



# Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Society



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President News Cont.	2
CPESC	3
Student News	4
Student News	5
SWCS What, Why, Who	5
Fair Winners	6
Calendar	7

### Kirk Iverson, President AI SWCS 2006-2007

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your president this year. It is a huge honor to do so, and a humbling one! Serving on the board last year introduced me to a group of fine, enthusiastic people and this year’s Board is just as exciting to work with. Together, I hope that we will be able to follow the examples set by past leaders and continue to serve you to the high standards they set.

In July, Rod Goode, Earl Norton, Steve Musser and I attended the International SWCS meeting in Keystone, Colorado. Steve and I attended the Leadership Development Workshops and shared ideas with a large group of people from around the USA and Canada. At the Awards Luncheon our Chapter received four awards. Three awards recognized our work as a chapter—Professional Development; Chapter Achievement, Outstanding Chapter—and a Merit Award honored the “Team Conservation Tillage” exhibit at the Sunbelt Ag Expo that we sponsor each year with several groups in Alabama and Georgia.

This year we are pleased to have “Trent Mathews” join us as our first Leadership Development Intern.” the purpose of this position of Internship is to get new members actively involved in the Society by providing opportunities to develop their professional careers and to provide candidates for leadership positions within the Society. Trent was an outstanding candidate for this position and he is an excellent choice to be the first.

This year we hope to continue the activities the Chapter has sponsored in the past, and to add some new ones. I am excited by what we are planning and I hope that all of you will find several events to participate in. We are planning events in all areas of our state and we will have several state or regional activities.

Continued pg 2.....

**Presidents' remarks continued from page 1**

By the time you read this Earl Norton and his team will have held two Red Water Blues events in Tuscaloosa and in Auburn. They will have also be doing other CPESC training during the year, as usual.

Steve Musser is organizing our annual meeting that will be held in the Mobile Bay area in early June. Expect to hear more information about very soon.

Tracy Cole has been heading up a great project to create natural resource displays for public places such as rest areas and state parks. The first one will be installed at Desoto State Park sometime this year. These displays will provide information about soils, geology, water and other natural resources to the public and invite them to learn more.

We are planning a Tri-State SWCS conference on water conservation with the Georgia and Florida Chapters. Current plans are to have it on St. George Island in mid-May. We are also talking with the Mississippi chapter about another joint meeting this year. We have many common interest with our neighbors and I think these activities could be very interesting.

We will continue to participate in science fairs, water festivals, and Earth Day events around the state. Our "Team Conservation Tillage" exhibit will be in October at the Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, and we are planning to support one or more conservation tillage schools in Alabama. Other activities are being planned and we'll publicize them in future newsletters and through e-mails.

Finally, I'd like to ask for your help. Firstly, suggest topics, assist with an event, and attend several of them. Secondly, consider joining one of our committees. We are looking for help on the Membership, Certification, Education, and Chapter Development committees. We need people from different parts of Alabama and with different areas of expertise. Please contact any of us with your ideas.

Thanks for making a difference,

Kirk Iversen

**CPESC NEWS ...Erosion and Sediment Control News****BY: EARL NORTON, CHAIRMAN**

The Red Water Blues Field Days for 2006 are history and were quite successful. With no hurricanes, the events were held as scheduled at Tuscaloosa on September 14 and Auburn on September 28. Each event set an attendance record for our field days - approximately 150 at Tuscaloosa and 160 at Auburn (exceeding the largest attendance in prior years of 135 at Birmingham in 2004). We were pleased with the practices that were available for viewing and believe that everyone that attended should have increased their knowledge about the use and installation of erosion and sediment control practices and products. In addition to site visits in the morning, presentations were made after lunch on Stormwater Construction Regulations and Installation of Rolled Erosion Control Products.

