

IOWA CHAPTER SWCS NEWSLETTER

www.iaswcs.org

February 2007

IPTV FESTIVAL 2007

By Dennis Schrodtt

The Iowa SWCS Chapter will once again be volunteering to work the phones during "Festival 2007", Iowa Public Television's annual membership drive. We are scheduled to cover the 12:30pm – 6:30pm shift on Saturday, March 17, 2007.



Volunteers are asked to answer phones on the set and to help behind the scenes to tabulate the pledges. Delicious food provided by area restaurants will be available throughout the shift. This will be a fun way to get to know how things work on live television while helping the SWCS to gain some exposure. We need 20 members to fulfill our commitment; reservations will be made on a "first come, first serve" basis so call early to save a spot.

If you are interested in participating, contact Dennis Schrodtt at (641)342-2917 or by email; dennis.schrodtt@ia.usda.gov.

IOWA CHAPTER SWCS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Iowa Chapter SWCS is proud to offer Memorial Scholarships to help those interested in furthering their education and careers in a soil conservation/natural resource related field. This financial aid is in honor of David L. Schnur, Newmen Lyle, and Krsnak-Runyan-Ward. Scholarships are awarded to Iowa residents each fall for up to \$500 each.

Priority will be given to applicants pursuing a full-time degree while attending school on a full time basis who have demonstrated integrity, ability and competence in their work. Second priority will be given to applicants doing single or multiple course work toward a degree while attending school part-time. SWCS members will also be given a preference.

For more information and an application go to the Iowa Chapter SWCS web site at www.iaswcs.org. Or talk to Dennis Schrodtt at 515.342.2917 or dennis.schrodtt@ia.usda.gov. The deadline for submittal is June 30, 2007 and must be made to the Iowa Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. Please pass the word along to those you think may be interested.



Check out our updated website at www.iaswcs.org.



2006-07 SWCS Executive Board

President	Kevin Kuhn	641.743.2017	kevin.kuhn@ia.usda.gov
President Elect	Robert Lawson	563.245.1048	robert.lawson@ia.usda.gov
Past President	Jim Frederick	712.262.2083	iglcoordinator@gmail.com
Secretary	Lynna Miller	712.263.4123	lynna.miller@ia.usda.gov
Treasurer	Alan Lauver	515.323.2726	alan.lauver@ia.usda.gov
Membership Chair	Angela Biggs	712.755.2417	angela.biggs@ia.usda.gov
NW Area Chair	Jaia Fischer	712.852.3386	jaia.fischer@ia.usda.gov
NE Area Chair	Lori Harris	563.652.2337	lori.harris@ia.usda.gov
SW Area Chair	Dennis Schrodtt	515.342.2917	dennis.schrodtt@ia.usda.gov
SE Area Chair	Amy Bouska	319.337.2322	amy.bouska@ia.nacdnet.net
Central Area Chair	Tom O'Connor	515.323.2224	tom.o'connor@ia.usda.gov
Student Chapter Chair	Jake Hartsock	563.299.2885	jhart@iastate.edu

2006 Iowa Chapter Annual Meeting

This year our meeting was held at the Neil Smith Wildlife Refuge, near Prairie City, Iowa on September 22, 2006. In addition to the regular meeting, we had a great speaker agenda including Lyle Asell with the Iowa DNR, Dr. Eugene Takle of Iowa State University and Don Bonneau with the Iowa DNR.

Mr. Asell spoke of Iowa's Water Quality; where we've been and the direction he sees us heading. Our role in conservation is ever changing but he feels that water quality will continue to be a top environmental issue as it has been for some time.

Global Warming was Dr. Takle's topic of conversation. He addressed the issues related to the increase in carbon dioxide levels as a result of continued fossil fuel use. Global warming, though slight, could create astronomical changes in life as we know it. He gave us lots of food for thought.

Water Quality from a Fisheries Perspective was Bonneau's focus. He talked about current projects underway to restore stream habitat resulting in better water quality & improved fishing. Funny how those two go together.

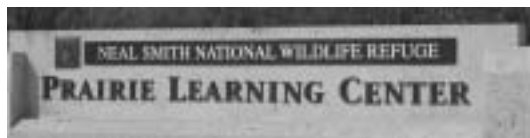
Following the business meeting, the group made tours of the wildlife refuge and the Camp Creek stream habitat work at Thomas Mitchell Park. The day concluded at the Metro RC&D house with evening refreshments & a meal catered by the Master Griller. Our annual auction raised almost \$1900! Thanks to everyone who donated so generously.



Camp Creek Stream habitat was a tour feature at the Thomas Mitchell Park.



