

NEWSLETTER

Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District

Summer 2010



Sideoats Grama, Texas State Grass



2010 Conservation Awards



The 2010 Conservation Award winners were honored on March 24 at the annual Lions Club hamburger dinner in Fredericksburg. Over 80 people attended, including the winners and their families, teachers, Gillespie County officials, and Lions Club members.

The Outstanding Conservation Rancher for 2010 is Terry Bonn, of Fredericksburg. The Outstanding Wildlife Conservationist is Maner Ranch, of the Doss/Harper area. Desmond Sagebiel of Willow City won the 2010 Pioneer in Agri-

culture award.

Presentations were given about Terry Bonn, Maner Ranch, and Desmond Sagebiel.

The Conservation Poster & Essay contest is held each December, and judges pick winners in January. Eight students from Fredericksburg and Harper garnered awards for their winning entries.

Claire Lukacs won first place in the poster contest. Logan White placed second, and Jacob Valdez won third.

Jordan White won first place in the Junior division

essay. Tres White won second.

Caitlin Schmidt won the Senior division essay contest. Katie Sawyer took second, and Asiyel Smith placed third.

Clair Lukacs attends St. Mary's Catholic School. Logan and Jordan White, and Jacob Valdez attend Harper Middle School. Tres White attended Harper School but has transferred. Caitlin Schmidt, Katie Sawyer and Asiyel Smith go to Fredericksburg Christian School.

The Poster and Essay winners received a wood engraved plaque from LCRA, and savings bond certificates from Security State Bank & Trust.

These awards are part of the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board's annual Texas Conservation Awards Program. Gillespie County is in Area II, which includes 44 southwest Texas counties.

For Area II, Maner Ranch won as 2010 Wildlife Conservationist and Jordan White placed third in the essay junior division. Both were honored at the Area II Awards Banquet on May 4 at Wall, Texas.

Water Conservation Tips

More than half of a home's water use in the spring and summer is used outdoors.

Much of that is wasted due to improper watering techniques. If you irrigate your landscape, it's important to do it without waste. Here's how:

Be aware of and abide by any landscape watering ordinance that your town or city has in place.

Water lawns early in the morning during the hotter summer months to reduce evaporation losses.

Use a sprinkler that throws large drops of water rather than a fine mist. This will reduce water losses from wind

drift and evaporation. Better yet, don't water when it's windy.

Consider using drip irrigation for bedded plants, trees or shrubs

Use mulches to help reduce soil moisture losses.

Do not water the streets, sidewalks, and driveways

Be sure to check the heads of your automatic irrigation system to avoid overspray

Stop watering before the water runs off your property and into the street or road

Consider installing a rain/freeze sensor on your automatic landscape irrigation system to turn it off during

rain events.

Contact a licensed irrigator to have your automatic irrigation system evaluated and repaired.

The tips above are from THE CROSS SECTION, a publication of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District #1, in Lubbock.

Water Use It Wisely says that you can save up to 1,000 gallons of water a month by doing only full loads of laundry, and the same for dishes. Also filling the sink with water instead of allowing water to run out of the faucet when rinsing or washing dishes can save water.

Beef & Range Field Day was May 13, at the Fairgrounds

Mike McMurry, Dr. Bob Lyons, Steve Nelle, Jason Reyes and Joe Peña spoke at the Beef & Range Field Day on May 13th at the Gillespie Co. Fairgrounds show barn in Fredericksburg.

Speakers covered a wide range of topics: Laws on pesticides, Weed & brush control, Preserving riparian areas, State laws for 4-wheelers and livestock trailers on the road, and Changes proposed for inheritance laws.

These great exhibits held our attention during registration & after the program: Plant Identification tables staffed by Willard Dearing, Joyce Moore & James Rice. Jacob Krebs with Texas Brigades Wildlife Leadership Camps, Phillip Wright with



NRCS/Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative, Mike Colbert with Turner Seed, and Bob Sims, coordinator for the USDA Wildlife Services & Texas A&M Wildlife Damage Management Service.

An estimated 400 people came, where attendance earned three CEUs toward renewal of the private pesticide applicator's license.

If you didn't get a chance to ask speakers or exhibitors your questions, we can help you contact them to do so.

After the program, Gillespie SWCD directors gave away many great door prizes donated by area businesses and residents.

2010 Fall Field Day

Save October 7 for the 2010 Fall Field Day in Doss. Look for more details in local newspapers very soon.



