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President's Message



by **Bob Miller**, Show Me Chapter, SWCS

Thanks to you, active Chapter members, for raising the awareness of conservation efforts, needs, and interest in Missouri. A prime example of what the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society does occurred when Missouri conservation funding was considered for diversion to other state programs. Your efforts raised the awareness and importance of dedicated tax dollars for conservation efforts.

I picked up the following information on a recent trip to Washington D. C. Although it is geared toward legislative change, I feel it is very pertinent for building chapter membership, stimulating membership involvement, educating leaders, and promoting conservation.

Five 'P's of Legislative Change

Proactive: To effect legislative change one must be PROACTIVE. Progress can not be made by taking the easy way out, but by getting involved and working hard toward accomplishments. One must thank and support those working with you, but must also reach out to those not already on board with your mission. We must not try to regulate controls that should have been resolved by our personal actions. An example is legislative term limits. The old adage "be careful what you wish for" emphasizes regulating controls bring additional restrictions and implications not always in our best interest.

Prepare: To insure the best outcome, one must PREPARE. There is no substitute for doing your homework, knowing the implications of changes recommended, what you want to accomplish and having a vision for what the outcome should look like. Study your recommendation, making sure your decision is a wise one and not just following the lemmings. The final decision may not be best for everyone, but the best for Missouri. Sometimes you have to cull a cow for the benefit of the herd.

Personal: Develop a PERSONAL relationship with those you are trying to persuade. Understand their perspective so you satisfy their expectations or at least hit their "hot button" so they can identify with the goal and support your cause. Building this relationship requires developing trust. Representative Ike Skelton and Gordon Heddel, Department of Labor, both mentioned trust as the most important ingredient in building leaders.

Positive: Be POSITIVE when trying to persuade someone to your point of view, not condemning or insulting. Excite them into action, not incite them into confrontation. Focus on the 80% good they are doing not on the 20% that is not working and educate them to your point of view. Remember, this is your government, your agency, your program and your responsibility to make it work. As with children or dogs, you don't get rid of them when they don't do what you want, but work with them to get the desired result or behavior.

Partner: Don't continue "preaching to the choir", but PARTNER with other groups for a synergized approach. Work with non traditional groups and stay the course. Don't quit if things are not working out the way you planned. Keep moving things in the right direction.

Most organization members are followers; few are leaders. But they have a passion for what they are doing. Help them develop their own understanding for the greater cause and lead them to new objectives.

The best way to answer the question, "What does the SWCS do for me?" is through actions. Because of your past efforts, Missouri is a conservation state. Protect your interest by providing an avenue to disperse information and gain synergy from membership and partnering efforts. This awareness and education should be an ongoing process to have the greatest impact.

2003 Soil and Water Conservation Society International Conference



Spokane, WA – July 24-30, 2003

By **Betty Schmitt**, *Publicity and Media Chair for Conference*

The Inland Empire Chapter is excited to be hosting the annual Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) conference this summer. Spokane, nestled in the midst of a natural wonderland of forests, lakes and mountains, is the perfect location for a conference on conservation. The heart of Spokane is the Spokane River, where spectacular falls and scenic beauty sit next door to the convention center - the site for our 2003 conference.

“The Columbia: Conserving a Legacy of Life” is the conference theme. The focus is on four key topics of concern for professionals working to conserve natural resources locally and globally:

- Integrated watershed and basin management,
- Water supplies for ecology and economy,
- Grassland health for sustainable production and biological diversity, and
- Air quality for public health and economic vitality.

The conference provides many training opportunities and continuing education credits from professional organizations. Several workshops are being offered. Conservation tours will focus on resource issues in the Columbia Basin. There will be many posters on various conservation topics related to air, water and watershed issues. A key benefit of the conference is the networking opportunities with specialists from across the country.

For more information on the conference and to register go to the SWCS National web site at www.swcs.org.

Show-Me Chapter Leaders Attend West North Central Region Workshop

The West North Central Region held its annual Chapter Leadership Conference on March 11th & 12th with Dave Owen, Diane Bradley, Colleen Meredith, and Craig King representing the Show-Me Chapter. The workshop was held in Ankeny, Iowa at the Soil and Water Conservation Society Office Complex in which topics ranging from Farm Bill 2002 to membership were discussed.

