

REPORTS



June 2012

President's Message—By Larry Mack



San Antonio is the place to be in September!

Sandra Tenorio and the Texas Rural Communities team are hosting our 41st Annual Meeting and have put together speakers and tours that will showcase their state like you have never seen. I believe opportunities are everywhere we turn. I also believe this meeting is going to be a

good opportunity for each of us to learn something.

Each state organization that makes up the National Association of Rural Rehabilitation Corporations has unique programs that help people in rural America. Learning how other states' programs provide help is one of the benefits of being a member

of NARRC. The annual meeting provides the opportunity to network with members from other states and to develop contacts with whom to share new ideas. While in San Antonio, we will have a panel discussion providing insight into other states' efforts in assisting rural Americans, along with the opportunity to ask questions.

If you are expecting informative meetings, tours, opportunities to learn, meet new people, make new friends, visit with old friends, entertainment, great food and hospitality, then San Antonio, Texas, is the place to be September 16-19, 2012.

I will see you at The Hotel Contessa on the river walk.

A BIG TEXAS WELCOME!!

By
Sandra Tenorio

NARRC MEMBERS: Texans are excited to welcome you to San Antonio this September for the Annual NARRC Meeting. You will see everything from the Alamo to Longhorns, and we know you will have a good time! The entire meeting will be Texas casual—jeans are always appropriate. Ladies, if you want to dress up, just add a little sparkle to your denim, and you will fit right in.

San Antonio in September happens to be the second rainiest month, and the temperatures may range from about 68 to 90 degrees. The range is significant and requires that you be ready for cool and warm. If you are a Texan, 68 degrees is a bit on the cool side. A small umbrella to stick in your bag will come in handy if we get showers while we are out and about.

The Saturday optional tour will be a day filled with history, art, and culture. Since we will be in and out of the bus—walking through the missions and the historic Market Square—wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for very hot days with cool evenings. The sun can get bright and hot, you may want to bring a hat and your sun block. The same is true for other

tours—make sure you dress comfortably and prepare for heat and possible rain showers.

Take time to visit the wonderful communities within easy driving distance from San Antonio. I highly recommend Gruene (*pronounced Green* <http://www.gruenetexas.com/>), a beautiful German community on the banks of the Guadalupe River. The town is full of shops, eating places and tubing. There is nothing more relaxing than renting tubes and floating in the Guadalupe River under old shade trees. Also within driving distance is a Western Theme Park in Boerne (<http://www.enchantedspringsranch.com/>) that takes you straight into the Old West. For Bird Watchers—the Coastal Birding Trails are nearby for a variety of birds off the beaten path along the nearby Upper Texas Coast (<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wildlife/wildlife-trails/coastal>).

Whatever your schedule or your interests, there will be plenty to do when you come to Texas—you will be within driving distance of the Gulf Coast, the Hill Country and the brush country!

Y'all just stay a while!

Report of 2012 Mid-Year Planning Meeting—San Antonio, TX—By Vernon Eagan

Call to Order: The Mid-Year Planning Meeting of the 2011-2012 Board of Directors was called to order by President Larry Mack on Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at 8:45 a.m., in the Boardroom of the Hotel Contessa, in San Antonio, Texas. A quorum was established. Also present were USDA Liaison Mike Hinton (D.C.) Sandra Tenorio (TX), and Jeannie Eagan.

Opening Remarks: President Mack welcomed everyone to Texas and expressed appreciation to the board for their commitment to NARRC. He also thanked Sandra Tenorio, along with the TRC board and staff, for all their hard work in preparation to host the 2012 Annual Meeting.

Minutes and Reports: Upon motion by Weiss/Minicozzi, the Board approved the minutes—as read and previously distributed—of the Pre-Conference Board Meeting held July 17, 2011, and of the Post-Conference Board Meeting held July 20, 2011. A detailed report of the secretary's activities was given by Jeannie Eagan.

The financial report was given by Secy/Treas Vernon Eagan. Upon motion by Dalsted/Weiss, the Board approved the report as presented and to be filed for audit.

The Website Committee reported they are working on securing a new website manager due to the resignation of Seth Wilenberg. Director Minicozzi is working on the possibilities that Arkansas' new website manager might be willing take on the NARRC update responsibilities as well. The committee has advised Director Minicozzi that NARRC will absorb the cost associated with the management of our website and will advise the Board of the projected cost.

2012 Annual Meeting: Sandra Tenorio advised the board that the date for the 2012 Annual Meeting will be September 16-19, 2012. A contract has been signed with Hotel Contessa located on the river walk for \$129.00 per night. A tentative program was distributed indicating the usual agenda will be followed for the conference: Sunday, President's Reception; panel discussion and speaker presentations on Monday; agricultural tours on Tuesday; and the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday. Speaker topics include "Texas Resources—Water, Wind energy and its Impact on Agriculture" and "Texas Niche Crops." An optional Saturday tour on Saturday, September 15th will be included in the registration packet.

