



## Virginia Chapter News Fall 2005

### Upcoming events

**Oct. 5** - Deadline for awards nominations to Kilby Majette

**Oct. 26-27** - Annual meeting and technical workshop on Innovative Agricultural Practices, Frontier Museum, Staunton.

**Dec. 4-7** - Virginia Assoc. of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, contact VASWCD at (804) 559-0324 for more information.

### It's a boy!

Congratulations to SWCS secretary Jackie Byars on the birth of her son!

Kudos also to Theo Dillaha, who was recently appointed as Southeastern Regional Director for the International SWCS.

### Officers:

Stu Wilson, President  
Phil McClellan, Pres. elect  
John Myers, Vice-President  
Jackie Byars, Secretary  
Larry Wilkinson, Treasurer  
Council members:  
Jim Cox, 2nd year  
Brian Benham, 1st year  
Dawn Shank, Past-Pres/  
newsletter editor

**Virginia Chapter website:**  
[www.bse.vt.edu/swcs](http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs)

## Innovative Agriculture is focus of Annual meeting workshop

The Virginia Chapter's Annual meeting and awards luncheon will be held during lunch during a two-day workshop on Innovative Agricultural Practices. The workshop is Oct. 26 and 27 at the Frontier Museum in Staunton. The first day of the workshop will feature presentations on markets for animal manure and poultry litter, dairy feed management, the National Animal ID program, precision farming, seed treatment and rooftop runoff collection. Awards and swearing in on the new officers will take place at lunch.

Tours and demonstrations of precision agriculture, Greenseeker technology, portable scales for silage and hay, hay sampling and animal ID make up the program for Oct. 27. Thanks to John Myers and his committee for the excellent job arranging for speakers and facility for the workshop.

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## And the winner is . . .

Do you know about an outstanding conservation project, group or individual that needs to be recognized? Nominate them for one of the Virginia Chapter's awards. Contact Kilby Majette (804) 932-4376, [kilby.majette@va.usda.gov](mailto:kilby.majette@va.usda.gov) about the nominating process or visit the website for nomination forms.

Merit awards are given for outstanding conservation efforts, activities or products by a group, business, corporation or organization. Honor awards recognize voluntary efforts. The June Sekoll Award recognizes outstanding communications. The Conservationist of the Year award is presented to an individual or group advancing the science and art of good land and water use. Innovative design and construction projects can be nominated for the Ecological Excellence Awards. Commendation and Outstanding Service Awards recognize chapter members for contributions to the organization.

We will recognize the winners at the Annual Meeting and workshop in Staunton on Oct. 26 during lunch. Give your colleagues some attention for the great job they're doing and nominate them. The nomination deadline is Oct. 5.

## Spring workshop is a big success

About 70 people attended the spring technical workshop on groundwater and surface water issues. Speakers from state, federal and local agencies talked about current research on the connections between ground and surface water, water age-dating, groundwater protection and impacts in karst areas. The meeting was held at Dorey Park in Henrico County and was co-sponsored by the Henricopolis SWCD.



The focus of the 2005 Spring Technical meeting was surface and groundwater issues. Presentations from the workshop are posted on the Chapter's website at [www.bse.vt.edu/swcs](http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs).

## It's election time again.

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We're not only electing a new governor, but new officers for the society chapter. Theo Dillaha, chair of the nominating committee presented the following slate of officers to the executive board on Sept. 8. They include: Phil McClellan for president; John Myers for president-elect; Jim Cox for vice-president; Jackie Byars for secretary; Larry Wilkinson for treasurer; Brian Benham for second year council member; and Dennis Jones, Becky Ross and Gary Moore for first-year council member. Nominations for the 2006 nominating committee include: Theo Dillaha, Gene Yagow, Alica Ketchem, and Brian Smith. Electronic ballots will be emailed and those who do not have email should have received a ballot mailed with this newsletter. The new officers will be sworn in at the Annual Meeting in Staunton on Oct. 26. Thanks to Stu Wilson for the excellent job he has done as current president and to the other officers, board and committee members and the nominating committee for the time they have given to the organization.

### *Annual meeting/Innovative Ag workshop, continued.*

The cost of the workshop is \$45 for society members, \$55 for nonmembers and \$35 for students. The fee includes refreshments and a box lunch on Oct. 26. A single day fee is \$30. Attendance at the workshop fills two hours of continuing education credits for Nutrient Management certification for each day's attendance. Visit the Virginia Chapter SWCS website for directions, a more detailed meeting agenda, hotel information or to register. Or fill out the registration form below and send to John Myer by Oct. 17. For more information, contact John Myers at (804) 287-1668, email [john.myers@va.usda.gov](mailto:john.myers@va.usda.gov): or visit our website at [www.bse.vt.edu/swcs](http://www.bse.vt.edu/swcs).

### **Send check made to Virginia Chapter, SWCS and registration form by Oct. 17 to:**

John Myers, 1510 Featherstone Dr., Midlothian, VA 23113

### **Annual Meeting/Innovative Agricultural Practices workshop registration form:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in continuing education/certification credits (2 credits for nutrient management have been approved for this workshop for each day)? \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed registration fee \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have a vegetarian lunch option? \_\_\_\_\_

If you are registering for one day, which day? \_\_\_\_ Oct. 26 \_\_\_\_ Oct. 27

### **SWCS Virginia Chapter news**

c/o Dawn Shank

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*Invite a friend at work to join!*