

MSWCDEA NEWSLETTER

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Dues for MSWCDEA can still be paid. Contact Wendy Bowen.
- New Employees
- New Additions
- The 63rd Annual Tan-Tar-A Training Conference
- T-shirts for sale

NOTE FROM Ms. SANDY

Short and sweet....that's what my message is to you today. It seems like this year has been extremely short and it's already October! Where did the year go? My baby is a senior in high school! Where did the last 17 years go? I just attended my 30 year class reunion (Yikes!). Now, where did *those* years go? Well, the biggest majority of them were spent working right here in Maries County.

Speaking of a lot of years, this year marks the 25th Anniversary of our Employees Association. For those of you that have been around that long or longer, you can certainly agree that things have certainly changed. Thanks to the wonderful world of technology, our jobs are certainly a lot easier but they are also a lot busier. But you know these things and I for one certainly don't like living in the past. Sure there are things back there we like to revisit in our mind from time to time, but we can also look forward to making a new memory, a new difference in someone's life or maybe it's just one more day spent with the one who holds your heart.

So here's to the next 25 years of doing our part to help conserve our natural resources in this great State of Missouri! And, since this is our 25th year, if you are a dues paying member of the Employees Association, there will be something extra in your stocking this year at the Training Conference!

I hope to see you all there!!!

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 50th Anniversary | 2 |
| Welcome (new employees) | 3 |
| Envirothon News/ Wedding | 4-5 |
| Minutes | 6-7 |
| State Awards | 8-9 |
| Tan-Tar-a | 10 |

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Shipley's hit Gold!! Cedar County Technician, Jim Shipley and Polly Smith, were married June 18, 1961 at Tarkio, MO and farmed in that area for 20 years before they moved to Cedar County. In Cedar County they continue to have a livestock operation (mostly quarter horses) and Jim has been District Technician since 1988. Jim and Polly have 4 children, 16 grandchildren and 1 great grandson, who all helped them celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary this summer!



~~Congratulations Mr. & Mrs. Shipley!~~



WELCOME



Amy McCrary, Dekalb County Soil and Water Conservation District Technician

Amy McCrary began employment with the DeKalb County SWCD on February 28, as the Program Specialist II. Amy grew up in DeKalb County and graduated from Missouri Western State University with a BSBA in Business Management with an emphasis in human resources. Amy and her husband Shannon have one son, Gunnar, who is 4. She enjoys gardening, hunting, and raising sheep and cows. Welcome Aboard!

*Welcome to
the Soil &
Water
Conservation
District
Family!*

DEKALB COUNTY

SALINE COUNTY

Jason Bolte is the new Soil & Water Conservation District Technician in Saline County. Jason is a native of Bowling Green Missouri and a 2006 graduate of Bowling Green High School. He graduated from College of the Ozarks with a Ag Business and Animal Science Degree. in May of 2010. He

worked as District Technician in Bowling Green before moving to Marshall.

Jason is engaged to Jess VanBooven from Rhineland, Mo. and works in Monsanto Corn Research in Marshall. They will be married on Oct. 29 and

will live in Marshall.

Jason enjoys being outside, hunting, fishing and spending time with family and friends.

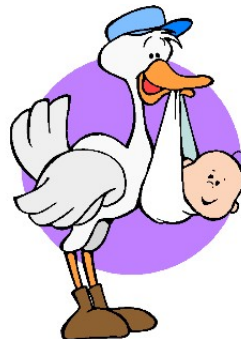
Saline County is very please to have Jason on staff.

Welcome Jason!



Donna Smith, Administrative Assistant for Saline County has a new Granddaughter. Austen Cate McCabe was born April 29 to Leslee and Dru McCabe in Dallas, Texas. She joins a big sister Laney Ryan. This makes Grandchild #4 for the Smiths' who love spending time with all of the grandchildren.

Congrats Donna!



