

Soil Conservation Awards Banquet

Twenty-Eighth Annual Conference
for
Soil Conservation District Commissioners
of Iowa

SEPTEMBER 9, 1974
Starlite Village Motel
FORT DODGE, IOWA

Program

PRESIDING

Eugene Swartz, President
Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners
Lenox, Iowa

INVOCATION

Reverend Glenn H. Hulsebus, Pastor
Westminster Presbyterian Church, Fort Dodge, and
Calvary Presbyterian Church, Barnum

RALPH ZARNOW PRESENTS ENTERTAINMENT TIME

Zarnow Entertainment Service
Des Moines, Iowa

PRESENTATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION AWARDS

WMT STATIONS AWARDS

Ron Michaelson
Farm Service Director
WMT Stations
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

OUTSTANDING COMMISSIONERS AWARDS

Al Bull, Editor
Wallaces Farmer
Des Moines, Iowa

GOODYEAR AWARDS

Jim Myers, Manager
District Truck/Farm Sales
Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
Des Moines, Iowa

THE KEN WAGNER AWARD

Mrs. Ruth (Ken) Wagner
Iowa City, Iowa

LIFETIME HONORARY MEMBERSHIP IN THE IOWA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Harold Higgins, Past President
Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners
Traer, Iowa

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION TO STATE CLERKS AND CONSERVATION AIDES FOR LENGTH OF SERVICE

Mrs. Beverly Allison, Accounting Clerk, and
William H. Greiner, Director,
Department of Soil Conservation
Des Moines, Iowa

DEPARTMENT OF SOIL CONSERVATION AWARD

J. Thomas Kenny, Vice Chairman
State Soil Conservation Committee
Akron, Iowa

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR CERTIFICATES TO SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Carroll Hobson, Member
State Soil Conservation Committee
Eldora, Iowa

WATERSHED MAN-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD

Ollie Kaldenberg, Region 9 Director
Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners
Albia, Iowa

THE TOMMY LAU COMBO . . . for your dancing and listening enjoyment
in the Satellite Room

*Land is not something given from our fathers
but borrowed from our children.*

WMT Stations Awards

Certain Iowans are recognized each year by the WMT Radio and TV Stations, Cedar Rapids, for their contributions to and achievements in the soil conservation program. This awards program was begun in 1949 and has been conducted each year since that time. The program has honored more than 140 soil conservation district commissioners, district cooperators, Soil Conservation Service and Extension Service personnel, voc-ag instructors and others for their service to the conservation program.

The WMT Stations Awards program has created a significant amount of public awareness for the conservation of soil and water resources in the state of Iowa and has stimulated the interest of rural and urban people in the need for the conservation of all natural resources.

The 1974 award recipients are:



WAYNE P. DIETZ, Extension Crop Production Specialist, Iowa State University, Dubuque, Iowa. He was born in Jackson County, Iowa, and is a graduate of Iowa State University where he received his BS degree in agronomy in 1950 and a MS degree in agronomy-soils in 1967.

Prior to joining the Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service in 1968, he was employed by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service for a period of seventeen years as a soil scientist in the soil survey program. While working in the soil survey program, he participated in the soil surveys of Howard, Jefferson, Linn,

Mahaska, Van Buren and Wayne Counties, Iowa; and he served as party chief in the Van Buren and Wayne County surveys. He was also assigned to the Soil Investigations Project headquartered at Ames.

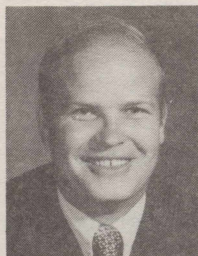
As an Extension Crop Production Specialist, he is responsible for developing and executing programs and materials related to various aspects of soil management and crop production. He is recognized for effectively integrating the principles of soil and water conservation, crop production and economics with soils information resulting in rational total land management systems. In addition, he has directed field demonstrations of conservation tillage systems and herbicide materials on sites typical to northeast Iowa.

He is active in conservation education activities and has participated in teachers' workshops and in the preparation of related workbook materials. He has also assisted soil conservation districts in northeast Iowa with their educational programs.

He is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, Soil Conservation Society of America, and National Association of County Agriculture Agents.

An outdoor enthusiast, he enjoys such hobbies as hunting, fishing, camping, and other conservation related activities.

He and his wife, Isabel, are the parents of four daughters.



KENNETH D. VAN HAUEn, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Waverly-Shell Rock School System, Waverly, Iowa. He is a native Iowan and was born and reared on a farm near Wellsburg. He is a graduate of the Wellsburg Community High School, Ellsworth Junior College of Iowa Falls, and Iowa State University where he received a degree in vocational agriculture in 1968.

He began teaching in the Waverly-Shell Rock School System in July of 1968. His instruction includes emphasis on the importance of conserving soil, water and other natural resources. He conducts a Young Farmers class, which includes instruction on soil and water conserva-

tion methods, and a high school class, in which emphasis is given to soil and water conservation and fish and wildlife management.

He is active in the Future Farmers of America organization and was named an Iowa Farmer while in high school. He was a district FFA advisor for 44 schools in northeast Iowa in 1973, member of the Board of Directors and Instructional Materials Committee, and his students have achieved high honors in competition at the State FFA Convention in Davenport in both the Soil and Water Conservation Proficiency Award and the Wildlife Conservation Proficiency Award. He also coaches livestock judging teams, which participate in twelve to fifteen contests annually and have placed first in many of these events.

