



Show-Me Chapter

JUNE 2006

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The President's Corner by Renee Cook

The West North Central Regional Workshop held in Platteville, WI was very educational. Diane Bradley - Vice President, Ron Redden - Membership Committee Chairperson and I learned about communicating across generations. Do you know what generation you fit into?

Matures – Born between 1922-1943/46
 - Represent 21% of the workforce- Also known as veterans, seniors, traditionalists, silent generation
 - Core Values: dedication/sacrifice, law & order, conformity, adherence to rules, respect for authority, patience, delayed reward, hard work, duty before pleasure, and honor

Baby Boomers – Born between 1943-1960/1946-1964

- 72 million strong- Also known as: Boomers
 - Core Values: Optimism, team orientation, personal gratification, health & wellness, personal growth, youth, work, and involvement

Generation X'ers – Born between 1960-1980/1964-1980

- 47 million- Also known as: Xers, Baby Busters, Post-Boomers
 - Core Values - diversity, thinking globally, balance, technoliteracy, fun, informality, self-reliance, and pragmatism

Generation Y's – Born between 1980-2000

- 68 Million Strong- Also known as the: millennials, nexters, Nintendo Generation, Internet Generation
 - Core Values – Optimism, civic duty, confi-

dence, achievement, sociability, morality, street smarts, and diversity

With the knowledge we gained in combination with understanding other individual differences, we hope recruit and retain members more effectively.

Have you talked to a fellow conservationist lately about membership in the Show-Me Chapter, SWCS? You can help the chapter with recruitment and retention efforts. The best way to get people involved is to share your experiences. Make it a point to share your chapter experiences with one person.

If you need information about membership don't hesitate to contact Ron Redden, Membership Chairperson, at (573)751-4932 or ron.redden@dnr.mo.gov



Join Us at the Soil and Water Conservation Society 2006 Annual Conference—Keystone, Colorado

The areas of special emphasis for the 2006 conference include:

- Water use and management—Learning to live with limits
- The science of targeting—Getting the right practices implemented in the right places and at the right time
- Conservation and the 2007 farm bill—Presentations highlighting key issues and recommendations for reform regarding the conservation provisions of the U.S. farm bill.

http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/2006_international_conference/register_preliminary_program/

Managing the Public Trust Amid Competing Voices

Essay By Kody Schieber

Kody Schieber is the winner of the \$500 scholarship. Kody is a senior at Jefferson C-123 High School at Conception Junction, MO. He is very active in sports and has been recognized with several district, conference and state selections. He is active in FFA, FCCLA, is involved in his community and in other leadership positions at his school. He is senior class president, co-president of the school's National Honor Society Chapter, FFA vice-president, and senior representative on the student council.

Kody is the son of Louis & Linda Sheieber of Conception Jct.

We need your help to make the Show Me Chapter the best it can be!



Like any other highly controversial topics, eminent domain has many people taking different sides on what should be done. Some groups believe that eminent domain should not exist, while other groups believe that it is the only way to go.

According to the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution, eminent domain is the right of the government to appoint private property for public use. This means that the government is only required to pay compensation in order to obtain this private property. The amount of this compensation is the source of controversy. This is the reason many people feel the government is unlawfully taking the property from people. The practice of eminent domain appears like the government is taking away property from one owner who is often smaller and powerless, and transferring it to another owner whom is often larger and

more helpful to the government. Sometimes the government uses the power of eminent domain to acquire real property that is necessary for completing roads, bridges or other public projects. Disapproval of buildings on grounds of health and safety hazards or gross zoning violations usually does not deny the owner of the property condemned but requires the owner to rectify the offending situation.

There are many people however who are all for eminent domain. Their main argument is that taking eminent domain away will deny the jobs and housing to those people who need it most. By building restaurants, hotels and other servicing businesses, jobs become more accessible for the people who need them most. They support issues of eminent domain in that it improves the local economy. Eminent domain also allows the riddance of slum areas and the addition of newer and better public

places that would benefit everyone. Eminent domain leads to increased tax revenue for the government, which gives them more budget space to build on for it's many program expenses.

On the other hand, a large majority of people also oppose eminent domain because they believe the power that the government is given is abused. Instances of the government overusing its power by trying to benefit itself instead of helping out the middle class are many. In some cases the government uses eminent domain to destroy the bad places in a town and rebuilds that place with commercial development for the purpose of generating more tax revenue for the local government. A major reason why people are against eminent domain is because nothing has been done yet in many cases. For example, it has been five months and counting since

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SWCS Officer Nominees Needed by Tammy Teeter

It is not too early now to be thinking how you could become more active in our Missouri SWCS Chapter. One of the many ways is to be an officer and represent our membership!

This year I will be working with our Area Council Representatives to recruit interested individuals for next year's chapter officers. If you are

interested in getting more involved please let me know.

