

ONE-HUNDRED THIRTEENTH ANNUAL

Farmers

Conference Program



February 24-25, 2005
Kellogg Conference Center
Tuskegee University
Tuskegee, Alabama



"Building Sustainable Small Scale Farms in Rural Alabama"

2005 Merit Farm Family Award



Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr. Family

Tuskegee, Alabama

County Agent
Walter Baldwin
Macon/Montgomery Counties

The first Farmers' Conference was held at Tuskegee University on February 23, 1892. The purpose was to arouse public sentiment among the farmers and create a real interest in the common, mundane and practical affairs of life. The morning was spent identifying problems, while the afternoon portion of the conference focused on solutions. Today, this conference's main focus is still on the problems and remedies for small-scale farmers, landowners, and their communities in managing change in agriculture.

The objectives for this year are: (1) to share up-to-date information relevant to small-scale farmers and landowners involved in production of traditional and alternative agricultural products; (2) to create awareness about family health, nutritional challenges, and existing resources for rural families; (3) to provide research-based information in a consumer adaptable format; and (4) to strengthen networks and partnerships that address problems of small-scale agriculture and rural communities.

Farmers Conference

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2005

8:30 a.m. Registration (Business Service Center)

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. . . . Forest Management Tour and Luncheon (Meeting Rooms D & E)*

**Caravan departs for tour site at the Tuskegee National Forest at 10:30 a.m.*

Presiding: George Hunter, County Extension Agent
Lowndes/Wilcox Counties, Cooperative Extension Program
Tuskegee University

Current Forestry Issues Ronald Smith, Forestry Specialist
Cooperative Extension Program
Tuskegee University

Alabama Forestry Commission Landowner Services LaKedra Byrd, Outreach Forester
Northeast Region, Alabama Forestry Commission

Participating in Forestry Advisory Councils Arione Irby, President
Minority Advisor Council
Alabama Forestry Commission

Overview of the Tuskegee National Forest Jorge J. Hersel, District Ranger
National Forest Service

MANAGEMENT TOUR OF THE TUSKEGEE NATIONAL FOREST

Topics to include:

*Fuel Loading and Fuel Reduction
Pre Commercial Thinning
Forest Recreation Opportunities*

LUNCHEON DISCUSSIONS

Effective Utilization of a Forest Consultant Michelle Cole, President
Diversified Forest Operations, LLC
Wetumpka, Alabama

Understanding Local Forestry Planning Committees . . Bob Montgomery, County Manager
Macon County, Alabama Forestry Commission

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. . Annual Meeting of the Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension
Program State Extension Advisory Council (Meeting Room B)

“TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR HEALTH”
(Meeting Rooms D & E)

Presiding: Ellis W. Moorer, Outreach Coordinator
EXPORT Project
Tuskegee University

Prostate Cancer Sanford Jeames, Patient Health Education
UAB Cancer Project
Birmingham, Alabama

High Blood Pressure Irene Kahn, Director Student Health Services
Tuskegee University

Diabetes Janice Hardy, Registered Dietician
Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System

HIV/AIDS Lani Thompson, HIV/AIDS Coordinator
Alabama Department of Public Health

Effective Use of Medications-Substance Abuse & Misuse Tony Holland
Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System

“BODY AND SOUL”
(Meeting Rooms F&G)

Presiding: Elva Jackson, County Extension Agent
Macon/Montgomery Counties, Cooperative Extension Program
Tuskegee University

Purpose & Video (Eat for Life) Eunice Bonsi, Program Leader
Family Life Specialist
Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program

Beauty/Fragrance Consultants Joseph Perkinson, Manager
Belk #289 Department Store
Auburn, Alabama

Clinique Demonstration Erica Windham, Beauty Consultant
Belk #289 Department Store
Auburn, Alabama

Fashion Fair Demonstration Flora Ross, Beauty Consultant
Belk #289 Department Store
Auburn, Alabama