He is an active leader in his community and holds membership in the Pleasant Valley Reformed Church of Wellsburg, Bremer County Fair Board, Izaak Walton League, Iowa Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Ag Ed Club (Iowa State University). He and his wife, a teacher in the Waverly-Shell Rock Elementary School System, are co-chairmen of the Education Branch of the Waverly United Fund.

In addition to his career as a vocational agriculture instructor, he is in partnership with his father in raising SPF spotted swine and they compete at the Iowa State Fair and various national shows.

He is married to the former Nadene Ruter of Wellsburg and they now reside in Waverly.

Outstanding Soil Conservation District Commissioners

The Outstanding Soil Conservation District Commissioners Contest is conducted annually by the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners (IASCDC) and Wallace Farmer, Des Moines. A total of nine outstanding commissioners are selected—one from each of the IASCDC regions. The State's Outstanding Commissioner is then selected from the nine regional winners. The recipients are selected for their service to the soil conservation district program on a district, regional, state and national level. The recipients' community activities are also given consideration in the judging process. Wallace Farmer provides plaques to each of the nine regional winners plus the state winner.

The following commissioners are the regional winners in the 1974 Outstanding Soil Conservation District Commissioners Contest. The state winner will be announced after the presentation of the regional winners.

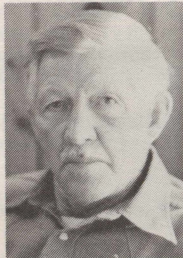


REGION 1—WAYNE MAASS, Paullina, O'Brien County Soil Conservation District. Wayne Maass has been a commissioner in the O'Brien District for four years. As Chairman of the O'Brien County Soil Conservation District Education Committee, he meets with school administrators each year and assists with the planning and coordination of the Outdoor Conservation Classroom held each fall. This outdoor classroom is held on the Maass farm and Wayne and his wife, Faye, prepare their farm as a show place for conservation. Through their cooperation, over 2,000 O'Brien County sixth grade students have had the opportunity in the past five years to observe a truly outstanding example of conservation on the land.

He farms 400 acres near Paullina, Iowa, of which 200 acres are in corn, 170 acres in soybeans and the remainder in pasture. His livestock operation consists of 400 head of hogs and 130 beef cows. He has a well planned conservation farm with 7.5 miles of terraces, 224 acres of contouring, 13.5 acres of grassed waterways, one acre of windbreak, one erosion control structure, one pollution control terrace, and one pond with a wild-life planting.

His community service activities include two years of LYC counselor and three years as a 4-H leader. He is also a member of the Farm Bureau Environmental Committee.

He and his wife, Faye, are the parents of four boys (including twins) and two girls.



REGION 2—CLAUDE SEELY, Algona, Kossuth County Soil Conservation District. Claude Seely has been a Kossuth County Soil Conservation District Commissioner for eleven years and is presently serving as Chairman of the district governing body. He holds a 99 percent attendance record at regular meetings of the district.

He farms a total of 640 acres and his operation consists of 160 acres of corn, 40 in soybeans, and 440 acres in pasture. He also feeds 370 head of beef cows and 200 head of sheep. He strongly supports soil conservation and all rolling land on his farm is planted to pasture and hay and he has an extensive tree planting program on his land. He believes in the importance of trees to the conservation program and has been featured in local news media in this respect. He assists in the Kossuth District's tree planting program by distributing trees to farmers from his farmstead and speaking to various groups on this subject.

He helped to organize the Kossuth County Conservation Youth Board and was instrumental in the organization of the Doan Watershed. He secured support for the standard soil survey which is in progress in his county and has attained legislative support for the soil conservation program. He represents the Kossuth District at meetings of the Kossuth Parks Board and Planning and Zoning Board.

He is active in community affairs including the Burt Community School and Good Hope Methodist Church. He is a member of the Soil Conservation Society of America, member of the Kossuth County Fair Board for forty years, first Chairman of the County Extension Council, Past President of the Farm Bureau, former 4-H leader, and has also received the Herdsman Award at the Iowa State Fair.

He and his wife, Beulah, are the parents of a son and a daughter.



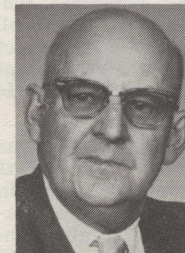
REGION 3—GEORGE BUSCH, Allison, Butler County Soil Conservation District. George Busch has served as a Butler County Soil Conservation District Commissioner for four years. He is an avid supporter of conservation programs and was one of the individuals responsible for circulating the original petitions to organize the Butler County Soil Conservation District.

He farms 600 acres which include 230 acres in corn, 135 acres in soybeans, and 235 acres in pasture. His livestock operation consists of 750 head of hogs, 120 head of beef cows and 50 head of cattle are fed out each year. He became a soil conservation district co-operator in 1948 and since that time has improved his farm with such conservation measures as 230 acres of contour farming, 8.1 acres of grassed waterways, 5,060 feet of shallow drainage ditch, 46,500 feet of tile, and 16,600 feet of terraces. In addition to these conservation practices, such measures as conservation tillage, crop residue use, conservation cropping systems, field border plantings, and pasture and hayland management are in use on his farm.

