



**Richard Oswald** - Richard Oswald is a fifth generation family farmer in the river bottoms of Atchison County, about 2 miles from the Missouri river. He started farming his parent's home place in 1964. He now primarily raises seed corn and soybeans. He is the state president of the Missouri Farmers Union.

Richard is a skilled photographer and a prolific writer, who has written hundreds of poems, and writes weekly columns for *Data Transmission Network* and the *Daily Yonder*, both are electronic publications that reflect the tone and tenor of life on the farm and in rural communities, and are publications that are followed by thousands of farmers and rural people.

**Lowell Schachtsiek** - Lowell Schachtsiek is a hog, cattle, and row crop producer from Marion County. For over 30 years, he has been in leadership with a variety of family farm organizations, often serving on their state boards. He has served on the Missouri Farmers Union state board of directors since its founding in 1999. He has spent considerable time as a farmer and citizen lobbyist advocating for progressive farm, food and rural policy in both Washington D.C. and at the state Capitol in Jefferson City.

In May of 2010 the Schachtsiek's hosted President Obama, and USDA Secretary Vilsack on their farm for a tour and discussion of family farm policy that gained national attention.

### Schedule

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Opening Prayer and Welcome
- 9:15 *Rural Community, Legacy and Change* - **Dr. Cornelia Butler Flora**
- 10:15 BREAK
- 10:30 *Rural Community, Legacy and Change, cont.* - **Dr. Cornelia Butler Flora**
- 12:00 All natural Missouri grown lunch
- 1:15 Afternoon Panel
  - Lucy Brenner
  - Bill Heffernan
  - Richard Oswald
  - Lowell Schachtsiek
- 2:35 BREAK
- 2:45 Panel Wrap-ups
- 3:15 Closing Prayer



### Sponsor:

**Social Concerns Office  
Diocese of Jefferson City**  
 Contact: Barbara Ross  
 P.O. Box 104900, Jefferson City, MO 65110-4900  
 Phone: (573) 635-9127 x 225  
 Email: [socconcerns@diojeffcity.org](mailto:socconcerns@diojeffcity.org)

# Rural Life Day 2010



**RURAL  
COMMUNITY**



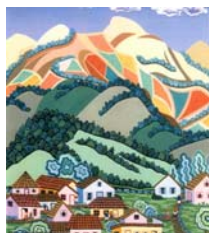
## PERSPECTIVES 20TH - 21ST CENTURY

Saturday, December 4, 2010  
8:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial  
Catholic Center  
2207 West Main  
Jefferson City, Missouri

Rural Life Day 2010 - seeks to examine many of the social, political, economic, technological, gender, class and moral dynamics that have and continue to influence and build context for rural community as we experience it today. Further, Rural Life Day 2010 will examine the growing body of evidence through research, and in the experiences of rural community residents that point to a time of immense change and ongoing flux in our society, and on our planet, in ways that are having great impact on our environs, our people and our politics. As well, presenters will use their perspectives to discuss and explore what, in the years and decades ahead, may be the shape of all that we call "rural".

We will spend quality and substantive time hearing from and dialoguing with one of the nation's most distinguished academic and researcher in the field of sociology, agriculture, and the life sciences. On hand for the afternoon is a panel of seasoned leaders, thinkers, and activists in their rural communities who have deep concern and considerable insights into the community dynamics, agriculture, economy, and policies that frame much of what happens in Missouri's rural communities.



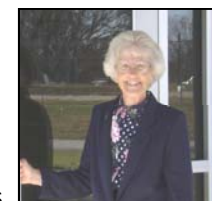
**Cornelia Butler Flora** - Dr. Flora is the Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University. She is the author and editor of many books, as well as a number of recent books, which include *Interactions Between Agroecosystems and Rural Communities*, *Rural Communities: Legacy and Change 2nd edition*, and *Sustainable Agriculture in Temperate Zone*, as well as over 175 articles and reviews. Dr. Cornelia Flora's research interests include international and domestic development, community, and the sociology of science and technology, particularly as related to agriculture and participatory change.

Current research on rural poverty includes action research with persistent poverty communities on the impact of investments by government and private foundations on community-driven holistic sustainability. Current research on sustainable natural resource management focuses on linking social indicators of context, process and impact to information on the threats to environmental quality.



At 49 pages, Dr. Flora's vita, contains too numerous to mention academic positions, grants and contracts, consulting, publications and references, reviews, papers and presentations, courses taught, faculty activities, membership in and positions on professional organizations, service on distinguished advisory boards, as well as, on professional associations and committees. She is fluent in two languages and speaks, reads, and/or writes in three others.

**Lucy Brenner** - Lucy Brenner is a registered nurse, whose community work is extensive; she is known throughout Osage and surrounding counties not only as a dedicated nurse, but also as an untiring advocate for the betterment of her rural community. Lucy has lead or been a key player in dozens of organizations, initiatives, committees, councils, and community efforts over the years. Along with her son, John, they raise wheat and maintain a herd of about 50 cattle on their 320 acre farm located in northern Osage County.



**Bill Heffernan** - Dr. Heffernan is Professor Emeritus and former chair of the Department of Rural Sociology at the University of Missouri. He is an internationally known and recognized academic, researcher and speaker. He focused his long-term research interests on the social causes and consequences of changes in agriculture and the food system. Dr. Heffernan was the first recipient of the Rural Sociological Society's award for Excellence in Extension and Public Service. He continues to work with groups and organizations seeking to develop alternatives to the global, industrial food system.

## Registration Form 2010 Rural Life Day



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and pre-registration fee of \$25 per person (\$30 at the door) to: Social Concerns Office, Rural Life Day, P.O. Box 104900, Jefferson City, MO 65110-4900  
\*\*NO PREREGISTRATION WITHOUT PREPAYMENT\*\*

Make checks payable to:  
Social Concerns Office – Diocese of Jefferson City