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Terrie Treadway: Going South

Terrie Treadway had never lived more than 30 miles below the Missouri-Arkansas border during the first 25 years of her life. It wasn't until she accepted a job with the Cooperative Extension Service that she went to the opposite end of the state.

"I was born in Mountain Home, raised in Pocahontas and went to school in Fayetteville," Treadway said. "I graduated in '79 with a clothing and textile degree and couldn't get a job."

She moved back home while she figured out her next steps.

"I made the decision to get a teaching certificate, but they changed the curriculum," Treadway said. "Instead of taking six months to get it, it took me 18 months."

After she completed her teaching certificate, there was a recession with a tight job market, but Treadway caught a lucky break.

"There was a hiring freeze on with Extension, but they opened it up briefly," Treadway said. "There was one position available, and it was for the EFNEP [Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program] home economist extension agent in Lafayette County."

She was hired in June 1981, and she spent her entire career in the same county.



"I am one of those rare Extension people who started out and finished in the very same county," Treadway said. "I spent 35 years in Lafayette County."

Treadway said she was passionate about impacting kids by offering them opportunities to learn and grow.

"A lot of the kids I worked with started out in the EFNEP program, and they had limited experiences in life," Treadway said. "They didn't have much of an opportunity to travel. Very few of them had traveled beyond the county line."

She took kids to Fayetteville for the 4-H State O'Rama, and it impacted many of them.

Save the date!

The 2022 Extension Retiree Luncheon is April 28th. More details coming soon!

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"I have seen kids who had never been out of the county become lawyers, doctors, nurses and businessmen," Treadway said. "I think that's the most inspiring thing that I've been able to accomplish in those 35 years."

Treadway's husband trained retrievers for years as a part-time job, but after Treadway retired that changed.


"My husband retired from being an insurance adjuster, and he didn't want to just sit at home," Treadway said. "He went full-time into training dogs, and we've been traveling to national competitions."

The couple also travel for sports.

"I never had much of an opportunity to travel up to Fayetteville for games living in Lafayette County,"

Treadway said. "Now I am a season ticket owner of football, baseball and basketball. We've been to the College World Series twice now."

Working in the same county for over three decades gave her a special perspective.

"I worked with a lot of wonderful people that I still call my friends," Treadway said. "We still try to get together. One thing about Extension is that everybody is a family." 



'Club in a tub' program provides resources for 4-H club leaders

Among the many things the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted, the passing along of leadership roles within organizations — 4-H clubs among them — can be one of the most difficult to navigate.

To help new and returning 4-H leaders gain their footing within their respective clubs, Johnson County extension 4-H agent Jeanie Rowbotham designed "Club in a tub," a new resource for 4-H club leaders containing information and tools.



Rowbotham said she worked with Clark County extension 4-H agent Cindy Ham to create a tub that contains "everything you need for a club in one

spot" and aids 4-H leaders in starting the new program year.

"Right now, I think recruiting and promotion for clubs is such a big deal, more so than it's ever been before, because of these last few years," Rowbotham said. "I think the tubs make that easier, and it gives leaders a resource that has everything right in front of them, so if someone is interested in becoming a 4-H leader, they have something to go off. This gets them started, this helps them, and it takes a little bit of stress off them."

Rowbotham said it was important to ensure the tubs were self-contained and portable, as many clubs meet in shared conference rooms or community buildings. The clear tubs, usually used to store files, measure 18 ½ inches long, 14 inches wide and 11 inches tall. The tubs contain a variety of tools and information for leaders, starting with the basics: a 4-H and American flag set, a first aid kit, hand sanitizer and disposable masks, pencils, a stapler and tape.

Each tub also comes with file folders that have "everything you would need to conduct your club meetings," Rowbotham said. This includes the Arkansas Volunteer Guidebook, a laminated copy of the 4-H pledge, club charter forms and bylaws, the club ritual agenda and 12 copies

Message from the director



Like all of you, I am very pleased at the recent drop in COVID related numbers in the Natural State. I am feeling optimistic again as we come out from under the latest surge of cases from the Omicron variant. I think this feeling must be going around because the Extension Service is getting busy. In-

person meetings have returned in many areas, and faculty and staff who had delayed meetings are getting them back on the calendar. Our county meetings have been well attended, and the ones I attended had that “good to see you again” vibe to them.

We have had several retirements this year from across the Division. In total, Extension filled over 80 positions last year. Unfortunately, we (like many other businesses) have experienced a lot of turnover, retirement and promotions that have left vacancies. Recruitment is a full-time job these days for our district directors. To try and recruit more young people into Extension, we have

developed a new County Agent internship program. I am pleased to say we have a great group of candidates, and we will be filling our first class very soon. I hope this group has a chance to visit with retirees. I think your experiences could be of great interest to these young people. I will work with Brian Helms to try and make that happen. Maybe you can help us recruit!

