



# Nebraska Society News

*Soil and Water Conservation Society*

## May 1999 Newsletter

### Officers 1998-1999

|                |                 |              |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President      | Ron Bauer       | 402-489-5050 |
| Vice President | Ed Harms        | 308-262-0680 |
| Secretary      | Stephanie King  | 308-327-2141 |
| Treasurer      | Dave Langemeier | 402-486-1361 |

<http://incolor.inetnebr.com/dougg/swcs/>

### 1999 SWCS ANNUAL MEETING

Final arrangements have been made for the SWCS 1999 Nebraska Chapter Meeting - "ANIMAL WASTE- MORE THAN MEETS THE NOSE". Now it's your turn to make arrangements. Plan on joining fellow members from across the state in Lincoln, June 16-18, 1999.

Wednesday begins with facilitate activities choose from these local opportunities: Folsom Children's Zoo and Botanical Garden 27th and B street 402 475 6741, Shelton Memorial Art Gallery UNL 12th and R street 402 472 2461, NE State Historical Society 1st and P street 402 471 4754, Lincoln Children's Museum 13th and O street 402 477 4000, Morrill Hall, Elephant Hall, Encounter Center, Mueller Planetarium UNL 14th and U street 402 472 2642, Pioneer Park 3201 S Coddington 402 441 7895, Haymarket 7th to 9th and P to Q streets 402 435 7496, Gateway Mall 61st and O street 402 464 3196, Star City Shores (Water Park) 27th and Highway 2 402 441 6670, Exit 426 Interstate 80 Strategic Air Command (SAC) Museum 1 800 358 5029 and Mahoney State Park and Wildlife Safari 402 944 9453, Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau 402 434 5348 or 1 800 423 8212 [www.lincoln.org/cvb](http://www.lincoln.org/cvb).

Wednesday evening concludes with a catered picnic/awards/NRCS-SCS retirees at Antelope Park. Meet at the enclosed shelter near 33rd and Normal Blvd.

Thursday meet at UNL East Campus Union, Cottonwood Room 3rd floor. The days program will start here. At 11:30 the group will depart by bus for ARDC, R&E Center at Mead Nebraska for lunch, presentations and site visits.

Plan on meeting in the Cottonwood Room again at 8:00 AM Friday for the start of the final day activities. The morning session will be highlighted with a panel discussion and open group discussion. SWCS Board meeting will follow.

Find more details on the Annual Meetings agenda along with registration information enclosed in this newsletter. Further information can also be found on our web page: [www.incolor.inetnebr.com/dougg/swcs/](http://www.incolor.inetnebr.com/dougg/swcs/)

### Welcome These New Members!

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Kendis Willet</b><br>Beatrice, NE      | <b>Owen J. Kvittum</b><br>Lincoln, NE |
| <b>Galen Erickson</b><br>Lincoln, NE      | <b>Larry Cutforth</b><br>Lincoln, NE  |
| <b>Tom Schleich</b><br>Lincoln, NE        | <b>Howard Clyma</b><br>Lincoln, NE    |
| <b>Rena I. Conner</b><br>Lincoln, NE      | <b>Renee A. Jones</b><br>Alma, NE     |
| <b>Glendel C. Einspahr</b><br>Norfolk, NE | <b>Sarah Workman</b><br>Lincoln, NE   |

### SWCS Scholarship Winners

The Nebraska Chapter and the Northeast Nebraska Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society have a scholarship fund with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Foundation. The annual interest on this fund currently enables us to give two \$500 scholarships.

The two 1998-99 scholarship winners are Karen Faulkner and Jennifer Kaslon. They both attend the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Karen Faulkner is a Junior majoring in Soil Science. She comes from the urban setting of Oak Lawn, Illinois where she was active in FFA. Karen spent the past two summers working for the Natural Resource Conservation Service in a Soil Survey Update office in Illinois. Her goal is to have a career in the field of natural resources.

Jennifer Kaslon is a Junior majoring in Agronomy. She comes from Ashton, Nebraska and grew up on a farm/ranch operation. Jennifer was involved in FFA while at Loup City High School. Her goal is to obtain a job within a coop where she can work to be a good steward of the land and continue hands on practices such as soil and water testing of fields and make the correct recommendations for the land.

The Nebraska chapters congratulate these two winners. As a member, please congratulate them when you see them and encourage them to stay in the natural resources field for their careers.

## President's Message

Profession, professional, professional society. All encompassing words or group of words. There are many professions and professionals in the world. Likewise, there are many professional societies and organizations. Our society, the "Soil and Water Conservation Society", is a nonprofit, scientific, and educational organization of professional conservations. The SWCS fosters the science and art of soil, water and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability. We promote and practice an ethic recognizing the interdependence of people and the environment. Our organization consists of an international headquarters and of local chapters.

