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EDITOR'S NOTE: BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE MEMBER LOCATOR TABLE AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER.



NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter for Retired Conservation Service Employees

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The **ARCSE Newsletter** is published bi-monthly by the Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees (ARCSE)

Website: www.arcse.org

From the President

I'm still energized by the positive spirit of the Annual Meeting in St. Louis. We had a strong turnout of retirees, many of whom also attended the SWCS Annual Conference overlooking the famous Arch and the Cardinals Ballpark.

We enjoyed spending time with our intern, **Kendall Deutmeyer**, who began her master's program at Colorado State in Boulder last week. Kendall helped plan the student and early-career engagement activities for the SWCS conference and supported ARCSE's social media and annual conference efforts this summer. During the week, we recorded videos with several ARCSE members and spent time connecting around the exhibit area.

On Tuesday, NRCS retirees were invited to meet new NRCS Chief **Colton Buckley**. Also, that day, ARCSE Secretary **Jack Carlson** made a presentation on the SWAT + Model Service for Water, Nutrient, and Carbon Balance Assessments on Cultivated Land.

On Wednesday, ARCSE hosted its second conference symposium, "Mentoring and More: Leadership, Followership and the Future of Conservation." Special thanks to Cheryl Simmons, Craig Derickson, **Leonard Jordan**, **Claire Hambrick**, **Kendra Young**, **Kristie McKinley**, and **Jill Reinhart** for organizing and contributing to this important event.

One of the conference highlights was ARCSE being asked to organize a general session with former and current SCS/NRCS chiefs for a panel titled "Conservation Through the Generations." NRCS Chiefs **Leonard Jordan**, **Bruce Knight**, **Matt Lohr**, and **Jason Weller** joined us for a lively discussion on the conference's final day. Chief Buckley had planned to participate but became ill that morning. Clare Lindahl, SWCS executive director, served as an excellent moderator, guiding the panel through their NRCS career highlights and advice for today's employees. Key takeaways included:

- People are the backbone of NRCS and conservation. AI cannot replace the local knowledge and field experience found in local offices, but it can help reduce administrative work so staff can spend more time in the field.
- We have a responsibility to make conservation easier to access by reducing red tape and improving technology and resources for both field office staff and farmers.
- Take time to build connections and maintain relationships. Ask difficult questions. Get involved in your local SWCS chapter!
- Your work is valuable, appreciated, and needed.

Hearing from these leaders was a meaningful way to close the conference and celebrate our Nation's 250th anniversary.

Thank you to everyone who attended the conference and ARCSE annual meeting. Next year's meeting will be held at the Gaylord Resort and Conference Center in National Harbor, MD, July 26–29, 2027. We hope to see you there!

–Rebecca Fletcher

ARCSE Mentoring Project 2.0

In July 2022, **NRCS Chief Terry Cosby** addressed ARCSE members at the SWCS annual conference in Denver, Colorado. He outlined the challenges NRCS faces in a post-pandemic environment, including the hiring of hundreds of new employees and the allocation of substantial additional program funds through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Chief Cosby acknowledged that while NRCS had successfully recruited many new employees, they require training and mentoring due to the lack of farm and ranch backgrounds among the majority of these individuals. Chief Cosby extended an invitation to ARCSE to assist NRCS with mentoring and employee development.

ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATION SERVICE EMPLOYEES

Over the ensuing year, NRCS and ARCSE collaborated to establish a foundational Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that unequivocally states the commitment of both organizations to the conservation of our natural resources and their support for training and mentoring as avenues for employee development. Since the inception of the ARCSE Mentoring Project in 2023, ARCSE has actively promoted mentoring and training through various channels, including articles in the newsletter, webinars featuring ARCSE membership, posts on social media, and in-person training sessions at SWCS conferences.

Currently, there has been limited interest among ARCSE members in applying for mentoring positions. After careful consideration, ARCSE leadership recognizes that many retirees are hesitant to sign up to mentor younger workers because they want to move beyond or fully detach from their professional identities. They may perceive their past skills as incompatible with the contemporary tools employed by the agency. Furthermore, retirees may be seeking a life devoid of structured programs or requirements. Additionally, the discomfort associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with the recent forced retirements, terminations, and reorganization, has led many retirees to feel undervalued and unappreciated by the organization.

Despite these challenges, ARCSE leaders continue to receive requests from NRCS and NACD leaders for assistance in training and mentoring new employees. This is particularly pertinent, given the significant staff turnover and attrition experienced by NRCS over the past 18 months. Consequently, ARCSE intends to continue promoting the importance of retiree involvement in training and mentoring, while simultaneously exploring ways to facilitate ways to increase participation.

The primary objective is to transform training and mentoring into a collaborative exchange of knowledge and experiences, rather than a transactional process focused solely on job completion. This approach aims to foster a sense of community and legacy-building among retirees, emphasizing storytelling and shared values rather than specific tasks.

A significant challenge for ARCSE, particularly in achieving its organizational goals such as membership growth and the mentoring project, lies in maintaining contact with individuals after retirement. Retirement disrupts daily social structures, making it challenging to sustain regular interactions with former colleagues and close friends. Friendships often diminish without the inherent routine of a shared workplace. Additionally, individuals may relocate, experience changes in their health, or encounter difficulties in finding shared interests outside of their professional lives.

To address these challenges, ARCSE leaders intend to establish a committee dedicated to comprehensively analyze strategies for attracting new members, retain current membership, and identify the types of activities and engagement that resonate with members. We welcome your valuable ideas and suggestions to ensure that ARCSE remains a relevant and esteemed organization for conservation service retirees.

—**Craig Derickson**, ARCSE Mentoring Project Lead

NOTES FROM THE POTOMAC

Aug 11, 2026

—**Craig Derickson**

Introducing The New Chief and Regional Assistant Chiefs at NRCS

On May 18th, 2026, USDA announced the appointment of **Colton L. Buckley** as Chief of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the nation's primary private lands conservation agency. Buckley, who previously served as Associate Chief of NRCS, brings extensive leadership experience in conservation and agriculture policy to the role.

Buckley serves as the 19th Chief of the NRCS, and oversees the nation's largest private lands conservation agency. NRCS supports American agricultural productivity throughout the United States by helping farmers, ranchers, and private landowners protect and conserve natural resources on private working lands. NRCS employees in the field work side-by-side with producers and partners in every State and territory. Colton is the youngest Chief in NRCS history. Raised on his grandparents' cattle ranch outside Gatesville, Texas, Buckley has deep roots in production agriculture, and advocacy for practical, producer-led conservation solutions. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Services and Development from Tarleton State University and a Master of Arts in Communication from Liberty University. His career includes roles at national and local conservation organizations, rural economic development entities, and service on multiple advisory boards, including the Texas A&M University Board of Regents, and Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (NARC&D).

Chief Buckley was one of the featured keynote speakers at the recent SWCS annual conference in St. Louis with more than 500 attendees. Chief Buckley had the opportunity to interact with four past NRCS Chiefs, including **Matt Lohr, Leonard Jordan, Jason Weller, and Bruce Knight**. It was a rare sight to see the five NRCS Chiefs talking, laughing, and having a good time at the conference.



Colton L. Buckley, Chief of the NRCS

Colton L. Buckley, Chief of the NRCS ARCSE leadership congratulates Chief Buckley on his appointment and is excited to work with him and his leadership team. See more about Chief Buckley at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usda-announces-colton-l-buckley-as-chief-of-the-natural-resources-conservation>.

NRCS Chief Buckley's Key Messages

With his Texas drawl, cowboy boots and hat, handlebar mustache and easy swagger, NRCS **Chief Colton Buckley** introduced himself at the SWCS Conference and outlined his goals. He then followed up with a "meet and greet" with NRCS employees and retirees.

Speaking without notes or slides, he conveyed a sincere message: NRCS exists to serve the people who work the land—the farmers, ranchers and landowners who feed, fuel and steward the nation.

"At the heart of our mission is a simple belief: America's working lands are best cared for by the people who know them best. We're keeping our focus on working lands and the people who manage them."

He then introduced NRCS's new motto: "Keeping Working Lands in Working Hands."

His goals are straightforward:

- Make NRCS easier to work with.
- Reduce red tape.
- Recommit NRCS to its role as the trusted "boots on the ground" conservation partner producers know and rely on.
- Help producers solve problems, improve operations and leave the land better than they found it.
- Deliver conservation where it matters most—in the field.
- Invest in NRCS employees, whose dedication, professionalism and expertise have always been the agency's strength

"Our employees are at their best when they're working directly with producers, solving problems, providing technical expertise and helping implement conservation practices on the ground."

- To give employees more time with customers and less time navigating bureaucracy, Chief Buckley plans to: Continue improving tools. Remove unnecessary barriers. Streamline processes.
- Focus on outcomes—not financial obligations, but healthier soils, cleaner water, stronger agricultural operations, improved wildlife habitat and conservation that makes a difference on the ground.

The chief emphasized that strong partnerships are essential to NRCS's success, but said partners must produce measurable results that benefit producers, local communities and taxpayers. During the conference, the agency was beginning to roll out its reorganization plan, though employees had not yet been briefed. Chief Buckley said the changes "would strengthen field offices and empower those closest to NRCS customers." He closed by thanking employees and partners and reaffirming that NRCS will continue working with landowners to conserve farmland, strengthen working landscapes and help ensure future generations can farm, ranch, and produce.

New Regional Assistant Chiefs

A further element of new leadership at NRCS is the appointment of four Regional Assistant Chiefs. USDA launched the NRCS Office of the Assistant Chiefs in November 2025 to replace the former regional conservationists. Four regional locations were established across the U.S., including Lincoln, Nebraska, for the Central Region, to place Regional Assistant Chiefs and decision-makers closer to local agricultural producers.

Details on the NRCS website for the Office of the Assistant Chiefs include information for the Assistant Chiefs and other staff, including a Senior Advisor and Chief of Staff:

Kelli Evans serves as Senior Advisor for Field Operations for NRCS. Kelli has been an active leader in California agriculture with over 17 years of serving on numerous agricultural boards, including the Almond Board of California and Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau.

Janice Kolvet was appointed Chief of Staff for Field Operations for NRCS in December 2025. In this role, she coordinates and supports NRCS' Assistant Chiefs, Deputy Assistant Chiefs, and State Conservationists and disaster response programs. Previously, she served as the State Executive Director for the USDA Farm Service Agency in Nevada.

Hans D. Hunt, was recently appointed Assistant Chief for the Western Region at the NRCS. Hunt was raised on a cattle ranch in northeast Wyoming and participated in 4-H and FFA activities. He served six terms in the Wyoming State House of Representatives, including roles as House Majority Whip and chair of the House Agriculture Committee.

Kennon A. White was appointed Assistant Chief of the South Region for NRCS by the Trump-Vance Administration on December 1, 2025, where he will collaborate with farmers, ranchers, and private forestry landholders. A Georgia native and Vietnam veteran, White has experience in cow-calf operations, served in the Marine Corps, held public office twice, and contributed extensively to wildlife and habitat protection.

Walt Whitcomb serves as the Assistant Chief for the North for NRCS. Walt is part of a family-owned dairy farm 6 miles inland from the Maine coastline. His daughters operate the 140-cow Jersey and Guernsey milking herd as well as producing hard and soft cheeses and meat products sold by mail order, in addition to regional natural food outlets. Previously he was Northeast Regional Coordinator for the USDA Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) mission area, providing leadership support to USDA staff in 13 states.

Jimmy Emmons serves as Assistant Chief for the Central Region for the NRCS. He and his wife, **Ginger**, own and operate Emmons Farms in Leedey, Oklahoma. They manage 1,500 acres of farmland and 4,000 acres of rangeland, where they raise 300 head of cows and calves, as well as soybeans, corn, grain sorghum, sesame, cereal rye, cowpeas, canola, and winter wheat.

For more on the new Office of the Assistant Chiefs see: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usdas-natural-resources-conservation-service-launches-office-of-the-assistant>.

New NRCS Regional Boundaries for the Assistant Chiefs

While the overarching USDA reorganization relies on five main hubs for its broader workforce relocation of multiple agencies, NRCS has designated Lincoln, NE as a critical stronghold for conservation operations, according to a news release from Nebraska Public Media (NPM). Although Lincoln is not one of the five primary, department-wide USDA regional hubs, it has been officially selected as the dedicated NRCS Central Regional location.

USDA has designated Lincoln as a "critical service center and laboratory," presumably because the National Soil Survey Center, the Kellogg Soils Laboratory, and Soil Mechanics Laboratory are all located in Lincoln with the Nebraska NRCS State Office. This status ensures the existing facilities in Lincoln are protected from downsizing, and it brings regional conservation decision-makers directly into the heart of the agricultural communities they serve. For more see: <https://nebraskapublicmedia.org/es/news/news-articles/lincoln-to-be-home-to-new-regional-conservation-service-office/>.

The Lincoln office acts as one of four specialized national NRCS centers, supervising an 11-state territory stretching from the Canadian to the Mexican border. See the new NRCS regional map below. For more on the new NRCS Office of Assistant Chiefs and regional boundaries see: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usdas-natural-resources-conservation-service-launches-office-of-the-assistant>.



USDA Begins Implementation of Reorganization Plan

The USDA 2025 reorganization plan calls for more than 2,500 employees in Washington DC to relocate to five regional hub locations. For some agencies, more than half of their headquarters staff face mandatory reassignments to new locations. The officially announced USDA hub locations are Kansas City (MO), Raleigh (NC), Indianapolis (IN), Fort Collins (CO), and Salt Lake City (UT).

Employees began receiving relocation notices in early August and must decide this summer whether they will accept relocation or leave their jobs. The Federal News Network (FNN) reported that staff who opt to relocate generally must report to their new offices by September or October. The FNN also reported that Federal employee unions and nonprofit organizations, as part of an ongoing lawsuit, are asking a federal judge in San Francisco to temporarily bar USDA from carrying out its reorganization plans. Labor unions and lawmakers argue that the forced relocations are an unauthorized attempt to downsize the agency through high attrition, with a federal court injunction hearing scheduled for September 1, 2026. Agency leaders maintain that jobs are not officially being cut and that operations will continue on schedule without harming local field service centers. For more from the FNN see:

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/workforce/2026/07/usda-expects-significant-number-of-staff-facing-relocation-to-leave-their-jobs/>.

Reorganization Impact at the USDA Under Secretary Level

Within the USDA, NRCS operates under the Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) mission area. This structure groups conservation, farm loans, crop insurance, and operational support into a single unified team. The FPAC mission area includes the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Risk Management Agency (RMA), and the FPAC Business Center (FBC).

Speaking about the current USDA reorganization, Farm Production and Conservation **Under Secretary Richard Fordyce** said: "As someone who has spent his life in agriculture production, I know firsthand that USDA works best when it is focused on serving the people on the ground." In a June 17, 2026 USDA news release Fordyce said: "These improvements ensure our agencies are organized around that mission. By strengthening leadership, reducing unnecessary bureaucracy, and aligning resources closer to producers, we are building a stronger FPAC that is better equipped to deliver conservation assistance, farm programs, crop insurance, and customer service for years to come." See: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usdas-farm-production-and-conservation-mission-area-announces-organizational>.

The news release states that the reorganization will:

- Strengthen leadership and accountability across FPAC agencies
- Align resources closer to producers and local communities
- Improve consistency and efficiency in program delivery
- Streamline operations and reduce unnecessary administrative layers
- Maximize the use of technology and automation to support frontline employees and customer service.

The news release provides details on the reorganization's objectives:

- Within FSA, the reorganization will strengthen leadership and oversight structures to support more efficient delivery of farm programs and loan services. The changes are designed to improve coordination, provide more consistent support to producers, and enhance operational effectiveness across the agency.
- At NRCS, the reorganization will sharpen the agency's focus on conservation implementation and working lands stewardship. New organizational structures will improve accountability, increase support for field operations, and ensure more resources are directed toward delivering conservation assistance to farmers and ranchers.
- For RMA, the changes preserve mission-critical crop insurance functions while aligning staffing and resources to support the continued growth and effectiveness of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. RMA will continue leveraging its extensive field presence to maintain strong connections with agricultural communities across the country.
- Within the FPAC Business Center, the realignment is to ensure mission area administrative and operations functions are provided in an efficient and effective way by maximizing financial resources, personnel, and technology to provide better customer service.
- The FPAC release says: "These organizational improvements support the Trump Administration's commitment to building a more efficient, accountable, and responsive federal government. By aligning leadership and resources closer to the communities they serve, USDA is strengthening service delivery, reducing unnecessary bureaucracy." For more on reorganization impacts to NRCS see: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usdas-farm-production-and-conservation-mission-area-announces-organizational>

Impact at the NRCS Agency Level

The USDA reorganization at NRCS is primarily to re-direct resources on frontline field delivery and protecting local county operations from mandatory reassignments. However, agricultural advocacy groups like the National Organic Coalition (NOC) warn that the structural shifts are colliding with a severe, ongoing staffing shortage at NRCS.

