

Note: The following is the written report President Robert Dobbs presented to be included in the officers packet given out at the meeting in Houston, Texas. It is a good report of what he has done this year.

**Report to the Board of Directors
Of
NACD**

2005 has been an active and exciting time for the National Conservation District Employees Association and our 7,840 members.

In February 2005 the association re-elected the current officers during our Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia to an additional term of office:

Robert Dobbs [NJ]	President
Cindy Moon [IL]	V. President
Glenda Lewis [SC]	Secretary
Connie Richmeier [KS]	Treasurer
Rich Baden [WA]	Past President

In addition, seven Regional Representatives, selected by their regions, rounded out the Board of Directors:

Tim Riley [DE]	Northeast
Tommy Brooks [NC]	Southeast
Greg Baneck [WI]	North Central
Carolyn Tucker [OK]	South Central
Jeri Trebelcock [WY]	Northern Plains
Peter Vigil [NM]	Southwest
Jason Drew [NV]	Pacific

NCDEA continues to address our primary business items of ***Representation, Professional Development, Leadership and Organization Management***. NCDEA adopted a new Strategic Plan to address these business items during our mid-year Board Meeting held in Philadelphia in June 2005. This was the first time the association has met in the Northeast Region. We were pleased that New Jersey CDEA President Tim Thomas, Krysta Harden, NACD CEO, and John Redding, NACD Vice President, attended our meeting and provided valuable input to our plan.

In 2005, NCDEA appointed numerous District Employees to NACD's Resource and Policy Committees, NRCS Task Forces, NRCS National Employee Development Board, US Forest Service Committees, etc. District Employees continue to bring a unique perspective to policy discussions and the implementation of federal and state conservation initiatives. It's important for us to have program implementers at the table at important national conservation policy forums.

NCDEA sponsored several Professional Development and Training Programs during NACD's 2005 Annual Meeting in Atlanta and at various regional and state conservation meetings throughout out the year. NCDEA also signed a Contribution Agreement with NRCS in 2005 to conduct a national training survey of Conservation District Employees and District Officials. Partnership leaders in each state were invited to complete an on-line survey in June. The survey addressed District Management, Financial Management, Technical, Legislative, Clerical, Personnel, Conservation Education and Marketing Needs. Results of the national training needs survey

were released in a Final Report in July 2005 and widely distributed to national and state conservation partnership leaders.

NCDEA has followed up on the national training needs survey by entering into another agreement with NRCS to develop a National Conservation District Training Strategy. We are currently working with our national partners and professionals in developing the training strategy. The National Conservation District Training Strategy will be released during the spring of 2006.

In 2006, NCDEA will co-sponsor a national conservation leadership conference with NACD, NRCS, NASCA and NARCDC. The leadership conference will be focused on developing and enhancing skills for state conservation partnership leaders. The leadership conference is tentatively scheduled for early fall.

NCDEA continues to grow in its operations, services and influence. In August of this year NCDEA's President was invited to attend a White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation. The President and Vice President have also represented the association at 2 National Conservation Delivery System Meetings sponsored by the National Association of State Conservation Agencies and many national, regional and state conservation conferences and meetings. We are also pleased to announce the formation of another State District Employee Association in Florida this year.

The NCDEA Don Aron Memorial Scholarship Fund is still in its development stage. In 2005, over \$3,000 was added to the fund from the proceeds of a Harley Davidson Motorcycle Raffle. Jeri Trebelcock, a District Employee from Wyoming won the raffle. This year, we will be raffling a Dell Notebook Computer and Kodak Easy Share Digital Zoom Camera Package. Raffle tickets are \$5 each during the NACD Annual Meeting on February 1, 2006. Proceeds from this raffle should put us over the top and enable us to award a scholarship to a district employee, or immediate family member, majoring in conservation or related field later this year.

2006 should be a challenging and exciting year for NCDEA. We look forward to continued growth at the state, regional and national levels.

NCDEA thanks you for your continued support of America's professional conservation district employees and extend to your our best wishes for a productive and successful NACD Annual Meeting. We also congratulate you on 60 outstanding years of service and leadership to the nation's conservation districts.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Dobbs
President
National Conservation District Employees Association

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