We all know for our Chapter to be successful we need to get a great slate of officers and council people involved. I will look forward to hearing from you!

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(573)564-3967

Membership Report by Ron Redden

Welcome
New Members

The Missouri Show-Me Chapter has maintained a membership of 215 for the last two months.

We want to extend a big welcome to our three new mem-

bers; **Henry Rauch**, Miller, Mo; **Amie Henson**, Neosho, Mo; and **Chris Wright**, Quin, Mo.

While most of our members who let their membership terminate have only belonged to the society for one or two years, an occasional member who has belonged to the society for a number of years decides to no longer continue their membership. The most common cited reason is the \$80 annual membership dues. Last year our

chapter offered a resolution at the SWCS International Conference that would allow a membership at a reduced cost that would not include a subscription to the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*. Hopefully this idea will gain support from other chapters in the future.

Membership by region are: NW - 28, NE - 35, C - 80, SW - 54, and SE - 15.

“Over the years there have been many court cases over eminent domain...”

Managing the Public Trust...Essay continued

the Supreme Court has ruled that the city of New London, Connecticut, through eminent domain, is to build a new private development. No one has been forced to leave and there have been no bulldozers arrive to clear out the place for construction. Many people have lost hope for the city to add a mixture of housing, hotel, and office space coming to the city with so many complications in the mix.

Over the years there have many court cases over eminent domain that have been decided by the Supreme Court. Perhaps the most famous case is *Kelo vs. New London*. The case came about when the city wanted to use eminent domain to condemn privately owned real property so that it could be used for economic development. Due to the city's tax base population continually declining and the fact the city was in much need of

development, the city leaders decided to use eminent domain to add newer buildings which would require higher tax revenue to gain the city more money. The plaintiffs argued that this was not constitutional for the government to take private property from one individual or corporation and give it to another, because the other could put the property to a use that would generate higher tax revenue.

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Fall Forum by Kim Worth

Fall Forum 2006 – Plans are in the very early stages for the annual Fall Forum. This year's event will be held at Powell Gardens, outside the Kansas City area, and will fall sometime during the month of September.

The topic for this year's Fall Forum will be “Powering Mis-

souri: Renewable Energy and Alternative Fuels”. Some of the potential topics are switchgrass powered coal plants, wind turbines, biodiesel, and ethanol.

If you have comments, suggestions, or would like to help with planning the 2006 Fall Forum, please contact Kim Worth at

kim.worth@mo.usda.gov or 660-663-3703 x 7.





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PRESIDENT – Renee Cook
PRESIDENT-ELECT – Kim Worth
VICE PRESIDENT – Diane Bradley
TREASURER – Lauren Cartwright
SECRETARY – Bill White
PAST PRESIDENT – Steve Wilson
NORTHWEST – Jeremy Redden, David Ritchhart
NORTHEAST – David Ancell, Jay Lingwall
CENTRAL – Fred Young, Dean Martin
SOUTHWEST – David Howard, Diana Sheridan
SOUTHEAST – John Knudsen, Melinda Barch

HOLD THE DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR— OCTOBER 11-13, 2006

A workshop organized by the Soil and Water Conservation Society—*Managing Agricultural Lands for Environmental Quality*— to be held in Kansas City, Missouri at the Westin Crown Center Hotel. You won't want to miss it..

Managing the Public Trust ... Essay continued.

nue. They also suggested that a ruling in favor of the city would destroy “the distinction between private use and public use,” declaring that private use, which provided only incidental benefits to the state and was “not enough to justify use of the condemnation power.” In the end the Supreme Court fought for the City of New London in a 5-4 decision. The Supreme Court said that local governments should be afforded wide latitude in seizing property for land-use decisions of a local nature. “The city has carefully formulated a development plant that it believes will provide appreciable benefits to the community, including, but not limited to, new jobs and increased tax revenue.”

All of these disagreements and problems over eminent domain need

to be confronted by professionals. One way that a natural resource professional could contribute to a positive dialogue and help the groups to identify their common interests as they relate to the enactment of eminent domain for private economic development use is to set standards of compliance for eminent domain. Instead of letting the government be able to use eminent domain for all circumstances whether they are good or bad, there should be guidelines that are set that only let the government use it when it is necessary and truly needed. This would keep the government from using eminent domain to benefit individuals politically or building new and larger buildings that would require higher tax revenue.

Eminent domain has many pros and cons and it can be used for the good of the people, or when abused it can also hurt many people. When the government uses eminent domain for uses in mind when it was established, such as finishing roads or bridges, it does nothing but help. When the governments uses eminent domain to raise the tax revenue with no consideration of others involved and their political gain as the only objective it is being used wrongly. At this point it is time for foundations and coalitions to step up and to act for reform and proper practice of eminent domain and keep the government in line.