Prescribed Burn Association will hold Field Day July 28

Edwards Plateau Prescribed Burn Association's (EPPBA) annual field day is at American Legion Hall in Fredericksburg, beginning with registration at 8:00 a.m. Field day lasts until 4:00 p.m., with a catered lunch at noon. Pre-registration by July 20 is

\$12.00/person. Registration at the door on July 28 is \$20/person. You can mail your payment to EPPBA, P.O. Box 918, Sonora, TX 76950; make checks payable to EPPBA. Prescribed burn association members and other interested persons are invited.

Speakers are Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor, Cody Miller, Bill Armstrong, Gillespie Co. Commissioner Billy Roeder, and others. For more information or to pre-register call Butch Taylor or Robert Moen at 325-387-3168 or send e-mail to angora@sonorax.net.

Hill Country Association of SWCDs met May 18

The Hill Country Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts held its spring meeting on May 18 at the American Legion Hall in Llano. Reports were given by Marty Graham, Volney Hough, Rex Isom, and Elisha Kuehn. Then, many conservation districts presented Joe Freeman, Area II Field Rep. for the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, with plaques or photos in

appreciation of his more than 30 years of service. Joe Freeman will retire August 31.

The group then visited Freeman Ranch, which was started by Mr. Freeman's great grandfather in 1884.

About 20 counties' soil and water conservation districts belong to the Hill Country Association. Guenther Ottmers, Jr. is association president and he's also Secretary/Treasurer of Gillespie County SWCD.



Gillespie Co. Hay Show Deadline is July 23, at 5:00 p.m.

Gillespie County Hay Show Entries will be accepted through 5 p.m. on July 23. The two divisions for the 2010 Hay Show are: Standard-size round bales and conventional square bales. An entry is a complete hay bale.

All round bale entries should be taken to Beyer Fertilizer, at 3446 N. State Hwy 16, in Fredericksburg. Square

bales can be taken to Allied Ag in Stonewall, Behrends Feed in Luckenbach, Douglas Tatsch or Behrends Feed @ Bode's in Harper, or Doss Country Store in Doss. Beyer Fertilizer, Lochte Feed, and Woerner Feed will accept square bale entries in Fredericksburg.

Gillespie Co. Fair & Festivals Assoc. sponsors the hay show with TX AgriLIFE Ex-

tension Agronomy Committee. The Fair & Festivals Assoc. pays for each exhibitor's first entry. Each additional entry is \$10. By entering the hay show, producers learn crude protein content of their hay, which is helpful whether they sell or use their hay this year.

For details, call Gillespie Co. Extension at 997-3452.

Gillespie County Soil and Water Conservation District provides technical assistance to all land users in the county through the Natural Resources Conservation Service field office at 1906 North Llano Street, #106, in Fredericksburg, TX, 78624. Phone: (830) 997-3349 ext. 3. Fax: (830) 990-4338.

Gillespie County SWCD prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, Large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the SWCD office at (830) 997-3349 ext. 3. "An Equal Opportunity Employer."

Maner Ranch - Outstanding Wildlife Conservationist for 2010

Maner Ranch has been in the family since 1907. It is operated by Kenneth (Stormy) & Annette Maner, and their son and daughter-in-law, Mitch & Amber Maner.

Historically, Maner Ranch raised cattle, sheep, and goats. Now the Maners raise Boer goats and Angus cows. While the main focus of the ranch is to improve and protect wildlife habitat, they rotate goats

through pastures to control brush.

The family works hard to make a good habitat for wildlife and to control predators. They left strips of trees for wildlife protection when clearing brush, and converted some croplands to wildlife land.

Active in the Doss Wildlife Management Association, they take part in Parks & Wildlife deer surveys. They

want to use Managed Lands Deer Permits to reduce deer population and improve wildlife habitat, and to attain a 1:1 ratio of does to bucks. Last year 70 does and bucks were harvested, and about 100 the year before. Harvest ratios are about 1/2 does and 1/2 bucks. Deer self

feeders are filled with a ground-up mix of alfalfa, cotton seed meal, soybean meal, and corn.

Maner Ranch worked with four biologists at Texas Parks & Wildlife (most recently Mike Reagan), and with Max Hartmann, to improve their deer herd. All their deer are native. About 1/5 of the ranch was high fenced 12 years ago. They culled out inferior deer within the high fence, then managed the remaining herd.

