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See insert for full listing of Chapter Officers, Directors & Council, and Committee Chairs

President's Message



by Gary Baclesse, Show Me Chapter, SWCS

I want to thank **Bob Ball** for his leadership over the past year. Bob is truly a leader who took issues and dealt with them. He also went the extra mile on issues and was very successful. I plan to continue to call on Bob for ideas and guidance.

The chapter has just completed a very busy year. The big events such as the national conference in St. Louis, the MNRC meeting which the chapter chaired at Tan Tar A, in addition to the other programs and educational events that we either organized or were sponsors for were all done professionally and of the highest quality.

It is clear to me that as the new president of the Show-Me Chapter I have a lot to learn and that I am lucky to have very talented and dedicated hard working members to assist in the business of the chapter. The committees and officers we have on the executive council perform a number of important functions for the membership. The secretary authors the minutes and the treasurer keeps the chapter's money in balance. The president elect chairs the fall forum and vice president takes care of business when the president is not available. In all of the chapter's business, the officers provide input and facts to support the chapter's goals and activities.



Gary Baclesse congratulates Bob Ball for Outstanding Leadership during 2000.

Committees also help the organization to accomplish the goals of the chapter. Committees help the chapter to grow and prosper. Committees also promote involvement by getting the members to help with the activities of the chapter. Conservation activities such as the scholarship program, the fall forum, membership, policy, educational events, and sponsoring such things as the Envirothon, the Natural Resources Career Camp, the Missouri Forage and Grassland Council Evaluation Contest, etc. with funding and personnel show the chapter's dedication to the goals established for the Society.

More importantly, all of the things the chapter does are important to the membership and the organization. That is why the editor of the chapter's newsletter needs information from the members and the council to keep the membership informed. I look forward to working with the officers, committees, and membership in the upcoming year. If there are additional things the chapter needs to be doing, please let your officers or your councilperson or director know so

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Past President's Message

2000 Activities & Highlights

by Bob Ball, Chapter Past President

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a listing of our 2000 activities and highlights that were included in the Chapter's Annual Report forwarded along to the Soil and Water Conservation Society in February. These accomplishments have been the work of so many I would be foolish to attempt singling out individual members.

To say "this was a very good year for the Missouri Show-Me Chapter" is a gross understatement! Therefore, I am taking this opportunity to express my appreciation to all our members for any role, large or small, you may have played during my term as president that contributed to our Chapter's accomplishments. *Thank You!*

*Thank
you*

New Members: Member News



By **Curtis Gooch**, Membership Chair

A round of applause to the Show Me Chapter, one and all, for a steady increase in Chapter membership in 2000. We ended the year with a 28% increase from 1999. As we head into a new year, lets keep the momentum flowing and continue increasing our membership enrollment.

Please contact me if you need any membership applications or need payroll deduction forms. Remember payroll deduction can automatically withdraw your membership dues from your USDA paycheck and will avoid having to remember to send in your renewal, save postage, and avoid a lapse in your membership.

Please extend a hand and **BIG Welcome** to the following people who recently joined our **GREAT Chapter and Society**.

Dean Smith, Maryville
Brad Berhorst, Jefferson City
Kathy Cooper, Windsor
Arthur Ostermann, St. Charles
Tracy Boaz, Kirkwood
Dan Crigler, Defiance
Phil Rockers, California
Dan Bock, Jackson
David Hughes, Columbia

William Kurtz, Columbia
Rod Taylor, Jefferson City
Douglas Rainey, Memphis
Charles Maupin, Mexico
Timothy Horton, Mineral Point
Robert Kremer, Columbia
Jeffery Lamb, Van Buren
Matt Rousseau, St. Charles
Mark Starnes, Springfield

Conservation Scholarship Winners for 2001

by **Lynn Heidenreich**, Show-Me Chapter Scholarship Co-Chair

Congratulations to this year's winners of the Show-Me Chapter Betty Broemmelsiek Memorial Conservation Scholarships. **Joseph Calhoun** is our 1st place winner (\$500), and **Holly Lang** is our 2nd place winner (\$300).

Joe is currently studying agronomy at North Central Missouri College in Trenton, Missouri. He has worked as an Agricultural Mentor to fellow students at North Central Missouri College, and works part-time at the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Holly studies agricultural science at Truman State University. She has been active in the Collegiate Farm Bureau, and is a member of the Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority. This semester Holly is participating in a semester abroad in Ireland,

and will return to Truman State in the fall.

