

Clarke Co. Soil & Water Conservation District

FORWARD

On April 3, we in the Clarke Soil Conservation District passed a notable milestone - our 25th anniversary. It was this date in 1945 that the State Soil Conservation Committee approved the charter - set the course.

Twenty-five years is a long time, or a short time, depending on what you compare it with. We have made good progress on the conservation problems we started in 1945. But, now new and complex conservation and resources have arisen since then. Conservation is everyone's business and must be a community action program to be most effective.

We herewith present our 24th annual report on accomplishments, 1970 District and Assistant Commissioners.

District Activities

The Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners held 11 regular meetings during the 1970 fiscal year.

Jack Ames was appointed Chairman and the Assistant Commissioners appointed to serve for a one year term were Adrian Fuller, Jerry Kelly, Lowell Moran, Milan Welker and Fred Wood.

The Wheatland Watershed Board met with the Commissioners to discuss plans for the program. The State Watershed Planning Party began preliminary investigation in November.

In December the State Watershed Planning Party met with a group of interested local people and related problems involved in arriving at a favorable cost-benefit ratio for a watershed project through Public Law 566, which is for flood control and land protection.

The group related that it is up to the Clarke County people to decide what they need and what they are willing to put into this plan for accomplishment of the project.

Clarence Ford, T. J. Laing and Dale Chidester attended a watershed tour at Corning to review watershed organization planning and responsibilities in watershed maintenance.

In July Doyce Miller was elected Director of Region 8, Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners. Miller was installed in September at the fall annual District Commissioners Conference. Those attending the Annual District Commissioners Conference were Mr. and Mrs. Doyce Miller, Mrs. Arlene Garner, Clerk, Richard Gonseth, Jack Ames and Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Fuller.

The District purchased 400 conservation booklets, educational information for classroom instruction. These booklets were placed in local schools.

In February the 1969 Register and Tribune award winners were guests at the Farmer-Businessmen banquet. Winners in this contest were Division I, John Henderson, Division II, Mrs. Lawrence Curran, owner, Dale Chidester, operator; Division III, Chester Davis, The Outstanding Teacher winner was Mr. Larry Rohr, teacher at the Clarke Community Junior High School. In December Mr. Rohr was guest of the local District at an awards dinner and program held at Prescott.

In February the District selected Francis Chamberlain as the winner in the Goodyear contest.

Jack Ames and Clarence Ford attended the Governor's Conference on Environmental Health in Des Moines in April. Soil Stewardship Week was observed May 3-10. The District sent booklets to all ministers in the county for this observance.

The District sponsored Mr. Dale Wilson, teacher in the local high school, to attend a three week session at Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park, near Guthrie Center in June.

The Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Steering Committee met bi-monthly to review the problems, benefits and what can be done to stimulate economic growth for the community. Thirteen project proposals have been submitted from Clarke County to be in the application plan. Herbert Kayser, Creston, was appointed coordinator of the RC&D seven county area and is now in the process of making application for funding.

The local six man steering committee members are Robert Toland, Public Affairs; Elva Wolfe, Agriculture; Doyce Miller, Land and Water Use; Jack Jeffreys, Business and Industry; Robert Wuthrich, Community Facilities and Melvin Goeldner, Recreation, Beautification and Historical.

At the June regular meeting Brad Waller gave his soil conservation speech. The title of his speech was "Youths Role

in Soil and Water Conservation." Brad was declared winner so will represent Clarke County at the regional contest later in the summer.

Clarence Ford announced, at the June meeting, he has been transferred to the Dallas County Soil Conservation District where he will work with the District Conservation program with the office at Adel. This transfer is effective July 12. —SWCD—

District Operates With 2 Budgets

The District operates with two budgets provided by the State Soil Conservation Committee from State Appropriations.

1-M BUDGET

District Allocation \$500.00
Commissioners Expenses (Mileage, Meals, Hotel) \$326.46
Office Supplies 34.15
Printing 100.00
Materials for Demonstrations 1.08
Office Expense 37.90
Total Expended \$499.59
Balance \$.41

1-M BUDGET (ADDITIONAL TO 1-M BUDGET)

Allocation \$100.00
Commissioners Expenses \$63.71
Office Supplies 7.38
Prizes for Contests 15.00
Office Expense 36
Balance \$ 13.57

2-M BUDGET

District Allocation \$11475.00
Clerk & Technical Salaries \$10272.59
JPERS & FICA (District Share) 852.69
Travel 12.65
Health Ins. 144.00
Credit 144.00
Total Expended \$11281.93

The District fund is non-appropriated and received from donations from cooperators, businessmen and friends of the District.