They only allow harvesting of five big bucks a year, and not until after Thanksgiving, when breeding season ends. Wildlife management includes youth hunts for family and friends. Stormy and Mitch and two or three others guide all the hunts and evaluate the deer herd at the same time.

Maner Ranch does an outstanding job of wildlife conservation, and we congratulate them on their excellent work.



Left to right, Marty Graham, Annette & Stormy Maner, May 4, 2010 at Wall, TX.

\$10,000 Natural Resource College Scholarships Available

Texas Wildlife Assoc. Foundation (TWAFF) and San Antonio Livestock Exposition (SALE) will award five (5) \$10,000 Natural Resource - Excellence in Education Scholarships for Fall 2010. They will be given to freshmen at Texas universities who major in a natural resource related field.

Obtain applications at www.texas-wildlife.org, or at Gillespie SWCD's office at 1906 North Llano, #106, in Fredericksburg.

Student Eligibility Requirements

Must be a Texas resident and graduate of a Texas high school. Must be enrolled in a Texas accredited college or university with natural resource/agricultural degree program; and be classified as a "Freshman" or in 1st year after high school in the accredited program. Must be a U.S. citizen and provide valid social security number.

Major in natural resource related field (agricultural or wildlife science, forestry, range science, etc.).

Students must maintain 12 hours/semester, and minimum of 2.0 GPA/semester, and 2.5 cumulative GPA. Any change in major must be in writing to the SALE Inc. Scholarship Coordinator.

Applying requires the completed application, copy of high school transcript, two letters of recommendation, and four short essays. The application needs to be submitted to TWAFF, and postmarked by Sept. 14th, 2010.

Winners will be chosen based on experience related to natural resource conservation, honors, awards, leadership skills, essays, degree plan option and academic achievements.

Scholarships will be paid directly to the college or university where the student recipient attends. Funds will be disbursed at 1/8 the total amount per semester while student meets all eligibility requirements.

Special thanks to poster & essay judges Janice Wahrmond, Virginia Crowell, and Sandra Swearingen. To all the parents and teachers involved — we appreciate your support of these annual contests!

Thank You to the Fredericksburg Lions Club, Judy Mayo, & LaVerne Ottmers for the meal and room décor for the Conservation Awards Dinner on March 24, and to HEB for donating cookies.

Thank You to Security State Bank & Trust and the Lower Colorado River Authority for donating prizes and plaques for the student poster and essay winners.

THANK YOU to these businesses and individuals who Donated Door Prizes for the May 13, 2010 Field Day!

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Allied Agricultural Services, Inc. | Hohmann's General Store |
| Arrowhead Bank | Jenschke Farm & Ranch Ltd. |
| Bar O Bar Ranches, Inc. | Karl and Steve Stengel |
| Behrends Feed & Fertilizer | Kramer's Wood & Metal Works |
| Behrends Feed at Bode's | Kroll Ranch |
| Beyer Fertilizer & Feed | Kunz & Sauer Fencing |
| Broadway Bank | Lester Staudt Bulldozing |
| Central Texas Electric Co-op | Lloyd & Barbara Kneese |
| Dauna's | Lochte Storage & Commission |
| Dittmar Lumber Company | H. Moellering Construction, LLC |
| Doss Country Store | Stonewall Body Shop |
| Eckert & Son Auto Salvage | Stroehrer & Offers |
| Bernice & Edmund Jenschke | Max Hartmann, Texas & SW |
| Ersch Farms, Agritech Research | Cattle Raisers |
| Fredericksburg Equipment | Turner Seed Company |
| Fredericksburg Farms | Vernon & Linda Treibis |
| Gillespie County Farm Bureau | Weinheimer & Son, Inc. |
| Gordon's Repair Shop | Welge Ranches |
| | Woerner Feed & Garden Supply |

We also thank Gillespie Co. Fair & Festivals Assoc. for use of the Showbarn, Security State Bank & Trust for donating bottled water on ice, Charles Feller for loaning the sound system, and the program speakers & exhibitors who made this such a fine event. We thank American Bank, Arrowhead Bank, Broadway Bank, Capital Farm Credit, Edmund Jenschke Inc., and Gillespie Livestock Co., Inc. for their donations toward field day. Thank you to all who helped with registration.

