President’s Update

"Hello fellow North Dakota SWCS Members. I’d like to take this opportunity to mention a few of the exciting happenings with the ND Chapter. Planning committees are busy working out the details for the Pollinator Workshop “What Dad didn’t tell you about the birds and the bees” and the 2010 Soil and Water Science Summit. These will both be wonderful opportunities to learn from experts in the science arena. I encourage everyone to watch our website www.ndswcs.org for further details about these events. These events take many hours of volunteered time to plan and even more work to carry out; so anyone looking for an opportunity to get involved and get the most out of your SWCS membership, please contact me or any other Chapter Officer. Thank you all for your dedicated membership and for helping to foster the science and art of natural resource conservation. I look forward to serving as your President and helping everyone achieve the best SWCS has to offer."

New Member Spotlight — Amy Erickson

Hi! I’m Amy Erickson and I am one of newest member of the North Dakota SWCS Chapter. I am currently living in Ashley, ND and work as a Soil Conservationist for the NRCS. Prior to transferring to Ashley, I had the opportunity to work in the field offices of Bowbells, Beulah, and most recently Park River, ND. I recently joined SWCS this past year after having the opportunity to attend the Technical Conference in Rapid City. I have been selected as the Chair of the Publicity Committee. I am also serving on the Nomination, Pollinator Workshop, and the 2010 Annual Meeting Committees. I have enjoyed becoming involved in the ND chapter and look forward to meeting other members of SWCS!

Happy Holidays!

Dates to Remember

- Lake Region Round-up
  January 5th-6th
  Devils Lake, ND

- Manitoba-North Dakota Zero Till-age Workshop
  January 11th-13th
  Minot, ND

- SWCS Pollinator Workshop
  February 3rd-4th
  Bismarck, ND

- Soil and Water Summit
  April 7th-8th
  Grand Forks, ND

- National SWCS Meeting
  July 18th-21st
  St. Louis, Missouri

- ND Annual SWCS Meeting
  October 13th-15th
  Minot, ND
SWCS Network by Jon Sticka

The purpose of the SWCS Network “… is to encourage discussion about conservation and to provide networking opportunities among conservation professionals.” I have found the SWCS Network to be an excellent tool to do both. Once you sign up and establish a login you may create your own page to post and manage information to share with others. You may also read what others have written on blogs or join groups to participate in discussions or initiate discussions of your own.

I currently have a page of my own and belong to several groups, including: Northern Plains Soil Quality, Soil Quality/Soil Health, Subversive Conservationists, ND Chapter SWCS and the SWCS Mentor Program to name a few. Through the SWCS Network, I am able to stay connected with many of my fellow conservationists that I have met from across the country in order to carry on discussions and share information and ideas. There are lots of ideas being shared and discussed in the world of natural resource conservation that may be of interest to you, and the SWCS Network is the place for you to take part. Participation in the SWCS Network is easy, free, and an excellent way to stay connected to the world of soil and water conservation... head over to http://swcsnetwork.ning.com and sign up today!

Pollinator Conservation Planning on Working Lands

“What your dad didn’t tell you about the birds and the bees.”
by Lena Bohm

When we consider where our food comes from, we always think about the basic building blocks of fertile soil, clean water, and lots of sunlight. These are all things we strive for on our family farms to improve the production of our crops, gardens, and even pastures. We want rich, red tomatoes and healthy, soft bread. We strive for nice marbling in our steaks and hard shells on our eggs. We pray for rain when the crops are dry and sunlight when the rain won’t stop. We look to our soil when something just doesn’t produce the way we expected it to. We test it, fertilize it, plant cover crops, reduce tillage, and manage the land. But are we forgetting one vital component—pollination.

Bees have played a vital role in our landscape and economy. They help our gardens and crops grow. They add a much needed step in our berry production and alfalfa crops. Most bee pollination we think about includes a box and a beekeeper; however, colonized bees are starting to have some serious disease issues. So we need to ask the question, “What did all the pollination before commercial beekeeping?” This is when our native pollinators come into play. The Native Bees like the Alfalfa Leafcutter Bee and the Bumblebee come to mind. As I think about the activity in my flower beds all summer, I also need to think about the hummingbirds, moths, butterflies, and beetles. There are many natural pollinators out there, but we understand so little about them. What kind of habitat do they need to thrive? Are their numbers holding steady? Can we increase their pollination if local bee colonies have suffering losses to disease?