6:30 p.m. **Thomas Monroe Campbell Memorial Banquet (Ballrooms A & B)**

Speaker: The Honorable John Knight
Alabama State House of Representatives
District 77

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2005

7:30 a.m. **Registration (Conference Registration Desk)**

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Exhibits Open**

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. **Opening Session (Auditorium)**

Choral Selection Tuskegee University "Golden Voices" Choir
Wayne A. Barr, Director

Presiding: Allan Corbin, Assistant Federal State Supervisor
USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service

Invocation William Lennard
College of Agricultural, Environmental and Natural Sciences
Tuskegee University

Greetings & Welcome Benjamin F. Payton, President
Tuskegee University

The Honorable Myron Penn
Alabama State Senator, 28th District

Introduction of the Speaker Benjamin F. Payton

Speaker John Rosenthal, Executive Director
The National Urban Internet, Inc.
Washington, D.C.

PRESENTATION OF MERIT FARM FAMILY AWARD
Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr. Family Farms – Tuskegee, Alabama

Remarks Velma L. Blackwell, Administrator
Cooperative Extension Program
Tuskegee University

Natural Resource Conservation Service Updates Gwen Lewis, District Conservationist
USDA/NRCS

Overview of Concurrent Sessions Eunice Bonsi, Extension Specialist
Cooperative Extension Program, Tuskegee University

10:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. **Break (Auditorium Foyer)**

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon **Concurrent Sessions**

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. **Merit Farm Family Luncheon (Ballroom)**

Presiding: Patricia Henderson, Extension Specialist
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
Normal, Alabama

Introduction of Speaker: Teresa Smiley, Deputy Commissioner
Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

Speaker: The Honorable Thomas E. Jackson
Alabama State Representative, 68th District

Commentary The Honorable Ron Sparks, Commissioner
Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

Remarks and Presentations Velma Blackwell

2:30 p.m. **Open Forum/Update on Black Farmers Class Action Lawsuit**

Presiding: Miles D. Robinson, Director
Alabama Small Farm Rural Economic Development Center
Tuskegee University

Presenting: Rose Sanders, Attorney
Chesnut, Sanders, Pettaway and Campbell
Selma, Alabama

Session 1: Regulatory and Policy Issues Impacting Farmers in Alabama Concerns about Water Quality and Security, Justice and Health (Meeting Room A)

Presiding

Ronald Smith, Forestry Specialist, Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program

Presenting

“Landfills in Alabama: Effects of Urban Spread and Accompanying Legislation”

Attorney David Ludder, President
Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation (LEAF)
Tallahassee, Florida

“Environmental Public Health Issues in Alabama: Deteriorating Water Quality”

Charity Richey-Bentley, Executive Director
West Anniston Foundation
Anniston, Alabama

“Responses: Concerns of Farmers”

Travis Bailey, Farmer
Sumter County, Alabama

Donald Means, Farmer and County Commissioner
Greene County, Alabama

Session 2: Bioterrorism, Agriterrorism and Biosecurity Preparedness for Small Scale Farmers (Meeting Room B)

Presiding

Leonard Billups, Associate Professor of Pathology
College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health, Tuskegee University

Presenting

“The Threats of Exotic New Castle Disease and Asian Influenza Virus (H5N1): What Should Farmers Do?”

Lekan Ayanwale, Research Associate Professor/Extension Veterinarian, College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health, Tuskegee University

“Selective Exotic and Zoonotic Diseases of Horses and Cattle: (Eastern Equine Encephalitis, West Nile Virus, Foot and Mouth Disease and Mad Cow Diseases)”

Sam Gorham, Associate Professor of Pathology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health, Tuskegee University

“Agri-Terrorism and the Small Scale Farmers as First Responders”

Glen Malone, Assistant Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health, Tuskegee University

Questions and Answers

Session 3: Wills and Land Trusts Preparation (Meeting Room D&E)

Presiding

Carolyn G. Varner, Legal Service Alabama
Ntam Baharanyi, Cooperative Extension Program and College of Agricultural, Environmental and Natural Sciences