2013 Annual Meeting: Due to the resignation of Jeff Ward of Iowa, the status of the 2013 Annual Meeting is pending until a director has been named for the state of Iowa. A contract has been signed by Iowa with the Savery Hotel in anticipation of hosting the NARRC Annual Meeting in Des Moines on August 11-14, 2013, with an optional tour on Saturday, August 10th. However, the current staff could not make a firm commitment at this time that they will indeed host the 2013 NARRC Annual Meeting. The NARRC Board will

consider other options if Iowa's new director decides not to host. Still under consideration—by the Iowa staff—is to combine portions of the National Council of State Ag Finance Programs' annual meeting with our NARRC annual meeting.

(Note: Since the Mid-Year Planning Meeting was held, Iowa has confirmed they will definitely host the 2013 Annual Meeting on the dates as originally planned.)

2014 Annual Meeting: Secy/Treas Eagan advised that David Skinner has a meeting in early April with a hotel in Savannah for possible dates for the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Unfinished Business: Upon motion by Minicozzi/Valdez, the Board ratified the unanimous email vote of 1/12/2012 authorizing Secy/Treas Eagan to move the CD investment from Metropolitan to Telcoe and into a money market account (current rate of .75%) in the name of the National Association of Rural Rehabilitation Corporations.

Vice President Weers will coordinate and moderate the panel discussion to be conducted during Monday's program.

Director Minicozzi gave a synopsis of the results of the Questionnaire distributed at the close of the annual meeting in Anchorage. After discussing the results, the consensus was that NARRC (spearheaded by Minicozzi) should utilize the Questionnaire—with some minor changes—again in 2012.

USDA Liaison Mike Hinton discussed the merits of his revised USDA/NARRC Form 1A. He advised that he will be sending out a letter to the states with a copy of the revised form. He will instruct the states they must use either his abbreviated revised form or continue using the old lengthy form with which they are familiar. Mike's preference is that the states use his revised USDA/NARRC Form 1A. All states are required to complete an annual report.

New Business: President Mack advised of the appointments for the nominating committee and audit committee.

Nominating Committee: Harold Gary (MS), Chairperson; Bill Fortier (ND); and Kim Porter (WY).

Audit Committee: Thayne Larson (KS), Chairperson; Bill Stanley (SC); and Alfredo Zamora (TX).

Appointment of Director: President Mack will appoint Walt Anseth (MT) to fill the unexpired two-year term of Jeff Ward (IA) who recently resigned.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.



Bud Weiss, Anne and Ken Dalsted, Steve Weers, (with Larry Mack and Nina Ojeda in the background) at the Mission site.



Above: At the Texas Longhorn Heritage Institute.
Below: Oldest family-owned business in Texas—Pioneer Brand food products (C.H. Guenther & Son, Inc).



Host, board members and guest at the milling site.

Above: Board members and guests await the boat captain's instructions prior to a scenic boat-ride tour at dusk along the San Antonio River (also known as the Paseo del Rio). The captain advised that if we should fall into the river, to not get excited, but to just stand up and walk out.



Our Texas hosts, NARRC board members, and guests at the Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard during the Mid-Year Planning Meeting.

2011-2012 NARRC OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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2012 Nominating Committee

Harold Gary (MS), Chair
Bill Fortier (ND)
Kim Porter (WY)

2012 Audit Committee

Thayne Larson (KS), Chair
Bill Stanley (SC)
Alfredo Zamora (TX)

Future NARRC Annual Conferences

2012

September 16-19, 2012
Hotel Contessa
San Antonio, Texas
(www.thehotelcontessa.com)
Host: Sandra Tenorio

2013

August 11-14, 2013
Renaissance Savery Hotel
(www.renaissancesavery.com)
Des Moines, Iowa
Coordinator: Tammy Nebola

2014

September 13-17, 2014
Hyatt Regency Hotel
(savannah.hyatt.com/)
Savannah, Georgia
Host: David Skinner

In Remembrance

Former NARRC board member and Colorado board member **Edward R. Smith** passed away on February 18, 2012. "Ed" is survived by his wife of 51 years, Elizabeth. Ed's contribution to rural America is greatly appreciated.

New Mexico board member Lynn Pickinpaugh's wife of almost 58 years, **Phyllis**, passed away on June 4, 2012. Phyllis' support of Lynn's work is valued by all.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to Mrs. Smith and to Lynn and his family in the loss of their loved ones.

Website Committee

Walt Anseth (MT), Chair
David Skinner (GA)
Jeannie Eagan

www.ruralrehab.org

News items for the next Rural Rehabilitation Reports due out in January 2013 are requested from member states. Send articles for publishing that would be of interest to the membership to: Vernon Eagan, NARRC Secretary/Treasurer; 4408 Dawson Drive; North Little Rock, AR 72116; or Email: egnljj@swbell.net.

Rural Rehabilitation REPORTS

Vernon and Jeannie Eagan, Editor
Additional copies of this newsletter are available. Please contact Vernon Eagan, NARRC Secretary/Treasurer, 4408 Dawson Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72116, phone: 501.758.4723 or 501.920.4621.