The reorganization impact breaks down into three major areas:

1. Shift to Frontline Operations and Zero Local Relocations

- As part of the June 17, 2026, FPAC announcement, the USDA stated that the restructuring is designed to sharpen the NRCS's focus on conservation implementation and working lands stewardship.
- **No County Office Moves:** Because the vast majority of NRCS personnel already work directly with producers in rural areas, local county offices and field staff are generally not being relocated.
- **Increased Oversight:** Non-field headquarters staff are being distributed closer to agricultural regions to streamline administration and improve direct support for local field operations. See more from NRCS at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usdas-farm-production-and-conservation-mission-area-announces-organizational>.

2. A Severe Pre-Existing Staffing Shortage

- While the official reorganization aims to optimize resources, data from sustainable agriculture groups, including NOC, highlights that the NRCS is facing an operational strain due to historic personnel losses.
- **23% Workforce Decline:** Between January 2025 and January 2026, the NRCS lost 23% of its overall staff (approximately 2,903 employees) due to retirements, early buyouts, and structural transitions.

- **Soil Conservationists Hit Hardest:** According to the NOC, the agency lost 711 Soil Conservationist positions—the precise technical field staff who work face-to-face with landowners to develop conservation plans. Critics warn this attrition compromises the agency's ability to roll out critical technical assistance. See more from NOC at: <https://www.nationalorganiccoalition.org/blog/2026/6/24/usda-reorganization-update-some-good-news-for-organic-amidst-broader-concerns>
- 3. **New Strategic Priorities and Motto**
 - To align with the reorganization, the NRCS unveiled an updated mission statement and a new motto: "Keeping working lands in working hands." The agency is pivoting toward seven new priorities, including:
 - i. Preserve and protect agricultural land: Slow the loss of working farm acres and expand targeted conservation easements.
 - ii. Shift to outcome-based conservation and farmer empowerment: Focus on measurable environmental results and give producers better access and tools.
 - iii. Re-center field engagement and strengthen technical expertise: Put boots-on-the-ground support closer to the farmer and rancher.
 - iv. Expand wildlife conservation and outdoor access: Integrate broader habitat goals alongside production.
 - v. Strengthen partnerships by streamlining processes and accountability: Make working with local groups and land trusts more transparent.
 - vi. Optimize mission delivery by strengthening workforce culture: Invest in training and field office support for agency staff.
 - vii. Modernize Natural Resources Conservation Service infrastructure and technology: Upgrade digital tools to make program delivery faster and easier.
 - Transitioning to outcome-based conservation and direct farmer empowerment.
 - Re-centering technical expertise and expanding wildlife conservation.
 - Modernizing infrastructure and technology to speed up program delivery, according to an article by Farm Progress. See more on the NRCS priorities and mission at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/our-agency/news/usdas-natural-resources-conservation-service-unveils-new-conservation-priorities-to>

2026 Farm Bill Stalls in Stalemate

On April 30, 2026, the U.S. House of Representatives passed its version of the Farm Bill—the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026 (H.R.7567)—by a vote of 224 to 200. The bill authorizes funding and programs for USDA operations through 2031 and moved the bill to the Senate. However, a posting from the National Association of County Officials (NACO) indicates that the Senate Agriculture Committee hit a partisan roadblock after Democrats rejected the GOP-led draft package over nutrition aid (SNAP) cost-sharing rules. See more at: <https://www.naco.org/resource/legislative-analysis-counties-farm-food-and-national-security-act-2026-hr-7567>.

The House farm bill legislation: The House Ag Committee website describes their farm bill package as “A modern farm bill for modern challenges.” The committee website goes on to say: “If one thing remains the same, it’s that farming and ranching is not easy work. But at the House Committee on Agriculture, we also know that no one works harder than our producers, as long as they’re given the right tools and have a fighting shot. This bill builds on the historic ag investments made last summer in H.R. 1, often known as the Working Families Tax Cuts, and also known as One Big Beautiful Bill.” For more on the US House farm bill see: <https://agriculture.house.gov/farmbill/>.

The Senate farm bill legislation: The Senate Ag Committee Chair **John Boozman** (R-AR) released draft legislation in late July, titled the Agricultural Act of 2026, the Senate version of a five-year Farm Bill. A news article from Politico states: “The updated bill includes new language authorizing year-round sales of E15 ethanol and extending the timeline for states to restore the integrity of SNAP benefits through improved administration that reduces payment error rates.” See more at:

<https://www.politico.com/live-updates/2026/08/06/congress/snap-stalemate-scuttles-senate-republicans-farm-bill-01027439>.

The Senate Committee describes their “Farm Bill 2.0” as being designed to strengthen agriculture, support rural communities and ensure our nation’s agricultural legacy remains strong for generations to come. It is built for the people who feed America. Additional key points on the Senate bill include: See more at:

<https://www.agriculture.senate.gov/agricultural-act-of-2026-farm-bill-20>.

Discussions on Additional Subsidy Payments to Farmers

On June 25, 2026, Progressive Farmer’s **Jake Zajkowski** and **Chris Clayton** reported: “the White House this week asked Congress to pass a supplemental funding package that includes a request for \$11.1 billion for farmers and calls for Congress to pass year-round E15.” Their report goes on to say: “The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) sent a request for \$87.6 billion in supplemental funding to House Speaker **Mike Johnson**, R-La. The lion’s share of that request — \$67.1 billion — was for the War Department,” Zajkowski and Clayton reported. “In the letter, though, President Donald Trump and his staff requested \$10 billion in ‘temporary economic assistance for row and specialty crops planted in crop year 2026.’ An additional \$1.1 billion was requested specifically for farmers in Florida ‘to rebound from devastating losses that were the result of crippling storms this past winter.’” See more at:

<https://farmpolicynews.illinois.edu/2026/06/white-house-requests-11-billion-in-farmer-aid/>.

National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition Advocates for Farm Policy Changes

The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) pushes back against federal policies that heavily favor massive industrial production of commodity crops like corn and soy. They advocate for a shift toward diversified, regional, and regenerative food systems that prioritize fresh, healthy food and support small and mid-sized family farms. See more at: <https://sustainableagriculture.net/blog/>.

The NSAC did an analysis of the food safety net and farm bill in 2024 and published a report titled: “Unsustainable State of the Farm Safety Net.” Their analysis finds that current subsidies and safety nets entrench a system that prioritizes feed grains, ethanol, and exports over the production of nutrient-dense, locally focused food. Read the full analysis at: <https://sustainableagriculture.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Farm-Safety-Net-Report-February-2024-Final.pdf>

Editor’s Note: The information in the NSAC article has not been verified by OPM or other official sources. ARCSE is not able to verify the actual number of USDA employee lost to early-outs, retirements, and resignations in 2025 and 2026, and USDA has not released the data.

Senate Passes Stopgap Funding Bill and Votes Down Photo ID for Voting

An August 7, 2026, article by **Shauneen Miranda** of the Nebraska Examiner reported the Senate had adjourned for its summer recess after approving a stopgap spending bill but declined to advance legislation that would require photo ID for voting. Miranda wrote: “In a rare overnight session that began on Friday, senators trudged through a slew of measures, confirmed President Donald Trump’s nomination of Todd Blanche as attorney general, and then departed the nation’s capital for the coveted August recess. The chamber is not expected to return to regular session until after Labor Day.” As a side note, the U.S. House of Representatives started its August recess on Thursday, July 25, 2026, after passing a short-term funding package – two full weeks before the Senate.

Averting a shutdown: The Senate also passed a bipartisan measure on a 90-6 vote that would keep the federal government funded through December 11. The House has passed a different version, so the two will need to be reconciled. Miranda reported: “Earlier in the day, senators advanced the legislation, known as a Continuing Resolution (CR), toward a final vote on another strongly bipartisan vote of 91-6. Senators did not vote on a proposed blueprint that would unlock the complex budget reconciliation process and allow Republicans to move ahead on their third party-line bill.”

Voting and photo ID: The Miranda article provided: “The Senate failed to advance on a 52-46 vote a bill that would require a photo ID to vote in an election to federal office. Related to the separate SAVE America Act, it was sponsored by Republican Senator **Jon Husted** of Ohio. Sixty votes were required to move ahead on the measure, which was opposed by all Democrats voting. Democrats have said in the past that such a requirement would make it more difficult for all Americans to vote and discourage voter participation. President Trump is an intense proponent of the SAVE America Act and urged the Senate to stay in town to pass it, although Republican leaders have said repeatedly that there are not 60 votes to do so. The SAVE America Act would require voters to show proof of citizenship when they register and a photo ID when they vote. Noncitizens are already barred from voting in state, federal, and almost all local elections.” See more at:

<https://nebraskaexaminer.com/2026/08/07/repub/us-senate-struggles-to-wrap-up-work-before-august-recess/>.

President Signs Regenerative Agriculture Executive Order

On June 25, 2026, **President Donald Trump** signed an Executive Order advancing regenerative agriculture practices. On the same day, **USDA Secretary Brooke L. Rollins** simultaneously announced a final Regenerative Feedstock Rule, a landmark action that will help farmers voluntarily capture new value from regenerative agricultural practices through biofuel markets. Secretary Rollins wrote: “The USDA announcement builds upon President Trump’s historic record of support for American agriculture and domestic biofuels. From delivering nationwide year-round E15, establishing the highest Renewable Volume Obligations in American history, and extending the 45Z Clean Fuel Production Credit this Administration has consistently expanded markets for America’s farmers while strengthening US energy independence.”

“Farmers who choose to implement regenerative practices will have new opportunities to earn premium prices, lower their input costs, improve soil health, and strengthen the long-term profitability of their operations,” said Secretary Rollins. This is exactly what President Trump’s America First agenda looks like: empowering farmers and ranchers, supporting rural communities, driving lower input costs, improving farmer profitability, advancing regenerative agriculture, and helping Make America Healthy Again.” See more at: <https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2026/06/25/president-trump-signs-executive-order-advancing-regenerative-agriculture-secretary-rollins-announces>

ARCSE ANNUAL MEETING WEDNESDAY GENERAL SESSION

Many pictures from the meeting are posted at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/UA4uPT2ZfxGxRQKp7>







Call for Conservation Artifacts

—**Shelby Callaway**, Ph.D., Historian, USDA Management and Strategy Deputy Area

The historian's office at the NRCS is looking for artifacts. The agency recently acquired two glass display cases to house rotating exhibits of agency history at headquarters. These cases are in public spaces and currently highlight the history of the soil survey with several items on loan from the Nebraska State Office, the National Soil Survey Center, and the Oklahoma State Office. (see photo)



If you have conservation/agency artifacts that you don't know what to do with, don't throw them out! Consider donating them to the history office at the NRCS for use in displays and for an outreach/teaching collection.

We're looking for anything that could help us show how the agency and its work has evolved over the past 90 years. Most anything tangible is useful: tools (even broken tools can still be useful for display), old technology, signage, commemorative items, soil samples, handbooks/manuals, employee newsletters, etc. are welcome. All disciplines are welcome (engineering, soil science,

forestry, range, general office work, etc.). Every era is welcome – floppy discs from the 1980s are just as welcome as soil augers from the 1930s. The goal is to build a teaching collection for display and/or for hands-on outreach. If you are sitting on a treasure trove and don't know what to do with it – send it along! We'll give it a good home and make sure you are credited in future displays.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Paul Benedict, Membership Chair

New Members

Colette Kessler – Pierre, South Dakota
Gail Sallee – Columbia, Missouri

New Life Member

Boyce Harvey – Oxford, North Carolina

New Members

Dena Anderson – Hanover, Indiana
Bruce Nielsen – Crowley, Texas
Kent Bohnhoff – Groveland, Illinois
Steve Woodruff – Raleigh, North Carolina
Edward Henry – Corning, New York
Stephen C Kennedy – Brownville, Nebraska
Kimberly Burr – Junction, Texas

New Affiliate Member

Jane Gornall – Plainfield, Indiana

New Honorary Members for 2027

The following 20 ARCSE members will have celebrated their 91st birthday by the end of 2026 and have been dues-paying members for at least 5 years. As such, they become Honorary Members for 2027 and thereafter, meaning they no longer need to pay annual dues to remain an ARCSE member in good standing. Honorary members who wish to receive a

printed copy of the newsletter still need to pay a \$15 annual fee for that service. As it turns out, all but three were already Life Members anyway (asterisk by name). If you will have turned age 91 by the end of 2026, have been a dues-paying ARCSE member for at least the last 5 years, and are not on this list, please let me know because I do not have everyone's birthday information.

New Honorary Members	
Name	State
John R Akers*	PA
William L Braker*	CA
Galen S Bridge*	AZ
Darwyn H Briggs*	CA
Dennie G Burns*	NC
Emeron P Christensen	WI
James Culver*	NE
Robert G Halstead*	FL
Leland A Hardy*	OR
K Keith Huffman*	OH
James A Linebaugh*	NV
J Gordon Odell*	AZ
Frank E Resides*	PA
Robert D Slayback*	CA
JoAnne Thiele*	NE
Jimmy D Thomas*	OK
Ralph S Wadleigh	OR
Eldon C Weber	IA
Talmadge J Wiggins*	NC
William R Woerner*	IA

ARCSE MEMBERSHIP DUES Due by Jan. 1st

Member \$25 per year
Affiliate \$25 per year
Life Member (One-time payment)
 Age 64 or younger \$325
 Age 65 thru 74 \$275
 Age 75 or older \$175

NOTE: Dues payment includes receipt of the bimonthly electronic newsletter. All members (both life members and those who pay annual dues) who desire a hard copy of the newsletter must pay an additional fee of \$15.00 per year to cover costs of printing and mailing.

Please submit Dues to ARCSE at P.O. Box 3019, Galveston, TX 77551

OPM Resource for Retirees' Deaths

From Julie MacSwain on behalf of ARCSE President, Becky Fletcher. The information comes from Larry Caldwell, Oklahoma.

Getting Started with OPM: A Helpful Resource for Families

One of the most difficult things a family may face is navigating the paperwork that follows the loss of a loved one. To help make that process a little easier, you can download the "Getting Started with OPM" documents linked to this newsletter.

These resources are designed to help family members take the first steps after the death of a retired federal employee or their spouse who was receiving retirement benefits through the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS).

The information is intended as a starting point and covers many of the basic steps involved. Every situation is unique, thou, and some cases may require additional procedures or documentation.

Please note that this guidance is only for retired federal annuitants. If the deceased was an active federal employee at the time of death, the appropriate agency office should be contacted instead of OPM.

For your convenience, we've included links to the referenced forms and resources in this newsletter, making them easy to access when needed.

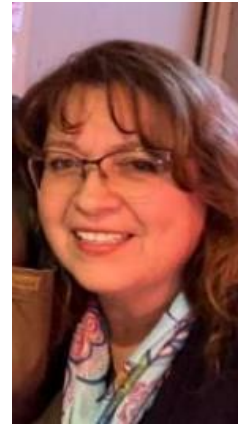
Three files have been placed in our ARCSE Communications Google Drive. Here's the link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BG0QGMBq2UUblRntwFhPzFSZ4RpE6tjL?usp=sharing>

We hope this information provides some helpful guidance and eases the burden for families during a challenging time.

New West Region Vice President

Kris Graham Chavez recently retired from the USDA-NRCS with over 35 years of service in New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas. Some of her NRCS past responsibilities and contributions include district conservationist in several field offices and resource conservationist on the Area Office, Operations and Programs staff. She also served on the regional conservationist's staff from Washington DC and worked on numerous audit teams.



**Kristin Graham Chavez, New
ARCSE West Region Vice
President**

She provided technical and programmatic assistance to field, area, and state office personnel, as well as partners throughout New Mexico.

She began her career as a student coop. trainee in New Mexico, while pursuing her undergraduate and graduate degrees in agriculture from New Mexico State University.

Kris grew up on a ranch in Taos, New Mexico.

New Senior Conservationist Chronicler

Ruth Montgomery retired from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) after a rewarding 35-year career. She began as a Student Trainee and served in a variety of roles throughout Indiana, including Soil Conservationist, District Conservationist, and Technical Services Team Leader. In retirement, she enjoys spending time with family and remains grateful for the many friendships and opportunities her conservation career provided.



**Ruth Montgomery, new
Senior Chronicler**

ARCSE Awards for 2026!

We are proud to announce recipients of this year's awards to two very deserving ARCSE members.

