



SWCS–NCC Meeting Notes
August 29, 2008
USDA South Building – Room 6165-S

Participants: Ross Braun, Mike Manella, Astor Boozer, Bill Boyer, Melvin Womack and Suzy Friedman on teleconference.

Smithsonian Soils Exhibit, Grand Opening:

NCC provided refreshments to 25 volunteers and others at the exhibit opening July 19, 10:00-4:00. Ross volunteers every Friday afternoon and really enjoys this unique experience. They can accept more docents. Tom Fedewa also volunteers as a docent for the Soil exhibition.

Fall Tour: Melvin and Bill have selected the date and set up a tour of Rock Creek National Park and the U.S. National Arboretum. The picnic area and pavilion at Peirce Mill have been reserved for lunch. The flyer is drafted and will go out next week. We have to finalize lunch arrangements and transportation issues. National Capital Chapter members of the Society of American Foresters have a conflict and cannot participate. Janae Hammett will receive reservations and checks. We will also invite Maryland and Virginia chapters.

Annual Conference, Tucson: Six hundred and twenty Society members attended and the silent auction, which several of us contributed to, was a big success. Mike Manella was impressed with the diversity and balance in speakers and workshops. Melvin received the Commendation Award and Bill received the Outstanding Service Award. Ross attended an excellent pre-conference workshop on “Multi-Party Environmental Negotiations.”

Renewable Fuels Standard Seminar: The date of the panel discussion is Thursday, September 25 (12:30-2:00). Moderator and panelists are confirmed. At least one speaker will use a PowerPoint presentation. Michele and Bill will meet Tuesday to finalize flyer and distribute. Suzy offered for the Environmental Defense Foundation to pay lunch for speakers who can join us at USDA prior to the event.

2008 Norman A. Berg Conservation Legacy Award: The award will be presented to Larry Clark and Tom Simpson at the beginning of the RFS seminar. Suzy will contact Tom Simpson and Astor will contact Larry Clark.

Berg Fellows Program: The proposal is coming along. We should keep the discussion local until the new Executive Director is in place. Ross suggested that we have a complete proposal ready to go as soon as the new Executive Director is hired.

Chapter officers 2009: Suzy cannot be president next year, but would like to serve as a council member. Bill will not run for secretary due to the additional workload now that he is on the SWCS Board of Directors. He is interested in continuing to serve on the NCC council as a council member. Suzy, Ross, and Bill will propose a slate of officers for 2009, at the September 17 meeting.

Next Meeting: September 17, at the Environmental Defense Fund office, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 600 (11:45 am to 12:45 pm).

TO DO Items:

Send out Seminar announcement for Renewable Fuels Standard; (Michele & Bill)

Send out Fall Tour announcement; (Melvin & Bill)

Continue to flesh out the Berg Leadership and Policy Forum proposal; (Doug McKalip, Tom Hebert, Bill Boyer)

Propose a slate of NCC officers for 2009. (Ross, Suzy & Bill)

Contact Larry Clark about award presentation. (Astor)

Contact Tom Simpson about award presentation. (Suzy)