

# SWCS COLORADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2006



## President's Message

By Ron Follett



The date is rapidly approaching for our major Chapter Activity for 2006 of hosting the 2006 International SWCS Annual Conference at Keystone Resort, Colorado; July 22-26. It is very exciting to hear from people from all parts of the US that they are looking forward to returning to Colorado for the Annual SWCS conference. Fundraising is progressing, but additional funds are needed. Also don't forget that if you can contribute items to the silent auction it will be a great help. On behalf of the Colorado Chapter, I especially want to express appreciation to the Wyoming Chapter for hosting an excellent Northern Plains Regional meeting in Cody, WY. The Cody meeting allowed us to interact with our colleagues and to encourage their support and invite them to come to Keystone in July.

At this point I would like to refer the readers to the website: <http://quest.cvent.com/i.aspx?6X,M3,570997fe-c35b-4cf0-a56b-62309e119386>, which though not complete shows agenda items that may be of interest. I encourage you to visit the website and, because of limits for numbers of participants, to consider some the **Sunday workshops** as part of this year's National Meeting experience, possibly the:

- Nitrogen Management using NLEAP (Workshop).
- RUSLE2 (Workshop).
- NRCS Field Office Business and Technical Tools (Workshop).
- Concepts of watershed hydrology (Workshop).
- Targeting riparian buffer placement & design (Workshop).
- Environmental Management Systems (Workshop).
- Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) (Workshop).
- Communicate your ideas visually (Workshop).

Try to attend the **Monday Plenary** session, wherein notable speakers will be introduced to open the conference and include:

- Governor Mike Rounds from South Dakota representing the Western Governors Assn.
- The Honorable Gregory J. Hobbs, Colorado Supreme Court Justice.

As a Chapter we have a lot coming up and hopefully a great experience for all.

Ron Follett

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 2 | Meet Tony Arnhold, President-Elect<br>NP Chapters Meet                           |
| 3 | Rocky Mountain Rendezvous II Update<br>Website Change<br>Upcoming Chapter Events |
| 4 | News from SWCS Headquarters  |
| 5 | Chapter Leadership Information   |
| 6 | 2006 Keystone Sponsor List   |

# SWCS COLORADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2006



## MEET TONY ARNHOLD, YOUR PRESIDENT-ELECT



I have been active with the Colorado Chapter for almost 14 years. Currently I am Co-chair of the Hospitality Committee for the 2006 Keystone Meeting. This past summer I was fortunate to attend and assist the Empire State Chapter with the 2005 National Meeting in Rochester, NY. I have served as the East Slope Director and as Membership Chairman for 4 years. I have presented Poster Papers at three SWCS National Meetings. Over the past 5 years I have participated in 4 of the last 5 Northern Plains Leadership Meetings.

I am currently employed as the District Conservationist in the Walsenburg NRCS Field Office for the past year and a half. I have a lovely wife, Lorri and 2 beautiful children; Tonya 16 and Todd 12. I have 4-H Woodworking Leader for the past 10 + years and run a small Registered Cattle herd.

The past five years the local Chapter has grown through the different programs and seminars it has sponsored. The Seminars included the following topics: Salinity and Selenium, Noxious Weed Mgt., Water Quality and CBM, AFO CAFO and "Carbon Sequestration and Carbon Credits." Partnerships have been established with different Agencies and Organizations that have helped to bring Colorado and the rest of the Northern Plains important issues that relate to the future of our Region.

I am proud to have the opportunity to serve as your Colorado Chapter President Elect for 2006. My focus for 2007 will be on Current Natural Resource Concerns or items of interest for Colorado. So, let me know your ideas or concerns. I will continue to work hard to continue strengthening the Chapter Membership.

## Northern Plains Chapters Gather at Wyoming



Approximately 45 chapter members from across the Northern Plains met recently in Cody, Wyoming for training in natural resource management and leadership issues.

The Wyoming Chapter hosted a terrific meeting, starting out by coordinating a technical tour of the North Fork of the Yellowstone River that included grizzly bear management, elk habitat and human

encroachment, and fencing alternatives. For the Colorado delegation that attended, the tour provided an excellent glimpse at conservation issues that are becoming common problems wherever people and the environment meet. It is clear conservationist share similar issues and workshops such as these provide great opportunities to exchange ideas and strategies that work.

Other training topics included successful watershed planning efforts presented by Doug Miyamoto from the Wyoming Chapter, a 2007 Farm Bill discussion led by Adolfo Perez, and Mike Collins and Mike Swanson reviewed effective presentation materials.

Colorado members representing the chapter were: Ron Follet, Barb Gohlke, Beth Fortman, MaryMiller, and KristiGay.



# SWCS COLORADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2006



\*\*\*\*\*

**A Note from the Newsletter Editor:** As you may or may not know, the Colorado Chapter of the SWCS will be hosting the Annual Conference in Keystone in July 2006. There will be a lot of activity by members devoted to this activity, so there will be a dedicated section in each newsletter leading up to this event for information related to the conference.

\*\*\*\*\*

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN RENDEZVOUS II

### 2006 SWCS International Conference is Fast Approaching

The 2006 Soil and Water Conservation Society International Conference that our Chapter is hosting is just around the corner. The Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) members have been working very hard to help put on a premiere technical and scientific conference.

The Chapter Executive Council and LAC thank those of you who have provided sponsorship money to help offset costs we will incur. There is still time for those of you who may still want to contribute to get your donation into Barb Gohlke, our Chapter's Secretary-Treasurer. Sponsors who send their donation to Barb prior to the end of May will get their name in the final conference program.

For those attending, remember to make your room reservation by June 15 to get the group discounted rate. Things are filling up quickly. Remember to use the group code CBOCSNW.

Early registration also ends June 15. After this date, the registration cost and costs for individual workshops, tours, and other events goes up.

The LAC has finalized the volunteer list and assignments for the conference. We needed to cut back on the number of volunteers by having people work on more than one technical committee, so if you have not been contacted by a committee chair or Kristi Gay or Mary Miller, you were not selected for a volunteer position. We do appreciate everyone who was willing to work. We just had more people volunteer than was necessary.

The LAC is proud of the premiere technical and scientific conference that we have put together with Ankeny. We hope to see many Colorado Chapter members there!



The 2006 Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference Online Registration and Preliminary Program Now Available on website. Use the following link and check out all of the scheduled events and educational workshops planned for this year's annual conference.

[http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs\\_international\\_conferences/2006\\_international\\_conference/](http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/2006_international_conference/)

Keep checking the website as information is updated daily.

## WEBSITE UPDATE

We have changed web hosts!! We are now using the National Chapter's hosting service, so our web address is now <http://colorado.swcs.org>. We are still in the process of updating our information, so please be patient.

## UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS FOR COLORADO CHAPTER

Keystone Committee Chairs Meeting, May 25, 10-Noon @ Keystone  
Board Teleconference, June 29<sup>th</sup> or July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006

\*\*\*\*\*



## NEWS FROM ANKENY

### **Planning for Extremes: Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Soil and Water Conservation**

The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) is undertaking a joint U.S.-Canada project that will follow up on the findings of its 2003 report "Climate Change: Soil Erosion and Runoff from Cropland." The project will focus on the Great Lakes as a model region of concern to evaluate options for incorporating effects of extreme weather events into conservation planning and pollution prevention efforts. A set of white papers and a bilateral workshop will highlight differences in planning approaches that address observed and projected trends of extreme weather events versus current planning for long-term average conditions. SWCS will develop specific recommendations for changes in policy, planning, and practice based on the white papers and workshop deliberations.

The 2003 SWCS report concluded that upward trends in total precipitation, coupled with more extreme precipitation events are currently compromising conservation efforts, and that these trends will increase (see complete report at [http://www.swcs.org/en/publications/advocacy\\_publications/2001/](http://www.swcs.org/en/publications/advocacy_publications/2001/)). Observed heavy rainfall frequency has already increased erosion, and predicted increased frequency of heavy rain events could increase soil erosion 95 percent, and increase runoff 100 percent. Current conservation planning, based largely on long-term average climate, fails to protect resources and environmental quality during severe storms when most damage occurs. Conservation planning technology, used in the U.S. and adapted for Canada, very likely underestimates the risk of erosion and polluted runoff because long-term average climate data mask the effect of severe storms.

The Great Lakes Region was selected as the model region because: (1) observed and predicted changes in precipitation patterns are significant in the region, (2) economic and environmental implications in the region are large, and (3) a number of studies have been completed to-date that provide a solid foundation for making recommendations to ensure conservation plans and practices provide adequate protection for the Great Lakes and related soil and water resources as we move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The Planning for Extremes project will utilize an expert panel, commissioned papers, workshop, and final report to:

- 1) Clarify and quantify the risks to soil and water resources posed by increased precipitation intensity, along with identifying additional information needed to support planning
- 2) Investigate the benefit of adapting our current tools and approaches to conservation planning and environmental risk management on cropland to a riskier climate regime, and
- 3) Develop an action plan to improve conservation planning policy, processes, guidance, and outreach; enhance conservation planning and risk assessment tools; and, stimulate research to fill knowledge gaps.

A small group of researchers and policy experts in resource management from the U.S. and Canada has been serving as an advisory committee. A separate Canadian component of this project is being managed by SWCS Canada and its Ontario Chapter.

Preliminary work on the project is underway, and the workshop and final report are slated for 2006. The Joyce Foundation, and The Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation are providing major financial support to the project. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has provided financial support for project planning.

# SWCS COLORADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2006



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 06/06/2006 - 06/08/2006 [Hazardous Materials/Waste Managers Training Course](#)  
Location: Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado.
- 06/19/2006 - 06/23/2006 [Activated Sludge Process Control Short Course](#)  
Location: Estes Park, Colorado
- 06/26/2006 - 06/28/2006 [Southern Conservation Systems Conference](#)  
Location: Amarillo, Texas
- 06/26/2006 - 06/28/2006 [2006 AWRA Summer Specialty Conference](#)  
Location: Missoula, Montana

## The Latest

The 2006 Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Conference Online Registration and Preliminary Program Now Available on website. Use the following link and check out all of the scheduled events and educational workshops planned for this year's annual conference.

[http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs\\_international\\_conferences/2006\\_international\\_conference/](http://www.swcs.org/en/swcs_international_conferences/2006_international_conference/)

Keep checking the website as information is updated daily.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Colorado Chapter Leaders

#### Officers

Ron Follet, President  
(970)224-5321  
[ronald.follett@ars.usda.gov](mailto:ronald.follett@ars.usda.gov)

Tony Arnhold, President-Elect  
Work: 719-738-1171  
Home: 719-846-4907  
[Anthony.arnhold@co.usda.gov](mailto:Anthony.arnhold@co.usda.gov)

Amy Sidener, Past President  
(970)724-9714  
[aaws0604@yahoo.com](mailto:aaws0604@yahoo.com)

Barbara Gohlke, Secretary-Treasurer  
303-688-3042  
[Barbara.gohlke@co.usda.gov](mailto:Barbara.gohlke@co.usda.gov)

Jorge Delgado, At-Large Director  
Telephone: (970)492-7260  
[jdelgado@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:jdelgado@lamar.colostate.edu)

Jessica Davis, East Slope Director  
(970)204-4502  
[jgdavis@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:jgdavis@lamar.colostate.edu)

John Scott, West Slope Director  
(970)642-4462  
[John.Scott@co.usda.gov](mailto:John.Scott@co.usda.gov)

#### Committee Chairs

Beth Fortman, Awards  
(719) 543-8386 ext. 3  
[elizabeth.fortman@co.usda.gov](mailto:elizabeth.fortman@co.usda.gov)

Mary Miller, Membership  
(970)384-5408  
[mary.miller@co.usda.gov](mailto:mary.miller@co.usda.gov)

Charlie Pannebaker, Science Fair  
(719) 384-5408  
[charles.pannebaker@co.usda.gov](mailto:charles.pannebaker@co.usda.gov)

Wendell Hassell, Webmaster  
(303) 422-2440  
[wghassell@msn.com](mailto:wghassell@msn.com)

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Amy Sidener  
(970)724-9714  
[aaws0604@yahoo.com](mailto:aaws0604@yahoo.com)



# SWCS COLORADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

May 2006



## KEYSTONE 2006 SPONSOR LIST

### Mt Elbert Club (\$5000 AND ABOVE)

Agricultural Research Service

### Mt Evans Club (\$3000-\$4999)

Pawnee Buttes Seed

### Longs Peak Club (\$1000-\$2999)

Beth & Charles Fortman

Colorado Farm Bureau

Environmental Defense

Olney Boone SCD

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Western Governors Association

Wyoming Chapter SWCS

Yvonne Haefner

### Pikes Peak Club (Up to \$999)

Central Colorado Conservation District

Colorado Association Of Conservation Districts

David & Mary Miller

East Otero Conservation District

El Paso County Conservation District

Farm Credit Of Southern Colorado

Gunnison Conservation District

Jorge & Ida Delgado

Kiowa Conservation District

Kristi Gay

Mike & Barbara Gohlke

Montana Chapter SWCS

Nebraska Chapter SWCS

Northeast Nebraska SWCS

Precision Polymer Corporation

Ronald & Dorothy Follett

Russell Stover Candy

South Dakota Chapter SWCS

South Platte Conservation District

South Pueblo County Conservation District

Teller-Park Conservation District

Turkey Creek Conservation District

Upper Huerfano Conservation District

Yuma County Conservation District