

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Inland Empire Chapter

Fall 2002



FALL MEETING

Monday, October 7, 2002

*Meeting Location: Oxford Suites - Downtown Spokane
115 W. North River Drive PH: (509) 353-9000
Spokane, WA 99201*

The Fall meeting will focus on activities of the West Region and the Inland Empire Chapter.

- 8:00 A.M.** Registration
- Esther Patterson, Chapter Treasurer
- 9:00 A.M.** SWCS Chapter Business Meeting –
- Valerie Oksendahl, Chapter President
- 10:00 A.M.** Inland Empire Chapter SWCS – History Since 1948
- Esther Patterson, Chapter Historian
- 10:30 A.M.** 2002 International Conference - Indianapolis
- Ann Swannack, Chapter Delegate
- 11:00 A.M.** SWCS National and Regional News
- Steve Smarik, Director Region 8 - Western
- 11:30 A.M.** Chapter Development
- Colleen Schneider, Chapter Development Representative - Region 8 - Western
- 12:00 P.M.** Picnic lunch (provided)
- 1:00 P.M.** Awards
- Cathy McGuire, Awards Representative - Region 8 - Western
- 1:30 P.M.** Membership and Professional Development
- Valerie Oksendahl, Professional Development Representative - Region 8 - Western
- 2:00 P.M.** 2003 International Conference - Spokane
- Larry Cooke and Dennis Roe, Conference Co-chairs
- 5:00 P.M.** Pre-2003 International Conference Welcoming Social

BE INVOLVED IN THE 2003 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

As hosts for the 2003 International Conference in Spokane there is a lot to be done and we need volunteers. This is your opportunity to support the chapter and be involved in an international conference. Contact one of the Local Arrangements Committee Chairpersons and find out how you can help. We are going to have a great conference - don't miss out!



CHAPTER CONTACTS

President:
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Vice President:
Larry Cooke
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e-mail: larry.cooke@wa.usda.gov

Treasurer:
Esther Patterson
(509) 925-6255

Secretary:
Ann Swannack
(509) 648-3680
e-mail: ann.swannack@wa.usda.gov

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

August 21, 2002

Dear Members,

As President of the SWCS Inland Empire Chapter, I thank you for your support. This year will be filled with challenges and opportunity.

As well as serving as your president, I am also Finance Chair on the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2003 SWCS International Conference. Many members have already been focusing efforts towards preparing for the Conference that will be held in Spokane on July 27-30, 2003. What a tremendous effort it will be to host this meeting. Yet, what an opportunity for members of the Inland Empire Chapter to see how the National SWCS can benefit each of us. Opportunity abounds to meet others in the natural resource professions from around the U.S., Canada, Mexico, South America and other countries.

Society members attending this year's International Conference in Indiana had a strong conservation program to experience. The content reflected the program committee's dedication to providing a forum for professional growth while learning the latest in conservation. Our members who attended said it was interesting to hear what Bruce Knight, NRCS Chief, had to say about the future relationship between NRCS and SWCS. He said, "NRCS is a science-based agency. We're proud that America's farmers and ranchers value and trust the quality and expertise within our Agency. Participation in the Society and other professional organizations is one way—and I think a very important way—that many of our employees use to develop and maintain the professionalism that our customers value so much."

The Inland Empire Chapter has been given the charge to promote and maintain that professionalism. One approach our chapter took this year was to seek diversity on the Executive Council. Don McCool, WSU, joins us as the South East Washington Director; Jeff Stewart, NRCS, is representing the North Idaho Panhandle; William Elliot, USFS, is serving as the South Idaho Panhandle Director; Steve Rolph, USBR, is serving as the Central Washington Director; and Larry Cooke, NRCS was elected as our Vice President.

I invite you to meet the Executive Council and attend this year's Fall Meeting, to be held in Spokane on October 7th. Your attendance at this meeting will provide an opportunity to hear more about the 2003 International Conference, become involved in chapter development, membership and professional development activities, and take on an active role in hosting the 2003 International SWCS Conference. A Farm Bill Informational Meeting will follow on the 8th with representation from surrounding states.

Lastly, I'd like you to take a look at our chapter's conference web-site, available for viewing on the Society's homepage at <http://www.swcs.org>. It is an excellent site and will soon capture program, technical tours, and social events our chapter is hosting. The current conference program committee has also posted information on the SWCS homepage on criteria required for abstracts to be accepted at the 2003 conference. Criteria for acceptance will be based on our conference theme "The Columbia- Conserving a Legacy to Life" and focus on these four topics:

Integrated Watershed and Basin Management
Water Supplies for Ecology and Economy
Grassland Health for Sustainable Production and Biological Diversity, and
Air Quality for Public Health and Economic Vitality

Please take the opportunity to look at the society and conference web sites. I thank you again for your support. Contact me at any time with input on Chapter activities and how we can better serve you. I look forward to your attendance at the Fall Meeting.

