

University of Arkansas,
United States Department
of Agriculture, and County
Governments Cooperating

No. 11

November 2013

Carolyn Lewis Is “Queen” of the Fair

Retiree Spotlight

*Carolyn Lewis
Carolyn Meeks*

Inside

*December
Birthdays*

*Congratulations
to C. A. and
Evelyn Ramer*

*John Leinhardt,
Retired Community
Development
Specialist, Dies*

*Roberta Bufford,
Former County
Administrative
Office Supervisor,
Dies*

*D. C. Blanchard,
Retired Staff
Chair, Dies*

*From the
Editorial Board*

UofA

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System

Carolyn Lewis has big family dinners coming up for the holidays.

Her two children and families, including four grandchildren, will join her husband, Noble, and her in Sturkie, Ark., for Thanksgiving.

On Saturday after Thanksgiving, the entire extended family will meet and eat at the Fulton County Fairgrounds where Lewis has logged many hours during the 50 years she has helped with the fair. She started volunteering in 1963, the year she graduated from Salem High School. In the late 1970s, she became a board member.

The fair is where she and her husband met a few years after she started volunteering.

“My husband and I do everything together,” she said.

The Lewises run a home-based business called Southfork Antiques, and they sell on eBay. They specialize in art and Depression glass. She’ll sometimes display a piece of art for a year or so at home, then decide to sell it online.

Lewis retired from Extension as Fulton County administrative office supervisor November 2000 after 37 years with Extension. She is a charter member of the Zeta Omicron Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi and serves as secretary for the Fulton County Democratic Committee.

She is a member of the Ozark Gateway Tourist Council, representing Fulton County, and is a board member of the North Arkansas Electric Cooperative’s



Carolyn Lewis

Operation Roundup Program. She’s in charge of publicity for the Fulton County Homecoming Festival held each May and judges beauty pageants at other county fairs.

One might say she’s committed to her community.

To reconnect with Carolyn Lewis, contact her at 201 Bay Creek Road, Sturkie, Ark. 72578-8804, (870) 895-2491.

– Shannon Magsam

Carolyn Meeks Is Sticking to Her Knitting

Carolyn Meeks retired from Extension four years ago and soon after accepted the financial duties at First Baptist Church in Mt. Ida. It's part-time, but it and her volunteer work keep her busy.

Meeks, mom to son David Mazzella, belongs to a crochet club called YarnWorkers, and the ladies make hats, mittens and scarves for various community purposes. They give the hats to babies in the hospital, to those who receive help through Operation Santa Claus (an Extension initiative) and to kids and adults who need them in the community.

"If we have any left over, we take them to the local schools," she said.

The YarnWorkers ladies meet once a week at the local assisted living home in Mt. Ida and encourage residents to join them. They teach newcomers how to knit or crochet and recently had a tween join the group. The young girl won several blue ribbons for her crocheted projects in the county fair.

Meeks is also involved in the Hearts to Hands women's ministry at her church.

Originally from Connecticut, Meeks moved to Arkansas when her husband retired while they were living in Arizona. His mother was from the Little Rock area, and they moved to be closer to her. While living



Carolyn Meeks

outside Little Rock, Carolyn Meeks started working at the state office for Extension working on the travel and hourly payroll.

After about nine months, she started working in Sheridan and was there for about five years.

She and her husband moved to Mt. Ida after that, and she retired as the administrative support supervisor after almost 11 years.

She's busy, but it still sometimes feels strange to be retired from Extension.

She recalls her time at Extension fondly. Meeks especially enjoyed helping with the fair every year and working with 4-H students, master gardeners and home economists.

"As secretary you help with everything," she said.

To reconnect with Carolyn Meeks, contact her at (870) 867-4066, 60 West Travis Lane, Mt. Ida, Ark. 71957.

– Shannon Magsam

December Birthdays

Becky O'Neal Mulhollen, Dec. 1
Dena Malone, Dec. 2
George Morris, Dec. 2
Louise Evans, Dec. 8
Barbara Bennett King, Dec. 8
Toy Helen Ginn Siler, Dec. 8
Richard DeSpain, Dec. 9
Randel Price, Dec. 9
Albert Squires, Dec. 9
Margaret Alexander, Dec. 10
Shirley Lewis, Dec. 11
Ann Behnke, Dec. 12
Claude Clement, Jr., Dec. 12
Millie Ann Henson, Dec. 13
Donna Graham, Dec. 14
Jerry Markham, Dec. 14
Charles Hodges, Dec. 15
Ada Raye Hicks, Dec. 16
Brenda Yusko, Dec. 18
Mary Askew, Dec. 19
Agnes Dean, Dec. 21
Suzanne Smith Hirrel, Dec. 21
Gayla Brewer Taylor, Dec. 22
Dennis Gardisser, Dec. 24
Merle Gross, Dec. 24
Audrey Hairston, Dec. 24
Margaret Goodson, Dec. 26
J. J. Kimbrough, Jr., Dec. 27
Sandra Smith, Dec. 27
Betty Jean Brannan, Dec. 29
Thomas Leslie, Dec. 29
Gordon Barnes, Dec. 31

Congratulations to **C. A. and Evelyn Ramer** who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on October 5. Ramer is retired staff chairman of the Dallas County Extension office.

