

Young Leaders Conference to Attract Participants from Across Tennessee

Twenty-five people, including 16 couples, have registered for the Tennessee Council of Cooperative's 2007 Young Leaders Conference to be held Feb. 23 and 24 at the Music City Sheraton in Nashville.

More folks from across the state are expected to register for the conference staged by the council and Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation. Theme for this year's meeting is "Communicating Leadership in America."

"This annual conference provides cooperatives a unique opportunity to educate its young leaders regarding the benefits of cooperative business," says Council President Jeff Griggs. "Those attending the 2007 conference will be exposed to ideas and information that will enable them to add value to their own businesses, form new niche cooperatives with others in their communities, and meet the challenges of the future with cooperative marketing innovations."

Sessions throughout the conference will deal with timely agricultural issues, including ag enhancements, animal identification, agri-tourism, value-added endeavors, and the Tennessee Beef Alliance.

Dave Rowe, manager of member and public relations for Randolph Electric Membership Corporation in North Carolina, will deliver the conference's keynote address during a luncheon on Feb. 24. For nearly three decades, Rowe, a 13-year National Football League lineman, has announced various sports on radio and television. He has become well known as a television announcer of Southeastern Conference football.

Other highlights of the conference include an address by U.S. Rep. Lincoln Davis of Byrdstown, an old-fashioned ice cream social, a Jeopardy-style quiz show in which topics will focus on cooperatives and agriculture, a tour of O'Charley's headquarters, and an auction.

The TCC Board will meet at 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 23 in the Oaklands Room of the hotel.