



Employee Messenger

Volume 25-1, Issue 1



President's Message

By: Sandy Hutchison, MSWCDEA President

They say that everything happens for a reason. I considered this newsletter done and was about to post it online, then I looked at the clock and thought "What am I still doing up?". So here I am re-thinking what I wrote. Don't you wish that sometimes we could do that with what we say or write in an email? I think we would all like a "do-over" in some things. Ok, enough pondering!

Thinking back over the last couple months and looking at the assortment of photos that are included in this newsletter, I would first like to say congratulations to all the recipients of the awards that were given at the Training Conference in December. The conference was once again packed with a full schedule and it was formatted so the Soil & Water Districts Commission, MASWCD and MSWCDEA Annual Meetings did not overlap. There was also a wide variety of workshops. One of my favorite things to do at the Training Conference is to visit with everyone. It is one of the few times of the year that we can gather together to learn from each other, get ideas and share information with our agency partners, fellow employees and board members. It's amazing what you can learn when you just take the time to listen.

Speaking of listening, you've heard the commercial where the guy asks "Can you hear me now?". I have been very busy listening to you and your concerns with recent issues. They have not gone unheard. Keep in contact by email or phone to myself or your area rep. The next rep board meeting is March 2nd where we will be discussing these concerns. *Keep up the great work you do in your districts, always listen with an open mind and take the time to think before you act. You may be glad you did! ☺*

T-Shirts Given To MSWCDEA Members

Are you a dues paying member of the Employees Association? If you attended the annual meeting at Tan-Tar-A, you found out that you could pick up a free t-shirt for simply being a member. The area reps agreed to use some of our funds earned from proceeds from past trade shows and silent auctions as a small thank you for your dedication and for all the work you do for your districts.

If you weren't at the meeting and/or we ran out of your size, we will making another order at the end of March. All associate members can also get a t-shirt. Let us know what size you need by March 31st. Email sandy.hutchison@swcd.mo.gov soon and if we have your size already, your area rep can pick it up at our next MSWCDEA training/meeting on March 2nd.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Scholarship Applications Due March 15th</i> | 2 |
| <i>2010 Scholarship Winners</i> | 2-3 |
| <i>Minutes of 11-29-2010</i> | 4 |
| <i>MASWCD & MSWCDEA Recognizes Employees</i> | 5 |
| <i>Technicians Pass Tech II Certification</i> | 5 |
| <i>Minutes of 11-29-2010 continued</i> | 6 |
| <i>SWCD Family News</i> | 6 |
| <i>Welcome New District Employees</i> | 7 |
| <i>Minutes of 11-30-2010</i> | 8-9 |
| <i>Treasurer's Report</i> | 9 |
| <i>Years of Service Awards</i> | 10 |
| <i>MSWCDEA Area Awards</i> | 11 |
| <i>MSWCDEA State Awards</i> | 12 |
| <i>End of Another Year</i> | 13 |
| <i>Check This Out!</i> | 13 |
| <i>Silent Auction, Hospitality Room & 2011 Women In Ag Conference News</i> | 14 |

It's Time To Send In Your Scholarship Application

Are you or an immediate family member making plans to attend college this fall? Would you like a little extra cash to help with books or tuition? Why not fill out an application to see if you or a relative is chosen to be awarded one of the MSWCDEA scholarships this year.

The MSWCDEA awards one (1) scholarship per SWCD area for \$500.00. The application can be found at our website www.mswcdea.net. Select the Scholarships tab where you will find the criteria and the link to the Scholarship Application.

Contact Denise Yamnitz at: denise.yamnitz@swcd.mo.gov or call 573-243-1467 Extension 3 with any questions.



Deadline: March 15, 2011

Let's Meet Some Of Our 2010 Scholarship Winners

Area 3—Monte Buck, Audrain County District Technician II

Monte Buck began his employment with the Audrain County SWCD in 2009 and passed his Technician II Certification in July 2010. He graduated from Mexico High School in 2007 where he was a leader in their FFA chapter and received the American FFA Degree at the National Convention in 2008.

