

Twenty-Ninth
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Des Moines County, Iowa
Soil Conservation District



1974

“The Year of Geode Wonderland”

Burlington Iowa Banks

BACKING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION IN
DES MOINES COUNTY - FINANCING WISE LAND USE

Burlington Bank & Trust Company



FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK & TRUST

BURLINGTON, IOWA



National Bank

BURLINGTON, IOWA

Each deposit insured to \$40,000 in FDIC

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

	PAGE
BURLINGTON	
Burlington Bank & Trust	2
Burlington Farm Machinery	17
Burlington Federal Savings & Loan	8
Central Lumber Co.	10
Dehner's	11
Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust	2
First National Bank	2
Hallgren-Schildknecht Co.	10
Iowa Southern Utilities Co.	8
Jackson & Bennett Excavating Co.	10
Long Creek Conservation Club ...	4
Luecking Tire & Battery	16
Matthew's Construction	28
Mississippi Valley Savings & Loan	11
Raid Quarries	29
Turner Seed Store	39

DANVILLE

Danville State Savings Bank	23
Farm Service Co.	23
Morrison Trucking	16

DES MOINES

Levine Pipe Co.	28
Pioneer Seed Corn	34

GULFPORT

Ferruzzi & Company	28
--------------------------	----

IOWA CITY

Advanced Drainage System	24
--------------------------------	----

LAKE MILLS

Certain-Teed Daymond Co.	35
-------------------------------	----

MEDIAPOLIS

Allworth Lumber Co.	36
Des Moines County Mutual Insurance Association	33
Eland Agency	36

Farm Service Co.	23
Mediapolis Savings Bank	34
Nelson Trucking	36
Schrock Lumber Co.	29
L. M. Whipple Construction	11
Wilson Agency	39

MORNING SUN

Gabeline Trucking	29
Springsteen Tiling	12
Weber Implement	35

MT. PLEASANT

Federal Land Bank	39
-------------------------	----

MT. UNION

Hazen Supply Corp. ...	Back Cover
------------------------	------------

MUSCATINE

Midwest Culvert	34
-----------------------	----

NEW LONDON

Al Heckenberg Construction	16
Frank E. Woodall Construction ..	7

OAKVILLE

Oakville Feed & Grain	12
-----------------------------	----

SPERRY

Bluebird Hill Nursery	12
-----------------------------	----

WAPELLO

Eastern Iown Light & Power	33
Wapello Livestock Sales	33

WEST BURLINGTON

Balzer Radiator & Welding	8
Kinney Construction	17
Mel's Diesel	17
Southeastern Community College	23

WINFIELD

Allgood Construction	15
----------------------------	----

YARMOUTH

Kaser Limestone	35
-----------------------	----

DISTRICT OFFICE RELOCATED

After fifteen years in Suite 218 of the Federal Building, the district has changed office quarters to Room 230, just down the hall and around the corner. The move was not made to confuse the public, however, a certain amount of confusion exists. Room 230 is just a little larger and better divided for offices. It is proving very adaptable to our use.

We still get occasional folks dropping in looking for bulletins from Extension Service. (They moved from here four years ago.) And now and then someone wants to register with the draft board, more recent tenants.

But soil conservation is the business in Room 230 now. We are right next door to ASCS, so we are moving in the direction of being able to set up a USDA Service Center in the future.

We trust in the meantime that we may continue to carry out effective service to the public in our new location.

Remember, we specialize in helping to plan for wise land use, resulting in better erosion control and permanently productive land.

Our services are also available to develop resource inventories for units of government having land use authority.

LONG CREEK CONSERVATION CLUB

I. A. A. P.

Burlington

**I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully
to defend from waste the natural resources of my country — its soil and minerals, and its forests, waters and
wildlife.**



District Commissioners appear pleased at results of a busy year in conservation. Jack Jacobs, Joe Beckman, Ray Pilling, Dwight Stucker and chairman Bill Vierling.

1974 IN THE DISTRICT

Fiscal 1974 began, of course, in mid-1973, when the district was in the midst of co-sponsoring Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp in the Burlington area. This was the first time the camp had gone to the people, and with an enrollment of nearly 40 teachers it was eminently successful. The district had raised over \$1500 in scholarship funds to help the teachers who attended. Our July meeting featured a noon picnic with the campers during one of their busy field trips.

Education continued on a high level throughout the year as our local teachers achieved a number of awards.

The Commissioners took on a lot of new responsibilities with the onset of State of Iowa cost sharing. Our district was given a total of \$9000 to be used on a 50-50 basis to cost share on erosion control measures. This looked like a good deal in view of the loss of REAP funds in 1973, although it was only a small percentage of the usual REAP funds.

By early 1974 the 1973 REAP funds were made available along with a 1974 RECP program. Now, with three cost-sharing possibilities, fund distribution became a headache, but somehow we managed. We still maintain a small balance available for cost sharing on the state program.

Long Term Agreements became a reality under 1974 RECP. A portion of federal and state cost-share funds was made available to set up long range cost-share plans. Under this program, a qualified farmer can be guaranteed 50 percent cost sharing on all eligible practices he plans and completes during the term of his contract. This is a three to ten year period.

The cooperator develops a complete conservation plan with every practice scheduled with a completion date. The district and ASCS then enter into a

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

contract with the farmer. He pledges to do the work according to the plan, and they pledge to cost share.

We have only one such project under way at this time due to restriction of funds. It involves an eight year contract with Eric Massner, where he will be completing about \$20,000 worth of conservation work.

This program is an excellent way to plan and accomplish conservation work. We hope it may expand as another tool for people to use to get the conservation job done.

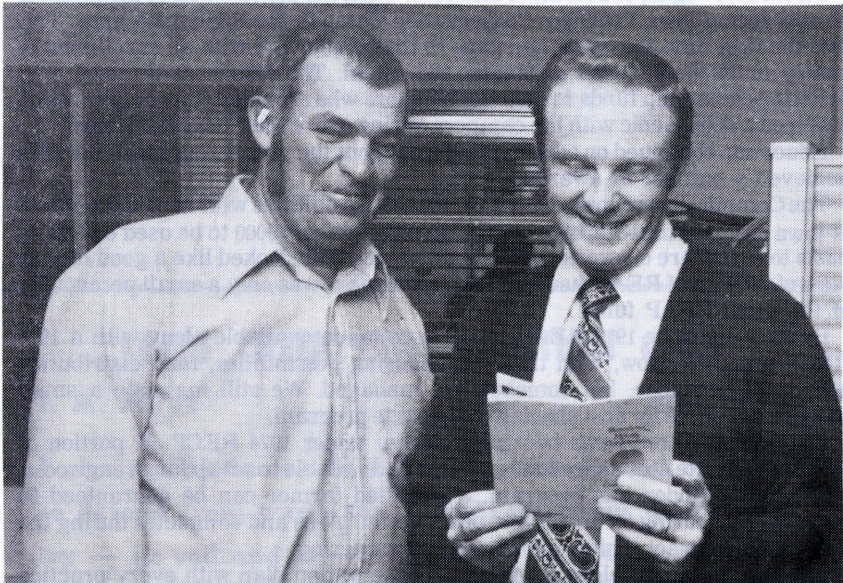
Our biennial election came about in February. Bill Vierling was elected to complete the remaining two years on his appointment, and Ray Pilling and Joe Beckman were voted in on six year terms. The resignation of Carl Shumaker, in order to better handle his dairy farming, brought the appointment of Jack Jacobs of Burlington to replace Carl. Nearly everyone in the district knows Jack. He served for 13 years as conservation technician here before entering the insurance business. With his knowledge of conservation work, we know he will become an outstanding commissioner.