Texas Plant Reference Books

Common Texas Grasses; 271 pages incl. index, 5th printing 2005. By Frank W. Gould; Texas A&M University Press.

Field Guide to Broad-Leaved Herbaceous Plants of South Texas; Plants Used by Livestock & Wildlife. By James H. Everitt, Dale Lynn Drawe, and Robert I. Lonard; Texas Tech University Press.

Grasses of the Texas Hill Country. By Brian Loflin & Shirley Loflin, & Stephan L. Hatch, Scientific Advisor; Texas A&M University Press.

Texas Range Plants; 326 pages with index, 4th printing 2003. By Stephen L. Hatch & Jennifer Pluhar, New illustrations by Keith Westover; Texas A&M University Press

Toxic Plants of Texas; publication B-6105, 106 most common potentially toxic plants in TX, with photos & signs in livestock, & suggested treatments. 256 pages. By C.R. Hart, T. Garland, C. Barr, B.B. Carpenter, & J.C. Reagor; Texas AgrILIFE Extension.

Trees of Central Texas, A Field Guide; 403 pages with index; 8th printing 2004. By Robert A. Vines; University of Texas Press

Trees, Shrubs, & Cacti of South Texas; 245 pages with glossary & index. By James H. Everitt & D. Lynn Drawe; Texas Tech University Press

Wildflowers of the Texas Hill Country; a comprehensive wildflowers identification book with descriptions & photos, 275 pages incl. index. By Marshall Enquist; Publisher: Lone Star Botanical

Wildflowers of Texas; Revised edition in 2003 added 105 species; 524 pages incl. index. Great photos. By Geyata Ajilvsgi; Shearer Publishing

Sources for these Books:

Main Book Shop at 143 East Main Street, in Fredericksburg (830-997-2375)

Texas Agrilife Extension Bookstore at <https://agrilifebookstore.org/publications>

www.Amazon.com

Barnes & Noble at www.bn.com

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center online <http://www.wildflower.org/shop/productsview.php?category=Books>

LBJ Park bookstore in Stonewall online <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/shop/books.phtml>

Nielsen Construction
Dozer - Scraper - Excavator Services

- Land Clearing and Leveling
- Road Work • Tank and Dam Building
- Concrete Water Crossings • Large Rock Retaining Walls
- U. S. Soil Conservation Work

Bradley Nielsen, Owner
Stonewall, Texas • 830-644-2649

H. MOELLERING CONST., LLC

Fredericksburg, TX 78624 * (830) 997-7056
Root Plowing, Root Raking, Cedar Shearing,
Land Clearing, Dams, Roads

LOCHE FEED GENERAL STORE
(830) 997-2256
FEED, SEED & FERTILIZER
FARM & RANCH SUPPLIES
FREDERICKSBURG, TX

Gillespie SWCD Equipment Rentals

The SWCD owns weed sprayers and a seed spreader for rental use in the county. 300-gallon and 500-gallon sprayers rent for \$2.50/acre with \$30.00 minimum. The seed spreader with 700 lb. capacity rents for \$35/day. This equipment is at Beyer Fertilizer & Feed, 3446 Hwy. 16 N., Fredericksburg. You can call Dwayne Beyer at (830) 997-9880 to make rental arrangements. Our smaller equipment is kept at 1906 N. Llano. Call 997-3349 x 3 to rent it. The drip torch and cyclone hand seeder are \$5/day. The seeder for a 4-wheeler is \$15/day.



THANK YOU to All Who Support the Gillespie County SWCD

Supporters do many things for the district; and we appreciate everything they do! They sponsor our annual conservation awards, help with Field Days, or donate major door prizes, help fund district activities, provide meeting locations, publicize events by newspaper and radio, and/or assist the District all year long. These are our 2010 supporters:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| American Bank of Texas | Gillespie Co. Farm Bureau |
| Arrowhead Bank | Gillespie Livestock Company |
| Behrends Feed & Fertilizer | The Harper News |
| Beyer Fertilizer & Feed | Hill Country RC&D Area, Inc. |
| Broadway Bank | JEK's Pit Stop |
| Capital Farm Credit | Edmund Jenschke, Inc. |
| Willard Dearing | KNAF Radio |
| Charles Feller | Kramer's Wood & Metal |
| Fredericksburg Equipment | LCRA |
| Fredericksburg Lions Club | Security State Bank & Trust |
| Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post | Texas AgrILIFE Extension |
| Gillespie Fair & Festivals Assoc. | Texas Parks & Wildlife |
| | Turner Seed Company |

