

# CDEA News

The Monthly Newsletter of the NYS Conservation Districts Employees Association



January 2008

## NACDE—Who??

Currently I am your representative to the Northeast Association of the Conservation District Employees and I attended my first meeting in late November. I am not sure that many of you know too much about this organization, hopefully this will fill you in.

Since this was my first meeting, I wanted to observe and understand what this association was all about and what the challenges may be. The stated goal of this group from the website <http://ne.ncdea.org> is: "The Northeast Association of Conservation District Employees is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the development, strengthening and promotion of Conservation Districts within the Northeast Region of the United States."

First off, it was a welcoming group and one that paid NYS many compliments, especially in regards to the training that we put on. Training (or lack thereof) is a major concern in the region. Phil Griswold, Marry Currier (NH) and I have been selected for a committee to try and plan training for October of 2008. The NACDEA board would like to host a regional training that would get support from the member states and they would like to model it after the WQS. As you know it is all about location, location, location.

In case you didn't know the NACDEA uses HydroCad training opportunities for fundraising. It is not the intention of NACDEA to have District employees be trained on this, but rather private engineers. This is the major fund raising event for NACDEA and is being held in 4 states this year.

I can see that membership is an issue and that the rest of the states in the region need to be brought into this group. The states that were not in attendance were ME, CT, MA, RI, PA, WV, MD and the District of Columbia (NY, NH, VT, NJ and DE were there). There was discussion about several states that seem to not want to be active in this group, at this time however I am not sure what has been done to try and bring them together.

Hopefully this gives you a snippet of what NACDE is. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at [jim99@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jim99@nycap.rr.com) and I will do my best to answer or befuddle you with levels of unique and worthless knowledge.

## Brain Basher faxed answers only (518.623.3519)

*This months question:*

The year 1978 has an unusual property. When you add the 19 to the 78, the total is the same as the middle two digits (97). What will be the next year to have this same property?

*Last month's question: Identify the following folks. Provide me with what they are thinking for bonus points.*

*Well, from top to bottom—Jeff TenEyck, Jim Hotaling and Blanche Delaney. Doris Cady did answer first and correctly, but Bear from Delaware was correct and added the thoughts for bonus points...*

## Needs Assessment Survey

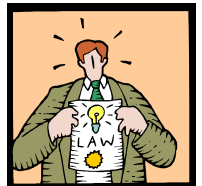
Awesome! That pretty much sums up a needs assessment doesn't it? Well hopefully you will be a bit more receptive than that. The CDEA is looking to put out an assessment to evaluate what is needed for Districts in regards to training opportunities. We have our two state wide trainings (WQS and Conservation Skills) and numerous other regionally led trainings, but are we receiving everything that we need?

Shortly you will be receiving an email that will direct you to a website that you can fill out information on-line. Please fill out the information and put down any comments that you may have. This is very important as it will help to guide training for us in the coming years.

## Legislative Days

Mark your calendars for February 4 and 5th this year for Legislative Days in Albany. As it always is, your support is vital to secure and solidify funding for programs. This is an opportunity to educate lawmakers on many conservation issues that are out there and what good work that Districts do. There are four main items this year: (1) Support of the EPF Funding (District Line Item, bumping the available District funds from 3 million to 10 million dollars), (2) Working with the NYSDEC to see how we may assist them in the delivery of the stormwater program, (3) Working on Dam Inspection legislation, (4) Addressing the statewide engineering issue that has become so prevalent in the last year.

Legislative appointments are already being made to ensure that our voices are heard. Registration forms will be coming out immediately, hopefully we will have a good mix of Directors and staff as representation. If you have any questions regarding the issues or Legislative Day arrangements, please contact Gregg Bell or Brad Rogers.



## Extra, Extra

- The 2008 WQS Registration packet just came out. Contact Jeff Carmichael or Steve Lorraine if you did not receive it. The WQS is being held in Auburn from March 11-14th.
- Interesting tag line from Otsego County SWCD's newsletter, "Beer Going Green". It caught my attention. It is nice to see that a business that I, ahem, support is being proactive.
- If you never met Olin Simms, it is your loss. Olin was president of NACD and a very nice guy. He passed away in early December due to a ranching accident. I met Olin when he and his wife came to the NYACD Annual Meeting in the Thousand Islands. They were quite taken with NY and we had some nice conversations about conservation and our respective states. This is a loss to all of us.



## A Growing County in NYS - Jefferson

Jefferson County is located approximately 60 miles north of Syracuse; neighboring counties include: St. Lawrence, Lewis, and Oswego. To the north, we access Canada by utilizing the 1000 Islands International Bridge. Jefferson County encompasses 1,293 square miles. Lake Ontario borders Jefferson County to the west and St. Lawrence River to the north. With 256 miles of shoreline and 1,800 miles of rivers and streams, recreation abounds. In fact, three NYS parks in the 1000 Islands region are accessible ONLY by boat. There are also many homes and a few remaining farms that are located on islands in Jefferson County.

The recent population increase in Jefferson County is primarily due to the expansion of the US Army 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division at Fort Drum. The military expansion has resulted in tremendous development throughout the region. This has been very helpful to the local economy and has created an economic boom locally. The county is primarily rural, with major land uses in open spaces, agriculture, and forests. In 2006, Jefferson County had 970 farms, 30,400 cows, and produced 607 million pounds of milk annually. Despite the urban and commercial growth, agriculture remains the primary industry in the county. There are 30 CAFO farms, of which most participate with the District for nutrient management planning or technical assistance through Ag Nonpoint source grants. The NYS AEM program is also growing well with over 270 farms currently participating. The District has a very active Water Quality Coordinating Committee and manages funds through the Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLOWPA) for well testing, stream sampling, and failing septic system remediation.

