

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Steffek

I would like each of you to take action on a couple of very important issues facing the California Chapter SWCS. The only way for these items to be addressed is through your participation. The first issue relates to the reauthorization of the Farm Bill in 2007. California's agriculture industry is diverse and very unique with specialty crops that are a major source of tasty, nutritious and safe food for the rest of the United States and the world. I feel that as a professional organization of conservationists, we are obligated to develop a Farm Bill Statement to send to the US Secretary of Agriculture that is specific to California. I am requesting each of you to send comments to me on the categories listed below. Your comments will be reviewed by a Farm Bill Committee and drafted into our Statement paper. Please send your comments to me at mark.steffek@ca.usda.gov by November 30, 2006. I would like to have the Farm Bill Statement sent to the Secretary by December 15th. Following are the categories awaiting your comments:

- I. Conservation Programs
- II. Research that will continue to make California agriculture more competitive in the world economy.
- III. Rural Development, including the Resource Conservation & Development program
- IV. Specialty Crops
- V. Invasive species
- VI. Forest Management/Fuels Reduction
- VII. Energy, including biofuels
- VIII. Others (nutrition programs, farm credit)



Photo by Paul Laustsen

I am looking forward to receiving your comments. You may also send them to me at the following address:

**Mark Steffek, President
CA SWCS
806 West 12th Street
Alturas, CA 96101**

Second. There is a vacancy on the CA Chapter SWCS Executive Council. Councilmember, Kristen Hughes, Sustainable Conservation, has accepted a new position with Chesapeake Bay Foundation in Maryland. Her SWCS Councilmember position will be open in December. According to our Bylaws, the Executive Council will seek candidates and select a replacement to fulfill the term until the next scheduled election for that position.

In addition, our regular Council Directors election will be held this winter. Please consider giving more by providing leadership to the CA SWCS by serving on the Executive Council. If you are interested and would like to be considered in completing Kristen's term or being a nominee as a Council Director, please let me or Hank Wyman (hank-wyman@carcd.org), Nominations Committee Chair, know of your intentions.

Lastly, have a happy holiday season!

NOTICE: CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA CHAPTERS EXPLORING MERGER

By Walt Bunter

Interest in merging the Nevada Chapter SWCS into the California Chapter SWCS was intensified at the California Chapter planning meeting held in Santa Rosa on November 3.

The Nevada Chapter has 14 members and rarely meet or elect officers. A letter signed by Acting Nevada Chapter President Cub Wolfe and CA Chapter President Mark Steffek will be sent to Nevada Chapter members this month asking their views on pursuing a merger. They now receive the RUNOFF newsletter and invitations to our conferences.

Via this newsletter, California Chapter members are being notified of the potential merger and are invited to express positive or negative views. Please send your comments by December 28.

Send your letter to CA Chapter SWCS Secretary Pat Grover, 430 G St #4172, Davis CA 95616-4172; or FAX it to her at 530-792-5794 or email it to her at:

pat.grover@ca.usda.gov

If there is a favorable consensus by members of both Chapters, SWCS headquarters will be notified by letter and work initiated to amend the by-laws. The California Chapter Executive Council also met in Santa Rosa and expressed hope that any merger be accomplished at the next Business Meeting in April 2007.

It was suggested the Chapter name would be changed to "California-Nevada Chapter SWCS" and all the California Chapter officers would retain their positions until their next election. Another suggestion was to increase the number of Executive Council Director positions from five to six and designate that at least one be filled by a member living in Nevada.

President Mark Steffek welcomes your comments.



by Walt Bunter

We extend a GREAT BIG WELCOME to the following five members who recently joined or rejoined the SWCS and our California Chapter or transferred in from another state chapter.

Chapter membership on October 1 was **170**.

Lisa Anich - Concord

Corinne Brooks - Salinas

Livy Coe - Colusa

Paul Robins - Woodland

Ann M. Rossi - Riverside

NEW NV CHAPTER MEMBERS

We also extend a GREAT BIG WELCOME to the following two members who recently joined or rejoined the SWCS and the Nevada Chapter or transferred in from another state chapter.

