



# PABC Journal

Volume 17, Issue 2

SPRING 2019

## Growing Our Future

The 2019 Annual Forestry Program (a Clemson Cooperative Extension Workshop) will be held May 8, 8 am to 4:30 pm at T&S Farms, 3500 Pond Branch Road, Leesville. Anyone interested in managing forested lands should attend. Topics will cover governmental agency updates, wildlife management in working forests, invasive species, pond weeds, establishing a basis for timber tax purposes, as well as other issues.

Registration will begin at 7:30 am and lunch is included. Cost is \$80 per person for foresters, \$25 per person for the general public and \$10 per person for college students. For more information, contact Ryan Bean at 803-840-6124 or email [rbean@clemson.edu](mailto:rbean@clemson.edu)

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## PABC BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS



Cam Crawford



Harry Ott



Sarah Windham

**PABC elected** new officers at the February Board meeting. **Cam Crawford**, President and CEO of the Forestry Association of South Carolina, was elected Chairman. **Harry L. Ott, Jr.**, President of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, was elected Vice Chairman; and **Sarah Windham**, Partner with Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP was re-elected Secretary/Treasurer.

A member of the PABC Board of Directors since 2011, Crawford has served as Vice Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer of the organization. He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Civil Justice Coalition, as a member of the Board of Directors for Palmetto Green, and previously served as Chairman of the Forest Industry Associations Council, on the Board of Directors for the National Alliance of Forest Owners, and as a member of the American Forest Foundation's Woodland Operating Committee. He attended Coastal Carolina University, graduated from the University of South Carolina and received a Master of Arts in Management from Webster University.

Ott is a row crop farmer from Calhoun County where he and his brother, Mark, produce cotton, corn, and peanuts on the family farm near St. Matthews. A graduate of Clemson University, he served on the local school board for 12 years and then served in the South Carolina House of Representatives for 15 years. He resigned his seat in the General Assembly in 2013 to accept an appointment as State

*(Cont. on pg. 3, See New Officers)*



Governor Henry McMaster is welcomed by Randy Brown, Director of Operations, and also past Chairman of PABC.

### Perdue Farms Announces Expansion to Dillon Facility

Perdue Farms recently announced the completion of a \$25 million expansion at its harvest operation in Dillon County, creating 100 additional jobs. Governor Henry McMaster and Commissioner Hugh Weathers attended ceremonies announcing the expansion at the facility in Dillon. The company expanded its portioning and marinating operations, added a state-of-the-art shipping cooler and installed an automated pallet storage system and constructed office space to occupy more than 28,000 square feet at the existing facility. Since 1992, Perdue Farms has created more than 1,200 jobs in the Pee Dee Region.

## SC CHAMBER SPOTLIGHTS AGRIBUSINESS



SC Chamber of Commerce CEO Ted Pitts provides the welcome to the annual Spotlight on Ag and Forestry event which was held in February at the Palmetto Club. Also pictured, Cam Crawford, President and CEO of the Forestry Association of SC and PABC Chairman.



Bart Sabin, past Chairman of the Forestry Association of SC and Ronnie Summers, PABC CEO.



Tommy Lavender, Nexsen Pruet; Kathy Coleman and Michael Wright, Clemson PSA.



Pat Calhoun, CEO, AgSouth and Jody Martin, Director, SC AgriBiz & Farm Expo.



Janice and Travis Avant, (CEO) Compass South



Commissioner Hugh Weathers provides comments on the state of agribusiness at the Chamber Spotlight. Harry Ott, (center) SC Farm Bureau President, also spoke to the group. Also pictured (left) is Gary Spires, SC Farm Bureau Director of Governmental Affairs.



## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



**Lori Anne Carr**

### TITAN'S LORI ANNE CARR RECEIVES CLEMSON ALUMNI'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Lori Anne Carr, Vice President and Administrative Manager of Titan Farms, was honored by the Clemson Alumni Association with the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor that the association bestows on former Clemson Tigers.

Carr graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Arts in elementary education in 1990 and with a Master of Education in administration and supervision in 1992. In 1999, she joined her husband, Chalmers, in launching Titan Farms, the largest peach grower on the East Coast with more than 6,200 acres of peaches in production.

Throughout her career, Carr has remained connected to her "other home" Clemson University. She has volunteered on the Clemson University Board of Visitors and the Clemson University Foundation Board, serving as a member of the Development, Finance, Nominations and Policy & Constitution committees. She dedicates her time to speaking to classes at Clemson and hosting farm tours for students, faculty, staff and administrators. Her passion for agriculture led her to chair the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences, Will to Lead campaign board, to develop the Chalmers Carr III '90 and Lori Anne Carr '90 Creative Inquiry Endowment and to serve as a voice for Clemson at the South Carolina Statehouse in Columbia. The Carr Family Lounge in the WestZone at Memorial Stadium is named in the Carr family's honor.

Carr has served her local community as well serving as chair of the board of directors of the Old 96 Tourism Commission, as a board member of the Palmetto AgriBusiness Council, Midlands Area BB&T Advisory Board, and the Migrant and Seasonal Farmer Worker Commission and through sponsorship of Edgefield County's Relay for Life. She is a supporter of the South Carolina Advocates for Agriculture and previously served on the Farm to Institution Advisory Council.

### HOUSE OF RAEFORD DONATION AIDS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS' INSTRUCTION

House of Raeford's non-profit organization, FLOCK, made a large donation to the students at Cayce Elementary School as part of an ongoing relationship. The school received 900 pairs of headphones, enough to provide one for every student. A presentation of the headphones to Cayce Elementary students and faculty was held at the school.

