

ALL OHIO CHAPTER NEWS

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2005

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4

2005 ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Angel Mauder



As a brand new member to the All Ohio Chapter of SWCS, I had the pleasure of attending this year's AOC-SWCS Annual Summer Meeting in Galloway, Ohio. Located in Batelle Darby Creek Metro Park, Cedar Ridge Lodge and its breathtaking surroundings provided the perfect atmosphere for a gathering of true natural resource enthusiasts and conservationists! A beautiful setting, great food, and friends new and old made it a truly exceptional day!

After a friendly welcome from President Elect, Sean Browning, Mac Albin, Freshwater Ecologist with Franklin County Metro Parks, took the floor. Mr. Albin shared the history of the Darby Creek Watershed in a

slide show that awakened the kid in any of us that have ever spent many fun filled hours exploring the local creeks and ditches, overturning logs and rocks in search of wildlife and other fascinating critters! Steven Studenmund, Strategic Planner with the Franklin County Metro Parks followed, sharing a vision of the Darby Creek Metro Park through a newly developed 20 year strategic plan.

Wrapping up before lunch was Dave Brand, P.E., P.S., Madison County Engineer's Office and Dan Dudley, Manager of Standards and Technical Support, Division of Surface Water, Ohio EPA. These two gentlemen discussed the important topic of alternative approaches to maintaining drainage while keeping water quality a top concern; an issue that all of us natural resource professionals face regularly in our varied disciplines. After a fabulous lunch catered by Cameron Mitchell restaurants, and brief Chapter business and introductions, Mr. Brand and Mr. Dudley led the group on a bus tour stopping at a Madison county maintained ditch and also at a

transitional ditch that is attempting to revert back to a natural watercourse.

September 16, 2005 was a great day! Not just great in the way that ditching work or school for a field trip is great, but rather in finding an interesting group of individuals that are passionate about the same things as you. Great in a way where people introduce themselves, and ask you things like where you grew up. Great in a way when you realize that you've found a new sense of belonging in a group that will nurture you both personally and professionally. My hat is off to all of those that helped to organize this annual meeting making it a huge success! I look forward to meeting other SWCS members in the future, and also to next year's meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

- **OFSWCD Annual Winter Meeting:** January 17-18, 2006 in Columbus, Ohio
- **AOC-SWCS Annual Winter Meeting and Conservation Employees Partnership Meeting:** March 1-2, 2006 at The Worthington Holiday Inn, Worthington, Ohio
- **SWCS International Conference:** July 30 - Aug 3, 2006, Keystone, Colorado

It's a Boy!

Congratulations Kim and Sean Browning on the birth of their son, Walker Thompson Browning!

ALL OHIO CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Dennis DeWeese
Contact Information:
740-368-5979
dennis.deweese@oh.usda.gov

PAST PRESIDENT

Mark Wilson

PRESIDENT

ELECT

Sean Browning

SECRETARY

Steve Hall

TREASURER

Robert McCall

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Douglas Gifford
Duane Wood

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR

Chris Coulon

MEETINGS

Executive Council meetings will be held at the Delaware County USDA Service Center

LISTSERVE

To post a message to the AOC-SWCS ListServe, send the message to aoc-swcs@lists.acs.ohio-state.edu

VISIT US ON THE WEB!

[Http://www.ohiochapterswcs.org](http://www.ohiochapterswcs.org)

ALL OHIO CHAPTER NEWS

is published quarterly for AOC SWCS members. Submissions can be made to Chris Coulon at chris.coulon@oh.usda.gov.

2005 SUMMER MEETING PHOTO GALLERY



President Elect Sean Browning



Tom Perrin, NRCS, registering. Angel Mauder, NRCS (far) and Kim Browning, NRCS (near) have registration under control.



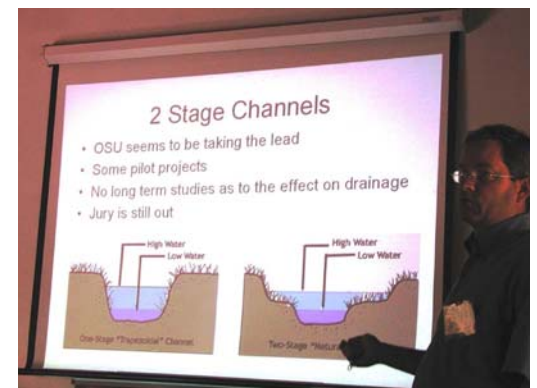
SWCS Members gathered at the Lodge



Mac Albin, Franklin County Metroparks, Freshwater Ecologist



Dan Dudley, Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water, Manager of Standards and Technical Support



Dave Brand, Madison County Engineer Office



Steven Studenmund, Franklin County Metroparks Strategic Planner



CHAPTER AND SOCIETAL AWARDS

Each year SWCS presents awards for individuals making a notable contribution to SWCS and conservation. There are several award categories including:

I. Awards Available to Society Members:

- **Fellow**—Recognizes exceptional professional achievement coupled with service to the Society.
- **Outstanding Service**—Recognizes distinguished service to the Society over a long and sustained period (10 years minimum)
- **Commendation**—Recognizes members for service to their chapters.