A report was given of the latest happenings and responsibilities associated with the SWCS staff. They explained the services they provide the chapters and described how chapter leaders can help them fulfill responsibilities. A report was distributed of SWCS's comments to NRCS on EQIP and the Technical Service Provider final rules. Craig Cox also spoke on TSP at the Agricultural Outlook Forum in February. There was a training session on the Conservation Security Program including the intent of the legislation and the role that SWCS has in the legislative process.

It was noted that Missouri and the University of Missouri Chapters (which was 7 out of 10 in WNC) had a net membership gain over the last 11 months. Chapters exchanged annual reports and newsletters during the workshop to generate ideas.

During the workshop meeting, it was decided to dedicate \$2000 of the WNC treasury to student activities for April 2003 through April 2004 with a maximum of \$300 per student. Ross Braun and Colleen Meredith agreed to help develop the student financial assistance form. Ross is to help distribute the applications and evaluate the requests. Approvals are based on WNC priorities that include SWCS related/sponsored activities and professional development oriented activities.

The next WNC Conference was discussed concerning dates, locations, co-sponsors, theme and potential audiences. A committee was developed to pursue the proposal details of the conference with Craig King serving on that committee representing Missouri. Clark Gantzer has been added to serve as the other committee person serving Missouri. If anyone has any ideas, please contact one of these representatives or Ross Braun at the NRCS State Office. The committee will be having another teleconference on Monday, June 30, 2003.

Craig Cox was unable to attend the WNC Leadership Conference this year as he had previously planned. Craig was on a trip to Cuba with the “Food First”, which is a study on how food is produced. Jerry Neppel quoted Craig as saying, “There is a lot of technology being done there, but it was hard to find toilet paper.”

If you ever have a chance to attend the WNC Leadership Conference, please do so. It is very informative, from SWCS activities to legislative matters pertaining to agriculture in Washington.

New Members: Member News



By **Jennifer Petty**, *Membership Chair*

Greetings! I would like to take the time to introduce myself. My name is Jennifer Petty and I am the new membership chair of the Missouri Show-Me Chapter of the SWCS. I would also like to take the time to thank Curtis Gooch for all the help he has given me as I have tried to “fill his shoes.” Well, as I give you my first report as membership chair, I am sad to say it is not very good. I have no new members, and unfortunately, since the

beginning of the year there have been 14 members who have not renewed their membership. On the plus side, nine members who had previously been reported as terminated have renewed their memberships. Please encourage any non-member to join and make sure that if you are a current member, don't let that membership lapse.

I hope to have a more positive report for the next newsletter!

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Submitted by **Ron Redden**, 2002 Missouri Show-Me Chapter Secretary



January 29, 2003

Osage Beach, Missouri

Present: Bob Ball, Diane Bradley, Ross Braun, Renee Cook, Joe Dillard, Ed Gillmore, Curtis Gooch, Steve Herndon, Rose Marie Hopkins, Peggy Lemons, Bev Maltsberger, Colleen Meredith, Bob Miller, Mike Morris, Marcy Oerly, Dave Owen, Paula Price, Ron Redden, Judy Stinson, Tammy Teeter, and Gary Van De Velde.

- **Diane Bradley**, Chapter President, called the meeting to order at 1:12 PM and welcomed all in attendance.
- **Ron Redden** presented the minutes from the October 24, 2002 Executive Council Meeting. **Paula Price** made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded by **Joe Dillard** and so approved.
- **Diane Bradley** brought it to the attention of the council that at the October 24 meeting, the council improperly reconsidered approving Professional Development funds for **David Speidel**. To have properly brought this item back to the table (since it was disapproved at the August Council Meeting), a member who voted against the matter in August would have had to made the motion to bring the issue back to the council for reconsideration. To correct this matter, **Ron Redden** who voted "no" in August, made a motion to reconsider the request for funds that was disapproved in August. **Paula Price**, who also voted "no" in August, seconded the motion and it was so approved. Paula then made a motion to reaffirm the council's October decision to approve funds for David. **Bev Maltsberger** seconded the motion and it was so approved.
- **Joe Dillard** presented the Treasury Report. Total Assets for the Period was \$18,038.91. Joe reported Ending Total Assets for the Period of \$16,800.04 for a net change of \$-1,238.87. **Bev Maltsberger** made a motion to accept the report as presented. The motion was seconded by **Paula Price** and so approved.
- **Diane Bradley** passed out a copy of the 2003 Proposed Budget. The 2003 Executive Council will meet immediately following the Executive Council Meeting and work on the 2003 budget. The 2003 council will then meet briefly after the General Business Meeting on January 30 to pass the budget. Diane then went over recently received chapter correspondence and noted the 2002 Chapter Activities and Highlights.
- **Ross Braun** commended the chapter members for their involvement and the diversity that makes up the chapter membership. Ross mentioned that the WNC Leadership Development Workshop is scheduled for March 11-12, 2003 in Ankeny. Ross mentioned that he is looking for two members to work in the planning committee for the next WNC Conference that will be held in 2004 or 2005. He asked that anyone interested in serving to please contact either him or **Bob Miller**. Ross asked for any information that he would need to discuss at the April SWCS Board Meeting and reminded members of the upcoming SWCS National Conference to be held July 26-30 in Spokane. Ross also indicated that the society is considering selling part of the property where our national office is located. This area is being rapidly surrounded by urbanization and the chapter may have an opportunity to secure part of the property as an outdoor nature/study area.