NEW ARRIVALS

Knox County SWCD Technician, Clay See has a new granddaughter born August 30th. She has been named Parker Georgia See and weighed 9 1/2 lbs and is 20 inches long. Parker was welcomed home by sisters Hannah and Morgan and daddy and mommy Tim and Courtney See.

Congrats Clay!

WEDDING



Stephanie (Burns), District Manager in Cedar County, was married this Summer on August 13th at Stockton Lake to Greg Auffert, of Stockton. Her son Garrett gave her away.

Congratulation Stephanie, Greg and Garrett!



REGISTER REPORT

2011 Beginning Balance/ Carryover on 8/23/11 **\$ 14,517.49**

INFLOWS

Associate Membership Dues 2012 \$ 770.00

Employee Association Dues 2011 \$ 2,070.00

Interest Inc. \$ 74.06

TOTAL INFLOWS \$ 2,914.06

OUTFLOWS

Area Meetings Expense \$ 95.00

Education Scholarship \$ 3,500.00

Meeting Expenses \$ 264.01

Employee Newsletter Expense \$ 25.00

Postage and Delivery \$ 56.98

Supplies \$ 73.54

TOTAL OUTFLOWS \$ 4,014.53

OVERALL TOTAL FLOW \$ 13,417.02

8TH ANNUAL ENVIRONMENT APPRECIATION DAY



sack lunch. This year we had 9 stations to visit approximately 20 minute presentations at each. We keep them moving and active. It was a good day for everyone. The teachers are expecting this outdoor education day each year and the Caldwell County Board has dropped all other programs to keep this going.

What a success!

Nice Work Wendy and Caldwell County!!

ANOTHER HIT!! This is the Eighth year Caldwell County SWCD has been the host of a 3rd Grade Environment Appreciation Day. Approximately 150 --3rd graders from 8 county grade schools that converge on the MDC Bonanza Wildlife Area. This year it was Sept. 22. The day was BEAUTIFUL and everything ran like clockwork. Dividing the students between 9 stations but they had 2-20 minute sessions to fish. They loved it. The count was 10 fish and 1

snake caught at the pond. It is fun to see 8 school buses make their way up the hill bringing the children and teachers for the days events. Each group of children are identified by 8 different colored bandanas. The FFA students from one of the county chapters are team guides. Lunch was brought to the location; everyone had identical items in a

"Only leave their footprints behind."



MSWCDEA MINUTES

Missouri Soil and Water Conservation District Employees Association
May 25, 2011
Cole County USDA Service Center
1911 Boggs Creek Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Missouri Soil and Water Conservation District Employees Association meeting was called to order on May 25, 2011 at 11:15 a.m. by President Sandy Hutchison. Members in attendance were Area 2 – Wendy Bowen and Jerry Becker, Area 3 – Chris Terry, Area 4 – Nancy Kirby and Jamie Bokern, Area 5 – Deb Niederer, Area 6 – Roger Ankrom and Melissa White, Area 7 – Sandy Hutchison and Nancy Burrus, Area 8 – Paula Meier and Denise Yamnitz, Program Office – Jim Boschert, MASWCD – Peggy Lemons, NRCS – Drenda Williams.

Correspondence –

Denise Yamnitz read a Thank You from scholarship recipient Lauren Rhodes.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes as sent out by email was made by Paula Meier and seconded by Nancy Kirby. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Debbie Niederer made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Chris Terry and passed unanimously.

Membership and Dues

Wendy Bowen presented the current report noting that dues are due in July. Sandy Hutchison will email a dues letter to each of the area representatives. The reps can then forward that to each district in their area.

DNR Report - Jim Boschert gave the following report

Looking at cross training employees and creating a field administrator position.

Discussion was had about the need for setting up a pay scale for District Employees.

Sandy Hutchison passed out a list of training available through alearn. The possibility of utilizing the alearn system for district employees was discussed.

Auditors are verifying voter eligibility and want to see a list from the Assessor's Office.

4th Quarter Allocations were slow being distributed to the Districts.