Gregory Westfall receives the **President's Community Service Award** for sustained and outstanding contributions in local, state, and regional community service

Greg is a New Jersey Lifetime Member of ARCSE and served in USDA/NRCS in New York and New Jersey in various positions including Soil Conservationist, District Conservationist, and Water Resource Specialist from 1975 through 2015 when he retired.

Greg earned an M.S. in Water Resources from State University of New York College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry in 1976; and a B.S. in Soil Science and Natural Resource Conservation from the College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, Cornell University in 1972.

Greg is a founder and member of the New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management, where he has become a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM).

Following his retirement in 2015, he ran (as an Independent) for and was elected Mayor in Allentown, NJ. During his four-year term, the governing body approved an upgrade to the 50-year-old wastewater treatment plant and permanently preserved and

began development of a 3-acre park. He also identified and recruited approximately 85 individuals to serve as volunteers on Borough government boards, committees, and commissions.

Greg continues to be an active member of the local environmental commission, watershed association, and church council. Additionally, he is actively involved with land preservation in the Allentown Borough vicinity.

Mark Jensen receives the **President's Distinguished Service Award** for uniquely outstanding contributions to the long-term organization, stability, viability, and progress of ARCSE.

Mark Jansen became a member of ARCSE upon his retirement in 2008. He has served as Iowa's ARCSE representative for 12 years. At that time, Iowa had 42 ARCSE members in 2014, compared to the current membership of 72. After accounting for those members who have passed, or moved to other states, over 50 new members have been recruited or joined during Mark's tenure.

One of Mark's primary objectives as Iowa's ARCSE representative is to promote communication and connection among fellow retirees. Initially all communication was done with "hard copy" mailings, until slowly building a list of email addresses for as many retirees as possible. Having converted to electronic communications over time, Mark has continued to push to increase the number of retirees on the spreadsheet he maintains with contact information for 235 Iowa retirees.

Mark believes that soliciting content for newsletter is one of the most important parts of the state representative role and accordingly invests significant effort into getting ideas for inclusion in each bi-monthly issue of the newsletter. He also occasionally sends out old pictures, mostly from meetings, for folks to enjoy. With the help of others, he attempts to find retiree obituaries, their spouses, and even sometimes their children, and sends the announcements to all individuals on his email list. Mark also organizes an annual Christmas/Holiday Party, which is attended by 40 – 45 retirees each year.

Early during his role as Iowa's representative Mark realized the difficulty getting the names and contact information of new retirees. He found the most reliable method was finding retirement announcements in the "personnel actions" section of Iowa's Current Developments published by the NRCS State Office. He found copies of the publication dating back to 2005 and created a spreadsheet with the names of all retirees since that time. Iowa has had over 295 employees retire in that time frame.

One of Mark's most successful efforts to obtain contact information was conducted over the last couple of years. Mark created sample letters (emails) that he and other current members can use to reach out to new retirees. This proved so successful that Mark shared his approach with all his fellow state representatives in 2025. These sample letters have been made available to all members on the ARCSE website for their use in contacting new retirees and recruiting new members.

Congratulations Greg and Mark!

Cheryl Simmons, a lifelong member of WiN, has been integral to the organization. Retiring after 38 years from SCS/NRCS, she continues as an ACES Natural Resources Specialist with the Soil Health Division.



Cheryl Simmons, Award of Excellence

Throughout retirement, Cheryl has remained connected with WiN. Working to connect retirees with current conservationists, Cheryl organized ARCSE/WiN Coffee with Senior Conservationists and SWCS Mentor symposia. WiN members have been co-creators of the Senior Conservationists' mentor sessions as part of SWCS for two years.

Cheryl served as the President of ARCSE. After stepping down as President of ARCSE, she transitioned into a position as a Liaison to WiN and SWCS and played a pivotal role in facilitating the connection between ARCSE and WiN.

While a Soil Conservationist in the early 1980s, Cheryl started Women in Soil Conservation (WISC) in Kansas, and District and SCS members joined receiving a quarterly newsletter with stories of women working in the State. As a member of Women in Soil Science (AWSS), she contributed pictures and stories and helped with the booklet type national mailings throughout the late 1980s and 90s. WiN's formation seemed well overdue, but Simmons was excited to see it formally supported.

Simmons worked in KS and MD as Soil and District Conservationist, in DC Headquarters as a Natural Resources Specialist in Farmland Protection and Community Planning, and in the Conservation Planning Division and Conservation Security Program.

She retired in early 2016 from the Fort Worth Technical Center as the Central Conservation Technology Specialist and went on to work in ACES with ND, ID, and the Soil Health Division.

For the past several years, following **Sharon Davis**, Cheryl has served in an administrative capacity for WiN.

She is awarded the individual award of Excellence.

ALABAMA

Earl Norton, ARCSE Representative

Email: earl.norton@charter.net

Pictured below are retirees that met for lunch at Country's Barbeque in Auburn on July 15th, thanks to planning by **Sue Daniel**. This was the largest SCS retiree gathering in the Auburn area since COVID.



Top row (L-R): Mac Nelson, Georgia and Ken Aycok, Charles and Glenda Bush, Ernest and Peggy Todd. **Middle row (L-R):** Vic Payne, Rick Zellmer, Shannon Weaver, Ken Rogers, Rita Johnson, Ann Crawford. **Bottom row (L-R):** Jerri Gillespie, Earl Norton, Deloris Jones, Shirley Hall-Cole, Bob and Zona Beaty. **Not shown in the picture:** Sue Daniel and Susan Rogers.



Alabama SWCS was well represented at the SWCS Conference at St Louis in July. Presenters (L-R): Jessica Kelton, Soil Health Institute; Drs. Rishi Prasand and Debolina Chakraborty, Auburn University; Dr. Leah Duzy, Compliance Services, Inc.; Leslie Gahagan, City of Foley. **Non presenters:** Ashley Campbell, Mobile County Commission; and Julia and Earl Norton, residents of Auburn. **SWCS members include** Kelton, Duzy, Gahagan, Campbell and Norton.



A small group continues to meet monthly at Chappy's in Auburn for breakfast and was pleasantly surprised at the August 3 meeting to be joined by Cecil Jernigan of Mobile. Cecil was a classmate of several of the group while attending Auburn University. After graduation, he worked with SCS in Florida and later transferred to the Corps of Engineers at Mobile. Pictured (L-R): Clifford Jones, Charles Bush, Earl Norton Perry Oakes, George Martin, Cecil Jernigan.

ARIZONA

Wade Biddix, ARCSE Representative

Email: rwbiddix@aol.com



Connie and Ken Cookson

Ken Cookson Report: My wife, **Connie**, and I recently celebrated our 67th wedding anniversary. In addition to the 67 years, we dated 6 years before our marriage. We each grew up on a farm only 5 miles apart.

To celebrate this milestone, we decided to spend 3 days at one of our favorite places, Sedona, AZ. If you have not been there, it is surrounded with beautiful red rock formations. Many of them have names like Bell Rock, Cathedral Rock, Elephant Butte, etc. We didn't actually stay in Sedona but in the Village of Oak Creek, 5 miles from Sedona, at the Ridge at Sedona Golf Resort. We have been there numerous times and never tire of the beauty of the surroundings.



Bell Rock in Sedona, AZ

Sedona is a major tourist area for parts of the year. Summer is not one of them because the afternoon temperatures are in the upper 90's. Parking was not a problem. The beautiful drive through Oak Creek Canyon to Flagstaff also had limited traffic, so it was very enjoyable.

It is always important to start the day with a good breakfast. There is no better place to do this than at the Red Rock Cafe in Oak Creek. We have been there many times and keep going back because of the food and the friendly servers we have come to know. Following breakfast, we begin the day on a high note with a view of Bell Rock. Then it is on to more beautiful views near Flagstaff, Cottonwood, Cornville, and Sedona.

This was a really good way to celebrate our anniversary. Hopefully, we can repeat next year.

Wade Biddix Report: In order to escape the desert heat in Arizona, my wife, **Joanne**, and I took a road trip this July and August to Glacier National Park in northern Montana. We started the trip by driving to Las Vegas and watching "The Wizard of Oz" at The Sphere. It was very lifelike with the special effects and well worth it. The next day, we played golf at Wolf Creek in Mesquite, Nevada. This is a very unique course and rated one of the top public courses in America. We saw an outdoor theatre play of "Grease" at The Tuacahn Amphitheatre in St. George, Utah. We did some hiking in St. George, Utah in the red rock country. We stayed one night in Idaho Falls and saw some beautiful farmland along the way. We stayed with some friends for two nights in Polson, MT on Flathead Lake, the largest freshwater lake west of the Mississippi River. We did some boating and swimming in the 77-degree lake water. We spent 4 days hiking and sightseeing in Glacier National Park. There were a few days where the smokey haze was bad due to the forest fires in Washington, Utah, and Canada, but it was still breathtaking. We then visited friends in Missoula, MT and played golf twice with them. We spent the next two days in Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming. We then traveled back home. We drove about 3,500 miles on the entire trip, but it was an amazing worthwhile adventure. We got to see some incredible landscapes, expansive hay and range land, and some interesting wildlife. Best of all, we escaped the 100+ degree temperatures in the Arizona desert.



Old Faithful geyser in Yellowstone National Park



Joanne and Wade Biddix - Hiking in Grand Teton National Park



Beautiful lakes and mountains in Glacier National Park



Joanne and Wade Biddix - Wolf Creek Golf Course in Mesquite, NV



Joanne and Wade Biddix - Hiking in the red rock area of St. George, Utah

ARKANSAS

Ralph Mashburn, ARCSE Representative

Email: ralphmashburg@gmail.com

Bob Price, President of ARCSE Arkansas, reminds everyone that the Annual Arkansas Retirees Meeting will be on September 10, 2026 at Whole Hog Cantrell in Little Rock at 10:00 AM.

Dennis Hackbart Report



Dennis Hackbart

Dennis reports that he is enjoying retirement in the Little Rock home he has lived in for about 40 years. He is still active in his church where he has been an Elder and Sunday School teacher. He also continues to volunteer occasionally as a guide at the President Bill Clinton Library. Dennis retired as Leader of the Arkansas Water Resources Staff in 1996.

He and **Ralph Mashburn** have several things in common. Both worked on the New York Water Resources Staff in Syracuse, and both worked on water resource projects in Arkansas, and both retired in Arkansas. They had a lunch visit recently and enjoyed talking about the old times.



Dennis Hackbart and Ralph Mashburn

More will be written about Dennis soon as a Senior Conservationist in a future newsletter.

Six New Zealand Visitors – The picture below shows the 4th of July Group at Mashburn's Cottage in Parkway Village in Little Rock. **Ralph and Nancy's grandson, Austin**, is the activity director for a Christian Camp in New Zealand. Austin, his wife, Ana and 4 others from New Zealand came to Arkansas for a July vacation. They joined other family and friends to help Nancy and Ralph celebrate the 250th Birthday of the USA. Three of the group had never been in this country and were very impressed with the friendliness and the shopping opportunities.



Ralph Mashburn's family and New Zealand visitors

CALIFORNIA

Bill Ward, ARCSE Representative

Email: bluegrassbillward@gmail.com

Kris Graham Chavez replaces me as the West Regional Vice-President for ARCSE. I have enjoyed my time working with the board on various projects. I am particularly grateful for the board's support for our Musicians Project. I will continue to work with Doug Toews and Dennis Clute, Musicians project team members on our objective to recognize more Musicians who worked for SCS/NRCS and share their biographies on our ARCSE website. I will continue to be California's State Representative and prepare California reports for our ARCSE newsletter.

California retirees continue to enjoy connecting on our monthly retiree Zoom meeting I host the first Wednesday of every month.

The folks shown below enjoyed taking part in our recent August 5th Zoom Meeting. These meetings are a great opportunity to reminisce about past experiences working together, and to see old friends and familiar faces'



*Dave Sanden, Bill Ward, Rob Roy
Julie MacSwain, Ed Schmit
Ron Harben*

New Information about our Musicians Project and ARCE Musicians Project Website

Attention all SCS/NRCS Musicians. Please consider joining a unique group of musicians who worked for our agency, SCS/NRCS, and are now sharing their Biographies about their life experiences as a musician well as their professional experience working for SCS/NRCS and elsewhere.

All biographies along with information on how to apply can be accessed using the **ARCSE musicians Project website Link shown below.**

This project is sponsored by the Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees.

Objectives: Identify and write the biographies for all musicians who worked for our agency, SCS/NRCS. Generally, Biography content would include the individual's life experiences as a musician as well as their professional experience working for SCS/NRCS and other professional experience working outside SCS/NRCS.

WANTED!



MUSICIANS

from the
Soil Conservation Service
and the
Natural Resources Conservation Service
for a special project to document
Biographies of Musicians from the SCS & NRCS

The ARCSE Musicians Project Website contains a link to view all current biographies of SCS/NRCS Musicians. There are about 25 current biographies in alphabetical order that can be viewed on the ARCSE Musicians Project website.

ARCSE Musicians' Project Website, [Musicians – ARCSE](#)

Following is a link to the Musicians Biography Information form: ['form-musician-bio-info_25feb2025.pdf](#).

This is a fillable pdf form All musicians are asked to complete which becomes the basis for all the biographies shared on **ARCSE Musicians Project website**. Please send this completed Musicians Biography Information form back to me:

Douglas Toews, our Musicians Project Editor will work with each SCS/NRCS musician to put the biography in final format to be shared on website.

If any of you have any questions regarding how to apply to join this unique group of musicians and have your own biography shared on the ARCSE website let me know.

Sincerely, Bill Ward PE, ARCSE CA State Representative

COLORADO

Jack Carlson, ARCSE Representative

Email: pspicata@gmail.com



Gathering for the iEMSs 2026 Conference at UCD

Jack Carlson and **Olaf David** participated in the iEMSs 2026 conference mid-July at University College Dublin, Ireland making two presentations on the use of the SWAT+ model for rapid farm field scale water, nutrient, and carbon balance assessments for quantifying the effects of regenerative farming practices. The conference attracted 250+ participants from 25+ countries. The agenda featured several presentations on how AI can help streamline modeling and assessment processes. Our modeling work is already using Claude Code and other tools to speed progress, while improving the quality of the codebase.

Bernie Shafer passed away unexpectedly on August 25th after a brief illness. More details to be provided in the next newsletter. Bernie was instrumental to the long-lasting success of the SCS/NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting Program. He, **Tom Christensen**, and others led the agency to modernize its information systems in the 1990s with strategies outlined in Data Rich, Information Poor and Future Directions, becoming Department leaders in database integration, network and computing infrastructure, business process improvement. Impacts still felt today

CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Carl DuPoldt, ARCSE Representative

Email: cdupoldt@gmail.com

----- CT

Connecticut hosts several prominent natural resource and conservation events in September and October 2026, featuring the statewide Connecticut Audubon Society - Bird Friendly Fall (Sept 1–Nov 30), the Land Trust of West Haven's Coastal Conversations (Sept 6, Sept 20, Oct 4), and the 2026 Invasive Plant Symposium on October 28.

Coastal Conversations at Eco Park: September 6 and September 20, 2026 (10:00 AM – 11:00 AM) in West Haven. Free talks hosted by the Land Trust of West Haven focused on local marine life and coastal habitats.

Invasive Plant Training: September 29, 2026 (1:00 PM – 4:00 PM) at Fort Saybrook Monument Park, Old Saybrook. Focused on mapping and managing terrestrial invasive species. Statewide Bird-Friendly Fall:

Ongoing through September and beyond, featuring introductory bird walks and regional migration tracking events organized by the Connecticut Audubon Society. October 2026 Events

Coastal Conversations at Eco Park: October 4, 2026 (10:00 AM – 11:00 AM) in West Haven. The final installment of the coastal ecology talk series. Land Trust Presidents Summit: October 9, 2026 (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM).

An annual peer-to-peer networking and leadership gathering for state conservation leaders. Fall Edible Landscaping Walk: October 17, 2026 (10:00 AM) at Cricket Hill Garden in Thomaston. A guided tour highlighting sustainable berry and fruit plantings. Shade Swamp Sanctuary Hike: October 31, 2026 (10:00 AM) at the White Memorial Conservation Center in Litchfield. Led by CT DEEP biologist Peter Picone and Gerri Griswold exploring local forest and wetland habitats. 2026 Invasive Plant Symposium:

October 28, 2026 (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM) at the UConn Student Union in Storrs. Sessions cover native plant restoration, managing invasive vines, and aquatic invasive updates.

----- NH

New Hampshire natural resources conservation events for September and October 2026 feature educational workshops, digital mapping training, and sustainable agriculture field days hosted by the UNH Extension and NOFA-NH.

