

NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER OFFICERS 2017-2018

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ROBIN FOULK

Greetings! As our organization's mission states, I have been busy – ".... to foster the science and art of natural resource conservation. " However I find myself needing to foster another resource – **Membership**. I encourage members to provide me ideas on how as a professional organization we can do better on fostering new members and supporting existing members. Please email me your ideas(robin.foulk@ne.usda.gov or drfoulk@bbc.net).

My goal for this term is to increase membership numbers, complete the scanning of NE Chapter history documents, and quarterly teleconferences with officers and members.

Officers- the next teleconference will be November 28th @ 9:00 CST Call 888-844-9904(Password 5338450) SWCS NEWS – Page 1

NEBRASKA SWCS ANNOUNCES COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AVAILABLE Craig Romary – NSWCF Treasurer

The Nebraska Chapter of the Soil & Water Conservation Society and the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Foundation have made the 2018 college scholarship application for natural resources student available at the Chapter's website (<u>http://nebraskaswcs.org/</u>).

Applications and corresponding material should be completed and submitted as requested by **November 3rd**, **2018**.

2018 NEBRASKA SWCS AWARDS Anita Nein

During the 2018 Nebraska SWCS Annual Meeting and Technical Workshop held in Gering, six chapter awards were presented to the following award winners:

- Shirley Ferguson Commendation Award
- Michael Murphy Commendation Award
- Bridgeport FFA Chapter Merit Award
- Tom Wiens Merit Award
- Heritage Seed Company Incorporated, Emery Fox – Merit Award
- The Monument Iris Society Merit Award

The commendation award is given to members of the society for professional achievement and for service to the society at the state level. The merit award recognizes a group for conservation work accomplished.

Details about each award winner can be found on the Nebraska SWCS Chapter website (http://nebraskaswcs.org) under past events information and at <u>CropWatch</u> (https://cropwatch.unl.edu/2018/nebraska-soil-and-waterconservation-efforts-recognized).



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The Soil and Water Conservation Society is a private scientific and educational association dedicated to advancing the science and art of good land use and improvement of natural resources. The awards committee members are Anita Nein, Wally Valasek and Doug Garrison.



SWCS Merit Award (L-R): Robin Foulk - Nebraska Chapter SWCS President, Katie Ramos and Abraham Ramos - Bridgeport FFA Chapter merit award recipient, and Anita Nein - Nebraska Chapter SWCS awards committee member.



SWCS Merit Award (L-R): Robin Foulk - Nebraska Chapter SWCS President, Tom Wiens – merit award recipient, and Edwin Harms - Nebraska Chapter member.



SWCS Merit Award (L-R): Doug Garrison - Nebraska SWCS awards committee member, and representatives of the Monument Valley Iris Society – merit award recipient.



SWCS Commendation Award (L-R): Robin Foulk -Nebraska Chapter SWCS President, Shirley Ferguson – commendation award recipient, and Anita Nein -Nebraska Chapter SWCS awards committee member.

73nd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SWCS CONFERENCE NEBRASKA AWARD WINNERS

Soil and water conservation efforts in Nebraska were recognized nationally at this year's national Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference in Albuquerque.

Receiving the Harold and Kay Scholl Excellence in Conservation Award was Paul Jasa, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension engineer. The award recognizes individuals who provide technical assistance and demonstrate effectiveness and creativity in conservation planning and plan application. Jasa conducts cropping system educational programs and field research

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and has been working with planting equipment and tillage system evaluation at the university since 1978.

Green Cover Seed of Bladen received the Merit Award in recognition of an outstanding activity, product, or service promoting the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources. Accepting the award were owners Brian and Keith Berns of Bladen. Green Cover Seeds provides customized cover crop mixes and consulting to over 7,000 customers and contributes to soil health education programs, putting a strong emphasis on soil regeneration and soil biology.

Krista Reed, Natural Resources Planner in the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources, was honored with the Outstanding Service Award. This award is given to SWCS members in recognition of distinguished service in helping the Society develop and carry out its program over a sustained time. Reed has been an active member of SWCS since 1986, severing in multiple state officer roles. She also has served on Nebraska's Soil and Water Conservation Foundation for over a decade.