John Leinhardt, Retired Community Development Specialist, Dies

John Lynn Leinhardt, 73, of Roland died Oct. 9 at his home. He was an Extension community development specialist from 1979 until his retirement in 1995.

He is survived by two cousins, Mark A. Higgins of Granbury, Texas, and Elizabeth R. Dycus of Strafford, Vermont. – *Laura Goforth*

Roberta Bufford, Former White County Administrative Office Supervisor, Dies

Lillian Roberta (Brumley) Bufford, 65, of Bald Knob died Oct. 16.

Bufford started work as a clerk typist for Extension in White County in 1976. She also served as clerk stenographer, secretary and administrative support supervisor before her retirement in 2011, after 34 years at the White County Extension office.

She is survived by her husband of 35 years, Roger Bufford; her parents, Robert and Olivia Brumley; son, Lynn Bufford; daughters, Denise Dunn, Laura McClellan and Sarah Sanders; brother, Lyndell Brumley; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Oct. 19 at New Bethel General Baptist Church in Bald Knob with interment in Prince Cemetery. – *Laura Goforth*

D. C. “Doc” Blanchard, Retired Staff Chair, Dies

Deston Cooper “Doc” Blanchard, 91, of Rison died Oct. 11 in Delight.

Blanchard was a WWII veteran. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in agriculture from the U of A. He joined Extension in 1954 as assistant county agent in Desha County. He subsequently served as farm management specialist in Phillips County, county
(Continued on p. 4)

From the Editorial Board

The Extension Cord editorial board wishes you and your family a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday.

As you plan your Thanksgiving celebration, we hope you’ll take an extra moment to mark another important date on your calendar.

As we have done for the past few years, retirees will once again award one or more scholarships to current Extension employees who wish to improve their knowledge and advance their careers.

The editorial board will announce the scholarship application process in the December issue of the *Blue Letter*. We hope to have a wide range of applicants.

The scholarships will be awarded at Galaxy, the annual conference of Extension employees, held once again this coming March atop Petit Jean at the Rockefeller Institute.

We hope you will mark your calendar to attend the luncheon, which will be held as part of the 2014 Galaxy, where you will be treated to lunch on Thursday, March 20, 2014. It is during the luncheon we will award the scholarship or scholarships and where you will be recognized as a retiree.

If you haven’t attended Galaxy at Petit Jean, you have missed a great opportunity to mingle with today’s Extension employees. If you haven’t attended, we hope you will decide this coming March will be the year you choose to attend.

Again, may you and your loved ones have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Your editorial board

Editorial Board Members

Fann Woodward	Lorraine Hupp
Mike Wright	Earl Wilson
Stan Chapman	William Woodall
Lott Rolfe, III	

Bob Reynolds, Editor

Cooperative Extension Service
2301 South University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72204-4940

D. C. Blanchard Dies
(cont. from p. 3)

agent in Cleveland County and county staff chair in Newton County. He retired in 1987 with 33 years of service to Extension.

Blanchard is survived by his three children, Barbara Gray and John Blanchard of Rison and Connie Blanchard Simpson of Norfolk; one sister, Mary Meena of Louisville, Kentucky; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Oct. 14 at Rison United Methodist Church with burial in Delight Cemetery.

– Laura Goforth

Yes, I will subscribe to the *Extension Cord*.

	Cost	Amount Enclosed
<i>Extension Cord</i>	\$18.00	_____

Please make check payable to **UA CES** and mail to Martha Thorpe, Communications Dept., 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-4940.

Yes, I want to support the *Advance 25K: Continuing a Legacy* fundraising initiative in support of the Cooperative Extension Service Retiree Scholarship.

Enclosed is my gift of \$20.12 Other \$_____

My gift is in honor / in memory of _____

Name/Address for notification of honorary and memorial gifts:

Please make check payable to **UA Foundation** and mail to Martha Thorpe, Communications Department, 2301 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-4940.