He is an outstanding member of his community in many respects such as ASCS Township Committeeman, FHA Committee member, member of the Iowa Beef Performance Records Committee, member of the Iowa Beef Improvement Association and Butler County Beef Improvement Association, ten year member and secretary-treasurer of the Butler County Farm Bureau Board, Chairman of the Farm Bureau Records Committee, twenty-one year member of the Farm Service Board, 4-H leader, Director of the County Health Improvement Association, school board member, and participant in the people-to-people tour to South America in 1968. He is a member of the Trinity Reformed Church in Allison, where he has served as board member, Sunday School teacher, and is currently serving as a member of the planning and development committee.

He has been honored as an Iowa Master Swine Producer, 1973 Master Farmer, and district winner in the Register and Tribune Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program.

He and his wife, Marie, are the parents of three sons and a daughter.



REGION 4—OSCAR H. PUFAHL, Garnavillo, Clayton County Soil Conservation District. Oscar Pufahl has been a commissioner in the Clayton County Soil Conservation District for sixteen years and prior to that time served one year as assistant commissioner. He held the position of Chairman of the district governing body for four years and has had a 98 percent attendance record at regular meetings of the district.

As a soil conservation district commissioner, his activities include developing and judging soil conservation awards contests, legislative and public relations, forestry, organization of district functions, finances, and district representative at meetings of the ASCS Committee. He served as a Regional Director of the IASDCD from 1963 to 1971 during which time he acted as Chairman of the Forestry Committee. He is presently serving as a member of the Executive Board and Chairman of the Clayton County Steering Committee for the Upper Explorerland RC&D Project. His views on conservation problems and projects are valued by many governmental agencies and individuals.

He has retired from farming and now devotes much of his time to the soil conservation program. Practices on his farm included contouring, contour stripcropping, sod waterways, and pasture and woodland management.

He is an active community leader and has served as a Garnavillo Township Trustee for eighteen years and Chairman of the Garnavillo School Board for six years, plus being a member of the County Extension Council, Farm Bureau committees, and ASCS County Committee and Township Committee for many years. He is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Guttenberg and has served as a Sunday school superintendent for twenty years. He received the WMT Stations Conservation Award in 1968.

He and his wife, who is deceased, were the parents of one daughter.



REGION 5—GLENN H. FREESE, Vail, Crawford County Soil Conservation District. Glenn Freese is currently serving as Chairman of the Crawford County Soil Conservation District and has been a commissioner in this district for a period of six years. He has a 99 percent attendance record at regular and special meetings of the district.

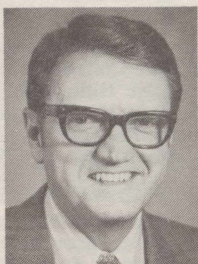
He farms a total of 400 acres with 200 acres in corn, 45 acres in soybeans, with the balance in pasture and hayland. He feeds out 20 head of cattle each year and has 50 head of dairy cows and 60 head of sheep. The Freese farm is under a complete conservation plan with contouring, 4,000 feet of terraces, 3 acres of grassed waterways and all needed conservation practices installed.

His soil conservation district activities have been heavily oriented toward soil stewardship and watershed efforts. He works with the clergymen in the Crawford District on soil stewardship activities and personally explains the need for being stewards of the soil. He has been active in watershed meetings and inspection tours and is available whenever and wherever needed to fulfill his duties as a soil conservation district commissioner.

He is a member of the Soil Conservation Society of America, a county FHA committeeman, and is Chairman of District #1 of the Mid America Dairymen. In 1969 he was named a district winner in the Sioux City Program for Permanent Agriculture, in 1973 he was honored by Wallaces Farmer as an Iowa Master Farmer, and the Freese family was selected the Omaha Radio and TV Station WOW "Family of the Week" in 1968.

An active member of the Vail Presbyterian Church, he was ordained an elder in 1960, has served as Sunday school superintendent and church school teacher, and is presently serving as chairman of the board of deacons.

He and his wife, Donna, are the parents of three boys and two girls.



REGION 6—GILBERT A. CALDWELL, Newton, Jasper County Soil Conservation District. Gilbert Caldwell has been a Jasper County Soil Conservation District Commissioner for two years and holds a 100 percent attendance record at regular meetings of the district. He is the current Chairman of the Jasper District.

He is a graduate of Corydon High School and the State University of Iowa and has a private practice as an attorney in Newton. He owns one-half interest in two farms which total 600 acres in Wayne and Appanoose Counties. Conservation measures on his farms include 80 acres of permanent pasture improvement and

five ponds and water impoundment structures.

As a district commissioner, he has directed a great deal of his time toward educational efforts. He serves on the district's Environmental Education Committee and has helped to develop, supervise and promote the work of the Jasper County Environmental Education Coordinator. The program under the direction of the Environmental Education Coordinator is unique in Iowa and came about through the efforts of Mr. Caldwell and his fellow commissioners.

He has been involved in community, district, regional and state affairs for a number of years. His current activities, in addition to soil conservation district affairs, include membership on the Newton Library Board, Kiwanis Board of Directors and Vice President of the Kiwanis Club, Presbytery Long Range Planning Committee, Legal Forms Committee of the Iowa Bar Association, Abstracting Standards Committee of the Iowa Land Title Association, American Arbitration Association, and Judicial Modernization Committee of the American Bar Association.