Scott Bohaty, Resource Conservationist in the Wilber office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, received a Commendation Award for service to the local SWCS chapter or council of chapters. Bohaty, who has been active in SWCS for many years, has served in several leadership roles in the Nebraska Chapter. He also organized the 2010 Annual State meeting, arranging for tours of noxious weed test plots and presentations by well-known resource conservationists.

Source: CropWatch

(https://cropwatch.unl.edu/2018/nebraska-soil-and-waterconservation-efforts-recognized).



Among the Nebraskans attending the 2018 Soil and Water Conservation Society annual conference were (top, L-R) Brian Berns, Bijesh Maharjan, Keith Berns; (bottom, L-R) AnitaNein, Krista Reed, Scott Bohaty, Paul Jasa and Steve Nein.

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY 73rd INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE July 29 – August 1, 2018, Albuquerque, New Mexico Tom Mountford, LPNNRD

There were 426 registered for this year's conference entitled "**Culture, Climate and Conservation**" that reflected on the challenges of how culture and climate changes affect conservation. Conference sessions and presentations covered a variety of issues, including adaptive management of conservation, economics and issues, policy and education, new tools and technology, soil health and water management. Many people were recognized for outstanding achievement in their fields which included many who have Nebraska ties. Those honorees included Paul Jasa, UNL Extension Engineer; Krista Reed, NDNR; Scott Bohaty, NRCS; and Susan Liebig, NRCS.

Sunday, July 29: House of Delegates and Regional Meetings

On Sunday, I accompanied Mike Kucera, NRCS, Kris Reed, NDNR, at the House of Delegates and regional round table meetings to discuss regional issues and rank future priorities for the Society. Recruiting, diversifying and retaining members emerged as the top priority from regional members. Other priorities included: starting new student chapters; raising funds and obtaining grants;

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professional development training; technical training and holding great events. SWCS membership has dropped from 14,000 – 15,000 (during SWCS's peak) to just over 3,000 members today. This drop is due in part to other numerous interests that compete with potential member's time and attention. I believe Nebraska still maintains the largest chapter in the northwest region. At the Regional Forum and Reception, Kurt Riley, Sky City-Acoma Pueblo and Kenny Salzar, New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, explained how their organizations are addressing changes in cultural tradition and highlighted progressive conservation programs and practices. Kurt addressed the importance of cultural resources and taking a holistic approach to environmental changes. Kenny spoke on their district's use of the **Regional Conservation Partnership Program to improve** irrigation canal efficiency.

Monday, July 30 – Keynote Speaker, Sessions & Presentations

Following SWCS Chair Rex Martin and CEO Clare Lindahl's opening address, Liz Hunt with Syngenta (this year's sponsor) gave a summary of the company. Syngenta (28,000 employees) focuses on promoting biodiversity, science and research, and developing good growth plans for agriculture.

Keynote speaker Jacqueline Comito, involved with successful outreach and education programs in Iowa, spoke on the importance of recognizing the value of natural resources in our lives and passing this commitment on to next generations. Under Comito's leadership, numerous farmer field days, podcasts, videos, youth outreach events and listening sessions have been conducted in Iowa. She said that nature and culture are in crises from population growth and global warming. Places where we live define who we are and connecting with nature has been proven to be extremely important for good child development and wellbeing.

Andrew Sharpley, University of Arkansas, spoke on conservation adoption and where we are headed. Sharpley referred to litigation cases were agriculture and developing urban communities collide and how human activity can increase environmental challenges in watersheds. Identifying nutrients of concern involves time and money to identify and to determine acceptable levels in our water. Preventive and corrective measures also require much money to implement and maintain. Tim Strickland, Martin Locke, Lisa Duriancik, USDA, spoke on agricultural research, sustainability and assessing years of research and assessment. USDA provides \$54 million/year for Ag research. This research has addressed cropland, wetlands, grasslands and how they affect water quality. With numerous watershed studies and data obtained over the years addressing drought, climate, hypoxia, land use and eutrophication, the goal is to know what study indicators mean and to commutate information back to the public. It takes many federal, state and local partners working together for this to be successful.