Jefferson County SWCD is as diverse as the county we serve. The District manages 5,500 acres of county forest property and also work closely with other agencies and townships, to coordinate multi-modal recreational trails throughout the county. The District coordinates with the local fire Districts and emergency management department to repair and install dry hydrants as needed.

When visiting, you will find something to do in every season. Jefferson County has something for everyone, including: boating, white water rafting, and sporting events, including semi-pro football and baseball teams. Tourists visit historic Boldt and Singer Castles; enjoy boat tours of the Thousand Islands and sightseeing at Madison Barracks in Sackets Harbor. Visitors also enjoy the specialized shops and local wineries. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy skiing, hiking, and snowmobiling, ATVing, fishing, and hunting throughout the area. Many recreational enthusiasts come to Jefferson County to recreate on the Tug Hill Plateau, known for abundant snowfall.

The Jefferson county SWCD employs 9 full-time employees with an additional 1-2 during the summer field season. The District is known for its delivery of excellent service and programming to the agricultural community and municipalities alike.

### Other interesting items:

The Car Freshner factory that produces the "little tree" air fresheners is located in Watertown, the central location of Jefferson County. The first Five & Dime store, Woolworth's, started in Watertown. Cream cheese was developed in Philadelphia, NY, north of Watertown. Thousand Islands dressing was named after the region in Jefferson County and popularized due to its use at Boldt Castle on the St. Lawrence River.

The founder of Arbor Day lived in Adams, south of Watertown.

## **C**omments, Suggestions, Articles?

If you have any of these, please send them to: [jim99@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jim99@nycap.rr.com)

Unless otherwise noted, all articles are written by Jim Lieberum, Warren County SWCD

## Employee Profile

Dean Moore  
District Technician  
Warren SWCD

I have known Dean since we were at SUNY Morrisville together in 1990. Dean knows one speed and that is fast. I have often described him as a masked shrew on uppers, if you met him at the Skills Workshop, you know what I mean. If not, read on and prepare to meet him at the 2008 WQS.

Dean was born in Buffalo, NY in November of 1970. He grew up in Tonawanda and his mother still lives there. The Moore house included two brothers, Don and Dave and one sister, Dianna. Dean's father owned and operated D.L. Moore inc., which is a petroleum marketing, sales and service company. When he was a punk kid, Dean skated, played hockey, camped, fished and ran roughshod around the neighborhood.

To curb his wild ways, his folks sent him to St. Joes which was an all boys Catholic School. Since he didn't have to worry about the evil women distorting his young, delicate mind at school, he could concentrate on his studies and also participate in the theater club, play ice hockey, wrestle, run track and work at the school in the maintenance department.

In 1989 he graduated and went to SUNY Morrisville in the Pre-ESF transfer program. Not happy just to study, he became an RA, became the president of the RA association, was the campus recycling god, worked at the aquaculture center, joined the conservation club and drove the "Thunder chicken" (his firebird). He graduated in 1991 and went off to seek his fortune at ESF in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Biology. At ESF, he was again an RA, started up a hockey club team through Syracuse University and played. I once saw Dean get into a fight with a kid from Ithaca on the ice during a game. The Ithaca kid had Dean by 4 inches and 50 pounds, but homey wasn't taking any of that! He also vandalized a parking garage automatic wooden arm with his car, blowing through the arm and not leaving a note. Cornell Campus security were duly notified and caught up to him during the game. Remember don't mess with the Big Red.

Upon graduation, Dean began working for the Warren County Parks and Recreation Department as a Hudson River Steward. The Hudson River Rec. area is 1,100 acres and open for a variety of recreational uses. His job included environmental education, assisting campers with siting their camps, putting out cook fires that people forgot about, etc. In 1994 he moved over to Up Yonda Farm, which is the county's environmental education center to work on corrupting youngsters minds with tall tales and trivial bits of annoying natural history. Dean stayed true to Parks and Rec, until a job opened up here last fall. It was a time for change and Dean left Up Yo with a heavy heart, but took the chance to work with awesome Jim. He is fitting in very well to the District family, and his credit card has come in handy during the holiday season.

Now during his years of Parks and Rec. he met his future wife, Laura. They had worked together as Hudson River Stewards and in 1995, Laura moved to the area to be with her "sweet hunk-o-man". Seeing that he had a good thing going, he proposed to her, she accepted and in 1998 they were married out in Wyoming County (Laura is from Chili, pronounced Chi-Lie). I met all of Dean's family at the wedding, in fact I even caught the garter, Hot Dog. Dean's sister, Dianna caught the bouquet. Can everyone say awkward? Well, it makes a good story.

Dean is a still extremely active, he is the hockey commissioner for the Lake George Forum league, he is on one of the teams (they always seem to get the benefit of the calls, hmmm), he is on his local school board, he boats, fishes and when I harass him enough, hunts. He and Laura have two rambunctious boys, Tommy, who started in kindergarten this year and A.J., who is a couple years younger and much more serious- I think he may become a lawyer, stockbroker or engineer. They have one dog, a black lab named Czarni (pro: char-knee), and they all reside in Warrensburg.

Dean is a great guy, with lots of energy and not too much free time anymore, so I hear that I am responsible for the ice fishing adventures with he and the boys this winter, so I need to get on it.