them to Matthew.

Les Humpal has agreed to serve another term as treasurer. Darby Payne Allday will not as she is leaving Extension at the end of October.

Nominating committee has approached Taylor Reeder and she is willing to serve as Secretary. Larry Moorhead made the motion to elect Taylor Reeder as secretary by acclamation. Keith Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jacob Boone was nominated as the Central Region Director Elect. Rachel Painter made motion for nomination to cease and Creig Kimbro seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion about travel money from the NAACA was discussed. Donate \$100 and you are eligible. Donated items count toward this total.

Regional directors asked us to change our date so they can attend. They have mandatory meeting that doesn't allow them to attend. Larry Moorehead made motion to move the date to 1st Monday in November. Seconded by Matthew Deist. Motion passed.

Awards were presented. Youth Agent went to Kristen Rich and Adult agent went to Keith Allen. We forgot to vote on specialist award.

Anthony Tuggle moved to adjourn meeting. Motion passed.

Sincerely submitted,

Darby Payne Allday  
Central Region TAAA&S Secretary



# Eastern Region Report - 08/15/22

The Eastern Region TAAA&S members met during the August 15<sup>th</sup> tour located in McMinn, Bradley, and Polk County, TN. A total of 21 participants attended the tour/business meeting.

9:15 am Meet at respective tour

- Livestock Tour (Lane View Farms: 949 Hwy 307 Niota, TN)
- Horticulture Tour (Apple Valley Orchard: 351 Weese Rd. Cleveland, TN)

11:00 am Tour of East Tennessee Nursery: 9063 US-411, Delano, TN

12:00 pm Lunch provided on the river at East TN Nursery

12:45pm TAAA&S Business meeting

I. Call to Order

Seth Whitehouse, President

II. Meeting Minutes & Membership/Financial Report

Ty Wolaver, Secretary/Treasurer

III. Awards – DSA, AA, Early Career Agent/Specialist

Shannon DeWitt, Awards Chair

IV. Nominations/Voting – President rolling on June 2023

V. Future Meetings:

- 2023 State TAAA&S Annual Meeting: June 21-23 (Western Region)
- 2023 NACAA AM/PIC: August 13-17 (Des Moines, IA)
- 2023 Eastern Region Agriculture Extension Agents/Specialist Tour

VI. State Committee Chair positions

VII. Open Discussion

## REGION MEETING MINUTES

The Eastern Region TAAA&S held its annual meeting on August 15th at East Tennessee Nursery. The meeting followed an Eastern Region Agriculture Extension Tour event. The event included horticulture and livestock tours and lunch at East Tennessee Nursery. The meeting was called to order by Seth Whitehouse, President. Secretary/Treasurer report was presented by Seth Whitehouse in absence of Ty Wolaver. Wayne Clatterbuck made motion to accept minutes as read and seconded by Matthew Anderson. Shannon DeWitt discussed TAAA&S and NACAA Awards as members were recognized. Seth Whitehouse discussed the upcoming NACAA Meeting and the 2023 State TAAA&S Meeting held in the Western Region. Feedback was provided on our next regional tour/meeting with a preference based around the State and National meeting. Nominations for the Eastern Region President position were open to the floor. Lee Rumble nominated Evangelon James. David Yates called to cease nominations. Evangelon James was elected as the Eastern Region TAAA&S Director beginning June of 2023. Seth Whitehouse discussed State Committee Chair positions and their available openings. This is a great way to get involved for newer agents and engage at the National level. Tim Woods made motion to adjourn meeting. Anthony Carver seconded. Meeting adjourned.



# - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

## THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES HAD NO REPORT FOR 2023

Agronomy & Pest Management	Agricultural Economics and Community Development
Public Relations & Agricultural Issue	Natural Resource/Aquaculture
Teaching & Educational Technologies	Sustainable Agriculture
Early Career Development	Administrative Skills Development
Life Members	Horticulture & Turfgrass
Public Relations	4-H Youth
Search for Excellence	

## **PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE**

**Report Submitted by:** *Lindsay Stephenson, Chair*

No presentation proposals were submitted for the 2023 AM/PIC

## **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

**Report Submitted by:** *Timmy Mann, Chair & Ronnie Barron, Vice-Chair*

A committee of TAAA&S members was chosen to assist the Chair and Vice-Chair with the selection process for the 2023 college scholarships. The 2023 recipients are Clay Owen, son of Dan Owen (Extension Agent, Lincoln County) and Grace Danehower, daughter of Chuck Danehower (Retired Western Region Extension Area Specialist). Congratulations to these two young people.