Katie Flahive, EPA, spoke on the Nonpoint Source 319 grant program and how it is a catalyst for making water quality improvements. One half of the annual \$170 million 319 funds are allocated back to states for water quality efforts. This program has helped 725 waterbodies be restored to water quality standards. This has resulted in water quality improvement for over 6,000 miles of streams and 64,000 acres in lakes in the United States. Many Nebraska NRDs have benefited from the 319 program. LPNNRD has greatly benefited from this program, particularly in the Sand/Duck Creek, Wahoo Creek and Shell Creek Watersheds.

Andy Manale's, APM Consulting, topic was on how focusing on implementing only one BMP, fails to impact global environmental problems. To be effective, the whole environmental system needs to be addressed, looking ahead where the system is going and its eventual fate. He said while nature generates nitrogen in our system, humans produce an additional 50%. Production of nitrogen fertilizer is increasing 1.5%/year. While carbon dioxide has been a growing problem in our atmosphere, nitrous oxide is 300 times worst when it comes to damaging the ozone layer and contributing to dead zones in our water bodies. Future policies, such as the Farm Bill, should focus on taking advantage of nitrogen already in the system and reduce new nitrogen sources used.

Rebecca Power, discussed her involvement with the Hypoxia Task Force. The Task Force goals are to reduce hypoxia 20% by 2025 with a long-term goal of obtaining a 40% reduction. She emphasized the importance of having local watershed-based planning and coordination to achieve success.

Ben Gramig, University of Illinois & Linda Prokopy, Purdue University, presented results form a review and analysis over a 35-year period (1982-2017) of

http://www.nebraskaswcs.org/

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studies that examined motivators and barriers for landowners to adopt conservation practices. This review indicated that more practices were adopted if: A practice was previously used successfully; if the land was owned by the operator; if more farm acres were owned; if the producer was involved with livestock; if there was trust in the person selling the practice. It was also found that practices were more accepted by younger producers and those with higher education. Barriers include economics, risks of adopting a new practice and the lack of available financial assistance.

Tuesday, July 31 – Continued Sessions & Presentations Ann Sorensen, American Farmland Trust, addressed their national report "*Farms Under Threat*" that analyzed agricultural land in the United States lost to farmland conversion between 1992 and 2012. Findings showed that farmers and ranchers make use of 55% of the land area in the United States. During the twenty-year period analyzed, almost 31 million acres were lost to development of which 62% was agricultural land. Over 70% of urban development and 54% of low density residential development occurred on Ag lands. AFT is working with states to protect farmland from unnecessary development and modeling development and climate threats to help initiate policy changes.

Wayne Honeycutt, Soil Health Institute (soilhealthinstitute.org), talked about programs to enhance productivity of soils. His focus is to engage partners across North America to evaluate 31 soil heath indicators and promote those findings. He spoke about how many corporations have been focused on reducing emissions. Examples given were Walmart who have achieved emission reductions which are equivalent of 11 million cars. General Mills has a goal of reducing greenhouse gases 28% by 2025 and Wrangler also has a goal to double their sustainable farmed cotton over the next year.

Mike Kucera, Nebraska NRCS Agronomist, gave a very interesting presentation on the benefits of using soil health and no-till practices on his family's farm. Using these practices have shown huge positive impacts on increasing production, reducing runoff, increasing soil moisture and aggregate stability.

Emile Elias, USDA, conducts research and works with partners focusing on climate change impacts on hydrology, water quality, and Ag communities in the SW United States. Her research indicates a warmer SWCS NEWS – Page 5 world is in our future. **Tom Sauer, USDA**, added that with our changing climate, some our conservation practices need improvement to succeed.

Shelby Callaway, NRCS, spoke about Walter Lowdermilk's (1888-1974) studies of past civilizations. In 1939, Lowdermilk traveled 37,000 miles visiting 17 countries to study old world civilizations in 17 countries which produced 300 lbs. of written literature which entitled a report "Conquest of the Land through 7,000 vears." His assumptions about soil conservation had a strong focus on cultural background. He was a conservationist whose public speeches and books contained various allegation to religious and historical evidence and legends. During a 50-year period, he worked on the preservation of the environment long before "ecology" became a much-used term. In the nineteen-thirties, he served with the United States Forest Service as assistant chief of the Soil Conservation Service. Lowdermilk traveled, studied and worked in some 34 countries on four continents before his death in 1974. One of his quotes: "Thou shalt inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by the herds, that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land, thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground or wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or perish from off the face of the earth."