Our other "fledgling" commissioner, Joe Beckman, is not entirely new to conservation action. He is a long time cooperater who is rapidly completing his conservation plan.

All the commissioners are feeling the challenge to greater service as the responsibilities of the district grow.

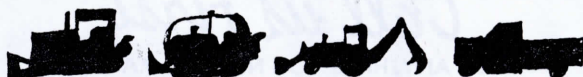
Land Use Policy has become a household phrase as the legislature comes to grips with this testy problem. The district has taken the stand that whenever there is competition for the use of land, there eventually must be regulation to determine what land use will best serve the public. A resolution to this effect has been presented to our legislators encouraging the passage of workable land use policy for Iowa, based upon the needs of the soil.

(Continued on page 9)



Commissioner Ray Pilling and Area Conservationist Eldon Weber of Fairfield share the pleasure of reviewing some of the districts activities during 1974. Commissioners are accepting an increasingly important role in administering new and vital district programs. Ray is the district member on the RC&D council.

CONTACT
FRANK E. WOODALL
CONSERVATION CONTRACTOR



FOR
CONSERVATION WORK
BULLDOZING - SCRAPER WORK
BACKHOE SERVICE

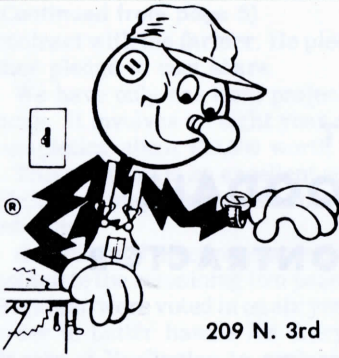
- WATERWAYS
- TERRACING
- PASTURE RENOVATION

- CLEARING
- POND BUILDING
- BACKHOE

Rural Route 1

367-2239

New London



Iowa Southern Utilities Company

WHEN TIME IS MONEY!

ELECTRIC FARM EQUIPMENT
PAYS FOR ITSELF

209 N. 3rd

Burlington, Iowa

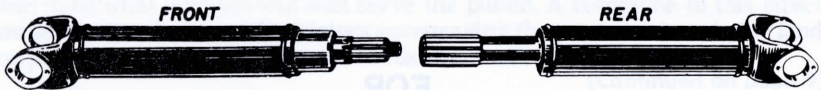
Ph. 754-6511

Call us first

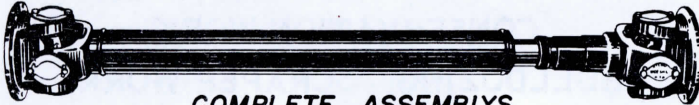
FOR ANYTHING YOU NEED TO MAINTAIN

PROPELLER SHAFTS ON TRUCKS, BUSES
& PASSENGER CARS

ALL PARTS CARRIED IN STOCK & ALL MACHINE WORK & WELDING
DONE IN OUR SHOP BY SAME METHODS AS MANUFACTURERS



TUBE ASSEMBLYS-ALL MAKES AND SIZES



COMPLETE ASSEMBLYS

BALZER RADIATOR & WELDING SERVICE

W. BURLINGTON AVE. WEST BURLINGTON, IOWA 52655 PHONE (AREA 319) 752-6545



SAVE TODAY FOR A HOME TOMORROW

MORE FOR YOUR MONEY AT:

Burlington Federal Savings and Loan Association

323 JEFFERSON STREET
BURLINGTON, IOWA 52601

All accounts insured up to \$40,000



A new responsibility facing district personnel is the Long Term Agreement (LTA) of the federal cost sharing program. Eric Massner of Mediapolis is the first farmer to develop this long range approach to complete erosion control. His conservation plan is reviewed here by chairman Bill Vierling as they lay out the schedule to start Massner's extensive conservation program. Through the Rural Environmental Conservation Program (RECP) Massner is assured of cost sharing on certain practices he will perform over the next eight years.

(Continued from page 6)

Again, commissioners stand to gain added responsibilities in administering any land use policy. Our business has always been to promote wise land use and we have the expertise available to handle the job.

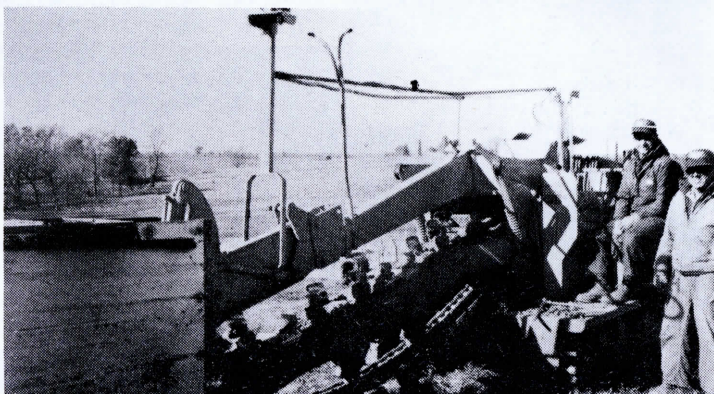
Geode Wonderland Resource Conservation and Development Project was the biggest news to hit this district in 1974. It will be reported in a separate section. The district is firmly behind RC&D as a primary sponsor.

We have continued to support activities in the inventorying of resources in the Cedar-Iowa Basin Study. Now in its fourth year, much of the resource data has been gathered, and a report will be published within the next year. This study has identified a broad variety of land use potential as well as water development potential. It will prove valuable in establishing water and land use policies, long range regional planning and development and in determining alternatives for solution of land use problems.

So by the end of 1974 our district commissioners were rapidly becoming involved in a number of activities and programs designed to make the district a more vital part of community development. The district is here to stay and it's here to be heard. Des Moines County SCD is vital to Southeast Iowa.

JACKSON & BENNETT EXCAVATING CO.

