



SHOW-ME CHAPTER

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FALL FORUM: BY KIM WORTH

Another successful Show Me Chapter Fall Forum was held in September at Powell Gardens (between KC and Warrensburg). The topic was "Powering Missouri: Renewable Energy and Alternative Fuels". While the end of September proved very busy for many people, the "hot topic" and beautiful settings filled the house.

The majority of the attendees' comments spoke to the variety and informative nature of the meeting. The presenters did an excellent job of presenting both the positive and negative sides of their respective issues, which was a pleasant surprise for many in attendance.

This year's speakers included Wade Sanders, Odessa City Administrator; Rick Anderson, MDNR Energy Policy Analyst; Dora Guffey, Chariton Valley RC&D Director; JP Dunn, MO Soybean Merchandising Council Manager of Field Services; Steve Flick, Flick Seed Company owner; Ryland Utlaut, Mid-Missouri Energy Board of Directors president; and Mel Brees, MU FAPRI Extension Associate. The primary topics of discussion were wind energy, co-firing biomass, and the use of ethanol and biodiesel.

To view the agenda, Power Point presentations, or speaker contact information, visit the Chapter website at <http://www.swcs.missouri.edu/Conferences/FallForum/FallForum.htm>.

Big "Thank You's" go out to Lauren Cartwright, Chapter Treasurer, and Bill Bohnert, Jackson County SWCD District Manager, and others who helped, for all of their assistance prior to and during "the big day". And thank you to Powell Gardens for working so well with our non-profit organization as to provide the lovely scenery, meeting room, and boxed meals at an excellent rate.

If you have a current issue that you would like to hear presented at next year's Fall Forum, please contact one of the Chapter officers/councilpeople.



CHAPTER ELECTIONS INFORMATION

Office elections will be held this year from Thursday, November 30th to Wednesday, December 20^h. Once again, both mail-in and online balloting will be available.

Last year, 100% of the votes were cast online, so it was an excellent trial for the new system. See the ballot included with this newsletter if you would like to mail your ballot. For either voting system, you may access brief biographies of each candidate online at www.swcs.missouri.edu/ or later in this newsletter. It is possible that the election dates will change slightly, so be sure to vote early (to avoid the rush) and check the Chapter website for additional information.

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DECEMBER 2006

Special points of interest:

- * Page 6 has information about using mass email lists for members.
- * Page 3 has information about an upcoming meeting to learn more about the Farm Bill.

**THE
PRESIDENT'S
CORNER**
BY RENEE COOK

As my year as Show-Me Chapter President comes down to the last few months, I want to encourage each of you to take the time to share the experiences that you have had as a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and the Show-Me Chapter with a friend or colleague. Nationally we have set a goal to increase membership from 5,183 members to 5,372 members by February 2007. Previous members are being contacted and potential new members are being recruited to meet this goal.

Missouri has always had a strong and active membership with quality leadership. Let's take the lead in this membership effort and assist in reaching the total goal of an increase of 189 members by February 2007.

If you need information about membership don't hesitate to contact Ron Redden, Membership Chairperson, at 573-751-4922 or ron.redden@dnr.mo.gov. You can also find membership information at www.swcs.org

I also want to invite you to join us at the Tan-Tar-A Resort, Lake of the Ozarks on Wednesday, January 31, 2007 for the next Executive Council Meeting and the Show-Me Chapter Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 1, 2007. Both meetings are open to all members and I encourage you to attend. If you are unable to attend and you have anything you would like the Executive Council to consider, contact your area director, councilperson, or me.

MNRC 2007 BY GENE GARDNER, STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The 2007 theme, "Conserving All Natural Resources: Implementing the Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy" really does offer a lot to professionals in all natural resource disciplines, including soil and water conservation. In fact, there is one whole paper session (6 papers) entitled, Soil & Water Conservation. A description of this session should be up on the MNRC website (<http://www.mnrc.org/>) by the end of November.

The Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy (CWS) is an approach to conservation planning and implementation that uses ecologically-based assessments and existing plans to integrate conservation action for all wildlife. "All Wildlife" is used in its broadest sense *.. plants, vertebrate animals, invertebrates, natural communities and all the natural processes (soil, water, biochemical, environmental, social, economic, political, etc.) that affects our ability to maintain healthy natural systems. Since we aren't able to conserve every species of animal and plant one by one, the emphasis of CWS is on functioning habitats, natural communities and healthy ecosystems. The needs of individual species are likely represented in this framework.

A successful CWS is not simply a product or a plan accepted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. A successful CWS will be demonstrated as we integrate the conservation needs of wildlife across conservation interests (i.e., governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, & private landowners) by engaging conservation partners to the degree that everyone is working in the same direction on the same conservation initiative(s) for the long term. Missouri has developed a very good CWS, so when the new federal funding source starts pumping money into MO for resource conservation, our state will be ready and eager to spend it in the places where the greatest opportunities are found (these are called Conservation Opportunity Areas; COAs).

The CWS builds on our commitment to ensuring diversity in resource conservation and it depends on new and innovative partnerships to be successful. The 2007 MNRC theme holds true to the long history of this annual meeting of resource professionals, namely fostering good communication among professionals, providing a forum for sharing information between researchers and resource managers, and promoting partnerships to accomplish a wide range of resource conservation objectives. In addition to the Soil & Water paper session I mentioned above, the 2007 program includes workshops, papers and posters on creating successful partnerships, grants and grant writing, training with GIS and other CWS tools for resource management, evaluating CWS priorities, invasive species, resource monitoring, grassland/prairie, managing forest and woodlands for wildlife, stream advocacy, biodiversity, socio/economic/political influences on CWS, and farm bill accomplishments and opportunities.

I hope this information helps to convince soil and water professionals that the 2007 MNRC will be another opportunity for professional growth that you won't want to miss!



Plenary speaker, Naomi Edelson,
Wildlife Diversity Director and
Teaming with Wildlife Director for
the Association of Fish and Wildlife
Agencies

MNRC For Students

Website:

<http://www.mnrc.org/students.html>

Student Job Fair:

Wednesday, January 31, 2007, 5:00-6:30pm,
Parasol I & II
Nearly 100 part-time, full-time, and seasonal positions advertised. Resume review booth available, and bring additional copies for potential employers.

Free to Attend - You do not have to be registered for the rest of the conference to attend the Job Fair.

For additional information on the Student Job Fair, contact Janet Sternburg at (573) 552-4115 x3372 or email janet.sternburg@mdc.mo.gov.

Student Mentoring:

Mentors and students will meet at the Student Job Fair and throughout the conference to take advantage of opportunities to discuss professional development, career development, and possible job opportunities.

To register for the student mentoring opportunity, or for more information, please feel free to contact Brian D. Canaday 573-522-4115 x3371 or brian.canaday@mdc.mo.gov

4TH ANNUAL MNRC 5K FUN RUN/WALK CHALLENGE BY DIANA SHERIDAN

Join me February 2, 2007 at 6:30 am during the MNRC at Tan-Tar-A, for a brisk 5K. The 5K course at Tan-Tar-A is a challenging course; we will hold the event rain, snow, or moonlight. Just completing the course gives you bragging rights, braving the elements will only increase the allure.

This year we are sending out a special call for participation. The MNRC 5K Run/Walk has been poorly attended in the past, particularly by SWCS. As one of the 4 sponsoring professional societies of the MNRC, SWCS is eligible for the Fittest Society Traveling Trophy. To date, we have not had the minimum of four participants to be eligible to compete for the trophy. It does not matter if you are fast or slow, running or walking, just join us.

One note: The SWCS by-laws do not prohibit the recruitment of new members based only on their ability to run. So, if the winner of your next home-town 5K is interested in a SWCS membership, by all means, invite them to join!

This year there are nice, long sleeved t-shirts free with 5K registration and we are working on goodie bags. Run for the fun of it. Run for the health of it. Run for the adventure of it. Run to support SWCS! Hope to see you running or walking race morning.



So You Think You Know All About the Farm Bill?

The Show-Me Chapter is organizing and sponsoring an MNRC workshop on the Farm Bill for Thursday, February 1, 2007 1-3 PM

"The Farm Bill: Today's Accomplishments and Tomorrow's Opportunities".