He is also the recipient of many honors including the Order of Coif (legal scholastic), Pi Kappa Delta, Who's Who in Commerce and Industry, Who's Who in Midwest, and Who's Who in International Biographe.

He and his wife, Frances, are the parents of one daughter and two sons.



REGION 7—DARRELL BROWN, West Branch, Cedar County Soil Conservation District. Darrell Brown has been a Cedar County Soil Conservation District Commissioner for a period of five years and has served as Chairman of the district governing body.

He farms a total of 690 acres of which 365 acres are in corn and the balance in pasture. His livestock operation includes 800 head of hogs, 90 beef cows and he feeds out 400 head of cattle each year. The conservation practices on his farm include terraces, contouring, and conservation tillage.

He has been very active as a member and Chairman

of the district governing body in promoting and maintaining action programs which include the standard soil survey, the Conservancy District Law, the West Branch Watershed, the Yankee-Run Watershed, local speech contest, soil judging contest, local teachers' workshop, and outdoor classrooms. He is the Cedar District's representative on the Cedar County Planning Commission and the Farm Bureau Local Affairs Committee of which he serves as Chairman.

He is active in community affairs and is a member of the Methodist Church and Methodist Finance Committee. He has served three terms as a member of the Board of Education.

He and his wife, Marguerite, are the parents of one daughter and one son.



outstanding
REGION 8—MERLE TRAVIS, Bedford, Taylor County Soil Conservation District. Merle Travis has been a commissioner in the Taylor County Soil Conservation District for a period of thirty-four years and has served as Chairman of the district governing body for twenty-nine years. He holds an outstanding record of 100 percent attendance at regular meetings of the district.

He owns and operates 1,184 acres of land and has an interest in an additional 2,010 acres. All of this land is used for general farming and livestock operations and most of the needed conservation measures are applied.

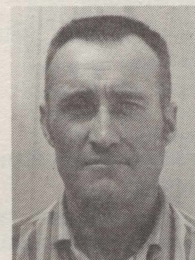
He is also a Farm Manager and Real Estate Broker for the Travis Farm Management and Real Estate Company.

As Chairman of the district, he meets with members of the County Conservation Board, Board of Supervisors and RC&D Board in regard to developing conservation and watershed projects. His interest, concern and devotion to conservation are evidenced by the accomplishments of the Taylor District during his tenure as a commissioner. He has served as finance officer of the district since 1945 and contracting officer for the Blockton Watershed since 1966. He has been instrumental in the organization of six watersheds which encompass much of Taylor County and has also helped organize the Southern Iowa RC&D Project. He has served as a Past President of the IASDC and is presently the Region 8 Alternate Director.

He is a member of the Soil Conservation Society of America, member of the Water Quality Commission Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Iowa Department of Environmental Quality, Agricultural Representative member on the State Mental Health Institute at Clarinda, Vice President of the Bedford Development Corporation, member of the Bedford Development Club, and a Lions Club member. In the past he has served as Agricultural President of the Board of Directors of the State Experimental Farm, Director of the Midwest Livestock Feeders Association, Rural School Director, and board member of the Methodist Church.

In 1953 he received the Iowa Master Farmer Award and in 1968 was named Iowa Watershed Man-of-the-Year. Also, as a result of his efforts and those of his fellow commissioners, the Taylor District has received the Omaha World Herald Award five times.

He and his wife, Margaret, are the parents of four children, three sons and one daughter.



REGION 9—HUBERT A. STAGGS, Seymour, Wayne County Soil Conservation District. Hubert Staggs has been a Wayne County Soil Conservation District Commissioner for five years. He served as Vice Chairman of the district governing body in 1973 and is currently serving as Chairman of the Education Committee.

As Chairman of the Wayne District's Education Committee, he assists with vocational agriculture conservation and grassland tours, meets with teachers to promote speech contests and teachers conservation camps, assists in the development of outdoor classrooms, supports the soil stewardship program by providing material

to all churches in the county and was instrumental in the initiation of the Chariton Valley Soil Judging Contest. He is aware of the need for a district long range plan and directs the annual plan of operation toward meeting these goals and objectives. He also serves the eastern and southern portions of Wayne District in watershed and conservation activities including the Locust Creek Watershed.

He farms a total of 650 acres and his operation consists of 80 acres of corn, 120 acres of soybeans with the balance in hay and pastureland. His livestock operation includes 250 head of hogs, 80 beef cows, 18 dairy cows and he feeds out 60 head of cattle each year. Conservation practices on his farm include 200 acres of conservation cropping system, 150 acres of pasture planting, 300 acres of pasture management, one grade stabilization structure, one pond, 5 acres of wildlife habitat management, and 2.5 acres of grassed waterways.

He is an active participant in community affairs and is President of the Wayne County NFO, member of the Advisory Board of the Mississippi Valley Milk Producers Association, member of the American Legion, township trustee, and volunteer solicitor for the Cancer Society and Red Cross. He also attends the Nazarene Church.

He and his wife, Wanda, are the parents of three boys and two girls.

Goodyear Soil Conservation Awards Program

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio, annually conducts a national soil conservation awards program to honor soil conservation districts, their governing bodies and farmer-rancher cooperators. The awards are made to soil conservation districts participating in the Awards Program for their work of planning for service, organizing for service, giving service and measuring service. The awards also recognize outstanding cooperation with the governing body by one farmer, or rancher, within each participating district, regardless of that district's standing in its competing unit.