After attending one semester at the University of Missouri in the fall of 2007, he decided he was not destined to be a traditional student. He transferred to the Moberly Area Community College and took night classes at their Mexico campus and began working full time.

He began an adult studies business Management program at William Woods University in the fall of 2009 at the same time starting his career with Audrain County SWCD. He has his mind set to graduating and would be the first in his family to get a college degree.



Area 4—Bradley Vollmer, son of Terry Vollmer, Cooper County District Technician II

Bradley Vollmer is a senior at Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly University of Missouri Rolla) majoring in Mining engineering with a minor in Political Science. His plans after graduation include working in the mining field, preferable in the aggregate industry on the surface where his duties would include: what equipment to use, the most economic way to get the rock out of the ground and get rid of the waste and the best way to design the mine with safety in mind. Day to day duties would be making computer based designs to plan for future production or to work with the drilling and blasting crew to break the hard formation into smaller pieces so it can be moved to the processing plant. Another duty would include being a crew foreman to directly help with production and to increase production.



When applying for the scholarship, Bradley noted that he needed to take the following classes to earn his degree: Calculus, Physics, Geology, Mineral Processing, Mine Transport, Surface Mining, Mining Economics, Drilling and Blasting, Surface Mining, surveying and Computer Design.

Area 5—Kelly Dunlap, daughter of Theresa Dunlap, St. Charles County Info/Ed Specialist



At the time that Kelly Dunlap applied for the scholarship in Area 5, she was a senior at Timberland High School in St. Charles County. Her plans are to study wildlife conservation and management at Missouri State University in Springfield. She realizes that the career field is very competitive and states that no matter what she does, she wants a job that gets her outside in nature and allows her to work towards protecting resources for future generations.

When she was very little, she loved being outside. Her parents like to tell stories of how she would capture bugs and bring them to mom and asked her to pet them. Of course, mom would knock the bugs out of her hands. As years passed, her curiosity and passion for the environment only grew. She states that she is fascinated by the interconnectedness of everything.

Kelly enjoys designing print media and power-points and has taken the lead on several projects. One of which is her work with Pennies for Patients, a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She really enjoyed designing the t-shirts, words and image and then working with the design shop to get the image on the t-shirts. She has participated in the Relay for Life, Clean Stream, St. Louis Regional Envirothon and was a camp counselor.

Area 6—Ashley Jenkins, daughter of Deneen Jenkins, Greene County District Manager

Ashley Jenkins describes that throughout her life, she has been pretty much a go-getter. Her parents have raised her with a strong work ethic and taught her to be independent, both of which she is very thankful for. Because of both of these qualities, she is very excited to continue her education, then go on to start her career.

For most of her life she knew she wanted to work with kids, she just wasn't sure as to what specific field she wanted to study. About three years ago, she was working with five year olds at her churches Vacation Bible School and she states that God opened her eyes to her calling. She had a young man who had Autism. Before this, she had never worked with a disabled child, but after those five days, she knew that's where she belonged. Since then she has worked with her local pre-k, and 1st/2nd grade special needs classes and absolutely Loves it! Everyday no matter what mood she is in, they can always put a smile on her face.

Ashley's plans include attending Southwest Baptist University, taking elementary education as her major and early childhood as her minor.



Area 8—Jennifer Johns, daughter of Janet Johns, Stoddard County District Manager



Jennifer Johns' pursuing a post-secondary education will open many doors to her future. Attending college will help her to become better equipped to achieve the personal goals she has set for herself.

One of her goals is to become a successful business woman. Growing up as part of a family business first sparked her interest in the field of business. She began waiting on customers when she was nine. Over the years, she has taken on more responsibilities in the day to day operation of her family's orchard. The past two summers, both of her parents had full-time jobs off the farm. Due to these circumstances, she stepped in and ran the retail side of the business. Two summers ago, she also started her own business selling jams and jellies made from the fruit she helped raise. Last summer, she expanded to have ten different kinds of jams and jellies.