GIS 101: Learning to Map in the Digital Age: September 1, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Introductory digital mapping skills).

Agroforestry Twilight Meetings: September 4 – October 9 (Field-based agroforestry series). Introduction to ArcGIS Pro: September 9, 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM (Advanced digital resource mapping).

Gifts of the Garden Q&A: September 3, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM at the Massabesic Center. Getting to Know ArcGIS Online: September 15, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Rotational Grazing and Silvo-pasture: September 17, Evening pasture walk at Presidential View Farm (Co-hosted with NOFA-NH).

Rain Gardens – A Beautiful Way to Capture the Rain: September 21, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Making Geodatabases Work for You: September 22, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Commercial Applicator License Preparation (Core & Right of Way): September 29–30.

Gifts of the Garden Q&A: October 1, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM at the Massabesic Center.

Agroforestry Twilight Meetings: Continuing through October 9.

Seed Saving of Native Plants: October 17, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM (Hands-on native flora conservation).

RI

Several natural resources and conservation events run across Rhode Island through September and October 2026, highlighted by the state-wide Rhode Island Land Trust Days (running through October 25) and seasonal conservation district programs

Rhode Island Land Trust Days: August 28 – October 25, 2026. A two-month statewide celebration featuring guided walks, farm tours, and outdoor festivals hosted by local land trusts.

Free Wednesday Nature Walks: Weekly through October 14, 2026, at the Norman Bird Sanctuary in Middletown. Guided trail walks with local naturalist.

Eastern RI Conservation District (ERICD) Programs: Fall features localized farm tours, piking (coastal cleanup bike rides), and community-focused soil health workshops. Check the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District Events for exact autumn scheduling.

Southern RI Conservation District / Conservation Conference: Late October (tentatively October 23–25, 2026) in Westerly, featuring expert panels, workshops on soil and pollinators, and field tour.

VT

Key natural resources and conservation events across Vermont for September and October 2026 include the Outdoor Family Weekend from September 11–13, the Vermont Land Trust Annual Celebration on September 15, and the Vermont Climbing Festival stewardship day on September 25.

Sept 2: South Burlington Natural Resources and Conservation Committee Meeting (6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at City Hall). Sept 9:

VT Environmental Justice Advisory Council and Interagency Committee Hybrid Meeting (10:00 AM – 1:00 PM). Sept 10–12:

USDA-NRCS Soil Health Testing & CEMA 216 Go Deeper Sessions hosted via White River NRCD. Sept 11–13:

Outdoor Family Weekend in Castleton (\$180 per family for campsite, education, and outdoor conservation skills). Sept 15:

Vermont Land Trust Annual Celebration: Connected by Conservation in Greensboro (features local farm field walks and conservation awards). Sept 22:

VLT Summer Farm Tour at Flying Dog Farm (4:30 PM – 6:00 PM). Sept 24–25:

Climate Education Collaborative Summit. Sept 25:

Vermont Climbing Festival Stewardship Day in Waterbury (trail maintenance and conservation workshops). Sept 26:

Wild Mushroom Foray at Shelburne Farms. Sept 26:

Forest Festival at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in Woodstock (sustainable forestry and horse-logging demonstrations). Sept 26:

Leave the Leaves Walk at Cold Hollow Sculpture Park in Enosburg Falls (forest ecology walk led by the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks & Rec). October 2026 Events Oct 2:

Forest First Fridays at Bonnyvale Environmental Education Center in Brattleboro (nature-based wellness and ecology program). Oct 6–9:

NAAEE 2026 Conference & Research Symposium (North American Association for Environmental Education). Oct 14:

VT Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM). Oct 16:

Youth Environmental Science (YES!) Summit. Oct 24:

Full Moon Hike with Middlebury Area Land Trust (5:30 PM – 6:30 PM).

INDIANA

Jane Hardesty, ARCSE Representative

Email: dirtlady52@aol.com

Each summer, the Indiana Conservation Partnership holds a golf scramble. This year's event was held in July at the Rocky Ridge Golf Club in Crawfordsville, IN. Seven teams participated this year, including 6 retirees and representation from NRCS, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indiana State Dept. of Agriculture, Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Purdue Extension, and The Nature Conservancy. Congratulations to the winning team and to **Chris Tippie** for longest drive!



Indiana Retirees' Luncheon. L-R: Mike Cox, Chris Torp, Mike Wiggington, Marla Sparks, William Elliott, Henry Wallis, Pam Davidson, Jane Hardisty, Cathy Deal, Jill Reinhart and Becky Fletcher



Indiana Golf Scramble Participants





Chris Tippie, Longest Drive

IOWA

Mark Jensen, ARCSE Representative

Email: amjens1@gmail.com

Thank you to **Lee White** for the following: "June 19, 2026, found Lee White heading North on his annual fishing trip to Gullrock Lake in Ontario, Canada, near the small town of Red Lake. This location is about five hours north of International Falls, MN or about fifteen hours from Ankeny, Iowa. Our group, which this year numbered 12 fishermen, has been doing this trip for over 30 years (I've only missed the two years my daughters were married). The picture shows my best effort for the week – a 42½" northern pike (no we didn't eat it – had to go back in the lake). The group secured our limit of fish to take back home. Members of the group caught a 30" walleye and a 44" northern pike for top honors during this fun-filled week. All the big fish were caught and released, so only pictures, memories, and no mounted trophies."



Lee White with his 42½" Northern Pike

Thank you to **Dick Hall** for the following update from Sioux City: "My kids have a family get-together planned to celebrate my 92nd birthday this week; 40 years of which I spent working for the Soil Conservation Service. I worked in all three Western Iowa Areas of the Soil Conservation Service during my career and spent 6 years in the Navy. I have now been retired for 32 years. I still live in my own home and just recently renewed my driver's license for two more years. Basically, my health is still in pretty good shape, so I don't have any real complaints, other than that I don't or can't travel much, mainly because I don't like to drive very far from home. I've had a good life. My wife passed away seven years ago, but my son and four daughters and their families all live close

and are all in good health. Besides my five children, I have 17 grandchildren and 34 great grandchildren, with one more on the way in September."

Lyle and Charlotte Asell have been doing a little travelling. On a recent trip to North Dakota, they visited a friend that Lyle grew up with in southwest Iowa. The friends live by Lake Sakakawea, a very large manmade lake in central North Dakota. One day Lyle suggested they do some fishing. Fishing the first day was great. They caught a lot of 18- to 20- inch walleyes. Great eating, too!

We received the following good news from **Marty Adkins**. "I'm glad to report that my treatment is going well, and my leukemia is in remission. I still have a long road ahead but am grateful for this progress so far. I so appreciate the support and prayers from so many people. It has meant so much to me. We have enjoyed some great family time this summer, including bicycle trail riding and a few days enjoying Lake Superior at Duluth and the north shore. We're looking forward to more excursions this coming fall."

Tom Duvel and his wife went on a nine-day bus trip to the northeast. He said they spent part of the time enjoying the White Mountains in New Hampshire.

The great Iowa State Fair had its run from August 13–23. **Ann** and I have spent a day or two or more at the fair every year we've lived in West Des Moines, or for the past 38 years. One day this year, as we were wandering around looking at things, I saw **Jerry Parsons**, a retired Soil Conservation Technician from southern Iowa. Jerry is doing well. He was working at the fair chauffeuring dignitaries and others around the fairgrounds. Jerry's son **Jeremy** is the CEO of the Iowa State Fair.

More state fair news: **Barb and Randy Stewart** continued their tradition of showing sheep at the fair. They have been showing Suffolk sheep at the fair since 1991. This year they showed five sheep. Barb said they purchased the 1st place fall ram lamb from an Indiana breeder who was showing at the fair. The fall ram lamb was an embryo transplant from an eight-year-old ewe with a lot of championship ribbons.

For you livestock enthusiasts, here are a few fun facts about the large animal competition at the fair this year. This year's large boar contest was won by a Chester/Hampshire boar, weighing in at 1,246 pounds; the largest bull was a Red Angus bull weighing in at 3,026 pounds; and the largest ram was a Suffolk ram weighing in at 568 pounds. The Suffolk ram set a new state fair record.

During the past couple of months we have been saddened by the passing of **Dennis Lane**. Dennis was a Soil Conservation Technician who worked in Wyoming as well as in Page, Montgomery, and Clarke Counties in Iowa.



Randy and Barb Stewart with their First Place Fall Ram Lamb. (The man by the head of the ram is the previous owner).

MAINE

Mary Thompson, ARCS Representative

Email: mpthom@roadrunner.com

The wild blueberry season is coming to a close. There was a significant crop as we had rain, good pollination, and the Spotted Wing Drosophila fruit flies were very delayed in coming to our area. The potato harvest in Aroostook County will begin in earnest soon. The fair season continues throughout Maine. If there are any John Deere fans out there our son, Peter, works at United Ag. here in Union. They entered a car in the demolition derby – where cars run into each other and see who is still moving after a few minutes. Their car sported the John Deere colors of green and yellow with deer antlers on the top of the car just behind the windshield.

On the back it said, "Oh Deeere," and the car was in memory of a coworker who recently passed away. Here in Maine it is common for men to say Dear to a



woman, maybe in other parts of the country as well. Well, they ended up in second place and Best of Show. In NRCS news we will be getting a new State Conservationist, and projects are underway as our construction season is short.

All for now, Yours in Conservation, Mary

MIDATLANTIC STATES

Terry D'Addio, ARCSE Representative

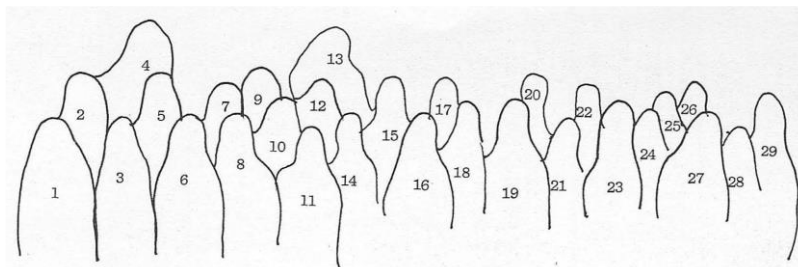
Email: tmdaddio@aol.com



MidAtlantic states Breakfast meeting (L-R): Ron Marlow, Dave Thackeray, Paul Benedict, Bill Irwin, Jerry Bernard.

MINNESOTA

From Bob Halstead Midwest State Conservationists Meeting Brainerd, Minnesota June 7-9, 1982



1. Dean Stratton, 2. John "Dub II Tippie, 3. Mrs. Dean Stratton (Nina), 4. John Eckes, 5. Paul Larson, 6. Mrs. John Tippie (Dee), 7. Homer Hilner, 8. Mrs. Paul Larson (Patricia), 9. Harry Major, 10. Mrs. Homer Hilner (Wanda), 11. Mrs. Benny Martin (Marty), 12. Daniel Pope, 13. Benny Martin, 14. Mrs. Gene Pope (Muriel), 15. Gene Pope, 16. Mrs. Harry Major (Lucille), 17. Clayton Graham, 18. Mrs. Clayton Graham (Ernie), 19. Paul Howard, 20. Robert Eddleman, 21. Mrs. William Brune (Ruth), 22. Robert Halstead, 23. William Brune, 24. Mrs. Cliff Maguire (Connie), 25. Cliff Maguire, 26. Robert Wilson, 27. Donald Ferren, 28. Mrs. Wes Oneth (Elayna), 29. Wes Oneth



Midwest State Conservationists Meeting Brainerd, Minnesota June 7-9, 1982

MISSOURI

Gail Sallee, ARCSE Representative

Email: moarcse@gmail.com

On August 10th, 2026, many retirees gathered in Hannibal, Missouri at the Gran Rio restaurant to visit with **Steve Black**, retired NE Missouri Area Conservationist. Steve was in the area to conduct some business. **John Turner** got the message out for the opportunity to see Steve, and many came: **Lynn Kilpatrick**, who also is a retired NEMO Area Conservationist, **Dave Rastorfer**, **Odie Swanegan** was there with his grandson, **Steve Baima**, **Joleen Pfefer**, **Mike and Kathy Bradley**, **Bob Hummel**, **Carol Hubbard**, **Mack Ellis**, and **John Turner**.

The Columbia Area Retiree Quarterly Breakfast was held on August 12th, 2026. Those in attendance were: **Jean Herman**, **Frank Gordon**, **John Turner**, **Robert (Bob) Hummel**, **Larry and Bonnie Pollard**, **Dave Rastorfer**, **Odie Swanegan**, **Jerry Edwards** and **Gail Sallee**.

Bill Pauls: Writing this from the MO State Fair. I drive a team tractor for the duration of the Fair. I also signed up **Craig King** this year. I usually see **Clayton Lee** at the beekeepers in the Ag. Building. After this I volunteer at the "Shootout" at Dog Days at the lake. Then it's off to run in OR, ID, & WA in Sept. Then a "silent" Jesuit men's retreat to refocus in the loess hills along the big Muddy south of STL. Then my son, **Jeff**, is doing an Ironman triathlon in WI that we're going to. Youngest g'daughter **Abi** is a senior in HS and volleyball season is getting underway. She also just committed to SLUH to play college softball. Will be a lot of fun to watch the next 4 years. Other young g' daughter, also a senior # 1 on her tennis team. Lots of g'kid action. The older two are at KU & Purdue. Still time to get to the lake for some boating & fishing. Also much to do at church and the St. Anthony Cemetery.

The Annual MOARSCE Lunch is scheduled for September 10th at the Golden Corral in Columbia.

MONTANA

Lori Valadez, ARCSE Representative

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Some NRCS retirees and former employees got together in downtown Bozeman, Montana, to enjoy an evening on a patio catching up. The Montana folks were lucky enough to have two special guests visiting from Idaho.



Pictured from left to right: Joyce Swartzendruber, retired Montana NRCS state conservationist; Ruth Flanagan, former Montana NRCS administrative specialist; Mitch Flanagan, former NRCS area range conservationist (Ruth and Mitch both worked in Bozeman for NRCS and retired to Idaho after their careers moved them out of state); Lori Valadez, retired NRCS state public affairs specialist; Gayle Barry, current Montana NRCS state conservationist; Heidi Brewer, retired NRCS and FSA employee in Montana; Wendy Williams, retired Montana NRCS resource conservationist; and Jane Karinen, retired Montana NRCS soil scientist

NEBRASKA

Jim Culver and Norm Kempf, ARCSE Representatives

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NRCS/SCS RETIREES NEBRASKA NEWS

First Friday of the Month NRCS/SCS Retirees Breakfast Club

Participating during the July 3rd, 2026 First Friday of the Month Retirees breakfast were **Ed Chmelka, Jim Harder, Mike Kucera, Jim Culver, Steve Chick, Harold Klaege, Craig Derickson, Doug Christensen and Dave Griffith.**

Steve Chick continues to do an outstanding job of adding some great photos and reviews of past NRCS field activities to the Nebraska NRCS Facebook Group page. Current/past NRCS employees with ties to Nebraska can join by searching for Nebraska NRCS on Facebook and requesting to join.



Ken Noonan, left, usually makes it a habit to visit with everyone as he rotates from one end of our breakfast area to the other.

Participating during the August 7th, 2026 First Friday of the Month Retirees breakfast were **Ed Chmelka, Jim Harder, Steve Scheinost, Jim Culver, Dennis Schroeder, Dave Griffith, Ken Noonan, Norm Koester, Craig Derickson and James Welsch.**



L–R: Dennis Schroeder, Mike Kucera and Jim Harder discuss the lack of rainfall in especially western Nebraska. Dennis, who farms east of Lincoln, noted rainfall storms have been very spotty in his area, and there are extreme good size randomly spaced dry areas.



Jim Harder – Left end signs in on the attendance sheet for our August 7th, 2026 breakfast meeting.

Chairperson **Doug Christensen** opened the July Retirees Meeting. The attendance log was lost. Breakfast was served, and the company was enjoyed by all.



Let to right – Thomas Reinsch, Gus Dornbusch, and Norman Kempf listen to Gus discussing some of his Team Mates volunteer experiences.



Gus Dornbusch's Big 90th Birthday celebration on August 1st was well attended by many friends and co-workers at IBE Local # 265 in Lincoln. Left to right – Donna Zabel, Dottie Severson, Gus Dornbusch and Donna Dornbusch.



Doug Christensen, our chairman standing --- getting our July meeting started. Doug was quick to make the needed adjustments in changing our breakfast area, etc. because our normal breakfast area was occupied by another group. Great job Doug!

Chairperson, Doug Christensen, opened the August 19th Retirees Meeting.

