

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Inland Empire Chapter *Spring 2004*



SPRING MEETING

Friday, April 30, 2004

*Meeting Location: Sandpoint NRCS Field Office
Federal Building
1500 Highway #2
Sandpoint, ID 83864-1794*

PH: (208) 263-5310

*The Spring Meeting Topic:
Conservation Issues in the North Idaho Panhandle.*

- 9:00 A.M.** Registration.....Esther Patterson, Chapter Treasurer
- 9:30 A.M.** Welcome.....Jeff Stewart, North Idaho Panhandle Director
- 9:35 A.M.** SWCS Chapter Business Meeting.....Larry Cooke, Chapter President
- 10:15 A.M.** Myrtle Creek – Post Fire Rehabilitation
for City of Bonners Ferry Water Supply.....Chris Savage, United States Forest Service
- 10:45 A.M.** Updating the Bonner County
Comprehensive Land Use Plan.....Claire Marley , Bonner County Planning and Zoning
- 11:15 A.M.** Fisheries of Lake Pend Orielle.....Ned Horner, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- 11:45 A.M.** Open Discussion
- 12:00 P.M.** Lunch
- 1:00 P.M.** Tour of University of Idaho, Sandpoint Research and Extension Center
Dr. Dan Barney
- 3:00 P.M.** Closing Discussion
- 3:15 P.M.** Adjourn

Cost of Meeting Discounted!!

Early registration for this year's spring meeting is \$15 for members.

Chapter Officers		
President:	Larry Cooke	509.323.2964 e-mail: larry.cooke@wa.usda.gov
Vice - President:	Steve Durgin	509.323.2957 e-mail: larry.cooke@wa.usda.gov
Treasurer	Esther Patterson	509.925.6255 e-mail: enpatt@elltel.net
Secretary	Ann Swannack	509.397.4636 e-mail: ann.swannack@wa.usda.gov
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South Idaho Panhandle Director	William Elliot	208.883.2338 e-mail: welliot@fs.fed.us
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Central Washington Director	Steve Rolph	509.575.5848 ext. 286 e-mail: srolph@pn.usbr.gov
Southeast Washington Director	Don McCool	509.335.1347 e-mail: dkmccool@mail.wsu.edu
Past President	Valerie Oksendahl	509.323.2976 e-mail: valerie.oksendahl@wa.usda.gov

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

This past year has been historic in many ways. It also was a pivotal year where the Inland Empire Chapter began developing long range strategies that will shape the future of the chapter. The most significant event that occurred in 2003, was hosting the annual Society conference. The conference was held in Spokane, last July 2003. I would like to thank all Chapter members who contributed to the success of the conference. I would like to personally thank all of those who served on the LAC committee. Those that served on the committee include: Dennis Roe, Larry Cooke, Steve Durgin, Valerie Oksendahl, Shelly Lassiter, Shawn Woodard, Maggie Addington, Betty Schmidt, Roger Veseth, Ann Swannack, Larry Hooker and Ron Myrum.

We have met many goals that the committee established 3 years ago. Some goals remain to be met. The most important goal that needs to be focused on is increasing chapter membership. Our chapter is in a good position financially and we have great members with great ideas, however, we need more diversity and an increase in membership. I feel this diversity will bring a positive blend into our strategic planning sessions.

We lost one of our long time members, Roger Veseth, during 2003. One of our committees is exploring options where the chapter can name one of our functions or a scholarship in his name. We will keep you posted on that development.

In closing, it was an honor to serve as your president and I will continue serving on the Executive Board as your past president.

See you in Sandpoint!

Larry Cooke, IEC Chapter President

Input for Chapter Direction Received at Fall Meeting

At our fall meeting members shared ideas on the SWCS and the Inland Empire Chapter. The following are answers to questions posed at the session. Feel free to share your ideas with your district director!

What do I like about SWCS National?

