



August 2009

## Vanguard E-News Bulletin

### In This Issue

[2009 Conference News Recap](#)

[CDS 2009 Award Winners](#)

[Member Spotlight](#)

[Save The Date - 2010 Call for Presentations](#)

[CDS Webinar Series](#)

[News of Interest](#)

**Dear Mallory,**

The Community Development Society is your organization and you will find that the more you get involved in the organization, the more you receive from your membership in the organization.

I invite you to contact me and explore a way for you to be involved. Be part of the knowledge exchange within CDS. We welcome your participation and look forward to hearing from you.

-Mary Emery, CDS President [memery@iastate.edu](mailto:memery@iastate.edu)

### **Celebrating Community: *Creating Hope in Uncertain Times***

The 41st Annual International Conference was a success! There were 160 attendees who came from around the world to join in *Creating Hope in Uncertain Times*.



The conference focused on the work that community developers and leaders are doing to address the challenges facing us.

There were preconference workshops, mobile learning workshops and over 30 sessions that explored how some are building hope through revitalization, developing an innovative workforce, strengthening human capacity, and more.

Attendees received opportunities to explore the city outside of the classroom too. After hearing from Dr. Robert Moses, a member of the Civil Rights Movement, the attendees followed up the evening with an appropriate tour of the National Civil Rights Museum.

The Annual Awards Banquet was full of recognition and fun as attendees were entertained by the likes of Alan Kirk and Brent Hales at the silent and live auctions benefitting the CDS Endowment.

As we look towards next year, we invite everyone to mark their calendars for the 42nd Annual International Conference in New Orleans, LA, July 25-28, 2010. The call for presentations will be released by late September.

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## Save the Date

### 2010 Call for Presentations Coming Soon

The 2010 CDS Annual International Conference will be co-sponsored with the International Association for Community Development (IACD) and will be at the InterContinental Hotel in New Orleans, LA, USA on July 25-28, 2010. The conference theme, "*Role in Community in Economic and Disaster Recovery*," will focus on using community to formulate innovative and successful approaches to revitalize and redevelop communities.

While approaches to recovery are a special interest, the Program Planning Committee is interested in receiving abstracts on all aspects of community and economic development. The Call for Abstracts will be posted on the CDS website ([www.comm.dev.org](http://www.comm.dev.org)) as well as sent to the membership at large.

The due date for submitting abstracts is October 31, 2009. Abstracts that involve collaborations between practitioners and academics are especially encouraged, but all are welcome.

The Chair of the Program Planning Committee is Norman Walzer, Center for Governmental Studies, Northern Illinois University. Contact: [nwalzer@niu.edu](mailto:nwalzer@niu.edu)

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## CDS Webinar Series - Entrepreneurship

The Community Development Society (CDS) is offering its first Professional Development Webinar at 4:00 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, September 22, 2009



The hour-long webinar will focus on two successful models of entrepreneurship development presented by:

- Brent Hales of the University of Southern Mississippi and coordinator of the Southern Entrepreneurship Program (SEP). The SEP high school program enables its partners to empower the youth of the region to develop and maintain homegrown businesses. The program partners have developed a practical and state-of-the-art youth entrepreneurship program that is being expanded and can be used anywhere.
- Sharon Gulick of the University of Missouri Extension Community Economic and Entrepreneurial Development (ExCEED) program will share an engagement and collaborative learning model that re-energizes local communities and regions to build sustainable economies based on the strengths and assets of the area.

The purpose of the Webinar is to expand membership benefits to CDS members and affiliates through affordable professional development programming outside of the annual meeting. The cost for members of CDS and its affiliates will be \$29.00 for the session. CDS affiliates include Community Development Institutes and Community Development Academy. Members of the eXtension Community of Practice on Entrepreneurs and their Communities also will be given a one-time introductory webinar price at the member-affiliate rate for this session.

There is no cost to students.

The cost for non-members of CDS is \$59.00.

Besides the registration fee, participants also will be responsible for their own long-distance charges.

Registration for the webinar can be found by clicking <http://quest.cvent.com/i.aspx?1Q,M3,9d00f7be-1d14-40ec-9dc6-97fb67c29a18> and is also available on the CDS website, [www.comm-dev.org](http://www.comm-dev.org). When you register, participants will be given the web address, password information, and telephone number of the session, which also will allow time for interaction with the speakers.

Based on the success of this webinar, CDS is planning to institute a webinar series with five to six programs a year. Members of CDS and its affiliates may participate in any or all of the programs and will receive a discounted registration fee if they sign up for all five programs at the same time. Series topics will be announced at a later date.