### **- 2023 TAAA&S Scholarship Selection Criteria -**

- Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded annually, following submission of proof of completing one successful semester of coursework to the Scholarship chair who will notify the Treasurer of the Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents and Specialists.
- Recipient must be a child of a TAAA&S member or Life Member in good standing with three or more years of TAAA&S membership.
- Recipient can be of any major with preference given to agriculture, family and consumer science, and other sciences (in descending order).
- Recipient can attend any university with preference given to attendance in the University of Tennessee System, TSU and the Tennessee Board of Regents system.
- Preference given to college year: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior (in descending order)
- Selection committee should use other information on the scholarship application if needed to select recipient. Examples: leadership activities, grade average, etc.
- A recipient can receive the scholarship only one time.

# - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

## **ANIMAL SCIENCE**

**Report Submitted by:** *John Goddard, Chair*

County, Regional and State Livestock Shows (Beef, Dairy, Horse, Sheep, Swine). Also Livestock, Horse, Dairy, Meats & Poultry Judging Events.

### **2023 4-H Animal Science Dates**

January 10	4-H Horse Advisory Committee
January 11	Chair Co-Chair Planning Day
January 12-14	STATE Hog Show
January 21	Horse Bowl/Hippology
April 6	ER Livestock Judging
May 19	Region 4-H Horse Judging Contest
May 31	Setup Region 4-H Horse Show
June 1-3	Region 4-H Horse Show
June 13-16	Academic Conference (Animal Science Projects)
June 14	Region Beef Expo Setup
June 15	4-H Beef Expo and Cleanup
June 19-23	STATE Horse Show
June 30- July 1	STATE Beef Expo
August 19	STATE Goat Show
August 21-26	Appalachian Fair Livestock Shows
September	STATE Dairy Show
September 9	Dairy Judging & ER Dairy Show
September 12	Down on the Farm: TN Valley Fair
September 16	ER Fall Judging Day (Meats & Poultry)
September 19	4-H Grill Master Challenge
September 22	ER Sheep Expo
October 20-21	STATE Junior Sheep Expo
December 8-9	ER 4-H Market Hog Show

### **Master Animal Science Related Programs Taught:**

Farm Family Health and Wellness  
Farming Fundamentals  
Master Backyard Poultry Producer  
Master Beef Producer  
Master Commercial Poultry Producer  
Master Dairy  
Master Farm Manager  
Master Horse  
Master Meat Goat  
Master Small Ruminant

### **Animal Science Field Days for 2023**

February 7	Horse Management (UTIA Brehm Animal Science Arena - Knoxville, TN)
February 13	Horse Management (First Farmer's Cooperative - Lexington, TN)
February 14	Horse Management (MTREC - Spring Hill, TN)
June 29	Tobacco, Beef & More (HRREC - Springfield, TN)
August 24	Steak and Potatoes (PREC - Crossville, TN)
September 26	Precision Livestock Tech.: Beef & Forage Systems (MTREC - Spring Hill, TN)
October (TBA)	Northeast Tennessee Beef Expo (NTREC - Greeneville, TN)
October 20	Beef Heifer Development School (MTREC - Lewisburg, TN)
October 20 - 21	Fall in the Foothills (ETREC, Little River Animal & Env. Unit - Walland, TN)

# - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

## **COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS PROGRAM**

**Report Submitted by:** *Anna Duncan, Chair*

15 members submitted 32 entries for the 2023 TAAA&S Communications Awards Program. A summary of entries, members participating and state winners by region presented in the following table:

<i>Region</i>	<i>Entries</i>	<i>Members Participating</i>	<i>State Winners</i>
Western	5	2	0
Central	13	6	4
Eastern	14	7	8
Totals	32	15	12

The number of entries by class is presented in the following table:

<i>Class #</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Number of Entries in TN</i>
1	Audio Recording	2
2	Published Photo	3
3	Computer Generated Graphics Presentation	3
4	Program Promotional Package	4
5	Personal Column	4
6	Feature Story	1
7	Newsletter	1
8	Educational Video Recording	4
9	Factsheet	3
10	Publication	3
11	Website	3
12	Learning Module/ Notebook	1
13	Bound Book/ EBook	0
	Total Entries in Tennessee	32

## - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

### **COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS PROGRAM cont...**

**Report Submitted by:** *Anna Duncan, chair*

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place state winners for each category are outlined in the following table:

<i>Category</i>	<i>1st Place</i>	<i>2nd Place</i>	<i>3rd Place</i>
Audio Recording	Mitchell Mote	Matthew Anderson	
Published Photo	Rachel Painter	Jason de Koff	Seth Whitehouse
Computer Generated Graphics Presentation	Taylor Reeder	Rachel Painter	Jason de Koff
Program Promotional Package	Rachel Painter	Seth Whitehouse	Amanda Mathenia
Personal Column	Bill Ward	Mitchell Mote	Amanda Mathenia
Feature Story	Seth Whitehouse		
Newsletter	Seth Whitehouse		
Educational Video Recording	Seth Whitehouse	Evangelon James	Jason de Koff
Factsheet	Virgina Sykes	Jason de Koff	Anthony Carver
Publication	Virgina Sykes	Michael Barry	Lester Humpal
Website	Evangelon James	Amanda Mathenia	Jason de Koff
Learning Module/ Notebook	Evangelon James		
Bound Book/ EBook			



# - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

## **COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS PROGRAM cont...**

**Report Submitted by:** *Anna Duncan, chair*

### **2023 State Communications Awards Communicator of the Year**

The Fletcher Sweet Award honors the TAAA&S member who earns the title of Communicator of the Year. To be eligible, a member must enter at least four categories in the communications awards program. The winner is based on the number of entries and the quality of entries submitted. "Sweet Award" recipients must wait two years before they are eligible to receive this award again. The "Sweet Award" honors Mr. Fletcher Sweet, retired University of Tennessee Communications Specialist. Mr. Sweet began his career at the University of Tennessee in 1943 in the Public Relations/News Department on the main campus. Three years later, he came to the Agricultural Campus and the Extension Service as an Assistant Editor for the Information Department. In 1973, he became section leader of the Extension Communications section. He retired in 1974, and after a valiant battle with cancer, passed on December 20, 1995.

Finalists for the 2023 "Sweet Award"

- Seth Whitehouse
- Amanda Mathenia
- Jason de Koff\*

\*Members who had at least the minimum number of 2023 entries to qualify (4) but were ineligible due to having won in the past two years.

### **2023 Fletcher Sweet Communicator of the Year Award Winner:** *Seth Whitehouse*

Previous Fletcher Sweet Communicator of the Year Award Winners

Rachel Painter, 2022	Tonya K Ashworth, 2010
Jason de Koff, 2021	Book T. Leigh, 2009
Thomas Stebbins, 2020	Thomas Stebbins, 2008
Justin Stefanski, 2019	Ronald L. Barron, 2007
Amy Dismikes, 2018	Creig C. Kimbro, 2006
Jason de Koff, 2017	Karla Keen, 2004
Chris Hicks, 2016	Kevin L. Rose, 2003
Megan Leffew, 2015	Glen E. Wolfenbarger, 2002
Melissa Henry, 2014	Joseph Donaldson, 2001
Tonya K. Ashworth, 2013	John Campbell, 2000
Thomas Stebbins, 2012	Gary Kirchhofer, 1999
Melissa Henry, 2011	David A. Yates, 1998

# - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

## COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS PROGRAM cont...

**Report Submitted by:** *Anna Duncan, chair*

### **2023 State Communications Awards Procedures**

Points for the Sweet Communicator of the Year Award are based on the following scale:

State Placing 1st = 6 points 2nd = 5 points 3rd = 4 points  
Regional Placing 1st = 3 points 2nd = 2 points 3rd = 1 point

In the event of a tie for the title of Communicator of the Year, the following procedure is employed to determine the winner:

1. Number of state winning entries.
2. Number of entries in the state (includes 1st, 2nd and 3rd place state entries).
3. Number of region first place entries.
4. Number of entries placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the region.
5. Total number of entries.

The Sweet Award winner receives a plaque and a \$100 cash award.

