



Rural Fellow-A move to make , Pg. 3

GREENSBORO ECHO

The Voice of Rural America

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MSU-CVM Palpates Heifers



Veterinary students from Mississippi State University-College of Veterinary Medicine Food Animal Services

By Audrey Poynor

On a beautiful sunny day in January, the Mississippi State University-College of Veterinary Medicine Food Animal Services arrived at the Winston County Self Help Cooperative's farm east of Louisville to assist in the evaluation of several cattle. The group, consisting of three third year veterinary students and one clinician, worked with the cattlemen to assess the health of a number of heifers and bulls. The procedures performed included pregnancy checking, vaccinations, breeding soundness exams of bulls, and deworming. The group began by determining a body condition score of

the heifers in order to estimate growth and level of performance. The heifers were then palpated for pregnancy status, ear tagged, vaccinated, and dewormed. The vaccines were administered to protect the heifers from disease, prevent pregnancy losses, and prepare the unborn calves for their future environment. These preventable diseases include Leptosporosis, Bovine Viral Diarrhea, Clostridium, and Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis. Young, unbred heifers were vaccinated against brucellosis and tagged / tattooed for identification purposes. It was a fun filled, educational day for all. For more information on these infectious diseases and the vaccines used, contact your veterinarian.

Partnering Creates Partnerships

By Frank Taylor

You can define partnering as linking up, connecting, teaming up or joining forces to create a positive atmosphere of change. The Winston County Self Help Cooperative and Mississippi State University College of Veterinarian Medicine epitomize the word partnering. This relationship generates opportunities for veterinary students to implement classroom trainings into practice by dispensing vaccinations, palpating, observing and calculating body scores to help develop long-term herd's health plans. Additionally, this partnership allows WCSHC members to gain hands-on experiences in cattle management, according to farm manager Hubert Nicholson. Also, WCSHC members participate in workshops and field day events under the guidance of MSU College of Veterinary Medicine personnel to improve herd management and marketing skills. Veterinary students lead a field day event for our youth to highlight careers in veterinary medicine and encouraged participants to develop good study habits and excel in the classroom. We will continue partnering with MSU College of Veterinary Medicine to provide opportunities for farmers and landowners to stimulate sustainability in rural communities.

This issue focuses on sustaining relationships and partnerships to create livability in rural communities. Join with Winston County Self Help Cooperative team to help save rural America.

LOOK INSIDE

WCSHC's Homebuyers Workshop.....	2
WCSHC's Conducts 4th Pass On.....	2
Mississippi Association of Cooperatives.....	2
Rural Fellow~A move to make.....	3
FEBRUARY 2009 1ST EDITION NEWSLETTER-CANDID SHOTS.....	4

WCSHC's Homebuyers Workshop

By Frank Taylor

In time of uncertainties, the Winston County Self Help Cooperative is providing leadership to help save small towns and rural communities by conducting educational workshops to assist families in making prudent business decisions. The co-op will sponsor a homebuyers workshop on March 2, 2009, 5:00 pm, at the Winston County Extension Office on Vance Street in Louisville, MS. Several lend-

ing institutions and non-profit organizations will provide literature and one-on-one counseling for participants. Purchasing a home could be challenging, however, this venue will offer opportunities for individuals to connect with service providers and learn the ins/outs of purchasing a home according to co-op member Jack Miller. Purchasing a home requires a team effort and we encourage the entire family to participants in this holistic event.



The co-op will sponsor a homebuyers workshop on March 2, 2009 in Louisville, MS.

WCSHC's Conducts 4th Pass On

The gift of giving continues to provide Winston County Self Help Cooperative members with bred heifers. On January 27, 2009, WCSHC conducted their 4th pass-on ceremony at the co-op's pasture. Elaine Miller and George Wicks received pass on animals. In 2002, WCSHC received funds from Heifer International and purchased 40-bred heifers. Eight co-op members received 5-bred heif-

ers each and signed a letter of intent to provide adequate care for the animals. Recipients are allowed 3 years to complete pass-on requirements. Also, members are expected to participate in 75% of the monthly and special call meetings to obtain pertinent information. Larry Miller, Willie Goss and George W. Miller received certificates from HPI's South Central Office for completing pass on requirements.



George Miller & his father George W. Miller

Mississippi Association of Cooperatives

The Mississippi Association of Cooperatives will hold its 37th Annual Membership Meeting March 20-21, at the Holiday Inn in Hattiesburg, Ms. Registration will start at 10:00a.m in the hotel lobby. Numerous workshops are planned from planting techniques, irrigation systems and USDA update. For more informa-

tion contact Daisy Garrett 601-354-2750. The hotel is located at 9 Gateway Drive off Highway 49 for room reservations call (601-264-9666).



Ben F. Burkett, MAC State Coordinator



WCSHC IS ONLINE 24 HOURS A DAY @
WWW.WCSHC.COM
 HELP US TO SAVE RURAL AMERICA.



Rural Fellow~A move to make

Being a rural fellow with the Rural Development Leadership Network has been a very rewarding a life-changing experience for me.

The Rural Development Leadership Network (RDLN) is a multicultural organization based in New York City. I became affiliated with RDLN in 1997 while employed by the Mississippi Association of Cooperatives as a business development specialist providing technical assistance to cooperatives in the Mississippi Delta.

That summer I attended a four-day Assembly in Texas near the Mexican border sponsored by RDLN. For the first time in my life I was sitting in a circle sharing stories with Hispanics, Native Americans, African-Americans, and whites who work in rural America. We discovered that we had similar problems in our communities and vowed to work together to change our destinies. Since, then we have become members of one large multi-racial family that grows each year.

We have visited a variety of rural communities in this country. Through this affiliation, I toured California's Central Valley, held discussions with Hispanic farm workers, visited the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana, dined in Mexico, attended writing, community development, marketing, and other workshops including a month-long institute at the University of California at Davis, and gained a broad perspective on rural America.

In 2004, I became the first RDLN Billie Jean Young Scholar, with funds from USDA, and enrolled in the McGregor School of Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio. I was able to use credits from my participation in RDLN's month-long Institute at the University of California at Davis toward my degree. In June of 2006, my sixty-two page “capstone” project, “Characteristics and Strategies of Successful Small Business Leaders” was approved, and I walked across the stage on July 19, 2006 in Dayton, Ohio to receive my master's degree in Rural Community Development & Public Policy.

Being a rural fellow has impacted my life in many respects. If you work in rural America, you too might want to broaden your horizons and become a rural fellow. RDLN is



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recruiting new applicants now. For more information visit: www.ruraldevelopment.org.

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Mississippi and the mall administrator for www.heirsskymall.com (online shopping, online voter registration drive...) Visit: www.meredithetc.biz to send comments on this article.

FEBRUARY 2009 1ST EDITION NEWSLETTER-CANDID SHOTS



Bobby Hardin, Omerio Dotson, Mary B. Hannah and (not pictured) Dee Dotson received Lifetime Membership Certificates from the Winston County Self Help Cooperative.



Center- WCSHC founding member Mary B. Hannah attends workshop.



WCSHC members attended field day events under the guidance of MSU College of Veterinary Medicine.



Winston County Self Help Cooperative member Elaine Hobson



Charles Hampton making community announcements.



Winston County Self Help Cooperative members listen attentively during meeting.



The heifers were palpated for pregnancy status, ear tagged, vaccinated, and dewormed.



Mississippi State University-College of Veterinary Medicine Food Animal Services students



MSU-College of Veterinary Medicine Food Animal Services students and one clinician