Attending: **Doug Christensen, Bob Engel, Harold Klaege, Steve Stover, Gus Dornbusch, Gary Muckel, Arlis Plummer, Dana Snyder, Larry Brown, Jim Culver, Craig Derickson, Thomas Reinsch, Norm Helzer, Norm Kempf, Steve Scheinost.**

Jim Culver noted that the 30th Annual Dave Langemeier Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, August 28th, 2026 at the Highlands Gold Course in Lincoln, Nebraska. Last year there were 8 scholarships awarded to students attending Universities and Colleges in Nebraska from the monies raised by the golf tournament, the Society, and the Foundation.

The Nebraska State Soil and Water Conservation Society annual meeting was held at Ord, NE. **Jim Culver** reported that all the tours were excellent and that the tour of the Zangger's Popcorn Hybrids was exceptional. They do research work and develop hybrid popcorn seed that is shipped all over the world.

The Nebraska Soils and Water Conservation Foundation Board also met during the Ord meeting. Recent contributions to the Foundation have been significant and have increased total assets to a new record high. Congratulations to all.

Harold Klaege reported on the increase rates in the FHSB, BCBS.

Craig Derickson reported that he and his wife attended the SWCS conference in St. Louis in late July. He noted the new NRCS Chief Mr. **Colton Buckley** spoke at the conference and also met separately with NRCS employees and retirees. Chief Buckley talked about the NRCS reorganization being launched now in early August. He mentioned one aspect of the reorganization plan is to move many employees currently working in the DC area out to states to be closer to the work being done in NRCS field offices. Chief Buckley is the 19th Chief of NRCS and is the youngest to serve in that position at 31 years old.

Craig also mentioned a special session at the conference where four NRCS former Chiefs were on a panel to talk about their experiences as Chief of the agency. The Chiefs present included: **Matt Lohr, Leonard Jordan, Jason Weller and Bruce Knight**.



Left to right – Steve Scheinost and Dave camper. Steve was our chairperson for the August 19th breakfast. Dave – an Ohio State fan is hopefully for another great football season



R–L: Larry Brown, Dana Snyder, Bob Engel and Norman Kempf. Dana Snyder plans to play in the Nebraska SWCS golf fund raiser Dave Langemeier tournament August 28th.

Steve Scheinost flew out West to visit daughter **Pam**, who is a DC in Moscow, Idaho and had a great time.

Norm Kempf reported that his daughter, grandson, and great grandson from South Dakota came to Lincoln to visit his great Grandma.

Gus and Donna Dornbusch went on a 4-day trip with the Nebraska Historical Society Foundation through north and midwestern Nebraska, including Valentine, North Platte, Ord, Mullen, and Kearney. The purpose of this trip was to explore specific parts of Nebraska.

Dana Snyder spent a week in Washington and Oregon visiting family. **Arlis and Keith Plummer** will be vacationing in Germany in September. **Bob Engel** went to his 65th class reunion in Fountain City, WI.

Arlis Plummer celebrated their 47th Wedding Anniversary in June. **Gus Dornbusch** celebrated his 90th birthday in August

Following is a link for the celebration of Gus Dornbusch's 90th Birthday:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=4b6720ce1b&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1870004460166136680&th=19f3972618994368&view=att&zw&disp=inline>

Jim Culver celebrated his 91st birthday in August.

Gus Dornbusch reported on the passing of **Charlene Woodside**, who was the secretary to NTC Directors for 20 plus years.

Meeting notes were compiled by Doug Christensen. –Submitted by Norman Kempf and Jim Culver

NEW JERSEY

Nancy Paolini, ARCSE Representative

Email: npaolini@comcast.net



Lunch gathering of some retirees at "The Chimney Rock Inn" in Flemington, NJ. Left to right: Linda Peterson, Barbara Phillips, Maria Iannuzzelli, Shirley Sakos, and Gail Bartok. A good time was had by all.

Congratulations to **Greg Westfall** for receiving the ARCSE President's Community Service Award for sustained and outstanding contributions in local, state, and regional community service. See the July-August newsletter for details.

OHIO

Mike Monnin, ARCSE Representative

Email: mike.monnin427@gmail.com

Attached is a picture of a recent OH retiree luncheon. State Conservationist **John Wilson** attended the luncheon, gave a presentation, but was not available to stay for the picture.



Ohio NRCS Retiree Luncheon, August 11, 2026. L-R: Charlie Frazier, Jon Warner, John Armentano, Larry Tornes, Jon Gerken, Scott Jerrome, Bill Zacharias, Bob Parkinson, Jim Stafford, Mark DeBrock, John Crumrine

OREGON

Denise Troxell, ARCSE Representative

Email: nisetrox@gmail.com

The Oregon summer retiree luncheon was held on July 22nd at Elmer's Restaurant in Portland Oregon. Being that summer was in full swing here in the Pacific Northwest, attendance was a little bit more sparse than usual. When summer comes out here, one must hit the ground running to fit in all the fun stuff!

We were fortunate to have **Greg Becker**, the Oregon State Conservationist (STC), join us and update us on all things Oregon NRCS. Greg was previously the state resource conservationist in Idaho and served for a time as the STC in Nevada. He moved to the Oregon City-Gladstone area, and he and his family are settling in well.

Greg shared that state level reorganization is beginning, and he is currently in the middle of firming up the state plan. The new Chief, **Colin Buckley** (previously Associate Chief) has laid out several priorities, and much of Oregon's work aligns well with them. He indicated that these priorities include wildlife, workplace culture, protecting ag land, modernizing field offices, partnerships,

team structure (staffing), focusing on outcomes-based results (soil testing results by way of example), and program delivery. Wildlife work in Oregon aligns strongly with Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife priorities to include mitigation corridors, and programs like the Ag Land Easement (ALE) and the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) work to preserve agricultural lands. Oregon has always had a plethora of strong partnerships, and this will continue to be central to accomplishing the conservation mission.

Relative to programs:

- The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) is still very big in Oregon, to the tune of \$17 million dollars.
- The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is funded at about \$35 million dollars.
- ALE continues to expand.
- The PL-566 program currently includes 36 irrigation improvement projects (mostly eastern Oregon).

Our group had several questions for Greg, including: snow survey (yes, it continues), CRP (yes, there is to be another signup), staffing at the State Office (30-ish folks), status of the administrative area (it is now called Management & Strategy, and while they do not have hiring functions, they still perform some Human Resource (HR) work. They also manage partner agreements). When asked about morale, Greg shared that it is testy; there was a long shutdown, and there were Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA) losses (but no RIF), leaving Oregon understaffed. Despite these challenges he remains optimistic that Oregon can carry out the mission and deliver services to agricultural producers.

Rather than doing the regular round-robin of everyone's current activities, we asked if anyone had anything they'd like to share. **Don Stettler** wanted to let folks know to be careful with responding to electronic invites. He received one that he thought was for a fellow retiree's 50th anniversary celebration, and it turned out to be malicious, costing him time and money. Others shared that they had also received similar "evites" and either called the sender or just didn't click to respond. The moral of the story is to be mindful of everything you click!

On a personal note, I attended the national meeting held in conjunction with the Soil & Water Conservation Society (SWCS) Conference held in St. Louis, MO at the end of July. It was fun to catch up with colleagues I hadn't seen in a long time, meet some new ones, and receive updates on the national group's activities.





Aphid–The worst.

Our next retiree luncheon will be October 28th at the Stir-Crazy Kitchen in Aloha, OR.

TENNESSEE

Traci Horne, ARCSE Representative

Email: traci.hornenrcs@gmail.com

Pasture Walk offers hands-on grazing for Tennessee producers and field staff

Area 3 field staff and local producers met at Rocky Top Farm owned by **Terry Gupton**. Former and retired district conservationist with more than 30 years of experience and previously employed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, independently facilitated a planned training day focused on grazing training and concluding with a pasture walk this past July.

During the initial land survey, Gupton shuttled field staff around on a hay filled trailer as he explained his rotational grazing system and outlined his plan to improve cattle health and farm operations. Discussion included pasture evaluation, inventory, resource concerns, and grass identification, and a basic comprehensive look at best practices for pasture management.

Jake Watson, Area 3 Resource Conservationist, encouraged dialogue among the group. **Greg Brann**, local grazing specialist and speaker, explained the risks of overgrazing, and noted the impact it has on soil erosion, animal health, soil vitality, and operational cost. Brann emphasized the importance of sustainable grazing practices and urged producers to reconsider their pasture management strategies.

The former conservationist's goal is to inspire producers to re-evaluate their current pasture management plans. Key takeaways for NRCS field staff concluded with gained knowledge on the value of regular pasture evaluation, resource management concerns, and the role annual grasses must maintain a healthy grazing ecosystem.

–By **Amy Phipps**, Soil Conservationist



Above photo (left to right): Greg Brann, Tennessee Grazing Specialist; Philip Dixon, District Conservationist, ret; William (Bill) Dailey, District Conservationist, ret; Dwight Disckson, District Conservationist, ret; Dewitt Simerly, District Conservationist, ret; Randy Parnell, District Conservationist, ret; Jeff Young, District Conservationist, ret.; and Terry Gupton, District Conservationist, ret. TEXAS

TEXAS

Michael Bogard, ARCSE Representative

Email: mbogard41@gmail.com

Ronald Hilliard wrote:

Edith and I kick off September by attending our first 2027 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo meeting of the Range and Wildlife committee on September 2nd. Wasn't too long ago we were just completing the 2026 Rodeo. But we will have monthly meetings right up to the opening day on March 2, 2027, to March 21. Our first event will be the Archery competition in October 9–11, 2026 at the NRG Center in Houston.

But prior to that, Edith and I will leave on September 19 and fly to Cape Town South Africa for a 12-day bus safari and complete our trip in Johannesburg, South Africa, returning on October 4. Hopefully we will have pictures to share in the next edition.

So on our return we will be busy with Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo activities and end the month of October by attending the Texas Section SRM meeting in Abilene October 21–23.

WEST VIRGINIA

Peg Reese, ARCSE Representative

Email: pegreesewv@gmail.com

See the In Memoriam section of this newsletter for details and obituary for Challen Donald Summers.

WISCONSIN

Deb Legear, ARCSE Representative

Email: deb.legear@gmail.com

Submitted by **Deb LeGear**:

I enjoy getting in my vehicle and taking side trips to national monuments, parks with waterfalls, and lighthouses too.

This year I traveled with three former coworkers on different occasions in addition to a solo outing. We like to stop and see unusual things along the way. The Roadside American app helps me locate the oddities out there just waiting to be noticed by travelers.

Judy Derricks and I drove to Dickeyville to see a Grotto made with stone, glass, and seashells. We saw a yard with a dinosaur and gas station on it among other things.



Gas station display in someone's yard



Dickeyville Grotto in Wisconsin

Deanna Anderson and her son **Gabe** traveled with me to Michigan and Niagara Falls, Ontario Canada and New York. We saw waterfalls, traveled to Mackinac Island on a ferry, took a boat trip under the falls and visited the Mission Point lighthouse and Sleeping Bear Dunes national park in Michigan. There were so many roadside attractions, we treated it like a scavenger hunt.



Deanna & Gabe at Arch Rock, Mackinac Island



Sunrise on Lake Huron

In the spring, I took a solo trip to Pipestone, Minnesota to check out the national monument and found a waterfall at the site which was a pleasant surprise. I stopped at Minneopa State Park in Mankato to see a herd of bison and in Rochester to view the ear of corn water tower.



Waterfall at Pipestone Nat'l Monument, Pipestone, MN



Water tower in Rochester, MN



Bison at Minneopa State Park - Mankato, MN



Mackinac Bridge (Mighty Mac)



Niagara Falls, Ontario, CN



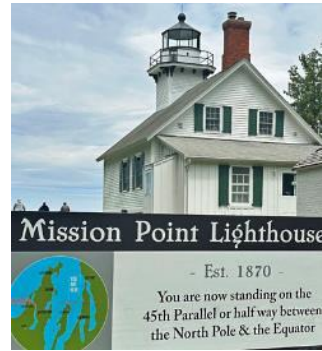
Tahquamenon Falls, Paradise, MI



Deb LeGear, Gabe and Deanna Peterson



Sleeping Bear Dunes, Empire, MI



Mission Point Lighthouse

- Est. 1870 -
You are now standing on the
45th Parallel or half way between
the North Pole & the Equator

In July, **Mary Evitch** and I drove to Iowa to see the renovated Herbert Hoover presidential library and museum, Effigy Mounds in Harpers Ferry and encountered the largest strawberry in Strawberry Point, the largest frying pan in Brandon and Pinky the elephant as we drove along the Mississippi River.

This is one way I pass time in retirement. Big trips with little trips in between while spending quality time with friends and family.



World's Largest Strawberry



Herbert Hoover Presidential Library



Deb LeGear at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library



Mary Evitch, Largest frying pan



Pinky the elephant

SENIOR CONSERVATIONISTS – Paul Benedict. Senior Conservationists have reached the minimum age of 83 years and have completed the Senior Conservationist Questionnaire (download at <https://arcsecommunications.wordpress.com/senior-conservationists/>). See IN-MEMORIAM for the Senior Conservationists who have left us since the last Newsletter. Please help us identify retirees who should be named Senior Conservationists. Please provide their contact information to your ARCSE Representative or Regional Vice-President.

Senior Conservationist Dennis D. Hackbart

Dennis Hackbart was born 09/14/1938. He was raised on a farm located a couple of miles northwest of Watertown, South Dakota. Having grown up in the 1940s and 1950s, he heard stories concerning the Great Depression and the concurrent Great Plains Dust Bowl Days of the 1930s. He then attended a one room country school for grades 1 through 8 (enrollments ranged from 8 to 12 annually). He then attended and graduated from Watertown High School (He went from a class of 2 in his 8th grade to a class of 200 in the 9th grade).

Following high school, he attended and graduated from South Dakota State University in 1960, earning a BS degree in Agriculture Education. He earned his MS in Economics at the University of Nebraska in 1967. He then pursued a career with the federal government. A resume of the 36 year career is provided below.

He married **Carol Hickok** (an Iowa nurse) on 5/15/1963. Sadly, Carol passed in 1995. Son, Michael; daughter, Pamela; grandchild, Patrick Bean.

July 1960 – June 1961 U.S. Food and Drug Inspector at Minneapolis, MN

July 1961 – December 1961 Army Reserve

July 1961– 1963 – SCS Soil Conservationist in Salem, South Dakota and married Carol Hickok

1963–1965 SCS District Conservationist Alexandria, SD (While there, a fire burned the business district including the SCS office.)

Pamela was born while I was there.

1965–1967 Earned a master's degree at U. of Nebraska

1967–1972 SCS – Lincoln Nebraska – Watershed Planning Staff Economist (Michael was born here)

1972–1977 SCS Economist on the Watershed/River Basin Planning Staff, Syracuse, NY

1977–1982 Economist on the River Basin Staff, Little Rock, Arkansas

1982–1995 Staff Leader, Water Resources Staff, Little Rock, Arkansas, chairman of the AWRBIAC Advisory Committee, and was responsible for the Small Watershed Analysis

AFTER RETIREMENT FROM SCS

Following federal retirement he was employed by the Pulaski County Conservation District, and then was elected to serve as chairman of the Pulaski Conservation District Board of Directors for 12 years. He was named AACDE Director of the Year in 2010. In 2013, AR Governor Beebe appointed him to a 5-year term on the Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers. For the past 22 years, he has very much enjoyed being a volunteer docent at the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, Arkansas. He was named by President Clinton as Volunteer of the Year in 2016.

In 2014, he received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for Volunteer Service from President Barack Obama (A shocking announcement).

Other Activities:

Cub Scout Master, Boy Scout Leader, Jaycees, Literacy Volunteers, Heart Fund work, Church Elder, Sunday School Teacher, School Board member, Church Usher, Church Building Committee, Orphan Train Memorial (Represented Carol's mother who rode the Orphan Train from New York City to Iowa in 1917). His health is good and is thankful that he is able to independently live at home and drive his car.

His contact information is 11806 Pleasant Tree Drive, Little Rock, AR 72211; tel. 501-225-7488; Email Address: dennishackbart@aol.com.



arcse.org

**DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER
CONTRIBUTIONS IS OCTOBER 25TH, 2026.**



OBITUARY INFORMATION**Paul Benedict, Membership Chair**

When you receive word of someone passing, with little other information provided to you, obituaries can often be found by doing an advanced search using Google, using the full name of the deceased. If you do not have access to the internet, Paul Benedict will be glad to do the search. **PLEASE SEND DEATH NOTICES AND OBITUARY INFORMATION DIRECTLY TO PAUL BENEDICT AT soilwarden@verizon.net.** Always include the position or the spouse's position with SCS/NRCS.