The Show-Me Chapter awards two Conservation Scholarships in February of each year at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference. High school seniors and college undergraduates attending school in Missouri are invited to apply. As part of the judging criteria, applicants are required to write an essay on a defined topic. This year's topic was "Land Use Planning – the Public and Private Viewpoints."

Planning is underway for the next scholarship competition. Please contact **Lynn Heidenreich** at (636) 397-3343, or **Ross Braun** at (573) 876-9426 if you would like

to participate with this year's scholarship committee.



Joseph Calhoun
\$500 Scholarship Winner



Holly Lang
\$300 Scholarship Winner

Betty Broemmelsiek Memorial Conservation Scholarships Endowment Fund

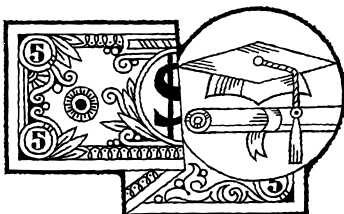
by **Bob Ball**, Chapter Past President

The Betty Broemmelsiek Memorial Conservation Scholarships provide financial assistance to students planning to pursue studies with a natural resource conservation orientation. The two scholarships are available to high school senior or undergraduate college students attending school in Missouri. They honor this long-standing chapter member for her dedication to soil and water conservation.

At the request of **Gary Baclesse**, I have agreed to continue work initiated by **Russ Mills** and

Don Schuster to pursue formally establishing an endowment fund to ensure continued financial support to fully fund these scholarships. So far, I have contacted two universities, local investment representatives, an accountant, a tax attorney, the American Water Resources Association, and **Craig Cox**, Executive Vice President of the Soil and Water Conservation Society for their collective advice and recommendations. A draft proposal will be submitted to the Executive Council as soon as possible for their review and comment with the intent of having the fund in operation later this year.

Chapter members, or their acquaintances, having some knowledge about endowments, and who are willing to help make this a reality can contact me at (573) 876-0900.



Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes submitted by **Ron Redden**, 2001 Chapter Secretary



January 31, 2001 • Osage Beach, Missouri

Present: Gary Baclesse, Bob Ball, Diane Bradley, Ross Braun, Renee Cook, Larry Fischer, Darin Gant, Curtis Gooch, Bob Hagedorn, Dave Johnson, Allan Johnston, Andrea King, Craig King, Lynn Leimkuehler, Peggy Lemons, Mel Marshall, Mike Morris, Raleigh Redman, Ron Redden, Judy Stinson, Gary Van De Velde, and Dan Yager.

Bob Ball, president, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and routed new correspondence. Bob mentioned that the draft annual chapter report is due on February 15 and that we are trying to get it in the mail by February 9. After passing around a sheet of 2000 activities and highlights, Bob asked that if anyone has identified items that should be included and are not, information should be given to either Bob or **Ron Redden** by next Tuesday or Wednesday.

Ron Redden presented the minutes from the chapter's December 6 meeting. **Mike Morris** motioned that the minutes be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by **Dan Yager** and so approved by the council.

Bob Ball led a discussion regarding financial planning options. Bob passed out the Long Range Plan that covers a 5-year planning effort that needs additional work during the next year. He indicated that a committee might need to look at this. Long term vs. short term needs was discussed. It was recognized that the chapter is probably as well financed as it is going to be. **Larry Fischer**, **Joe Dillard**, and **Gary Baclesse** need to work with the Executive Council in determining where the location for the bank for chapter finances should be located.

Bob Ball briefed the council on four requests for funds that were before the council.

- **Mel Marshall** requested \$2,500 for the Mid-America Grassland Evaluation Contest. This contest will be held in early June at Cape Girardeau. Most of the funds would be used to update the study guide.
- **Peggy Lemons** brought the council up to date regarding the 2001 Envirothon competition. Similar to last year, they are requesting that the chapter provide \$750 for shirts for team members at the state contest.
- **Bob Ball** mentioned that we need to update the chapter display. A display and visuals could cost as much as \$1,600. Bob also mentioned that we need to hire someone to make improvements to our Webster.
- **Ross Braun** indicated that additional monies are needed for scholarships, plus more money is needed for operating costs (mailing, plaques, etc.). He suggested we consider increasing the budget amount for scholarships to \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Lynn Leimkuehler made a motion to fund **Mel Marshall's** request at \$2,500 and indicated that the chapter would like recognition in the booklet. **Mike Morris** seconded the motion and it was so approved.

