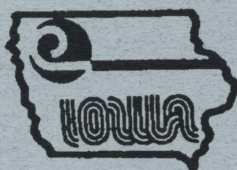


49th Annual Conference  
for Soil and Water  
Conservation District  
Commissioners of Iowa



Awards Luncheon  
Friday, September 8, 1995  
Des Moines, Iowa

**IASWCDC Auxiliary Scholarships**

Presenter: **Lois Ralston**, Moville, President, IASWCDC Auxiliary

\$600 Scholarship - **Malinda Cooper**, Ames, Story SWCD

\$400 Scholarship - **John Tiarks**, Underwood, West Pottawattamie SWCD

\$300 Scholarship - **Sarah Mohning**, Remsen, Plymouth SWCD

**IASWCDC Auxiliary Poster Contest**

Presenter: **Lois Ralston**, Moville, President, IASWCDC Auxiliary

**State Winners**

Division 1 (Grades K-1) - **Ethan Taube**, Donnellson, Lee SWCD

Division 2 (Grades 2-3) - **Jenna Skophammer**, Fort Dodge, Webster SWCD

Division 3 (Grades 4-6) - **Tara Pollastrini**, Newton, Jasper SWCD  
Honorable Mention - **Brittney Hendricks**, Keokuk, Lee SWCD

Division 4 (Grades 7-9) - **Tracy Lyon**, Pleasantville, Marion SWCD

Division 5 (Grades 10-12) - **Darcy Klooster**, Clinton, Clinton SWCD

Each state winner receives \$75 in addition to receiving \$35 as a regional contest winner. State contest winning entries in each division are entered in the NACD-NACD Auxiliary Conservation Poster Contest.

## **Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program (ISCAP)**

The IASWDC, the State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC), the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, the Iowa Conservation Education Council, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, (NRCS) and The Des Moines Register sponsor a program honoring outstanding conservation teachers and farmers in Iowa.

### **Teacher Division**

The ISCAP Teacher Awards recognize educators who create a favorable climate for conservation education and motivate students to practice conservation.

Presenters: **Craig Zoellner**, Mason City, President, Conservation Education Council

**Jerry Perkins**, Des Moines, Farm Editor, The Des Moines Register

### **Division 1 Kindergarten - 8th Grade**

**Winner: Debbie Wieskamp**, Jefferson School, Muscatine, Muscatine SWCD

Debbie Wieskamp believes the study of conservation is an invitation to observe the world, ask questions, puzzle over problems and enjoy the process of solving them. That's why she tries to incorporate some kind of conservation concept with all her educational themes throughout the school year. She doesn't want to see conservation studied only on special occasions such as Earth Day.

Wieskamp tries to teach her second grade students that conservation is everyone's concern and that environmental problems won't go away if they are ignored. She incorporates field trips, hands-on activities and guest speakers to bring conservation concerns to life for her students. One of her students' favorite activities is dancing and singing along with the Banana Slugs String Band singing the hit song "Dirt Made My Lunch."

### **Division 2 Grades 7-12**

**Winner: Mike Malloy**, Williamsburg High School, Williamsburg, Iowa SWCD

Mike Malloy has been teaching junior high and senior high vocational agriculture classes for 18 years. During that time he has seen an increased emphasis on resource management and protection, including the increased availability of specialized equipment and chemicals designed to reduce soil erosion and protect water quality. He has tried to encourage an awareness of the importance of soil conservation and water quality protection in each of his students.

Not every student in Malloy's agriculture education classes will go on to farm. However, he hopes each of them will appreciate the importance of soil management and conservation as they pursue other careers, and that each of them will realize how every citizen is affected by the dislodging and unwanted movement of soil sediment.

### **Farmer Division**

The ISCAP Farmer Division Award encourages better land use programs and erosion control on Iowa's farms by recognizing farmers who use soil conservation practices.

Presenter: **Jerry Perkins**, Des Moines, Farm Editor, The Des Moines Register

**Winner: Gerald Anderson**, Flying "A" Cattle Company, Red Oak, Montgomery SWCD

Gerald Anderson uses a combination of permanent conservation and management practices to protect his 1,300-acre farm from soil erosion. He has installed terraces, waterways, two ponds and three grade stabilization structures. He has planted 3.6 acres of trees, 4.8 acres of windbreaks and practices woodland management on an additional 3.7 acres he has developed as a wildlife habitat. He uses conservation tillage, contouring, pasture management, field borders, and filter strips. He also has implemented nutrient management, waste management and pest management systems.

## Ken Wagner Award

The Ken Wagner Award recognizes outstanding young SWCD commissioners for their conservation achievements and community service. The award is given in memory of Kenneth Wagner, a former Johnson SWCD Commissioner and State Soil Conservation Committee (SSCC) member who was instrumental in developing Iowa's conservation district program.