Katie Flahive, EPA, gave an update on Hypoxia Task Force. The Task Force comprised of 5 federal agencies, 12 state agencies and tribes with the goal of to reduce the size of the hypoxia zone to less than 5000 km2 by 2035. Their interim target is to achieve a 20% reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus loading by 2025. Based on NOAA's imagery, it appears that things are on track to meet their goals which were reported to Congress in 2017.

Wednesday, August 1 – Manzano Mountains Watershed Restoration

This all day tour visited multiple sites within the Manzano Mountain watershed to observe restoration activities after wildfires caused tremendous damage. We observed areas devastated by the 2016 Chilili Land Grant Fire (17,836 acres), the 2008 Manzano Mountain Retreat-Trigo Fire (13,708 acres) and the 2007-2008 Ox Canyon-Ojo Peak Fire (6,970 acres) and the restoration efforts that



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followed. The tour concluded at the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument-Quarai Ruins. The national monument encompasses archaeological remains of prehistoric Native American settlements and historic remains of a pueblo abandoned in the 1670's during the Spanish colonial period which included a 17th century Spanish mission ruins.

An Aldo Leopold's quote given at the conference: "The landscape of any farm is the owner's portrait of himself"



L to R: Richard Reid, Burlington, TX; Mike Kucera, Lincoln, NE; Tom Mountford, Lower Platte North NRD -Nebraska Chapter SWCS Delegate to the conference.



National meeting tour site of the Manzano Mountain watershed to observe restoration activities after wildfires caused tremendous damage.

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National meeting tour site of the Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument-Quarai Ruins.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN GERING Darwin Hinrichs

The 2018 Nebraska SWCS Chapter Annual State Meeting was held June 21-23 in Gering, Nebraska at The Legacy of the Plains Museum.

Kevin Hutsell, Nebraska NRCS State Irrigation Engineer, was the first speaker. Kevin stated his main goal is to improve water use efficiency for producers using training and demonstrations. He explained the meaning of a soils holding capacity, wilting point and how the available water capacity of a soil is determined. This was then used with the term MAC (Management Allowable Capacity) which lets producers determine when to start irrigating again. NRCS has cost share programs through EQIP and CStP which producers can apply for financial assistance for Irrigation Water Management (IWM). These programs require monitoring stations, a recorder and an end of the season report from the producer. This report will require flow meter readings, rainfall records and field notes throughout the growing season. The Mag meter is one that is recommended and uses government cost share funds.

Gary Stone, UNL Extension Educator stationed out of Scottsbluff, was the second speaker. Gary gave a history report on the North Platte River Basin starting from 1909. The first major project for the basin was the completion of Pathfinder Dam built using concrete blocks and a lot had labor. It was finished in1909. There were many projects completed in the North Platte River Basin over the next



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35-40 years. Some of these were: Whalen Dam, Guernsey Dam, Seminoe Dam, Alcoa, Glendo, Kortes and Grayrocks Dam. In addition to dams there were also power plants installed and we had Lake McConaughy completed in 1935. The U.S. Supreme Court gave out the decree for water allocation in the basin giving Wyoming 25% and Nebraska 75%. Gary did a very good job explaining the early history of water allocations as well as the good and bad points of it.

Beth Eckles, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources in Lincoln, provided a presentation on how to balance the use of surface and groundwater in Nebraska. There are several Intergrated Management Plans (IMP) to follow in managing our water. The Basin Wide Plan includes all users in on the planning and all NRD's in the basin area will work together on it. Additionally, for the surface water users they will need to use their water rights once in five years or risk losing their water right. This follows the water rights law called Prior Appropriation and used in Nebraska since 1895. Beth concluded her talk by stating IMP startups should involve many areas, people and groups and hold hearings in all areas for public comment and questions.