Curtis Gooch made a motion to provide \$750 to the Envirothon for shirts. **Bob Hagedorn** seconded the motion and it was so approved.

Allan Johnston led a discussion regarding getting a member to serve on the MNRC Steering Committee and addressed the activities and responsibilities of this appointment. Fisheries will chair the next MNRC in 2002 and this responsibility will return

to our chapter in 2005.

Bob Ball and **Ross Braun** led a discussion on the chapter's recommendation to the quad-society regarding what should be done with the profits from the conference. It was our recommendation to take the profits and divide them among the four societies and, in the future, put the profit back into the conference and/or look at ways to reduce the profit. Other societies were uncomfortable returning the funds to the societies.

Dan Downing and **Ken Bruene** represent our chapter on the West North Central Regional Conference. There was discussion on who the conference and activities be directed to serve. Should it be agencies, members, public and landowners?

Larry Fischer passed out the treasurer's report. Since December 6, the report shows total expenses of \$1,220.51 and total income of \$12,359.76. The significant increase in income is a result of having deposited \$11,730.47 that represents the chapter's share from the SWCS St. Louis conference. Total assets including the checking account, savings account and four savings certificate amount to \$21,304.91. **Dan Yager** made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented. The motion was seconded by **Dave Johnson** and so approved by the council.

Curtis Gooch passed out a membership report and a list of new members. **Bob Ball** noted that while the SWCS membership has declined, the chapter's membership has continued to increase. The society is looking for ideas as to how membership might be increased at the national level.

Gary Van De Velde discussed updating the chapter's by-laws. Items that need to be looked at include identifying when the chapter's fiscal year begins and memorials. We need to look at what policy the chapter has had in the past as to whom memorials were given to.

Curtis Gooch indicated that he had been approached by the Kansas SWCS chapter to share a booth at an upcoming event in St. Joseph. There is a \$30 electrical charge (no booth charge). **Pat Hubbard** and **Ken Bruene** have offered to help man the booth. **Mike Morris** made a motion to assist financially by splitting the cost with the Kansas chapter. **Dave Johnson** seconded the motion and it was so approved by the council.

Bob Ball initiated a discussion regarding the need for an urban committee. It was agreed that sometime during the next year such a committee might be needed. Another alternative to consider would be looking at designating one person to serve where urban issues are occurring.

Bob Ball asked for possible topics of discussion during the quad-Society meeting. One item mentioned was the possibility of the quad-society offering scholarships. Bob also mentioned the WNC leadership workshop being held on Tuesday, March 6 in Peoria. Bob also referenced the Missouri Conservation Federation recently having successfully defended the 1/8% sales tax in front of the Missouri Supreme Court.

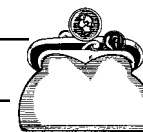
Renee Cook made a request to issue a refund to an individual for the Fall Forum. **Dan Yager** made a motion to approve Renee's request, seconded by **Dave Johnson**, and so approved.

Gary Baclesse announced that the next Executive Council meeting would be held on March 22. [This date has since been changed to March 30.]

At 4:45 p.m. **Bob Hagedorn** made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by **Gary Baclesse** and so approved.

Notes from the Treasurer

by Larry E. Fischer, Treasurer



Financial Report

Executive Council Meeting – January 31, 2001

Annual Chapter Business Meeting – February 1, 2001

Expenses Since December 6, 2000

SWCS Ankeny – 6 New Memberships	\$390.00
Renee Cook – Fall Forum Food & Supplies	33.51
American Cancer Society – Iger Memorial	25.00
Rich Gnecco – Fall Forum Refund	7.00
Conservation Federation Affiliation Fees-2001	265.00
MU Central Mo Student Chapt – Oper Expense	<u>500.00</u>
	\$1,220.51

