

FRESH *from* TEPA

The member newsletter of the Tennessee Egg & Poultry Association



Welcome to the first electronic version of your TEPA newsletter

Exciting things are happening at your TEPA headquarters! The most obvious is this distribution of our first e-newsletter. Though members without an e-mail account will continue to receive newsletters by standard mail, most will now get TEPA news online. This change represents a significant cost savings in both printing and postage. It also allows us to distribute news and reminders more quickly.



TEPA headquarters is also busy with planning for another fun Sensational Summer Getaway and successful annual meeting in Nashville. Read more details in this newsletter.

On a personal note, my last name has changed. On Feb. 16, I married Larry Eastes, a Wilson County dairy farmer. TEPA headquarters has moved to our farm near Watertown. The association's physical address for shipments has changed, but the post office box remains the same.

Please let me know what you think about the new newsletter, and I'll see you at the Getaway!

Ann Cox Eastes
Executive Director

Annual Summer Getaway is Aug. 8-10

All signs point to Nashville for the 2008 TEPA Annual Meeting and Sensational Summer Getaway set for Aug. 8-10. The combination business meeting,



Hotel registration is easier

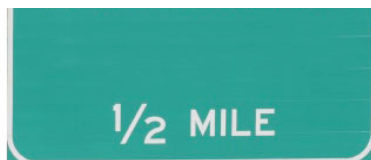
With the addition of plasma televisions and new furniture in every room, a fitness center makeover and healthier breakfast menu options, the Hilton has improved since our last visit. Even better, the hotel has added an online reservation tool that makes it easier to book your room for the Sensational Summer Getaway. Make your hotel reservation online by [clicking here](#) and following the directions. **Deadline to receive TEPA's special rate of \$145 for a single or double room is July 8.**

Briefly

Welcome to new TEPA board member **Dewey Swindle**, a grower who owns D&J Farms in Lafayette.

Growers can visit the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Web site to learn about qualifying for funds from the [Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program](#) and specifically the [Livestock Feed Storage](#) cost share program. In the new guidelines it is anticipated that generators and

fundraiser and networking opportunity for those involved in the poultry industry will again be headquartered at the [Hilton Downtown Nashville](#), next door to the [Country Music Hall of Fame](#) and the [Sommet Center](#).



Free lunch

Who says there's no free lunch? This year's annual meeting will again be preceded by a noontime luncheon sponsored by Farm Credit Services. Both the meal and registration for the annual meeting are absolutely free, so it's a great time to invite growers and other prospective TEPA members to join us and learn what this organization has to offer.

Fun fundraising

You can do your part to support TEPA by participating in the weekend's fundraising opportunities. The silent auction and networking reception on Friday night continues to grow in popularity. Plan to donate an item and be in attendance to bid high and bid often! On Saturday, the fundraising continues with a golf tournament at [Gaylord Springs](#) (formerly Springhouse) golf course, skeet shooting at the [Nashville Gun Club](#) and an evening of dinner and dancing with special entertainment by oldies band Vintage. Read more about these entertainers at right.

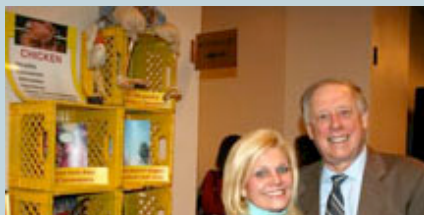
Look for Sensational Summer Getaway registration materials to arrive in your mailbox the first week of June.

Ag Day on the Hill is success

TEPA's participation in this year's Ag Day on the Hill garnered a thumbs up. The annual event reminds lawmakers of the importance of agriculture to Tennessee's economy.

The TEPA board held a breakfast meeting before adjourning to Legislative Plaza to staff the association's Ag Day booth. Rep. Stratton Bone, chair of the House Agriculture Committee, sent a letter thanking TEPA members for handing out chicken and biscuits, brochures and wire whisk key chains during the event.

Gov. Phil Bredesen stopped by the booth and talked with Executive Director Ann Cox Eastes who reminded him that poultry generates the second largest amount of agricultural



a few other items may be allowed for participation in the program. Application submissions begin on July 1, 2008.

America's best 4-H chicken barbecue griller is Sumner County's **Justin Lyles**. Using a special sauce he and his family developed, the high school junior captured top honors at the 4-H Poultry Barbecue Contest in Louisville, Ky., on Nov. 15.

Note that TEPA's physical address for package deliveries has changed. The new address is 2980 South Commerce Road, Watertown, TN 37184.

Dance the night away

Playing everything from Jerry Lee Lewis to the Eagles, rock n' roll



oldies cover band Vintage will entertain at the TEPA fundraising dinner on Aug. 10. Tickets go on sale in early June for an evening of dinner and familiar favorites such as "Help Me Rhonda," "Pretty Woman" and "Great Balls of Fire."

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income in the state of Tennessee, following beef cattle.

TEPA board members sat in on comments from various agricultural representatives across the state in the House Ag Committee Meeting.



"This is always a perfect time to renew conversations with ag committee members and discuss the problems the industry is encountering," says Eastes.

Photo: Ann Cox Eastes talks with Gov. Phil Bredesen during Ag Day.

TEPA leader is hall of fame inductee

Two Tennessee poultry industry leaders are among the newest inductees to the Wilson County Agriculture Hall of Fame. Thomas Edwards Brown and his mother Vicie Mae Edwards Brown were posthumously honored for their industry leadership during 50 years of operating Edwards Feeds, Hatchery and Supply.

Thomas served as president of the Tennessee Egg & Poultry Association and also as vice president of the Dixie Poultry Association. Vicie Mae, who bought her first incubators and began hatching eggs in 1938, was one of the first women in Wilson County to own her own business. She was also the first woman in the state to be certified to pull blood work on poultry and adopt this management practice in her chicken houses. At the height of the hatchery business, the Edwards family owned nine chicken farms, handling some 500,000 birds annually.

Tennessee Egg and Poultry Association

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Keith Riley, Tyson Foods (2009)
Dewey Swindle, Lafayette (2010)
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