Presenting

Legal Services Alabama Lawyers

**Session 4: "Meat Goat Production: Challenges and Opportunities in the Southeast"
(Meeting Room F&G)**

Presiding

Jannette R. Bartlett
Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Tuskegee University

Presenting

"Challenges and Opportunities in the Goat Industry: Agroforestry, Silvopasture and Goats"

Ralph Noble
Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Tuskegee University

"Marketing Status of the Goat Meat Industry and IMPS Specifications"

Kenneth McMillin
Department of Animal and Meat Science
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

"Nutritive Composition and Consumer Acceptability of Goat Meat in the United States"

Norma Dawkins
Department of Food and Nutritional Sciences
Tuskegee University

**Session 5: Targeting Obesity: A Good Start in Reducing and Eliminating Health Disparities
(Auditorium)**

Presiding

Ellis W. Moorer, Outreach Coordinator
EXPORT Project
Tuskegee University

Presenting

"Nutritional Aspect of Obesity"

Norma Dawkins, Associate Professor, Food & Nutrition Science
Tuskegee University

“Psycho-Social/Lifestyle/Behavioral Change”

Reggie Gougis, Chair, Psychology and Sociology Department
Tuskegee University

“Physical Activity”

Virginetta Smith-Cannon, Physical Therapist
Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System, Tuskegee, Alabama

“Alternative Treatment Options”

Myrtle E. Goore, Bariatric Medicine

“Tae Bo – Exercise”

Coach SHAKA aka Tim Long, Tuskegee, Alabama

**Session 6: Farm Safety Just 4 Kids
(Student Union Ballroom)**

Presiding

Nickey Jefferson, District Extension Coordinator/State Program Leader
Cooperative Extension Program
Tuskegee University

Activities

Opening Ice breaker

Farm Safety Bingo

Identifying Farm and Rural Hazards

Youth Influence

Farm Hazard Prevention Strategies and Resources

Demonstrations

Games

Activity Commitment

LUNCH

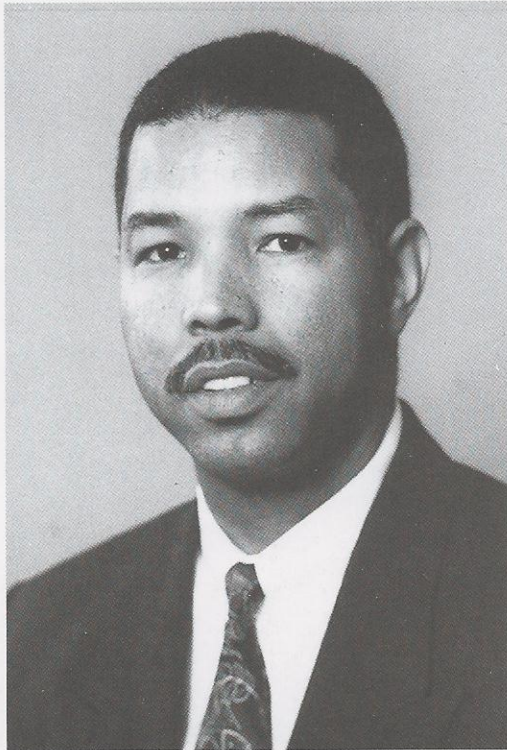
The University Experience

concurrent sessions

2005

MERIT

LAWRENCE F. (TONEY)



The Lawrence F. (Toney) Haygood Family, located in Macon County, Alabama, has been selected as the 2005 Merit Farm Family by the Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program.

Mr. Lawrence F. (Toney) Haygood, one of three children, was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He attended the Chambliss Children's House Elementary School, and graduated from Tuskegee Public High School in



1970. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Southwestern College (now Rhodes College) in Memphis, TN.

The Haygoods have owned and operated their family farm (175-acres) since 1977. In high school, Toney participated in the local Boy Scout Club. One of his favorite activities was in forestry, planting cedar and pine trees.

