

# AACDE Newsletter

## OFFICERS

President  
Ruth Cunningham

Vice President  
Alicia Bishop

Treasurer  
Carolyn Holcomb

Secretary  
Ann Brooks

## REPRESENTATIVES

NE—Sandra Wheeler

SE—Sue Barham

C—Mandy Cates

WC—Sherrie Lech

EC—Chris Alumbaugh

NW—Martha Blackwell

SW—Sandy White



## **Brandy Gardner Receives State Award**

Brandy Gardner of Harrisburg was awarded the 2009 Dana Cherry Award at the Arkansas Association of Conservation District State Meeting held December 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> in Eureka Springs, AR. Brandy is the District Coordinator for the Poinsett County Conservation District.



Presenting the award is Charles Glover, 2nd Vice President on the AACD Executive Board and Ruth Cunningham, AACDE President.

The award is presented to a conservation district employee based on work ethic, positive attitude, helpfulness and personality. Brandy has volunteered as a Youth Conservation Workshop counselor for the past 8 years and currently serves as an Education Coordinator as well as partnering with the Poinsett County Extension office to help with a 4H Day Camp. She has presented Excel Workshops at employee trainings as well as conservation programs at various schools in Poinsett County. Brandy was instrumental in establishing school yard habitats in the Harrisburg and East Poinsett County Schools. She also designs and maintains the Poinsett Conservation District Booth at the annual Poinsett County Fair in Harrisburg and at the Rice Festival in Weiner. Brandy is also active in the Poinsett County 4-H Shooting Sports Club, Young Women of Harrisburg, Mother's Club and the Harrisburg Methodist Church. The Dana Cherry Award was established in honor of Dana Cherry, an Arkansas Conservation District employee, who lost her life and family in the destructive tornado that hit in 2007.

**Mary Lingo recently retired after 35 years of dedicated service from the Pike County Conservation District.**



State Senator Larry Teague and Mary, He presented her a senate citation from him and also a citation from State Representative Randy Stewart.



Buddy Maxey Pike County Director and Mary, He presented her a plaque for her service with the conservation district.



Nedra Turney, AACD Southwest Area President and Mary, She presented an engraved clock from her friends in the Southwest AREA.

Let everyone know about events in your district, please send any information or pictures to be included in the quarterly newsletter to Alicia Bishop.



Crooked Creek District employees, Karla and Mike, stand next to their watershed display exhibit in Eureka Springs at the AACD State Meeting.

Don't forget this is an election year. If you have someone that would like to serve as an officer they must first be elected as a representative in your area. You will be selecting a representative and an alternate at your area meetings. From the seven representatives elected you will vote for the officers at the state meeting this fall.

## 2009 AACD Annual Meeting

The AACD Annual Meeting was held December 8 & 9 at the Inn of the Ozarks in Eureka Springs.



Lavon Hess and Ruth Cunningham working the AACD table.



Officers Carolyn Holcomb, Alicia Bishop, Ann Brooks, and Ruth Cunningham.



### District Employees:

Sherrie Lech, Michelle Smith, Sandi White, Chris Alumbaugh, Brandi Gardner, Ruth Cunningham, Carolyn Holcomb, Minnie Goldman, Alicia Bishop, and Kaye Loyd.



Lester McKinley from Arkansas county received AACDE Director of the Year Award, presented by Ruth Cunningham.

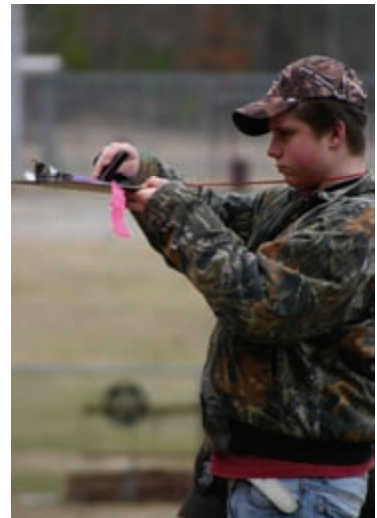


Gail Sparks from Benton County Conservation District was recognized as Outstanding District Employee.



Jeanette Hale won a weekend getaway at The Inn of the Ozarks for being best dressed.

# Area Forestry Competitions



Columbia  
County



Fordyce  
County