



MICHIGAN CHAPTER CALENDER YEAR 2009 PRESIDENTIAL REPORT
Presented at the Chapter Annual Meeting on December 16, 2009
Mount Pleasant, Michigan

Note: Our current President, Aaron Lauster, is unable to be here tonight. He sends his apologies and wishes he could be here to give his final report. He is currently serving on a detail in Washington, DC working on the Mississippi River Basin Initiative as the Acting Coordinator.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Student Chapter Involvement Committee has been re-invigorated and the current committee has started work on a mentoring program. The committee is currently working towards strengthening our current student chapter and creating new chapters at various universities throughout the state.
- Hosted the 2009 SWCS International Annual Conference in Dearborn, MI. This year's event was attended by over 500 people. It was a huge success and I would like to say a big thank-you to Sarah, Kelly and Rebekah for all their hard work on the conference!

AWARDS:

- Award Nominations were submitted to the Awards Committee. The winners of the two awards given by SWCS are:
 - Commendation: Max Benne, Windy Knoll Farm
 - News/Media: Dr. Kirk Heinze, MSU

The awards will formally be presented at the ANR Week Workshop, in March, 2010.

MEMBERSHIP:

- Gaylynn Kinter is the Chapter Membership Chair. I would like to say thank-you to Gaylynn for all her hard work on the MI SWCS Membership. Currently, the MI chapter has 93 members, which is an increase of 20 members over last year. We had great success this year in recruiting new members.

OUTREACH:

- Thanks to Gaylynn Kinter's dedication, we were able to complete 2 Highway Clean-ups. One in the Spring and one in the Fall. Thank-you to all of our volunteers who helped Gaylynn!
- 3 issues of the MI Chapter Newsletter were distributed this year along with being posted on the website.

- A Big Thank-You goes out to Dan Kesselring for his hard work on designing and maintaining our chapter website! If you have not looked at the website yet, please visit: www.miswcs.org.
- The MI chapter also developed a group on the NING network. Thanks to Kelly Goward for forming that group. If you have not signed up for the NING network, please do so at: <http://swcsnetwork.ning.com/> and connect yourself to the Michigan Chapter.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- The Professional Development Committee planned and carried out a 6 hour technical session during the Michigan State University Ag and Natural Resources Week on March 2009. Titled *A Matter of Balance: Policy/Economics/Climate Change/Public Demand*. This year was the largest attendance at our ANR week seminar, with 47 total participants: 21 members, 22 nonmembers, and 4 students attended.
- East North Central (ENC) Regional meeting was held in Ohio at Malabar Farm in March 2009. The program focus was on Cover Crops and was cooperative between SWCS and the Ohio State University Extension. The 2010 ENC regional meeting will be held in West Virginia in March 2010. Please look forward to more information on it coming soon!

Submitted by Rebekah DeWind, President Elect, on behalf of Aaron Lauster, President