She states that her goal of becoming a successful business woman in starting to come true but will only be fully possible through furthering her education.

Draft

Missouri Soil and Water Conservation District Employees Association
Tan-Tar-A Resort, Room 203
Osage Beach, MO
November 29, 2010

The Missouri Soil and Water Conservation District Employees Association meeting was called to order on November 29, 2010 at 12:07 p.m. by President Sandy Hutchison. Members in attendance were Area 2 – Wendy Bowen and Jerry Becker, Area 3 – Chris Terry, Debbie Scherder and Brian Harvey, Area 4 – Jamie Bokern and Nancy Kirby, Area 5 – Debbie Niederer and Charlie Perkins, Area 6 – Roger Ankrom and Melissa White, Area 7 – Sandy Hutchison, Area 8 – Paula Meier and Denise Yamnitz, Program Office – Jim Boschert.

Correspondence –

Sandy Hutchison read a Thank You from Debbie Gudgell.

Approval of Minutes –

A motion was made by Paula Meier to approve the August 16, 2010 minutes as sent out by email. Jamie Bokern seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report –

Wendy Bowen presented the attached treasurer's report. A motion was made by Debbie Niederer and seconded by Chris Terry to approve the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership and Dues –

Wendy Bowen presented the attached report for employee and associate members.

DNR Report –

- Jim Boschert reported that MoSWIMS is at \$21.1 million.
 - Training for Time Sheets should be in the next 2 months and will be done by Webinar.
 - Training for the Accounting System should take place in the spring and should be complete by July 1.
- Audits have begun and should be complete by March 31.

NRCS – No Report

MASWCD – No Report

Newsletter –

Anyone interested in volunteering to handle the newsletter needs to contact Sandy.

Scholarship Update –

Denise Yamnitz will send out an email to all employees reminding them of the deadline.

Training Conference –

- Trade Show – Debbie Niederer reported 20 vendors, an increase from last year. We will discuss rates for next year at a future meeting.
- Silent Auction – Charlie Perkins passed around the work schedule. A few slots were still open. Raffle tickets were being sold for a pedal tractor for MSWCDEA and a quilt for Envirothon. A box was set up for the Vendor Punch Cards to be turned in.
- State Awards – Paula Meier has the plaques and Sandy Hutchison will present the awards at the Tuesday Lunch.
- Length of Service Awards – Paula Meier has the certificates and pins ready.
- Hospitality Room – Nancy Kirby and Chris Terry reported that they had enough food and drinks for Monday. The room would be open Monday and Tuesday 8:00 – 11:00 p.m.
- Sandy announced that the MSWCDEA Annual Meeting will be Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in Salon A and the Conservation Partner Forum would be Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in Salon A.

Sandy asked for volunteers to help hand out t-shirts after the Conservation Partner Forum in the registration area outside Salon A.

(Continued on page 6)

District Employees Recognized For Development Of MRBI Proposals

The Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Districts Employees Association recognized 11 employees for their contributions to the proposals for the Mississippi River Basin Initiative. They were instrumental in developing these proposals that were approved in 2010. MASWCD and MSWCDEA wish to thank you for your assistance in acquiring these funds for our landowners.



Certificates were presented to (left to right): Britney Brundage, Putnam County; Eric Gladbach, Chariton County; Tammy Bennett, New Madrid County; Joe Ahnefeld, Carroll County; Kevin Stover, Grundy County; Carol Hubbard, Shelby County; and Caroline Frazier, Butler County. Not pictured: Matt Clark, Mercer County; Josh Lemmons, Stoddard County; Jackie Rogers, Audrain County and Trevor Stillwell, Linn County.