Toney admits that they did not know what to do with the land when it was purchased. However, during the first two years, they tried to farm land by selling peas, watermelons, turnips, and collards to

individuals and local stores in the community. He had a vision of truck farming when he attended a Forestry Planning Committee meeting. He asked questions about the different aspects of forestry. This meeting had an impact on his future development of



FARM

(Y) HAYGOOD, JR.



the property. Many agency personnel visited his property and offered their assistance.

According to *Alabama's Treasured Forests*, "With the assistance of the Alabama Forestry Commission, the Haygoods began the process of transforming the farm into a prized possession." Family time (by hunting family and friends and recreation) and good stewardship are very important to the Haygoods.

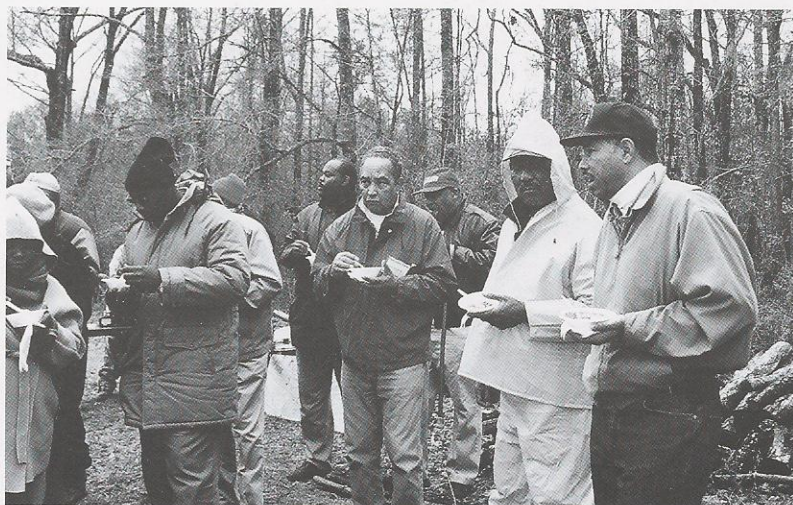
Diversity makes a difference in their forestry efforts, with 60% pines and 40% hardwoods, ponds, food plots, and a variety of wildlife. The Indian mounds and overall history lend to its diversity.

The Haygoods showcased their management practices to fellow forest landowners at the 110th Annual Farmers' Conference in Tuskegee, Alabama. Another tour of their TREASURE Forest was conducted by the Alabama Forest Commission, along with the

Federation of Southern Cooperatives and Tuskegee University.

Toney is an active member of the Macon County Forestry Planning Committee. He received his Tree Farm Certification in 1985, and became certified as a TREASURE Forest landowner in 1999.

The intent of the Haygood Family is to pass this possession to future generations.



A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS MONROE CAMPBELL

At Tuskegee University, the name Thomas Monroe Campbell, or T.M. Campbell as he was more commonly called, is synonymous with Extension. This is in recognition of the fact that he was the first Cooperative Extension Agent in the United States. These facts were the product of cooperation by (1) The United States Government, represent by Seaman A. Knapp; (2) The State of Alabama, represented by Auburn University; (3) private enterprise, represented by the General Education Board; and (4) Tuskegee University, represented by Booker T. Washington.

On January 11, 1946, a bust of T.M. Campbell was unveiled and presented to Tuskegee University in honor of his forty years of service in Extension Agriculture. The statement on this occasion about Mr. Campbell and his work follow

Mr. T.M. Campbell, Field Agent, U.S. Department of Agriculture, was appointed Farm Demonstration Agent in Macon County, Alabama, in 1906. Mr. Campbell is the oldest extension worker in years of service in the United States. He advanced from County Agent to State Agent in Alabama and from State Agent to Field Agent for seven southern states: Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma. As a result of the effectiveness of his work, there are now nearly 600 county and home demonstration agents working in these states.

Among his other accomplishments is an extension building on the campus of Tuskegee Institute, which is headquarters for Negro extension work in Alabama.