- **Peggy Lemons**, in **Craig King's** absence, provided an update on the 2003 Missouri State Environthon and indicated that work continues on the 2005 National Environthon which is being held in Missouri.
- **Gary Van De Velde** provided an update on the Missouri Conservation Federation activities. Gary noted that the MCF is currently watching the legislative session in regards to issues that affect Missouri's natural resources.
- **Curtis Gooch** provided a Membership Report and stated that the chapter had 34 new members and lost 38 members giving a total chapter membership of 230. It was noted that problems are occurring in getting Ankeny to recognize student members who are not associated with a student chapter. **Ross Braun** will contact Donna at Ankeny. It was announced that **Jennifer Petty** will take over responsibilities as chair of the Membership Committee for 2003.
- **Bev Maltsberger** updated the council of the chapter's scholarships. This year's \$1,000 winner was **Sara Muri** from Jamestown. The chapter's \$500 scholarship was won by **Jamie Bequette**. Jamie lives in Ste. Genevieve.
- **Diane Bradley** thanked **Tammy Teeter** for her work on the Nominations and Elections Committee. Diane brought it to the attention of the council that Renee Cook's address is incorrectly listed as being in the southeast region. Renee was elected as Councilperson representing the southeast region for 2003. Renee both lives and works in the northeast region. **Bob Miller** made a motion to have Renee remain in office representing the southeast region. The motion was seconded by **Bev Maltsberger** and so approved.
- **Bob Miller** updated the council on the MNRC. He stated that registration was approaching 900 and the conference was shaping up well. Bob asked for feedback on the new format for presentations. The Quad-Society will meet at noon on Friday regarding planning issues next year's conference and the post-conference meeting will be from 1-2 p.m. on Friday.
- **Mike Morris** reported that thus far only \$200 in raffle tickets had been sold or turned in. He encouraged everyone to buy tickets.
- **Diane Bradley** announced that Chapter Achievement Awards will be presented tomorrow to **Raleigh Redman**, **Gary Baclesse**, and **Kathy Anderson** as well as several President's Awards. Diane also indicated that the chapter's *Conservationist of the Year* will be presented to **Bob Broz** and the *Educator of the Year* award will be given to **Peggy Lemons** and **Judy Stinson**. Both of these awards will be presented at Thursday night's conference banquet.
- **Bob Ball** asked members to look at the chapter's Website and to give him suggestions for making it better.
- **Diane Bradley** discussed our application for Personal Development. For the benefit of new council members, Diane briefly went over background information as to how this was developed at the recommendation of a committee to study the chapter's long-range financial planning. This committee recommended the chapter spend more of our funds on our own

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Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Submitted by **Ron Redden**, 2002 Missouri Show-Me Chapter Secretary



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membership and providing assistance for personal development was one way recommended. Several applications for assistance were presented. **Mike Morris** made a motion to deny the applications because they did not meet requirements for personal development and because there were no available funds. **Bev Maltsberger** seconded the motion. Mike and Bev withdrew the motion and the second. Mike made a new motion to deny the applications because there were no funds remaining in the 2002 budget. Bev seconded the motion and it was so approved. Diane named Paula Price and Bev to co-chair a committee to bring back to the council recommendations for requirements and/or limits for applications. Members are asked to send Paula and Bev comments and recommendations.

