

Chapter Happenings

Guada-Coma ICA
By Brenda Bloch

The January 23, 2012, GCICA event started with invocation and Pledge of Allegiance followed by a meal.

Leroy Muenich , President, welcomed members for the general meeting. He introduced the new officers/directors, thanked Brian Luensmann for preparing the meal, ladies for the desserts, and Benno Luensmann for use of his facility. Minutes from the November meeting were read by Carilyn John, Secretary and approved. A written financial report for November and December 2011 was given to the meeting group by Leonora Kuhn, Treasurer. Doug Bierstedt, Sr. VP of Ozona National Bank in San Marcos was introduced and thanked for presenting a check to sponsor the evening meal.

Lynn Tate recommended members sign up with FSA for drought relief. He also reported, per Bill Hyman, that local chapter officers/directors are covered under the state ICA umbrella insurance policy.

It was announced that April 15 is the deadline for ICA scholarship applications and April 25 is the deadline for local scholarships. Sharon Tate made a motion to increase scholarship amount from \$750 to \$1000—currently we give 2 scholarships. Motion seconded by Lynn Tate. Motion carried.

New members of our ICA chapter were introduced to the audience. Leroy reported that as an incentive to be a member of ICA, his business is offering a discount on wormers for the month of Jan & Feb.

Bill Hymen reports final redistricting for Texas awaits approval by the Supreme Court. ICA has three people as Cattlemen's Beef Board delegates—Bruce Dopsaluf, Robert Bruner, and Chuck Kiker. He stated the Animal Health Commission decided to propose a rule that all adult cattle that changes ownership will have to be tagged—if they have a Brucellosis tag they do not have to be retagged. ICA will fight a proposal to tag for transport to the processing plant.

Al Van Allen, a field representative from the State Comptroller office, spoke regarding ag/timber registration. He stated that the ag exemption is almost the same as in 1961. He informed the group that an ag newsletter is available and he left a copy for the group to share. On January 26 a webinar will be available to further receive information and ask questions. The owner of leased land is eligible for the tax exemption. He also stated feed is automatically tax exempt. Equipment has to be used on farm/ranch in order to be tax exempt. Building materials for farm/barn are not tax exempt. He then answered questions from the floor.

Detective Bobby Bailey with the Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force discussed theft of farm trailers. He is assisting in the registration of trailers bought outside of a dealer. He inspects the trailer to make sure it is not stolen—cost is \$40. He recommends protecting property by locking gates, parking trailers away from the highway, call officers if you see anything suspicious, park equipment in well-lit area, and don't leave keys in equipment. He then answered questions from the floor.

Door prizes were won by Franklin Huebner, George Rehfeld, Leroy Dietert and Jim Ball.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bloch



*From left to right:
Brenda Bloch, Recording Secretary; Leonor Kuhn, Treasurer; Leroy Munich, President; Steven Finch, Vice President; Carilyn John, Secretary*



*From left to right:
Leslie Halm, Comal County; Marvin Boeck, Bexar County; Kenneth Winkelmann, Bexar County;
Allan Bode, Guadalupe County; Greg Seidenberger, Guadalupe County.
Sammy Knippa, DVM, Comal County not pictured*

East Texas ICA
By Opal Oliver

Correction from last newsletter: the President of the East Texas Cattlemen's Association is Charlie Price. *"Thanks to all of you for the opportunity to serve as your president. I am excited about our possibilities for a productive year. With your support and input, we will accomplish our mission. Therefore, come and share your ideas and thoughts. They will be considered and welcomed,"* he said.

Our next meeting is February 14, 2012 --Valentine Day. As usual we will meet at ENGLEADOW FARM & RANCH SUPPLY, 2472 E HWY 84.

Our guest speaker is George Clendenin, Soil Conservationist, from Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). His presentation will be "Lessons from the West, Diversifying Water Resources." Soil conservation is a set of management strategies for prevention of soil being eroded from the Earth's surface or becoming chemically altered by overuse, acidification, salinization or other chemical soil contamination. It is a component of environment soil science.

South Central Texas ICA Membership Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Brad Cotton. Alton Kuykendal led in prayer and Dickie Jackson lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directions for getting the BBQ dinner were given and all were served.