I am excited about the State Master Gardener Conference in Springdale. It will be held in-person on May 19-21. I know that this group is looking forward to this meeting after last year’s cancellation. More information is available at <https://www.uaex.uada.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners/conferences.aspx>. I also always look forward to the Extension Homemakers spring meeting. This was the first in-person group I met with after becoming Director. The spring workshop will be held at the Wyndham Hotel May 31-June 2. More on this meeting at <https://www.uaex.uada.edu/life-skills-wellness/extension-homemakers/training.aspx>. These are just a couple of examples of what’s going on at Extension.

I also wish you all the best and as always thank you for your continued support and interest in the Cooperative Extension Service. ☺

Club, cont.

of the monthly 4-H club agenda, promotional materials, registration information and forms to enroll or re-enroll club members, leadership information packets and a list of officers with a book of officer responsibilities. The tubs also contain icebreakers, project ideas, programming resources, game ideas and club songs.

Rowbotham said she and Ham came up with the idea for the tubs around Christmastime because “there’s so much transition in leadership with clubs.” After brainstorming what should be in the tubs, they also consulted with new and longtime 4-H club leaders about what items should be added or taken out. The leaders suggested they add record books, which club members use to keep track of their community service, leadership and projects throughout the year, “so kids could get started on record books from the very beginning.”

The club in a tub program is still in its beginning stages, and Rowbotham said she hopes to eventually expand it to provide club leaders in all counties with the resource. So far, only club leaders in Rowbotham’s Johnson County and Ham’s Clark County will receive tubs. Rowbotham said she and Ham have plans to discuss the program with their district directors and with Angie Freel, Associate Department Head for 4-H.

Rowbotham said she is excited about the potential for the tubs to help smooth leadership transitions and provide a fresh start for returning leaders.

“In 4-H, you always have lulls where you have a change of leaders and new clubs forming, but right now, it seems like all of our clubs are there,” Rowbotham said. “We’ve kind of been on pause, and we’re getting things back going, so I think it’s the perfect time to implement this.” ☺

March Birthdays

Ralph Tyler - March 1
Lynn Whitlock - March 1
Janet Hill - March 3
Glenda Rushing - March 5
Sandra Schlinker - March 5
Barbara Tompkins - March 9
Bobbie Floyd - March 10
Alene Bates - March 10
Bonita Mueller - March 10
Mark Cochran - March 11
Dorothy Rodgers - March 12
Danny Allen - March 14

Sue Seevers - March 14
Judy Drewrey - March 14
Dorene Wills - March 16
Lydia Guffey - March 16
Doris Markle - March 17
Chris Russell - March 18
Nina Boston - March 19
Juanita Sherman - March 19
Danny Walker - March 21
Steven Seideman - March 22
Charlie Parsons - March 23
Mary Barrentine - March 23

John Robinson - March 24
Ronnie Bateman - March 24
Kathy Rawlingson - March 25
Ocsie Barnes - March 26
Thomas Moody - March 27
Debbie Henry - March 28
Celia Boon Shireman - March 29
Eddie Hubbell - March 29
Patsy Hall - March 29
Shelly Johnson - March 30
Karen Fite - March 31

Scholarship donations

The following gifts were recently received to support professional development opportunities for faculty and staff of the Cooperative Extension Service.

Mildred and Liz Childs Professional Development Fund

Liz Childs

CES Retiree Scholarship

Ford Baldwin

In memory of Claude Clement

Honorary or memorial donations should be forwarded to the Development Office, ATTN: Brian Helms, Cooperative Extension Service, 2301 South University Ave., Little Rock, AR 72204. If joint recognition is desired, please indicate. To ensure proper notification is sent, please also include in whose honor or memory the gift is made and the mailing address of the person to receive the notification.

Welcome new retirees!

Max Franks

Max began work for Cooperative Extension in September 2012 and retired on Jan. 4, 2022. He was a Procurement Counselor with the AR Procurement Technical Assistance Center in the Community, Professional and Economic Development Department and retired with nine years of service.

Jim Robbins

Jim began work for Cooperative Extension in September 1998 and retired on Jan. 4, 2022. He was Assistant Professor – Ornamentals in the Horticulture Department and retired with 23 years of service.

Claude Clement passes

Claude Clement, age 97, passed away on Jan. 14. Claude retired from Extension in 1988 after serving in Arkansas, Phillips and Pulaski Counties. Arrangements are entrusted to Boyd Funeral Home of Lonoke. Funeral services were held Jan. 22 at Concord United Methodist Church in Furlow.

James E. "Jim" Miller passes

Former Extension employee, Jim Miller passed away on Jan. 24. Jim was a Extension Forestry and Wildlife Specialist in Arkansas for 11 in years before accepting a position with the USDA Extension Service. After retirement from USDA, he accepted a position with Mississippi State University and retired from there in 2005. Arrangements were entrusted to Snead Funeral Home in Snead, AL.

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