Sincerely,

Valerie Oksendahl

President IESWCS

2003 International Conference Local Arrangements Committee

Co-Chairs:		Exhibits:	
Larry Cooke	(509) 323-2964	Roger Veseth	(208) 885-6386
Dennis Roe	(509) 397-4636	Hospitality:	
		June Johnson	(509) 397-4636
Facility:		Media/Publicity:	
Dianne Guidry	(509) 323-2911	Betty Schmitt	(509) 323-2912
Finance:		Registration:	
Valerie Oksendahl	(509) 323-2976	Shawn Woodard	(509) 323-2986
Activities:		Technology:	
Shelly Lassiter	(509) 323-2987	Maggie Addington	(509) 323-2945
Conservation Tours:		Transportation:	
Larry Hooker	(509) 522-6340	Steve Durgin	(509) 323-2957

Chief Knight and Deputy Secretary Moseley Headline SWCS Conference in Indianapolis

The 57th Annual Conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society was held in Indianapolis, IN on July 13-17, 2002. The theme for this year's meeting was "Setting the Pace for Conservation".

The opening plenary session set the tone for the meeting. NRCS Chief Bruce Knight praised the society for its efforts in crafting the 2002 Farm Bill. Chief Knight said, "The Society and your Executive Director Craig Cox worked hard helping Congress craft a good Farm Bill over the past couple of years." The keynote speaker was Agriculture Deputy Secretary Jim Moseley. He also recognized the important role of the SWCS in developing farm policy. Deputy Secretary Moseley said, "We stand on the edge of the most significant commitment to natural resource conservation this country has ever made. This would not have happened without the hard work of dedicated individuals such as Craig Cox."

In addition to plenary sessions, the conference featured workshops, tours, poster papers and other events. Workshops included: Using RUSLE2 for Conservation Planning, Proactive Conservation Communication, Planning and Designing Riparian Buffers, Locally Led Conservation, NRCS Integrated Accountability, and Case Studies of Enforceable BMP's in Agriculture. Technical tours included: The National Soil Erosion Laboratory and Purdue University Research Facilities; Urban Conservation Tour on Development, Wetlands, and Water Quality; Caves, Carbon and Wine Tour featuring conservation practices in Southern Indiana; Agricultural Resource Management in West Central Indiana; White River Restoration Tour; and Dow AgroSciences, Monsanto and National FFA Headquarters.



2003 Conference Co-chairs Dennis Roe and Larry Cooke work the Inland Empire Chapter Booth with Larry Hooker

The Inland Empire Chapter (Eastern Washington and North Idaho), hosts for next year's conference, was well represented at Indianapolis. Chapter members worked hard attending events, learning about hosting a large international conference, and promoting the conference scheduled for July 2003. Conference Co-chairs Larry Cooke and Dennis Roe headed the delegation. Other chapter members included Gus Hughbanks, Shawn Woodard, Betty Schmitt, Shelly Lassiter, Steve Durgin, Ann Swannack, Larry Hooker, Sally Hooker, and Margie Cooke.

Spokane County Conservation District Showcases Innovative Programs

The innovative programs of the Spokane County Conservation District were showcased at the Inland Empire Chapter's spring meeting. Jim Armstrong, District Public Information Specialist provided a history of the District's efforts since 1985. Barry Tee, District Production Ag Coordinator, made a presentation on the District's Bio-diesel program. The afternoon tour included a look at the Green Zone, the district's Bio-Diesel Volkswagen bug, and a straw bale "spec' home built by the district.

Fall Meeting Registration
October 7, 2002

Oxford Suites - Downtown Spokane

115 W. North River Drive
Spokane, WA 99201

PH: (509) 353-9000

Name: _____ Representing: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Advanced Registration - \$25.00 SWCS members \$30.00 non-members
At the Door - \$30.00 SWCS members \$35.00 non-members

* **Note:** For "**new**" memberships received with this form (\$60.00), the registration fee will be waived.

Because this program includes a box lunch, we need to receive your registration by **Tuesday October 1, 2002** to provide an accurate count.

✓ **Please check your sandwich preference:** ___ roast beef ___ ham ___ turkey

No refunds will be issued after October 3, 2002.

Send registration form and check payable to:

Inland Empire Chapter - SWCS
c/o Esther Patterson, Treasurer
P.O. Box 1145
Ellensburg, WA 98926

(509) 925-6255

Inland Empire Chapter, SWCS
Ann Swannack
P.O. Box 438
Saint John, WA 99171



Our Chapter's Website is:
<http://nacdn.net/org/inland-empire-swcs>