Mr. Campbell is author of the book, "The Moveable School Goes to the Negro Farmer," also a number of articles appearing in some of the leading journals of the nation. He received the "Harmon Award" in 1930 for his distinguished service in the field of farming and rural life.

In September 1944, he was selected as one of a committee of three to make a survey of West Africa.

In short, Mr. Campbell is a pioneer in extension work. He is a nationally known and respected citizen- a public servant of the first rank. This is his 40th year of service the Extension Agriculture.

He is honored with a Master's Degree from Tuskegee Institute, his Alma Mater.

A bust of Thomas Monroe Campbell is prominently displayed in the George Washington Carver Museum at Tuskegee University.

*Excerpt from The Role of Tuskegee University in the Origin, Growth and Development of the Negro Cooperative Extension System 1881 - 1990, by B.D. Mayberry

TM CAMPBELL DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

GEORGE M. PARIS is Director of Agricultural Promotions with the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries. He is responsible for developing programs for marketing of agricultural produce, farmers markets, small farm programs, mediation and economic development, specialty crop promotions and marketing news. Before his present position, he worked with Tuskegee University, Federation of Southern Cooperatives, Waddell & Reed Inc. in Birmingham, AL and the Sumter County Commission in Livingston, AL. He received his B. S. Degree from Tuskegee (Institute) University in Industrial Education.

Awardees

THOMAS E. JACKSON serves in the Alabama State House of Representatives for the 68th District (Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Marengo and Monroe Counties) and was elected in 1994. He is also the Director of the Upward Bound Program for Alabama Southern College and Associate Pastor for Church of God in Christ. Representative Jackson is a member of the Alabama and National Education Association, the National Black Caucus for State Legislators, the Board of Directors for the Southwest Alabama Boys and Girls Club as well as many other organizations. He received his B. S. Degree in Psychology from Knoxville College and M.A. Degree in Education and Counseling from Alabama State University.

JOHN F. KNIGHT, JR. serves in the Alabama State House of Representatives for the 77th District (Montgomery County) having been elected in 1993. Representative Knight is chairman of the Government Finance and Appropriations Committee. He is also the Assistant Vice President of Planning and Institutional Advancement at Alabama State University. Representative Knight serves on many worthwhile committees such as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Kershaw YMCA and the Montgomery Housing Authority; on the Board of Directors for the Montgomery Improvement Association, the Family Sunshine Center, the Southern Development Council and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program as well as others in association with the Democratic Party. He graduated with honors from Alabama State University with a B.S. degree in Business Administration.

SPONSORS

Cooperative State Research, Extension and Education Service
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
Alabama Farmers Federation
Alabama Forestry Commission
State of Alabama, Department of Agriculture and Industries
State of Alabama, Department of Public Health
Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA
Baseline Forest Services
Diversified Forest Operations
State of Alabama, Farmer's Market Authority
Farm Service Agency, USDA
Federation of Southern Cooperatives
First South Farm Credit
Forest Service, USDA
Natural Resource Conservation Service, USDA
Resource, Conservation & Development, USDA, NRCS
Risk Management Agency, USDA (through Risk Management Education Project)
Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA (through the Rural Business and Economic Development Program)
Southern Rural Development Council
Belk Department Store

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

Cooperative Extension Program
Continuing Education Program
College of Agricultural, Environmental and Natural Sciences
College of Business and Information Sciences
College of Engineering, Architecture and Physical Sciences
College of Liberal Arts and Education
College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health

COMMITTEES

Velma L. Blackwell, Chairperson
William A. Hodge, Conference Coordinator

Program Committee: A. Corbin, N. Baharanyi, W. Baldwin, E. Bonsi, D. Gapasin, C. Herron

Merit Farm Family: V. Blackwell, W. Hodge, R. Noble, G. Paris, A. Pierce*, N. Tackie