Surname	Year	<i>In-Memoriam</i> (Note: These are recent notices. For a complete list, please see www.arcse.org)
Carter	2021	Carroll O. Carter (83) of Emporia, Virginia, passed away April 29, 2021. He was born July 1, 1937, to the late Herbert and Elsie Carter in Jarratt, Virginia. He received his extended education from Virginia State College, University of Delaware and later Glassboro State College in New Jersey. He absolutely loved the land and farming it. This ardent infatuation led to a 35-year long career as a Soil Conservationist with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service from 1961 to 1996 working in New Jersey. Carroll received numerous awards and certificates during his tenure. After retiring he moved back to Virginia he served as a substitute teacher in the very school system that set him on his educational path. Carroll was a devout Christian. In New Jersey he belonged to the Morning Star Baptist Church where he flexed his vocals and sang on the Senior Choir. When he returned to Virginia and joined Chapel Hill Baptist Church where he faithfully served until he was no longer able to do so. Carroll's survivors include his beloved wife, Clara, of 63; three children Dr. Kenneth Carter (Annette), Rhonda Miller (Harry), and Anthony Carter (Sandra); seven grandchildren; and thirteen great-grandchildren.
Dahike	2024	Life Member George R. Dahike (86) of North Little Rock, Arkansas, passed away on August 14, 2024. He was born February 5, 1938. After graduating in 1955 from Mountain Home High School as an honor student, George went to Arkansas Polytechnic College from 1956 to 1957 and worked part-time as a Combine Laborer. George married his high school sweetheart Esta Mae Norman on September 8, 1959, while pursuing an education at the University of Arkansas. Two years later, George enlisted in the United States Army in 1961 at Fort Sam in Houston, Texas, and was stationed in 1963 at Fort Detrick in Frederick, Maryland. He was a 2nd Lieutenant in the chemical corps and was certified in chemical management, logistics, and personnel management. After his Army service, George spent multiple years employed by the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, receiving multiple awards. George's dedication to his trade led him to the position of Budget Officer in the Little Rock State Office until his retirement. George was always a Razorback fan and made monetary donations to the Educational Athletic Scholarship Program. George was also a member of Levy Baptist Church in North Little Rock. His love for friends, co-workers, and family he accumulated over the years remained a source of comfort and beloved memories for him.
Dekle	2025	Remer Judson Dekle (81) of Register, Georgia, passed away on June 30, 2025, surrounded by his family. The Bulloch County native was born at home in Register on November 11, 1943, to the late John Lehmon Dekle and Lula Mae Dekle. He attended Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and the University of Georgia, graduating in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science in agricultural engineering. He obtained his Master of Science in agriculture engineering from North Carolina State University in 1969. Remer was employed by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service as an agricultural/civil engineer from 1967 until 2004. He worked in North Carolina, South Carolina, Arizona, California and Fort Stewart, Georgia. Following retirement, he returned to Fort Stewart and continued his career as a project engineer until his second retirement. He had a deep love for the land and found great joy in working on the family farm, casting a line in a peaceful pond or spending time in the woods. Remer was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Florence "Sissy" Dekle, of 39 years; and his granddaughter, Carsyn Parry Hughes. He is survived by his cherished wife of 18 years, Jane Dekle. Other survivors include three sons, Lehmon Dekle (Karen) of Clemson, South Carolina, Stephen Dekle (Carol) of Statesboro, Georgia, Lake O'Donnell (Ashley) of St. Augustine, Florida; two daughters, Deanna Hodnicki of Jacksonville, Florida and Celena Hughes (Jody) of Richmond Hill, Georgia; 13 grandchildren, Laura Cochran (Cameron), Jack Dekle, Grace Webb (Mac), Sallie Hegler (Aaron), Gregory Dekle (Shermida), Peter Dekle, Julie Pye (Ethan), Kalei Dekle, Justin Hodnicki, Alexander Hodnicki, Cade Hughes, Cohen Hughes, and Lake Olivia O'Donnell.
Gilbert	2026	Theodore "Ted" Louis Gilbert (90) of Casper, Wyoming, passed away July 5, 2026. Ted was born November 6, 1935, in Laramie, Wyoming to Carl and Nellie Gilbert. He was a Veteran of the United States Army. Ted worked as an Engineer and later a Hydraulic Engineer for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service, retiring in 1994 after 35 years of service. He received multiple awards for his work. He was a diehard Wyoming Cowboys fan. He suffered a number of years supporting the Cleveland Browns and Indians, now the Guardians. He was involved in numerous activities at St. Mark's Episcopal Church and received several awards for his involvement in supporting his kids in scouting, youth baseball, and the Troopers Drum and Bugle Corps. His involvement included serving on the board of directors, volunteering with Trooper Bingo, and following the corps each summer selling souvenirs. Ted is survived by his wife of 63 years, Gertraud "Traute" Gilbert of Casper; sons, Karl Gilbert (Donna) of Denver, Colorado, Kurt Gilbert (Lara) of Casper, Kent Gilbert (Leslie) of Frisco, Texas, and Kyle Gilbert of Red Lodge, Montana; daughter, Kari Gilbert of Casper; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.
Lane	2026	Dennis Leon Lane (77) passed away on July 2, 2026, after a courageous battle with illness. He was born on October 31, 1948, in Clarinda, Iowa, to Carroll and Betty Lane. Dennis married Jeanne Porter Lane on April 6, 1968, in the United Methodist Church in Mitchellville, Iowa. After high school he pursued further education in Des Moines, Iowa, where he earned an Associate of Applied Science degree in Sheet Metal Technology. His career was marked by several accomplishments, but his work on the St. Louis Arch in Missouri remained one of his most cherished achievements. Dennis was also an entrepreneur, purchasing a business in Granby, Colorado, and working on the Cook Ranch as well as Logging. He contributed significantly to his family's business, Lane Drilling Company, but found his true calling with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, where he worked passionately as a Soil Conservation Technician who worked in Wyoming as well as in Page, Montgomery, and Clarke Counties in Iowa until his retirement in 2013. An avid outdoorsman, he found joy in fishing, kayaking, hiking, camping, and horseback riding. He also loved motorcycling, was well known for his appreciation of history, and was a skilled carpenter. Dennis is survived by his wife Jeanne, children Andrew (Suzanne) Lane and Jennifer (Dean) Duran; grandchildren, Hannah and Jake Lane, Turner Murphy,

		Holli, Ethan, and Calvin Duran, and six great-grandchildren—Everly Grube, Kade, Bailey, Harper, Kinleigh, and Mia Duran.
Robertson	2026	Jerry Don Robertson (74) of Lamar, Arkansas passed away on July 3, 2026. He was born September 21, 1951, in Sikeston, Missouri to the late Joshua and Ethel Robertson. Jerry was a Vietnam veteran of the United States Air Force and later retired as a Civil Engineering Technician from the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. He was a former Scout Leader in Paris, Arkansas who enjoyed hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, being outdoors, and especially spending time with family. Jerry is survived by his wife, Kristi Robertson of the home; his sons, Nathaniel Robertson of Altus, Arkansas and Benjamin Robertson of Pottsville, Arkansas; his beloved dog, Bandit; as well as other relatives and friends. A funeral was held July 7, 2026, at Roberts Memorial Chapel and burial was at Spring Hill Cemetery in Booneville, Arkansas.
Schertz	2026	Sharron LeAnne Schertz (80) of Northport, Alabama, passed away on July 29, 2026, at Aspire Physical Recovery Center in Northport. She was the wife of ARCSE Member David Schertz, retired National Agronomist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Sharron was born on March 10, 1946, in Belvidere, Illinois. She loved the Lord with all her heart and was an active member of First Baptist Church (FBC) of Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Sharron and her husband went on several FBC Builders for Christ mission trips, where she helped in the kitchen crew to feed the workers. Sharron was loved by all who knew her, and she never met a person she didn't like. During her younger years, she worked in plant design and horticulture and enjoyed helping the workers learn how to take care of "sick" plants at home. She will be truly missed by her family and her friends! Survivors include her husband of 60 years, David Schertz; daughter, Stacey Shamburger; and her two grandsons, Braden, and Gabriel Shamburger.
Seinwill	2026	Life Member Gerald D. "Jerry" Seinwill, P.E., (86) of Arlington, Virginia, passed away peacefully on February 8, 2025. He was born October 26, 1938, in Rockford, Illinois to William and Solveig (née Delebak) Seinwill. Jerry graduated in 1960 from the University of Wisconsin (UW) as a Civil Engineer. While at UW, Jerry met his future bride Sally Wagner, while attending the required summer Surveying Camp in the north woods of Wisconsin. Fulfilling his Army ROTC commitment after graduation saw Jerry moving to Germany with the Army Corps of Engineers, where he was joined by his new wife in 1962. Jerry's civilian public service commenced in earnest after leaving Germany and the Army in 1964. He started with the US Bureau of Reclamation in Colorado. Following receiving a Master of Science in Water Resources Management from UW, he worked for the State of Illinois as a water resources civil engineer and then for the State of Minnesota as Director of Waters. He returned to federal service with a move to the Washington, DC area in 1978 to serve as Deputy Director, then Director, of the US Water Resources Council where he became a Senior Executive. He wrapped up his federal career and full-time working life in various roles with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service ultimately retiring as the Director of Engineering in 1994. In retirement, Jerry more deeply immersed himself in his love of home improvement projects, wrapping up a complete renovation of their 1898 turreted townhouse on Capitol Hill. In 2002, Jerry and Sally left the townhouse for a home on the Chesapeake Bay to immerse themselves more fully in another of his loves, sailing. Sally passed away in 2009, after which Jerry continued enjoying family and friends. He found his "senior sweetheart" in long-time friend Carol Waite with whom he remained until his death. Together, they moved back to the DC area in Arlington to be nearer to mutual friends. In addition to supporting Carol's artistic endeavors, Jerry, ever the civil engineer, monitored nearby high-rise construction from their apartment balcony. Jerry is survived by Carol, his children Jeff Seinwill (Trish) and Anne Larsen (Erik) and granddaughters Natalie, Caroline, and Tess.
Shevchik	2026	Joseph Edward Shevchik (72) of Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, passed away unexpectedly on June 21, 2026, while on a fishing trip with friends. Joe was born October 15, 1953, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was the son of the late Michael and Margaret (Stofko) Shevchik. He received a degree in Environmental Resources Management from Pennsylvania State University in 1975. He worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and was the District Conservationist in Ebensburg for many years. He retired in 2014. At home in Ebensburg, he enjoyed playing tennis, card nights with friends, and tending to his honeybees. His lifelong love of automobiles included working on his treasured Shelby Mustang, and his beloved Toyota Land Cruiser. Joe traveled to Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Honduras, the Bahamas, throughout Canada, and across the United States. He was a member of Holy Name Catholic Church in Ebensburg. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elaine (Drelick) Shevchik in 2014. Joe passed away alongside one of his closest life-long friends, Kevin Benzenhoefer, with whom he shared one final fishing trip. Joe is survived by his loving daughter, Heather (David) Shevchik-O'Brien.
Summers	2026	Challen "Donald" Summers (93) of Morgantown, West Virginia, passed away on May 22, 2026, at Mon Health Medical Center. He was born in Fairmont, West Virginia, on December 11, 1932, a son of the late Ellis Donovan and Elva Ellen (Wilson) Summers. His career over the years included working for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service as well as working as a Federal Mine inspector with the Office of Surface Mining. For 40 years, he served as an Emergency Medical Technician Instructor. He volunteered as an Emergency Medical Technician for Valley Ambulance Service and worked as a Standardized Patient with WV STEPS. Donald was a faithful member of the Howesville Church of Christ. He was also known as an avid outdoorsman to include both hunting and fishing as well as farming. Survivors include his children, Karen Weyrich, Donna Lynn (Steven) Acuff, Dan (Caroline) Summers, Jeanette Smith and Faye Brinkley; his grandchildren, Sean (Vika) Weyrich, Chad (Babs) Weyrich, Kendra Weyrich and Dustin (Lisa) Acuff, Lisa Summers (Drew) Gilbert, Aaron (Brittany) Smith, Heather Smith (Matt) Harris, Brittany Brinkley, Corey Brinkley, and Jesse Brinkley; and great grandchildren, Gregory, David and Yaromir Weyrich, Sebastian and Aria Acuff, Lillianna and Maia Gilbert and Isla and Challen Smith. Donald is preceded by his loving wife of 63 years, Glenda White Summers.
Watson	2026	Deborah Ann "Debbie" (Moore) Watson (73) of McMurray, Pennsylvania, passed away peacefully on August 12, 2026, with her loving family by her side at Good Samaritan Hospice. She was the wife of retired District Conservationist Thomas Sierzega, who worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Debbie was born on February 6, 1953, at Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee, Massachusetts. She had a Bachelor of Science degree from Murray State University and a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. She worked for Reynolds Aluminum in Richmond, Virginia and ALCOA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Davenport, Iowa before eventually establishing her own consulting firm. She served as a Eucharistic Minister at Immaculate Conception Church in Washington, Pennsylvania. Survivors include her children Tres (Dr. Laura) Watson of Lexington, Kentucky, and Sara (Ben El-Baroudi) Watson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and New York City; stepchildren Philip Sierzega (Addie) of Brooklyn, New

		York, and Katie Sierzega (Mark) of Baltimore, Maryland; and grandchildren Finn and Keegan Watson of Lexington, Kentucky.
Wickliffe	2026	Shirley Ann Kelley (72) of Wickliffe, Kentucky, passed away at her home on July 7, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family. Shirley was born on July 20, 1953, to the late Raymond and Gladys Carpenter. Shirley retired from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) after years of dedicated service, where she worked as a Soil Conservation Technician. Retirement never slowed her down. She embraced every season of life with enthusiasm, always finding joy in the outdoors. Whether tending to her beautiful flower gardens, spending hours working in the yard, fishing with her beloved husband on the waters of Florida, crafting homemade wine to share with family and friends, or spending time with her loyal companion, Beau, the dog her grandson, Kameron, brought into the family years ago. She celebrated her 67th birthday by parasailing, jet skiing at 68, and marked her 70th birthday by zip-lining. Shirley was an active member of the Ladies Auxiliary at Campground, where she found great joy in serving alongside others and spending time with friends. Shirley is survived by her husband of 53 years, William "Dubby" Kelley; daughter, Stephanie Jacobsen of Metropolis, Illinois; son, Wesley Kelley of Cunningham, Kentucky; four grandchildren, Kameron Kelley, Levi Jacobsen, Jasmine Jacobsen, and Abigail Kelley. She was preceded in death by her granddaughter, Kinsey Kelley. Area Conservationist Andrea Marie King (54) of Taylor, Missouri, passed away on July 2, 2026, at Boone Hospital in Columbia, Missouri, after a long battle with cancer. Andrea was born January 31, 1972, in Hannibal, Missouri, to the late Robert E. "Bob" Peiter and Carol Faeth Peiter. She was married to Craig King on July 15, 2000. Andrea received a master's degree from the University of Missouri - Columbia. She worked for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for 31 years, serving as an Area Conservationist managing 30 counties. Andrea was a dedicated Lucky Four 4H Club leader, a strong 4-H advocate, and enjoyed helping youth with sheep showing. Andrea began raising Shropshire sheep at a young age with her siblings attending the Missouri State Fair annually. She continued managing her sheep flock and showing at the Missouri State Fair for the entirety of her life, meeting many lifelong friends along the way. Andrea previously served as the president of the Marion County 4-H Council and was instrumental in implementing the sheep showing events. Andrea loved her family greatly, always attending her children's activities and sporting events. Known for her warm smile, infectious laughter, attention to detail, and selfless nature, Andrea was always encouraging and supportive of others. She enjoyed attending and cheering on Mizzou Football. An avid reader, she enjoyed books by John Grisham and Nicholas Sparks. She loved music, especially George Strait, whom she saw in concert multiple times, as well as classic rock and roll and worship music. In addition to her husband Craig, survivors include her children, Weston (Karlee) King of Lyons, Kansas, Candra King (Cameron Jones of Ames, Iowa) of Taylor, Missouri, Tracy (Ryan) McAleer of La Vista, Nebraska, Terri (Zach) Miller of Novelty, Missouri, Chad (Debbie) May of Shawnee, Oklahoma, Leslie (Randy) Kerr of Shawnee, Oklahoma, Chima Dunga of Davenport, Iowa, who was like a son to Andrea, and grandchildren, Grant, Hannah, Kase, Callen, Rowen, Emlyn, Harris, Rhett and Kallen. Funeral Services will be held July 8, 2026, at the Zion Lutheran Church in Palmyra, Missouri.
Wiederhold	2026	Arlene Adele Dowdy Wiederhold (74) of Dime Box, Texas, passed away on July 24, 2026, after a battle with cancer. She was the wife of Lee Wiederhold, retired engineer for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. Arlene was born on December 29, 1951, in Giddings, Texas, to William Hester "Bal" Dowdy and Jean Ellen Dowdy. On August 26, 1973, Arlene married Lee Roy Wiederhold, Jr., at St. James Lutheran Church in Lexington, Texas. She earned her degree in Education from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in 1984 and began her teaching career at Troy Independent School District. Over the next several decades, she touched countless lives as a loved educator. Survivors include her husband of almost 53 years, Lee Roy Wiederhold, Jr.; her children: Lee Roy "Trey" Wiederhold III (Dora), and their daughters Beatrice and Elizabeth; Amber Nicole Inberg (Chris Behan), and daughter Olivia; Amanda Jean Foley (Daniel) and daughters Sadie, Molly, and Clara; and William Al Wiederhold (Annie) and children Wyatt, Beckham, and Caroline.
Williams	2026	James Stuart "Jim" Williams (70) of Ardmore, Oklahoma, passed away August 20, 2026 surrounded by his family. Jim was born on March 22, 1956, in Joplin, Missouri to J.V. and Joyce E (Feuers) Williams. He received his associate degree from Northeastern A & M College in 1976 and his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Degree from Oklahoma State University in 1979. Jim and Jerrie Howell were married on February 17, 1979, in Afton, Oklahoma. He began his career in 1979 with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service (now Natural Resource Conservation Service), retiring in 2017. He was the District Conservationist for Cordell, Altus, Sulphur, Walters and finally his forever home in Ardmore in 1993. Throughout his life he served on many boards and volunteered throughout the community. He was active in church, FFA/4-H programs, Carter County Free Fair, the Carter County Jr. Livestock Show, the Walters Jaycee organization and Ardmore Little Theatre. Jim is survived by his wife, Jerrie. Other survivors include his children Brandi (Matt) Suffal and Brian (Katie) Williams, and grandchildren Brooklyn, Makynlee, Brilee, Mason and honorary granddaughter Taylor.
Woodside	2026	Life Member Charline A Woodside (91) of Lincoln, Nebraska, passed away on August 3, 2026. She was born in Gilead, Nebraska on August 22, 1934. She worked as a Secretary for the USDA-Soil Conservation Service and retired in 1994. She is survived by her son, Kale J Woodside (Pam Baker) of Lincoln, Nebraska; daughters and sons-in-law, Shari (Thomas Styskal) of Greenwood, Nebraska; Kim (Brad) Jacobs of St. Paul, Nebraska; grandchildren: Brandon Woodside of Des Moines, Iowa; Anne (Scott) Sheffield of Lincoln, Nebraska; Faye Styskal (Chris Leach) of Bozeman Montana; Dustin Jacobs (Melanie Colindong), William (Sierra) Jacobs of St. Paul, Nebraska; and great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by daughter Janeen Fay Woodside and special friend and dancing partner Bob Schuldt.

