



Dear Fellow Society Members,

One of my duties as President of the Bennett Chapter is to appoint a nominations committee and a election committee comprised of three members each. I should have done this by Sept. 1 but obviously did not. However, I now have the committees in place and they are as follows:

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

John Andrews, Chairman  
Alan Walker  
Rodney Johnson

**ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

Sam Warren, Chairman  
Dan McClure  
Greg Hughes

The nominations committee will begin work immediately and all members will be contacted when nominations are complete. If you would like to make a nomination, first contact the nominee and make sure he or she will serve, then contact John Andrews via email. His address is (jandrews26@triad.rr.com) Terms begin in June of each year and new officers are sworn in at the annual meeting.

Present officers who serve as the executive committee are:

Wilson Spencer President, Charlie Bass President Elect, Steve Woodruff immediate past president, Darryl Harrington Secretary a Gail Hughes treasurer

The other officers are regional counsel members and are:

Dan Rosenberg- Smokey Mt. Region (A), Talmadge Wiggins-Northwestern Region (B), Dan McClure- River Lakes Region (C), John Andrews- Piedmont Sandhills Region (D), Josh Spencer-Capital Region (E), Lynn Whitehurst-Nor'easter Region (F), Eric West-Southern Coastal Region (G), and Nathan Lowder-Bennett Region (H)

Council members are elected for two years and terms are staggered. Thus, nominations will be accepted for regions B, D, F, H in addition to the President Elect. The secretary and treasurer are appointed by the president.

Our bylaws are a little fuzzy (at least to me). We will address this in Jan. at our next council meeting.

Wilson Spencer, President HHB Chapter

## Society Awards Applications Needed

Hello, fellow Hugh Hammond Bennett SWCS Members. It is time again to recognize the outstanding leadership and work done for the environment through our Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society Awards Program. The awards are listed below with a short description. Please, overwhelm me with responses for each category. I need the applications mailed to me by **October 31, 2009**. Mail to: Teresa Hice, 4001 Carya Drive, Suite D, Raleigh, NC 27610.

**Superior Service** recognizes sustained, outstanding service to the Chapter (members only)

**Professional Achievement in Soil Conservation** recognizes specific contributions to the Chapter's soil conservation program (member/non-member eligible)

**Professional Achievement in Water Quality** recognizes specific contributions to the Chapter's water quality program (member/non-member eligible)

**Conservation Steward (Outstanding Layman)** recognizes special efforts toward the Chapter's goals by one not regularly employed in a resource related field (member/non-member eligible)

**Conservation Communicator** recognizes group or individual for outstanding effort or achievement toward goals of the Chapter (member/non-member eligible)

**Unit of Government** recognizes a unit of government for outstanding achievement in, or contribution to, a resource related program (any deserving unit of government is eligible)

**Conservation Business (Industrial)** recognizes a private business or industry for excellence in industry resource management (any deserving business eligible)

**Merit** recognizes an individual or group that has made outstanding achievement in areas that support the objectives of the Chapter (any deserving group, individual, or organization eligible)

**Natural Resource Enhancement** recognizes a group or individual who had made significant contributions to natural resource enhancement (member/non-member/or group eligible)

**Call me at (919) 250-1061 with any questions.**

**Teresa Hice**

**Awards Chairman**

**H.H. Bennett Chapter SWCS**



President 2009-2010

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The following quote is from: H. H. Bennett and W. R. Chapline. *Soil Erosion A National Menace*. U.S. Department of Agriculture Circular No. 33., Washington, DC, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1928. This quote is from the section of report written by Bennett.

There are national associations for the preservation of wild flowers and for the preservation and propagation of wild life but none for the preservation of the soil. Conservation of this most fundamental and important of all resources is seldom seriously considered by any one not directly or indirectly associated with the ownership or management of a farm, and it is too infrequently considered even by the farmers themselves. *Page 19.*

## REPORT FROM THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL MEETING

From July 11<sup>th</sup> thru 15<sup>th</sup>, I had the privilege to attend the 64<sup>th</sup> International Annual Conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. On Monday morning Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture talked about his beginnings as a mayor in Iowa and how he was introduced to local conservation districts. He commented on the positive involvement he shared in his early career with districts and their commitment and ability to access private farms and individuals. He carried those positive outcomes with him to the office of governor in 1998. He also addressed the crowd on his vision of USDA and the administrations' perspectives of him and the job.

Also while in attendance, I attended several break-out sessions on EQIP and funding native grass-land plantings; land use and impacts of corn grains and cellulosic ethanol; using cover crops to enhance soil quality in no-till cropping systems, just to name a few. A very interesting afternoon was spent listening to a presentation on connecting with absentee landowners. I thought the material fit my county and I could use the information immediately in my home district. I also spent a very fast paced afternoon at Greenfield Village, a public attraction, where we viewed Henry Ford's private collection of farm equipment, mills, weaving equipment and cars.

I would like to thank the members for the opportunity to represent the Hugh Hammond Bennett chapter in Detroit and I look forward to my tenure as vice-president and serving its members.

Charlie Bass, President Elect, Franklin Co. SWCD