Conference Escorts: MANRRS, University Escorts, Pre Vet Club, TUFANS

Transportation: W. Baldwin, N. Tackie*, R. Smith

Printed Materials: K. Craig*, J. McBride, V. Singleton, Y. Wright

Publicity & Promotion: All County Agents, D. Berkhalter, K. Craig*, W. Hodge, B. Jones, J. McBride, V. Villoth

Banquet & Luncheon: E. Bonsi*, J. McBride, V. Singleton

Registration: J. Brown, J. McBride*, V. Singleton, Y. Wright, P. Young, County Secretarial Staff

Fundraising/Finances: V. Blackwell*, W. Hodge, A. Pierce, J. Brown

Evaluation and Survey: Agricultural and Resource Economics Program, N. Baharanyi*

Youth Session: N. Boyd, N. Floyd, W. Hodge, A. Pierce*, Y. Wright

Animal Science: J. Bartlett*, R. Noble

Bioterrorism: L. Ayanwale*, G. Malone, S. Wilson

Risk Management Education and Rural Business Development: N. Baharanyi*, Y. Diabate, N. Duplessis, C. Ham*, G. Harris

Audio Visual: ACES Communications Dept., W. Baldwin, K. Craig*, D. Eaves

Awards: V. Blackwell*, E. Powell, V. Singleton

Exhibits: J. Bartlett, W. Hodge, V. Singleton*

Wellness Forum: E. Bonsi, E. Moorer*, E. Powell, H. Shaw

Forestry Management: Alabama Forestry Commission, M. Cole, Federation of Southern Cooperatives, W. Hodge*

*Indicates Chairperson

| History and Purpose |

The Annual Farmers Conference evolved in 1892 out of a need to improve the conditions of rural black farmers in the South. Having just gone through slavery, black farmers in the South had a wealth of social, economic, educational and morale problems that desperately needed attention.

After observing these conditions upon his arrival at Tuskegee, Booker T. Washington developed and implemented monthly group meetings for the farmers. Those monthly group meetings of approximately 75 people were the stepping stones to the first Annual Farmers Conference, held in 1892, which drew a crowd of over 400 farmers and professional agriculture workers from all areas of the rural South.

The Annual Farmers Conference represented not only the pioneering spirit of Tuskegee University, but the real beginning of agricultural extension in the South. Historical milestones associated with this conference include: the appointment of Thomas Monroe Campbell as the

first extension agent in the United States, the development of Tuskegee University's movable school, and the establishment of the agricultural experiment station and cooperative extension program.

Since the appointment of Campbell in 1906, Cooperative Extension at Tuskegee University grew from one county agent covering Macon and surrounding counties to 12 agents serving 12 counties in a region known as the Black Belt of Alabama. Extension educators offer assistance in a variety of program areas such as youth leadership development, environmental health and water quality, alternative agricultural enterprises, economic development, forestry and natural resources, health and nutrition, and family well-being.

The goal of the annual farmers conference is to enhance the overall quality of life for our constituents and their families and, where possible, impact in a positive way the opportunities which are available.

Cooperative Extension

Tuskegee University | Cooperative Extension Program | 204 Morrison-Mayberry Building | Tuskegee, Alabama 36088 | 334-724-4441

The Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program helps people, particularly the underprivileged residents in twelve of Alabama's Black Belt counties, to improve their lives through informal educational processes that use scientific knowledge to address their concerns and needs.

In terms of the geographical area that we serve, most of our programming occurs in twelve counties located across the area known as the Black Belt.

The belt spans east-west across the central part of Alabama and is known for its dark colored soils and includes parts of sixteen counties. Tuskegee University is located in this agro-ecological zone and has historically focused its outreach in this area.

Program areas today span many subject matter disciplines due to the interrelated nature of the needs of the families and communities we serve.

Currently, we conduct educational programs in the broad categorical areas of (1) Agricultural and Natural Resources, (2) Community and Economic Development, and (3) Youth and Family Life.

Although the primary focus of the Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program is to assist families with limited resources to improve their quality of life, the program offers its educational services to all state residents, without regard to race, color, age, national origin, religion, sex or disability.