Income Since December 6, 2000

Deposit – SWCS St. Louis Mtg. Refund	\$11,730.47
Interest – January 2001	12.29
Deposit – Fall Forum	77.00
Deposit – 6 SWCS Mbrshps. & 1 Fall Forum Reg.	397.00
Deposit – Fall Forum	<u>143.00</u>
	\$12,359.76

Checking Account Balance – (January 31, 2001)	\$699.82
Savings Account Balance – (January 31, 2001)	\$14,306.11

Savings Certificate (54995)*	\$1,083.12
Maturity Date – April 7, 2001	
Savings Certificate(55073)*	1,632.17
Maturity Date –June 2, 2001	
Savings Certificate (55131)*	1,583.39
Maturity Date –Feb 10, 2001	
Savings Certificate (55781)	2,000.00
Maturity Date –May 11,2001	

*3 Savings CDs – Interest Received 1999 & 2000 \$298.68

TOTAL CHAPTER ASSETS – FEBRUARY 1, 2001
\$21,304.91

MNRC Raffle Results

by **Raleigh Redman**, Fund Raising Chair

This year's raffle held during the MNRC was a huge success with a record setting \$1400.00 raised from both the raffle and the silent auction. The proceeds fund our college scholarship program and this should provide an opportunity to increase the amount of those scholarships.

I would like to again thank all those who sold and purchased tickets for the raffle and those who participated in the silent auction. I would also like to thank **DeDe Vest**, **Renee Cook** and **Doug Wallace** for their assistance in securing items for the raffle and auction. My goal this year was to top the thousand dollar mark and we more than did that. I guess we need to try topping the two thousand mark for next year.



2000 Budget

Amount Budgeted Vs Actual Income & Expenses

Income

	Budget	Actual
Chapter Dues	\$1100.00	\$640.00
	479.00	
Corporate Membership	100.00	0.00
MNRC Raffle 2000	877.00	877.00
Donations/Fundraisers	—	
2000 Fall Forum	500.00	353.00
Interest	350.00	497.05
Savings Account (\$136.91)		
Certificate of Dep (\$233.32)		
Annual Meeting Special Acct (126.82)		
Natural Res Careers Camp		
West North Cntrl Wtrshd Conf	200.00	3,003.57
SWCS Cartoon Booklets Comm	—	
Area Meetings	—	
SWCS Water Qual Shortcourse	<u>150.00</u>	<u>1,170.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$3277.00
Transfer from Savings Account	<u>1323.00</u>	
	TOTAL	\$4600.00

Expenses

	Budget	Actual
Newsletter	\$950.00	\$1,039.46
Cons Fed Dues	250.00	243.00
Cons Fed Delegate Exp	100.00	109.00
Annual Meeting Delegate	—	0.00
Chapt Dev/Reg Wkshp Delegate	200.00	126.30
2000 Scholarship Program	850.00	
Scholarships		800.00
Student Memberships		50.00
Scholarship Brochure		80.00
Plaques		143.80
MNRC Raffle	50.00	0.00
Chapter Awards	400.00	368.25
Misc Expense (Stamps, etc.)	100.00	29.29
2000 Fall Forum	50.00	57.41
Natural Res Careers Camp	500.00	500.00
SWCS Millenium Campaign	0.00	0.00
Memorials	100.00	50.00
NE Mo Regional Wtrshd Conf	200.00	200.00
2000 Envirothon T-Shirt	750.00	750.00
Water Quality Short Course	0.00	\$1,128.26
Other	100.00	
West North Cntrl Wtrshd Conf	0.00	200.00
Central Missouri Student Chapter	<u>0.00</u>	<u>68.00</u>
	Total	\$4,600.00
		\$5,942.77
		\$1,076.85



Highlights



Contributed by **Bob Ball**, Show Me Chapter Past President, SWCS

The following are completed and *projected* Chapter activities and highlights included in the Missouri Show-Me Chapter, Soil and Water Conservation Society Year 2000 Annual Report:

✓ Executive Council meetings were held in February, April, June, December, and during the Missouri Natural Resources Conference February 1, 2001.

✓ The Executive Council developed a Chapter 2000 Action Plan of Work and Operating Budget as well as updated the Long-Range Plan for years 2000 – 2005.

✓ Served as a co-sponsor and provided administrative support for the Agricultural Nonpoint Source Water Quality Short Course where 40 resource professionals in the state received formal classroom and field training from a cadre of University of Missouri-Columbia faculty and other resource professionals during three days in April.