The last presentation was on the North Platte NRD Greenhouse Project. This was presented by Barb Cross, NPNRD Assistant Manager, and Jennifer Berge-. This project uses the unique idea system of using geothermal ground temperature air to heat and cool this greenhouse. Pictures of construction showing the air tubes being placed at least four feet in the ground for a stable air supply were included in the presentation. Produce coming from this greenhouse is given to veterans and lowincome recipients. They have many volunteers who come out to help at the project. Besides vegetable crops they are also growing small dwarf fruit trees, fruiting shrubs and just now looking at growing the vanilla bean.

The group had an opportunity to tour the Legacy of the Plains Museum during the meeting and Friday afternoon consisted of a tour of the Gering/ Fort Laramie Irrigation District conducted by Rick Preston, District Manager. The group viewed parts of the canal, water inlets and outlets showing how water is moved for irrigation. It was amazing to see how water is moved by a tunnel dug mostly by hand from one side of the high cliffs to the other side of these high areas. It was approximately a mile long with diggers operating on both sides and meeting within a few inches of each other at the center. The last stop of the tour was at the Gering/Fort Laramie Irrigation SWCS NEWS – Page 7 District office where Rick provided many facts and figures on the management of water in this area.

More on the annual meeting including the business meeting minutes can be found on the <u>Nebraska SWCS</u> <u>website</u>. Thank you to Robin Foulk, Edwin Harms, Dallas Johannsen and Sarah Gray for organizing the annual meeting.



Annual meeting participants toured portions of the Gering-Fort Laramie Irrigation District canal system with the districts manager Rick Preston (far left above).





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SWCS member "horsepower" at the Legacy of the Plains Museum. L to R: Kris Reed, Anita Nein, Steve Nein, Corey Brubaker, Edwin Harms, Doug Garrison, Robin Foulk and Darwin Hinrichs.

NRCS WORKING TO CHART "NRCS OF THE FUTURE" Craig Derickson

NRCS is embarking on a project called "NRCS of the Future" to help the agency improve customer experience, and also to make NRCS a great place for employees to work. This effort began in March of 2018 with a gathering in Norman, OK, of all State Conservationists and many national leaders from the NRCS National Headquarters.

NRCS leaders believe the Agency has always been customer focused. But there is now a calling to take customer service to higher level and focus on 'customer experience', or CX as it is known in the business world.

In June, Acting Chief Leonard Jordan sent a message to all NRCS employees describing how NRCS is planning for the future; examining every facet of our agency and figuring out how we can make customer experience better – from the programs and services we offer, to how we're structured, to what tools, resources and technology are available that may help us do our jobs better.

Over the past several months, NRCS leadership has been taking a hard look at where we stand today, talking with our customers, our employees and each other, and coming up with a plan for where we want to be in 10 years and SWCS NEWS – Page 8 how to get there. Craig Derickson, Nebraska State Conservationist is national Co-Chair of the NRCS of the Future initiative, along with Gayle Barry, special assistant state conservationist with NRCS in California.

The plan NRCS is developing is action-oriented, with specific deliverables, deadlines and expectations for results. NRCS senior leaders from State Conservationist's to Deputy Chief's are assigned and accountable for each deliverable.

The NRCS has identified five key focus areas. They are called "The Five Ps":

- 1. **PEOPLE:** Supporting our employees' needs and having the people we need in place to fulfill our mission.
- 2. PROGRAMS: Improving our program delivery.
- **3. POLICY AND PROCESS:** Simplifying how we do things and making sure our services are science-based, data driven and tap into the latest tools and technology.
- **4. PARTNERS:** Harnessing the power of partnership to meet our mutual goals.
- **5. PHILOSOPHY:** Aligning our mission with our vision for the future.

In the coming weeks and months, NRCS employees and partners will get updates on how we're progressing in each of these focus areas. In the end, our hope is to make our customer service – and employee experience, the absolute best it can be. We desire to have our systems, practices and programs be optimally relevant, impactful and help NRCS deliver on our conservation mission. We want every employee to have what they need to do their jobs, and we want our partners to continue to shine and become even more integrated in our work and our conservation delivery.

As Acting Chief Jordan stated: "It's important to keep our eye on the prize: We serve our customers because our customers serve America. Our customers are feeding families in this country and around the world. The improvements they're making are protecting our soil, our air and our water supply – for this generation and the next."



