

Rural Rehabilitation

REPORTS



January 2006

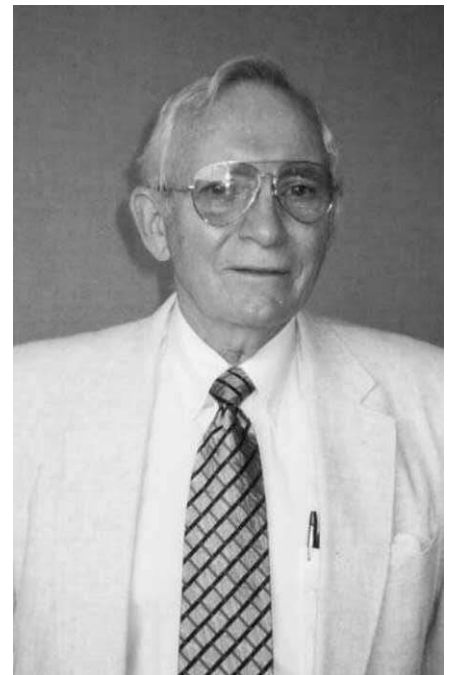
Message from the President

By John Woeste

We thank the Arkansas Corporation for hosting an outstanding meeting in Little Rock. The facilities, the hospitality, and the programs were outstanding. The tour of the Clinton Library was a special treat. The tour to Heifer International was a firsthand look at a private nongovernmental organization serving rural areas in the United States and many countries around the world. The message from the Honorable Mike Beebe was surely reassuring to all the members but especially for those providing scholarships and grants to students.

The National Board will meet in early April to get an update on the 2006 annual meeting. The meeting will be held in Great Falls, Montana, on September 10-13th at the Best Western Heritage Inn. In addition, the Board will consider guidelines for establishment of an association web site, a proposal for establishment of a standing committee of the Board on organizational issue, and recruiting the nonmember states to join the association. If you have other items needing attention, by the Board, please advise our Secretary/Treasurer Stan Garbacz so they can be added to the agenda.

We hope you will place September 10-13th, 2006, on your calendar. Lee Boyer and staff are planning an interesting program and plenty of northwest scenery.



2005 Annual Meeting Little Rock, Arkansas

The National Association of Rural Rehabilitation Corporation (NARRC) met for their annual meeting September 12-14th, 2005, in Little Rock, Arkansas. The meeting was called to order by President Paul Johnson of Michigan. The colors were presented by the Arkansas Army National Color Guard followed by the singing of the National Anthem by vocalist Gwenn Fitzpatrick.

Roll call was taken by Secretary/Treasurer Stan Garbacz with 21 states represented. Mr. Mike Hill, representing the USDA, was also introduced. Individuals were asked to stand representing states that had former members who passed away during the year. Those members were Koy Page, Utah; Carroll Hunton, New Mexico;

George Robb, Michigan; Robert Vogel, North Dakota; and Mr. Fathery, Mississippi.

The official state welcome was presented by Honorable Mike Beebe, Attorney General for the State of Arkansas. He gave a short presentation concerning his experience and opportunities afforded to him by the student loan he received from the Arkansas Rural Endowment Fund.

Retired U.S. Senator David Pryor, Dean of Clinton School of Public Service, gave a presentation on the importance of public service and academic discipline. This included a presentation of the new Clinton School of Public Service. Following lunch, the delegates boarded buses for a tour of the Clinton Presidential Library.

Monday evening, the delegates participated in the President's Award Reception and Dinner with the guest speaker, the Honorable Marion Berry,

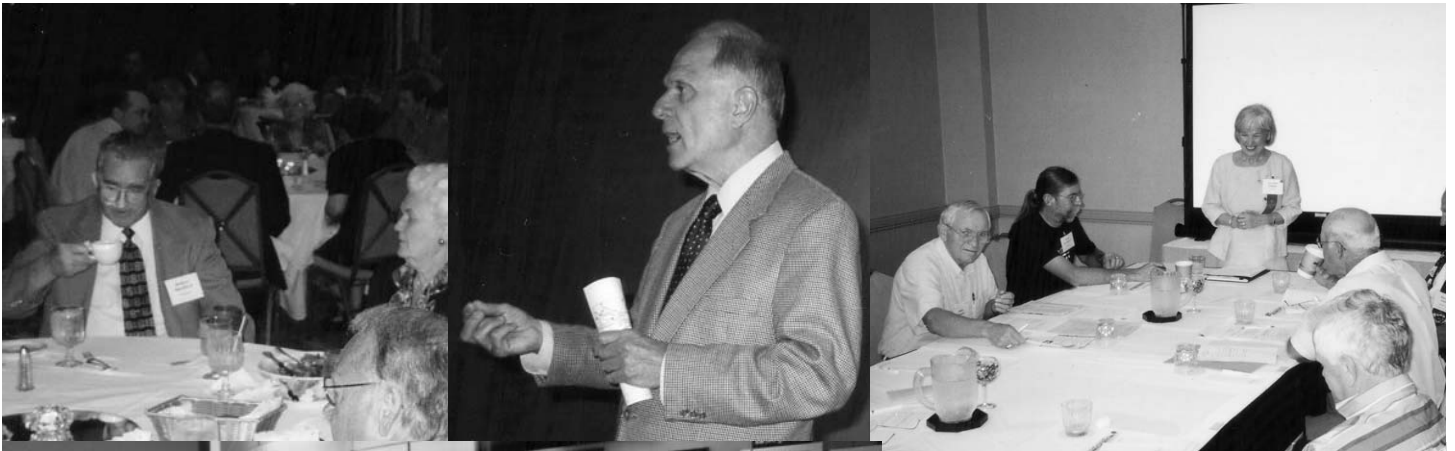
U.S. Representative.