- **Peggy Lemons** thanked the chapter for our \$300 contribution to last year's State Environment and asked for \$300 for this year. Peggy indicated that she planned to contact the other three organizations making up the Quad-Society and request \$300 from each of them. Peggy also offered our chapter three years to contribute to the 2005 National Environment or sponsor special events by ourselves. This item was to be taken up in the 2003 budget meeting.
- **Bev Maltsberger** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Dillard seconded the motion and it was so approved. **Diane Bradley** adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

January 30, 2003

Osage Beach, Missouri

- **Diane Bradley**, Chapter President, brought the meeting to order at 3:12 PM and welcomed everyone to the 2002 MNRC Conference and to the chapter's Annual Business meeting. Diane introduced the chapter's 2002 officers and executive council members. Those in attendance then introduced themselves.
- **Ron Redden** presented the minutes from the 2002 General Business Meeting. Darlene Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by **Paula Price** and so approved.
- **Joe Dillard** presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of October 18, 2002 through January 30, 2003. Total Assets for the Reporting Period was \$18,038.91. Joe reported that the Ending Total Assets for this period was \$16,800.04 for a net change of \$-1,238.87. **Bev Maltsberger** made a motion to accept the report as given. The motion was seconded by **Tammy Teeter** and so approved.
- **Bev Maltsberger** announced the two winners of the chapter's 2003 scholarships. The \$1,000 scholarship was won **Sara Muri** of Jamestown. The \$500 scholarship was won by **Jamie Bequette** of Ste. Genevieve.
- **Diane Bradley** presented Chapter Achievement Awards to **Raleigh Redman**, **Gary Baclesse**, and **Kathy Anderson**. Diane then presented President's Awards to **Ron Redden**, **Joe Dillard**, **Curtis Gooch**, and **Mike Morris**. Diane also announced that at the conference banquet the chapter will present our *Educator of the Year* Award to **Judy Stinson** and **Peggy**

Lemons and our *Conservationist of the Year* Award to **Bob Broz**.

- **Diane Bradley** asked members to review the list of 2002 Highlights and Events. It was noted that the WNC Leadership Development Conference will be held in Ankeny on March 11-12. Two members are needed to serve on the WNC Conference Committee to plan for the next regional conference to be held in 2004 or 2005. Diane reminded everyone of the upcoming SWCS National Conference being held July 26-30, 2003 in Spokane, WA.
- **Mike Morris** announced that raffle sales were up to \$1,100. Mike said that raffle ticket sales and the silent auction would continue until later this evening and encouraged members to buy tickets to assist with the scholarships. Mike also recognized **DeDe Vest** for all of her efforts with the solicitation of silent auction items.
- **Curtis Gooch** provided an update on the chapter's membership numbers. The Membership Annual Report lists 34 new members. Chapter membership has declined from 334 to 231 this year (including the new members).
- **Tammy Teeter** was thanked for her efforts and hard work on the Nominations and Elections Committee. Tammy indicated there were a good number of ballots returned and that elections were close.
- **Joe Dillard** provided an update on the Betty Broemmelsiek Memorial Scholarship. This fund was established late in 2001 largely through the efforts of Bob Ball. By the end of 2001 there were four donations totaling \$1,800. By the end of 2002 there were three more contributions totaling \$1,100. The money is invested in the Growth and Income Fund of the Investment Company Of America through the Edward D. Jones Company. The value of the fund on December 31, 2002 was \$2,468,780.
- **Gary Van De Velde** announced that the chapter's bylaws are on the chapter's Website. The chapter's newsletters can also be viewed from there. **Andrea King** and **Kathy Anderson** were both recognized for their work on our excellent newsletter.
- **Ross Braun** reminded members that he represented the WNC region on the SWCS Board and encouraged members to keep him informed of our concerns and items that we would like to see addressed by the board. Ross again announced the upcoming WNC Leadership Workshop and briefly mentioned that, while attendance was low, the October WNC Conference held in Moline was excellent.
- **Gary Van De Velde** thanked the chapter for the support he has received in the past and indicated that this has aided him in his election as President of the Missouri Conservation Federation. Gary said that the federation will be watching this legislative session to make sure there is not an effort to use funds generated from the 1/8 of 1% Sales Tax and the 1/10 of 1% Sales Tax for other than the intended purposes.
- **Rose Marie Hopkins** thanked the chapter for the financial support and volunteers who have assisted the Missouri

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Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Submitted by *Colleen Meredith*, 2003 Missouri Show-Me Chapter Secretary



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Environthon. **Diane Bradley** indicated that the other three organizations making up the Quad-Society will be challenged to match our \$300 donation to the 2003 State Environthon.