MEMBER LOCATOR

August 25, 2026 (Sorted alphabetically by State, City, then Last Name). Use this current listing to find members in states or cities you may be passing through in your travels. Find contact information for members in the 2026 ARCSE Member Directory.

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Charles	Love	Auburn	AL
Stephen	Musser	Auburn	AL
Marshall "Mac"	Nelson	Auburn	AL
Earl L	Norton	Auburn	AL
Perry	Oakes	Auburn	AL
Ernest V	Todd	Auburn	AL
William "Gary"	Kobylski	Foley	AL
Larry	McCray	Moundville	AL
David L	Schertz	Northport	AL
Robert	Berry	Vinemont	AL
Billy A	Garner	Booneville	AR
Dennis	Hackbart	Little Rock	AR
Ralph	Mashburn	Little Rock	AR
Dale	Pekar	Little Rock	AR
Bob	Price	Little Rock	AR
Mike	Sullivan	North Little Rock	AR
M Bruce	McCullough	Ozark	AR
Christopher P	Williams	Chandler	AZ
Wade	Biddix	Goodyear	AZ
Thomas E	Calhoun	Green Valley	AZ
Gordon O	Klofstad	Mesa	AZ
Ron	Lowery	Mesa	AZ
Karl R.	Klingelhofer	Oro Valley	AZ
Stephen	Black	Phoenix	AZ
J Gordon	Odell	Saddlebrooke	AZ
Rodney M	Alt	Surprise	AZ
Ruth	Wilimek	Tempe	AZ
Galen S	Bridge	Tucson	AZ
Christopher	Cochran	Tucson	AZ
Kenneth M	Cookson	Tucson	AZ
Romy	Myszka	Antioch	CA
Ron	Harben	Arroyo Grande	CA
Lorrie	Bundy	Callahan	CA
Robert	Roy	Clovis	CA
Darwyn H	Briggs	Davis	CA
Madalene M	Ransom	Davis	CA
Edward	Schmit	Davis	CA
Walter E.	Sykes	Davis	CA
Chester	Bush	Fresno	CA
		Hidden Valley	
John H	Stierna	Lake	CA
William L	Braker	Lancaster	CA
Robert D	Slayback	Lodi	CA
Jennifer	Foster	Merced	CA
Leonard	Jolley	Napa	CA
Nyle L	Jordre	Rio Vista	CA
Thomas	Wehri	Roseville	CA
Mary	Andreuccetti	Sacramento	CA
William A.	Ward	Sacramento	CA
Albert	Cerna Jr.	Salinas	CA
Paul	Koluvek	Winters	CA
Phil	Hogan	Woodland	CA
Jack R.	Carlson	Aurora	CO
Duane L	Johnson	Cedaredge	CO
Ivan R.	Wilkinson	Estes Park	CO
Charles M	Hart	Fort Collins	CO
Scott	Snover	Fort Collins	CO
John	Andrews	Foxfield	CO
Wendell	Hassell	Fruita	CO
Stuart N.	Keil	Ft. Collins	CO

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Emery C	Johnson	Grand Junction	CO
Larry	Flentie	Loveland	CO
Wendall R	Oakes	Loveland	CO
Carter	Christenson	Lyons	CO
Larry D	Miles	Pagosa Springs	CO
William	Ireland	Chaplin	CT
Joseph E	Polulech	Woodstock Valley	CT
Bruce	Knight	Washington	DC
Doug	McKalip	Washington	DC
Richard P	Bennett	Georgetown	DE
Edward J.	Brzostek	Ocean View	DE
Andrea M.	Cora	Rehoboth Beach	DE
Eileen	Campbell	Wilmington	DE
Michael	Jones	Cottontale	FL
Robert G	Law	DeLand	FL
Clayton R	Miller	Ft. Meyers	FL
Robert G	Halstead	Homosassa	FL
Marc	Crouch	Leesburg	FL
Raymond L	Marshall	Mt Dora	FL
Sterling B.	Caple	North Port	FL
Jerome C	Hytry	Orlando	FL
Janice	Reid	Palm Coast	FL
Maurice J	Mausbach	Saint Augustine	FL
		Santa Rosa	
William	Kuenstler	Beach	FL
Donald	Butz	Tampa	FL
Charlie	Godley	The Villages	FL
Karl H.	Langlois	The Villages	FL
William E	Frederick	Winter Haven	FL
Carolyn C	Adams	Athens	GA
Linda R	DiPietro	Athens	GA
Cindy	Haygood	Cedartown	GA
Leonard	Jordan	Douglasville	GA
Curt	Hobbs	Fayetteville	GA
Ross L	Ulmer	McDonough	GA
Beverly H.	Walker	Statesboro	GA
Phillip	Hadarits	Toombsboro	GA
Edward P.	Ealy	Watkinsville	GA
Kenneth M	Kaneshiro	Aiea	HI
Jody	Christiansen	Altoona	IA
David D	Breitbach	Ames	IA
Thomas L	Gust	Ames	IA
Kevin	McCall	Ames	IA
John K.	Skerritt	Ames	IA
Eldon C	Weber	Ames	IA
Bruce	Wight	Ames	IA
Carolyn	Christian	Ankeny	IA
Mark	McCurdy	Ankeny	IA
Dennis G	Miller	Ankeny	IA
Lee C.	White	Ankeny	IA
John H (Herb)	Wilson	Ankeny	IA
Gerald C.	Stevens	Boone	IA
Sheila	Cox	Bronson	IA
Dora	Guffey	Carlisle	IA
	Meyer-		
Tanya A	Dideriksen	Cedar Rapids	IA
Lyle W	Asell	Chariton	IA
Kurtis	Hoelt	Charles City	IA
Scott K	Osborn	Cherokee	IA
Paul E	Miller	Clive	IA
Brian C.	Peterson	Corning	IA
Lawrence L	Dorgan	Creston	IA
Jeff	Godwin	Cumberland	IA
Dennis L	Hurtz	Decorah	IA
Keith	Krause	Delhi	IA
Jay	Ford	Denison	IA
Steve	Langholdt	Denison	IA
Dale	Faulkner	Des Moines	IA

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Thomas	O'Connor	Des Moines	IA
Maralee J	Sarasio	Des Moines	IA
Douglas S	Johnson	Dubuque	IA
James	Gillespie	Earlham	IA
Gary L	Hillmer	El Dora	IA
Ronald J.	Kuehl	Elkader	IA
Jerry	Muff	Elkader	IA
Lane	Collins	Fairfield	IA
Stanley R	Simmons	Fairfield	IA
Daryl L	Carpenter	Ft Dodge	IA
Larry	Beeler	Indianola	IA
Alan	Lauver	Indianola	IA
L Ruth	Izer	Iowa City	IA
Lynn	Betts	Johnston	IA
Martin "Marty"	Adkins	Knoxville	IA
Lew A	Brent	Knoxville	IA
Candy	Thomas	Lamoni	IA
Douglas	Morningstar	Lisbon	IA
Dale	DuVal	Logan	IA
Roger	Link	Maxwell	IA
Arnold "Arnie"	Wetzstein	McGregor	IA
Marvin D	Brown	Mt Pleasant	IA
Steve	Manternach	Nevada	IA
Larry E	Jones	Newton	IA
Barbara	Stewart	Newton	IA
Suzette D	Betts	North Liberty	IA
Mark	Lindflott	Northwood	IA
John W	Chenoweth	Pella	IA
Bob	Dayton	Polk City	IA
Bill	Hammitt	Portsmouth	IA
Greg	Townley	Prairie City	IA
Erwin O	Aust	Shenandoah	IA
Edward "Ed"	Marshall	Silver City	IA
Richard W	Hall	Sioux City	IA
Terri	Sage	Sioux City	IA
Jim	Ayen	Urbandale	IA
David W	Beck	Urbandale	IA
Dennis	Pate	Urbandale	IA
Richard A	Rogers	Urbandale	IA
Mark J.	Jensen	W Des Moines	IA
William R	Woerner	Waterloo	IA
Barb	Hanson	Waukon	IA
Don C	Peterson	West Des Moines	IA
Norman	Friedrich	West Union	IA
Paul H	Calverley	Boise	ID
James A.	Cornwell	Boise	ID
Gerald G	Larson	Boise	ID
Mark	Weatherstone	Bonnors Ferry	ID
Richard	Van Klaveren	Hayden	ID
Sue R.	Ellis	Meridian	ID
Rob	Fredericksen	Meridian	ID
Ron	Nichols	Meridian	ID
Daniel	Ogle	Meridian	ID
Daniel R.	Pierce	Moscow	ID
Cheryl	Simmons	Moscow	ID
Mike	Somerville	Nampa	ID
Dale	Benz	Champaign	IL
Lester J	Bushue	Champaign	IL
Richard L	Dickerson	Champaign	IL
Ben	Mingo	Champaign	IL
Andy	Cerven	Charleston	IL
Marjorie	Faber	Chicago	IL
John R.	Garrity	Earlville	IL
Jerry	Misek	Elizabeth	IL
Kent	Bohnhoff	Groveland	IL
Lee H	Bridgman	Jacksonville	IL
Ross	Braun	Macomb	IL

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Jim E	McQuilkin	Magnolia	IL
Elsie Mae	Campbell	Mahomet	IL
J Wiley	Scott	Mahomet	IL
Ivan	Dozier	Mill Shoals	IL
Neil	Pellmann	Mokena	IL
Nancy	Phalen	Monticello	IL
Arthur A	Bryant	Peotone	IL
Bryon	Kirwan	Seymour	IL
Loran E. (Gene)	Davis	Shelbyville	IL
Jerry W.	Leonard	Tuscola	IL
James L	Evans	Urbana	IL
James	Rospopo	Woodstock	IL
Ruth	Montgomery	Bedford	IN
Glen A.	Weesies	Brownsburg	IN
Dick	Gilbert	Carmel	IN
Chris	Tippie	Carmel	IN
Dan	McCain	Delphi	IN
Alvin K.	Balmer	Edinburgh	IN
William "Chris"	Lee	Evansville	IN
Jane	Hardisty	Greenfield	IN
Dena	Anderson	Hanover	IN
Jerry D	Larson	Indianapolis	IN
Mark	Eastman	Lafayette	IN
Susan J	Meadows	Lebanon	IN
Steven L	Wade	Linton	IN
Roger	Roeske	Lucerne	IN
Gary R	Struben	Muncie	IN
Rex	Brock	North Manchester	IN
Robert	Steiner	North Vernon	IN
Rebecca	Fletcher	Plainfield	IN
Jane	Gornall	Plainfield	IN
Jerry J	Pearson	Plymouth	IN
Donald E.	Weaver	Richmond	IN
Catrina	Perkinson	Underwood	IN
G Franklin	Furr, Jr.	Winamac	IN
Jill	Reinhart	Zionsville	IN
Randy	Bennett	Girard	KS
Dan	Meyerhoff	Hays	KS
William B	Sorensen	Ness City	KS
Robert B	Crawford	Newton	KS
Harold	Blume	Salina	KS
John	Ourada	Salina	KS
Mary D.	Shaffer	Salina	KS
Jim	Wallace	Salina	KS
Britt	Weiser	Shawnee	KS
Harlan E	Dietz	Topeka	KS
Michael J	Mitchell	Bowling Green	KY
Bill W	Milliken	Fulton	KY
Glenn E	Kelley	Lexington	KY
Kenneth W	Overhults	Lexington	KY
Kenneth	Collins	Maceo	KY
Frank C	Scudder	Murray	KY
Anthony	Burns	Pendleton	KY
Billye Morgan	Haslett	Richmond	KY
Joseph	Branco	Alexandria	LA
Cherie E	LaFleur	Washington	LA
Kevin D	Norton	Woodworth Ln	LA
Jeffrey G	Anliker	Belchertown	MA
Diane	Petit	Bellingham	MA
Cecil B	Curran	Hadley	MA
James A	Wesoloski	Hadley	MA
Valerie	Oksendahl	Longmeadow	MA
Mike	Bzdil	Annapolis	MD
Terry	D'Addio	Bethesda	MD
Edward G	Riekert	Bowie	MD
Galen W	TeSelle	Bowie	MD
Douglas J.	Lawrence	Cabin John	MD

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Richard D. (Rick)	Swenson	Catonsville	MD
Dave	Mason	Centreville	MD
Donna	Hopwood	Cheverly	MD
Obie D	Ashford	Columbia	MD
James E.	Hannawald	Denton	MD
Diana	Morse	District Heights	MD
Donald	Woodward	Gaithersburg	MD
Lenore	Vasilas	Havre de Grace	MD
Roger	Cronshey	Huntington	MD
Noller	Herbert	Huntingtown	MD
Cheryl	Delamater	Hurlock	MD
	Woods		
Lillian V	Shawver	Laurel	MD
Robert R	Ensor	Manchester	MD
Michael P	Sigrist	Pocomoke City	MD
Helen L	Ross	Rockville	MD
Robert	Snieckus	Silver Spring	MD
Peter M	Tidd	Belfast	ME
D Bruce	Champeon	Glenburn	ME
George & Nancy	Stevens	Lincoln	ME
Arthur	Taylor	Milford	ME
William G	Moulton	Pittston	ME
Mary	Thompson	Union	ME
Fred and Mary	Gilbert	Belmont	MI
Loren W	Berndt	Bridgman	MI
Karry	Trickey	Eaton Rapids	MI
Gaylynn	Kinter	Flushing	MI
Thomas J	Fedewa	Fowler	MI
Thomas H	Purkey	Gaylord	MI
William J	Fude	Grand Ledge	MI
Julius O.	Pigott	Jackson	MI
Robert G	Law	Oscoda	MI
Bruce E.	Green	Vandalia	MI
Lea	Holter	Maple Grove	MN
Marlene M	Mechelke	Maplewood	MN
Robin	Martinek	Prior Lake	MN
Justin L	Murray	Rochester	MN
Victorin "Vic"	Ruhland	St. Paul	MN
John	Brach	Stillwater	MN
Michael	Blaine	Baring	MO
Lyle	Noblitt	Carrollton	MO
J.R.	Flores	Columbia	MO
Roger A.	Hansen	Columbia	MO
Jean C	Herman	Columbia	MO
Gary	Moreau	Columbia	MO
Dave	Rastorfer	Columbia	MO
Gail	Sallee	Columbia	MO
Rita Marie	Williams	Fair Grove	MO
Francis F	Miller	Hartsburg	MO
Robert L	Hummel	Jefferson City	MO
Kenneth E	Benham	Joplin	MO
David	Lightle	Labadie	MO
Marvin L	Knabach	Lee's Summit	MO
Hugh	Curry	Overland Park	MO
James E	Sturm	Princeton	MO
John F	Rice	Rolla	MO
F. Tyler	Smith	Springfield	MO
Ellis	Benham	Stockton	MO
Kristin	Smith	Biloxi	MS
Scott	Hoag, Jr.	Bozeman	MT
James S	Johnson	Bozeman	MT
Stacy M	Mitchell	Bozeman	MT
Lori	Valadez	Bozeman	MT
Dick	Gooby	Twin Bridges	MT
Francis T	Holt	Ashville	NC
Angela	Gragg	Boone	NC
Albert "Hank"	Henry, Jr.	Burlington	NC
James H	Canterberry	Cary	NC