✓ Co-hosted the SWCS annual meeting and conference in St. Louis with the Illinois Chapter. Over 1100 people attended. Chapter member, **Ross Braun**, served as co-chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. For this important role, Ross was presented the “President’s Citation” by SWCS Executive Vice President, **Craig Cox**. Past President, **Gary Van De Velde**, chaired the Finance Committee and **Terry Cosby** chaired the Hospitality Committee. Over 80 Missouri Show-Me Chapter members served in critical leadership positions or otherwise volunteered their time to make this conference a success. During the conference, the Chapter received the “Outstanding Chapter” award in the West North Central Region “in recognition of accomplishments in overall programming to carry out the goals and objectives of the Soil & Water Conservation Society”.

✓ The Chapter supported the legislative efforts of the Missouri Association of Professional Soil Scientists (MAPPS) to have Menfro Silt Loam recognized in the state legislature as Missouri’s official state soil. Representative David Klindt, sponsor of HB1825, received the “Legislative Award” for his efforts.

✓ Held our annual Fall Forum titled “Land Use Planning... The Public and Private Viewpoints” at the University Outreach and Extension Center, St. Peters, Missouri on Wednesday, December 6, 2000. Over 60 people attended.

✓ Hosted the Missouri Natural Resources Conference at Tan-Tar-A Marriott Resort at Lake Ozark, Missouri. Over 900 resource professionals attended this conference. The program theme was “Private Land - The Foundation for Conservation”. **Craig Cox**, SWCS Executive Director, served as a keynote speaker along with Dr. Paul Johnson of Iowa, retired Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and former Chief of the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. During this conference the Chapter sponsored a technical workshop that attracted 150 people titled “Not all watersheds are created equal: Using soil surveys for watershed assessment and management”.

✓ Chapter President, **Bob Ball**, chaired the MNRC Quad Societies Leadership Council comprised of the top leadership from four professional natural resource societies in the state: Missouri Wildlife Society, Missouri Society of American Fisheries, Missouri Society of American Foresters and the Missouri Show-Me Chapter, SWCS.

✓ The Chapter awarded one \$500 and one \$300 scholarship during our Chapter business meeting February 1st. The scholarship committee designed a new brochure, announcement and

news release for this year’s Betty Broemmelsiek Memorial Conservation Scholarships. The Chapter website now includes a scholarship feature.

✓ A meeting was held at the University of Missouri-Columbia with several graduate and undergraduate students interested in careers in conservation and natural resources management. This meeting resulted in a revitalization of the Central Missouri Student Chapter. **Kim Turner** serves as the President of this student chapter. Discussions are underway at Northeast Missouri State University and NW Missouri State University to possibly begin student chapters there as well.

✓ The Chapter co-sponsored “Watersheds: Issues and Answers” hosted by the North Fork Watershed Project held in Paris, Missouri attended by 85 people interested in watershed management needs and activities in Northeast Missouri. Nearly half of the audience attended for professional updates and training while a similar number wanted more information on water quality in the region.

✓ Three Chapter members (**Bob Ball**, **Ken Bruene**, and **Joe Dillard**) served on the West North Central Region’s program planning committee for the conference titled “The Watershed Approach to Improving Water Quality: Fact or Fantasy?” held in La Crosse, Wisconsin March 28-30, 2000. Several people from Missouri attended the conference. Chapter members **Dr. Tabitha Madzura**, **Donna Menown**, **Dr. Bill Kurtz**, **Todd Farrand**, **Lynn Heidenreich** and **Bob Ball** gave presentations during concurrent sessions.

✓ The Chapter applied for a \$29,490 grant from Philip Morris, Inc. to develop, publish and distribute (in hardcopy and electronic format) the “Missouri Conservation Assistance Guide”. Although this specific grant was not approved, the project was funded from other sources. The Guide was formally announced during the Missouri Natural Resources Conference. It will be available in both hardcopy and on the Missouri Watershed Information Network (MoWIN) Internet website in early March.

✓ The Missouri Watershed Information Network (MoWIN) recognized the Chapter with a signed “Declaration of Intent” outlining our support and commitment to the project as a three-year MoWIN partner.

✓ The Chapter’s website was upgraded to better serve our membership. Additional upgrades are planned.