These are all questions and topics we will be learning about at the upcoming technical workshop on February 3-4, 2010 in Bismarck, ND. Speakers include:

- Jennifer Hopwood, The Xerces Society
- Dwight Tober, NRCS Plant Materials Center
- Dr. Marian Harris, North Dakota State University
- Dr. Ron Royer, Minot State University
- Dave Dewald, NRCS State Biologist

If you are interested in finding more information about this workshop or to find a registration form, please check out our website at www.ndswcs.org.
The NDSWCS and PSCAND held their joint 2009 Annual Meeting on Oct 15th & 16th at the Fargo Ramada Inn. Over 50 attendees heard presentations on a variety of topics, convened their annual business meetings, enjoyed a banquet to recognize award winners, and participated on a field trip the morning of the 16th all despite the uncooperative weather.

The morning presenters were from the NDSU faculty who shared their data on environmental soil research and subsurface drainage.

The afternoon presenters focused on soil health topics. Susan Muske, 319 Rangeland Specialist from LaMoure County, explained the interseeding program offered to producers there. NRCS District Conservationist, Jay Fuhrer’s topic was on the use of compost teas as well as the Burleigh County’s demonstration farm. Richard Webb, NRCS Area Resource Conservationist, presented the profit potential of cover crops.

John Nowatzki, NDSU, also shared his videos of strip tillage machinery and the efforts in the Red River Valley to promote this practice. Marlene Ells from the International Certification Services, Inc. briefed the participants on the organic certification process in North Dakota.

The following awards were recognized at the banquet:
- Chapter Professional Award – Kris Nichols
- Chapter Service Award – Kenny Miller
- Business Stewardship Award – Flaxtech LLC
- Chapter Horizon Award – Lena Bohm
- Post Graduate Scholarship Award – Nate Emery

Friday morning’s field tour started at the American Crystal Sugar corporate office. Greg Richards, Ag Strategy Development Manager, gave a presentation detailing the company’s history and economic impact on the Red River Valley. He described the harvest procedure and then escorted the group to visit on site with a sugar beet grower, then to a piling site, and finally to a storage facility in the factory yard.
Mike Collins is Leaving ND SWCS

Hello SWCS’ers,
Most of you have heard I’ve accepted a NRCS position in Alamosa, CO. Accepting this transfer comes with many mixed emotions, first is leaving a great Chapter that is experiencing a surge of new members and increased energy, a Chapter that has many exciting workshops planned. The second one is the challenges of going to a new job and having to learn the operating procedures and working with new personnel. I’ve truly enjoyed being with quality and energetic conservationists with the ND Chapter and being part of the soil quality movement in ND. You are leading the country in this arena and you need to be proud in what you’re doing in this field. The bright side of moving is getting to know people from around the country such as attending national meeting with SWCS and moving with NRCS. One comfort piece is I’m staying in the NP Region of SWCS, so I hope to rendezvous with many of you in March and possibly in St. Louis this summer at the National SWCS meeting. Have a great holiday season and thanks for all of your great friendships and I’m sure I will continue to hear great things from the ND Chapter of SWCS. I’m looking forward in seeing you all again in the near future.

Many Thanks!!
Michael Collins

Featured Photo

Do you have a photo that highlights soil or water in North Dakota? Send it in to be displayed in the Featured Photo section of the SWCS Newsletter!

Notes from the Editor

If you have any ideas, suggestions, or articles for the SWCS Newsletter please contact any of the members of the Newsletter Committee. I will be asking for articles from you periodically. Thanks to all who have submitted articles for this edition.