NV Chapter membership on October 1 was **13**.

Angela Gayle Evenden - Reno

Steven R. Perkins - Fallon

SWCS Life Memberships

by Walt Bunter

Life Memberships are available. In order to qualify for a Life Membership with the Soil and Water Conservation Society, an individual would have to be at least 50 years of age AND have been a member in good standing with the Society for 10 consecutive years.

The benefits of a Life Membership are the same as the Conservationist level membership only the Life Membership requires a one-time fee versus the annual renewal. If you are interested in an application form, or know someone who is, please email

memberservices@swcs.org and one will be provided.



**Long Time Chapter Historian
Fred Collison Dies**

by Walt Bunter

Frederic Earl Collison passed away on October 27th in Sacramento. Fred was a long time Chapter member and our official historian until two years ago. He was a retired USDA Soil Conservation Service veteran of 30 years. His long career with SCS took him and his family throughout California. He was the Area Conservationist for the Fresno Area when he retired. Fred was a world traveler and an avid coin collector. A memorial service was held on November 11 at Eskaton Village Carmichael in Carmichael, CA.



**CHAPTER NOW OFFERS ONE SCHOLARSHIP
WORTH \$1000**

by Walt Bunter

The Scholarship Committee has mailed announcements with application forms to colleges and universities in California that the Chapter is offering one \$1,000 scholarship this year. Applications are due by January 15 and a selection will be approved and announced in March before the SWCS Annual Conference, and in time for the 2007/2008 school year.

The Chapter's goal is to encourage undergraduate students interested in soil and water conservation to obtain technical expertise and to pursue careers in soil and water resources. Application forms are also available on our Chapter website at: www.caswcs.org

Applicants must (1) have successfully completed two years of study at an accredited college or university, (2) be enrolled in an undergraduate curriculum related to soil and water resources, and (3) have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.

Chapter Executive Council Director Tina Vander Hoek, Soil Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service at Templeton, chairs the Scholarship Committee. Kay Joy Barge, RC&D Coordinator with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service at Auburn, Katie Banister in Bradley and Student Chapter Representative Richelle Leggett in San Luis Obispo also serve on the committee.

**2007 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
LOOKS TO SACRAMENTO**

by Walt Bunter

President Elect David Rose announced at the California Chapter planning meeting held in Santa Rosa on November 3 that the 2007 Spring Conference committee is searching for a suitable site in Sacramento.

The conference dates will be in late April or early May depending on the hotel availability. Part of the conference will include topics on the sustainability of bio-fuels production.

David is looking for more committee members.

Send your note to: PO Box 606, Orland, CA 95960-0606 or email him at: david.rose@ca.usda.gov

CALIFORNIA HAS 188 CPESC SPECIALISTS

According to the national website for Certified Professionals in Erosion and Sediment Control, Inc., 179 individuals in California have been certified and nine more are in training. Many are members of our California Chapter. Interest in becoming certified continues to grow. CPESC, Inc. has also created a specialty certification for Storm Water Quality Management, or CPSWQ. You can read the bylaws, apply to become certified, obtain the Code of Ethics, and the certification standards and procedures at: www.cpesc.org

Eric Berntsen from Sacramento is the representative for the Pacific Southwest Region, covering California, Arizona and Nevada. California Area Representatives are Mike Alberson, Curtis Bates, Richard Casale, Mike Simmons, and Archie Wright.