✓ The Chapter served as a co-sponsor for the “20th Annual Central States Forest-Soils Workshop” held in Hannibal, Missouri in October attended by 125 resource professionals from eight states.

✓ The Chapter helped publicize and promote two field days titled “Vegetative Barriers for Soil and Water Conservation and More” conducted by member **Pieter Los**, research specialist for Soil and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Missouri-Columbia.

✓ The Chapter sponsored a “Soils and Urban Conservation” tour in the St. Louis metropolitan area July 11th attended by 33 people. The Chapter applied for and received a Section 319 mini-grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$1601 to help fund this project. The grant required a 40% local match (\$1,068) that was provided from a variety of sources.

(Continued to Page 6)

Timelines & Deadlines



Member News

by **Curtis Gooch**, *Membership Chair*

The Show-Me Chapter of SWCS is currently updating our chapter membership records and needs your assistance. We are wanting to update our records so we can easily reach our membership for future events and other activities in a timely fashion.

To do this we want to update our records to include the following information:

- **e-mail address**
- **Employer Name**
- **Phone Number**

Please provide this information to **Curtis Gooch**, Membership Chair by e-mail at curtis.gooch@mo.usda.gov or phone at (417) 646-8108, ext. 3 or write to Curtis Gooch 326 N. Sunset Ave., Bolivar, MO 65613. **Please provide this information to Curtis by April 12th.**

If you recently received an email test from Bob Ball, SWCS

Scholarship for Water Resources Students

by **Ross Braun**, *Show Me Chapter*

The **American Water Resources Association** (AWRA) announced two \$1,000 scholarships for the 2001-2002 academic year. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time undergraduate student enrolled in a program related to water resources. The second \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a full-time graduate student. In addition to the scholarships, each

Chapter Highlights *cont'd from Page 5*

✓ The Chapter Treasurer received an independent audit on two separate occasions on his financial records. No deficiencies were noted, and all recommendations have been adopted.

✓ The Chapter donated 278 canvas bags remaining from the Society annual conference to the Special School District. The Special School District is for students with mental and/or physical disabilities. The bags will be distributed to students in need of bags for school supplies. **Renee Cook**, Vice President, delivered them on Wednesday, August 30th to Barb Eckholdt, Public Relations Director for the school.

✓ The Chapter is a partner in the Missouri Watershed Information Network (MoWIN). Chapter President, **Bob Ball**, represented the membership (and all non-profit organizations) on their Advisory Council.

✓ A \$750 donation from the Chapter to the Missouri State Envirothon Competition provided T-Shirts for participating high school students. Lori Lewis, coach of the five member David Hickman High School Envirothon Team, received the "Educator of the Year" award for her efforts in advising her team. They have won the state competition the past two years and competed strongly at the Canon Envirothon 2000 in Nova Scotia, Canada.

✓ The Chapter provided financial support and in-kind assistance to the Natural Resources Career Camp held annually over two weeks for high school students interested in pursuing careers in natural resources management.

✓ Several Chapter awards were presented to deserving recipients during the Missouri Natural Resources Conference: Professional Conservationist of the Year, Legislative Award, Media Award, Educator of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year. In addi-

Past President, no reply is needed concerning your e-mail address, but any other changes of address, phone numbers and other information is requested.

2001 SWCS Annual Conference

by **Andrea King**, *Newsletter Editor*

The Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference will be held August 4-8, 2001 in Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The conference will focus on how the natural resources conservation is linked from local to global concerns. According to SWCS internet site <http://www.swcs.org> about the conference, the major topics discussed will include issues such as climate change, coastal zones, and water supply concerning with conservation. Visit the web site and there are some good links to the Kingston Plantation where the conference will be held. You can also visit the site to get more conference information.

winner will receive a complimentary membership in AWRA for 2002. **The deadline for entries is April 27, 2001.** Additional information is available from AWRA at phone number 540-687-8390, email: info@awra.org, or on the web at <http://www.awra.org/student/herbert.html>.

tion, Leslie Holloway representing Missouri Farm Bureau was recognized for her efforts in supporting our Fall Forums in 1999 and 2000. President, Bob Ball, recognized four chapter members with "Chapter President's Award" plaques for tremendous support to the Executive Council and Chapter during the year.