1918 SOUTH THIRTEENTH STREET
BURLINGTON, IOWA



FIELD TILING

BACKHOE AND LIGHT DOZER WORK

R. JACKSON
319-752-7959

D. BENNETT
309-873-2515

HALLGREN-SCHILDKNECHT, INC.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

SHEET METAL WORK - NEW - REPLACEMENT

PHONE 754-5793

1215 AGENCY

BURLINGTON

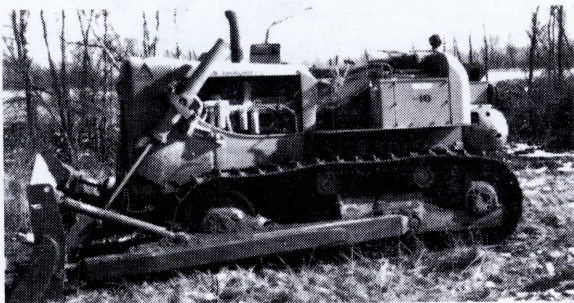
LENNOX AND BRYANT EQUIPMENT

CENTRAL LUMBER & SUPPLY CO.

Across From J. I. Case Co.
Burlington, Iowa

"WE'RE THE FRIENDLY ONES"

L.M. Whipple



Bulldozing and Scraper Work Conservation of All Kinds

- Ponds
- Terraces
- Diversions
- Erosion Control Dams
- Surface Drainage
- Waterways

Brush Discing & Pasture Renovation

All work meets SCS specifications

Mediapolis, Iowa

Phone 394-3363

DEHNER'S

DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON

FOR ALL YOUR SEED NEEDS

Soybeans - Legumes - Grasses

Burpee's Bulk Garden Seed

MONEY SAVING PRICES

THE FAMILY SAVINGS CENTER



**Mississippi Valley
Savings and Loan Association**

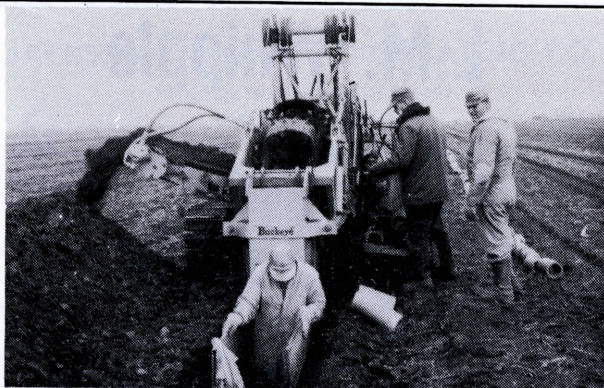


321 North Third Street, Burlington, Iowa 52601 Phone (319) 754-7517

Member FSLIC and Federal Home Loan Bank

T
I
L
E

D
R
A
I
N



C
O
N
T
R
A
C
T
O
R

Kenneth Springsteen

- Field Tile • Waterway Tile • Terrace Tile
- Installation of Terrace Outlet Pipes
- Backfilling & Backhoe Work
- Plastic Drainage Tubing

Work Done To SCS Specifications

Morning Sun, Iowa

Phone 868-4156

OAKVILLE FEED & GRAIN, INC.



Grain — Feed — Seed
Fertilizer — Chemicals
Custom Grinding, Mixing
— Bulk Delivery —

Oakville, Iowa

Phone 2611 or 2751

LANDSCAPE PLANTING

Windbreaks - Pond Plantings - Wildlife plots - Hedges
Nut --- Fruit, & Shade Trees
General Nursery Stock --- Lawn Grading & Seeding
Fertilizing, Service Work & Homes for birds

Bluebird Hill Nursery Service

Harold Linder

Sperry, Iowa

Phone Dodgeville 985-2415

GEODE WONDERLAND RC&D

Culminating a year of frenzied activity, the commissioners of Des Moines, Lee, Henry and Louisa Counties have filed an application with the Soil Conservation Service in Washington, D.C., seeking a resource conservation and development (RC&D) project for this four county area.

The Area XVI soil district coordinating board, which was organized two years ago to facilitate work on region wide problems, was the prime mover to get the RC&D ball rolling. Chairman Jim Hawkins has spent countless hours in steering this program into fruition. Area Conservationist Eldon Weber and District Conservationist Ralph Dewey were designated by SCS to help guide the program along.

Meetings were held with the rural development committees of the four counties to seek interest in the development. County supervisors joined with commissioners and the Region XVI Planning Commission to underwrite the RC&D project. All the members vigorously sought endorsement support from agencies and organizations, and by the time the application was ready to be filed in early October, more than seventy supporting groups were on the list.

While awaiting field approval of the project, the executive board is busily accepting ideas for project measures to be worked upon. Already, requests have come in for projects involving recreational bike trails, rural water supplies, sealing of abandoned rural wells for safety and pollution control and coordination of bi-centennial activities in Area XVI.

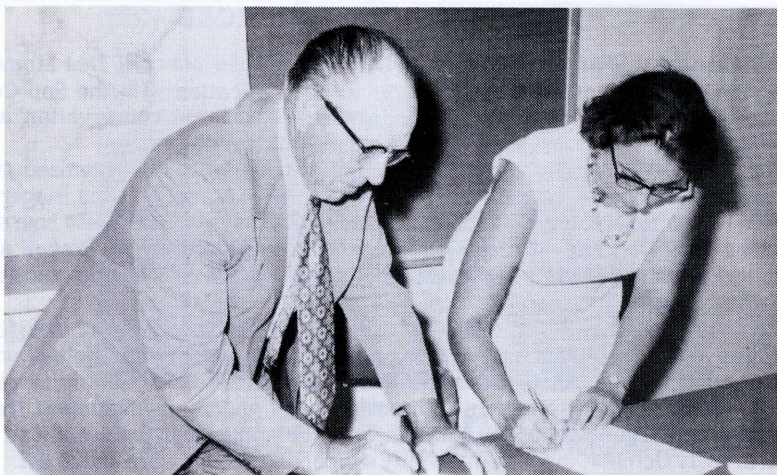
The name "Geode Wonderland" was chosen by the sponsors as representative of this four county area. The Geode, hiding beauty within its shell is symbolic of the untouched and undeveloped resources available in this area.

Commissioner Ray Pilling is treasurer for the project and the district member on the executive board. County Supervisor Merle Kelly represents the county, and other members include Mrs. Olive Sullivan, Sherman Smith, Milton Distelhorst and Jim Settles of the County Conservation Board.

This group comprises the County RC&D Council with Olive Sullivan as Chairperson.



Des Moines County is well represented on the Geode Wonderland RC&D executive council by these conservation leaders: Merle Kelly, a county supervisor; Milton Distelhorst, member-at-large; Ray Pilling, district commissioner and secretary; Mrs. Olive Sullivan, chairperson; and Sherm Smith, member-at-large. Their review of local project measure proposals sets in motion the activities of the RC&D.