Eleven More Employees Awarded Technician II Certifications

Congratulations to the latest group of employees to pass the Tech II Certification!!! After the testing was completed at the Training Conference and the scores were totaled, eleven of our fellow employees can boast that they passed! They are: Jeremy Ellis, Andrew County; Correy Adkins, Buchanan County; Jason Holt, Daviess County; Kevin Stover, Grundy County; Melvin Baker, Harrison County; Travis Kent, Holt County; Fred Stevens, Nodaway County; Jason Kemper and Freda Johnson both from Oregon County; Jason Bolte, Pike County and Lafe Schweissguth, Warren County.

Counting these 11 new Tech IIs, the number of technicians who have passed the baseline certification totals 121. Of these, 17 are no longer employed with their districts but 7 of those 17 are now working for NRCS.



Old Business –

Mentoring Program – Sandy is preparing a sheet to pass out at the Annual Meeting to ask for volunteers to be listed on our website. Some areas that were discussed were Cost Share, CMT, Election Rules, Time Sheets, Accounting, Tech II, and Insurance. These volunteers would have their contact information on the website and be willing to answer questions.

New Business –

- 2011 NACD Annual Meeting – Nancy Kirby made a motion to pay for Sandy to attend the NACD Annual Meeting, not to exceed \$1500.00. Debbie Niederer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A motion was made by Charlie Perkins and seconded by Melissa White to pay NACD dues in the amount of \$200.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Other –

- Discussion was had about Vendor Forms expiring.
- A Thank You note from Southwest Baptist University for Ashley Jenkins' scholarship was read.
- Women in Ag will possibly be held in Boonville.
- Sandy had a plaque for Shelly Sumpter for her years of dedication to the MSWCDEA.

Next Meeting – Will be scheduled for February and anyone interested in handling the training should contact Sandy.

A motion was made by Debbie Niederer and seconded by Paula Meier to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

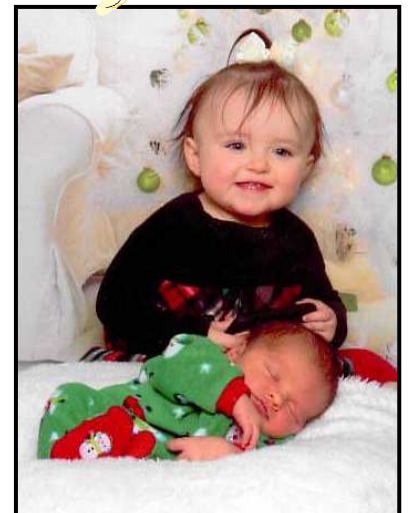
SWCD Family News



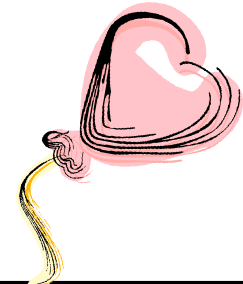
Emily Rose Stubbs was born August 24, 2010 to Jason and Sarah Stubbs (Program Specialist II for Oregon County SWCD). Emily weighed 8 lbs 7 oz and was 20 3/4 inches long. Sarah reports the new family is doing wonderful.



Isabel Rose Nagel arrived on October 12th 2010 weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz ; 20 1/4 inches long. She joins big brother Jonathan and big sister Emma. Parents are Dan and Angela Nagel. Angela is the Program Specialist II in Linn County.



Tammy Townsend, Carter County Manager is proud of her grandbabies, Elly & Josiah. Josiah Dean Townsend was born on Dec. 16 at the Poplar Bluff Regional Med. Center. He weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and was 19 inches long. His parents are her son, John Dean, and his wife, Martha. Elly is a very attentive big sister.



Welcome New District Employees



Jessica Livengood—Atchison County

Please welcome Jessica Livengood to the Atchison County Soil and Water Conservation District. She began employment on January 5th, as their part-time Technician I.

Jessica grew up in the Craig Missouri area, and graduated from Craig High School in 2008. She attended Kansas State University before getting a job with NRCS.