✓ The Chapter helped sponsor a "Site Inspectors Workshop" in the St. Charles County Soil and Water Conservation District.

✓ "Changes Facing Agriculture" is the initial theme for a West North Central region conference to be held during 2002. Chapter members **Dan Downing** and **Ken Bruene** serve on a planning committee for this proposed conference.

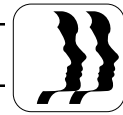
✓ The National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) recognized northeast Area Director, **Bob Broz**, as "National Agricultural Ambassador of the Year" during their annual meeting in August.

✓ Chapter Past President, **Gary Van De Velde**, serves on the Conservation Federation of Missouri Board of Directors as the Chapter's Liaison to the Federation. This past year he also held the office of 1st Vice President, was Chair of the Awards Committee, Chair of the Personnel Committee, Vice Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, and served on the Resolutions Committee.

✓ A Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) workshop is scheduled for March 20, 2001 in Springfield, Missouri. Several chapter members are helping plan the workshop. Seven individuals within the state now hold the CPESC certification.

WNC-SWCS Leadership Workshop

by *Allan Johnston & Bob Ball, Show Me Chapter*



The West North Central Region-Soil and Water Conservation Society (WNC-SWCS) Leadership Workshop was held March 6th at the Wildlife Prairie Park Lodge in Peoria, Illinois. Chapter leaders from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri participated this year. Missouri Show-Me Chapter members who attended included: **Diane Bradley, Allan Johnston, Ross Braun and Bob Ball.**

The purpose of this conference was to update members on Society activities, to help chapter leaders better assist the chapter and their members, and to share ideas and suggestions from the individual chapters with the SWCS board members and staff.

The meeting allowed chapter representatives from each state in the region to explain their individual and chapter ideas to **Craig Cox**, Executive Vice President, SWCS, and **Dennis Pate**, WNC Director on SWCS Board of Directors. The meeting was a great success in that it resulted in an excellent exchange between the Craig, Dennis and individual chapter members.

This was handled in an open forum type of discussion that allowed the group as a whole to discuss success stories of individual chapters, express concerns and look at national trends that are of concern to SWCS. The primary discussion topics were:

- Each chapter made a presentation of last years activities and highlights. This allowed the group to exchange information on individual chapter successes and generate new ideas. A large percent of this time focused on the Missouri Show-Me Chapter, because of the large number of projects we have been involved in this past year.

- **Bill Gradle**, State Conservationist, NRCS, Illinois made a presentation to the group on Tips for working with NRCS. Bill said that in order to be successful in getting NRCS advocacy within individual states that SWCS leaders must do the following: 1) first they must communicate well what it is that they are wanting NRCS support with. 2) they must be able to sell themselves and their idea. 3) they must contact the State Conservationist as early as possible with their agenda. 4) they must schedule and follow up with the State Conservationist or other contact as appropriate. 5) when scheduling they must be aware of when other important events will be scheduled. 6) they must be aware of how operations are done, (procedures or protocol with in each individual state).

- **Craig Cox** spoke to the group on society finances, conferences, publications and chapters and maintaining our 501(c)(3) status with IRS. Craig said that the Society is always looking for other ways to generate income other than our dues. He described the Society as having a “split personality” with a strong income, but a declining membership. Although there are approximately 7000 members, the largest portion of funding for the society (\$600,000) is generated in the form of contracts, grants, and reimburseable agreements. Relying on these outside funds places the Society in a volatile position where our mission could be sacrificed in search of operating capital if this trend continues. Both of the publications that the society publishes: The “Journal of Soil and Water Conservation: and “Conservation Voices” are entirely financed through donations and advertisements. Did you know our membership dues do not pay for either publication? He also mentioned that there is a renewed interest by members on professional development, and requests to submit papers at the annual conference have been overwhelming. In closing Craig encour-

aged members to visit the Society website: <http://www.swcs.org>, then click on the “Seeking Common Ground for Conservation” logo to learn about the two-year policy education project to help key stakeholders and policymakers shape the conservation provisions of the 2002 farm bill.

- **Ross Braun** gave an update on the activities of the Professional Development and Scholarship Committee. Ross discussed some of the functions of the PDSC, in development awards (Annual Professional Development Chapter Award), and discussed the committees process for collecting feedback on issues related to professional development from the annual meeting. The PDSC developed a professional development needs survey and printed result’s from last years meeting.

