

FCSWA Inc.

2009



The CULLBOARD REPORT

FRANKLIN COUNTY SEAFOOD WORKERS ASSOCIATION Inc.

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Lake Lanier to get \$8.3 million more

By Kristl E. Swartz

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Friday, May 01, 2009



Photo of Lake Lanier

Money is a part of U.S. stimulus package. \$3 million also will help complete study tied to managing river basin.

Lake Lanier will get an \$8.3 million boost in federal stimulus money — as well as \$3 million to complete a study tied to the management of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River basin — according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

More on ajc.com

The Cull Iron Tapping In To Untapped Resources

By: Linda Raffield, Franklin County Seafood Workers Secretary

The Franklin County Seafood Workers Association was pleased to be a part of the Coastal Conflagration Tabletop Exercise, Friday May 8th at St. George Island. The exercise focus is on local agencies coming together and working together to combat a crisis or disaster. The particular exercise had to do with fire, and the evacuation of SGI. Given different scenarios and obstacles the groups had to work together to evacuate, transport and house the people who were on the Island for a busy Memorial Day Weekend. It was quite the learning experience, and all who attended felt they were taking away more than they had brought to the table.

The fact that the FCSWA was able to participate spoke volumes, and it was a reminder that many realized the untapped resources in their own back yard. It was equally moving that some recognized those resources at the meeting.

It was not that anyone had intentionally slighted or purposely ignored Seafood Workers. They are the majority in Franklin County and the community has been very respectful and considerate of what they do for a living. The old stigma of the drunken sailor, often over exaggerated, and romanticized in drug store novels have long since gone.

However what many have not realized is that they have always been there, pitching in when disaster strikes, after hurricanes you will see them in numbers, removing debris, building back the seafood houses, helping their neighbors and each other. When a boat needs turned for paint or repair, they are there, when one of their own is in need, benefit dinners and fish fries, even to the carry them to the grave. They are there on the water too, when someone is in need or has a problem it is an unwritten law, but they help when they can, and not just each other but in any distress seafood worker or not.

Many are coaches, first responders, deacons, volunteers, in church, school and community events, others are just moms and dads, neighbors and friends. Most are simply ordinary people who do an extraordinary job of working for a living as their families have done for generations, and making do with what they have.

When you consider the untapped resources, it is not just a bunch of oyster boats, there are boats of all shapes and sizes, there is a massive amount of manpower, equipment, radios, intake and data collectors, vehicles, transportation, cooks, and general labor at hand. With the proper instruction and direction from authorities these are people eager and willing to help as they always have.

There are times when we have felt we are little more than a poster child, a good excuse for something or against it, but it is times like these that we are proud to be reminded of who we are.

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