She began employment with NRCS in January 2009, and is currently employed with NRCS, along with her District job. She resides in rural Craig where she enjoys riding horses, working on the farm and spending time with friends and family. Some of her hobbies include: rodeo, hunting, fishing and traveling.

Joe Terrell—Howard County

My name is Joe Terrell and I have been employed with the Howard County Soil and Water Conservation District since October of 2010 as District Technician I. I graduated from Central Methodist University in May of 2010 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology.

I have lived in Fayette all 23 years of my life and I wouldn't change a minute of it. My hobbies include deer/turkey hunting, trap/skeet shooting, fishing, and the list goes on. I am looking forward to traveling the county and providing assistance for landowners to improve their land.



Alisa Evans—Livingston County

My name is Alisa Evans, and I have been hired for the new Program Specialist II position in Livingston County. I graduated in December, from North Central Missouri College with an Associate's Degree in Agriculture and Natural Resources. My husband and I live in rural Hamilton, where we have started a small cow-calf operation of our own. We both enjoy agriculture, being outdoors, hunting, horses, and spending time with friends and family. Having been raised on a farm, agriculture has always been my passion, and I am very excited to start my career serving fellow farmers with the Soil and Water Conservation District.

Kristen Lourenco—Livingston County

My name is Kristen Lourenco and I have been hired as the Information/Education Specialist for the Livingston County Soil & Water Conservation District. I was born and raised in rural Carroll County and have been involved with agriculture most of my life. My husband, daughter and I live on our farm in Livingston County where we run a cow/calf operation. I enjoy everything about our farm life – the cattle, raising chickens, gardening and watching the wildlife right in our backyard!



Draft

Missouri Soil and Water Conservation District Employees Association Annual Meeting
Tan-Tar-A Resort, Salon A
Osage Beach, MO
November 30, 2010

The Missouri Soil and Water Conservation District Employees Association Annual Meeting was called to order by President Sandy Hutchison at 10:10 a.m. Sandy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MASWCD Association Report –

Steve Radcliff thanked everyone for their hard work and offered the Association's assistance.

Announcements –

- Sandy announced that the Trade Show would be closing at noon. Sandy also asked everyone to return their name tags at the Closing Session.

NRCS Report – JR Flores, NRCS State Conservationist, gave the following report.

- We have had a record year for putting practices on the ground. He feels that NRCS and SWCD are working together well. He also stated that budgets are continuing to get tighter.
- He then opened the floor for questions.
- Will NRCS assistance and training continue?

Mr. Flores stated that training would continue. He added that NRCS employee numbers should hold steady and everyone should work with their DC and AC to get the assistance they need.

Approval of Minutes –

A motion was made by Brad Powell to approve the minutes as read by email with the following correction, change "agenda" to "minutes" at the top of the page. Wendy Bowen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Financial Report – Wendy Bowen presented the Treasurer's report.

- She noted that there was still income coming from the Trade Show.

A motion was made by Debbie Niederer and seconded by Paula Meier to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Introduction of Representatives –

Sandy Hutchison introduced the Employee Association Representatives by Area.

Area Awards –

Area Awards for Areas 1, 2, 3, 4 were presented by their Representatives.

Sandy Hutchison presented a Tribute to Veterans.

Area Awards –

Area Awards for Areas 5, 6, 7, 8 were presented by their Representatives.

Program Director Brian Hopkins thanked Sandy Hutchison for her leadership.

Length of Service Awards –

Paula Meier presented the Length of Service Awards.

Association Report –

- Sandy Hutchison thanked all the employees for paying their association dues. We currently have 234 employee members and 97 associate members.

