

GREENSBORO

The Voice of Rural America

HPI's South Central Donates-by staff

November 2007 Edition



Heifer International South Central Office donated funds to project partners affected by Infamous Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005.

Project partners in Mississippi and Louisiana received supplemental grant funds to create diverse farming operations. According WCSHC member Omerio Dotson, "we are thankful to Heifer International and the South Central Office Staff for this generous gift". Mary Hannah, founding co-op member, stated, "She would use funds to purchase alternative animals and orchard trees; and she is grateful to Heifer International for making a difference

in rural America". Roger Jones, South Central Manager, said, "We are helping families return to normalcy by distributing funds for project members to enhance and diversify their current farm practices". The Winston County Self Help Co-op applauds Heifer International's South Central Office for caring and sharing in our time of need. Again thanks from the WCSHC Membership.

Wiyguls Donates Sheep-by Frank Taylor



Glenn and Sherrie Wiygul donated four females Kahadhin Sheep to Elder George Miller member of WCSHC on Saturday October 27, in Louisville, Ms. According Sherrie, we have been reading about WSHC's efforts to help save rural America. Therefore, we decided to donate four

sheep as a gift of love and to help stimulate the growth in numbers. We are excited about this opportunity to work with other landowners who are concerning about our natural resources. WCSHC extend thanks to Glenn and Sherrie Wiygul.



WCSHC "Saving Rural America Conference"-by Frank Taylor

WCSHC's groundbreaking "Saving Rural America Conference" (SRAC) is moving forward with zeal according to Willie Matthews co-op member. "We are expecting 150 farmers from Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Arkansas on Saturday January 5, at the Louisville Coliseum. Presenters from 1890 & 1862 extension programs, Heifer International, USDA and other agencies are committed to participate". A segment will focus on climatology to apprise farmers and landowners of predicted weather patterns for 2008. Additionally, we will offer opportunities for youth to obtain hands on experiences with resource providers to stimulate interest in agriculture careers. The luncheon meal will consist of foods grown by coop members and local farmers. Remember "Saturday January 5, 2008 Saving Rural America Conference" in Louisville, Ms. for further details contact Frank Taylor 601-291-2704 or ftaylor@bellsouth.net

WCSHC's Fall Cattle Field Day-by Frank Taylor

On October 8, temperature above 90 degrees with sticky humidity, Winston County Self Help Co-op membership convened for its 16th business session and cattle field day. Friends, supporters and members descend onto Willie Goss's Farm located south of Louisville in Center Ridge Community. The business session started promptly 3:55pm with 32 individuals present. Issues discussed-forestry field day, approved animal roster, bulk purchasing and Alcorn State University's Incubator Farm Field Day. Youth Group Director Dorothy Harper highlighted several topics.... 4-H, garden and church activities. Additionally, Harper reiterated, "we are moving forward with our Second Youth in Agriculture Conference

November 9-11...Louisville, Ms". Meeting concluded with Elmata Patterson's family expressing interest of joining WCSHC in the first quarter of 2008.

WCSHC's Cattle Field Day Activities started immediately with Mattie Haynes' alto voice calling members and friends to order for an informative session on cattle health. Rev Jack Miller offered words of gratitude and youth member JaQual Johnson delivered a thundering welcome for more than 60 participants. Willie Goss, farm proprietor, highlighted the family's thriving cattle operation. Mark Searels of Merial Limited delivered a diverse presentation on ani-

mal health, management and marketing. Searels stated, "Each co-op member should maintain accurate records to minimize cost over-runs and enhance profitability". Searels encouraged members to consider selling animals in bulk to maximize profit from sells. He specified several indicators: uniform growth regimens, health programs, culling vulnerable animals and identification. Activities concluded with a succulent meal prepared by Sylvia Goss, which included a variety of meats, chips, desserts, and cold sodas. WCSHC members extend thanks to Willie Goss and Family for a fabulous field day experience.

WCSHC Member Builds Enterprise-by Staff

Willie and Sylvia Goss's family dreams are coming to fruition with steely determination and a strategic plan to help save rural America. In 2000, Goss purchased a fifty acres farm, which included a home and several buildings south of Louisville, Ms. After a conversation with Cliff Haynes member of Winston County Self Help Co-op, Goss obtained membership in 2002. Goss stated, "The co-op offers opportunities to obtain relevant information and collaborate with experienced farmers to minimize mistakes". Goss received five bred heifers from WCSHC in June 2005 to help stimulate growth and improve herd quality. Goss said, "We are creating a family enterprise with

plans of a restaurant and other attractions to add income". We have participated in numerous outreach workshops sponsored by WCSHC, such as, women in business and connecting with USDA's cost share programs. We are encouraging others to join an organization like the Winston County Self Help Cooperative to help save rural America.



For More Information, Please Contact Frank Taylor at
601-291-2704 or fltaylor@bellsouth.net

October 2007 Activities

October 1, published newsletter.

October 1, youth meeting.

October 4, member participated in NRCS' Grassland Conservation Initiative Meeting at Piney Woods School.

October 6, adult computer training class.

October 8, co-op 16th business session.

October 8, fall cattle field day-63 participants.

October 10-12, member participated in leadership training at Southern University AgCenter-Baton Rouge La.

October 12, member participated in Southern Echo Incorporation's SRCELDI Meeting-Jackson, Ms.

October 15, published newsletter.

October 15, youth leader provided technical support to community counsel participants

October 18, member participated in Kentucky State University's Goat Field Day-Frankfort, KY.

October 20, adult computer training class.

October 20, youth harvested mustard and turnip greens.

October 22, youth harvested and donated greens to senior citizens.

October 23-25, three members participated in "Women in Agriculture Workshop" at Mississippi State University.

October 27, member participated in Beat-Four Co-op's Pass On Ceremony-Squlualak, Ms.

October 27, youth harvested greens.

October 27, member received 4-Kahadhin Sheep donated by the Wiygul Family-Louisville, Ms.

October 29, adult computer class.

October 29, fire safety workshop-Antioch Baptist Church.

October 30, fire safety workshop-Eiland Plaza Apartment Complex.

October 30, members participated in ASU's Field Day-Preston, Ms.

October 31, youth harvested and donated greens.