This fund is used for promotional activities such as conservation booklets, local awards and contest expenses. Also the state and national dues are paid from this fund.

Donations received during fiscal 1970 were \$607.00, expenses were \$764.02, the balance on hand June 30, 1970 is \$135.87.

The District Commissioners wish to thank all those who made donations. These funds help carry on the Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation District program. —SWCD—

In Appreciation

The Soil Conservation District Commissioners and the Soil Conservation Service personnel wish to thank all individuals and groups and the other agencies, A. S. C. S., Extension, F. H. A., and Game Commission, who have assisted us in the continued progress of soil and water conservation in Clarke County. We are especially appreciative of the financial and moral support we have received during the past year and we hope this will merit your continued support in the future. —SWCD—



The Soil Conservation Service now has an official symbol. It is the first official symbol the Service ever had. It symbolizes a raindrop being captured and controlled and will be used on all future information from SCS.



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, ITS
FORESTS, WATERS,
AND WILDLIFE



Richard Gonseth — 1969-



Milan Welker



Carl Handrock — 1951-59



Lowell Moran



Jerry Kelly



Fred Wood



Jack Ames — 1965



Harold Allen — 1963-1965



Doyce Miller — 1957-



Adrian Fuller



Wayne O'Neill — 1951-57



Verne Airy — 1949-1955

District Accomplishments

FARM PLANNING AND SERVICING

ACTIVITY	UNIT	1970	TO DATE
District Cooperators	No.	28	919
Farmers Assisted	No.	289	
Farmers Applying Practices	No.	169	
Basic Plans	No.	29	599
Plans Revised	No.	16	
Referrals Serviced	No.	205	
Office Calls	No.	965	
Telephone Calls	No.	654	

PRACTICES APPLIED ON FARMS - FISCAL 1970

Contouring	Ac.	286	23731
Terraces	Ft.	3600	795426
Farm Ponds	No.	38	1339
Grade Stabilization Structure	No.	12	
Waterways	Ac.	28.3	2119.2
Drainage Field Ditch	Ft.	1040	36635
Tile Drains	Ft.	19715	257573
Pasture Planting	Ac.	4791	21837
Pasture Management	Ac.	881	10017
Wildlife Habitat	Ac.	39	966



A soil conservation structure located two miles west and one mile south of Murray is shown shortly after it was completed in November of last year. The dam will create a 35-acre pond when filled. It is located on the Harold Pearson farm.



SOIL CONSERVATION

SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED

Clarence H. Ford District Conservationist
T. J. Laing Conservation Technician

OTHER SOIL CONSERVATION

SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSISTING

Erwin O. Aust, Shenandoah Area Conservationist
Richard W. Birchmier, Shenandoah Civil Engineer
Lawrence L. Dorgan, Creston Civil Engineer
John R. Nixon, Creston Soil Scientist
Louis A. Boeckman, Creston Soil Scientist
Blanche V. Oline, Shenandoah Area Clerk
Margaret C. Haley, Shenandoah Area Clerk

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Jack Ames Chairman
Doyce Miller Member
Richard Gonseth Member

ASSISTING THE COMMISSIONERS

Adrian Fuller Assistant Commissioner
Milan Welker Assistant Commissioner
Jerry Kelly Assistant Commissioner
Lowell Moran Assistant Commissioner
Fred Wood Assistant Commissioner
Harold Hadden, County Extension Director
Mrs. Arlene Garner, State Employee, District Clerk and Treasurer
Dale L. Chidester, State Employee, Conservation Aid, full time, shared with Decatur County



Members of the Work Unit Group of the Soil Conservation District include T. J. Laing, Conservation Technician; Clarence Ford, Work Unit Conservationist; Mrs. Arlene Garner, District Clerk; and Dale Chidester, State Aide.