### **Rural Rehabilitation**

# REPORTS



June 2005

## Message from the President

Paul Johnson, President

It's time to plan your trip to the Annual National Rural Rehabilitation Corporation Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. The date is September 11-14, 2005. It will be held at the beautiful Peabody Hotel known for its elegant rooms and famous ducks.

Bruce Wall, the Board, and staff have another great program lined up for us this year. There is a lot of time and effort that goes into hosting a conference.

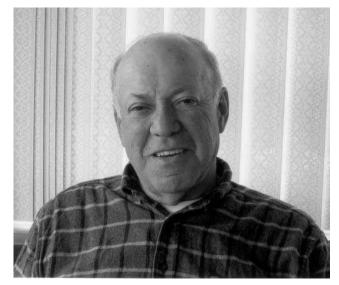
Our spring Board meeting was held at Little Rock in March. We saw some of the places they have planned for us to visit. We will tour the beautiful Clinton Presidential Library. We will be greeted and have some remarks from former President Clinton. The library is within walking distance of the hotel. We will also visit the Heifer Ranch, which is very unique. They have animals from around the world. We will learn how they are fighting world hunger by taking animals to other countries. One of our speakers will talk about the project before the tour.

There will be a luncheon and tour for the spouses and guests to the Governor's Mansion.

There are a lot of things to do and see in Little Rock. They have a great list of speakers on Arkansas agriculture and other topics which will be of interest to all of us.

Come and learn what other states are doing with their funds to help rural America. The challenge is there - let's make a difference.

Hope to see you in Little Rock.



# New Program Recognition

The NARRC Board of Directors approved the new Program Recognition activity. This program gives each state a chance to promote its new ideas and achievements. Any program initiated after September 30, 2004, will be accepted. Simply complete the enclosed application and return to:

Stan Garbacz Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 94947 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 Applications received and verified will be recognized with a plaque at the annual convention in September 2005. Please return your applications by August 15, 2005.

### **Update of Roster**

Enclosed is a new NARRC Roster for 2005. The listing reflects recent name and address changes of NARRC member states. If there are any additional changes, please contact IIa Deinert at the Nebraska Department of Agriculture at 800-422-6692.

## Committee Appointments

Auditing Committee
Vernon Eagan, Chairman, Arkansas
Tony Stafford, Missouri
Lee Boyer, Montana

Nominating Committee
Don Giffey, Chairman, North Dakota
Lewis Rambo, Alabama
Tom Walker, South Carolina

# March Meeting Highlights



Downtown Litle Rock.



Tour of the hotel.



NARRC Board members checking out Heifer International Ranch.



Board heads to lunch with Bruce Wall.



View from hotel patio looking across river.



View from hotel.



NARRC Board Members. Back row: Stan Garbacz, Chris Lackmann, H. Roald Lund, Mark Leonard, and John Woeste. Front row: Paul Johnson, John Teel, and Jerry Driscoll.



Clinton Presidential Library.





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# Mid-Year Meeting March 31, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Johnson. The minutes were read by Secretary/Treasurer Stan Garbacz and were accepted as presented. The financial report was also given by Garbacz. It was indicated that the income to date totaled \$4,915.87. It

was moved and seconded that the financial report be accepted.

Discussion took place concerning which states are currently members and which aren't. The Board indicated that the Secretary was to get a list of additional states from Mike Hill, the USDA Liaison, and send a letter to all the states who are not members with the mid-year newsletter. Also, it was indicated that Vice President Woeste will call Arizona and Indiana directly inquiring about their membership status.

The grant program whereby states hosting the annual conference are given money to help defray the costs was discussed. There was considerable discussion concerning the intention and the use of the money. Motion was made and seconded that the Association grant the hosting state \$2,000 and make available a line of credit up to \$3,000.

The Program Recognition was discussed, and it was decided by consensus of the Board to continue with the Recognition Program.

There was a review of the 2005 annual meeting plans and budget. A thorough discussion was led by Arkansas representatives in attendance at the meeting. A detailed budget and program was reviewed and a subsequent discussion took place. The program and budget presented by the Arkansas Rural Development Corporation was accepted, and they were commended for their efforts.

The meeting was then recessed so the Board could have an extensive tour of the facilities to be used in 2005 annual meeting.

After the tour, the 2006 convention was briefly discussed which will be held in Montana. Alabama will host the 2007 convention: North Dakota in 2008.

President Johnson indicated that he would make the appointments to the Audit Committee and Nominating Committee.

It was discussed that the Secretary/
Treasurer look into the possibility of
having a web site for Association
business. He will look into the feasibility
and cost of creating and maintaining a
web site.

#### **President**

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TDD users can contact the Department by first calling the Nebraska Relay System. Telephone 800-833-7352 and asking the operator to call (402) 471-2341.

#### Rural Rehabilitation

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#### **Upcoming Conferences**

 Sep. 11-14, 2005 .....
 Arkansas

 2006 ......
 Montana

 2007 ......
 Alabama

 2008 ......
 North Dakota

#### Sympathy

We wish to extend sympathy to the family of Carroll Hunton, New Mexico, who passed away February 5, 2005.