

2008 Soil and Water Conservation Society Award Winners National Capital Chapter



William “Bill” Boyer Outstanding Service Award

Bill Boyer has led the National Capital Chapter (NCC) to provide soil and water conservation education to professionals in a variety of scientific fields as well as high school and college students interested in science. His connection to the Washington Academy of Sciences has led to SWCS sponsorship of presentations at the Academy’s annual seminars and involved chapter leaders with the annual science fairs for high school students.

Bill provides leadership to the chapter to maintain a strong, collaborative working relationship with the National Capital Society of American Foresters. Professional development and continuing education are key elements of this collaborative relationship. The National Capital Chapter (NCC) is a unique chapter comprised of 87 conservation professionals in the Washington DC area that have national responsibilities and work or volunteer with NRCS, EPA, ARS, the National Agricultural Library, the Forest Service, agricultural producer organizations, and environmental organizations. Leadership in the Chapter has high visibility and significant influence.

He has served as president-elect, president, and immediate past-president on the NCC council and he has maintained a leadership role as the chapter secretary for the last four years. The Society recognizes Bill’s efforts with the 2008 Outstanding Service Award.

Melvin Womack Commendation Award

Throughout Melvin’s SWCS membership, starting in 1979, he has been a very active recruiter and proponent of continuing education through SWCS activities. He was the National Capital Chapter (NCC) president in 2003 and he provided key leadership during that tenure. Melvin was elected as NCC councilperson in 2005. He continues to be a very active membership recruiter and has a phenomenal success rate for renewing memberships in SWCS. Melvin has initiated and chaired three educational Chapter tours, one per year. The tours addressed water quality (excursion on a classroom boat), wetlands, and green (environmentally protective) urban development and building construction. Melvin has served as a chapter officer with the Indiana, Virginia, New York, and National Capital Chapters, including terms as president of the New York and National Capital Chapters. Melvin also served on a number of national committees including Annual Conference Committees, the Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control Review Panel, the SWCS Executive Director Search Committee, and the Professional Development Committee.