Just a bit of nostalgia for Homecoming / SNR Bloat.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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The College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources has honored the 2020 recipients of the CAFNR Column Award for Distinguished Alumni. Although the recognition process looks different for this year, CAFNR’s outstanding alumni were still celebrated for their notable accomplishments. The Column Awards are the highest honor given by the College to recognize outstanding achievements of its accomplished alumni. The awardees represent graduates from each of CAFNR’s six divisions, reflecting the six historic columns at the University of Missouri. SNR’s Column Award winner is Dr. J. Scott Angle who is a national leader in developing the science that supports food production and management of natural resources. As chief executive of the agriculture and environmental sciences arm of a leading land-grant university, he champions public science as a path to improve lives and reduce human suffering. His accomplished career in government, non-profit international development, and in academe informs an approach to leadership based on service, partnership, and drive for impact. An innovator who holds seven patents, Angle has successfully guided multiple organizations through budget shortfalls and other challenges. Dr. Angle also made a presentation via Zoom “The Struggle for Enough – Why Half the World’s Farmers Go Hungry and What the Land Grants Can Do about It” to the SNR faculty during this week of celebration.

For more of the story: https://cafnr.missouri.edu/2020/10/cafnr-proud-column-strong/
PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS/RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS


Charlie Nilon is part of a team which has been awarded an Arkansas Natural Resources Conservation Services, Conservation Innovation Grant (NRCS CIG) for the poultry house remediation efforts. He’s working with Dr. Susan Rupp (see flyer below).

**EVENTS/MEETINGS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Region 5 Soil Judging Contest was held virtually this year due to COVID-19. This was the University of Missouri’s year to sponsor the contest, so in preparation, over 200 soil cores in liners were pulled from 10 different sites. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) pulled the cores with the assistance of Mark Abney, Gene Campbell, Sheila Staton-Clifton and JR Perkins. Kerry Clark, Director of CAFNR International Programs and Assistant Research Professor of Rural Sociology, directed the contest, set up the rules and facilitated the distribution of the soil cores to the participating schools. Region 5 was the only region to have a soil judging contest this year; therefore, one of the schools in Region 5 will not only be the regional contest winner, but will be the national contest winner for 2020! Although NRCS was delighted to facilitate the virtual contest this year, we would much rather see the students in open soil pits in face to face competition receiving the best experience in, “hands on” experiences and socialization, and hearing
from the professional soil scientist of the area to receive tacit knowledge. MU placed 3rd overall and 3rd for group judging. The University of Minnesota received 1st in group, overall, and the top 4 individual. (Photos collected by and story submitted by Mark Abney.)
Natural Resources Conservation in a 5G World, February 2-4, 2021. After much deliberation and review, the Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) will be held this year in a virtual format. The committee and Board are excited about the opportunities this year brings.

Planning for the conference will continue over the next several months. Be assured the committee is committed to the safety of all who attend, participate, and plan the conference. We are committed to the process of continuing education, promoting mentoring, and networking opportunities to all those who attend the MNRC. Continue to watch the website and other social media for updates to the 2021 Conference. https://mnrc.org/ https://mnrc.org/call-for-papers-workshops-and-posters/

On Thursday, November 5th at 6PM via Zoom, the Fisheries & Aquatic Science Society (FASS) will be having Dr. Craig Paukert give his talk, “The Unofficial Guide to Getting into Graduate School”. (Submitted by Kiah Wright.) Zoom link: https://umsystem.zoom.us/j/94998717194

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2020 Grow Native! Professional Member Conference

Wednesday, November 4, 2020
8:30 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

Registration is now open for the 2020 Grow Native! Professional Member Conference. In this 20th anniversary year of the Missouri Prairie Foundation’s Grow Native! program, the November 4, 2020 event, now virtual, is open to all.

Conference Info
Free for Grow Native! professional members and their staff, and Missouri Prairie Foundation members, or $30 for nonmembers.

Landscape Architect PDHs and International Society of Arboriculture CEUs available.

