

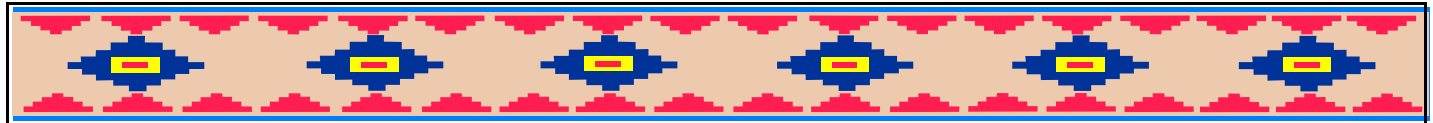


Soil and Water Conservation Society ~ New Mexico Chapter

P.O. Box 2142
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Message from the Chapter President

Corinne Brooks

It still amazes me that we are already at the end of May! What happened to March and April? As the days roll by and we all stay busy promoting and practicing natural resource conservation, let's remember to pat ourselves on the back for the work that we do. As conservationists, our work is important to every living thing around us, both today and tomorrow. It's truly awesome when you put it into perspective.

I recently did some soul searching and made a list of what I had accomplished and what I would like to still accomplish in the years ahead. I wrote that I wanted to make a difference and leave some sort of legacy. Sounds pretty ambitious, but it also sounds cliché. Who DOESN'T want to leave behind something good?

Our Chapter includes professionals from a variety of disciplines; soil scientists, technicians, conservation planners, managers, wildlife specialists, to name a few. All of us support the mission of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, which is to foster the science and art of natural resource conservation. This is rarely done by simply "talking about it". Education is important, but most of us chose our professions because we believe in "doing it"; actually working with land owners and land managers to put conservation on the ground. We share many successes and should be proud that we will leave this earth a better place. Take the time to relax and enjoy the early days of summer.

Hope to see many of you in Ruidoso in July!

New Mexico SWCS Chapter Membership

The New Mexico SWCS Chapter Board of Directors is looking a ways to increase membership. New members are the life of the Chapter for any professional society. They bring in new ideas and new energy to learn and support their profession and the Chapter. The New Mexico Chapter has been increasing its activity level, with the recent successful hosting of the Riparian Workshop and Canadian River tour last summer. See article on the workshop in this newsletter.

At the next Chapter meeting, the directors will consider a variety of ways to increase membership. One idea is to pay for the first year membership. Another is to encourage making automatic payroll deductions, where offered.

We need your ideas and suggestions on how to increase membership. Please let us know by return email or send to ken.leiting@cablone.net. Thanks.

NM Chapter Newsletter

The newsletter needs YOU! Please consider sending articles to run in our NM Chapter SWCS newsletter.

Looking for: Tech Tips, activities, photos, ideas for involvement in communities.

All articles will be welcomed. Let's get this Chapter rolling.

Email to jefosternm@msn.com

**Riparian Restoration Conference
March 1-2, 2006**



Corinne Brooks and Ondrea Hummel



Convention Center Ballroom Presentation



Ken Leiting and Brent Bason



↑Salt Cedar thicket

↑treated area

Riparian Workshop Hits a Home Run

By Steve Kadas

The SW Riparian Restoration Workshop, hosted by the NM SWCS Chapter was a winner. The event was held at the Albuquerque Convention Center on March 1-2. 185 people attended, mostly from NM, but many also came from AZ, CO, TX, UT, and WY. Topics addressed native plant re-vegetation, tamarisk control, and riparian management. Attendants received a restoration reference notebook and CD. A tour to the Santo Domingo tamarisk control project was held on February 29.

The workshop was a success due to the dedication of many players. Corinne Brooks, Chapter President and leader of the planning committee said, "The great success of the workshop was due to the commitment of our chapter members, partners and presenters". Chapter members like Jean Foster, Paul Vainio Linda Scheffe, Ken Leiting, Mike Sporcic and Steve Kadas played key roles. Special thanks to our devoted co-host Ondrea Hummel and Denise Smith of the NM Riparian Council.

Many thanks to our financial sponsors, the NM Association of Conservation Districts, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Their support was vital and very much appreciated.

Seeking Input for Next Workshop

The chapter annually hosts a technical conference. Our goal is to provide a cutting-edge event that addresses the needs of our members and New Mexico resource issues. Please provide us with your ideas and comments. Some themes being considered are: urban irrigation and water management, watershed planning, energy and biomass issues. Do you have other ideas? Call or e-mail in your ideas to Steve Kadas (505) 761-4422 or Steve.Kadas@nm.usda.gov.

Soil & Water Conservation Society

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May 18, 2006 - Socorro

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

A \$1,000 College Scholarship will be offered to a NMSU students this year. Pete Steward, Scholarship Chair, is overseeing the scholarship activities with Jean Foster and Mike Sporcic assisting.

A Summer Business Meeting will be held July 10 at 11:30 (location TBA), in Ruidoso NM, in conjunction with the NM Association of Conservation Districts meeting.

The National Annual Meeting Delegate is Corinne Brooks, President. Also attending will be Jean Foster, Secretary, Steve Kadas, President-Elect, Ken Leiting and Margaret Gigante. The meeting will be in Keystone, CO, July 22-26.

Water saving tips for your lawn

- ☑ Water your lawn and plants only when they need it and water deep.
- ☑ Water during late-night or early morning hours to reduce evaporation.
- ☑ Do not water on windy days.
- ☑ Maintain the system to ensure proper working order.
- ☑ Fertilize your lawn in the spring instead of summer.
- ☑ Do not allow weeds to grow in your lawn because they rob your lawn of water.
- ☑ Mix mulch in the soil. Mulch helps retain moisture and reduces the need for frequent watering.
- ☑ Aerate your lawn at least twice a year to reduce runoff and to encourage a healthy deep rooted lawn.
- ☑ Use an automatic timer to program each water zone for only the amount of water needed.



DON'T MISS THIS!

**Rocky Mountain Rendezvous II
SWCS 61st Annual Conference**

July 22-26, 2006

**Networking opportunities, technical
workshops, CEUs, student activities,
summertime in the Rockies**

Make your plans to attend this event today.

www.swcs.org