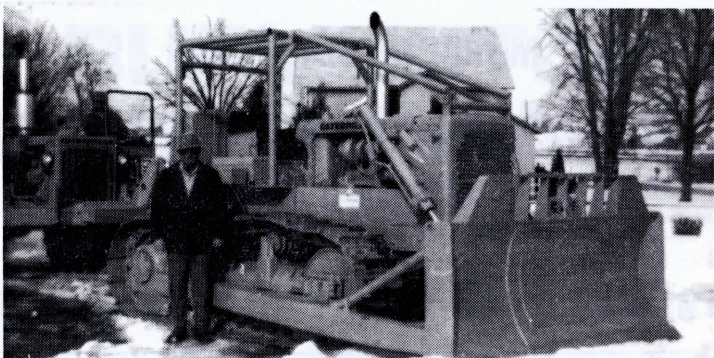
RC&D chairman Jim Hawkins and Secretary Norma Jennings affix their signatures to the official documents launching Geode Wonderland Resource Conservation and Development project.



County Conservation Board director Jim Settles is a member of the Des Moines County RC&D Council.



Area Extension Director Dr. Richard Munster of Davenport ties the RC&D together with Rural Development Committees of the USDA.



Chuck Allgood **-Earth Moving-** **Conservation Contractor**

- Brush Disc
- Backhoe
- Dump Truck
- New D7F Bulldozer
- 3 Caterpillars
- 3 Elevating Scrapers
- Air Compressor
- Drag Line
- Sub Soiler
- Pull Scraper
- Road Grader

Phone 257-3137

P. O. Box 16

Winfield, Iowa 52659



MORRISON TRUCKING

**AGRICULTURAL LIMESTONE
FERTILIZER SPREADING — ROCK — SAND**

— Call Collect —

Danville, Iowa

Phone 392-4411

LUECKING'S TIRE & BATTERY SERVICE

GATES CAR AND TRUCK TIRES

FIRESTONE TRACTOR & IMPLEMENT TIRES

BURLINGTON, IOWA

PHONE 752-3312

AL HECKENBERG



**Conservation Work And All Types Of
Earth Moving And Clearing**

New London, Iowa

Phone 367-2607

BURLINGTON FARM MACHINERY CORP.

**International Harvester Trucks
Farm Equipment
Industrial Equipment
Sales & Service**



Highway 34 West

Phone 752-2794 Burlington, Iowa

If In Trouble, Call MEL

North of 34 & 406 Junction

MEL'S DIESEL

**REPAIR OF ALL TYPES OF
DIESEL ENGINES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT**

Phone 319 753-1505

P. O. Box 123

West Burlington, Iowa 52655

MEL RYDER

KINNEY CONSTRUCTION

Basement

Clearing

Bulldozer

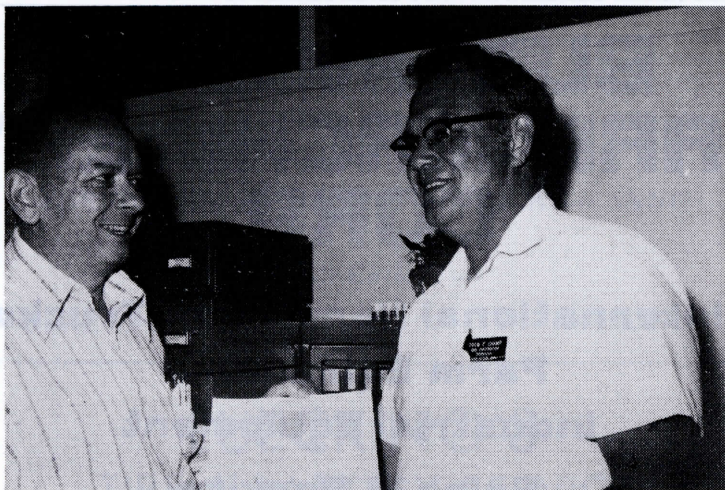
Backhoe

Grading

Sewer Work

Washington Road, West Burlington

Phone 752-6450



Technician Oren Champ is pleasantly surprised with a certificate of award for his continuing outstanding work in the district. Oren's activities have not only maintained a high accomplishment of terracing and erosion control structures, but his interest and understanding of planning have helped the district attain higher goals.

PERSONNEL

Two new faces were added to the office staff in 1974. Upon completion of high school in Fairfield, Mark Simmons joined us as a WAE aide. He helps part time while attending Southeastern Community College full time. Mark is using his artistic abilities in helping Oren draw erosion control plans, when he is not acting on the end of a survey rod.

In August the staff was strengthened by trainee Larry Hunt, a recent graduate of Missouri University in wildlife management. Larry is progressing rapidly in his training and is gaining experience in planning and layout of practices. He and his wife Judy and son Lance live in Middletown.

Both Larry and Mark have good senses of humor, which is an advantage when working where they are.



District Office Staff - (left to right) Oren Champ, Dorothy Davis, Mark Simmons, Larry Hunt, Ralph Dewey.

DISTRICT AND SCS STAFF

DES MOINES COUNTY SCD PERSONNEL

William Vierling, Mediapolis
Jack Jacobs, Burlington
Dwight Stucker, New London
Ray Pilling, Mediapolis
Joseph T. Beckman, Sperry
Harold Linder, Sperry
Horace Sutton, Jr., Burlington
Mrs. Dorothy Davis

Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Secretary
Treasurer
District Clerk

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL

BURLINGTON FIELD OFFICE

Ralph E. Dewey
Oren Champ
Larry Hunt
Mark Simmons

District Conservationist
Conservation Technician
Soil Conservationist
Conservation Aid

AREA SIX STAFF

Eldon C. Weber
Margaret Dickey
Tom Brown
Stan Simmons
James Seaholm
Lonnie Miller

Area Conservationist
Area Clerk
Area Engineer
Engineer Technician
Soil Scientist
Soil Scientist

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS - FISCAL 1974

PRACTICE	UNIT	AMOUNT
New Cooperators	No.	54
Basic Conservation Plans	No.	33
Revised Conservation Plans	No.	17
Farms Serviced	No.	387
Farms Applying Practices	No.	263
Group Conservation Jobs	No.	3

APPLICATION OF PRACTICES

Conservation Cropping Systems	Acres	4,567
Contour Farming	Acres	3,283
Crop Residue Management	Acres	6,126
Diversions	L.F.	2,325
Farm Ponds	No.	5
Erosion Control Dams	No.	10
Waterways	Acres	31
Pasture Planting	Acres	645
Open Drains	L.F.	13,000
Tile Outlet Terraces	L.F.	19,475
Tile Inlet Terrace Pipes	No.	44
Drainage Tile	L.F.	64,860
Tree Planting	Acres	1
Wildlife Habitat Management	Acres	88
Land Adequately Treated	Acres	3,568

FISCAL 1974 FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>1-M Budget</u>	<u>2-M Budget</u>
Commissioners Expense	\$ 400.27	
Office Supplies	413.11	
Prizes for Contests	62.43	
Office Expense	293.75	
Meeting Expense	6.01	
Clerical & Technical Expense		\$6057.35
Travel		46.93
Release to State	24.43	105.72
	\$1200.00	\$6210.00
	 <u>3-M Budget (Cost Share)</u>	
Terraces		\$2552.43
Erosion Control Dams		3030.39
Grassed Waterways		385.00
Diversion		96.69
Total Paid		\$6064.51
Funds Obligated		2601.30
Balance Unobligated		334.19
		\$9000.00

