

# College of the Ozarks Ag Department

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 12

FALL 2015

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fall 2015  
Calendar of  
Events 1

New Farmer's  
Market 2  
Supervisor:  
Lori Simmons

Mark Sanders: 2  
Retires

Student 3  
Spotlight: Levi  
Anderson

Clevenger 3  
Farm

Faculty 4  
Spotlight: Vice  
President,  
Dr. Keeter

Annual 5-  
Agriculture 6  
Awards  
Assembly

## Fall 2015 Calendar of Events

September 15-16: Senior Days

October 2-4: Ozarks Fall Farm Fest

October 22: Career Day in Keeter Gym

November 5: Homecoming Coronation

November 6-7: Homecoming Events

November 7: Ag Club Booths 10:00-2:00

November 7: Ag Alumni Chapter Meeting 11:00 in Youngman  
Ag Center Room 118: Election of Officers

November 11: Veterans Day Campus Events



## New Farmer's Market Supervisor: Lori Simmons



*"This is my command— Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*

*Joshua 1:9*

Lori Simmons joined the College of the Ozarks staff February 23, 2015. Lori has assumed the roles of managing the Farmer's Market and Gardens. Lori was raised on a family farm and has spent her life working at her family's greenhouse and nursery business. Their business sold plants, trees, shrubs, vegetable plants, bedding plants, seeds, bulbs, vegetables, gardening essentials and handmade items. They also developed a successful agritainment business called Taylor's Harvest Fest. Through Taylor's Harvest Fest, Lori says she was able to love on and cater to families with family-friendly attractions such as a corn maze, old fashioned barn games, hay rides and bonfires among many other things. After forty years in business and much prayer, Lori and her family decided to sell the business and move to Branson in July of 2014. Lori has been married for nineteen years to her high school sweetheart, Phillip, and they have three children. Lori is excited to be the Farmer's Market Supervisor and hopes to spread the word about the quality of the products sold and the exciting atmosphere that comes with the market. She enjoys working alongside student workers and looks forward to continuing the tradition of excellence and building on the strong foundation laid for the Market. Lori's goals as a work supervisor at the college are to "love her students and point them toward Christ." She also wants to teach her students hard work, how to use their time wisely, how to work with joy, and to create a market that consists of excellent products and outstanding customer service. Lori expressed that her initial experience at College of the Ozarks has been welcoming and informative. Lori said, "College of the Ozarks feels like home; the faculty, staff and students have all been so kind."

## Mark Sanders: Retires

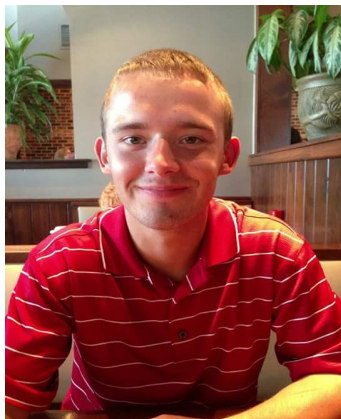
Mark Sanders had taught at College of the Ozarks for the past 6 years, and retired in May of 2015. He was the recipient of the 2015 Friends of the Agriculture Department Award. Mark taught Animal Science, Animal Health, U.S. Ag Policy, Meats, Monogastric Livestock, and Farm Machinery during his time at C of O. Along with teaching many classes during his time at the college, Mark was also the supervisor of the Hog Farm, which interestingly was his workstation when he attended CofO. Sanders



has been involved in many other activities throughout his time at the college. These activities included D.T.A. Co-Sponsor, Assessment Officer, Faculty Welfare and Academic Council, and various other committees. He said the things that he will miss the most after retiring is working with students and pigs. Sanders' plans for retirement are first to get his farms back in order, travel around the U.S. "especially Alaska and the Western States," and see if he can make a living farming "after teaching it for all of these years!". Mission work is also another possibility for retirement. Mark also said, "I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to work here at C of O. I never would have dreamed that I was able to supervise the same farm that I worked at as a student. It is absolutely the best job that I have had in my working career! I will continue to support the college and what it stands for."

# Student Spot Light: Levi Anderson

Levi Anderson is a junior from Harrisonville, Missouri double majoring in Agribusiness and Animal Science with a minor in Spanish. He attended Harrisonville High School and



received a great education, but he would have preferred a Christian school. Levi decided to major in agriculture because of his desire to work with his family on the family farm, and to improve and expand the operation using the knowledge he is gaining at College of the Ozarks. Levi enjoys traveling and has been to Italy, Canada, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Playa del Carmen and Cancun, Mexico. Levi's favorite farm animal is a horse. He said, "I have never had the privilege of owning a horse, but I believe they are absolutely necessary for a farm operation, and I will use one in place of a four wheeler in the future." Levi says he has had many great courses at C of O, and Animal Science has helped him the most. After C of O,

Levi will be getting married and plans to work on the family farm, Anderson Family Farms.

*Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you." John 6:53*

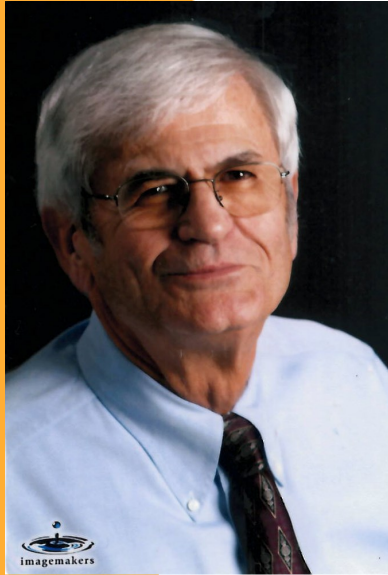


We have a new farm that is now being utilized by the agriculture program. It is the Clevenger Farm, and the college purchased it nearly two years ago. The Clevenger Farm is 120 acres adjoining the Belt Farm, on the east side. This along with three other farms makes a total of 544 acres of farmland south-east of Hollister that all conjoin along HWY BB. The Clevenger Farm is approximately half pasture and the rest woodland, glade and creeks. It has four ponds, a well, and a machine shed with electricity. Coon Creek begins just outside the property line on the south side. After surveying, property boundaries were cleared with bull dozers and new perimeter fences were constructed. First year improvements also included general cleanup and installation of a new access road and entrance – all of which delayed farming activities. The beef and agronomy student work crews were able to harvest hay and graze cattle on the farm beginning in the second year of ownership. Further planned improvements include management of soil fertility, incorporation of improved forages in an improved field design, and weed and brush control. The Department is blessed to become stewards of this new farm and to use it to further educate students with valuable work experiences for years to come.



# Faculty Spotlight:

## Vice President, Dr. Keeter



Dr. Howell Keeter is the Vice President of College of the Ozarks and has been at the college for 45 years. In that time, he has worn the hat of many positions, but his current position includes much work behind the scenes. Such as managing the school's real estate, managing the construction and plants (power plant, water treatment, etc.), serving as secretary to the board of the college, and other projects from President Davis and the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Keeter and his wife Brenda have been married for 20 years, and he has four stepsons and nine grandkids scattered across the country. Three of his stepsons attended the University of Missouri and one graduated from the United States Air Force Academy.

Dr. Keeter was raised on a small beef cattle farm in northern Arkansas and he has also had beef cattle farms throughout his life. At the present, Dr. Keeter has a beef farm located off of highway 65 in north Arkansas. Speaking of farm life, he says he greatly enjoys the life style, and farm animals including his favorites: a donkey named Luigi and a horse named Rosie.

When asked about his thoughts on the role agriculture has at C of O, Dr. Keeter said it plays a **major** role as it ties in with the college's mission, particularly the vocational component. He also believes that the future of the Ag program at College of the Ozarks is very secure as he said "It is so embedded, that it can't be removed." Dr. Keeter's main objective for the Ag department is for consolidating the farms into three pieces of property: the hog farm in Hollister, the beef farm in Hollister, and the beef farm across the lake. One project that the Agriculture Department is not currently doing that Dr. Keeter would like to see done is that the processing plant get renovated and expanded because of the increased number of animals that are being processed and the building needs improvement.

A key event from Dr. Keeter's past is when the tractor museum became part of the college and it continues to grow in popularity with the public. He recalls the donation of the majority of the tractors from a gentleman from north Arkansas and the building of the additions to the tractor museum. Dr. Keeter mentioned other favorite events were watching the building of the Youngman Agriculture Center and the Edward's Mill.

Dr. Keeter enjoys participating in the dinner held at the end of the year by the agriculture department for the friends of the department and visiting with the many friends in the Ag Department.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that so whoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"

John 3:16

# Annual Agriculture Awards Assembly

## **Dean's Award Assembly & Reception— Checks given (awards)**

Marvin Oetting Award— Ben Carpenter

Taney County Farm Bureau Conservation and Wildlife Management Award— Eddie Sterling

## **Annual Ag Awards Assembly**

Endowed Ag Awards— Jacob Howdeshell, Seth Losack, Leah Petersen, Daniel Shoenecke, and

Stephen Wiedenfeld

Claude Parrish Award- Brooke Lair

Tommy Villers Award— Brooke Lair

Goldie Howard Award— Milam Smith

Ag Education Award— Chester Taylor

Tom Smith Award— Ryan Bilyeu

Olen and Alpha DePew Memorial Scholarship— Alicia Tarter

Edwin and Helen Krohn Scholarship— Lisa Dowden

Horticulture Award— Loren Wiley

Missouri Farm Bureau Scholarship— Stuart Jump and Christina Wilder

Smith-Oetting Memorial Award— Jacob Hedges

Janice Franklin Award— Levi Anderson

Farmers Market/ Garden— Rylan Hill

**Friends of the Agriculture Department Award— Mark Sanders**

# The Annual Agriculture Awards Assembly