CPESC Name	City	Business Phone
Michael R. Alberson	Escondido	(760) 753-1865
Sarkis S. Aslan	Indio	(760) 347-7658, ext. 116
Jonthan H. Bailey, P.E.	Concord	(925) 688-1001, ext. 1004
Gail I. Bakker	Grass Valley	(530) 478-6192
Matt Baldzikowski	Los Altos	(650) 691-1200
John Michael Balobek	Santa Monica	(951) 817-3628
Richard H. Balzer	Fresno	(559) 243-3417
Curtis M. Bates	Windsor	(707) 778-4311
Jay W. Becker	Carlsbad	(760) 725-9727
Trinda L. Bedrossian	Sacramento	(916) 327-6977

Daniel M. Berger	Richmond	(510) 236-6114, ext. 207	James S. Gorter	San Luis Obispo	(805) 543-3304, ext. 20
Eric K. Berntsen	Sacramento	(916) 341-5911	Dale A. Gropp	Arroyo Grande	(805) 928-9269, ext. 109
Thomas N. Bistline	Dana Point	(949) 496-6747	Jennifer L. Guigliano	San Diego	(619) 233-1454
Phillip R. Blake	Napa	(707) 252-4189	Danny K. Hagans	Arcata	(707) 839-5130
Astrid C. Bock-Foster	Napa	(707) 252-4188, ext. 113	Sarah Marie Haggard *	Bakersfield	(661) 246-7227
Thomas A. Bonigut	San Clemente	(949) 472-3410	Brent G. Hallock	San Luis Obispo	(805) 756-2436
John W. Bramhall	Red Bluff	(530) 527-9403	Keith A. Hamblin	Shasta	(530) 244-0506
Janice B. Bray	Carmel	(831) 333-2606	William T. Hanes	Vacaville	(707) 455-7642
Michael J. Broadwater	Placencia	(951) 788-6028	Douglas Hanford	Sonoma	(707) 996-6633
Chris J. Brown *	Fair Oaks	(916) 367-9549	Michael V. Harding	San Diego	(619) 222-9862
Lorie Bruce *	Valencia	(661) 260-2850, ext. 734	Clifford N. Harvey	McArthur	
Steven M. Butler	Felton	(831) 335-0249	Ward A. Hastings	Santa Cruz	(831) 476-5886
Joel Butterworth	Sacramento	(916) 539-0013	Richard F. Hathaway, III.	Hat Creek	(530) 335-4197
Peter H. Cafferata	Sacramento	(916) 653-9455	James Hawkins	Arcata	(707) 442-1735
Debra S. Carey	Lafayette	(925) 866-9000	Michaelynde M. Heilmann	Sacramento	(916) 286-0305
Richard J. Casale	Aptos	(831) 475-1967	Ray E. Hensley	Santa Clarita	(661) 250-2057
Barry D. Cavanna	Pleasant Hill	(925) 628-8187			
George K. Chan	San Marino	(626) 358-8008			
Michael Chase	Bakersfield	(661) 343-3679	CPESC Name	City	Business Phone
Denny M. Churchill	Quincy	(530) 283-1271	Nabil Henry Hissen	Walnut Creek	(925) 827-4900