Accounting Software is still being worked on.

ITSD is now maintaining MoSWIMS.

There are approximately 15-20 vacancies in Districts. The positions are being held not eliminated.

Health Insurance reimbursements are being taken care of.

There are no results currently from the Cost Index.

The need for Coordinators to attend every District Board Meeting was discussed.

The next group to start utilizing the time sheet will have to submit new leave balances.

NRCS Report – Drenda Williams gave the following report.

RC&D's have been zeroed out. The coordinators are currently working in high work load areas.

USDA is still dealing with budget cuts and additional cuts are expected in the future. There are restrictions placed on travel, a reduction in the vehicle fleet and Grants may not be available this year.

SWAT – an agreement is being worked on. This will be for the MRBI's and be between NRCS and SWCD. Additional staff will be hired and Drenda will check to see if the employees will be NRCS or District.

MASWCD Report – Peggy Lemons gave the following report.

Soil and Stewardship Proclamation signing has been postponed.

Mike Wells will be retiring as Deputy Director and Davis Minton will be the interim.

MASWCD will be hosting the Area Meetings this year. DNR will not be involved. It was decided that MSWCDEA will assist with the meetings.

A meeting is scheduled with Bryan Hopkins and representatives from MASWCD and MSWCDEA to discuss current issues of concerns.

Training Conference will again be held at Tan-Tar-A. The new per diem rates could affect registration and more options will be available. MASWCD is looking at a new system that would place a bar code on each name tag. The bar code would be scanned at meals and workshops. USDA Secretary Vilsack is a possible opening speaker and the entertainment will be the same group as last year.

Newsletter

Nancy Burrus will be publishing the newsletter.

Scholarship

Denise Yamnitz reported that 21 applications were received. The break down by area was: Area 1 – 2, Area 2 – 2, Area 3 – 4, Area 4 – 3, Area 5 – 2, Area 6 – 3, Area 7 – 0, Area 8 – 5.

It was discussed to change the notification date to early May to allow the recipients to be acknowledged at their graduation.

Training Conference

Trade Show – Discussion was had about changing the layout. Rates for vendors will remain the same. Adding sponsorships was discussed and tabled to the next meeting.

Silent Auction – Everything went well. It might be helpful to get the work list sooner.

NRCS may help with registration.

State Awards – Everything went well.

Length of Service Awards – Paula Meier reported that everything went well.

Hospitality Room – Nancy Kirby and Chris Terry said everything went well.

Old Business

Work Group – the next meeting is scheduled for June 7 to discuss Marketing and Outreach.

T-shirts – It was decided to sell the extra shirts at the silent auction area at Training Conference.

Bring ideas for a gift for next year to the next meeting.

New Business

A motion was made by Chris Terry to donate \$250.00 to the 2011 Women in Ag Conference. Nancy Burrus seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MSWCDEA will have elections at each of our area meetings this year.

Area meetings will be held with MASWCD this year. Each area will receive \$150.00 to use for whatever is needed.

The meetings need to be held before Training Conference. Each MSWCDEA Rep should contact their MASWCD Rep to schedule their meeting.

Discussion was had about utilizing a Yearly Activity Report. The report could be used for legislation.

The Bi-laws will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Other

Memorandum of Understanding between NRCS, DNR, SWCD and the Commission is being worked on.

Discussion was had about having a meeting between the Commissioners and District employees. Sandy Hutchison will check on the possibility of this happening. It was also discussed about the importance of field days for the Commissioners to see the practices being installed.

Roger Ankrom made a motion at 2:30 p.m. to go into closed session to discuss legal, confidential, or privileged matters under 610.021(1), RSMo 2000. The motion was seconded by Wendy Bowen. The motion passed unanimously.

Wendy Bowen made a motion at 2:50 p.m. to leave closed session. Paula Meier seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with a motion made by Wendy Bowen and seconded by Nancy Kirby. The motion passed unanimously.