The meeting resumed with Larry Wiley, Treasurer, including in his report the balance in the SCTICA account. Larry explained that the monies brought in during the one fundraiser (SCTICA Team Roping) are what allow SCTICA members to have a complimentary dinner at their meetings.

Brad Cotton then turned the meeting over to Dickie Jackson who gave the nominating committee report. The following were nominated to return as directors for a three year term: A.L. "Windy" Miller, Marshall Livingston, Dickie Jackson, and Gus Gonzalez. The report was concluded and Brad asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. The vote was unanimous for A.L. "Windy" Miller, Marshall Livingston, Dickie Jackson, and Gus Gonzalez to return as directors.

The nominating committee also nominated the following for officers for 2012-2013:

Brad Cotton, President
Gus Gonzalez, Vice President
Susan Gonzalez, Secretary
Larry Wiley, Treasurer

The vote was unanimous for the above.

Bill Hyman was called to give his report. Topics discussed included: redistricting; animal ID where ICA has requested the State to wait until USOA decides their tagging rules; cattle drive earnings totaled what was expected; and he gave an overview of ICA happenings for 2011.

A.L. "Windy" Miller addressed the group with the following information: he reminded all to update their voter registration card; he encouraged everyone to check out the Wilson County News articles about Agriculture; and he shared that Brenn Hill, country and western singer, donated monies to USCA for every CD purchased online (in December); and reminded everyone to put the June dates on their calendar and attend the ICA Summer Convention.

10 door prizes were given throughout the meeting. Members who donated items for the door prizes included: Gene & Vicki Brehm, Lauren Mills, Brad Cotton, ICA state office, Windy & Laurie Miller.

In closing Brad gave these announcements:

The annual ICA Convention will be held June 20-21-22 in San Marcos

The SCTICA Team Roping will be held on April 28, 2012 in Stockdale

A reporter position was established by directors (not an elected position): Laurie Miller will report/share articles on human interest interesting stories involving members from the SCTICA chapter.

The next SCTICA membership meeting will be in Atascosa County on July 19, 2012 – more informaiton will be sent before the meeting.

Brad Cotton adjourned the meeting.

After the meeting Marjorie and Butch Bosanko presented "Windy" Miller with a check for \$100 to cover the cost of using the American Legion Hall in Floresville for the January meeting.

Victoria Crossroads ICA

By Gary Dufour

Here comes the start of 2012 with increased hopes for the moisture needs of the ag and ranch activities. It was decided at the December meeting to officially eliminate the meetings in January, June and November. Our next meeting will be on February 23rd, 7:00 P.M. at the First Victoria Bank Town Hall Room.

Our Christmas meeting/meal at Ramsey's attracted 26 members. We enjoyed a chicken fried steak with trimmings followed later by some mighty good eggnog. Thanks to Howard Spies who arranged the meal and took the RSVPs for the count. Howard was unable to attend this meeting due to medical issues. He had back surgery in which a couple of vertebrae were straightened, spacers installed and clamps hold it all together. The bionic man is getting around fine but is postponing bull riding for a while. He commented on his surprise at seeing one of his calves bring \$1.90. Been a long time since we've seen prices like that.

Regarding the effects of the drought, there has been a significant reduction in cow numbers across Oklahoma and Texas in the second half of 2011. In general, those able to sustain their herd until the rains come will likely see continuing price increases. Those forced to decrease herds will find higher restocking prices. Profitability will be challenged further with increased feed prices.

Seen in the Southern Livestock Standard:

The WTO has ruled against the U.S. on Country-of-Origin Labeling Rules. Complaints were filed by Canada and Mexico against the U.S. Mandatory COOL. USDA has 60 days to appeal the ruling;

Several cattle groups are urging USDA not to appeal as they felt that the program has been costly and ineffective.

Anyone interested in applying for the 2012 ICA Steffany Lynn Sklar Scholarship may get the application on line at <http://icatexas.com/referenceforms.html> or call 512-620-0162. Deadline is April 15, 2012. Awardees will be notified by June 1 with an invitation to accept their award in person at the annual ICA Convention and Trade show in San Marcos, June 20-22, 2012. Please contact the ICA office with any questions at 512-620-0162 or tica@icatexas.com.

A reminder to those renewing their dues; send your payment to ICA Crossroads Chapter, P.O. Box 2181, Victoria, Tx. 77902 as our chapter gets 10% before forwarding it to the state office.

See you at the meeting!

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