On Tuesday, September 13th, the meeting was called to order by President Johnson. Danny Kennedy, CEO of Riceland Foods, Inc., gave a presentation on the rice production in Arkansas and the importance of global market.

The next speaker, Morrill Harriman, Executive Vice President of the U.S. Poultry Federation, gave a brief description of the poultry industry, not only in Arkansas but in the United States, and the importance of the global marketplace for the poultry production.

Ms. Jo Luck, Executive Director of Heifer International, gave an outstanding presentation on Heifer International and global hunger. Heifer International is an organization whose sole purpose is to provide agricultural products to individuals in countries lacking the ability to have ample food production. After the presentation, the delegates boarded

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buses for a tour of the Heifer Ranch outside of Little Rock.

On Wednesday, September 14th, the annual business meeting was called to order by President Johnson. Secretary/Treasurer Garbacz gave the Treasurer's Report, and Mr. Vernon Eagan presented the Audit Report. Mr. Eagan made a motion, and second by Bill Fortier, that the annual financial statement be approved as presented.

Linda Stover commented on the importance of USDA remaining as an

oversight entity for the Rural Rehabilitation funds in all the states.

Delegate Gifey, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers for the 2005/2006 year: President John Woeste, Florida; Vice President Roald Lund, North Dakota; Board members Bruce Wall, Arkansas, Charles Springs, South Carolina, and David Skinner, Georgia. The slate of officers was approved.

Mr. Lee Boyer of Montana gave the official invitation for the delegates to attend the annual meeting September 10-13th, 2006, in Great Falls, Montana. John Troutman of Alabama invited the delegates to come to Alabama for the 2007 conference. The North Dakota delegation invited the delegates for the 2008 convention, and Michigan for the 2009.

Secretary/Treasurer Garbacz led the discussion and made a presentation on the potential web site for NARRC. After a brief discussion, Skinner moved and Stafford seconded that the Board approve the development of the web site. Motion passed.

Past President Johnson then turned the meeting over to the newly elected President John Woeste. He indicated that he was looking forward to working with the Board and they would be meeting after the conference ended.

Ms. Dunn, North Dakota, motioned to appoint a standing committee that would be for advising any state that would have concerns or problems with the use of their Rural Rehabilitation monies. This committee should be made up of lawyers. The motion was made by Dunn and seconded by Stover. There was considerable discussion, and it was decided that this motion be tabled.

With no further business to conclude, the 2005 NARRC annual meeting was adjourned.

President

Mr. John Woeste
Florida Rural Rehab. Corp.
4020 Newberry Road, Suite 150
Gainesville, FL 32607
Phone: (352) 372-3100
Fax: (352) 372-0311
E-mail: jandmwoeste@juno.com

Vice President

Mr. H. Roald Lund
23299 Pelican - Bass Lane
Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Phone: (218) 863-1642
Fax: (701) 224-8061
E-mail: hrlund@loretel.net

Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Stanley Garbacz
Nebraska Department of Agriculture
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94947
Lincoln, NE 68509
Telephone: (402) 471-4876
Fax: (402) 471-2759
E-mail: sgarbacz@agr.ne.gov

Past President

Mr. Paul Johnson
7405 McBride Road
Lakeview, MI 48850-9560
Phone: (989) 352-6200
Fax: (269) 781-9850
E-mail: jandp@pathwaynet.com

USDA Liaison for Rural Rehabilitation Funds

Mr. Mike Hill
FSA Outreach Staff
Room 3720 Ag Stop 0511
South Ag Building
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20250-0511
Telephone: (202) 690-1299
Fax: (202) 690-4727

Directors

Mr. Chris Lackmann
New Mexico Rural Rehab. Corp.
P.O. Box 81554
Albuquerque, NM 87198-1554
Phone: (505) 256-7649
Fax: (505) 266-4960
E-mail: cgl1297@yahoo.com

Mr. David Skinner
Director and General Manager
Georgia Development Authority
2200 Parklake, Suite 150
Atlanta, GA 30345
Phone: (770) 414-3400
Fax: (770) 414-3407
E-mail: david@gdaonline.com

Mr. Charles Springs, Jr.
South Carolina Rural Rehab Corporation
P.O. Box 50286
Columbia, SC 29250
Phone: (803) 254-0272
Fax: (803) 765-2564
E-mail: scrrc1927@netzero.net

Mr. John Teel
Mississippi Rural Rehab Corp.
4785 Old Canton Road
Jackson, MS 39211
Phone: (601) 362-7406
Fax: (601) 981-4132
E-mail: johnpeggyt@msn.com

Mr. Bruce Wall
Arkansas Rural Endowment Fund
P.O. Box 750
Little Rock, AR 72203
Phone: (501) 375-2358
Fax: (501) 375-8625
E-mail: bwall@aref.org

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Stanley J. Garbacz, Editor
Karla Bahm, Assistant Editor

Additional copies of this newsletter are available. Please contact Karla Bahm, Nebraska Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 94947, Lincoln, NE 68509; telephone (402) 471-2536.

Upcoming Conferences

Sept. 10-13, 2006 Great Falls,
Montana
2007 Alabama
2008 North Dakota
2009 Michigan

**NARRC
Membership
Dues
now due.**