BONN SURVEYING
CAREY BONN
Registered Professional Land Surveyor

503 Longhorn Street
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Office 830-997-3884
Fax 830-997-0972

161 Industrial Loop
Fredericksburg, Texas

Water Well Drilling
Pump Sales & Service

(830) 997-4966
or (325) 247-4249
www.virdelldrilling.com
virdelldrilling@verizon.net

Allied Agricultural Services, Inc.
Stonewall, Texas 830-644-2411

Custom Fertilizing & Spraying Liquid Fertilizer Blended to Special Needs, Purina Liquid Feed and Bag Feed, Lyssy & Eckel Feeds, Lindner Feed, Honor Show Feeds, Deer Feed Bulk & Bag, Seeds, Insecticides, Sullivan Show Supplies, Livestock and Drip Irrigation Supplies

Lyssy & Eckel Show Feed Purina Mills

KUNZ & SAUER FENCING
4689 White Oak Road
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624
All Types Fences and Pens
For Free Estimates, Call After 6 P.M.
Patrick Kunz - (830) 997-8982
Rodney Sauer - (830) 997-9407

LAND CLEARING
BRENT STRACKBEIN, INC.
Professional Land Clearing: cedar, mesquite, oaks, etc.
Remove unwanted trees and brush with little disruption to your land.
Also available for shredding.
Since 1995. Free estimates.
Pricing by the hour, acre, or job.
830 / 864 - 5061

stroehrer & sons, inc. (830) 997-4382
& offers, inc. Fax (830) 997-0137
1-800-369-9173

509 S. Adams St., Fredericksburg, TX 78624
"Serving the Hill Country Since 1928"

Chevron **Kawasaki** **GOODYEAR**
Let the good times roll. **MICHELIN**

TIRES • BATTERIES • ACCESSORIES
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

FERTILIZED COASTAL HAY

For Horses, Cows, Sheep & Exotics
5' x 5' Round Bales No minimum purchases
I have bale buggies for you to haul your own.

(830) 997-7874
Allen Ersch (830) 990-2817

Terry Bonn, Outstanding Conservation Rancher

Terry Bonn of Fredericksburg is the SWCD's 2010 Outstanding Resident Conservation Rancher.

Terry and Joan Bonn ranch four places in Gillespie Co. The homeplace where they live southwest of Fredericksburg has been in the family for three generations. Terry's grandfather, Chester Bonn, started the Hereford operation that continues today. Terry and Joan raise purebred Herefords and also cross them with an Angus bull to produce the FI cross.

Terry's dad, Roland Bonn was a full-time rancher. He worked with the SWCD and NRCS in the mid 1970s to develop and carry out a conservation plan to improve

pastures. Terry and Joan also strive to improve the land and leave it better than when they found it.

To reclaim land for grazing, Terry continued earlier conservation work by clearing about 250 acres of dense cedar and burning brush piles. Afterward, little bluestem, switchgrass, and Kleingrass grew back in the disturbed areas on their own.

Terry joined the prescribed burn association to help control cedar re-growth in the county. He has helped with many others' prescribed burns and may hold his own burn later.

The Bonn homeplace is divided into many small pastures, and rotational grazing

is used for good grazing management. Cross fencing allows making the best use of grazing land in one area while letting other areas rest.

Diversion terraces were built at their ranch off of Hayden Ranch Road, to channel runoff down the hill into a new pond, and stop erosion.

The Bonns hosted the Spring Beef and Range Field Day in 2008, and approx. 400 people attended. The program covered Raising Beef Cattle, Chemical Weed & Brush Control, and Prescribed Burn Management.

The SWCD appreciates the Bonn's excellent work. We want to say Thank You for being such true stewards of the land.



Left: Terry and Joan Bonn. Above: Desmond Sagebiel.

Desmond Sagebiel, Pioneer in Agriculture

We're happy to honor Desmond Sagebiel as the 2010 Pioneer in Agriculture! The Sagebiel ranching operation began in 1898, and at one time included 1,800 acres in Gillespie & Llano Counties.

In the past, Desmond had run 50 to 60 Hereford cows in Gillespie County, and 50 to 60 head at Llano. He also raised sheep, Angora goats, and hogs.