Workshop description: Never before in the history of conservation has so much money been available to impact the soil, water, fish and wildlife resources on privately owned land. With more than \$150 million available to Missourians each year through USDA Farm Bill Conservation Programs, the resource gains are showing up on our landscape. USDA and MDC will discuss the forest, fish, wildlife, soil and water resource gains that have been accomplished through the current Farm Bill. A look into the crystal ball will examine the future of conservation programs versus crop subsidies and bioenergy issues in the 2007 Farm Bill.

Moderator: David Howard, USDA NRCS

Farm Bill Accomplishments for Soil and Water Resource Conservation * Dwaine Gelnar, Assistant State Conservationist NRCS

The resource accomplishments of the 6 major conservation programs offered through NRCS will be presented as they relate to soil and water resources.

Farm Bill Accomplishments for Forest, Fish and Wildlife Resources * Bill White, MDC *Case studies of Farm Bill conservation success stories relating to forest, fish and wildlife resources will be presented*

Benefits of the Conservation Reserve Program * Tim Kelley, State Executive Director, FSA *Resource benefits of the oldest of the Farm Bill Conservation programs will be presented.*

The Next Farm Bill* Craig Cox, Executive Director, Soil and Water Conservation Society, Ankeny, IA *With a background and experience of working on past Farm Bill legislation, Craig will discuss some of the issues and promises of new Farm Bill legislation slated for revision in 2007.*

SWCS - 2007 ELECTION BIOGRAPHIES



PRESIDENT

Mike Morris — *I have been a member of the SWCS since 1995. I have served as Vice President and currently am the Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee for the scholarship fund. I am the NRCS District Conservationist in Miller and Morgan Counties and have worked for the NRCS for 18 years. My wife Beth and I have two children, ages 9 and 5, one dog and two cats. I am proud to be a member of the SWCS.*



VICE PRESIDENT

Diane M. Bradley — *The Natural Resources Conservation Service has employed me for the past 16 years. Currently, I am located in the Bates/Cass County FOSA and serve as the District Conservationist. I have two sons Daniel Aaron (7 years) and Dustin Scott (2 ½ years). From 1991 to the present I have been a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and have served on the Fund Raiser Committee for the past 10 years. I have also previously served as President & Vice President of the Chapter. At the Missouri Natural Resources Conference I have assisted in the set up and manning of the society both for the past 12 years and have served as Arrangements Committee Chair and Social Committee Chair for the conference. For the 2009 Missouri Natural Resources Conference I will be serving as chair of the Social Committee. In the near future of the Show-Me Chapter I would like to see us continue to increase and maintain chapter membership and involvement in chapter activities. Maintain an awareness of our valued resources and concern that we will be faced with in the next few years will be very important in the continued work and efforts of our society.*



SECRETARY

Bill White — *Bill White is a Private Land Program Supervisor with the Missouri Department of Conservation in Jefferson City, coordinating MDC's involvement with Farm Bill activities. He has worked for the Department for 18 years, with 16 years as an Area Biologist assigned to NRCS Area Offices in Washington and then St. Joseph. He lives on an acreage in Osage County where he spends his time hunting wildlife or killing fescue, honey locust and red cedars. His 4 boys and grandson provide for a flurry of other duties to keep Bill out of trouble. He has served as Chapter Secretary for the past two years.*



TREASURER

Lauren Cartwright — *I began working with NRCS in the Missouri State office as an Agricultural Economist in January 2004. I joined SWCS shortly after that. Prior to joining NRCS I worked as an economist for the Army Corps of Engineers in Alexandria, VA. My educational background consists of a B.S. in Forestry and Wildlife Sciences with a minor in Agricultural and Development Economics and M.S. in Agricultural and Applied Economics from Virginia Tech. I have pursued my education and current career path to fulfill a desire to work to conserve natural resources and develop a better understanding of the complex nature of human interactions with the environment.*