Happy Holidays!
Jaime

Newsletter Committee

Members:
- Jaime Palczewski, Editor
- Dan Wingenbach
- Keith Weston
- Amanda Slykerman
- Rani Lloyd

Newsletter Article

Deadlines for 2010:
- March 5th
- June 4th
- September 3rd
- December 3rd
North Dakota Soil and Water Conservation Society

Committees
October 15, 2009

Annual Meeting 2010 Planning Committee
1. Michelle Jezeski, Chair
2. Joanni Rau
3. Ruben Torres
4. Jaime Palczewski
5. Diana Irizzary
6. Mike Collins
7. Perry Sullivan, PSCAND
8. Lance Loken, PSCAND
9. Wade Bott, PSCAND

3. Ranita Pope-Lloyd
4. Kristin Brennan

Newsletter
1. Jaime Palczewski, Editor
2. Dan Wingenbach
3. Keith Weston
4. Amanda Slykerman
5. Rani Lloyd

Nominations
1. Todd Solem, Chair
2. Rita Sveen
3. Amy Erickson

Publicity/Outreach
1. Mike Collins, Chair
2. Amanda Slykerman
3. Amy Erickson
4. Jaime Palczewski

Scholarship
1. Mark Anderson, Chair
2. Rod O’Clair
3. Bob Bird
4. Ron Luethe
5. Roxanne Johnson
6. Larry Cihacek

Student Chapter
1. Jaime Palczewski, Chair
2. Cal Thorson
3. Kristin Brennan
4. Alan Lepp
5. Larry Cihacek

Website
1. Jon Stika, Webmaster

SWCS International Meeting – 2014?
1. Lena Bohm, Chair
2. Mike Collins
3. Michelle Jezeski
4. Richard Webb
5. Penny Doty
6. Jaime Palczewski
7. Amy Erickson
8. Amanda Slykerman
9. Kristin Brennan
10. Rani Lloyd
11. Jon Stika
12. Rita Sveen

Pollinator Workshop-February 2010
1. Lena Bohm, Chair
2. Jill Howard
3. Michelle Jezeski
4. Alan Lepp
5. Mike Collins
The **Donald A. Williams Soil Conservation Scholarship** provides financial assistance to members of SWCS who are currently employed but wish to improve their technical or administrative competence in a conservation related field through course work at an accredited college or through a program of special study.

At least one scholarship, up to $1,000, is expected to be awarded in 2010.

The **Kenneth E. Grant Research Scholarship** provides financial aid to members of SWCS for interdisciplinary graduate-level research on a conservation topic that will extend the SWCS mission of fostering the science and the art of soil, water, and related natural resource management to achieve sustainability.

One research scholarship of $1,300 is expected to be awarded in 2010.

The **Melville H. Cohee Student Leader Conservation Scholarship** provides financial assistance to members of SWCS who are in their junior or senior year of full-time undergraduate study or are pursuing graduate level studies with a natural resource conservation orientation at a properly accredited college or university.

At least one scholarship, up to $500, is expected to be awarded in 2010.

**Deadline for all application submissions: February 12, 2010**

Scholarships are available for individuals who have been a SWCS member for at least one year. Membership information can be found at: www.swcs.org.

Visit www.swcs.org/en/members_only/scholarships for more details and applications.
“What your Dad didn’t tell you about the birds and the bees”

Pollinator Conservation Planning on Working Lands

February 3-4, 2010
Bismarck, ND

Topics Include —
- Basic Native Bee Biology
- Pollinator-friendly farming practices
- Pollinator Habitat Enhancements
- Forgotten Pollinators — Butterflies, Bats, Mosquitos....

To get more information or to register, visit www.ndswcs.org.
Day 1
7:00 am Area open for Exhibitors Set-up
9:00 am Registration
10:00 am Welcome & Introductions
   Richard Webb, NDSWCS President
   John Glover, NRCS Acting State Conservationist
10:30 am The Ecological and Economic Importance of Pollinators - Jennifer Hopwood, Midwest Outreach Coordinator, The Xerces Society
11:30 am Lunch
12:30 pm Basic Native Bee Biology - Jennifer Hopwood, The Xerces Society
1:30 pm Pollinator Conservation and the Fringed Prairie Orchid - Dr. Marion Harris, NDSU
2:15 pm Break
2:45 pm Pollinator-friendly Farming Practices - Jennifer Hopwood, The Xerces Society
3:30 pm Conservation Status of Dakota Skipper in North Dakota Prairies - Dr. Ron Royer, Minot State University
4:30 pm Questions & Break for Evening
5:30 – 7:30 pm Social Gathering - Cash Bar, Hors d`oeuvres & Exhibits Open