Amy Kathleen Comte *	Colton	(909) 783-0101, ext. 5490	Martyn Hoffmann	Laguna Beach	(949) 499-4794
Todd R. Creamer	Scotts Valley	(831) 438-4420	James P. Hogan, Jr.	Sacramento	(530) 662-2037, ext. 111
Maureen Daggett	Orangevale	(916) 972-7947	David G. Hope	Windsor	(707) 576-2830
John R. David	Soquel	(831) 476-5999	Tommy I-Ming Hsu	Cypress	(949) 458-5432
Sidney W. Davis	Georgetown	(530) 333-1405	Scott R. Huntsman	Walnut Creek	(510) 267-1970, ext. 217
Kaila Adriane Dettman	Atascadero	(805) 544-9096, ext. 15	Taura A. Huxley	Fallbrook	
Paul C. Deutsch	Fresno	(559) 264-2535	Andy Iturriria	Bakersfield	(661) 747-5956
Robert J. Ditto	El Dorado Hills	(916) 933-0633	Jason N. Jackson	Escondido	(760) 745-2061
Brian J. Doeing	San Diego	(858) 712-8318, ext. 8318	Nathan Joseph Jacobsen	San Diego	(619) 297-1530, ext. 207
Steven L. Dondalski	Highland	(909) 955-2020	Teresa M. Jakeway	Fontana	(909) 419-6175
Dan H. Duncan	Lancaster	(661) 948-5824	Marc J. Jameson	Fort Bragg	(707) 964-5674
Lisa A. Ekers	Santa Cruz	(650) 599-1453	Michael E. Jani	Santa Cruz	(831) 457-5026
Hector Alejandro Esquer *	Coronado	(619) 750-3323	Mike Jensen	Occidental	(707) 874-0100
Michael M. Evasovic	Huntington Beach	(562) 592-4610	Gary E. Jones	Tustin	(714) 514-7725
Jeremy Michael Fantaroni *	San Diego	(858) 337-5644	Robert J. Kelley	Eureka	(707) 442-1735
Clarence U. Finch	Fresno	(559) 222-3841	Mike A. Kennada	Santa Clarita	(661) 310-4525
Russell Foster	Mather	(916) 343-6582	Armen S. Keochekian	Encinitas	(760) 479-4232
David Franklin	Petaluma	(916) 849-2028	Paul Kephart	Carmel Valley	(831) 659-3820
Raymond C. Freeman	Berkeley	(510) 528-0375	Randolph D. Klein	Arcata	(707) 826-7606
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John A. Gilchrist	Santa Cruz	(831) 429-4355	David Z. Korfas	Rocklin	(510) 215-0264
Crisand K. Giles	Los Angeles	(310) 446-1210	Michael H. Kuehn	Camino	(530) 644-7609
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John Charles Gleason	Irvine	(949) 453-1766	Anna Y. Lantini	Irvine	(949) 472-3461
Ronald Guenther Gonzales	Santa Cruz	(831) 426-5313	Laura Rene Larsen	Tustin	(949) 472-3479
			Wayne F. Leach	Petaluma	(707) 795-4764