Iowa is divided into two competing units—the northern division and the southern division. The first place district in each competing unit is eligible to send one member of its governing body plus an outstanding cooperator on an all-expense paid winter vacation-study trip to an area in the southern part of the United States. However, each participating district is a winner regardless of its ranking by the judges. The competition provides an incentive to do an even better job of resource development for the community. As a result, the district, its cooperators, and the community as a whole are benefited.

The first and second place districts in each of the Iowa competing units for the program year ending December 31, 1973, with the present district chairman and the outstanding farmer cooperator listed, are as follows:

NORTHERN DIVISION:

FIRST—Plymouth County Soil Conservation District, Wurth Banks, Westfield, Chairman; Ray Loutsch, LeMars, Outstanding Cooperator.

SECOND—Webster County Soil Conservation District, Donald Seltz, Clare, Chairman; Earl Wilehoft, Boone, Outstanding Cooperator.

SOUTHERN DIVISION:

FIRST—Adams County Soil Conservation District, Frank Davis, Corning, Chairman; Delmar Haley, Nodaway, Outstanding Cooperator.

SECOND—West Pottawattamie County Soil Conservation District, Eldon Ravlin, Council Bluffs, Chairman; Harvey Moss, Macedonia, Outstanding Cooperator.

A district that is ineligible for the first place award still may qualify for an Honor District Award in the Goodyear Contest. This award is made to districts that have been first place winners in the preceding five years and score among the top districts in the current competition. The award is made at the discretion of the judging committee. The Honor District Award was created to recognize continuing excellence among these districts and is in the form of a medallion that can be affixed to the district's first place plaque.

The honor districts for 1973 are the Clayton County Soil Conservation District in the Northern Division and the Shelby County Soil Conservation District in the Southern Division.

The Ken Wagner Award

The Ken Wagner Award is given annually to Iowa's Outstanding Young Soil Conservation District Commissioner who is actively engaged in farming and is thirty-five years of age or younger. The award is given by Ruth Wagner in memory of her late husband, Kenneth, who was instrumental in the development of Iowa's soil conservation district program. He was a soil conservation district commissioner in the Johnson County Soil Conservation District and was a member of the State Soil Conservation Committee from 1948 to 1961.

The 1974 Ken Wagner Award recipient is:



KAREN L. BIERSTEDT, Kossuth County Soil Conservation District Commissioner, Fenton, Iowa. At the age of 28, Karen holds the honor of being the first woman to be named the State's Outstanding Young Soil Conservation District Commissioner. She was born in Algona, Iowa, and attended West Bend High School and Waldorf Junior College.

She and her husband, George, farm 640 acres of land which include 300 acres of corn, 270 acres of soybeans, and the balance in hay and pasture. They also feed 600 head of hogs each year. Conservation practices on the Bierstedt farm include a farmstead windbreak, contour-

ing, and tiling.

She has been a Kossuth County Soil Conservation District Commissioner for four years and prior to that time served as the state clerk in the Kossuth District office. She is currently serving as Treasurer of the district governing body and holds a 100 percent attendance record at regular meetings of the district.

As a commissioner, she has been extremely interested in conservation education. She was instrumental in the organization of the Kossuth County Conservation Youth Board and has served as advisor to this board for a period of two years. She supervises the monthly meetings of the 26 young people involved with this board and helps organize their conservation tours and projects such as poster and speech contests, soil judging, county fair booths, and the distribution of trees to third grade students in the county. She was one of the speakers at a recent regional commissioners meeting to explain the organization of the Kossuth County Youth Board and was also one of the featured speakers at the clerks meeting during the 1973 Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners. She also assisted in the organization and conduct of a conservation tour for "landladies" in Kossuth County.

Her other activities in the district include assisting with the sale and distribution of trees for farm windbreaks, distribution of soil stewardship materials to churches in the county, manages district funds including payment of monthly bills, and she is in charge of state personnel and office procedures.

She is a member of the NACD, Farm Bureau, Federated Women's Club Community Service, and Vice President of the Ladies' Aid.

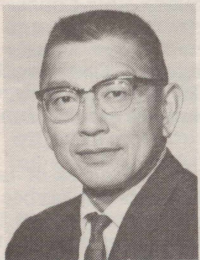
She and her husband are the parents of two young sons.

Lifetime Honorary Memberships In The Iowa Association Of Soil Conservation District Commissioners

The Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners (IASCDC) is an association dedicated to furthering the cause of soil conservation in Iowa. Membership in the association is comprised of duly elected soil conservation district commissioners, who are the only people eligible to vote or hold office in the Association.

The Association bestows Honorary Memberships each year on those individuals who, in the opinion of the Association officers and directors, have exerted a significant influence on the Iowa soil conservation program and have contributed to its growth. Consideration is also given to the individual's contributions to the Association's program objectives and goals.

The 1974 recipients are:



MINORU (MIN) AMEMIYA, Professor of Agronomy and Extension Agronomist, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Min Amemiya came to Iowa in 1960 when he joined the Iowa State University staff as a collaborator for the United States Department of Agriculture. He was promoted to associate professor in 1965 and became a professor of agronomy in 1971. In 1968, he was appointed extension agronomist with emphasis on soil and water conservation and management, soil survey interpretation, and related programs.