- **Bob Ball** discussed MoWIN and what it is about. Bob mentioned that the society is well represented on the MoWIN board with **Gary Baclesse** as the chapter representative, **Tabitha Madzura** as the current Executive Director, **Joe Dillard** as the past Executive Director, **Bob Broz** in his supervisory position at MU, and Bob as the NRCS representative.
- **Diane Bradley** announced the new 2003 executive council and passed the gavel to **Dave Owen**, 2003 Chapter Vice-President. Dave accepted the gavel for **Bob Miller**, the 2003 Chapter President, who could not attend the meeting. Dave then presented Diane with a gavel in appreciation for her hard work and efforts this past year. Dave indicated that chapter membership was a priority issue and asked members to contact past members that they know who have allowed their membership to lapse. Dave asked that when contacting these individuals, ask them if they would join again and ask them why they chose not to renew their membership. Last, Dave challenged each member to get one new individual to join the society. Dave also asked for ideas for the upcoming Fall Forum and asked that ideas be of current value to our society and within the mission of our chapter.
- At 4:14 p.m. **Diane Bradley** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Joe Dillard** seconded the motion and it was so approved.
- **Dave Owen** opened the meeting of the executive council immediately following the business meeting. The budget was presented with income at \$4,100 and expenses of \$6,565, with a transfer out of savings of \$2,465 to meet commitments. There may be more income from the raffle that closes this evening after funding for scholarships is determined. **Ed Gilmore** made a motion to approve the budget. **Mary Beth Jungk** seconded the motion. The next meeting will be April 16, 2003 at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Elm St. Conference Center from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- **Rose Marie Hopkins** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Herndon seconded it.

April 16, 2003

Jefferson City, Missouri

Present: Bob Miller, Diane Bradley, Gary Baclesse, Jennifer Petty, Ed Gilmore, Dave Owen, Colleen Meredith, Marcy Oerly, Steve Herndon and Rose Marie Hopkins.

- **Bob Miller**, Chapter President, brought the meeting to order at 10:12 AM and welcomed everyone to the meeting. **Rose Marie Hopkins** requested that a special presentation be given to the council members by Jadra Parsons, Vice-President of the newly formed ninth grade FFA Chapter in Jefferson City. Jadra is going to represent her chapter in the state competition next week and wanted to practice in front of the council members, who listened to her presentation on leadership, asked questions, and provided comments on her excellent presentation. Jadra's advisor is Addie Yoder who has interned with

DNR's Soil and Water Conservation Program and with NRCS in the past. The council members received copies of her speech and guidelines for the contest.

- **Bob Miller** had council members and committee chairs introduce themselves since there are several new representatives in the group and began following the attached agenda.
- **Colleen Meredith** presented minutes from the January 29, 2003 Executive Council Meeting and the January 30, 2003 General Business Meeting and Executive Council Meeting. **Ed Gilmore** made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by **Dave Owen** and so approved. Ed asked about the minutes of the January 2003 budget meeting. These were e-mailed by **Diane Bradley** on February 24, 2003. Minutes of all meetings are attached.
- **Rose Marie Hopkins** presented the financial report for the period of January 29, 2003 through April 16, 2003. The beginning balance for all accounts was \$16,800.04. The ending balance for this period was \$16,545.78 for a net change of \$-254.26. This ending balance does not reflect the Betty Broemmelsiek endowment account, which will be kept separate from the other chapter funds. Rose Marie noted that there is an outstanding bill for \$145.00 for the winter newsletter and that she would be filing an IRS 990 form "Return of Organizations Exempt From Income Tax" even though the chapter makes less than \$25,000. **Gary Baclesse** noted that the bill he presented for the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) was for \$100. He paid \$10.00 of that bill himself and the chapter paid \$90.00. The \$10.00 was a late registration fee and he did not feel that the chapter should cover that cost. **Diane Bradley** made a motion to accept the report as submitted. The motion was seconded by Steve Herndon and so approved.
- **Bob Miller** received a letter about the Natural Resources Career Camp which exposes minority high school students to the outdoors through conservation-related activities. The camp is supported by state and federal resource agencies and the CFM. Due to current budget cuts and the problems getting funding for the camp and travel arrangements, Bob discussed the possibility of teaming up with the Envirothon. Bob will attend a meeting about the camp and try to work with Peggy Lemmons, the State Envirothon contact.
- **Bob Miller** received a letter from "The Mouth of the South" comedian, Gary Claxton www.mouthofsouthgc.com. Gary could be a possible entertainer for the Natural Resources Conference, and Bob asked if everyone would provide input on this. The cost to cover his travel and the performance would be between \$750 - \$1500. Bob will provide information to DeDe Vest, chair of the conference steering committee.
- **Bob Miller** received the CFM Bylaws of which the Show-Me Chapter is an affiliate member. A request from CFM was received by **Colleen Meredith** but not by Bob for support for a student for the CFM conference. **Gary Baclesse** expanded on that to say that the funding request was for the Conservation Leadership Corps during the CFM conference where the stu-

