



October 2006  
First Edition

## Goss Host Field Day by Frank Taylor



Leon Goss and family hosted Winston County Self Help Cooperative's Annual Fall Field Day Activities on October 2, with more than 50 members, youth, friends and others. Leon is a third generation farmer committed to help enhance life in rural America by managing God's natural resources. Although, retired from Georgia Pacific Wood Plant, he is currently raising vegetables, cattle and maintains forestland. Leon stated that he has been farming for

more than sixty years. And, that he thoroughly enjoys planting and harvesting fresh vegetables for his wife of 55 years to preserve for their family and friends. They have reared six children and each developed their work ethics on the family's farm; therefore, his hope is that their family legacy will continue for another century. Leon is a member of Winston County Self Help Cooperative.

Our special guest included Moe Yarbrough, Mayor of Louisville expressed support for WCSHC's efforts to help save rural America... Dr. Engelkgen from Mississippi State University's School of Veterinarian Medicine gave a presentation on livestock health, Lamar Turnipseed-

District Four Supervisor of Winston County, Dr. Dawn Patin and Orlando Phelps both from Southern University in Baton Rouge, LA, Jesse Strassburg from Heifer Project International and Chuck Lea Local District Conservationist gave greetings. Afterwards, the group proceeded to the Goss pasture to view the livestock as cattle were called and fed. The youth especially enjoyed this segment.

Mrs. Goss and daughter Carol served hot dogs, chips, drinks and a delicious yellow pound cake which were enjoyed by the participants. Again, thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Goss for hosting a fantastic field day.

### Phelps' Experience *Southern University Liaison Officer*



I really enjoyed my visit to Louisville, MS to attend the Winston County Self Help Cooperative's Annual Fall Day Activities on October 2, 2006. Mr. Frank Taylor,

President of the Cooperative talked about the cooperative at every event we attended together and I would not have passed up this opportunity to see for myself the work he and cooperative is doing in the area. From the beginning of the visit I was very excited to see community youth participating in a community garden project. The youth were

very excited about their work which showed on their faces. This is making an impact in the community by keeping students active in an area where they can learn while generating revenue for themselves. I could see that the Cooperative is well organized and moving in a positive direction with the assistance of Mr. Taylor. Each of the producers attending the meeting was very involved in the activities of the day and Mr. Leon Goss, served as an ideal host for the Fall Day event. His operation provided an excellent site for other members to see how efficient a livestock producer can be even when the area is experiencing a severe drought. Now I see why Mr. Taylor is so supportive of the group. It is their eagerness to help themselves and others within the community.

# HPI's Point of View-by Jesse Strassburg

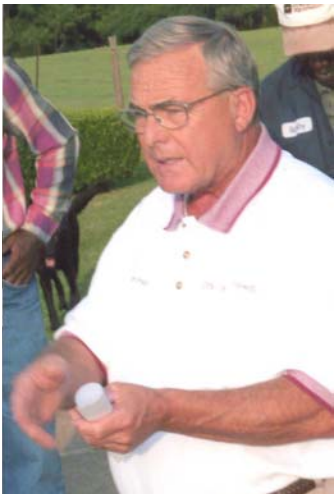
The Winston County Self-Help celebrated their second annual Fall Field Day October 2nd at the Goss's Farm near Louisville, MS. The field day offered a wonderful opportunity for this MS field coordinator to be introduced to the members of the cooperative. Mr. Goss and family invited members of the coop (including their strong youth group), local political leaders, and guests from as far as Southern University-Baton Rouge Louisiana onto their farm to participate in hands on learning. The training involved a beef cattle body condition scoring provided by MS-State University's Dr. Engelken. Participants were fortunately unable to see an animal in poor shape and low score as the

Goss family exemplified well cared for animals and good management practices.

This was also visible by calm animals as field day participants entered their pasture. Getting a closer view is the whole purpose of field days that take regular trainings out of the class room and onto individual's farms. It also allowed the youth and participants to get a closer observation of the coop's pass on animals the Goss' family is proud to showcase and share with the next recipient family when the animals are finally bred. I look forward to working closer with the Winston



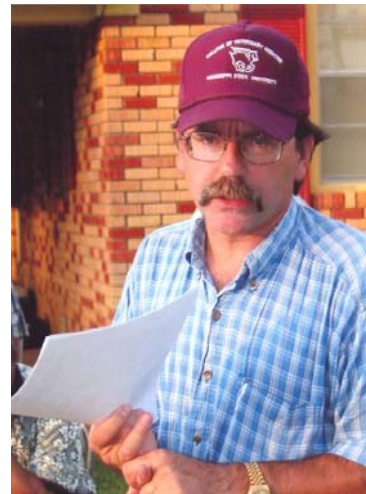
County Self-Help Coop members and sharing with other Heifer International groups the great opportunities WCSHO is providing in the area.



**Moe Yarbrough**  
Mayor of Louisville



**Lamar Turnipseed**  
District Four- Supervisor



**DR. Terry Engelken**  
Mississippi State



**Dr. Dawn Patin**  
Southern University LA

