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2016 Annual Meeting



Rocky Harrell inducting Gene Sullivan into the 2016 Conservation Hall of Fame



Rocky Harrell inducting Andrew Wargo III into the 2016 Conservation Hall of Fame



Mike Sullivan, NRCS State Conservationist, was chosen as the Outstanding Conservationist—Professional (Presented by Charles Glover, AACD Past President)

AACD Award Winners

Keith Watkins, White County Producer was chosen as the Outstanding Conservationist—Community Leader (Presented by Rocky Harrell)



Outstanding Conservation District

Arkansas County Conservation District



Pictured from the left: Jarrod Holzhauser, James Phillips, Sloan Hampton (Chairman), Sherry Pfaffenberger and Rocky Harrell presenting the award.

Arkansas County was #1 in the state for landowner financial assistance at \$15 million through EQIP, MRBI, CSP and other efforts to provide help to landowners in addressing resource concerns. They keep in touch with their landowners by newsletter, text, email and phone calls to make sure they stay informed of programs, water well registration, SAMS renewal and other emerging issues.

Congratulations for a job well done!

AACDE presented the Dana Cherry Award



Michelle Smith, Clark County Conservation District Employee received the 2016 Dana Cherry Award from Jeanette Hale for her generosity in helping other district employees whenever needed and her support of AACDE.

Must we always teach our children with books? Let them look at the stars and the mountains above. Let them look at the waters and the trees and flowers on Earth. Then they will begin to think, and to think is the beginning of a real education.

David Polis

NRCS presents their Awards at the AACD Awards Luncheon



Mike Sullivan, NRCS State Conservationist presents **Holly Jones, Logan County Conservation District Employee** with the NRCS Partnership Award for an Individual. Holly does an outstanding job and always has a smile for everyone.

Buffalo Conservation District won both the NRCS “Earth Team” Award and the NRCS Chief’s Award.

(Pictured are Charles Glover, NRCS Chief Jason Weller, Ricky Reed, Brent Clark, Rocky Harrell, Sid Lowrance, Steve Whitehead, Mike Sullivan, Woody Ray, Debbie Moreland, Lee McDaniels, NACD President and Martha Manley. The awards were presented at the NACD 2016 Annual Meeting. AACD provided funds to allow Buffalo Conservation District to travel to Reno to receive their award)



Greene County Conservation District received the NRCS Partnership Award from Mike Sullivan for their work with landowners, NRCS and others to finish a successful year.

Congratulations to all of them because it is truly a team effort!

(Pictured are Adam Eades, Derek Boling, Jennifer Graves, David Pigue & Mike Sullivan)

Calendar of Events



March 2016

Friday, March 11, 2016

9:00am

Arkansas Grazing Lands Conference

Arkansas Tech University—Ozark Campus

For more information go to arkansasgrazinglandscoalition.org

April 2016

To be Determined

Monroe Samuel Natural Resources Clinic

Little River Demonstration Forest, Ashdown, AR

For more information contact Minnie Goldman at Minnie.goldman@ar.nacdnet.net

May 2016

Wednesday & Thursday, May 4—5, 2016

9:00am

Wildlife Habitat Restoration on Private Lands Conference

U of A Batesville Livestock & Forestry Research Station, Batesville, AR

More information will be made available on www.aarcd.org

Area Meetings have not been set as yet but information will be forwarded as soon as date and locations are determined.

AACD Annual Meeting Report

AACD hosted 360 district directors, employees and conservation partners for the 2016 Annual Meeting. Some of our featured speakers included Governor Asa Hutchinson, Attorney General Leslie Rutledge, Arkansas Agriculture Department Secretary Wes Ward and many other outstanding speakers.

Delegate packets were provided to the districts and a lengthy Business Session was held to discuss a variety of issues. Some of the Bylaw changes included:

- 1) **Annual Meeting to continue to be held in February (next year's date is Feb. 14—15, 2017)**
- 2) Implementing Agreed Upon Procedures similar to districts
- 3) Changing our fiscal year to January—December (our past fiscal year July—June has cause confusion with the IRS so our accountant recommended that we change)
- 4) Membership and benefits were tabled until more discussion and input are obtained