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Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Submitted by *Colleen Meredith*, 2003 Missouri Show-Me Chapter Secretary



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dents put together the resolutions for the Federation. Colleen will get Bob a copy of the letter and they will look further into that request. The CFM also sent a request to the chapter encouraging members to speak out against 1) House Joint Resolution 23, authored by Rep. Quinn, which would divert one half of the conservation sales tax to public schools, and 2) Senate Joint Resolution 21 authored by Sen. Cauthorn, which would require the tax to be reauthorized every four years. **Rose Marie Hopkins** asked if the chapter had sent a letter. Bob recommended that all the individuals in the chapter contact their representatives and senators in their districts to make a greater impact. **Dave Owen** and **Marcy Oerly** suggested writing a letter as an organization and then individuals could also make personal contacts. Bob said that HJR 23 was assigned to the tax committee rather than the agriculture committee, which was favorable. Dave made a motion that if HJR23 or SJR 21 come out of committee, the Show-Me Chapter will send a letter in opposition of those resolutions. Bob will keep us updated.

➤ **Diane Bradley** received several pieces of correspondence: a thank you from Sara Muri for the Betty Broemmelsiek Scholarship; a thank you from Peggy Lemmons and Judy Stinson for receiving Educator of the Year Award; a letter from CFM indicating that nominations sent by the chapter for their conservationist awards were not selected for the awards; a thank you from Jamie Bequette for the second place scholarship; and a request from the Empire SWCS Chapter for silent auction items for the National SWCS Conference. Possible silent auction items that are unique to Missouri and could be donated from various sponsors around the state were discussed, such as hams, wines, walnut boxes with brass plates, chocolates and nursery items. **Marcy Oerly** suggested that we wait to give cash to the Empire Chapter for the silent auction until we see how many items we get donated. **Dave Owen** asked if we had enough flexibility in the budget to do this and Diane said we did in the miscellaneous and other categories. Steve Herndon wanted to know if we get a kickback from the amount that our silent auction items sell for and Diane said we didn't. Dave asked what date we need the items donated by. Bob suggested by June 1. **Ross Braun**, **Gary Baclesse** and **Bob Miller** are all planning to go to the conference and may be able to take items with them. Dave made a motion in the event that donations of silent auction items are lacking, then the chapter should provide the Empire Chapter with \$40.00 to ensure that they have adequate silent auction items. **Ed Gillmore** seconded the motion with all in favor.

- Old Business -

A) 2002/2003 Chapter Activities and Highlights -**Bob Miller** handed out a draft of a list of 2003 Show-Me Chapter Activities and Highlights. Bob started this list so everyone can add to the activities, as they occur to make it easier to do the annual report at the end of the year.

B) Chapter Budget, no report.

C) 2003 WNC- Leadership Development Workshop Report - **Bob Miller** handed out the minutes to the workshop that Ross Braun

had written. He asked those who went to the workshop to provide their impression of it. **Colleen Meredith** said that it was very beneficial for her to see what the SWCS does for its members, and that Ross did an excellent job as our regional representative. **Diane Bradley** said that the staff at the headquarters in Ankeny all introduced themselves and gave a short description of the work they do for us. They also gave presentations on the Conservation Securities Program and EQIP. Diane passed out a packet of newsletters and other reports that were exchanged between the chapters from the other states. Bob asked how we can increase attendance from our chapter. **Rose Marie Hopkins** said that perhaps budgetary considerations would be better next year so more people could attend.

D) Conservation Federation Report - **Gary Baclesse** handed out a summary and briefly addressed each issue.

E) Envirothon Committee Report - **Rose Marie Hopkins** reported that the Northeast was the final of seven regional Envirothons. Twenty-one teams are coming to the State Envirothon, which will be held at Lincoln University in Jefferson City. Rose Marie asked the group to look for people who hadn't volunteered before to expand their volunteer base. They also have asked the other groups in the Quad Societies to try to recruit new volunteers. <http://www.maswcd.net/envirothon.htm>

F) MoWIN Advisory Council Report - **Gary Baclesse** passed around an annual report from MoWIN. Our chapter is a partner with MoWIN. The project summary talks about partnerships and categories on the website. It is a good tool for watershed planning. They did presentations at St. Louis, Kansas City and ARS in Columbia on water quality issues and monitoring. Bob Ball is the chair of the MoWIN advisory council. Navigating MoWIN was passed around. <http://outreach.missouri.edu/mowin/>

G) Committee Reports

Membership - **Jennifer Petty** went over membership information. There is a new membership list once a year. Several on the executive council have offered to contact people that have a lapsed membership. **Colleen Meredith** had discussed with **Ross Braun** the possibility of asking area council persons to call members in their area to let them know that their membership renewal notice was coming, to give a personal touch. **Steve Herndon** suggested that an e-mail from the area reps might also be a good way to keep members. **Bob Miller** said that he would get together with Jennifer and try to get the regional reps to work on that. Bob said that they also worked on a letters for newly terminated members.

Student Chapter Subcommittee - Students belong to the MU chapter or are listed with the Show-Me Chapter. **Steve Herndon** asked if the students received a newsletter. **Bob Miller** said that he had it on a listserve. **Diane Bradley** said that the NW MO State Chapter is not active yet. Another student chapter that was suggested was one at SMS with Tom DeWitt and Monte Hawks as possible advisors. If there are not enough students it may be possible to combine with other environmental clubs. **Gary Baclesse** suggested that someone at our chapter work with schools that establish a chapter to keep the groups going.

Nominations and Elections - **Tammy Teeter** could not be

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Executive Council Meeting Minutes

Submitted by *Colleen Meredith*, 2003 Missouri Show-Me Chapter Secretary



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present. All those at the meeting appreciated her work in getting people to run for offices.

Scholarship - There is a scholarship website, <http://fastweb.com>, that is free to students nationwide that **Ross Braun** will look into for advertising the Betty Broemmelsiek scholarship as well as on our chapter website. **Joe Dillard** is still the fiscal agent for that scholarship. **Rose Marie Hopkins** asked if that funding should be on the chapter treasury report. The consensus was to keep it as a side report because it is an Edward D. Jones account kept separate from the chapters useable funding. **Peggy Lemmons** was not available for a fund raising report for the scholarship.

Policy - no report

Conservation Federation - reported in D.

Education - no report

MNRC - no report

Program Committee (Fall Forum Update) - The original topic that **Dave Owen** had discussed with the group that went to Ankeny was the small dams program in MO. **Bob Ball** and **Joe Dillard** had previously suggested looking at a topic for a day and a half conference with about 20 speakers, not to interfere with the Fall Forum. Dave said that small dams was not as big an issue now as when he previously suggested it. **Diane Bradley** had given Dave a

list from a previous year with a number of suggested topics. Dave suggested the possibility of having the meeting at the Anheuser Busch facility at MU so chapter students and others would also attend. The parking situation was discussed. Other suggested topics were Agro-Terrorism, Drought, Sand and Gravel, and Successes in Watershed Partnerships. Diane said that the topic should be able to be covered in a half-day. After further discussion the group leaned toward sand and gravel as the topic.

Fund raising -no report

Awards -**Bob Miller** asked the group to be looking at this all year long and have ideas for nominations for Chapter Awards - Media, Educator, Legislative, Conservationist, and Presidents National Awards.