NEW COOPERATORS

July 1, 1973 thru June 30, 1974

IAAP

Edwin Schwerin
Eugene Higdon
Steve Denning
Steve Nunnikhoven
Daniel Newton
Confinement Pork Producers, Inc.
John A. Todd
John Brockelman
Daniel House
John C. Schulz
Carl C. Meller
Kenneth D. Wasson
Donald Fenton
Eric Massner
H. Eugene Anderson
Marvin Lange
John Zippe
Southeastern Community College
Jerry Colton
Jerry Wood
Jay P. Morris
David W. Wilson
Arlene Hale
Kenneth Groe
Clyde Scherer
Paul L. Beckman

Leo Rothlisberger
James R. Howell
Curtis Coppes
J. Fresh-Hertz Farm Management
David Berry
Frank Heckenberg
A. M. Wagner & Sons
Robert Carhoff
Mabel Dodds
Keith H. McNeil
Donald Dunn
Kenneth R. Todd
Richard Tieman
Gene Stafford
Jesse Moehle
Alvin Dockendorff
Dale Prottzman
Doyle K. Spears
Bruce Fladt
William Grinstead
Breder Bros.
Mervin Klees
James D. Russell
Warth Bros.
Robert Crew
Donald Ludemann
Ray Reinke

REVISIONS

July 1, 1973 thru June 30, 1974

IAAP (10)
Mrs. Kenneth Wasson
Martin Beckman
Joseph Beckman
Frank Denney
Dr. Carl S. Hulen
Vine Gehring
Lloyd Schmeiser

BASIC PLANS

July 1, 1973 thru June 30, 1974

Chet Schnicker
C. J. Schulte
Kenneth Baughner
IAAP
Ray W. Frownfelter
Cecil Lane
Rodman Baird
Steve Nunnikhoven
Confinement Pork Producers, Inc.
Glenn Housman
Des Moines County Home
R. F. Davison
Donald B. Nelson
Walter Fritz
Kenneth Wasson
James Ewinger

Eric Massner
Clyde Scherer
John Zippe
Virgil Landrum (2)
James Madison School
Southeastern Community College
Roger Cling
James Miller
Henry Gerst
Clarence Kuhlenbeck
Arlo Schulze
Robert O. Jones
Floyd Buxton
Warth Bros.
John Latty
Willis DeSpain

RESOURCE INVENTORIES FOR GOVERNMENT UNITS

City of Burlington - Racquet Club
City of Burlington - Airport Construction
City of Burlington - Maple Hills
City of Burlington - Alternatives for Silt Control from Flint River
City of Burlington - Soils of Burlington
City of Burlington - Floodplain Urban Hazards
Area XVI Coordinating Board - Set Aside Acres
City of Burlington - Soil Information on City-Owned Tract of Land
City of Burlington - Proposed Shopping Mall
West Burlington - Proposed Shopping Mall
West Burlington Park Board - Soil Interpretations of General Electric Park Site
City of Burlington - Regional Hospital Facility
Area XVI Coordinating Board - Public Utility Corridors

AGRICULTURE SUPPLIES AND SERVICES PROGRAM

Prepares Individuals For:

- AGRICULTURE BUSINESS
- RELATED AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION

On the job training periods are correlated to
peak work times during the year.

CONTACT:



ARLYN MUSSELMAN
COORDINATOR INSTRUCTOR
AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS

SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DRAWER F

W. BURLINGTON, IOWA 52655

PHONE

319-752-2731

DES MOINES CO. FARM SERVICE COMPANY

Elevators At

Danville-Mediapolis Donnellson



FELCO

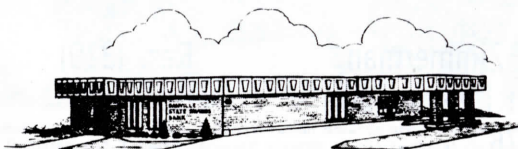
Bulk Plants At

Danville - Mediapolis - West Point, Iowa



DANVILLE STATE SAVINGS BANK

Each Deposit Insured To \$40,000 By FDIC



Danville, Iowa

Phone 392-4261

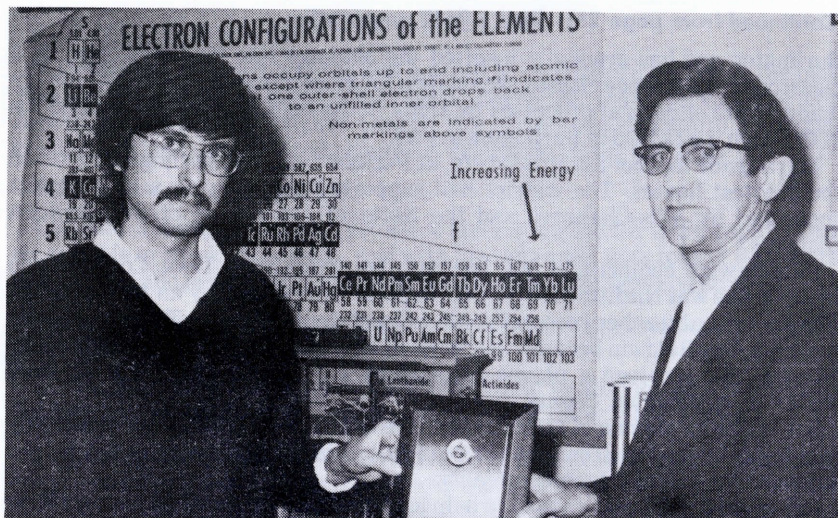


ADS advanced
drainage
systems, inc.

Lyle Zimmerman
West Liberty, Iowa
52276

Res. (319)
627-2215

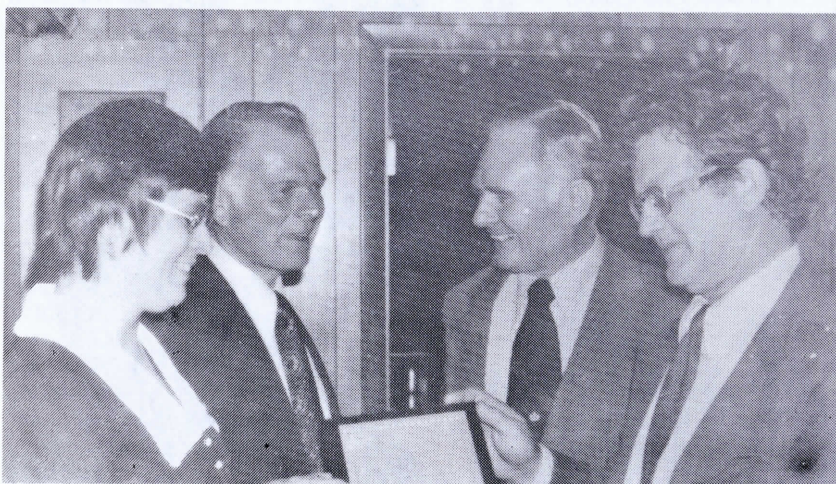
IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240 (319) 338-9448 BOX 912



Mark Volkmann, science teacher at West Burlington Arnold High School is presented a plaque by commissioner Jack Jacobs in honor of his outstanding achievements in environmental education at the high school level. Mark has acted as chairman of the Environmental Conservation Education Council of the district and has led the way to use of outdoor classrooms.