(Continued on page 9)

- Sandy passed around a sign up sheet for the Mentoring Program. The areas available to sign up are Accounting, CMT, Cost Share, Election, Info/Ed, Insurance Benefits, Personnel, Taxes, Tech II Certification, Timekeeping and Tool-kit. The list will be placed on our website for employees to utilize if they cannot reach their coordinator.
- Sandy noted that ACH Vendor forms will need to be filled out every 2 years.
- Sandy discussed Memo 16 that talks about out of state travel. She also reminded everyone to use the most current reimbursement claim for.
- Sandy reported that MoSWIMS is at \$21.1 million.
- Sandy thanked Margie Best for completing the Employee ID cards again this year. Sandy invited all paid members to pick up a t-shirt after the Conservation Partner Forum.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

MASWCD Area 3 Director Kenny Lovelace recognized Rachel Griffin, Ripley County SWCD, for having the longest length of service, 38.5 years.

Sandy showed the plaque that is to be given to Shelly Sumpter for her 12 years of service to the Employees Association.

Sandy recognized all first year employees.

A motion as made by Paul Allgood and seconded by Tina Hovendick to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

| Item | Receipts | Item | Expenses | Balance |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| As of 02/27/10 | | | | \$20,185.04 |
| Associate Member Dues | \$970.00 | Area Meeting Expenses | \$1,050.00 | |
| Employee Dues | \$2,360.00 | Area Rep Meeting Expenses | \$265.45 | |
| Interest | \$261.98 | Awards | \$20.00 | |
| Trade Show Booth | \$3,025.00 | Conference Expenses | \$2,446.68 | |
| | | NCDEA Dues | \$200.00 | |
| | | Scholarships | \$3,500.00 | |
| | | Newsletter Expenses | \$35.27 | |
| | | Women in Ag Conference | \$250.00 | |
| | | New checks, envelopes, etc. | \$74.73 | |
| | | NACD Representative Expenses | \$90.64 | |
| | | Postage | \$188.76 | |
| As of 11/23/10 | | | | \$18,680.49 |

Years of Service Awards



30 Years of Service—Dee James, Ozark. Not pictured: Sue Bratton, Wayne.



25 Years of Service—Jerry Becker, Carroll; Peggy Lemons, Cole; James Yarbrough, Marion and Brad Powell, Bates. Not pictured: Louis Byford, Atchison.



20 Years of Service—Deneen Jenkins, Greene and John Kirchhoff, Randolph. Not pictured: Mary McCune, Marion; Dan Eckman, Monroe and Beth Holt, Henry.



15 Years of Service—Megan Baker, Bollinger; Rex Choate, Lawrence and Frankie Coleman, St. Charles. Not pictured: David Stevens, Gentry; Eric Morris, Greene and Bill Bruffett, Douglas



10 Years of Service—Jan Barry, Macon and Mary Jo Tannehill, Laclede. Not pictured: Scott Evans, Lewis; Mark Collins, Macon; Earlene Davis, Cass; Will Rhodes, Greene and Terry Paradeis, Jasper

Thanks For All You Do!

MSWCDEA Area Awards



Area 1 Winner

Chris Terry, Vice-President
Kim Williamson, Ray County



Area 2 Winner

Jerry Becker, Area Rep
Carma Hansel, Harrison County



Area 3 Winner

Chris Terry, Audrain County
Brian Harvey, Area Rep



Area 4 Winner

Jamie Bokern, Area Rep
Tina Hovendick, Benton County
Nancy Kirby, Area Rep



Area 5 Winner

Deb Neiderer, Area Rep
Art Flieg, Ste. Genevieve County
Charlie Perkins, Area Rep



Area 6 Winner

Melissa White, Area Rep
Jeri Lynn Dawson, Jasper County
Roger Ankrom, Area Rep



Area 7 Winner

Sandy Hutchison, Area Rep
Bonnie Pryor, Miller County
Nancy Burrus, Area Rep



Area 8 Winner

Denise Yamnitz, Area Rep
Kay Wilson, Scott County
Paul Meier, Area Rep

2010 MSWCDEA State Awards



State Managerial Award—Connie Kethe,
Schulyer County



State Clerical Award—Kelbie Fries,
Livingston County



State Technical Award—Ken Wooten,
Iron County



Supervisor of the Year Award
Jerry Duff, Dallas County

End Of Another Year..... shared by Dee James, Ozark County SWCD

As this New Year begins I have been thinking (yea, really) about just how much I have to be thankful for.