Info and registration at GrowNative.org/Conference2020
IN MEMORIUM

Reflections at the Passing of Ted Fisher: Dr. Ted Fisher was on the Department of Agronomy faculty when I was an undergraduate agronomy major. Ted, along with the other Soils faculty, had just transitioned with the Field Crops faculty to form the new Agronomy Department in 1967. During his short tenure, Ted made several valuable contributions to the University of Missouri and to the soil science profession. He and Jim Brown shared primary responsibility for soil fertility and plant nutrition research, although Ted’s focus was on development of soil testing methods, interpretation and recommendations. In fact, his work on theoretical approaches for relating crop yield as a function of nutrient supply as measured by the soil test is widely considered innovative and pioneering research that is still frequently referenced in many current soil test recommendation guides and publications. Ted taught the Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition course in the 1960’s and early 1970’s and was an excellent and patient instructor, taking time and effort to assure students grasped the concepts and applications of this field of soil science. He also authored many useful extension bulletins. After retirement he maintained a connection to his colleagues and students, primarily through our annual float trips on Ozark rivers during the 1970’s to the early 2000’s. As mentioned in his obituary, Ted was very civic-minded and had many intellectual pursuits during an active retirement. I last visited with Ted a few years ago after programs sponsored by League of Women Voters or the Sierra Club – very typical of the interests he cultivated throughout his very accomplished life. Ted, you have navigated well your last canoe float; may you now rest in peace. (Photo by Al Vogt; Submitted by Robert Kremer.) Photo: L to R, C.L. 'Scriv' Scrivner, Bob Kremer, Dale Blevins, Ted Fisher, Al Vogt, Bob Blanchar, Dick Smith, Tom Wiley, Sam Orr, Bob Volk

Patrick Market was named director of the School of Natural Resources: For the past 20 years, Patrick Market has been a steady presence in the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) School of Natural Resources (SNR). Market, who has spent his entire professional career at MU, was hired in 1999 as an assistant professor of atmospheric science. He became an associate professor of atmospheric science in 2005, and moved to a full professor in 2013. Since January 2019, Market has also served as the interim director of SNR. Market’s newest role in CAFNR, which is effective Nov. 1, is as the director of SNR. For more of the story: https://cafnr.missouri.edu/2020/10/up-to-the-challenge/

It is time for old Persimmon Joe’s Prognostication for the 2020-2021 winter. After a major struggle with the neighborhood racoons, possums, and various sundry other consumers of ripe persimmons, I was able to procure one for observation. Bottom left image: The Persimmon Troll looks on skeptically at said persimmon! Center bottom image: Results of inquiry reveals a spoon. Bottom right image: Results in the rough (seed still attached to persimmon pulp). Interpretation according to Google: **If the kernel is spoon-shaped, expect plenty of snow to shovel.** If it is fork-shaped, plan on a mild winter with powdery, light snow. If the kernel is knife-shaped, expect frigid winds that will “cut” like a blade. In summary, you better get your snow shovels ready! P.S. Don’t hold your breath. We will just wait and see, take what we get, and this time next year try to remember what the prediction was! (Submitted by Joe Dillard.)
Marissa Forbis has lived in central Missouri her entire life and spent much of her childhood exploring Missouri’s state parks and conservation areas during summer camping trips with her family. Travel has since remained a large part of her life, though her most recent travels have been to places outside of the state’s borders. Trips to national parks in Arizona, Colorado, South Dakota, Tennessee, Washington, Alaska, New Zealand, and Italy have served to increase her appreciation of the role we play in ensuring that future generations are able to learn about and experience nature in the same way we have been lucky enough to. Upon graduating from Jefferson City High School in 2015, Marissa decided to continue her education at the University of Missouri, choosing to major in Fisheries and Wildlife because of the value she placed in ensuring that the connection between people and nature is not lost. Throughout her college career, she worked as a barn hand and wastewater treatment plant operator, expanding her work during the summer to include experience as a camp counselor. Working in such a wide variety of fields allowed Marissa to see just how crucial the implementation of conservation education is for people working in all disciplines. Volunteering at Prairie Fork with the Conservation Leadership Corps introduced Marissa to a location that is dedicated to providing that necessary education, and she has sought a way to contribute to their work since her initial introduction. Marissa graduated from Mizzou in December of 2018 and joined the Prairie Fork team in June of 2019. Throughout the past year, she has led both student and adult groups on the property, aided in area management endeavors such as invasive species removal, and assisted in collecting seeds for dispersal across the area. She is excited to be able to continue this work as the Prairie Fork Education Assistant. (Submitted by Amber Edwards.) http://prairiefork.missouri.edu/about/