Day 2
8:00 am Designing Pollinator Habitat Enhancements - Jennifer Hopwood, The Xerces Society
8:45 am "Northern Plains“ - Beneficial Plants for Native Pollinator Conservation - Dwight Tober, PMC Specialist
9:30 am Pollinator Conservation and NRCS practices - Jennifer Hopwood, The Xerces Society & Todd Schwagler, ND NRCS SRC
10:00 am Break
10:30 am Integrating Conservation Practices with Pollinators, Dave Dewald, ND NRCS State Biologist
11:15 am Additional Resources - Jennifer Hopwood, The Xerces Society
11:45 pm Closing Comments and Wrap-up
General Sessions,
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010

8 a.m.  Breakfast
Sponsored by Bayer CropScience, DuPont, BASF, Dow AgroSciences, Monsanto, CPS (Crop Protection Services), Feist Soil Testing Lab, Bremer Bank, Lake Region Grain Co-op

9:30 a.m.  Protein Management in Wheat and New Nitrogen Recommendations
Greg Endres, area Extension specialist, NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center

10 a.m.  Crop Storage (Bagging)
Ken Hellevang, agricultural engineer, NDSU

10:30 a.m.  Break
Sponsored by Lange Supply Inc. and Richard Sager Crop Insurance

11 a.m.  2009 Wheat Situation and Outlook
Jim Peterson, marketing director, N.D. Wheat Commission

11:30 a.m.  2009 Small-grain Performance
Bryan Hanson, agronomist, NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center

Noon  Lunch
Sponsored by Devils Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

1:30 p.m.  Will Markets Be Better in 2010? A Global View
Mike Kruger, financial adviser, founder and president of Money Farm

2:30 p.m.  Break
Sponsored by Radio Works Lake Region

3 p.m.  Soybean Insect Update
Scott Knoke, Extension agent/Benson County, NDSU Extension Service

3:20 p.m.  Soybean Fertility – K deficiency
Bill Smith, Extension agent/Grand Forks County, NDSU Extension Service

3:40 p.m.  Herbicide Drift
Ken MacDonald, pesticide inspector, N.D. Agriculture Dept.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Armory Room

9:30 a.m.  Choosing the Right Marketing Tool
Frayne Olson, Extension crop economist, NDSU Extension Service

10:30 a.m.  Break

11 a.m.  Barley Industry Update
Steve Edwardson, executive administrator, North Dakota Barley Council
Noon	Lunch
1:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.
3 p.m.

Memorial Room Basement
10:30 a.m.

11 a.m.
Nozzle Selection for Different Applications
Jason Hanson, agronomist, Winfield Solutions

Noon
Lunch
1:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.
3 p.m.

General Sessions,
Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2010
8 a.m.
Breakfast
Sponsored by Bayer CropScience, DuPont, BASF, Dow AgroSciences, Monsanto, CPS (Crop Protection Services), Feist Soil Testing Lab, Bremer Bank, Lake Region Grain Co-op

9:30 a.m.
What's New with Herbicides
Kirk Howatt, weed scientist, NDSU

10 a.m.
Managing Flax for Increased Yields
Scott Halley, crop protection scientist, NDSU Langdon Research Extension Center

10:30 a.m.
Break
Sponsored by Northern Plains Electric Cooperative and Busch Agricultural Resources Inc.

11 a.m.
Disease Development in Soybean, Drybean, Sunflower
Sam Markell, plant pathologist, NDSU Extension Service

11:30 a.m.
Controlling Roundup Ready Volunteers
Kirk Howatt

Noon
Lunch
Sponsored by Crop Improvement Associations of Ramsey, Towner, Rolette, Cavalier, Benson and Nelson counties

1 p.m.
Water Steward Award

1:15 p.m.
Annual Kermit and Glenna Garske Endowed Seminar – Weather Outlook and Projects for 2010
Leon Osborne, president/CEO of Meridian Environmental Technology Inc., Grand Forks (Garskes established this endowment at Lake Region State College to support an annual agriculture seminar)

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**Historical Room – Courthouse**

9:30 a.m.
Nourish Your Brain with Healthful Foods and Activity
Karen Armstrong, Extension agent/Rolette County, NDSU Extension Service

