

GREENSBORO ECHO

The Voice of Rural America

WCSHC's Four Cs-by Frank Taylor



Commitment, Courage, Collaboration and Competency describes Winston County Self Help Cooperative efforts to help save rural America on September 27, in Louisville, Ms. Within a five hours span, WCSHC completed four events to stimulate a robust economy in rural America. At 3:05pm, WCSHC youth group planted turnip greens and harvested peppers from their youth garden. Dorothy Harper Youth Director said with a modest smile, "we should encounter our first picking of greens by month's end". WCSHC's 15th Business Session of 2007 started ten minutes early at 3:45pm with 28 members pumped and ready to work on WCSHC's mantra of "helping save rural America". Co-op members highlighted several pertinent issues: cattle and forestry field

day's activities, women in agriculture workshop Oct 23-25, calculation of HPI's animals and dialogued on policy issues affecting rural American. WCSHC members mutually agreed to work collectively on upcoming events. The meeting concluded at 4:25pm.

4:45pm Elegene Nunn requested members, friends and supporter to assemble for an informative fire prevention workshop. Fifty-six participants received words of encouragement from Minster Carnette Hudson. Ebony Mays-youth member and Pam Reel-Winston County's Chancery Clerk delivered eloquent words of welcome. Hubert Nicholson workshop organizer stated Mississippi leads the nation statistically in home fire fatalities; Therefore, Winston County Self Help Cooperative developed this intervention workshop to help curtail incidents of fires and save lives. Mr. Roderick Richardson from the Mississippi Department of Health delivered an enlightening, engaging and entertaining presentation on methods of preventing house fires. Roderick's enthusiasm transformed participants into a learning frenzied to obtain this needed information. Roderick "reiterated and re-emphasized several techniques of outing a

clothes fire, including covering your face, drop and roll method". Richardson concluded by donating 60 smoke detectors for deprived homes in surrounding Counties. In addition, the Mississippi Association of Cooperatives donated \$250 to purchase smoke detectors for workshops in October/November. Louisville's Fire Chief Mike Stanton highlighted placement of furniture and use of fire extinguish apparatus. Additionally, "he echoed your address should be visible and not obstructed by objects". Winston County Self Help Co-op thanked Richardson and Stanton for dispensing information to help save lives.

A farm management seminar started at 5:55pm with Alcorn State University's Extension Specialists, Anthony Reed, Helen Brooks, Carolyn Banks and Rockeill Woods working in conjunction with Mississippi's Natural Resource Conservation Service. Reed stated, "ASU's Extension Program is committed to help" Save Rural America with a holistic approach. We provide technical assistance with home and farm loan applications to help create sustainability in rural America". Thirteen members from WCSHC participated in the farm management seminar. For further assistance in eastern Mississippi, contact ASU's Incubator Farm located in Preston, Ms-662-773-7128.

ASU's Experience with WCSHC-by Helen Brooks



Alcorn State University Extension Program Small Farm Outreach Project in partnership with USAD-NRCS and Winston County Self Help Cooperative went one more step in Helping Rural America in it's training on Thursday, September 27, 2007, Louisville, MS, that include MS

AgrAbility, Legal Risk, Financial Management/Record Keeping and a Marketing. The Participation was excellent for the training. Knowledge gained because of this training make way for enriching the families of the participants. In addition will qualify for future USDA program that requires sustainable records being kept.

WCSHC Youth Group 2nd Youth in Agriculture Conference-by press

Winston County Self Help Youth Group and Future Generation 4-H Club are moving forward with plans for their Sec-

ond Annual Youth in Agriculture Conference. According to Dorothy Harper Youth Director, we are preparing for three days of fun activities to engage and motivate our youth to focus on careers in agriculture. We are working in partnership with Dennis Murray Organization to deliver pertinent information of choices. We are excited about hosting our Second Annual Youth in Agriculture Conference on November 9-11 in Louisville, Ms. For further details contact Dorothy Harper jeanh29@bellsouth.net or 662-312-8004.

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's Coliseum. Presenters from 1890 & 1862 exten-

sion 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 fltaylor@bellsouth.net

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Announcement

WCSHC Forestry Field Day-November 5, 4:55pm-Leon Goss Tree's Farm in the Ebenezer Community Louisville, Ms.

September 2007 Activities

September 3, co-op published newsletter.

September 4, coop monthly meeting.

September 4, youth enrichment class.

September 8, adult computer training class.

September 11, youth enrichment class.

September 13, four members participated in Alcorn State University's Agriculture Fall Field Day at the Lorman campus.

September 15, adult computer training class.

September 18-22 member participated in NNFP's Board Meeting in Nelsonville, Oh.

September 18, youth planted mustard, turnip and collar greens.

September 21, youth planted cabbage greens and rutabagas.

September 22, adult computer training.

September 25, member participated in 4-H advisory meeting.

September 27, co-op published newsletter.

September 27, coop monthly meeting.

September 27, fire safety workshop with 55 participants.

September 27, thirteen WCSHC members participated in Alcorn State University's Record Management Workshop.

September 27, youth planted mustard and turnip greens.

September 29, adult computer training class.



For More Information, Please contact Mr. Frank Taylor
ftaylor@bellsouth.net or 601-291-2704