State winners receive cash awards as follows:

1st = \$50 2nd = \$35 3rd = \$20

#### Budget for State Communication Awards

State 1st Place	\$50	x 13	\$650.00
State 2nd Place	\$35	x 13	\$455.00
State 3rd Place	\$20	x 13	\$260.00
Communicator of the Year	\$150	x 1	\$150.00
"Sweet Award" Plaque	\$30	x 1	\$30.00
Total Budget			\$1,545.00

#### 2023 State Communication Awards Expenditures

State 1st Place	\$50	x 12	\$600.00
State 2nd Place	\$35	x 9	\$315.00
State 3rd Place	\$20	x7	\$140.00
Communicator of the Year	\$150	x 1	\$150.00
"Sweet Award" Plaque	\$30	x 1	\$30.00
Total Budget			\$1,235.00

# - COMMITTEE REPORTS -

## **RECOGNITION & AWARDS**

**Report Submitted by:** *Shannon DeWitt, Chair*

The members listed below were approved and will receive their national awards during the NACAA AM/PIC

### ————— **2023 Tennessee Award Recipients** —————

#### **2023 Achievement Award Winner**

The purpose of the Achievement Award Program is to encourage and recognize excellence in the field of professional Extension for members with less than ten years of service.



#### **Lester Humpal**

Les serves as an Extension Specialist providing programming and trainings in the area of beginning farming, specialty crop budgeting, master beef, horse and small ruminant courses. Along with webinars on value-added business development, budgeting and record keeping. Producers attending have increased their knowledge and ability in farm and financial management. Business plans and feasibility studies were also developed for producers to add value to their farms resulting in over \$550,000 in grant funding.

#### **2023 Distinguished Service Award Winner**

The purpose of the Distinguished Service Award Program is to encourage and recognize excellence in the field of professional Extension for members with more than ten years of service.



#### **Joanne Waterman**

Joanne is known for her innovative contributions to the small farms and urban garden program and the development of West TN Farmers Academy Program teaching new and beginning farmers the steps of operating a farm. Her representations of vegetable production and Good Agricultural Practice have made the citizens feel at ease when learning and implementing the practical uses of farming..

### ————— **2023 Regional Award Recipients** —————

#### **Central Region**

Youth Agent of the Year - Kristen Rich, Clay County  
Adult Agriculture Agent of the Year - Keith Allen, Macon County

#### **Eastern Region**

Early Career Award - Sarah Orr, Cocke County  
Early Career Specialist - Dr. Charley Martinez, Dept. of Ag. & Resource Economics

#### **Western Region**

Early Career Award - Jared Stricklin  
Outstanding Agent of the Year - Calvin Bryant III, Lawrence County  
Friend of Extension - Martin Haggard

## - MEMBERSHIP HISTORY -

YEAR	TOTAL	CHANGE	% CHANGE
2005	187	0	0.00%
2006	175	-12	-6.42%
2007	176	+1	0.57%
2008	173	-3	-1.70%
2009	165	-8	-4.62%
2010	157	-8	-4.85%
2011	159	+2	1.27%
2012	158	-1	-0.63%
2013	153	-5	-3.16%
2014	155	+2	1.31%
2015	168	+18	8.39%
2016	171	+3	1.79%
2017	162	-9	-5.26%
2018	173	+11	6.79%
2019	184	+11	6.36%
2020	162	-22	-11.96%
2021	179	+17	10.49%
2022	178	-1	-0.56%
2023	170	-8	-4.49%