- *New Business* -

Website - Bob Miller reported that **Ron Ziehn** from CARES is working with **Bob Ball** to takeover updates of the Show-Me Chapter website listserve and web postings. They are looking into a commercial website manager which would cost about \$1,000 per year (\$400 set-up, \$360 for registration, \$10 for a name, and the rest for maintenance, animation, links etc). After a lot of discussion, rather than pay \$1,000 a year, it was suggested that CARES could be given a fee for oversight of students working on the website, as an annual maintenance fee. <http://www.swcs.missouri.edu/>

Technical Service Provider (TSP) - **Diane Bradley** reported that **Don Schuster** of the Osage Valley RC&D will be a technical service provider trainer. The government sector, private individuals, universities, and RC&D's would have some involvement. Diane suggested that the SWCS may consider partnering to identify training needs and development of training. Diane said that TSP's have to be trained and certified. A group would provide training workshops with SWCS and RC&D's to determine training activities and possibly do set-up, and charge for a return to the chapter. **Gary Baclesse** asked if NRCS didn't have this done. **Dave Owen** wondered if we have time to do this in addition to our own jobs. Bob Miller said this would put the society's name out in front of the public for resource expertise training. **Ed Gillmore** added that he would like to see the society have a real say in what training is provided. A motion was made by Ed to pursue technical service provider training and ensure that the SWCS is an active partner. **Rose Marie Hopkins** seconded the motion. http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/news/tsp_rule.html

Fall Forum - The idea of technical service providers, certified crop advisors, and moving technical services away from federal workers could be added to the list of topics. There was no other new business.

Next Meeting -The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17 at the USDA service center on State Road H, Fulton MO at 10:00 am. **Steve Herndon** will send out a map. **Bob Miller** thanked **Dave Owen** and **Diane Bradley** for taking over the business meeting at Tan-Tar-A in January. **Rose Marie Hopkins** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:42 pm.

Notes from the Treasurer

by *Rose Marie Hopkins, Treasurer*

Treasurer's Report January 2003 - April 2003

Beginning Balance, All Accounts 1-29-03 \$16,800.04

Receipts

Raffle and Silent Auction	\$2086.50
Dan Downing's Renewal	75.00
Chapter Dues from SWCS	468.00
Fall Forum (2 late payments)	15.00
Checking Interest Earned	.75
Savings Interest Earned	78.64

TOTAL RECEIPTS 2,723.89

Expenditures

Conservation Federation of Missouri	331.25
SWCS Dues for Dan Downing	75.00
Missouri Envirothon Donation	300.00
CFM Spring Conference (Baclesse)	90.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES (796.25)

Ending Balance *\$16,545.78

Asset Distribution

Savings Account Balance	16,533.56
Checking Account Balance	12.22
Betty Broemmelsiek Endowment Fund	----

*The ending balance only reflects the savings and checking accounts as I don't have the information from Edward Jones on the endowment account. I neglected to transfer the information from Joe Dillard but will take care of that before the end of the month.

Society Website Redesign

taken from the *Conservogram*

The Soil and Water Conservation Society will be redesigning and reorganizing its website over the next year. All committees are being asked to forward a priority list of changes they'd suggest for the Society's website. An online survey is also available on the home page and Chapter Relations page of the Society's website. If you have strong opinions on the redesign, link to the survey by <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=5645214805>.

The suggestions from the committees, website visitors, Board of Directors, and staff will be brought together and a decision for what changes will be made will be based on 1) the activity of specific web pages, 2) cost, and 3) the Society's plan of operations approved by the Board of Directors. The plan of operations has the following basic goal for the website: "Website sufficient to conduct basic SWCS functions and to highlight SWCS ongoing activities and special projects, and to support marketing of SWCS basic products and services".

It is important to stress the budget limitations that will be imposed on the changes. This is stage one to building and improving the site to increase functionality and fulfill the mission of the Society.

Calendar of Events

- **4th Annual North Fork Watershed Conference**, July 22, 2003, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, Student Union, Truman State University, Kirksville, Missouri
- **2003 SWCS International Conference**, "The Columbia: Conserving a Legacy of Life", July 24-30, 2003, Spokane, Washington. Website: www.swcs.org
- **Chapter Development Workshop at International Conference**, Sunday, July 27, 2003, 1:30 to 5:30 pm., Spokane, Washington
- **2004 Missouri Natural Resources Conference**, "Voyage of Discovery into the New Millennium", January 28-30, 2003, Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, Missouri
- **2004 SWCS International Conference**, July 24-28, 2004, St. Paul, Minnesota
- **2005 SWCS International Conference**, Rochester, New York
- **2006 SWCS International Conference**, Keystone, Colorado

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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