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Richard A	Gallo	Cary	NC
Mark W.	Berkland	Chocowinity	NC
Rodney W.	Johnson	Elizabeth City	NC
Randall W	Giessler	Faith	NC
William J.	Harrell	Four Oaks	NC
Dean K.	Bingham	Goldsboro	NC
Christopher W	Smith	Goldsboro	NC
Letitia	Toomer-Jones	Huntersville	NC
Dennie G	Burns	Kitty Hawk	NC
P. Benjamin	Robinson, Jr.	Lincolnton	NC
Phyllis K	Pate	Lumberton	NC
Craig M	Right	Mebane	NC
Boyce L	Harvey	Oxford	NC
Robert	Horton, Jr.	Pinehurst	NC
Kristina	Hare	Pleasant Garden	NC
W. Hubert	Hawkins	Raleigh	NC
Horace	Smith	Raleigh	NC
Greg	Walker	Raleigh	NC
Talmadge J	Wiggins	Raleigh	NC
Steve	Woodruff	Raleigh	NC
Samuel C	Bingham	Rutherfordton	NC
Larry	Hendrix	Salisbury	NC
Frank	Clearfield	Southport	NC
V. Loring	McIntyre	Swannanoa	NC
Albert B	Coffey	Wake Forest	NC
Rodney E.	Woolard	Washington	NC
Tim	Garrett	Waynesville	NC
M. Alan	Walker	Waynesville	NC
Robert A	Bird	Bismarck	ND
Mark	Willoughby	Beatrice	NE
Norman	Koester	Beaver Lake	NE
Stephen C	Kennedy	Brownville	NE
Robin	Foulk	Chadron	NE
James R.	Gerding	Elkhorn	NE
Laurence "Larry" E	Brown	Lincoln	NE
Dave	Camper	Lincoln	NE
Doug	Christensen	Lincoln	NE
James	Culver	Lincoln	NE
Craig	Derickson	Lincoln	NE
Gus & Donna	Dornbusch	Lincoln	NE
Robert	Engel	Lincoln	NE
Norman	Helzer	Lincoln	NE
Norman & Sylvia	Kempf	Lincoln	NE
Harold L.	Klaege	Lincoln	NE
Gerald L	Montgomery	Lincoln	NE
Henry R	Mount	Lincoln	NE
Gary B	Muckel	Lincoln	NE
Kenneth E	Noonan	Lincoln	NE
Steve	Scheinost	Lincoln	NE
Steven C	Stover	Lincoln	NE
JoAnne	Thiele	Lincoln	NE
Steve	Chick	Papillion	NE
Dana	Snyder	Seward	NE
Jessica	Rock	Nashua	NH
Dean F	Sherman	Plymouth	NH
		Cape May Court House	NJ
Donald W	Hamer, Sr.	House	NJ
Gregory J	Westfall	Allentown	NJ
Annunziata (Nancy)	Paolini	Ewing	NJ
Tom	Drewes	Flemington	NJ
Linda	Peterson	Flemington	NJ
Gail	Bartok	Hillsborough	NJ
Laurence R	Irelan	Pennsville	NJ
		Graham	NM
Kristin Graves	Chavez	Corrales	NM
Luther F	McDougal	Mimbres	NM
Kenneth B	Leiting	Rio Rancho	NM

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Jim P	Thornton	Sante Fe	NM
James A	Linebaugh	Carson City	NV
Charles R.	Houston	Reno	NV
Loretta	Krall	Reno	NV
Elizabeth A	Warner	Washoe Valley	NV
Francis	Zaik	Allegany	NY
William	Keating	Argyle	NY
Paul A	Dodd	Baldwinsville	NY
William P	Yolton	Canastota	NY
Paul	Ray	Chittenango	NY
Joe	DelVecchio	Clayton	NY
Edward	Henry	Corning	NY
John	Whitney	East Aurora	NY
Donald W	Lake	Erieville	NY
Eugene C	Hanchett	Latham	NY
Julius D	Toenniessen	Rush	NY
Nancy	Lee	Waterloo	NY
Jon	Gerken	Carroll	OH
Bob	Parkinson	Columbus	OH
Clifford E	Simpson	Englewood	OH
David F	Berna	Grove City	OH
Richard W	Rush	Grove City	OH
William J	Zacharias	Lancaster	OH
John H	Brown, Jr.	Marion	OH
K Keith	Huffman	Marysville	OH
Norman T	Mull	New Paris	OH
Susan	Spencer	Orient	OH
Scott	Jerome	Pickerington	OH
Mike	Monnin	Pickerington	OH
Joseph	Branco	Port Clinton	OH
D Rex	Mapes	Powell	OH
Mark	DeBrock	Reynoldsburg	OH
John S.	Weller	Seville	OH
Karl H	Reinhardt	Sidney	OH
Larry	Tornes	Sunbury	OH
Stephen S.	Davis	Maumee	OH
Suzanne C	Schenkel	Willoughby	OH
Barry	Cavanna	Wooster	OH
Joseph R	Steiger	Zanesville	OH
John R "Dick"	Bogard	Durant	OK
Wade D "Dan"	Runnels	Kellyville	OK
Wes	Oneth	McAlester	OK
Nickey J	Lambeth	Okemah	OK
Jimmy D	Thomas	Okmulgee	OK
Joe	Freeland	Pauls Valley	OK
Larry	Caldwell	Stillwater	OK
Fred J	Fortney	Stillwater	OK
Randy	Freeland	Stillwater	OK
Jimmie W	Frie	Stillwater	OK
John E	Witty	Adrian	OR
Donald E	Greiner	Albany	OR
Ralph S	Wadleigh	Aloha	OR
Gerald W	Yeomans	Baker City	OR
Donald L.	Stettler	Beaverton	OR
Terry	Mitchell	Fairview	OR
Roy M	Carlson	Fossil	OR
Clifton E	Deal	Gresham	OR
Wendell A	Styner	Hillsboro	OR
Richard (Dick)	Sylvester	Hillsboro	OR
Maurice L	Jernstedt	Hubbard	OR
Patricia L	Straka	Keizer	OR
Edward E	Weber	Keizer	OR
Matthew H.	Fillmore	Lebanon	OR
Garry L.	Schaefer	Molalla	OR
Louise	Davis	Oregon City	OR
Tommy A	George	Portland	OR
Roberta L	Hart	Portland	OR
Cliff	Hillebrandt	Portland	OR

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Jack P	Kanalz	Portland	OR
Bruce	Newton	Portland	OR
Leland A	Hardy	Salem	OR
Frank F	Reckendorf	Salem	OR
Chad L.	McGrath	Tigard	OR
Thomas W	Calvert	Berlin	PA
Ronnie L	Taylor	Bethlehem	PA
Samuel E	Young	Bloomsburg	PA
Robert T	Heidecker, Jr.	Boiling Springs	PA
Frederick E	Bubb	Camp Hill	PA
Donna	Krebs	Centre Hall	PA
William R	Parrish	Ebensburg	PA
Carl A	DuPoldt	Edgemont	PA
Nevin L	Ulery	Elizabeth	PA
Shirley L	Thomas	Elizabethtown	PA
Wayne M.	Maresch	Emlenton	PA
John R	Akers	Everett	PA
Steven A	Probst	Gettysburg	PA
Warren M	Lee	Glen Mills	PA
Rollin N	Swank	Graysville	PA
Timothy J.	Murphy	Harrisburg	PA
Gary P.	Smith	Harrisburg	PA
Jana L.	Mellott	Harrisonville	PA
Robert L	Hilliard	Lancaster	PA
Walter Hosea	Latshaw	Lebanon	PA
Larry	Schardt	Lewistown	PA
Jeff	Mahood	Mechanicsburg	PA
Wayne F	Maresch	Millersville	PA
Mike W.	Anderson	New Oxford	PA
	McCandless, Jr.	State College	PA
Donald E			
Wayne M.	Bogovich	Sugar Run	PA
Frederick H	Schuetz	Trappe	PA
Arthur B	Holland	West Chester	PA
Frank E	Resides	West Chester	PA
Paul	Welle	West Chester	PA
Mark	Goodson	York	PA
Michael	Kolman	York	PA
Katrina	Thompson	York	PA
Juan	Martinez	Gurabo	PR
Richard (Phou)	Vongkhamdy	Coventry	RI
Everett A	Stuart	North Kingstown	RI
John H	Miner	Blythewood	SC
Walter W	Douglas	Chapin	SC
Wm Burton	Wells	Clemson	SC
Douglas W.	Deaderick	Columbia	SC
Ellis D.	Morrow	Columbia	SC
Larry H	Robinson	Columbia	SC
Dennis	Bauknight	Easley	SC
James C	Sanders, Jr	Greenwood	SC
Russell F	Patrick	Lancaster	SC
Jacob W	Black	Laurens	SC
Hugh	Caldwell	Lexington	SC
George H	Comer	Murrells Inlet	SC
George & Nancy	Stevens	N Myrtle Beach	SC
Daniel	Guy	Saluda	SC
Ned	McGill	Starr	SC
Bunyan W	Anderson	Timmonsville	SC
Rod	Baumberger	McIntosh	SD
James C	Hunt	Mitchell	SD
Yvonne	Haefner	Mobridge	SD
Colette	Kessler	Pierre	SD
Verle R.	Smith	Spearfish	SD
Darwin	Newton	Ashland City	TN
Harold D.	Jones	Bean Station	TN
Doris Marie	Blackwell	Jackson	TN
Dana	Ensor	Jonesborough	TN

First Name	Last Name	City	State
James F	Brasfield	McEwen	TN
Robert	Sanders	White Bluff	TN
Benjamin C.	Doerge	Arlington	TX
Bernie	Owen	Arlington	TX
Allan	Colwick	Belton	TX
Ed	Thomas	Bryan	TX
Rosendo	Trevino III	Bulverde	TX
Dennis N	Clute	Burleson	TX
Johnny	Green	Burleson	TX
Kristie	McKinley	Burleson	TX
Mark	Boysen	Crowley	TX
David V.	Buland	Crowley	TX
William	Erion	Crowley	TX
Bruce	Nielsen	Crowley	TX
Clyde L.	Goodman	Fort Worth	TX
Douglas C	Seibel	Fort Worth	TX
Calvin M	Jackson	Ft Worth	TX
Frank	Richardson	Ft Worth	TX
Becky	Ross	Galveston	TX
Michael H	Bogard	Gatesville	TX
William J	Gradle	Georgetown	TX
Larry D	Miles	Georgetown	TX
Arnold D.	King	Granbury	TX
David A	Stockbridge	Granbury	TX
Earl D.	Archer	Granbury	TX
Lynn D	Gray	Grapeland	TX
Ronald L	Hilliard	Haskell	TX
Wilson	Scaling	Henrietta	TX
Patricia	Cecil	Jasper	TX
Kimberly	Burr	Junction	TX
Mark P	Bushman	Katy	TX
Hector	Gonzalez	McAllen	TX
John D	O'Connor	Mt Pleasant	TX
Carl F	Englerth	New Braunfels	TX
John	Mueller	New Braunfels	TX
Wayburn D	Mitchell	Paducah	TX
James D	Abbott	Temple	TX
Charles T	Melton	Temple	TX
Wesley L	Miller	Victoria	TX
Richard B	Heizer	Weatherford	TX
Carl	Hutcherson	Wimberley	TX
Jon G	Werner	Eden	UT
Phillip J	Nelson	Farmington	UT
J Michael	Nethery	Logan	UT
Richard	Baird	North Ogden	UT
Phillip D	Coombs	Salt Lake City	UT
Eileen	Begovich	Alexandria	VA
Lawrence	Clark	Alexandria	VA
R Neil	Sampson	Alexandria	VA
Robert K	Reaves	Arlington	VA
Joseph S	Haugh	Ashburn	VA
Janet	Perry	Barboursville	VA
Edgar H	Nelson	Cross Junction	VA
Ronald W.	Gilkeson	Dayton	VA
Barbara	Osgood	Fairfax	VA
Ronald L.	Marlow	Fairfax Sta	VA
Diane	Gelburd	Falls Church	VA
Gary R	Gross	Fredericksburg	VA
Ron	Page	Gainesville	VA
Kenneth E.	Carter	Glen Allen	VA
Carol	Campbell	King George	VA
Claudia C	Hoelt	Manassas	VA
Melvin	Womack	Mechanicsville	VA

First Name	Last Name	City	State
Barry L.	Kintzer	Mechanicsburg	VA
George C	Norris	Richmond	VA
Bill	Irwin	Springfield	VA
John S.	Moore	Springfield	VA
Paul R	Newcombe	Springfield	VA
Walter J	Ochs	Springfield	VA
Jerry M.	Bernard	Stafford	VA
Gary A	Margheim	Stafford	VA
Paul W	Benedict	Stephens City	VA
Richard L	Duesterhaus	Vienna	VA
Thomas A	Weber	Warrenton	VA
Ronald W	Tuttle	Winchester	VA
Dave	Thackeray	Woodbridge	VA
Francis M	Keeler	Colchester	VT
David G	Van Houten	Essex Junction	VT
Lynn	Knight	Milton	VT
Daniel A	Smith	Chelan	WA
Jon	Lea	La Center	WA
Donald E.	Wallin	Longview	WA
Phil	McLoud	Mount Vernon	WA
Gilbert R	Landtiser	Sequim	WA
Thomas L.	Spofford	Soap Lake	WA
A. Stefan	Fechter	Spokane	WA
W J "Joe"	Carmack	Spokane Valley	WA
Mark	Parson	Stevenson	WA
Karma	Anderson	Vancouver	WA
Lowell W.	Kenedy	Vancouver	WA
Lamont	Robbins	Vancouver	WA
Denise	Troxell	Vancouver	WA
David L	Omernik	Antigo	WI
Roman A	Statz	Baraboo	WI
Michael	Koehler	Bloomer	WI
Deborah R	LeGear	Eau Claire	WI
Julie	MacSwain	Hudson	WI
William	Conner	Madison	WI
Larry J	Dawson	Madison	WI
James L	Enlow	Madison	WI
Michael C	Schendel	Menomonie	WI
Carol A	Wettstein	Middleton	WI
Patricia	Leavenworth	Mount Horeb	WI
Emerson P	Christensen	Onalaska	WI
Dan	Cotter	Platteville	WI
Irwin	Ten Haken	Portage	WI
Peter	Lindgren	Rhineland	WI
Louis C	Barber	Siren	WI
Steven J	Price	Spring Valley	WI
Norbert E	Wozniak	Stevens Point	WI
Karl T	Gilbertson	Viroqua	WI
Mary	Evitch	Woodville	WI
Richard L.	Judy	Beverly	WV
Carrie	Wetsch	Elkins	WV
David F	Burns	Fairmont	WV
Tom	Noonan	Morgantown	WV
Margaret (Peg)	Reese	Morgantown	WV
Nicole	Viars	Morgantown	WV
Delores "Dee" R	Weston	Morgantown	WV
Orland C.	Parks	Scherr	WV
Jim W	Doughty	Buffalo	WY
David O	Taylor	Casper	WY
Douglas A	Gasseling	Cheyenne	WY
Don	Gaddie	Lander	WY

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