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NRCS leaders across the nation are involved in the initiative and remind employees that NRCS of the Future is *their* future and that everyone should get involved. More information will be made available to all NRCS employees soon.

UNL SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES CLUB UPDATE

Ema Muslic and Samuel Hansen – UNL Soil and Water Resources Club President and Vice President

The UNL Soil and Water Resources club has been meeting bi-weekly since the beginning of the school year to talk about upcoming club events, conferences, and opportunities for conversations with professionals. A big goal this year is to find more hands-on opportunities for club members to get an idea of the variety of careers in soil and water resource disciplines.

With the generous help of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS), the club has been able to sign club members up for national soil and water conservation society professional membership, purchase club t-shirts, and help fund water sampling trips such as last year's kayaking down the Niobrara.

Over the past two years, the club was fortunate to get some first-hand experience doing a citizen science water sampling program through the Nebraska Watershed Network, a research initiative focused on mapping water quality of lakes and streams around the state.

The 2018 fall semester kicked off with a club grill out at Dr. Thomas Franti's home, this event included meeting new members and brainstorming the direction for the club for the 2018-19 year. Some potential upcoming events are guest speakers in the natural resource industry, tours of local facilities such as Li-COR, a local wetland cleanup with the aid of an engineering consulting group, and participation in conferences in the area. One social event that the club is excited about planning is a group kayaking trip down the Elkhorn River.

The club is very appreciative of the continued support from the SWCS and is looking forward to collaborating this year and in the future. Thank you!





Photos from UNL Soil and Water Resources club activities.

IN THE NEWS.....

<u>UNL Soil Judging Team Brings Home Gold</u> with the help of SWCS 2017-18 scholarship winners Samantha Teton and Kolby Grint

SWCS 2017-18 scholarship winner Alexa Davis <u>UNL</u> <u>Alumni Spotlight</u>

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SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION FOUNDATION Kris Reed

All Nebraska SWCS Chapter members are members of the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Foundation, and the Foundation Board of Directors would like to hear from you regarding ideas for educational or demonstration type projects. Look around your office or those you associate with to see if you know someone who would benefit from a grant or scholarship.

If you have not done so, please help promote these scholarship opportunities to students and colleges in your area. The Scholarship Committee will be reviewing student applications in November. See how our donations are working in the scholarship article in this issue and consider a donation to help the next round of scholarship recipients.

As always, Foundation "tribute cards" can be used to make a donation to the Foundation by recognizing someone with a memorial or to recognize a memorable milestone in their career or family life. Tribute cards can be requested from any Foundation member. Please see the updated Foundation brochure at nebraskaswcs.org for more information. In addition, take a look at the Honor Roll of Memorials and Recognition.

2018-19 NSWC Foundation board members are:

President- Kris Reed Vice President - Ed Harms Secretary – Mike Kucera Treasurer and Registered Agent – Craig Romary Director – Dick Ehrman Chapter President – Robin Foulk (non-voting member)

BECOME A CORPORATE MEMBER

Do you belong to a business or organization looking to support natural resources and SWCS? Check out the benefits of corporate SWCS membership at <u>bit.ly/SWCScorp2</u> including international exposure and identity at SWCS events, in publications and with social media.

2019 SWCS LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Nebraska SWCS chapter is soliciting ideas for topics for the upcoming 2019 legislative breakfast. Please submit topic ideas to <u>clrpkrne@windstream.net</u> by 11/20/2018.

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Nebraska SWCS Chapter 4967 Lariat Loop Torrington, WY 82240

<u>BALLOT</u> – Nebraska Soil and Water Conservation Foundation Board of Director, 5-year term

VOTE FOR ONE

Edwin Harms, Bridgeport, NE – Born and raised in the Holdrege area, he is a retired resource conservationist from NRCS. Served as a conservationist since 1969... in Alma, Chappell, Lincoln, Wahoo, Columbus, Bridgeport, Harrisburg, & Oshkosh offices of SCS/NRCS. Has been an SWCS member since 1969; past president in 1982.

(Write in name)

Return Ballot by mail or email to:

Kris Reed 1629 140 Road Pleasant Dale, NE 68423-9000 Keystone1447@windstream.net

All SWCS members are eligible to vote.

Ballot must be received by November 20, 2018