10:30 a.m.
Break

11 a.m.
Protein Management in Wheat and New Nitrogen Recommendations
Greg Endres

Noon
Lunch
1:30 p.m.
Featured speaker in general session
2:30 p.m.
Break

3 p.m.
Land Rent Negotiation
Willie Huot, Extension agent/Grand Forks County, NDSU Extension Service

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**Courthouse Meeting Room**

9:30 a.m.
Corn Update
Joel Ransom, agronomist, NDSU

Ramsey County North vs. South
Bill Hodous, Extension agent/Ramsey County, NDSU Extension Service

Corn Growth Response in a Cool Growing Season
Crystal Martodam, Extension agent/Towner County, NDSU Extension Service

10:30 a.m.
Break

11 a.m.
GPS Guidance Systems
John Nowatzki, ag machine systems specialist, NDSU Extension Service;
EZ GPS Guidance Systems
Twete Inc.

GreenStar
Devils Lake Equipment

Noon
Lunch
1:30 p.m.
Featured speaker in general session
2:30 p.m.
Break

3 p.m.
Crop Storage Management
Ken Hellevang

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3 p.m.
Quality Issues in the Marketplace
Frayne Olson
CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Armory Room

9:30 a.m.   Edible Bean Update
            Variety Comparison
            Lionel Olson, area Extension agronomist,
            NDSU Extension Service

10:30 a.m.  Break

11 a.m.     Glyphosate Resistance Development
            Jeff Stachler, weed scientist,
            NDSU Extension Service

Noon        Lunch

1:15 p.m.   Featured speaker in general session

2:30 p.m.   Break

2:40 p.m.   Sunflower Update
            Larry Kleingartner, executive director,
            National Sunflower Association

Courthouse – Historical Room

9:30 a.m.   Managing Credit Card Debt
            Brenda Langerud, Extension agent/Ramsey
            County, NDSU Extension Service

10:30 a.m.  Break

11 a.m.     Feeding Cows Mineral
            Karl Hoppe, area Extension specialist/
            livestock systems, NDSU Carrington Research
            Extension Center

Noon        Lunch

1:15 p.m.   Featured speaker in general session

2:30 p.m.   Break

2:40 p.m.   Trends in the Livestock Industry
            John Dhuyvetter, area Extension specialist/
            livestock systems, NDSU North Central
            Research Extension Center

Courthouse – Meeting Room

9:30 a.m.   Soybean Production
            Hans Kandel, Extension agronomist,
            Department of Plant Sciences, NDSU

County Trial Results
            Crystal Martodam

10:30 a.m.  Break

11 a.m.     Machinery Sharing and Ownership Transfer
            Dwight Aakre

Noon        Lunch

1:15 p.m.   Featured speaker in general session

2:30 p.m.   Break

2:40 p.m.   Wind Energy Update
            Carol Goodman, executive director, Cavalier
            County Job Development Authority;
            Dawn Roppel, landowner, Cavalier County;
            Warren Enyart, general manager, Mpower LLC.;
            Chris Schilken, executive director, Forward
            Devils Lake; a representative from Nodak Electric Cooperative

Memorial Room Basement

9:30 a.m.   The Futures Game (Effects of Long-term
            Community Planning)
            Gayle Gette, Extension agent/Towner County,
            NDSU Extension Service;
            Margaret Tweten, northeast district director,
            NDSU Extension Service

10:30 a.m.  Break

11 a.m.     Precision Farming: Does it Pay
            Paul Gunderson, director of Dakota Center
            for Technology-optimized Ag,
            Lake Region State College

Noon        Lunch

1:15 p.m.   Featured speaker in general session

2:30 p.m.   Break

2:40 p.m.   EPA Farm Fuel Tank Safety Guidelines
            Mathew Barendt, Steve Webster, Joe Gleason,
            owners of AGST, Above Ground Storage Tanks
            Company
Continuing education credits are available for certified crop advisors.

The information at the Lake Region Extension Roundup is for educational purposes. Exhibit space and reference to commercial products are provided with the understanding that the NDSU Extension Service does not endorse commercial products or companies even though reference may be made to brand names, trademarks or service names.

Scott Knoke  Bill Hodous  
Extension Agent  Extension Agent  
Benson County  Ramsey County

### Booth Exhibitors

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Extension Agent  Extension Agent  
Benson County  Ramsey County