The Field Guide for Erosion and Sediment Control on Construction Sites in Alabama was available for participants at the end of the day. Special thanks to the local field day sponsors: Tuscaloosa and Lee County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Tuscaloosa County Commission, Tuscaloosa County Parks and Recreation Authority, City of Northport, City of Tuscaloosa, S. T. Bunn Construction Co, Smith and Smith Home Builders, Home Builders Association of Tuscaloosa, Auburn Research and Technology Foundation, City of Auburn, Auburn University (College of Agriculture, Agricultural Experiment Station, Ag Heritage Park, ), Lee County Commission, Jones and Mear Homebuilders, Lee County Home Builders Association and Piedmont Fertilizer Company. In addition, we had great support from the primary industry sponsors - American Excelsior (Pete Romocki and Travis Brown), Sunshine Supplies (Skip Ragsdale), Mulch and Seed Innovations (Wae and Andy Ellis), Erosion Pros LLC ( Joel Seawell) and the Alabama Concrete Industries Association.

I should mention, also, that the activities were strongly supported by Home Builders Association of Alabama, Associated General contractors of Alabama, Alabama Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils and the Alabama Power Foundation. Truly, the field days of 2006 were a team effort.

The Steering Committee for the Erosion and Sediment Control Program will be meeting in January or February to chart the course for field days and other activities in 2007. If you have suggestions, please pass them on to me.

Continued on page 7.....

## **Student Activities @ The Alabama SWCS Annual Meeting**

**By: Dr Monday Milba, Student Advisor Alabama A&M University**

Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Society continues to support the active participation of students in the Society's activities. The addition of students' poster session to the annual meetings activities is one of such efforts. At the 2006 Annual meeting in Huntsville, Alabama, in spite of the fact that student activities are generally slow during the summer months, the poster session was a success. The gathered five students' posters and two non-student posters on various research areas within the annual conference theme "Conserving Our Soil and Water Resources for Future Generations."

Members of the society led by Ben Moore, Yucheng Feng, and Juan Rodriguez enthusiastically accepted to take on the rough job of judging [carefully reading, deciding based on the scientific merit, organization, and overall appearance] the posters and did a great job!

The Chapter Leadership and the Annual Meeting Organizing Committee gave the program the support that it deserved. All these amount to grassroots support of student activities by the Organization. In the end, it was a success.

First place went to Monika Saini [Auburn University]

Second place went to Sri Kuppireddy [Alabama A&M University]

As a student chapter Advisor I have always enjoyed the AI SWCS annual meetings, but I was pleased by the inclusion of a students' session during this year's event and remain excited that we will try to continue with this activity. Reaching out to students is so important to the Society that this sort of efforts is justified.

**Visit our Website: <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/>**

### **SWCS What, Who and Why...By Mary Goodman**

The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is a nonprofit scientific and educational organization—founded in 1943—that serves as an advocate for conservation professionals and for science—based conservation practice, programs, and policy. SWCS has over 7,000 members around the world. They include researchers, administrators, planners, policymakers, technical advisors, teachers, students, farmers and ranchers. Our members come from nearly every academic discipline and many different public, private, and nonprofit institutions. Continued pg 5....

## **Student Activities @ Auburn University Student Chapter**

### **Mary Goodman, Student Advisor Auburn University**

The AI Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) sells flowering bulbs to raise money for chapter activities, projects and student memberships to the national society.

The web link to see pictures of the beautiful choices for this Fall and their growing instructions is:

<http://www.touchofnature.com/fundrasing/programFD.htm>

To place an order:

1. Make your selections from the web site.
2. E-mail your selection to: [goodmms@auburn.edu](mailto:goodmms@auburn.edu)
3. Add the total cost of your selections and write a check for that amount to: AU Chapter SWCS.
4. Seen the check to: Mary Goodman

Department of Agronomy and Soils

202 Funchess Hall

CAMPUS

The deadline for orders is October 23. The bulbs will arrive and be delivered the week of October 30. thanks in advance for your generous support of the AU chapter of SWCS.

***Visit our Website: <http://www.alchapterswcs.aces.edu/>***

SWCS Continued from pg 4...

The mission of the SWCS is to foster the science and art of natural resource conservation. Our work targets conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources on working land—the land used to produce food, fiber, and other services to improve the quality of life people experience in rural and urban communities. We work to discover, develop, implement, and constantly improve ways to use land that sustains its productive capacity and enhances the environment at the same time.