Don Bonneau (right) with the Iowa DNR gave us his approach to water quality from a fisheries perspective.



No event is complete without dessert & some socializing...right Duane?!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RENDEVOUS II

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Anastasia Erdmann-The Rocky Mountain Rendezvous 2 in Keystone Colorado was a great trip with lots of experiences I will never forget. I appreciated the rare opportunity to meet so many great people from across the country. I gathered lots of information on many different subjects to use in my career.

I also had lots of fun. I was able to travel with the best crew anyone could have ever asked for. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience on my first Soil and Water Conservation Society's Annual Meeting and I thank you for that opportunity.

Jaia Fischer- I really enjoyed attending the National SWCS conference in Keystone, CO and I want to thank the Iowa Chapter for the opportunity. I learned a lot about upcoming conservation issues and concerns all around the world. It was an excellent experience and I will be able to use the information I gathered both professionally and personally. Thank you!

Jason Hart-

"The National Conference in Keystone was a great experience that can never be duplicated; and I recommend every SWCS member travel to a National event in the future... the people I met, the knowledge I gained, and skills I learned at the Keystone conference could have never been replicated anywhere else."

Ryan Gerlich- I would like to thank the Iowa SWCS Chapter for the scholarship to attend the 2006 National Conference in Keystone. The Plenary and Breakout Sessions showed me just how far reaching our society is. My aspect of conservation was broadened by hearing ideas and view points from ag economists, non-profit organization lobbyists, and national headquarters staff. Outside of the conference I enjoyed catching up with old acquaintances, meeting new people, and engaging in lively discussions of the topics and ideas we were presented with throughout the day. I urge you to take the opportunity to attend a future meeting.

Robert Lawson-Thanks to the IA SWCS Chapter for awarding me a scholarship to attend the SWCS Annual Conference in Keystone, CO. It was a great experience to learn about the latest conservation issues and environmental management technologies.

Stacy Schlader-

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the National SWCS Conference. The conference was insightful on many different levels. I was able to listen to the concerns and accomplishments of conservation partners from all over the country and learn more about some of the natural resource issues that our colleagues face.

Jerry Neppel-I participated in the "Water - Life Blood of the West #2" tour on Wednesday, July 26. The first stop was to see a demonstration and presentation on polyacrylimide (PAM), a chemical used to seal irrigation ditches to minimize percolation losses from irrigation ditches. This technology is very cost effective for very small field distribution ditches to large irrigation canals with high flows. After that, the group toured Green Mountain Reservoir and learned about the extensive infrastructure necessary to supply water to irrigators and municipalities. It made me appreciate living in Iowa where we generally have sufficient rainfall to supply immediate needs for agriculture and urban areas. However, it also impressed upon me the importance of water conservation and to not allow over-allocation of the water resource.

Sarah Zimmerman-I am so thankful to the Iowa SWCS for the chance to attend the annual conference in Keystone, CO. It was very interesting to hear about conservation issues and solutions from around the country. I was able to meet lots of new people and hope to bring some of the information back to use here in Iowa. This was a great opportunity.

Iowa SWCS members would like to thank SWCS for the opportunity to attend the 2006 SWCS Annual Conference in Keystone, CO!

Look at what we've got planned for 2007! The Board met in early December to plan events & come up with new ways to make your SWCS a better organization. Check out our website for more information. If you've got an idea or would like to help with an event, just let any one of our board members know...we always appreciate the input.



Calendar of Events

IPTV- Saturday, March 17th, 2007. Celebrate Saint Patty's Day in a grand way...on TV! Join us as we answer phones for IPTV's Festival. See article, page #1.

Summer Meeting- June. Look for more information on our upcoming summer meeting to be held in the NE area. Contact Lori Harris for more information.

Scholarship Applications- Due June 30th, 2007. See article on page #1.

RAGBRAI- July 22-28, 2007. Look for us & our bananas along the bike route again this year. If you'd like to be part of this event, contact Amy Bouska @ 319-337-2322.

National Conference- July 22-25, 2007 at Tampa, FL. Be part of SWCS in a worldy

way! See what members had to say about last year's meeting on page #3. Grants are available from the Iowa chapter for attending. Applications are available on our website, www.iaswcs.org.

Friend Of Conservation Awards- Nominate a conservationist, group or individual that you see going above and beyond. Nomination forms are available on our website.

Board Nominations- If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a SWCS board member, let us know.

Annual Meeting/Conference- September 2007.

West North Central Regional Conference- October 16-18, 2007. At Dubuque, Iowa.

Iowa Chapter Soil & Water Conservation Society
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