Books, Red Barns, and Blue Jackets

Program Area: Education and Ag Promotion (EAP)
County Farm Bureau: Walker County Farmers Federation
State: AL
Membership Category: 5,001+
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Program Description: The members of the Walker County Farmers Federation wanted to emphasize their support for agricultural literacy in their community. The county designed an evening banquet that brought together elementary school teachers and administrators from nineteen public and private elementary schools and regional libraries to receive gifts of books and reading barns. In addition, local leaders, farmers and FFA members participated in the evening event to support the county's initiatives to reinforce the importance of and need for agricultural education.

A team of fifteen volunteers worked to visit each school and regional library to present them with the book, "How Did That Get in My Lunch Box," and asked libraries if they would be interested in receiving a reading barn and additional books about farming and agriculture to fill the shelves of the reading barns. From there, the county worked in conjunction with local FFA Chapters to host a banquet for librarians, principals, boards of education, local officials, insurance agents and Federation members during National FFA Week to celebrate their community's agricultural literacy efforts.

The banquet was a great success with more than one hundred and fifty participants who attended. The Walker County Farmers Federation recognized high school Agricultural Education teachers, school principals, librarians and insurance agents who were noted as being supporters of agricultural literacy efforts in the community.