The year of 1974 was exceptional for recognition of conservation teachers in Des Moines district. The leaders of our Environmental Conservation Education Council (ECEC) came up for multiple recognition across the state.

ECEC chairman, Mark Volkmann, a science teacher in West Burlington Arnold High School was awarded a plaque for being the outstanding conservation teacher at the high school level. Mark has taught for six years at West
(Continued on page 26)



State and regional winners in the annual Conservation Awards program co-sponsored by SC Districts and Des Moines Register and Tribune received awards at the regional dinner in Keokuk County in November.

Arlo Jacobson of the R&T papers gives a plaque to Susan Baldwin, third grade teacher at Perkins School in Burlington and state winner in the elementary teacher division. Congratulating her for this honor are regional farmer winner Don Nelson and state conservationist Wilson T. Moon.

(Continued from page 25)

Burlington and has gradually inserted the outdoors into his curriculum as a classroom. His science classes are made a lot more meaningful as students are made aware of natural processes by study in the field. Mark had attended the ITCC when it was held in Burlington in 1973.

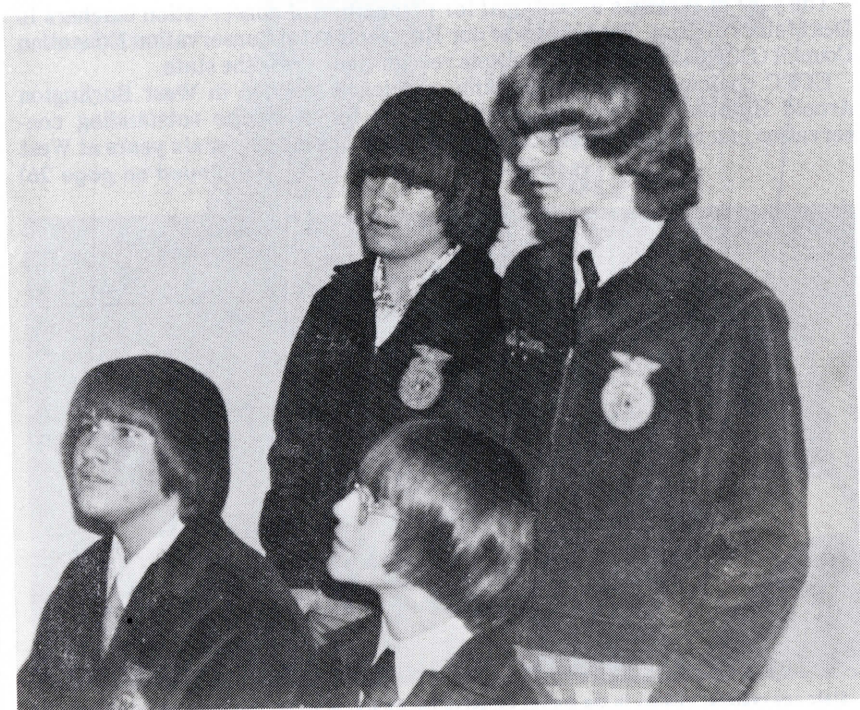
Third grade teacher Susan Baldwin, at Perkins School in Burlington received the greatest honors. The district had supported her entry in a new contest sponsored by Allis-Chalmers and the National Association of Conservation Districts.

In statewide competition Sue became the outstanding Iowa Conservation teacher. She was outdistanced only in Regional competition by an Indiana PhD.

In the annual teacher recognition division of the Register & Tribune Awards program, Sue Baldwin became the regional and state winner in the elementary division. She received a plaque recognizing her state victory at a regional dinner in Washington County.

Sue is also an alumna of ITCC-'73 and vice chairman of ECEC. Her leadership in helping develop environment oriented curriculum in local schools has helped outdoor classrooms become a reality.

In September, Sue was asked to help lead a discussion panel on conservation education at the Annual Conference of Iowa Soil District Commissioners held in Ft. Dodge. Her presentation helped convince commissioners of a need for conservation education legislation.



The winning Mediapolis FFA Soil Judging team joined in festivities at the district annual awards banquet. Five soil districts in Southeast Iowa collaborate to promote this educational feature annually.

DOWN THE LINE

A look ahead in agriculture for 1975 is about as befuddled as a look to the past. The soil conservation district has spent nearly 30 years serving the conservation needs of Des Moines County. We have been successful in helping hundreds of land users control erosion on thousands of acres of land.

Still we cannot claim success.

Our land is losing its fertile, protective layer of topsoil far more rapidly than we are able to check the erosion. And with the soil runoff goes tons of fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides to cause further problems in lakes and streams.

The 1975 conservation farmer faces problems more far reaching than merely making a living.

... He must decide whether to go for maximum production at a high cost of production, risking a high soil loss and prospects of lower market prices.

... He may choose to hold back on high production, plant some soil protecting crops, reduce soil losses and come out with equal profit.

... then he might kick himself for not planting every acre to corn and beans, because prices are high.

This is the paradox of the farmer today. He knows that to keep crop prices up and erosion down he must not plant to the limit. But the temptation is there--and why not let the other farmers cut their cropping so we can reap the benefits.

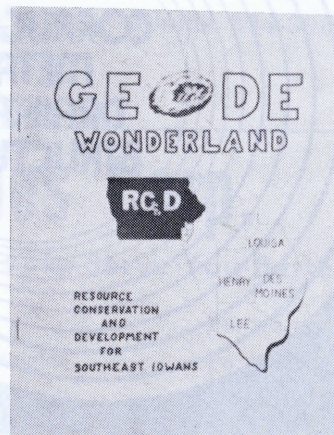
There is also a hue and cry to produce to feed the world. Farmers are pressured to raise every bushel they can. As a result 1974 brought about the highest soil losses in over 25 years.

Take a closer look! Cost of fertilizer is high. Studies are proving that over half the nitrogen fertilizer applied is lost in erosion. It doesn't take many years of such dead losses to pay for erosion control measures to hold the fertilizer on the land.

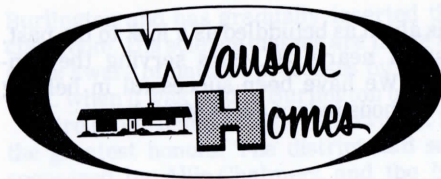
The evidence is in. Farming with soil losses is costing us dearly. Not just the disaster of the lost soil haunts us. Each ton of soil that erodes away carries with it dollars of investment in plant food, pesticides, herbicides and profits.