Local chapters are a strength of our society and a very important part of accomplishing our goals and mission. To ensure strong and viable chapters, "Chapter development workshops" are frequently held. These workshops are on a regional and national basis. This year the Northern Plains Region of the SWCS held a workshop in Gillette, Wyoming. In August at the annual conference in Biloxi, a one-day chapter development workshop is planned. Robin Foulk and I availed ourselves to attend the workshop in Gillette. (Robin has a brief report of the workshop elsewhere in this newsletter.) Other chapter activities are the Legislative Breakfast, the "Grass Plots" at State Fair Park, awarding of scholarships, and participating in the Groundwater Festival are but a few.

I have rambled on long enough. What I am really trying to do is encourage more participation of our SWCS members in Chapter activities. We do need more participation in the Chapter Development Workshops. When you receive registration materials for the Annual Conference in Biloxi I hope that many of you who will be able to attend the Conference will also attend the workshop. There was sufficient interest in the Northern Plains regional workshop that I'm sure there will be another one next year.

We always need articles for our Newsletter. Doug Garrison, our editor is eager to print your activities. We need your ideas and help for fund raising activities. As I mentioned, we do award scholarships, we often (when funds are available) provide stipends to students to attend the SWCS Annual Conference and also our State meeting.

I am also seeking your ideas and thoughts for chapter and area activities. I am also seeking your interest in running for a chapter office, be on the board of directors, or be on a committee. The fund raising and membership committees always need help. I have

asked Dave Lightle to be the chapter representative for the Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control program (CPESC).

Included with this newsletter is information for our Nebraska annual conference and ballot materials. Please return your marked ballots as soon as possible. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again at our summer meeting in Lincoln.

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## RAFFLE RESULTS

The Nebraska Section SWCS completed their first major fund raising project this past February 23, 1999 at the International SRM Meeting in Omaha, NE. Two prints were raffled off and awarded to the lucky winners. Our congratulations to:

**Karen Kelty**, Lincoln Nebraska - 1872 NE Map Watercolor, and

**Penny Galinat**, Pierre So. Dakota - Surveying the Sandhills print.

After several months of preparing for and selling tickets to reach a reasonable goal of \$1500.00, the project generated a profit of \$238.89. Each of the 200 plus members were sent 5 tickets in a newsletter mailing and asked to sell them for \$1.00 each. Less than 20% of the membership complied.

During the '98/'99 year, our state association outlined some specific goals that we as a membership would like to see happen. However, these goals will not happen by themselves nor without the funds to support them. Clearly, we will not accomplish these goals with \$238.89

To those individuals who supported this fund raising drive, your participation is greatly appreciated, and your desire to strengthen and improve our organization is duly noted. Thank you.

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## Even Though You Didn't Win...

Anyone who would be interested in purchasing either the Watercolor of the "1872 Nebraska Map" or the "Surveying the Sandhills" print by Mel Gerhold, can do so by contacting, Rollin Curd at 308-432-5676. The Map comes either in black and white or watercolor and sells for \$30.00 or \$50.00 respectively. The Limited Edition print comes with a double matt and sells for approximately \$30.00. Rollin donates all proceeds from these prints to the Nebraska Surveyors Association scholarship fund for Chadron State College.

Any left over tickets that members may have, please return them to an SWCS Officer or Chair, so that they may be reused in the future.

## **SWCS Co-Sponsors Workshop**

The SWCS Nebraska Chapter was a co-sponsor of the Biotechnical Streambank Protection Measures Workshop. This two-day workshop was held in March at the Arbor Day Farm/Lied Conference Center in Nebraska City. Biotechnical streambank protection involves the use of live tree and shrub cuttings to stabilize streambanks. The workshop involved classroom presentations on planning and designing protection measures and field experience installing the techniques.

The USDA National Agroforestry Center was the main sponsor of the workshop.

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### **Your Input Requested**

The Fund Raising Committee will be asking for some input from the membership on the Fund Raising efforts and the direction it should be going. Even though we did not meet our expectations with our raffle this year, there are certain issues that need to be addressed. The Fund Raising Chair, feels there needs to be some criteria set up and voted on by the members at our June meeting as to how our state organization will commit these funds. An example would be:

- 25% remaining in budget for future fund raising projects
- 25% to offset registration fees for delegate to National meeting
- 20% assist with state meetings (speakers, etc...)
- 30% NE SWCS sponsored outreach activities such as symposiums, conferences, workshops...

Perhaps an increase in state dues would be an appropriate means of fund raising. Please remember, these are only suggestions to start you thinking about this topic. However, it is believed that we need to have a better understanding of what and why we are raising money. Many of you have great ideas, so please come to the next meeting ready to share them.

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### **Northern Plains Leadership Workshop**

Robin Foulk and Ron Bauer attended the Leadership workshop in Gillette Wyoming, March 4-5, 1999 for Nebraska.