The donation was made after Allyson Long, Cayce Elementary Vice Principal, contacted House of Raeford seeking assistance in providing the headphones. "Cayce Elementary is so lucky to have business partners, such as the House of Raeford," she said. "This donation for the students will be monumental in the continued use of this program." The school is currently implementing a new software, called Edmentum. The software allows the individualizing of lessons in order to adjust to each student's strengths and weaknesses. "With the implementation of Edmentum, a personalized digital learning program, our students needed headphones to be able to hear the individualized instruction," said Long.

"We strive to partner with exceptional groups in our community," said Jim Mabe, complex manager for House of Raeford Columbia Division. "Our friends at Cayce Elementary School, students and staff, are amazing and we look forward to future opportunities to assist in their success."



Lou Kennedy (R) CEO of Nephron Pharmaceuticals received the SC Manufacturers Alliance (SCMA) Woman of the Year Award from Sara Hazzard, President of SCMA.

### New Officers (cont. from page 1)

Director for the USDA Farm Service Agency for South Carolina and served in this position from 2013 to 2015. He was elected the sixth President of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation in 2015. He is also a member of the Business and Industry Political Education Committee (BIPEC) and the Clemson Cooperative Extension 4-H Foundation Advisory Board.

Windham has been practicing as a CPA since 2001 and throughout her career with Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP has developed extensive experience in several financial areas, including tax planning, business consultation, and generational wealth planning/succession planning. Her vast industry knowledge includes agribusiness, as well as construction and real estate. She has served as a speaker and CPE presenter at a variety of industry association conferences and events, and has provided testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Small Business Subcommittee Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access on behalf of South Carolina Farm Bureau. A graduate of Wofford College with a B.A. in Accounting, Windham is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, SC Association of Certified Public Accountants, Women to Watch Emerging Leader; and a Board member of the Lord Berkeley Conservation Trust.



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#### OFFICERS

Cam Crawford, Chairman  
Randy Brown, Past Chairman  
Harry Ott, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Sarah Windham, Sec./Treas.

#### STAFF

Ronnie Summers, CEO  
Sandy Boozer, Exec. Assistant

We're on the web  
[Scagribusiness.com](http://Scagribusiness.com)

### CEO MESSAGE FROM RONNIE SUMMERS

**During our February Executive Committee meeting**, an excellent discussion took place as to future strategic planning with emphasis placed upon a long-term vision for PABC. Part of the conversation centered around the possibility of a future brainstorming session to firm up what our Board would like to accomplish going forward beyond our organization's current scope of activities or defined mission. Over the past four years with agribusiness economic development migrating more to the SC Department of Agriculture where funding is available to better handle this important area, PABC has been much more engaged in advocacy, promotion, education, monitoring of legislative efforts, and providing support to SCDA, the Forestry Commission and other entities in their development efforts.

**After our most recent quarterly meeting**, the opportunity surfaced to become directly involved in the SC AgriBiz & Farm Expo. As our members were alerted in a recent email update, our Executive Committee approved PABC being more engaged in this event leading up to the 2020 event to be held January 15 and 16. This is an example of how PABC can consider taking on additional projects that match up well with our existing mission utilizing the resources presently available.

**Considering the above**, your PABC staff would value your input as to the possibility of putting together a special session later in 2019 to further discuss "long-term ideas" for our organization which focus on making agriculture, forestry and rural SC even stronger for decades to come. Additionally, your sharing of specific ideas directly with the PABC staff is always welcomed! Sandy and I, as your PABC staff, are focused on delivering value to our membership as we foresee this as one of the ways we keep **SC AGRIBUSINESS** the largest and best industry in our state. Please never hesitate to bring ideas or concerns to us. Your membership in PABC is valued!!!

## PABC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



**Charleston Laffin**

**Charleston Laffin** will serve as the representative on the PABC board for **The South Carolina Poultry Federation**. Laffin is Vice President of Governmental Affairs and has been with the SCPF for seventeen years.

Since 1987, The South Carolina Poultry Federation has been the voice for the poultry industry in South Carolina. The SCPF is dedicated to preserving, promoting and protecting South Carolina's number one animal agricultural commodity. Representing producers and processors of turkey, chicken, quail, squab and eggs, the SCPF provides a united voice for the industry with government, regulatory agencies, media and the general public. Federation membership consists of growers, producers, industry employees, allied industry suppliers and businesses, which recognize the importance of poultry in South Carolina's economy.

**Ken Martin**, Manager, will serve as the representative for new member **Fieldale Farms**. The Company started in 1972 when Tom Arrendale, brother Lee Arrendale and Joe Hatfield purchased the assets of Ralston Purina's poultry operations in North Georgia. The Company is still owned by the two families and was

named using the last part of their last names.

Since 1972, the company has grown to include three hatcheries, two feed mills, two processing plants, one further Processing Plant, and a USDA approved laboratory. Additionally, Fieldale employs over 4,800 people and contracts with over 350 farmers in twelve Georgia counties and two upstate South Carolina counties. All of this infrastructure allows Fieldale to produce 3,100,000 chickens per week.

Fieldale started producing premium Springer Mountain Farms Chicken about 20 years ago. Springer Mountain Farm chicken is antibiotic free (no antibiotics ever), all vegetable diet, American Humane Certified and most recently certified Non-GMO. Fieldale's chicken can be found as Springer Mountain Farms chicken in your local grocery stores or at Waffle House, Panera Bread, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Culvers, Biscuitville and many restaurants.



**Fieldale operations facility**