- **Julie MacSwain**, Wisconsin Chapter, led the group in a discussion about Chapter Development and the Membership Committee. Julie offered several suggestions on how each chapter could increase membership by focusing on chapter success stories. Since the Missouri Show-Me chapter had a 24% increase in membership last year, the group was very interested in how this was accomplished.

- **Craig Cox and Dennis Pate** led the group in a discussion concerning membership trends. They stated that nation wide membership has been declining at a rate greater than we are gaining new members. The group generated ideas on how to reverse this trend. It was suggested that other ways to increase and retain membership was to promote advocacy, increase chapter visibility and get student chapters more involved. The WNC region set a goal to get a 30 member net gain in membership this next year (this means 30 members above the number of members that we have the potential of loosing during the year). The Missouri Show-Me Chapter’s part of this will be to have a net gain of 6 members. I think this is very doable. As a little incentive, Dennis Pate offered \$250 from the WNC-SWCS regional funds to each chapter with a net gain of 6 members!

- Dennis provided an overview of the planning for the upcoming WNC-SWCS Natural Resources Conference. The theme will likely focus on the implications of “The Changing Face of Agriculture” in an effort to address the question “Just what is a typical farmer today?” Possible conference topics and issues include:

- increasing numbers of large, non-family operations
- agricultural producers with other supplemental jobs
- increasing focus on producing more specialty crops or organically produced commodities
- specialized farms and larger farming operations
- increase in urban customers
- changes in how and when we provide assistance to customers

It was also suggested the conference could incorporate the 2002 Farm Bill discussions. The conference will be held in the fall of 2002 somewhere in the quad cities region. Chapters are now seeking volunteers to serve on a program committee.

We feel the meeting was a great success because of the amount of interaction generated between chapters as well as regional and national leaders. The discussion and dialog that came out of the workshop will continue to strengthen the WNC Region and set the stage for the **2002 WNC Region Natural Resources Conference.**

Missouri Natural Resources Conference 2001

by *Allan R. Johnston, Conference Chairman*

This year's Missouri Natural Resources Conference was a huge success, so much so that we now have other chapters in the region trying to pattern off how we do things at our conference.

As you already know, The Show-me Chapter had the opportunity to host the conference. The conference was held on Wednesday, January 31, through Friday, February 2, 2001, at Tan Tar A resort, Osage Beach, Missouri.

There were approximately 1200 Registrants, more than 160 of which were students, who participated in the Student Job Fair. There is talk that the Student Job Fair will have to be held in a larger room for next year's conference because of the increased number of students that participated. I was told that this conference had one of the largest numbers's of participants ever.

The theme for this year's conference was, "PRIVATE LAND-The Foundation for Conservation". I have had so many excellent comments about the conference that I cannot mention them all.

Everything went very smooth with very little mention of concerns. The reason for this success can only attributed to the many conference committee chairs as well as the individual volunteers that served during the conference.

DeDe Vest has volunteered to serve as the next MNRC Steering Committee Chair for the conference. The Show-Me chapter is scheduled to host the conference again in 2005. Good Luck DeDe, I know that you will do an excellent job.

I want to thank the Show-Me Chapter for allowing me the opportunity of serving as Conference Chairman. This has been a great experience for me. I have enjoyed getting to know individual members within the Show-Me Chapter better and making new friends associated with the conference.

Calendar of Events

🏠 **American Water Resources Association (AWRA)**
Scholarship deadline for entries is April 27, 2001.

🏠 **State Environthon Competition**, May 3, 2001, Runge Nature Center, Jefferson City, MO

🏠 **Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference**, August 5-8, 2001, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

President's Message

Continued from Page 1

that the issue can be discussed at an executive council meeting or brought before the members at the business meeting.

It is my hope that the chapter will continue to grow in members, that the educational opportunities continue to be sponsored and supported, and that every member feels a part of the chapter.

So, how will this years chapter activities impact the members and the society? Can the chapter count on the members to contribute by finding and signing up new members? Can the members contribute ideas to the area directors and councilpersons that will help to get topics of interest to the different areas of the state? Will the chapter manage the funds in a manner that gets the most out of those funds? These are only a few of the questions that come to mind as we start this New Year.

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