John Knapp gave a report for the program committee. He said the NASCD annual meeting was going to be held near the end of January, 2000 at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado, Springs. Soil Symposium will be held in Denver in near future.

Teleconference with NP SWCS leaders and Craig Cox, Exec. Dir., SWCS and Dennis Pate, Pres. SWCS.

Membership was discussed -on how to recruit and hold membership.

NRCS budget was also discussed. It was stressed SWCS should be heard and members were asked to send letters and phone calls to congress.

An article entitled "Given the Pinkslip" from Illinois SWCS chapter was shared with the NP leaders. The article stated how NRCS in Illinois will be effected by proposed budget.

Individual Awards for SWCS were discussed. The different awards are Fellow, Hugh Hammond Bennett, Commendation, Outstanding Service Award, Honor, Merit and Chapter Awards. Chapters were encouraged to show support of members via awards.

Membership Week is 11/99. Robin Foulk, NP's representative on the National Membership Committee, explained much discussion has taken place to assist chapters in retaining and gaining new members. Such as membership discounts, stipends for SWCS workshops, membership benefits associated with the different levels of membership (i.e. publications), marketing SWCS, and sending letters to those who have terminated membership. Delegates will be voting on membership issues at National Meeting in Biloxi, MS in August.

Water Quality Exam is available on the internet: [www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/nedc/homepage.html](http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/nedc/homepage.html)

Financing Chapters of SWCS was discussed. The following ways are available: national meetings, workshops and symposiums, membership dues, selling items, raffles, auctions, service contracts, contributions, donations, foundations and endowments. Craig Cox, during the teleconference, explained the national SWCS office essentially does not have a fund available for local chapters to request financial assistance.

The AFO Meeting is being held in Denver, Colorado, December 5,6,and 7, 1999. It will probably be held at the Marriott at DIA. SWCS is a cosponsor, if anyone wants to help, Robin Foulk has the name to contact.

It was stressed, Chapters need to develop strategic plans. Other needs identified are finance, accounting assistance, mailing labels, advanced training opportunities.

States represented at the NP Leadership Workshop were Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

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### **'Beautiful' Fund Raising Opportunity**

Here is a list of communities involved in the Keep America Beautiful campaign. During a recent teleconference Robin stated that local chapters could request DEQ mini-grants to do the cleanup and make \$150 or so. Might be a good item for a local fund raiser or to help send people to annual meeting in Mississippi.

- Keep Alliance Beautiful 308-762-1729
- Keep Beatrice Beautiful 402-228-4576
- Keep Broken Bow Beautiful 308-872-5691
- Keep Chadron Beautiful 308-432-3805
- Keep Columbus Beautiful 402-564-7375
- Keep Crieghton Beautiful 402-358-3720
- Keep Fremont Beautiful 402-727-2808
- Grand Island Area Clean Comnty. System  
308-385-5095
- Keep Lexington Beautiful 308-324-7986
- Keep Nebraska Beautiful 402-496-4562
- Keep Norfolk Beautiful 402-379-3260
- Keep Northeast Nebraska Beautiful 712-279-6286
- Keep Kimball Beautiful 308-235-3472
- Keep Lincoln & Lancaster Co. Beautiful  
402-441-8035
- Keep North Platte/Lincoln County Beautiful  
308-534-8100
- Keep Omaha Beautiful 402-444-7774
- Keep Sheridan County Beautiful 308-327-2221
- Keep Scottsbluff-Gering Beautiful 800-486-4562

### **Golfers Wanted**

The Third Annual SWCS Golf Tournament is scheduled for late August or early September, 1999. The exact date and the location will be determined later. Watch for more details and/or contact David Langemeier later for more information.



### *Soil Survey Centennial 1899 - 1999*

#### Information Sheets:

[www.statlab.iastate.edu/survey/SQI/](http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/survey/SQI/)

#### Centennial Products (mugs, hats...):

NACD 1-804-443-2484

#### "Sustaining Our Soils and Society" publication:

AGI - [www.agiweb.org/](http://www.agiweb.org/) or 703-379-2480

#### Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GOLBE)

[www.globe.gov](http://www.globe.gov)

#### Imagination Factory teaches children...

[users.hsonline.net/kidatart/](http://users.hsonline.net/kidatart/)

#### Soil in the Farm Ecosystem:

[topaz.kenyon.edu/projects/farmschool/nature/soil.htm](http://topaz.kenyon.edu/projects/farmschool/nature/soil.htm)

#### Urban soils:

[www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/nssc/urban/urbnhome.htm](http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/nssc/urban/urbnhome.htm)

#### National Soil Survey Center (NSSC)

[www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/nssc/index.html](http://www.statlab.iastate.edu/soils/nssc/index.html)