- Diversity of members
- SWCS Journal
- Promotes sound soil and water conservation at a national level while including the local level leaders.
- Chance to share knowledge with others on SWCS issues
- Anyone can be involved. Social/technical part of meetings important.
- Promoting sound soil and water conservation on national level but still locally led from bottom up.
- Diverse group of professionals can network with others from outside local area.
- Convention
- Opportunity to see what other resource issues are in other parts of the country
- Mission statement is broad and forward thinking.
- Less corporate influence than some societies, more emphasis on science.
- Professional development
- Automatic deductions of membership dues
- Networking with national people
- Opportunity to publish research results
- Source of info, exchange of ideas, publication, peer contacts

My Vision for SWCS National is:

- International sounding board for ways to solve worldwide conservation issues.
- A professional organization that can lobby and present our vision and facts to Congress.
- A technical resource that people can come use to solve soil and water problems.
- Technology leadership and education at national level on conservation issues.
- Look at more water conservation
- Would like more interdisciplinary meetings
- To follow the objectives of SWCS (in by-laws)

What do I like about the Inland Empire Chapter?

- Family atmosphere/feeling that no idea is a bad idea/feel free to express your views without reprimand.
- Chance to gain from local ideas and successes on conservation
- Meetings moved around to different geographic areas.
- Free to express views and opinions-others value them
- Technical training and tours
- Camps offered to kids were extremely worthwhile
- Keeping up with other sciences by interacting with scientists in other fields.
- Networking and comradely
- Field trips/developing relationships
- Opportunity to meet individual across state line
- Less stuffy-more relaxed
- Cheap membership dues

My Vision for the Inland Empire Chapter is:

- The leading voice for SWC issues in our area, i.e. environmental issues-forest fires etc.
- Promote professional training around the chapter, organized by members
- Locally led professional development
- Promote and support attendance to Inland Empire Natural Resource Youth Camp
- More professional training for members.
- Sponsor more on-farm tours as a way to get broader farm representation in membership
- More tours and presentation opportunities with more emphasis on including producers.
- More interaction with private companies currently offering services to producers.
- More on the ground education opportunities for upcoming professionals.
- Be more informative to membership-web page, Journal; Conservagram, link to endowment opportunities
- Make sure registration for conference is mailed hard copy to all membership
- Have a better relationship with Natural Resource Depts. of schools so that students/classes participate

in SWCS tours in an effort to get students to join and to provide the 'on the ground' knowledge of conservation

- Link SWCS/IESWCS website to University web pages.
- Provide easy access to information about our organization.
- Establish a student mentoring program with area directors with our new student members.
- Plan more social events with our meetings
- Locally led, networking, passing the torch
- Scholarship-one large, pay for meeting registration for students, use meeting as a paper presentation forum
- Sponsor youth in high school,
- Contact Vo-Ag teachers for Chapter membership
- Reduce meeting registration
- Chapter representation at farmer meetings/Direct Seed Conf/etc.
- More interaction with Canadian Chapter-Lethbridge research Center
- Watershed planning on local level
- Local concerns: public perception, water rights, political issues, local news & concerns

Three best things I've done other than convention:

- Indy Nat. Convention, joined while at WSU, good resource
- As IE Chapter Pres. Putting together notebooks for officers
- Educational presentation on wine industry/tour
- Educational presentation on bioengineering tour
- Outdoor tours: wine tour/Christmas Plants of the Wild
- Set up scholarship programs
- Fun events
- IENRYC
- Attending national meetings, tillage conferences
- Participating with the Verle Kaiser Endowment
- Developing new skills in leadership

Three things I look forward to as a member:

- Continuing opportunities to take the blinders off and experience new ways to solve NR problems
- Increase technical expertise
- Network with other members
- Silent auctions/door prizes/raffles at meetings
- Float trip and outdoor adventure
- Tours, networking
- Projects to bring new members and contact with new members
- Scholarships for support to students
- Creating better representation of the whole region
- Provide a forum for faculty and students to present paper/posters
- More educational outreach-Geological Information Stations (road side signs/with other agencies)

Spring Meeting Registration
April 30, 2004

Sandpoint NRCS Field Office
Federal Building
1500 Highway 2
Sandpoint, ID 83864-1794

PH: (208) 263-5310

Name: _____ Representing: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Advanced Registration - \$15.00 SWCS members \$20.00 non-members
At the Door - \$20.00 SWCS members \$25.00 non-members

***Special:** Bring an associate and pay \$10.00 registration.

Because this program includes a box lunch, we need to receive your registration by **Friday April 23, 2004** to provide an accurate count.

No refunds will be issued after April 27, 2004.

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

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