



News From Foods Resource Bank

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2010

New Growing Projects: The Story of Oxford and Pine Creek

Larry Winger's six year relationship with FRB has led him to do two things: begin a growing project of his own and guide another as it got started.

Winger didn't actively seek out new churches or communities in which to promote FRB but he did invite a friend to partici-



pate in the Oxford IN GPs harvest celebration. His friend, Roger Seehafer, had an antique tractor and he

brought it to the harvest celebration for hayrides. Seehafer was intrigued and asked Larry some questions. Two years later Seehafer's GP, Pine Creek Cluster, plans to celebrate its first harvest celebration this fall.

The story behind these two GPs demonstrates the importance of relationships between GPs to the

Dates to Remember

Overseas Trips

- **West Africa**– Sept 14-30, 2010
- **Jordan & Palestine**– October 27– November 6, 2010
There are still spots available! Please contact bev@foodsresourcebank.org by Sept. 20 if you would like to be part of this trip.
- **S. America**– January 2011
Will include Colombia, Bolivia, Peru
- **FRB Farmers to East Africa: Malawi & Zambia**– February / March 2011 *
- **Board Meeting**– February 2011

**FRB extends an open invitation to all its farmers, volunteers and friends to travel overseas with us. The trip to East Africa is planned at a time convenient for many US farmers.*

The 2010 annual reports and 2011 calendars are now available. Please contact us if you would like us to send you some.

FRB's New Website !

We are extremely happy to announce the launch of our new website! It is more user friendly and offers greater access to information on

overseas programs and growing projects as well as anything new or exciting going on at FRB. You will note a place for your GP to share photos and stories about your efforts. Please send these to:

meg@foodsresourcebank.org. Please let us know what you think.
www.foodsresourcebank.org.



Overseas Visitors in October!

Several visitors from these FRB supported programs will be here Oct. 8-19th:

- 2 from **Gambia Gamhort**– Illinois, Iowa
- 2 from **Guatemala Tonicapan**— Iowa, Michigan
- 2 from **Honduras Nueva Frontera**-Iowa, Ohio
- 2 from **Kenya Kitui**– TBA
- 2 from **Laos Xieng Khouang** - Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan
- 1 from **Nicaragua Mateare**-Iowa, Ohio
- 2 from **Zambia Eastern**– Missouri, Iowa, Illinois

A Bigger, Better, Bolder Plan

After 10+ years, we have realized something very important about FRB: *it is working*. FRB and its model are making a difference in people's lives around the world. For those of you who have been a part of this path to success, we say "Thank You!" And for those of you who are not part of FRB yet,

we hope you get involved soon.

As Iowa farmer Arlyn Shipper said during his testimony at the annual meeting in July, "It's time to start sharing FRB. We need to start spreading the message and sharing it with everyone."

We agree with Ar-

2010 Video Contest Winners

Foods Resource Bank announces **FRB's first Video Contest winners**. Congratulations to all!

First place, and winner of the \$1000 travel grant Laura Grathwohl; Boonsville Missouri Growing Project

Runner up, and winner of the Flip Ultra Video Camera: John Ward; McPherson/Reno Kansas Growing Project

Thank you to all who submitted videos! Be sure to watch them online.

Oxford and Pine Creek con't.

success and growth of FRB. When Larry was first learning about FRB, he felt intimidated. Had he not received support and encouragement from long-standing FRB participant Doug Harford, he doesn't think the Oxford IN GP would have ever gotten started.

Just as Winger credits Harford with the role as an advisor, Seehafer says the same for Larry. "I don't think we would have gotten past the initial discussion had we not had Larry there."

For almost two years Seehafer had been throwing out the idea of starting a GP every chance he had. He didn't have much optimism left during a church meeting he went to in early 2010, but he threw out the idea one more time. "The key," he explained, "is to get 20 acres." Pastor Anne Kumeh leaned over to farmer Herb Pigman and said "Herb, you can do that." Herb, Larry and Roger got together and at the end of the meeting Herb said, "Well I guess you need 20 acres, you got it."



Bigger Plan con't.

lyn, and the strategic plan we have created is the result of many discussions and realizations about where FRB is now and how we can share it with more people in the future.

The strategic plan is intended to articulate our core values, the view of our place in the world, the way we intend to work and our goals for the next 5 years.

FRB's top five priorities over the next five years are: GP development, overseas program development, fundraising, youth involvement, communication, and IT development.

We have also tried to envision and plan for the future of FRB. This is what we foresee: \$8 million dollars over the next five years in overseas program-



By this time it was late March and the pressure was on to organize a growing project during spring planting season. Larry cautioned Roger, "If you don't do it this year the momentum will be lost," so they went forward with it and everything came together within about six weeks. Six of the ten Pine Creek Cluster churches participated, grant money was

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found through the Monsanto Fund and the John Deere Foundation, and seeds were donated by Beck's

Seeds.

Having a relationship and a grassroots impetus from another GP was especially vital for the Pine Creek Cluster since it is made up of ten rural Methodist churches that vary in size and resources. One or even two churches would have had a very difficult time being successful, but six of the ten spread out the responsibility and work and ensured Pine Creek will have a successful first year.

Both Winger and Seehafer anticipate inviting others to their harvest celebrations this fall. "You have to invite people from other churches to be a part of your harvest celebration so they see it and think 'How can we do this?'"

ming support, the ability to fund a greater number of overseas programs, three more full-time employees, increased ability to fund travel, and a greater visibility of youth involvement.

If FRB is going to reach these goals and continue to grow, we need help. Therefore, we ask you to take Arlyn's words to heart and consider further ways you can contribute to the success of FRB's strategic plan. If you are not already involved, now is the time to become involved. If you are already involved, it is time to deepen that involvement.

If you would like to know more about the strategic plan, please see the materials on our new website or contact us at (312) 612-1939.

Thanks Joan!

FRB extends deep thanks to Joan Fumetti for her wonderful work and ministry as she retires at the end of this year from her position as Director of Growing Project Development. FRB and the growing projects are going to miss your guiding hand, tireless work, and joyful excitement. Thank you Joan, for all you have done for FRB, the growing projects, and our overseas programs.

Upcoming Harvest Celebrations

Check out our new website for more info on these harvest celebrations and others.

- SWING 'N SWINE- Oct. 16, 2010

Join the Paoli, WI GP as they celebrate raising 8 pigs for FRB. This GP, which supports a program in Cambodia, is planning an auction of the pork, as well as food, games and music in a barn.



- Winneshiek County, IA- Oct 3, 2010

Join this Iowa GP as they celebrate their harvest with a corn picking contest! The Luther College Wrestling Team and the Cresco Cadet High School Wrestlers will go head to head for FRB. Winneshiek County supports programs in Guatemala and Zambia.