Soil erosion cannot be cured overnight, but we can take great strides by planning against erosion now. In 1975, we can slow the losses into road ditches by seeding a grassland buffer strip along the road fences to slow down our runoff silt . . . We can start the process of terracing the gentle slopes, so they can be cropped safely and continuously . . . We can retire those questionable acres of steep land to a

(Continued on page 30)



GEODE WONDERLAND.



MATTHEWS CONSTRUCTION

R.R. 3 BOX 133

BURLINGTON, IOWA 52601

Our Model Home Open Daily

PHONE 319-752-3551 or MEDIAPOLIS 319-985-2179



TED VINOVICH
MANAGER

FERRUZZI & C.

GULFPORT, ILLINOIS

ILL. 309-873-2566
IOWA 319-753-1628

P. O. BOX 636
BURLINGTON, IOWA 52601



STEEL AND ALUMINUM

Plain—Caulked—Asphalt Coated

Every requirement available, whether standard specification or special design, with which our staff can be of assistance.

Quality products because of more than a quarter century in the industry with the most modern equipment and experienced personnel.

Two plants provide the prompt, unexcelled service by which we have become identified.

Contact: Delbert R. Roth
1840 - 27th Street
Marion, Iowa 52302
319/377-5252



the best in the business!

The Levine Company, Inc.

4400 East 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50316
1515/262-4611

Cottage at 18th Street
Centerville, Iowa 52544
515/856-3153



MATTHEWS CONSTRUCTION

R.R. 3 BOX 133

BURLINGTON, IOWA 52601

Our Model Home Open Daily

PHONE 319-752-3551 or MEDIAPOLIS 319-985-2179



TED VINOVICH
MANAGER

FERRUZZI & C.

GULFPORT, ILLINOIS

ILL. 309-873-2566
IOWA 319-753-1628

P. O. BOX 636
BURLINGTON, IOWA 52601



STEEL AND ALUMINUM

Plain—Caulked—Asphalt Coated

Every requirement available, whether standard specification or special design, with which our staff can be of assistance.

Quality products because of more than a quarter century in the industry with the most modern equipment and experienced personnel.

Two plants provide the prompt, unexcelled service by which we have become identified.

Contact: Delbert R. Roth
1840 - 27th Street
Marion, Iowa 52302
319/377-5252



the best in the business!

The Levine Company, Inc.

4400 East 14th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50316
(515) 262-5613

Cottage at 18th Street
Centerville, Iowa 52544
515/856-3153

GABELINE TRUCKING

**GRAIN BUYING AND HAULING
HEAVY EQUIPMENT HAULING
MORNING SUN, IOWA**

SCHROCK LUMBER

Complete Building Service

-Specializing in Pole Barns -

Tiling Supplies Hardware Supplies

Building Materials-Sherwin Williams Paint

Mediapolis, Iowa

Phone 394-3964

Raid Quarries Corp.

Three Convenient Locations To Serve You Better

● **Heinold Quarry - Danville**

Ph. 392-4501

● **Sullivan Slough Quarry - Burlington**

Ph. 752-4425

● **Mediapolis Quarry - Mediapolis**

Ph. 391-3185

Burl. Ia. - Room 217 F & M Bank Bldg. - Ph. 752-6388

(Continued from page 27)

hay crop, fertilized for high production without fear of losing the fertilizer.

Nearly every farmer has a few little things such as these that he can be doing. It may mean not plowing the whole length of the field. It may mean waiting until spring to prepare the cropland. It may mean more profit with less investment as we begin to farm more efficiently.

Conservation farming begins with a plan. The district is in the business of helping land users plan the wisest use of their land.

Think! Isn't there some way you can save a few tons and many dollars from leaving your farmland in 1975?

COVER PICTURE

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) arrived in Southeast Iowa with the signing of an official application for federal assistance by Governor Robert D. Ray. A delegation from the four counties in Geode Wonderland hand delivered the application to the governor October 14, then presented the document to State Conservationist Wilson T. Moon for transmittal to USDA in Washington.

RC&D council members at the ceremony included Des Moines County District Conservationist Ralph Dewey, Winfield Mayor Leland McCosh from Henry County, Executive Director Mike Dunn of the Regional Planning Commission, Mrs. Norma Jennings, executive board secretary of Columbus Junction in Louisa County and RC&D chairman Jim Hawkins of Argyle and Lee County.



Native Prairie grasses are beginning to find an important place in pasture management in Southeast Iowa. Soil Conservationist Larry Hunt nearly disappears in a lush growth of big and little bluestem, switchgrass and Indiangrass planted two years ago at Luckenbill Woods. Native grasses have real potential for grazing during the hot summer months.

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The Des Moines County SCD annual awards banquet was held at St. Mary's Church in Dodgeville on November 14. Nearly 100 people representing various interests in conservation attended. The banquet is held each year to recognize local land owners and operators doing outstanding soil conservation work.

A Des Moines Countian, Don Nelson of Danville, was the Region 9 winner of the New Cooperator Division in the Des Moines Register and Tribune contest this year. Don was honored because of the conservation work done on his 160 acre farm north of Danville. He built terraces, grassed waterways and erosion control structures to protect the soil. Soil conservation is always one of Nelson's first concerns and the district is fortunate to have a conservationist of Don's caliber in Des Moines County.

Two Des Moines County teachers were honored for their conservation work in the field of education. Mark Volkmann received the district Outstanding Conservation Teacher award at the high school level. Susan Baldwin received the Outstanding Conservation Teacher award at the elementary level. Sue and Mark were active in promoting conservation teaching in our school systems. Conservation education is vital to the

(Continued on page 32)



Our annual awards banquet in November featured Jim Hawkins, chairman of Lee SCD commissioners and spearhead of the Geode Wonderland RC&D project. Jim inspired a crowd of nearly 100 conservationists and friends at St. Mary's Church in Dodgeville following a banquet.



Winning farmer Don Nelson of Danville is congratulated by Jack Jacobs upon being awarded for outstanding conservation work in the new cooperator division of the annual contest. Don has been responsible for constructing many miles of terraces on his own land as well as land he leases at IAAP.



Teacher Susan Baldwin visits with Mrs. Jim Hawkins following the Awards Dinner. Both women are teachers and are also vitally concerned about the environment.

(Continued from page 31)

conservation cause, and we heartily congratulate them for a job well done.

The Geode Wonderland RC and D Project Council presented District Conservationist Ralph Dewey with a plaque honoring him for his services to the Geode Wonderland RC and D. The RC and D will be a valuable conservation tool of the future and Dewey has been very valuable in its organization.

Mike Abel, Mike Belknap, Jeff Burgus and Rusty Tyner were cited for a team award in soil judging. These young men are members of the Mediapolis Chapter of Future Farmers of America.



Fred Higginbottom at the Awards Banquet. Fred represented the State Department of Soil Conservation which is responsible for administering and financing the district program.