He was born in San Francisco, California, and attended Commerce High School in that city. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a bachelor of science degree in 1942. He received the master of science (1948) and doctor of philosophy (1950) degrees from Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

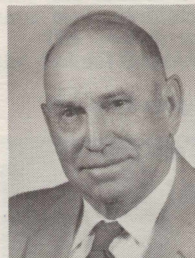
Prior to coming to Iowa State University, he was a research assistant at Ohio State University from 1947 to 1950; research soil scientist, USDA, and associate agronomist, Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Grand Junction, Colorado, from 1950 to 1958; and research soil scientist, Weslaco, Texas, from 1958 to 1960.

He is active in many conservation programs and has been intimately associated with the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, State Soil Conservation Committee, Department of Soil Conservation, and Soil Conservation Service programs for many years. He has made a significant contribution to the Iowa soil survey program by meeting with county officials to explain the program and its uses. Through his efforts, in conjunction with others, the Iowa soil survey program has become one of the outstanding examples of cooperation between governmental agencies which has the end result of benefiting all of society. He is also responsible for conducting the Annual Short Course for Soil Conservation District Commissioners held on the Iowa State University Campus in January.

He holds membership in many organizations including the Ames Collegiate Presbyterian Church, Sigma Xi, Gamma Sigma Delta, American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, Western Society of Soil Science, Soil Conservation Society of America (President of Iowa Chapter, 1972),

Ames Lions Club, and the Story County Association for Retarded Children. He is a Fellow in the American Association for Advancement of Science and in 1958 he received the Distinguished Service Award of the Colorado Junior Chamber of Commerce. He was a 1971 recipient of the WMT Stations Conservation Award.

He is married to the former Grace Obata and they are the parents of two sons.



EVERETT RICE, farmer and former Buena Vista County Soil Conservation District Commissioner, Storm Lake, Iowa. A native of Illinois, he moved to Iowa at the age of nineteen. He worked on farms in the Storm Lake area until he enlisted in the Navy during World War I. Upon completion of his naval service, he returned to farming in Iowa and in 1925 began his own operation in which he is engaged at the present time. He owns and operates 240 acres of land in Buena Vista County and farms in partnership with his two sons, Tom and Richard. The operation is heavily oriented towards livestock and the Rices feed out approximately 1,000 head of cattle and 2,000 head of hogs each year. All of the corn on the farm is harvested as silage and a considerable amount is purchased for feed.

Soil conservation practices are very much in evidence on the Rice farm with contouring being used on 200 acres, plus fifteen miles of terraces, grassland improvement, wildlife area improvement, grassed waterways and diversions. In addition to these practices, a feedlot runoff collection system has been installed.

He became a Buena Vista County District Commissioner in 1951 and served as a commissioner until 1965. He has also served the district as an assistant commissioner. During his tenure as a commissioner he was instrumental in helping launch several new programs for the district. He also served as an IASDC regional director and has attended several National Association of Conservation Districts national conventions.

An active community leader, he is a member of the Methodist Church, the Odd Fellows Lodge, Masonic Lodge, Shrine, Soil Conservation Society of America, Izaak Walton League, and many other organizations.

He and his wife, Flora, are the parents of five children, four boys and a girl.



ALFRED STEWART, farmer and former Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioner, Oelwein, Iowa. A native Iowan, he has lived on farms in the Oelwein area all but four years of his life and attended the public schools of Fayette County.

He owns 445 acres of farmland near Oelwein and has had a conservation plan for this land since the early 1940's. Most of the conservation practices listed in the plan are installed which include contouring, terracing, tiling, grassed waterways, conservation tillage, erosion control structures and field borders.

He was a Fayette County Soil Conservation District Commissioner from 1950 to 1974, and during these twenty-four years was extremely active in the district's program, plus state and national programs. He served as Chairman of the district for a total of eight years and was also chairman of its many committees. He was a member of the IASDC governing board for eight years and served as President of the Association for two years. He is now Vice Chairman of the Upper Explorerland RC&D Project and is Chairman of its Land and Water Committee. He represented Fayette County at the Governor's Conference on Iowa in the year 2000. He has also attended several National Association of Conservation Districts national conventions.

His community activities include membership in the Oelwein Presbyterian Church of which he is an elder, Soil Conservation Society of America, Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, Royal Arch Masons, El Kahir Shrine, and he has served as President of the Iowa - South Dakota Association of High Twelve Clubs. He is a Fayette County Farm Bureau member and is Chairman of its Environmental Resources Committee. He has also been a member and officer of several dairy groups and is a Senior Active member of the Oelwein Rotary Club.

He and his wife, Florence, are the parents of three children, two sons and one daughter.

Certificates Of Recognition To State Clerks And Conservation Aides For Length Of Service

Soil conservation districts and their programs have received many benefits from financial assistance provided by the Iowa General Assembly through appropriated funds since 1949. One of the tangible results of these funds is the employment of state clerks and conservation aides to assist districts with their programs. The state of Iowa does not provide monetary awards to state employees for superior service or length of service. However, some state departments honor their employees by awarding certificates of recognition to them for their service. The Department of Soil Conservation honors state clerks and aides for length of service and the award is a framed certificate which is given to those individuals who have completed ten, fifteen, twenty and twenty-five years of service and it is signed by the Chairman, State Soil Conservation Committee, and Director, Department of Soil Conservation.

