



Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

Oklahoma Chapter

Officers

Ryan Jones, President
Josh Ketch, President Elect
Larry Wright, Treasurer
John Mustain, Secretary
Jason Warren, Past President
Council Representatives
Joe Freeland
Shelly Oliphant
Steve Glasgow
Stacy Hansen
Corey Moffet
Daniel Moriasi
Debi Carnott
Stacy Riley

Links:

The international web site.
www.swcs.org
The Oklahoma web site.
www.okswcs.org
Become a fan on Facebook.
<http://www.facebook.com/okswcs>

Committee Chairpersons:

Program, Josh Ketch
Membership, Stacy Hansen
Awards, Daniel Moriasi
Scholarship, Josh Ketch
Budget, Jason Warren
Audit, Corey Moffet
Nominating/Elections, Jean Steiner
Fund Raising, Melanie Oliver
Website, Joe Freeland
Newsletter, Larry Wright

Vision: A multidisciplinary Society that advocates the protection, enhancement, and wise use of soil, water and related natural resources in Oklahoma and beyond.

Mission: To promote through education and example, an ethic that recognizes the interdependence of people and the environment.

Welcome New Members:

Stacy Hansen Receives SWCS Honor Award

Oklahoma Conservation Commission Communications Coordinator and Carbon Program director, Stacy Hansen, has received an Honor Award from the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS). The awards were announced in July at the Society's 68th International Annual Conference in Reno, Nevada.

Stacy has worked for the Commission since 2006 and joined the SWCS in 2011. She serves on the Oklahoma Chapter council as the chair of the membership committee.

The SWCS Honor Award recognizes outstanding accomplishments compatible to the mission of the Society. The nomination from the Chapter said: "Stacy has proven herself as a valuable asset to the Society at both the state and multi-state level and has been instrumental in coordinating events and programs furthering the mission of the Society.

"Serving as the chair of the membership committee, Stacy developed, distributed, and compiled results from a state chapter membership survey, the results of which showed members were interested in learning more about water quality, nutrient management, sustainable agriculture, and the needs of producers. Stacy started an initiative where members of the Chapter could provide information on upcoming workshops and training opportunities offered by other organizations in the state chapter newsletter, which now serves as a useful resource for meeting the members' training needs.

"Stacy was also instrumental in the "Communicating with New Producers" Workshop. This was developed to help educate conservationists on how to effectively work with the increasing number of producers who have little or no experience with conservation programs or practices. Stacy developed the agenda of excellent presenters and coordinated the workshop and its advertisement. More than 75 conservationists from Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas attended the workshop, and as a result, these organizations realized the effectiveness of social media outlets in sharing the conservation education programs available."

2014 No-Till Oklahoma

The 2014 No-Till Oklahoma conference will occur on March 11 - 12 at the NCED in Norman Oklahoma (same venue as previous

years). Mark your calendars.

Organic Oklahoma 2014

The first annual sustainable and organic production conference designed for beginning and advanced growers.

Friday, February 28 & Saturday, March 1, 2014

OSU/OKC Agriculture Technology Building
900 North Portland Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Ben Pollard to Retire

After 35 years of dedicated service to conservation in Oklahoma, Ben Pollard is moving on to a well-deserved retirement. Ben has served as assistant director at the Oklahoma Conservation Commission for several years and had been a member of SWCS. The retirement reception will be Monday January 6, 2014, 1:30—3:30 pm at the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, 2800 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Ok. A formal presentation will be made a 2:00 pm. Please RSVP to Kim Tweed (kim.tweed@conservation.ok.gov) by December 30, 2013 if you plan to attend.

Chapter Leader Training Webinars [Click here to watch](#)

Awards for Individuals

The awards program of the Soil and Water Conservation Society is designed to recognize individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions in advocating the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources. These are not to be confused with Chapter Awards. Information about Chapter Awards can be found [here](#). Please feel welcome to view the [2013 Awards Program](#) to learn more about both the individual and chapter awards.

The criteria and nominating procedures for the awards program are here on the website. Award recipients will be announced at the Society's annual meeting, unless otherwise indicated.

The [award category selection key](#) will help you place your nomination in the awards category that best fits the nominee's accomplishments. Answer the questions sequentially until you are led to the appropriate award. Incorrectly placed nominations will not be considered for recognition. The formal nomination questionnaire must be



Healthy Land
Clean Water
For Life

Oklahoma Chapter

filled out for the appropriate award category and may be accompanied by supporting information. There is a specific nomination questionnaire for each award category except chapter awards.

Award nominations must be received by February 12, 2014.

Some nominations require a signed petition accompany the awards nomination form. You may upload these documents to the nomination form, scan and email the signed petition to awards@swcs.org, or fax it to 515-289-1227. All forms of submission will receive a confirmation of receipt. Additional information, if needed, may be obtained from the Society's headquarters office 515-289-2331 ext. 114 or your regional Awards Committee representative.

Summary of Society Scholarships

*Please be aware that you must be a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society for at least 1 year to apply for these scholarships. Opportunities for scholarships are as follows:

I. Research Scholarship — made possible by Kenneth E. Grant

In 1978, friends and associates of Kenneth E. Grant established a scholarship program in his name when he retired as administrator of the Soil Conservation Service. 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. SWCS actively promotes multidisciplinary research.

II. Soil Conservation Scholarship — made possible by Donald A. Williams

The Donald A. Williams Soil Conservation Scholarship provides financial assistance to members of SWCS who are currently employed, but who 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.

III. Student Leader Conservation Scholarship — made possible by Melville H. Cohee

The Melville H. Cohee Student Leader Conservation Scholarship was started in the early 1990s to honor student members who succeed as leaders in their studies, volunteerism, and work. Nominations for this scholarship come from all over the world to compete against other student society members who have interest in conservation or other resource-related fields.

Questions about SWCS scholarships? Contact scholarships@swcs.org or call 1-800-THE SOIL

Applications for the 2014 SWCS awards and scholarships are now available. The deadline for applications is February 12, 2014.



69th SWCS International Annual Conference

MAKING WAVES
IN CONSERVATION

Our Life on Land & its Impact on Water
LOMBARD, IL • JUL 27-30, 2014



Don't miss your opportunity to nominate someone who is instrumental in soil, water, and natural resource conservation or apply for scholarships available for the 2014 - 2015 school year.

Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference

The Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts Annual Conference will be March 2-4, 2014 at the Reed Center in Midwest City, Ok.