## Science Fair Winners 2006: Anne Cross & Deana Mann

The 2006 North Alabama Regional Science Fair was held March 14-15, 2006 at the campus of the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Listed below are the winners of the SWCS's awards for best of show.

Matthew Thorn won the Alabama Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society's junior award for best of show in the environmental category. Matthew is an eighth grader at Cherokee Middle School in Cherokee, AL.

The title of Matthew's project was "A Study of Hickory Tree Growth Using Dendroclimatology and Soil Analysis". Matthew's project explored the effect of soil, climate, and environment on growth of hickory trees in northwest Alabama.



- |                        |   |                                       |                            |
|------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • President::          | Kirk Iversen                            | Representatives: Area Vice Presidents |                            |
| • President-Elect:     | Steve Musser                            | • Section I:                          | Suzanne Baucom             |
| • Secretary:           | Anne Cross                              | • Section II:                         | Francisco Arriaga          |
| • Treasurer:           | Zona Beaty                              | • Section III:                        | Skip Ragsdale              |
| • Regional Director:   | Rod Goode                               | • Section IV:                         | Joyce Nicholas             |
| • Membership:          | Skip Ragsdale                           | • Section V:                          | DeLarie Parmer             |
| • Awards:              | Heidi Janes                             | • Immediate Past President:           | Tracey Cole                |
| • Chapter Development: | Bill Hughes                             | • Webpage:                            | Jay Tatum; Anne Cross      |
| • CPESC Chairman:      | Earl Norton                             | • Newsletter Co-editors:              | Randall East & J. Nicholas |
| • CCA Chairman:        | Detra Boutwell                          |                                       |                            |
| • Student Chapters:    |   |                                       |                            |
|                        | Monday Mbila, A&M: Mary Goodman, Auburn |                                       |                            |

**Schedule of Events**

- Board Meeting: 10/23/06
- Board Meeting: 2/2007
- Planning Committee Meeting: Oct 20 @ Greenville, Al.
- AU Student Flower Sale: Oct. 23, 2006.
- EC07: Feb. 12-16, 2007 Reno, NV.
- Alabama SWCS Annual meeting June , 2007, STAY TUNED FOR DATES!
- Exam Review Course and Exam: TBA in March 2007

<b>October 2006</b>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
	<b>Columbus Day</b>					
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	<b>Boss Day</b>					
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				
	<b>Halloween</b>					

**CPESC NEWS cont...**

Congratulations to the following persons that have entered the CPESC ranks since the last newsletter: David Hyatt, Jr., Attalla, Gadsden State Junior College; Roy B. Carlisle, Dickinson, ALDOT; Barbara M. Burns, Jasper, Neel-Shaffer.

For the best in technology updates, consider attending EC07 (the Annual Conference and Trade Show of the International Erosion Control Association) in Reno, NV February 12-16,2007. This is the premier venue in the world to get up-to-date technology and increase your networking opportunities.

We will add more events to our calendar as they become known. Let me remind you, if there is a specific topic related to Erosion and Sediment Control that you would like to have covered in our Chapter newsletter let me know.

Earl Norton, Chairman

CPESC Committee

nortone1@bellsouth.net



JOYCE NICHOLAS, EDITOR AI SWCS  
1070 SCHILLINGER ROAD NORTH  
MOBILE, ALABAMA 36608

Phone: 251-441-6502  
Fax: 251-441-6652  
E-mail: joyce.nicholas@al.usda.gov

**ALABAMA SWCS  
NEWSLETTER**

*Dear SWCS Members:*

*Got a good story to share with the Society members? Get them to Randall East for the next edition of the AI SWCS Newsletter.*

*Are any happenings going on? Let me know and we will post them on the website and in the newsletter.*

*Thanks!!*

*Joyce*

*Visit us on the web  
[http://  
www.alchapterswcs.ac  
es.edu/](http://www.alchapterswcs.ac.es.edu/)*

Mail To: