I have proudly served as the Northeast Region Director on the SWCS board for the last five years, recently as its co-chair, and as liaison to its Science and Policy Committee. I became a devout reader of the esteemed Journal we published back in the 1980s, and for nearly that long I relied on active membership to keep myself in the loop on policy, research, and evolving practices in real-world settings. I will remain an engaged member of the global community we have long helped to cultivate. Giving back time and passion to guide the world’s oldest conservation professional society towards its next stage of development and impact has been extremely rewarding.

Please reach out to me for tips or deeper mentoring as you explore ways that SWCS can help you develop your career and expand your influence on issues related to modern land stewardship in an era of changing climate impacts. As awareness blossoms that conservation can perform cost-effectively for carbon sequestration, pest and drought resistance, and water quality management, SWCS will continue its work to build relationships for collaboration, share research through written and interactive formats, and be part of influencing federal policy on agriculture, grazing, and even urban green infrastructure.

I am delighted by plans for celebrating the 75th anniversary of this venerable organization, kicking off with the annual conference this July in Des Moines, Iowa. Equally exciting are the upcoming special topic conferences that are attracting an increasingly diverse set of attendees of many disciplines, regions, roles, and ages. Now more than ever, SWCS members have much to offer as we solve today’s problems for climate adaptation and resilience. Our work in soil health and climate resilient watershed management brings thinkers and doers together — come join us!

Sincerely,

Wendi Goldsmith, PhD
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