2011 STATE AWARDS-SUPERVISOR

MISSOURI SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

STATE AWARDS PROGRAM

2011 DISTRICT SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The District Employees Association would like to accept nominations for the Annual Soil and Water District **Supervisor of the Year Award** for 2011. The State Employees Association finds great pleasure in rewarding the Outstanding Supervisor of the Year in the State. This award goes to the candidate that best exemplifies the characteristics required by that position. Some of these characteristics include:

Having confidence and knowledge of all programs the District has available to the public.

Someone who understands the responsibilities of a supervisor and acts on them.

- *Actively pursues every avenue for additional funds.
- *Helps develop workable long-range objectives and goals.
- *Is willing to commit the time necessary to get the job done.
- *Is a good example and cooperator for the District in his own conservation practices.



2011 STATE AWARDS-EMPLOYEE

2011 DISTRICT EMPLOYEE AWARDS

One winner will be selected in each of the following categories:

Program Specialist (I and II)
District Technician (I and II)

Award recipients shall receive a plaque and a \$100.00 cash award to be presented at the Training Conference.

****Note: Nominees must be a current paid member of the Missouri Soil and Water District Employees Association to be selected as the winner. (Dues are \$10 per year)**

The following guidelines must be followed.
Please read them carefully.

Nominations must include the following at the top of the page:

***The Name of the Employee
***The District they are from
***Their Title
***The Specific Awards Category (as listed above,
i.e. Clerical, Managerial, Technical)

In addition, the nomination should consist of up to a one page-typed essay of why you think this employee should be selected. Be specific. List all accomplishments and responsibilities pertaining to the award category as well as other activities beyond their normal duties. Please include here, any info-ed responsibilities.

Nominations are due by October 14, 2011. Nominations received after this date will not be accepted, unless post marked by that date. Please mail your nominations to:

Debbie Scherder
Pike County SWCD
1220 S. Business Hwy 61
Bowling Green, MO 63334

Or e-mail to debbie.scherder@swcd.mo.gov (Must be received in the Inbox by 10/14/11)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Debbie at 573-324-3201, ext. 3.

Thank you for thinking of the district employees by making these nominations.

Sincerely: Sandy Hutchison, MSWCDEA President

2011 TAN-TAR-A

The 63rd annual Soil and Water Conservation Training Conference will be held November 28-30 at the Tan-Tar-A Resort located in Osage Beach, Missouri. There will be multiple workshops, meetings, and trainings as well as a silent auction/trade show and multiple vendors available.

An e-mail will be coming out shortly for registration. For more information about how you can help please contact Peggy Lemons by e-mail: peggy.lemons@swcd.mo.gov or by calling 573-893-5188.

Hope to see you at the conference!!



2011 MO Soil & Water Conference

SILENT AUCTION & HOSPITALITY ROOM DONATIONS

"It's gonna sell today!" I believe this was the favorite saying of a local auctioneer near my home while I was growing up. Perhaps that should be the favorite saying of any auctioneer.

Donation items are needed for the silent auction at the MASWCD conference at Tan-Tar-A. Please e-mail or call Charlie Perkins, St. Charles County or Brian Harvey, Scotland County with donations to the Silent Auction. Please include donor name and a brief description of the item. Please see Charlie or Brian to drop off donations at the Trade Show at Tan-Tar-A.

Silent Auction donations support the efforts of the Employees Association.

Anyone that would like to donate items to the hospitality room please contact Nancy Kirby in Moniteau County @ nancy.kirby@swcd.mo.gov or Chris Terry in Audrain County @ chris.terry@swcd.mo.gov.

T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

We ordered too many t-shirts last year and now have the excess ones for sale. They will be available for purchase at the Training Conference this year. There is a limited number of small, medium, large, & x-large shirts available for \$7 each. Stop by the Silent Auction in the Trade Show area and get one before they're gone!



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PAY DUES!!!

We're on the web
www.mswcdea.net