NORTHWEST

Dave Speidel — *NRCS District Conservationist, Maysville. The Soil and Water Conservation Society has provided a forum for leaders from all sections government, corporate and private life to be advocates for conservation of our natural resources. After my absence the last few years with preparing for and then being deployed to Iraq I feel that I should now have the time to get involved again. I would be pleased to be the NW Councilman in the Missouri SWCS Chapter for 2007. I was the Northeast Nebraska Chapter president in 1993 when our organization earned the award as the most improved Chapter. We did a lot of hands one things like plant wildflowers at the national headquarters in preparation for the fiftieth anniversary of the SWCS. I would like to see what great ideals could be thought up for chapter member involvement. Maybe ski trips, if not to the real mountains in Colorado then the bunny hills in Minnesota and canoe trip in our own scenic waterways. I want to encourage that conservation is experienced first hand.*



NORTHEAST

Ashley Johnston — *Hello my name is Ashley Johnson and I am a Resource Conservationist for Knox County. I recently joined the Knox and Scotland FOSA in March and before that I worked for Shelby, Audrain and Adair Counties. My husband and I and our little girl live Edina with our two dogs and cats. I enjoy boating, skiing and crafting in my spare time. I would appreciate the chance to serve as the North-east Missouri council person. Thank you for your vote.*

**CENTRAL**

Chris Wieberg—*I am an Environmental Specialist with the MDNR Soil and Water Conservation program. In the past I worked for NRCS as a student trainee in Northern Minnesota, and for the Soil and Water Conservation District in Osage County, Missouri. I live in central Missouri and operate a small cow/calf operation on my 120 acre farm.*

**SOUTHWEST**

Allan Johnston—*Allan Johnston has worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, (formerly Soil Conservation Service) since July of 1981. During this time he has worked for NRCS in both Oklahoma and Missouri. He has worked in Missouri for the past 10 years as Soil Scientist and as Wetland Team Leader. Allan started his career with NRCS in Oklahoma as a Soil Conservation Technician; he has worked as a Civil Engineering Technician, Purchasing Agent and Soil Scientist during his time in Oklahoma. He is currently stationed with NRCS, at the MLRA office located in Springfield, Mo. Allan guest lectures at Missouri State University, and works with soils judging contests. He also enjoys trout fishing, especially at Bennett Spring State Park.*

**SOUTHEAST**

Don Foerster—*MDC, in Doniphan, MO. I graduated from Arkansas State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. I taught high school at Van Buren for thirteen years. I worked for Carter County Soil and Water Conservation District as District Technician and for Missouri Department of Natural Resources as a Soil Scientist. I am now employed by the Missouri Department of Conservation as a Private Lands Conservationist. I have been a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society for the last two years.*

2007—SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY ELECTION BALLOT

(POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN DEC. 20)

President Elect: Mike Morris OR Write-In _____

Vice President: Diane Bradley OR Write-In _____

Secretary: Bill White OR Write-In _____

Treasurer: Lauren Cartwright OR Write-In _____

NW Councilperson: David Spiedel OR Write-In _____

NE Councilperson: Ashley Johnson OR Write-In _____

Central Councilperson: Chris Wieberg OR Write-In _____

SW Councilperson: Allan Johnston OR Write-In _____

SE Councilperson: Don Foerster OR Write-In _____

(MAIL TO TAMMY TEETER, 1013 S. STURGEON, MONTGOMERY CITY, MO 63361)

**SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY**

**SHOW ME CHAPTER
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*Fostering the science and
art of soil, water and
related natural resource
management to achieve
sustainability.*



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

MASS EMAIL

Previously the Chapter mass emails, or group emails, that have been sent out with local information are done so, by a Show Me Chapter officer, utilizing an email service provided by SWCS.

Ankeny's website is now hosted through a different provider who does not provide an "email manager", so messages will be sent using the most current Chapter membership lists, until a new mass email website is available. Please ensure that Ankeny has any email address, or other

contact information, changes so that the rosters will stay up-to-date.

Requests to be added/dropped from the email list will attempt to be honored (though we would encourage everyone to continue receiving and reading the emails). If the request is missed because of the new "manual" nature of things, I do apologize, and ask that you please remind me of the request by writing kim.worth@mo.usda.gov.