The 1974 ten year award recipient is:

JUNE DUNIVAN—Greene County Soil Conservation District

The 1974 fifteen year award recipients are:

MARY ATHA—Lucas County Soil Conservation District

MARY GLENTZER—Keokuk County Soil Conservation District

RUTH ORMAN—Wapello County Soil Conservation District



June Dunivan



Mary Atha



Mary Glentzer



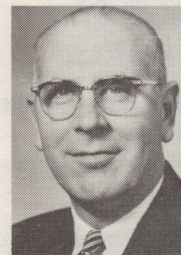
Ruth Orman

Department Of Soil Conservation Award

The Iowa Department of Soil Conservation annually recognizes individuals for their leadership and service to the soil conservation program in the state of Iowa. Both men and women have been given this recognition which is made on the basis of meaningful contributions of the individuals' time and talents to the program and Department.

The award, which is an engraved plaque, is presented each year during the Annual Conference for Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

The 1974 recipient is:



MARVIN A. ANDERSON, Dean of University Extension and Director of the Cooperative Extension in Agriculture and Home Economics at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, since 1966. A native Iowan, he was born and reared on a farm near Stanhope, Iowa, prior to moving to Minnesota where he graduated from the Blue Earth, Minnesota, High School. He received a BS degree in agronomy from Iowa State University in 1939, the MS degree in soil management in 1949, and the PhD degree in agricultural economics and soil management in 1955, also from Iowa State.

He was county 4-H agent for Wayne County in 1939 and 1940, and from 1940 to 1942 he was district soils agent at Creston. During this period of time he was instrumental in the organization of several soil conservation districts in southern and southwestern Iowa. He also helped these districts and others with the formulation of their programs which have continued and expanded through the years. He joined the central staff of the Extension Service as extension agronomist in 1942. He served with the U.S. Navy from May 1944 to March 1946 and attained the rank of lieutenant. In 1952 he was appointed to the position of Associate Director of the Cooperative Extension Service.

As Dean of University Extension, Dr. Anderson administers the Extension Service programs of Iowa State University. These include the Engineering Extension Service and Center of Industrial Research and Service as well as the Cooperative Extension Service. He also administers the University Office of Extension Courses and Conferences.

His knowledge of agricultural programs is widely known and recognized. On two different occasions, he has traveled to India to assist this county with increasing agricultural production and observing research and extension activities at agricultural universities and various levels of India's governmental structure. The Ford Foundation was the sponsor of these projects and Dr. Anderson was given the assignment of making recommendations to the Foundation on programs to aid in increasing the agricultural production of India.

He has been the author or co-author of a number of publications on soil conservation and agriculture in general. His professional experience and responsibilities include membership on several organizations and boards including the State Soil Conservation Committee on which he serves as an ex officio member.

He is a member of the American Lutheran Church, Soil Conservation Society of America, Phi Kappa Phi, Gamma Sigma Delta, Alpha Zeta, Sigma Xi, Epsilon Sigma Phi, Adult Education Association of the U.S.A., Farmhouse Fraternity, and the Rotary Club. He has been the recipient of many awards during his career including the USDA Superior Service Award and the WMT Stations Award.

He and his wife, Marietta, who is deceased, were the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters. He is now married to the former Julia Faltinson and they reside in Ames.

Twenty-five Year Certificates To Soil Conservation Districts

The organization of soil conservation districts in Iowa began in 1940, and the last district was organized in 1952. The Department of Soil Conservation issues certificates, signed by the Governor of Iowa and the Chairman of the State Soil Conservation Committee, each year to those districts that have completed twenty-five years of service since being organized. The citation on the certificate reads as follows:

"The District has provided a means for all of the people within its boundaries to develop and carry forward a program to protect and conserve the natural resources and furnish a better life for all concerned. Gratefully recognizing valuable services performed by the district and its people, we hereby affix our seals and signatures."

Those districts completing twenty-five years of operation during 1974 are:

BREMER COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The petition for organization of the Bremer County Soil Conservation District was approved by the State Soil Conservation Committee on July 7, 1948. The State Committee held a hearing on the formation of the district on July 20, 1948. The referendum on formation of the district was held April 23, 1949, with 100 votes for formation and 12 against. The charter for the district was issued by the Secretary of State on May 19, 1949. I. L. Christensen, District Conservationist, supervised the Soil Conservation Service activities. Donald E. Anderson was the County Extension Director at the time of the organization of the district.

The soil conservation district commissioners elected at the time of the referendum were: B. B. Bennett, Tripoli; August Buhr, Sumner; and J. F. Brayton, Sumner.

The present commissioners are: Archie Barkhoff, Tripoli; Marvin Dove, Janesville; Eric Mueller, Plainfield; Theodore Stahlhut, Readlyn; and James Hartman, Sumner.

The present Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist is L. J. Duey and the County Extension Director is J. Russell Solheim.

CLAY COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The petition for organization of the Clay County Soil Conservation District was approved by the State Soil Conservation Committee on February 22, 1949. The State Committee held a hearing on the formation of the district on March 14, 1949. The referendum on formation of the district was held March 24, 1949, with 178 votes for formation and 18 against. The charter for the formation of the district was issued by the Secretary of State on May 5, 1949. Joe Colgan, District Conservationist, supervised the Soil Conservation Service activities. Jasper M. Risdal was the County Extension Director at the time of the organization of the district.