II. Awards Available to Society Members and Nonmembers:

- **Hugh Hammond Bennett**—Recognizes extraordinary national and international accomplishments in the conservation of soil, water, and related natural resources.
- **Honor**—Recognizes people for outstanding accomplishments compatible with Society objectives.
- **Merit**—Recognizes noteworthy conservation activity or products of organizations, agencies, or firms.

A full list of societal award criteria, nomination procedures, and selection processes are listed at the SWCS web page <http://swcs.sitevz.com/en/awards/>

Those interested in nominating a member for a Chapter award should contact Norm Fausey, Chair of the Nominating Committee at 614-292-9806 or fausey.1@osu.edu.



SWCS ELECTIONS

By now you should have received your ballot to elect the 2006-07 officers and members of the AOC Executive Council. Please take time to vote! Ballots must be returned by November 30, 2005 to John Clark. This year's candidates are:

- President-elect: Michelle Lohstroh and Andy Ward
- Secretary: Rich Gehring and Rick Shamblien
- Treasurer: Rob Hamilton and Jim Hoorman
- Member-at-Large: Kim Browning and Jerry Iles

Thanks to each candidate for stepping forward to do their part for the AOC. Again, please take time to vote!

BROWNING AWARDED SCHOLARSHIP

Kim Browning, a Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist, was awarded the Donald A. Williams Soil Conservation Scholarship at the 2005 SWCS International Meeting held in Rochester, New York.



Craig Cox, Executive Director of SWCS presents Kim Browning with the Williams Scholarship.

The Williams Scholarship is for SWCS members who are employed but wish to further their professional development in the field of conservation. Only one Williams Scholarship is awarded per year.

Ms. Browning used her scholarship to participate in the Ohio LEAD program (Leadership Education and Development). This outstanding two-year program is offered by The Ohio State University to enhance agricultural leadership.



(L-R) Dennis DeWeese, AOC President (NRCS), Norm Widman, NRCS, Kim Browning, NRCS, and Sean Browning, AOC President-Elect (NRCS) at the SWCS Annual meeting in Rochester NY, in July 2005.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The All Ohio Chapter, again this year, sponsored a \$1000 scholarship for a college student pursuing a degree in the environmental field. The committee sent out the scholarship announcement to over 70 Ohio college and universities, including 2 year technical and vocational institutions.

The committee received many applications from students across Ohio. Each applicant was evaluated in four areas: academics, leadership, career, and financial need. This year, Ms. Charlena Yoder was selected to receive the chapter's scholarship.

Ms. Yoder is a student at the Cincinnati State Technical and Community College (CSTC) where she is majoring in Environmental Engineering Technology. At the end of the spring 2005 semester, she had achieved a 4.0 grade point average and was on the Dean's list

for academic achievement. She also serves as the Environmental Club President at CSTC.

Although Ms. Yoder has not decided where exactly she plans to work in the environmental community, she is very passionate about natural resource protection. She says, "people ask me what I want to do with my life after school, and I always reply, Save the World! I want to focus my future towards conservation, restoration and education."

The scholarship committee would like to thank every chapter member who contributes to the scholarship fund. The committee is extremely gratified to see that after reviewing the applications of the scholarship applicants, the future of environmental protection is in good hands.

TREASURER'S UPDATE

by Robert McCall

November 2005 Budget:

- Operating Account current balance - \$6,912.87
- Expenses to date - \$4086.30
- Income to date - \$5423.78
- In-the-red balance - \$1337.48

2005 Summer Meeting: With 50 registrants the 2005 AOC Summer Meeting, after expenses, approximately \$345 was added to our account. Donations of \$90 to the operating account, \$120 to the scholarship fund, and \$75 to the Envirothon Fund totaled \$285. Donors include: Dave Brooks, Dennis DeWeese, Tom Edwards, Mac Albin, Jon Gerken, Steve Hall, Robert McCall, Byron Nolte, Julia Troy, Tommy Zimmerman, Cliff Simpson, Sean Browning, Dan Garver and Tim Gerber. Apologies for anyone left off of the list. If you see these members, please thank them for their generosity!



SOIL
AND WATER
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY

PRESORTED STANDARD

US POSTAGE PAID

COLUMBUS, OH

PERMIT NO 127