# - TAAA&S HICKS AWARD RECIPIENTS -

<b>1997</b>	James D. Taylor, Giles County	<b>2010</b>	Ricky Thomason, Johnson County
	Harry Bryan, Knox County		Jerry Lamb, Rhea County
	Dean Northcutt, Coffee County		Clyde Lane, Animal Science
<b>1998</b>	Bob Whitworth, Tipton County	<b>2011</b>	Kevin Rose, Giles County
	Kevin Rose, Giles County		Ron Blair, Henderson County
	David Perrin, Smoky Mountain District		John Ferrell, Franklin County
<b>1999</b>	Jerry Parker, Lauderdale County	<b>2012</b>	Philip Shelby, Gibson County
	David Qualls, Lincoln County	<b>2013</b>	Jonathan Rhea, Monroe County
	Kevin Ferguson, Central District		Creig Kimbro, Grundy County
<b>2000</b>	Chuck Danehower, Lauderdale County		Mike Buschermohle, Specialist
	Mike Gordon, Haywood County	<b>2014</b>	Jeff Via, Fayette County
	John Teague, Bedford County		Becky Muller, Tipton County
<b>2001</b>	Tim Campbell, Dyer County		Lena Beth Charmichael Reynolds, Area Specialist
	Scott Chadwell, Putnam County	<b>2015</b>	Jeff Lannom, Weakley County
	Steve Glass, Decatur County		Jeremy West, Scott County
<b>2002</b>	Warren Gill, Specialist, Animal Science		Michael Barry, Davidson County
	Rob Holland, Center for Profitable Ag	<b>2016</b>	Rebekah Norman, Montgomery County
	Ron Johnson, Overton County		Alan Bruhin, Sevier County
<b>2003</b>	John Campbell, Maury County		Melody Rose, Greene County
	Dewayne Perry, Williamson County	<b>2017</b>	Jason De Koff, Specialist
	David Yates, Loudon County		Troy Dugger, Hickman County
<b>2004</b>	Marcus McLemore, Hardin County	<b>2018</b>	David Bilderback, Specialist
	Rick Skillington, Marshall County		Matt Webb, Marshall County
<b>2005</b>	Larry Moorehead, Moore County	<b>2019</b>	Shannon DeWitt, Union County
	John Wilson, Marion County		John Goddard, Loudon County
	Michael Smith, Williamson County		Laurie Mobley, Houston County
<b>2006</b>	Calvin Bryant, Lawrence County	<b>2020</b>	Adam Hopkins, Jefferson County
	Alan Galloway, Putnam County		Justin Hargrove, Benton County
	Jim Neel Specialist, Animal Science		Heath Nokes, Warren County
<b>2007</b>	Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County	<b>2021</b>	Blake Ramsey, Hawkins County
	Tim Woods, McMinn County		Dallas Manning, Area Specialist
<b>2008</b>	Tammy McKinley, Agricultural Economics	<b>2022</b>	Ryan Blair, Area Specialist
	Alice Rhea, Blount County		Bruce Steelman, Lincoln County
	Cynthia Zeitz, Jackson County		Jason Garrett, Overton County
<b>2009</b>	Megan Bruch, Mary County	<b>2023</b>	Anthony Carver, Grainger County
	Joseph Griffy, Stuart County		Lucas Holman, Wilson County
	Mitchell Mote, Rutherford County		Virginia Sykes, Plant Sciences



# - FRIENDS OF EXTENSION AWARD RECIPIENTS -

1982 - Dan Wheeler, K. C. Dodson

1983 - Rep. Roscoe Pickering, Rep. C. E. DePriest, William Walker III

1984 - Sen. Anna Belle O'Brien, Sen. Tommy Burks, Bill Johnson

1985 - Sen. John Wilder, Sen. Ned McWherter, Rep. Ed Jones

1986 - Gov. Lamar Alexander, William E. Bailey, Clyde York

1987 - Jesse Safely

1988 - Flavius Barker

1989 - A.C. Clark

1990 - Joe Hawkins

1991 - Ray Wilson

1992 - Comm. L. H. "Colon" Ivy

1993 - Rep. Shelby A. Rinehart

1994 - Sen. Robert Rochelle

1995 - Dan Wheeler

1996 - Jim Webb

1997 - Fred Shuler, Claude Harris

1999 - Dr. Joseph Johnson

2000 - Senator Charlotte Burks

2001 - Nolan Turner

2002 - Chip Blalock

2003 - TN Farmers Co-Op

2004 - Bill Mayfield

2005 - TN Livestock Producers

2006 - Don Fowlkes

2007 - Joe Gaines

2008 - NRCS Area Biologist Team: Mike Hansbrough , Chris Wolkonowski, and Robin Mayberry

2009 - Ken Givens

2010 - Julius Johnson | TN Farm Bureau

2011 - Dr. Jim Byford | University of Tennessee Martin

2012 - Kevin Thomson | MTREC Director

2013 - Ronnie Sartain | Farm Credit of Mid-America

2014 - Lois Bartee

2015 - Dr. Warren Gill | MTSU

2016 - Andy Holt | State Representative

2017 - Lucas Owen | BASF

2018 - Keith Harrison | TN Department of Agriculture

2019 - Dr. Bob Coley

2020 - Anthony Haynes

2022 - Lee Maddox | TN Farm Bureau

2023 -

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