Kwok W. Leong	Alameda	(415) 781-8880	Novin Rashedi	Palos Verdes	(310) 265-1738
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William D. Lincoln	Hidden Valley	(707) 987-3390	Brent A. Roath	Santa Cruz	(707) 562-8941
Carol Mandel	Lake Ukiah	(707) 468-9223	Hamid S. Rokni	Benicia	(530) 759-8929
Chris A. Marr	Galt	(209) 745-4877	Diana C. Ruiz	Davis	(909) 238-8338
Mel Mathews	Laguna Niguel	(949) 453-1748	Marvin H. Sachse	Riverside	(310) 305-8637
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James L. McEntire	Redding	(530) 245-4590	Jerry P. Schneider	Sacramento	(323) 225-2748
Kansas McGahan	Truckee	(530) 581-6217	Thomas E. Schott	Los Angeles	(951) 684-3722, ext. 105
James G. McKenna	Aptos	(831) 684-0400		Palm Springs	
Dustin M. Miller	Shasta Lake	(530) 245-4590	CPESC Name	City	Business Phone
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Matthew C. Moore	San Diego	(619) 683-6175	Stefan L. Schuster	Truckee	(530) 581-2605
Michael G. Morris	Napa	(707) 944-9400, ext. 155	Joel R. Schwartz	Aptos	(831) 688-6540
Thomas Jay Murphy	Camarillo	(805) 445-4404	Donald Edward Scoles	San Diego	(619) 666-4034
Gary K. Nagaoka	Watsonville	(408) 265-2600, ext. 2568	Daniel Stewart Secrist	Redlands	(909) 783-0101
Carolyn O. Napper	San Dimas	(909) 599-1267, ext. 229	Roy J. Shlemon	Newport Beach	(949) 675-2696
Steven G. Nawrath	San Dimas	(909) 599-1267, ext. 229	Richard J. Sidor	Colton	(909) 783-0101
Sally Negroni	Sacramento	(916) 274-5836	Michael S. Simmons	Camarillo	(805) 444-5040
Jane Nelson	Vacaville	(707) 678-1655, ext. 3	Steven W. Singer	Santa Cruz	(831) 427-3297
Richard Nichols	Valencia	(310) 948-3239	Elizabeth L. Smiley	Somerset	(916) 381-3400
Brett D. Nichols	Point Richmond	(510) 236-6810, ext. 482	David Smiley	Sacramento	(916) 381-9900
Alfred T. Nitta	Sacramento	(916) 875-2792	Scott O'Brian Smith	Irvine	(760) 435-5074
Douglas E. Nix	Loomis	(916) 652-7459	Karri A. Smith	Nevada City	(530) 478-1519
Mark Edward Norman	San Mateo	(650) 573-8733	H. Duane Smith	Scotts Valley	(831) 426-5313, ext. 207
Edward F. Othmer, Jr.	Mariposa	(209) 564-0615	Stephen G. Smith	Ben Lomond	(707) 468-9223, ext. 112
Louise D. Owens	Poway	(619) 294-9400	Thomas E. Spittler	Santa Rosa	(707) 576-2949
Mark S. Parson	Potter Valley	(707) 468-8223	David A. Steiner	Napa	(707) 252-4188
Gaylord P. Patten	Davis	(530) 792-5660	Gene E. Steuben	Gold River	(916) 217-1938
Robert Terry Patterson	Pomona	(909) 869-2209	Michael Sweeney	El Dorado Hills	(916) 933-0633
Robert A. Pearce	Irvine	(949) 307-5436	Ronald D. Taskey	San Luis Obispo	(805) 756-1160
Arthur R. Pearson	Bishop	(760) 872-6111	Michael F. Taylor	Oroville	(530) 534-6500
Eduardo Pech *	Cambria	(805) 927-3327	Michael I Tien *	Sacramento	(916) 927-2400
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Jeff Peters	Orangevale	(916) 435-1202	Ralph Linn Wagner	Santa Cruz	(831) 423-5452
Roger J. Poff	Pt. Richmond	(501) 236-6114, ext. 206	Kris J. Weber	Lake Arrowhead	(909) 337-7231
Anne Victoria Power	Nevada City	(530) 273-1709	Adam Richard Weister	Irvine	(949) 583-1010, ext. 430
Carol Presley	San Luis Obispo	(805) 739-2600, ext. 274	Mark S. White	Beaumont	
Clinton R. Pridmore	Aptos	(408) 265-2607, ext. 2691	John R. Williams	Auburn	(530) 885-3046, ext. 117
Gil C. Pridmore	Napa	(707) 224-0682	David T. Williams	Lincoln	(916) 825-1317
Darryl C. Pridmore	Napa	(707) 224-0682	George Wingate	San Diego	(858) 514-1045
John Reuben Rainwater	Napa	(707) 226-5572	Eric R. Woodhouse	Susanville	(530) 310-1424
Samuel M. Randolph	Cloverdale	(707) 547-1972	Archie C. Wright	Valencia	(661) 295-1970
Wendy J Rash *	Merced	(209) 383-3296	Steven J. Zembsch	Sacramento	(916) 874-8396
	Winters	(530) 662-2037, ext. 113		Aromas	(831) 726-1499

* An asterisk, if present, denotes a CPESC In-Training.

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FIRST CLASS

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

FALL 2006

RUNOFF is the official California Chapter SWCS newsletter.

Publisher:
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All articles by Walt Bunter, except where noted. Please submit articles via email to the Editor. RUNOFF reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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Bruce Williams, Director
Kristen Hughes, Director
Richelle Leggett, Student Representative

RUNOFF IN COLOR VIA EMAIL

If you would like to receive the RUNOFF newsletter in color via email, please send a message to Walt Bunter <wbunter@pacbell.net>

Over thirty members have signed-up.

Our Chapter can conserve resources, both natural and financial, by delivering RUNOFF electronically.

PLEASE SEND ARTICLES AND PICTURES
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE TO BY
JANUARY 19, 2007