**Presenter: Ruth Wagner**, Assistant Commissioner, Johnson SWCD

**Winner: Melvin Sanders, Donnellson, Lee SWCD**

Melvin Sanders has been an active member of the Lee SWCD. He is currently the chairperson, has been the vice-chairperson, and has co-chaired the education committee since 1990. He also chairs the stewardship committee and directs the District's publicity activities including radio and TV-covered events. Sanders serves as the District's liaison with the Lee County Board of Supervisors and county level commodity organizations. He is also a 4-H club leader.

Sanders also farms nearly 500 acres of corn and soybeans, and raises 2,000 hogs annually. He has installed 11,400 feet of terraces, 18 acres of grassed waterways, a farm pond and a farmstead windbreak, and plants his crops with either no-till planting or conservation tillage to reduce erosion from his farm. Sanders has designed new equipment or modified existing equipment to meet his changing farm needs and increase his ability to apply conservation practices.

## Outstanding Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners

The IASWCDC and Wallaces Farmer recognize commissioners for their outstanding community service to soil and water conservation. This annual award commends commissioners who take the time and make an extra effort to encourage others to conserve soil and protect Iowa's water quality for future generations.

**Presenters: Jeanette Winegarden**, Cedar Falls, Vice-President, IASWCDC

**Monte Sesker**, Des Moines, Editor, Wallaces Farmer

**Winner: Region 1 - Roy Folkerts, Inwood, Lyon SWCD**

Roy Folkerts talks to local farmers and organizations about the benefits of no-till planting and the responsibility of individuals to be good stewards. He has been a soil and water conservation district commissioner for five years. Folkerts uses no-till planting for all of his row crops and practices pasture management. He also has installed several permanent conservation practices on his northwest Iowa farm, including: terraces, windbreaks, contouring, grassed waterways and grade stabilization ponds.

**Winner: Region 2 - Tim Hemphill, Milford, Dickinson SWCD**

Tim Hemphill recently constructed a half-mile grassed waterway and established a farmstead windbreak on his farm of nearly 800 acres. He also has created a wildlife habitat of native grasses and a field windbreak on his CRP acres. Hemphill has been a commissioner for eight years, and serves as the secretary and a member of the awards committee for his district. He and his wife, Linda, coordinated the District's 1995 tree sale.

Hemphill has received awards recognizing his dedication to conservation and agriculture, including: 1993 Conservation Farmer of the Year Award from Pheasants Forever; 1981 Kiwanis Farmer of the Year; and the 1975 Outstanding Young Member Award from the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation.

**Winner: Region 3 - Buford Floy, Thornton, Cerro Gordo SWCD**

Prior to becoming a commissioner, Buford Floy was recognized as the 1984 Outstanding Conservation Farmer by the Cerro Gordo SWCD for his accomplishments in conservation of soil, water and related resources. Until he retired from farming, Floy practiced no-till planting and conservation tillage on his farm. He also installed terraces and grassed waterways to reduce soil erosion. Combining his interests in soil conservation and wildlife protection, Floy restored a pothole wetland and native prairie area on his CRP acres to promote nesting and protect wildlife habitat. He is in his fifth year as a commissioner, and is currently the vice-chairman.

In 1993, Floy helped to develop a multi-agency water quality project for Clear Lake to apply for funding with which to accomplish water quality protection efforts. He now chairs the 22-member Clear Lake Enhancement and Restoration Project which has begun a three-year, \$350,000 water quality project.

**Winner: Region 4 - Donald Schmitt, Holy Cross, Dubuque SWCD**

Donald Schmitt was recognized by the Dubuque SWCD as its 1985 Outstanding Conservation Farmer. Schmitt implemented a variety of conservation practices on his Dubuque County farm before retiring earlier this year. He installed nearly 9,000 feet of tile outlet terraces, 11,000 feet of waterways, three ponds, 40 acres of stripcropping, 165 acres of contoured row crop, a farmstead windbreak and two concrete manure storage structures. He also used minimum tillage practices for all of his crops.

In the eight years that Schmitt has been a commissioner he has served as chairperson, and is in his second term as vice-chairperson. Schmitt has been active in education and finance efforts for the District, including hosting a field day for University of Dubuque summer students and helping with the District's poster contest and scholarship program.

**Winner: Region 5 - Clint Goos, Treynor, West Pottawattamie SWCD**

Clint Goos uses terraces, waterways, tile drainage, no-till planting and contouring on his 650-acre farm. He has also installed a four-acre pond and grade stabilization structure which is used by livestock and wildlife. In the 23 years Goos has been a commissioner, he has served as chairperson and vice-chairperson. He has also been active in education, awards, watershed protection and legislative efforts for the District.

**Winner: Region 6 - Kim Bates, Scranton, Greene SWCD**

Kim Bates no-till-plants his corn into soybean stubble and uses minimum tillage for his soybeans. He built and maintains a system of grassed waterways, and had an extensive farmstead windbreak until it was hit by a tornado in May 1995. During his term as a commissioner he served as chairperson and vice chairperson, and was active in all District efforts. He was also a charter member of the Greene County Conservation Club which was organized in 1991 to promote conservation activities.

