

Volume 25, Number 1

January, 2009

### January 2009

- 1/1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR! (University closed).**
- 1/5 **Classes begin.**
- 1/9 **Birthday Cake and Coffee, Staff Lounge, 2:30 p.m.**
- 1/19 **Martin Luther King Day (University closed).**



## New Year's Greeting from Dr. Males

It's difficult to believe that it is already time to ring out 2008 and ring in 2009. And what a tumultuous year 2008 has been for all of us. From major and unexpected staff changes, continuing high student numbers to deal with, high feed costs and unexpected low commodity prices, 2008 has been a challenge for the Department just as it has been for many of you.

We started the 2008 year with the retirement from the University of Howard Meyer and the resignation of Neil Forsberg. Chad Mueller moved from Corvallis to the EOARC at Union. Kelly Jimmerson and her husband decided to return to Michigan after the end of spring quarter. Jeff Brown left us to work at the University of Oregon. In August Jill Davidson accepted a position with Land O' Lakes Cooperative and Clint Sexson

also decided on a change in career directions and accepted a position with Pilot Rock High School. Then, during the fall, Candace Croney accepted a position with the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University and will leave us at the end of January. These losses have prompted us to start taking a strategic look at our staffing. We are in the midst of that planning process and will be presenting a re-staffing plan to the college later this winter or early spring.

We are pleased that Janice Allen joined us as manager of the Beef Ranches and Matt Kennedy and Brianna Panter have strengthened our teaching program in their Instructor roles. Giovanna Rosenlicht is also a welcome addition in the new Companion Animal Instructor position. We thank Jennifer Walker for helping us out fall quarter and welcome Laird McCabe for winter and

spring quarter in our second Instructor position at the Horse Center. We were pleased to hire two faculty research assistants in 2008, Nathalie Quezada and Mary Meaker, who replaced Mare Goeger and Reed Reeve, respectively. At our livestock units, we welcomed Margaret Kaaekuahiwi to our Poultry Center and welcomed back Travis Way to our Dairy Center. On the computer side, we are lucky to have Scott Austed and Aaron Moffett providing great support. Reinaldo Cooke will be joining us at the EOARC in Burns as the new state Beef Extension Specialist in January. We completed interviews for a Ruminant Nutritionist in December and we're currently negotiating an offer.

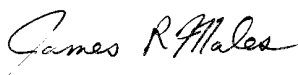
The economic crisis has impacted us first through high feed prices and then, more recently, through lower meat and milk prices. The down turn in the Oregon economy will have a definite, but manageable, impact for the remainder of this biennium. Of course, the impact for the next

biennium will be decided both by state revenues and the legislature over the first half of 2009.

We are completing fund raising for the Pavilion with the plan being to sell bonds after July 2009 and probably start construction in spring 2010. This facility will be an important improvement to our physical plant that will greatly enhance teaching and should help with faculty retention.

Much like the nation, we don't know exactly where 2009 will take the Department of Animal Sciences but, also like the nation, we face 2009 with a sense of optimism for renewal and the opportunities that are before us.

Marcia and I wish all of you the very best for 2009.



## Holstein Association Honors Mike Gamroth

The Oregon Holstein Association parted with tradition and presented their lifetime service award to someone other than a Holstein breeder. At their annual meeting in December, the association surprised **Mike Gamroth** with the award and a plaque for his 35 years of service to the dairy industry. While Mike turned several shades of red, Tami Kerr, of OSU Ag in the Classroom, read the citation recognizing his help with the Association's annual Futurity and many other services to members.

## Lambs Coming Early

Due to changing research and teaching needs, lambing will occur early this year, from February 9<sup>th</sup> through March 13<sup>th</sup>. Please inform any regular visitors you may run across of these early dates.

## “DG” New Grad

**Dulmelis “DG” Gonzalez** successfully defended her Master's thesis on December 12<sup>th</sup>; her thesis was titled “Effect of dietary fatty acids, time of feeding and immune responses in poultry.” DG completed her B.S. degree in our Department in 2006, after which she began her MS studies in poultry nutrition with **Dr. Gita Cherian**. She plans to continue her education in the area of animal research or in the veterinary field.

## Welcome New Instructor



**Laird McCabe** is new interim instructor at our Horse Center, beginning Winter term. Laird graduated from OSU with a B.S. degree in Ag Business in 2003. His family's involvement with horses began with his grandfather, a certified American Quarter Horse judge. Born in Enterprise, Laird spent his growing up years in eastern Oregon, where his family helped neighbors with cattle and horses. After graduating from OSU in 2003, he worked in a working cowhorse performance operation. He will be teaching riding classes, working with the Young Colt Training program, and helping with general maintenance at the Horse Center.

## Publications

**Cherian, Gita.** Eggs and Health: Nutrient Sources and Supplement Carriers. Chapter 16 in: Complementary and Alternative Therapies and the Aging Population. R.R. Watson (Ed). Academic Press. pp 333-346.

## January Birthdays

Garrett Tschida.....	6
Tony McNeel .....	8
Tom Savage.....	17
Mike Gamroth .....	15
Nancy Ferguson.....	16
John Landers .....	24
Gabrielle Thompson.....	26

## News and Notes



ANS grad ('08) **Cassandra Bush** has been hired by Lextron Animal Health to cover their western Oregon and

northern California territory. Since graduating, Cassandra has been caring for her own feeder calves and her family's cattle on ranches in Kings Valley and Coquille. She moved to Yakima in November to begin training with Lextron.

ANS Junior and Sublimity native **Briana Schumacher** is the candidate selected for a highly sought after internship with Pfizer Livestock Products. Briana will begin her internship at the completion of spring term, with training in Pennsylvania. From there, she will work with representatives in six western states (with car, computer, phone and credit card provided!) The last week of her job will be spent in New York City at the corporate offices.

It was good to have **Hal Schudel** visit recently. Hal, Ph.D. grad of OSU and former professor of Agronomy here, pioneered the idea of lush, triangle-shaped, plantation-grown conifers, as founder of Holiday Tree Farms of Benton County, the largest Christmas tree grower in the world. Along with his wife, Lois, Hal has recently given back to his “roots” with a \$1 million gift. He is featured in the December 11<sup>th</sup> issue of “LIFE @ OSU.”