

## BREAKING NEW GROUND



My friend Tim and I stood on a lake shore in a pelting rain testing the old adage that fish almost always bite on the head of a weather front.

Combined with the speculation that a warmer than usual December had pushed the larger bass into shallow water, this had both of us optimistic that his four-wheeler and my truck would be heading home with more than pneumonia and a pair of soaking wet Labrador retrievers.

This was the second weekend in a row that I'd run into Tom and his dog on the water—both times in a pouring rain. My wet, smelly dog Lucy and I pulled our Jon boat up next to him and his equally wet, smelly dog to see exactly why he was reeling them in and I wasn't. Wrong color of lizard, as it turned out.

On both occasions, I'm sure that the occupants of passing cars peered through their windshield wipers and the sheets of rain wondering what kind of fools would be out in that kind of weather fishing for anything. I'm also sure that there were others who would have gladly joined us except for sensible spouses and above-average common sense.

Needless to say, I like to fish. I've told people jokingly on more than one occasion that the only reason I have a job is to fund my fishing. That statement would be more than a joke if I worked anywhere else than the College of Forest Resources (CFR). Here, I get to work with people who also love the outdoors and who teach students how to preserve and promote hunting, fishing, tree farming, wood technology—everything with anything to do with Mississippi's lakes and forests.

We are currently pushing hard to fund professorships and scholarships for programs focusing on fisheries, deer, quail, waterfowl, forestry and forest products. The future of our natural resources here in Mississippi is a legacy that the CFR intends to pass on and preserve forever, but we need your help.

Tim and I, along with lots of other Mississippians, want to continue to enjoy the outdoors, even in the rain.

Jeff Little

Director of Development  
College of Forest Resources

## Partnership Provides Veterinary Outreach Service

Partnerships play an important role in helping the College of Veterinary Medicine provide outreach services that benefit the state. One such new partnership is with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

"The HSUS played a major role in animal rescue efforts in south Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina," said Keith Gaskin, director of development for CVM. "Because of that experience, the organization decided to invest significant resources to reduce the numbers of unwanted and homeless dogs and cats in the state, especially in economically depressed areas and the areas still recovering from hurricane damage."

Thanks to a \$900,000 HSUS gift, CVM is establishing a statewide program to provide spay and neuter services for dogs and cats whose owners could not otherwise afford the procedures. The gift will provide funding for equipment and supplies for the program.

CVM personnel will visit with local veterinarians before scheduling a spay/neuter event in their area. Local veterinarians will have opportunities to participate in several capacities, including volunteer supervisors, paid surgeons for the local event and primary surgeons in their own hospitals paid through a voucher program.

CVM will also develop educational brochures for pet owners who bring their pets to the HSUS-supported program. The brochures will outline appropriate wellness care of pets and common services offered by practicing veterinarians.

Students in the CVM primary care rotation and those enrolled in the shelter medicine elective will have opportunities to participate in the program. Veterinary medicine students may also volunteer for the program.

"The HSUS grant will help thousands of pets in the state live longer, healthier lives, while reducing the number of stray and unwanted animals," said Dr. Philip Bushby, CVM Marcia Lane Professor of Humane Ethics and Animal Welfare. "It also will introduce a segment of the population to the services provided by their local veterinarians. In addition, MSU veterinary medicine students will benefit from the experience they receive through participation in the HSUS-sponsored program."

If you are interested in learning how you can help animals, as well as students who are preparing for careers in veterinary medicine, contact Keith Gaskin, at (662) 325-3815.

## Gifts of Land Provide Long-Term Benefits

For LaRon and Ester Gober, a gift of forestland seemed like the perfect way to give back to Mississippi State University. The Gobers donated 283 acres in Attala County to the College of Forest Resources and the College of Engineering.

The Gobers made the gift in honor of the engineering career enjoyed by LaRon, as well as the enjoyment they received from the forestland. Students in both the College of Engineering and the College of Forest Resources benefit from the LaRon and Esther Gober Endowment Fund.

"We love the idea of using this land to benefit forestry and engineering students. It was a great way to give back to Mississippi State University," said Ester Gober.

The Gobers are just one example of individuals creating a legacy with gifts of land at MSU.

Gifts of land can benefit any of the university's nine colleges. The donated properties are managed by the College of Forest Resources using the best management practices for growth and harvest of timber.

"Forest management professionals at MSU provide professional management and assessment of each donated property," said Jeff Little, College of Forest Resources development officer. "Funds generated from the properties provide needed support to the university for scholarships, equipment and faculty development."

The properties are also used as living laboratories where forest management practices provide teaching, research and demonstration opportunities for students, farmers and landowners.

"The College of Forest Resources and the MSU Foundation work with landowners and their professional financial planners to arrange the terms of gifts to suit individual needs," Little said. "A carefully planned gift of forestland will give financial benefits for the donor, including a lifetime income, a shield from capital gains and estate taxes, and income tax deductions, among others."

For more information on donating your land to the university, contact Jeff Little at (662) 325-8151 or by e-mail at [jlittle@foundation.msstate.edu](mailto:jlittle@foundation.msstate.edu).

**College of Forest Resources**

31

## Grandparents Memorialized Through Unique Gift

For Ann Janette Moore, a plot of timberland in Lauderdale County is more than just land and trees.

The stretch of forest is a connection to her family, all the way back to the early 1800s when her Scotch-Irish ancestors immigrated to America. It also is where the Houston, Texas, resident lived on a farm with her grandparents following the death of her parents when she was in her early teens.

To honor her grandparents, Moore is using the land to make a unique gift to Mississippi State University. Funds from the sale of the timberland will be used to fund the Jennie McInnis and Joseph Voluntine Carlisle Endowed Scholarship in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Moore moved to Houston to pursue a nursing career in 1943. She later married, and Houston became her home, but she still cherishes the memories of her grandparents. They were lifelong Mississippi residents who farmed the land near Vimville. Strong proponents of education, the Carlises encouraged their six children and later their grandchildren to attend college.

Joseph Carlisle attended Mississippi State for a year, as did his son, Moore's father, Daniel Lamar Carlisle.

"Neither completed a degree at the university, but both were richer for the experience, and that is why I have chosen to establish a gift in this manner," Moore said.

The Carlisle scholarship will benefit College of Agriculture and Life Sciences students who have demonstrated academic achievement. The scholarship is one of only a few providing tuition and other costs associated with attending the university, including housing, books and supplies, meals and transportation costs.

"The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is extremely grateful to Ann Janette Moore for allowing us to transform her treasured possession into a valuable resource for our students," said Jud Skelton, director of development for the college. For information on how you can establish a scholarship in the college, contact Skelton at (662) 325-0643.

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences**

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