The soil conservation district commissioners elected at the time of the referendum were: Burt Rossiter, Spencer; Lester Sampson, Terril; and Thomas Raveling, Linn Grove.

The present commissioners are: Larry Chapman, Greenville; Arthur Paulsen, Peterson; Mrs. Natalie Salton, Ayrshire; Walter Ankerstjerne, Peterson; and George Groenewold, Everly.

The present Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist is Roger A. Muessetter and the County Extension Director is Dale Fisher.

PALO ALTO COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The petition for organization of the Palo Alto County Soil Conservation District was approved by the State Soil Conservation Committee on February 21, 1949. The State Committee held a hearing on the formation of the district on March 14, 1949. The referendum on formation of the district was held on March 29, 1949, with 154 votes for formation and 23 against. The charter for the district was issued by the Secretary of State on May 5, 1949. Joe Colgan, District Conservationist, supervised Soil Conservation Service Activities. R. W. Ashby was the County Extension Director at the time of the organization of the district.

The soil conservation district commissioners elected at the time of the referendum were: Charles Stillman, Jr., Osgood; Hubert Campney, Emmetsburg; and W. N. Baxter, Mallard.

The present commissioners are: Rolland Bleuer, West Bend; Wayne Davis, Emmetsburg; Joe Morrow, Emmetsburg; Beulah Anderson, Emmetsburg; and Kenneth Kassel, Ayrshire.

The present Soil Conservation Service District Conservationist is Georgory Martin and the County Extension Director is Harold Heykes.

SIOUX COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The petition for organization of the Sioux County Soil Conservation District was approved by the State Soil Conservation Committee on February 22, 1949. The State Committee held a hearing on the formation of the district on March 15, 1949. The referendum on formation of the district was held on April 23, 1949, with 196 votes for formation and 31 against. The charter for the district was issued by the Secretary of State on May 5, 1949. Carl Fritzsche, District Conservationist, supervised the Soil Conservation Service activities. J. E. Ellis was the County Extension Director at the time of the organization of the district.

The commissioners elected at the time of the referendum were: Albert Ramaker, Sioux Center; William Pennings, Orange City; and Edward Schmidt, Rock Valley.

The present commissioners are: Lloyd Gayer, Rock Valley; Gerrit Jansen, Hull; Eugene Van Roekel; Maurice; Melvin Von Arb, Alton; and Sylvester Hansen, Alton.

The present Soil Conservation District Conservationist is Floyd Koster and the County Extension Director is Maurice Eldridge.

Watershed Man-Of-The-Year Award

The Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Department of Soil Conservation began a recognition program in 1963 to honor individuals who have exhibited leadership in the Iowa watershed program. The awards have been given to farmers, newsmen, soil conservation district commissioners, Soil Conservation Service personnel and others who have contributed significantly to the program.

The award is given jointly by the Association and the Department to recipients selected by a committee composed of representatives from the two groups. Individuals are selected on the basis of their contributions to the watershed program on a community, state, regional or national basis. The recipient's accomplishments in the watershed program must be identified and shall manifest a demonstrated consideration of the fundamental interrelationships of renewable natural resources within watersheds. Consideration is also given to Iowa's watershed program and the extent it has benefited from the recipient's contributions.

The 1974 Watershed Man-of-the-Year is:



WURTH W. BANKS, Westfield, Iowa. He was born in Sioux City, Iowa, and is a graduate of the Sioux Township High School in Plymouth County and attended diesel engine school in California.

He has been a Plymouth county Soil Conservation District Commissioner for a period of nine years and is presently serving as Chairman of the district governing body. During his tenure as a commissioner, he has served as watershed coordinator for the Plymouth District. He attends and presides over all district watershed meetings and attends state and regional conferences to promote and support the watershed program. He acts as the Plymouth County Soil Conservation District representative on the Little Sioux Watershed Works Committee. He was instrumental in the development of a system with the Plymouth County Board of Supervisors for maintenance inspections and follow-up on maintenance of watersheds.

He has been extremely active in the West Sunnyside Watershed project serving as a member of the watershed committee for twelve years. He took original action to organize the West Sunnyside Watershed in 1962 and since that time has consistently worked for land treatment in the area. As a result of his efforts, this watershed was the first completed P.L. 566 project in Plymouth County.

He is known as "Mr. Watershed" to the residents of his local community and his knowledge of watershed organization has proved to be invaluable. He is said to be the key to watershed success in northwest Iowa.

Active in all aspects of the soil conservation district program, he has served on the district's finance, education, erosion control, fair booth and legislative committees. He has made presentations during Soil Stewardship Week and participated in the Governor's Conference on Iowa in the year 2000.

He farms 2,000 acres of land on which a complete conservation plan is followed including terraces, contour farming, grass waterways, and pasture management. His land lies within the boundaries of two actively organized watersheds. Livestock operations on his farm consist of 100 beef cows, 150 head of feeder cattle, 175 feeder pigs, and 400 laying hens.

An active leader in his community, he is an ASCS township committee-man, director on the REC Board, member of the American Legion for 29 years, coaches Little League baseball, assists 4-H clubs, and has driven a school bus for eighteen years. His past endeavors include member and chairman of the County ASCS Committee, director of the Farm Bureau Board, and board member of his church.

He and his wife, Lenore, are the parents of two daughters.

