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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

# Perspective

September 2, 2016

## Members kick off policy development season at August Area Meetings

Oklahoma Farm Bureau wants to thank members for participating in the first step of the organization's grassroots policy development process the last few weeks. Active member engagement in policy development is what makes OKFB the

leader in agricultural policy in our state. We appreciate your efforts and always enjoy the opportunity to visit with you.

This year's August Area Meetings featured many current topics, including State Question 777, the last legislative

session, upcoming elections, possible OKFB policy changes, feral hogs, ad valorem taxes, water and other important policy issues. We look forward to seeing your resolutions.

*(Continued on page two)*



District 9 August Area Meeting



District 1 August Area Meeting

## Three OKFB candidates win primary runoff election

Three candidates with Oklahoma Farm Bureau ties won their respective primary runoff election on Aug. 23. Roland Pederson, longtime OKFB member and former state board member, Lonnie Paxton, Oklahoma Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company agent, and Chris Kidd, OKFB vice president of membership and organization, will each progress to the general election in November.

"Electing state leaders who understand and support farmers and ranchers is a priority for Oklahoma Farm Bureau," said Monica Wilke, OKFB executive director. "We know Roland, Chris and Lonnie will represent not only their districts, but also

Oklahoma agriculture."

Burlington native Roland Pederson was chosen as the Republican nominee for Senate District 19. A second-generation farmer, Pederson has produced cattle, wheat and alfalfa for the past 40 years.

Lonnie Paxton defeated opponent Matt Stacy in the Senate District 23 runoff election to become the Republican nominee. An insurance agent for 18 years, Paxton also farms and is a small business owner.

Chris Kidd was selected as the Republican candidate for Senate District 31. Before beginning his eight-year career with OKFB, Kidd taught agricultural education at Waurika High School. The Waurika native

also raises cattle with his father on the family's southern Oklahoma ranch.

All three candidates were supported and endorsed by the OKAgFund, OKFB's political action committee.

Adam Pugh of Edmond, also supported by the OKAgFund, overcame opponent Paul Blair in the primary runoff with 54.12 percent of the vote.

To visit each candidate's campaign website, find this story on the OKFB website and use the link on the candidates' names. For more information about OKAgFund, visit <http://www.okfarmbureau.org/okagfund>.

# 2016 August Area Meetings *(Continued from page one)*



## Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online

 **August Area Meeting Photos**  
Looking for more pictures of this year's August Area Meetings? Visit the August Area Meeting photo album on the OKFB Facebook page for several more photos from meetings across the state in all nine districts.

 **OKAgPolicy Today**  
Are you missing out on the latest agriculture and policy news? Sign up for OKAgPolicy Today, a morning email delivered to your inbox each weekday containing major headlines in agriculture and rural policy, energy, natural resources, trade, food and nutrition, and much more. To sign up for the morning e-newsletter, visit the OKAgPolicy website at [okagpolicy.org/okagpolicy-today](http://okagpolicy.org/okagpolicy-today).



[www.okfarmbureau.org](http://www.okfarmbureau.org)

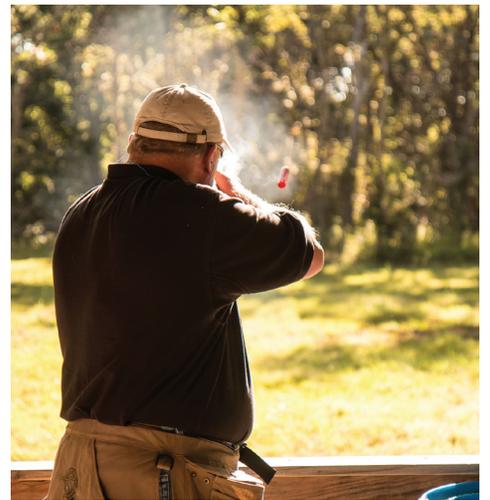
# Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation, Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation host Shotgun Shoot Fundraiser

Shooters gathered at Quail Ridge Sporting Clays in McCloud, on Friday, August 26 for a Shotgun Shoot Fundraiser hosted by the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation and the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation.

