

SC CHAPTER SWCS

NRCS Chief to Highlight Partnership Conference By William Wilkes

The Annual Partnership Conference to be held in Myrtle Beach January 3-6, 2006, will feature USDA/NRCS Chief Bruce K. Knight presenting "The View from Washington" at the General Session luncheon on Wednesday, January 4. We are also pleased to announce that Rep. Dan Cooper, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, has agreed to give the keynote address at the opening session/lunch on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 12 noon. This is an excellent opportunity to meet a key SC Legislator.



With the theme of "Bridging the Gap", the Conference will feature discussions on such varied subjects as Development and the Environment; Stewardship Development; Ag Districts; and Local and National Challenges.

A tour of the Lewis Ocean Bay/Carolina Forest, followed by a Beaufort Stew held at the Horry County Soil and Water Conservation District Office, will provide a treat for attendees on Tuesday. The Awards Banquet will be held Thursday night at the House of Blues.

**ATTENTION SOCIETY MEMBERS
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
WEDNESDAY 8:00 AM
PEMBROKE ROOM**

From the President's Corner

This year has been a busy one for all of us. As your president, I want to say thank you to all of those that were so active in our society (much more so than I was). Without active members, we would indeed serve no purpose here in South Carolina. Hopefully you are a member for a reason other than you were asked to join. That's a good start, but I can assure you from personal experience, you will get out of our society in direct proportion to what you put in. If you are one of those, and I used to be "one of those" that asks, "Why should I join" and /or "what's in it for me?", then I would encourage you to become a member of a committee, write an article for our newsletter (anyone can), attend the training/seminar opportunities sponsored by our chapter (ask your supervisor for permission to attend for training)—just do something. Tell a member of the Executive Board what YOU want from the society that will help you either professionally or personally. I can assure you, we will listen. As of January, I will become your Past President. Let's support our new President, SC DNR's Von Snelgrove, as we begin another year of activities here in SC.

Louis Jackson



SC Chapter
Soil and Water
Conservation
Society

Volume 14, Issue 2

Fall/Winter 2005

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The SC Chapter
SWCS wishes you and
your family
a happy and safe
HOLIDAY SEASON

Area III Tours Historic Plantation

Thirty-one members and guests enjoyed a tour of historic Medway Plantation in Berkeley County on November 9. Covering 6,600 acres of prime forestland on the banks of the Back River, Medway was established in 1685 by Thomas Smith who purchased the property from the Lords Proprietors for twenty pounds Sterling. By 1701 the Plantation had grown to 2,220 acres. Despite the fact that he was a prominent Dissenter, he was appointed Governor of Southern Carolina in 1683, serving with distinction until his untimely death in 1684. Ownership of the Plantation was passed down through numerous families and increased in area until its present day size.

The tour group observed several NRCS conservation practices including controlled burning, fire break construction and maintenance, upland wildlife habitat management and shallow water impoundment for waterfowl.

After a tour, the group was treated to a luncheon of Beaufort stew prepared by Dwayne Mangum and Steve Edwards. Also assisting in the success of the tour were Debbie Eckard and Margaret and Bill Wilkes.



*Present but not shown:
Dwayne Mangum, Steve Edwards,
Margaret Wilkes, Bill Wilkes,
Debbie Eckard, Bobby McGee and
Bob Hortman*



Can YOU Guess Who I Am??

This SWCS Chapter Member is the youngest and only child, and was reared in Orangeburg County on a row crop farm. She graduated number three in the School of Business from college. She was also an intern in the office of USDA Secretary of Agriculture Daniel Glickman. She was

the first in South Carolina to complete the NRCS career Intern program. She has two sisters and two brothers, but none of her siblings, including herself, were born in the same state and all of the siblings were name after cities in the state which they were born. She is the twelfth grandchild

on the maternal and paternal side.

Who is this SWCS member?

Give up??

Answer On Back...



SC SWCS Committee Members 2006

Standing Committees

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Awards	Carol Klein, Chair	12-31-06
	Al McNeil	12-31-07
	Wayne Cowell	12-31-08
Education	Dennis DeFrancesco, Chair	12-31-06
	Charlie Ogg	12-31-07
	Frank Love	12-31-08
Membership	Doyle Allen	12-31-06
	Matthew Anderson	12-31-07
	Bill Wilkes	12-31-08
Programs	Bobby McGee	12-31-06
	Tommy Knotts	12-31-07
	James Williams	12-31-08
Audit	Jim Wilson, Chair	12-31-06
	Ayana Brown	12-31-07
	Doug Deaderick	12-31-08
Nominations	Louis Jackson, Chair	12-31-08
	Mary Morrison	12-31-07
	Toni Warren	12-31-06

SWCS Scholarships – SC Chapter

The South Carolina Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society is offering a \$1000 scholarship for the 2006-2007 school year. High School seniors or undergraduates in College or Tech Schools studying in a natural resource/conservation curriculum are eligible to apply. Applications are available from Dennis DeFrancisco, Education Committee Chair, 301 University Ridge Rd., Suite 3900, Greenville, SC 29601 or email dennis.defrancesco@sc.usda.gov. The application can also be found on our website at scswsc.org.

Applications are due to Dennis by March 15, 2006.

Research and Professional Development scholarships are available from the International Soil and Water Conservation Society. These include the Kenneth E. Grant Research Scholarship, Donald A. Williams Leadership Development Scholarship and Melvillee H. Cohee Student Leader Scholarship.

For further information on these scholarships contact Dennis or visit the SWCS website at swcs.org.



SC Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society

4045 Bridge View Dr., Ste. C-204
N. Charleston, SC 29405

Phone: 843-727-4160 x 3
Fax: 843-727-4541



Answer to Guess Who?



It's *Odessa Sirman*
NRCS Soil Conservation
Technician, Anderson County.

SC SWCS		
STATEMENT OF ASSETS		
October 5, 2005		
TOTAL ASSETS		\$62,976.57
Check Book		\$11,870.40
Two CD's (BB&T) @ 0.75%		\$43,865.42
Mutual Funds		\$7,240.75
Designated Funds		\$11,911.67
Trust & Activity Fund (in CD)	\$10,050.00	
Palmetto Fellow Fund	\$87.22	
Chapter Scholarship	\$775.00	
Maxwell Scholarship	\$3,910.00	
Wild Pig Symposium	\$5,752.69	
SC DHEC Symposium	\$1,386.76	
Undesignated funds	\$51,064.90	
Operating Balance		-\$41.27