Speaking to the group after dinner, was Jim Hawkins, chairman of the Lee County SCD and a leader of the Geode Wonderland RC and D. Hawkins talked of the moral responsibility of man for stewardship of natural resources. He pointed out that Iowa has a fourth of the prime agricultural land of the nation, and that too much of it is being lost to non-agricultural uses. Hawkins brought up many pertinent points for the present and future considerations of those involved in conservation.

Master of Ceremonies Bill Vierling, Chairman of the Des Moines County SCD, expressed the District's gratitude to the ASCS, County Extension office, FHA and many others who gave their assistance to the District in carrying out a conservation program. A special thank you was given members of radio and press for their gracious coverage of district news during the year.

(Continued on page 38)

Serving Des Moines County With Power for Progress

Owned by 14,000 Consumer - Members

**EASTERN IOWA
LIGHT & POWER
COOPERATIVE**

Wilton
Wapello
Lone Tree
DeWitt



**Soil Conservation Protects Your Land
County Mutual Insurance Protects Your Farm**

See Your Neighbor - The County Mutual Agent

Des Moines County Mutual Insurance Assn.

AGENTS

Robert Dodds, Danville
Willis DeSpain, Mediapolis
Dan Scott, Burlington

J. Kermit Eland, Mediapolis
James J. Roth, Mt. Pleasant
Jack Roth, Burlington

Wapello Livestock Sales, Inc.

**Wapello
Iowa**



**Phone
523-2571**

Auction Every Tuesday At 11:00 A.M.

Leo Schulte
Mediapolis
394-3300

Paul Heindel
Columbus Jct.
728-2499

MEDIAPOLIS SAVINGS BANK

MEMBER FDIC

Mediapolis, Iowa

Phone 394-3191

**PIONEER brand seeds . . .
better from start to finish.**

- Wide Selection ■ Top Performance
- High Quality ■ Unmatched Service

See or Call Your Pioneer Seed Salesman

Turner's Seed Store
Burlington

Martin Beckman
Sperry

Roger Parrott
Danville



PIONEER
SEEDS

PIONEER SEED COMPANY
DES MOINES, IOWA 50308

Pioneer is a brand name; numbers identify varieties. ®Registered trademark of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa

DIVISION OF ST. REGIS PAPER COMPANY
ELMER (ANDY) ANDERSON **SALES REPRESENTATIVE**



RESIDENCE 401 LEE STREET
MUSCATINE, IOWA
TELEPHONE (319) 263-5081

OFFICE BOX 1349
420 CHAMBERS STREET
SIOUX CITY, IOWA
TELEPHONE 255-3503



Weber Implement, Inc.

Massey-Ferguson
Sales & Service

Heider-Kewanee
Long Drying Bins

Morning Sun, Iowa

Phone 868-7586

• Quality Aglime • Concrete Stone

• Road Rock

Sizes 3/8" to 4"

Kaser Construction Co.

LIMESTONE QUARRY

Yarmouth, Iowa

Bob Thie, Area Manager

Call: Quarry No. 394-3400

Home No. 985-2117



CERTA-FLEX™
FARM DRAINAGE
PLASTIC SPIRAL TUBING



Certain-Teed/Daymond Co.

Lake Mills, Iowa 50450

Phone: 515-592-7000

The District was grateful to the local banks and savings institutions that sponsored the awards banquet. This event enables us to recognize those responsible for helping make Des Moines County outstanding.

STANDARD SOIL SURVEY

In Des Moines County we will soon have the ultimate in basic information on which to establish land use policy. Starting in March of 1975, every acre of land in the county will be soil mapped in a well correlated study to bring our citizens the best information possible.

The original soil survey of this area is nearly sixty years old. We have certainly learned a lot of things about soils in that length of time, and these will be included in the report at the end of the survey.

Two trained soil scientists, Melvin Brown and Bennie Clarks will be doing the field mapping. They will chart their findings on aerial photographs of the land, showing soil changes to the nearest half acre in size. For the first time, Des Moines County residents will have a complete, comprehensive study of the land resources of our county.

Field studies will take about four years as the surveyors make from fifty to one hundred soil borings per square mile. Eventually the final report will be printed and available to everyone who has need of it to guide their use of the land.

Des Moines County, the Iowa Experiment Station, State Department of Soil Conservation and the U. S. Soil Conservation Service are financing this study which will probably exceed \$100,000 to complete. The Des Moines County share is \$31,500, which is being paid over a three year period as the work progresses.

A major county benefit will be the first scientifically based means of evaluating land according to its capability.



Farm Loans

- you can live with -

Long Term - Low Rate

Phone 385-3191

Roger E. Thompson, Mgr.

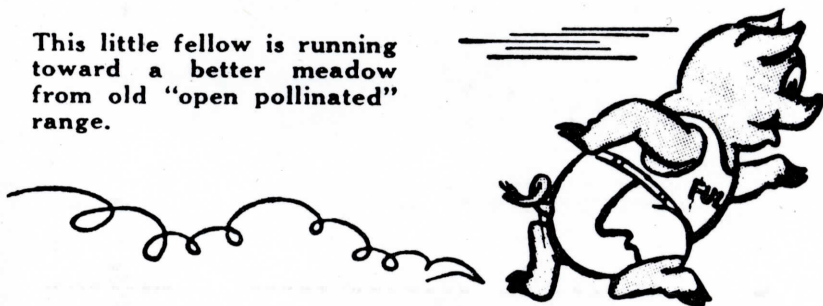
Claire B. Konold, Asst. Mgr.

Dennis J. Michels, Asst. Mgr.

Mt. Pleasant, Iowa

811 E. Washington Street

This little fellow is running
toward a better meadow
from old "open pollinated"
range.



WINDSHIELD SURVEYS WON'T TELL HOW FORAGES
ARE DOING, A GOOD MEADOW PAYS; PAYS WELL, TOO.

Why not ask us about new selections of Alfalfa, Red
Clover, Orchardgrass & Timothy for that new Soil
Conservation Plan.

TURNER SEED STORE

Burlington, Iowa

812 Jefferson

752-6819

Insurance
Income tax

Real Estate
Notary Public

WILSON AGENCY

Mediapolis, Iowa

Phone 394-3733

Evan Wilson

Helen Wilson

**DES MOINES COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Federal Bldg. - Box 637
Burlington, Iowa 52601**

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 553
Burlington, Iowa
52601

Hazen Supply Corp.

Mt. Union, Iowa

Clay & Plastic Tile, Sewer Tile
Pond, Terrace & Culvert Pipe
(Largest supply in Southeast Iowa)
Fertilizer, Seeds, Chemicals, Feed
Hardware & Farm Equipment
Grain Bins & Drying Setups
Behlen Farm Buildings

Buy The Best For Less At Hazen Supply

— For Name Brand Quality Products —

Phone 865-7641 or 865-7651

Located

7 mi. NE of New London - 10 mi. W. of Mediapolis -
7 mi. SW of Morning Sun

Hazen Supply Corp.