## CDS 2009 Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2009 Award Winners:

- Outstanding Program Award - Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches

Institute

- Ted K. Bradshaw Outstanding Research Award - Deborah Markely, RUPRI Center for Rural Entrepreneurship
- Innovative Program Award - The Southern Entrepreneurship Program through the University of Southern Mississippi
- Friend of Community Development Award - Dr. Robert Moses
- Student Recognition Award - Karen Blewett
- Duane L. Gibson Distinguished Service Award - Anne Heinze Silvis, Extension Specialist in Program Development for University of Illinois Extension

A special recognition was given to Doris Littrell for the Donald W. Littrell New Professional Award.

## CDS Spotlights Members

As part of the CDS membership campaign, the Membership and Marketing Committee has initiated its Member Spotlight on the CDS website. Located under ABOUT US, this page puts the spotlight on 10 CDS members, and their interests and areas of expertise in the community development profession.



Each month the CDS will spotlight new members, gathering the information from the [membership survey located here](#). If you have not already completed this survey, please do so, and maybe you will be the next member in the spotlight!

[Click here to view the CDS Member Spotlight](#)

## News of Interest

*The following highlights were submitted by CDS members. If you have something you would like to see included in a future issue, send it to Lori Landry at [Lori@AssnOffices.com](mailto:Lori@AssnOffices.com).*

Macomb, IL-The centennial of Theodore Roosevelt's Country Life Commission (CLC) of 1908-1909 offered an opportunity to showcase a cornerstone for sustainable rural community and economic development at the July Community Development Society meeting in Memphis, TN.

To commemorate the CLC's work, Timothy Collins, assistant director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) and graduate assistant Stephen R. Hicks developed a website that traces the CLC's legacy (<http://www.iira.org/clc/>). They presented a walk-through of the website at the conference.

Roosevelt's CLC emerged in a turbulent time as America was being transformed from a rural, agrarian society into an urban, industrial society. Agriculture was fairly prosperous during this so-called "Golden Age of Agriculture" that ended about 1914, but dissatisfaction with country life was evident. Rural residents flocked to the nation's cities seeking a better opportunities. This was an alarming trend to some leaders, who saw rural

America, especially agriculture, as the economic, social, and moral foundation of the country.

According to Collins and Hicks, The Report of the Country Life Commission, issued in March, 1909, is rarely read now. Roosevelt's biographers hardly mention it. It comes up in academic discussions of rural development policies. It is not generally recognized as part of the foundation for sustainable rural community development practice. In reality, the report is a gem partially hidden under layers of time and passing generations. Some of its old ideas, however, have enough glitter to shed some light on sustainable rural communities today.

Those who inherited the CLC's legacy early in the twentieth century hoped to activate people in communities to improve the standard of rural life. The basic CLC idea was to get people together to talk about problems and opportunities, a basic step in community building.

Rural schools and churches were central to bringing people together and educating them to build stronger communities with deep-seated civic and religious values. Community residents also would develop new businesses such as cooperatives to increase farm income and the quality of farm life. Increased farm income depended on farmers working together to improve transportation and create markets that would pay good prices for their products.

With prophetic words, Roosevelt, in 1910 speech after publication of the CLC report, linked natural resource conservation with successful farm communities. This is a necessary condition for what we today call environmental and community sustainability.

Community developers - now including both social and environmental scientists - follow in CLC's tradition. They distill research knowledge, provide educational opportunities, and facilitate building community networks that focus on improving the quality of life.

Based on community development principles, participatory processes let citizens collaborate and use their local knowledge to adapt science-based knowledge to improve their lives. The process enhances the capacity of individuals and groups to build communications, trust, and leadership with a common goal of sustainability.

You can learn more about the website by contacting IIRA at the phone number below or by clicking on the website, <http://www.iira.org/clc/>.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity institution. For more information about the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, see our web site: [www.IIRA.org](http://www.IIRA.org). If you care to comment about this column, please contact Timothy Collins, 800-526-9943 or [t-collins@wiu.edu](mailto:t-collins@wiu.edu).

 Send to a Colleague

## Do you have

We welcome member input and articles for our new Vanaguard e-news bulletin format. If you have something that you would like to get out to the entire membership, or if you have comments or suggestions, send them to [CDS@assnoffices.com](mailto:CDS@assnoffices.com) with subject e-news bulletin. We will do our best to accommodate your articles in a timely manner.

something to  
share?