“Our first event was a tremendous success,” said LeeAnna McNally, director of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation. “We look forward to making the shotgun shoot fundraiser an annual event.”

Proceeds from the shoot will benefit both foundations as they carry out their respective missions to promote and protect agriculture and rural Oklahoma.

“We owe a big thank you to our sponsors and participants,” added Amanda Rosholt, director of the Oklahoma Farming and Ranching Foundation. “Their continued support makes it possible for us to share the importance of Oklahoma agriculture with new audiences.”



Upper right: Shotgun Shoot Fundraiser contestant Carson Miller of Altus was the winner of the event, with 47 hits out of 50. Right: A Shotgun Shoot participant fires during the contest. Above: A special thank you to the event sponsors, including Diamond sponsor OG&E, Platinum sponsor McAfee and Taft, and Gold sponsors Banc First, Oklahoma Oil and Gas Association, Devon, SAGAC Public Affairs, Hilton Garden Inn Bricktown, and South Avenue LLC.

## Member Benefits

### Sears Commercial

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[www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits](http://www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits)

## Calendar

### YF&R State Fair Livestock Judging Contest

September 15 • Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, Oklahoma City  
Contact: Holly Carroll (405) 523-2307

### Resolutions Due

October 7 • OKFB Home Office, Oklahoma City  
Contact: Tasha Duncan (405) 530-2681

### State Resolutions Meeting

October 18 19 • Oklahoma City  
Contact: Tasha Duncan (405) 530-2681

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## OKFB mourns loss of two former board members



Charles Sloan

Ervin Mitchell

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is extending its sympathies to the families of two former OKFB state board members and longtime OKFB members, Ervin Mitchell and Charles Sloan, who both recently passed away.

“These two men worked tirelessly to make Oklahoma a better place to live,” said OKFB President Tom Buchanan. “They represented the interests of their areas in Oklahoma for Farm Bureau and many other

groups and organizations. While they will both be missed, we know their contributions will continue to move our state forward.”

Mitchell was a lifelong Balke resident who farmed with his son and grandson in Beaver County. The family farm produces wheat, corn and grain sorghum, along with some cattle.

Mitchell worked in agriculture for nearly 70 years and served on the state Farm Bureau board of directors for nine years.

Mitchell was honored with OKFB’s Distinguished Service to Agriculture award in November 2015 in recognition of his numerous contributions to agriculture in the state of Oklahoma.

Mitchell served as president of the Oklahoma State School Boards Association, president of the National Conservation District for two years, and served 21 years on the Oklahoma Water Resources Board.

Sloan farmed near Vian since 1977,

producing corn and soybeans along with some vegetable crops.

Sloan was a Farm Bureau member for more than 50 years, and served as Sequoyah County Farm Bureau president for many years.

Sloan served on the state Farm Bureau board of directors for 17 years. He was first elected to the OKFB state board in 1990 and served continuously through 2001 when he termed out. After being out for a term, he was re-elected to the district six director’s position in 2004 and served until 2013.

Sloan was honored with OKFB’s Distinguished Service to Agriculture award in November 2013 in recognition of his 25 years of serving Farm Bureau.

Sloan was also a former Oklahoma Soybean Association president and served as a national director of the American Soybean Association. Sloan was also an active member of the Vian Methodist Church.

## State Question 777 corner

The latest news on Oklahoma’s Right to Farm amendment, SQ 777, which will appear on the general election ballot on November 8, 2016.



Kent Tripp, 13, of Tripp Farms in Kay County hangs a State Question 777 sign southwest of Blackwell. Thank you to all members



who have displayed a “Yes on 777” sign on your property. If you would like to place a sign on your property, contact Tasha Duncan at 405-530-2681.

Special thanks to our friends at Great Plains Kubota in Ada, Oklahoma for supporting State Question 777 and hosting a Right to Farm rally on Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2016.