

Greensboro Echo

Voice of Rural America

Joseph McCain "Man of the Year"

The Louisville-Winston County's Chamber of Commerce named Joseph McCain "Man of the Year" for providing outstanding news coverage. Joseph serves as editor & publisher of the Winston County Journal Newspaper and he has provided outstanding elite cover of all events affecting life in Winston County. According to members of the Winston County Self Help Cooperative, McCain's journalism skills are delivering dividends for our beloved Winston County, therefore, we appreciate "McCain" efforts to help save rural America. Again, congratulations to Joseph McCain as Louisville-Winston County's Chamber of Commerce's "Man of The Year".



WCSHC's April Monthly Meeting by Frank Taylor



Winston County Self Help Cooperative's April meeting convened on February 19, at the extension office in Louisville, Ms with 24 eager members present. John Williams and other members from Beat-4 Cooperative of Macon, Ms participated in this spirited meeting. The atmosphere was tented with emotions boiling on several pertinent issues; however, the cooperative membership dialogued, debated, and resolved most issues

on the principal of compromise. According to Hubert Nicholson, a co-op member stated, "We are experiencing growing pains". Our membership has increased; therefore, the paradigm is shifting with new energies to benefit the Winston County Self Help Cooperative.

Highlights from the meeting included: changes in the dues structure, revamp of agenda format, members being present on time, review of strategic plan, vaccination dates, USDA programs and spring field day activities on April 3, 3:55pm at the cooperative's farm in Louisville, Ms. The monthly meeting ended on a positive note to make preparation for an out-reach seminar with Mississippi's State Conservationist



Homer Wilkes. Winston County Self Help Cooperative's next meeting is March 5, promptly at 3:55.p.m. at the extension office in Louisville, Ms.

Mass Meeting Exceed Expectations-by Frank Taylor

Winston County's Community Voices Mass Meeting created a huge gathering of elected county, city & university officials, church members, community supporters, coop members, and other community based organizations to dialogue on issues and build a long-term strategic plan for Winston County. According to Dorothy Harper, a WCSHC member and organizer, we are thankful to have more than

32 individuals to participate in this process; therefore, "we are making progress toward our goal of creating an environment to help formulate public policy to affect positive change in our various communities". Winston County is competing with other localities for new businesses and this meeting can help develop an edge to lure new businesses into Winston County. "We need to

distinguish our county assets and build a winning plan for long-term success. The Community Voices will meet on March 23, 5:00pm promptly at Mount Mariah Baptist Church on M. L. King Drive in Louisville, Ms". For further details contact Dorothy Harper on 662-773-8264 or at jeanh29bell-south.net.

Members Participates in Southern Echo's Workshop



Three members from Winston County Self Help Cooperative participated in Southern Echo's Organizing Against Environmental Ra-

cism workshop on February 23-24, Jackson, Ms. The workshop focused on "understanding how to use zoning and land use regulations to protect the health, safety and welfare of the underserved communities from environmental racism. Jack Miller, a WCSHC member, stated that southern states are a haven for illegal dumping of poisonous chemicals in underserved and minority communities", therefore, this workshop will help raise awareness and create a safety zone for indi-

viduals to voice their objections to illegal dumping and air pollutants that are causing havoc on our natural resources. As farmers, we are conscious of using good management practices to afford the next generation of landowners an opportunity to grow healthier crops by changing our traditional farming methods. Some of our cooperative members are implementing organic practices; therefore, we are adhering to our motto of helping save rural America.

February Activities

- February 5, monthly meeting.
- February 9, Community Voices meeting.
- February 14, published newsletter.
- February 19, monthly meeting.
- February 19, out-reach meeting with Natural Resource Conservation Service.
- February 23, published newsletter.
- February 23-24, three members participated in Southern Echo's Environmental Workshop.
- February 27, Community Voices' Mass Meeting with 32 individuals participating.

announcements

Heifer International South Central Partners Meeting will be held June 7, 8, & 9 in Hattiesburg, Ms.