**Winner: Region 7 - Leland Roudybush, Muscatine, Louisa SWCD**

Leland Roudybush uses terraces and contours on his farm in addition to tree and native vegetation plantings and an improved timber stand. He serves the district education committee by promoting the tree sale program and helping local teachers prepare soil conservation lesson plans. Roudybush is currently the district vice chairperson. He has also served as chairperson during his 14 years as a commissioner.

In addition to his service as a district commissioner, Roudybush is the state chairman of the Iowa League of RC & Ds, chairperson of the Louisa County RC & D, and serves on the Geode RC & D Board.

### **Winner: Region 8 - Kenneth Caldwell, Creston, Union SWCD**

Kenneth Caldwell has installed nearly 10,000 feet of terraces and two ponds on his southwest Iowa farm and uses no-till planting and contouring to reduce topsoil loss. In addition to farming 560 acres, he operates a weed and insect control business, practicing careful chemical application on his own farm and those belonging to other farmers in the area. Ken is starting his second term as a commissioner, and also serves as the secretary for the Three Mile Reservoir Agency.

### **Winner: Region 9 - Donald Avery, Ottumwa, Wapello SWCD**

Donald Avery protects his corn and soybean fields with contour terraces, water and sediment control basins, grassed waterways and conservation tillage. Beyond setting a good example for neighboring farmers, he is active in the Wapello SWCD helping with forestry and legislative efforts. Avery is currently the district chairperson. He has also served as district vice-chairperson and treasurer during his 18 years as a commissioner. He represented the IASWDC Board at the 1995 National Watershed Conference in West Virginia. In addition to his participation in SWCD activities, Avery also serves as the secretary-treasurer for the Wapello County RC & D and is on the Pathfinders' RC & D executive committee.

### **The Goodyear - NACD Conservation Awards Program**

The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company - NACD Conservation Awards Program, now in its 48th year, honors soil conservation districts, commissioners and cooperators. The company acknowledges that the agricultural tire market is an important part of its success, and feels that recognition of agricultural leaders in every state is one way The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company can show its appreciation of farmers' efforts to produce agricultural commodities while sustaining agricultural opportunities for future generations.

This annual award is designed to encourage districts to determine what services to provide, plan how to provide the services, and evaluate their performance. The award takes into consideration the variety of soil conservation and water quality practices available for urban and rural use, as well as conservation education efforts undertaken by the districts.

One commissioner from each Grand Award district receives a trip to a conservation workstudy program sponsored by The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Scottsdale, Arizona, each December. A district may not receive the Grand Award more than once in any five-year period. Honor Awards may only be given to districts which have been Grand Award winners in the preceding five years and which rank among the top districts competing.

Presenter: **Jack Howells**, Des Moines, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

### **Northern Iowa Division Grand Award - Sioux SWCD**

The Sioux SWCD commissioners provided a variety of educational opportunities for students and adults in their district in 1994. The District participated in an Animal Waste Management Conference at Dordt College, the Northwest Iowa Conservation Tillage Expo, the Northwest Iowa Contractors' Meeting and a no-till planting tour. They presented college scholarships to two high school graduates, donated trees to the sixth grade class at the Kinsey Elementary School in Sioux Center and provided an outdoor classroom at Oak Grove State Park for 5th and 6th grade students.

The commissioners sold and distributed 14,000 trees and shrubs for spring planting, made a no-till drill available to farmers for interseeding oats and alfalfa, prioritized financial assistance for implementation of animal waste management systems, assisted 47 landowners with the construction of 35 miles of terraces, assisted with the planting of 46 acres of windbreaks and 48 acres of grassed waterways, and helped farmers implement conservation tillage on nearly 12,000 acres.

**Honor Award - Linn SWCD, Grand Award recipient in 1992**  
**Woodbury SWCD, Grand Award recipient in 1989**

**Southern Iowa Division**

**Grand Award - Audubon SWCD**

Erosion levels were reduced on more than 50,000 acres in Audubon county in 1994 with the assistance of the Audubon Soil and Water Conservation District commissioners. The reductions were accomplished by the implementation of a variety of conservation practices including more than 100,000 feet of terraces, more than 200 acres of grassed waterways and four grade stabilization structures, and the planting of nearly 10 acres of farmstead windbreaks. The commissioners also assisted many farmers with the implementation of conservation tillage, contouring, contour buffer strips, grassed field borders and pasture management. The District also took part in a four-county informational meeting for contractors, made a no-till interseeder available to cooperators for interseeding grasses and legumes into existing bluegrass pastures and CRP acres and sold trees and shrubs.

Education activities are important to the District. Funds from the sale of trees sponsor a scholarship for a graduating senior pursuing a career in conservation, agriculture or environmental science. The District also offers scholarships for teachers and youth to attend educational camps throughout the year, and conducts an annual ecology day for sixth grade students at Littlefield Park. The District has also invested in the Fund an Acre Program through which the Wallace Foundation is converting 400 acres near Lewis into an ISU research farm. The District also donated trees and shrubs to a 4-H group working to beautify an area in Audubon.

**Honor Award - Cedar SWCD, Grand Award recipient in 1992**  
**Wapello SWCD, Grand Award recipient in 1990**

