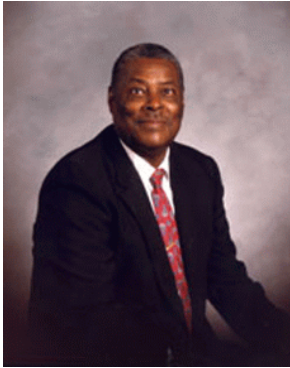


Mississippi 2004

Alphonse Marks

County Agent, C.R.D., 4-H, and Agriculture



Hometown: Magnolia, MS
Nominated by: Mississippi 4-H
Year Inducted: 2004

4-H Statistics: Guided 4-H members to 19 national winners, 14 regional winners, and 41 state winners; M.M. Hubert Award (dedicated service) and Notable Achievement Award, Alcorn State University; Distinguished Service Award, MS Association of County Agents; Dedicated Service Award, U.S. Department of Agriculture Conservation and Stabilization Service; Meritorious Service Award and Outstanding Service Award, MS 4-H; Meritorious Service Award, MS Pork Producers Association; Recognized as “first black County Agent in Mississippi;” Dedicated Service Award, Metro-Pike Industrial Foundation, Inc.; Distinguished Service, Pike County Salvation Army; State of Mississippi, Friend of Extension Award; Outstanding Citizen Award, Pike County Omicron Jr. Federated Club.

Alphonse Marks was among Mississippi's first minority Extension members. He graduated from Alcorn State University in 1941 and received a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois. During over 30 years of Extension service, his community and peers recognized his leadership, intense work habits, and people skills with six Extension distinguished and meritorious awards. As a County Agent his focus was on C.R.D., 4-H and Agriculture. Marks was a leader in the consolidation of black and white in Mississippi Extension. His Extension career was diverse, but his passion was youth. He took the diversity around him and brought it into one focus - success through partnership, especially in his work with 4-H youth. Marks was selected to have his name affixed to a wing of the Mississippi 4-H Museum.

Marks' leadership is evident: President, Alcorn State University Alumni, Pike County Chapter; President, Mississippi 4-H Advisory Council; President, Mississippi County Agent Association; 4-H Volunteer Leader; President, Southwest District 4-H Leaders Association; First V.P., 4-H Club Foundation of Mississippi; Mississippi Supervisor's Association Committee Chair; Worked diligently to support and fund various Pike County efforts. After 1977 he continued as a 4-H Volunteer, including involvement in District and State organizations. He is also active in County Chamber of Commerce, Salvation Army Board of Directors, Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, Masons, American Legion, Red Cross, and the Baptist Church.



Marks coordinated Forestry Management and Result demonstrations.



Marks participating in Soil Conservation Camp as 4-H member.



Mr. Marks - a friend to the youth of Mississippi and to state political leaders.