Having those that I love all together for deer season, Thanksgiving and Christmas is one of my greatest joys. There have been many hurdles in the past that makes me appreciate every day that I have. Having lost my husband, a grandbaby, and my parents were the worst of the things that was to be coped with. Having had cancer more than once, a premature son and a premature grandson (all of which turned out fine), have all been great loads to bear. All these were topics of conversation this Christmas and in depth discussion on how much we have to be thankful for.

Three years ago on December 3, I'm sure some of you remember, our baby Jasper Haze James was born at 1 pound 7 ounces. His older sister was born three years earlier weighing only 10 ounces and didn't survive. Jasper was in Cox Hospital for exactly three months and his chance of survival was not great. His first Christmas was the first year that my kids had not been home on Christmas morning. So we all just loaded up the cookies, candy, and gifts and spent all day on Christmas at the hospital with them. Later on in the evening, the Ronald McDonald House prepared us a wonderful dinner with gifts for the kids. No we weren't at home, but it was one of the most thankful and "Special" Christmas' we had ever had, one that will always be remembered. Jasper has breathing treatments twice a day now because he easily gets bronchitis, but otherwise he is a normal, happy, healthy, ornery little boy, just like his dad was. So as we reflected back this Christmas, we were just so thankful to be lucky enough to have each other, that we (even Sunni, 13, and Eli, 9) decided our greatest gift is definitely having each other.

As for me I have other thanks to be expressed. I have been at this place of employment for thirty years now (I may have started when I was 10 or so). In the last few years, all of you know what changes have taken place, but as I reflect on the overall picture of things, I am just so very thankful to have this job and the security that it brings. I know that several of you live in districts much larger than mine, but in our little town, there are no jobs to be found, unless someone quits the bank or the grocery store or needs their house cleaned; and those jobs are not famous for their pay scale or benefits. There are many unemployed now that would be very grateful to have my job. A very few years back, had I had a choice (that being somewhere else to go and not lose my retirement); I would not have stuck it out and stayed here. Now, I'm very thankful that I did. We all have our issues, our ups and downs, but most of us have discovered that if we need help, we can call someone and get help....or at least get sympathy because they have the same issues. To those of my work family that still have deep concerns, I hope they may be dealt with successfully. As for me, I thank each and every one of you that have been there for me in the years past and in the present, for both work issues and personal matters. I feel so blessed. Included is a picture of our little miracle boy three years later (he said he had "been out huntin bucks" when this picture was taken).



Check This Out!

At the 2010 Annual Training Conference, MASWCD Area 3 Director Kenny Lovelace recognized Rachel Griffin, Ripley County SWCD, for having the longest length of service, 38.5 years . Thanks Rachel for your dedication!

**Missouri Soil & Water
Conservation Districts
Employees Association**

105 Parkway
Vienna, MO 65582

Phone: 573-422-3342
Fax: 573-422-3590



Silent Auction News

By: Charlie Perkins and Brian Harvey

The Silent Auction generated \$1,506.00. A great big ***Thank You*** is given to all the individuals and districts that make it such a success. The Silent Auction would not be possible without the assistance of the donors, buyers, and workers at the Silent Auction. The proceeds from the Silent Auction support the activities of the Employees Association.



Hospitality Room News

By: Nancy Kirby and Chris Terry

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Hospitality Room at the Training Conference. All the donations received paid for everything that was provided both nights. Additional thanks goes to those of you who pitched in and helped with the set-up and clean-up. It was all greatly appreciated.



2011 Women In Ag Conference

Ladies, mark your calendars for September 12, 13 and 14, 2011 to attend this year's Missouri Women in Agriculture Conference in Boonville. The committee is still in the early planning stages so watch your email for more details.