Desmond planted custom coastal fields for 25 years in Gillespie & Llano Counties, often he planted 500 to 600 acres a year. He also planted old fields with coastal, Kleingrass, & Wilman Lovegrass to restore them.

The Sagebiel ranch was recently accepted into the Family Land Heritage Program, which recognizes lands continuously in agricultural families for 100 years or more. At 91, Desmond still runs about 200 acres. Every

third year he uses diesel and Remedy® to treat mesquite regrowth. He has crossbred Angus and Charolais cows at Willow City and still drives his tractor to feed them.

Desmond was a Gillespie County SWCD director from Oct. 1958 - Sept. 1963. He was re-elected in Oct. 1983. The SWCD directors were unchanged until Nov. 1989, when Clayton Grona replaced Harold Kneese. Desmond served on the SWCD board until retiring in 1997, when James Wahrmond took over for him.

Desmond was also a Gillespie County WCID director in 1992, and again from 1995 to 1999.

Mr. Sagebiel has ranched all his life and is still active today. He's a thoughtful, staunch pioneer and we're lucky to have had him as a SWCD & WCID director.



We Got Rain! It's been a near perfect year for rain, starting last fall and raining through this July. We sure hope it continues through August and beyond.

HENKE'S, INC.

Fencing Supplies - Compressor Rentals

Solar or Electric Gate Systems

11031 S. State Hwy. 16, Fredericksburg 830-997-7231
www.henkesinc.com

TURNER SEED CO.

211 CR 151, Breckenridge, TX 76424
Phone 254-559-2065, Fax 254-559-5024
www.turnerseeds.com

Native & Improved Grasses, Forbs, Wildflower Seeds
Wildlife Seed like Spring Deer Mix and Quail & Turkey Mix

Order seed through Gillespie Co. SWCD at 830-997-3349 x 3

BEYER FERTILIZER & FEED

3446 Hwy. 16 North, Fredericksburg, TX 78624
(830) 997-9880

Feed - Tubs - Hay - Livestock Feeders - Water Troughs -
Hunting Blinds & Deer Feeders - Fencing Supplies -
Sprayers - Dry Fertilizer - Liquid Fertilizer - Seeds -
Custom Spreading - Lime - Chemicals -
Rentals (Sprayers, Rollers, Renovators, Hay Inverter)

Southwest Texas Solar, Inc.

P. O. Box 517
Eldorado, Texas 76936
1-866-899-1200
http://www.swtxsolar.com

Ronnie Sauer, Owner

FREDERICKSBURG EQUIPMENT

ALSO OFFERING SUCH PRODUCTS AS
STIHL, DIXON, BUSHHOG,
RHINO AND MORE

1875 S. US HWY 87
830-997-7533 1-800-880-2572
www.fredericksburgequipment.com

Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI)

Mark Moseley

Range Management Specialist/State GLCI Coordinator
39350 IH-10 West, Suite 3, Boerne, Texas 78006
Phone: (830) 249-3508 Fax: (830) 249-9120
Mark.Moseley@tx.usda.gov http://www.glci.org/

Three Fredericksburg Students Attend Youth Range Workshop

Steffanie Eckhardt, Holly Crenwelge, and Cord Weinheimer attended the Texas Section—Society for Range Management's Youth Range Workshop June 20-25. The workshop was held at the Texas Tech University—Junction, in Junction, TX. It's been held annually since 1955. Each year, 40 Texas youths are accepted to attend.

The workshop gives 4-H and FFA students a chance to work with up to 17 range professionals, where they see actual range management practices with real results.

The workshop trains Texas youth in range management, stewardship of natural resources, and leadership. Studies included range ecology, plant growth, watershed management, livestock and wildlife needs, stocking rate determinations, prescribed burning, estimating brush densities, and many other related topics.

Steffanie, Holly, and Cord are in the Fredericksburg FFA Chapter. Their Agricultural Science Teacher is Eddie Byrom; the Gillespie County Extension Agent is Decky Spiller.

At the awards and graduation ceremony for the work-

shop, each student received a certificate of completion, presented by Jenny Puhlar, a Director of the parent organization, the Society for Range Management.



Holly Crenwelge was sponsored to attend the workshop by Gillespie County Farm Bureau. Dr. Bob Knight, professor at Texas A&M University, presented Holly an award for having one of the top four plant collections.



Jordan White received 3rd place for her conservation essay at Area II, on May 4, at Wall, Texas. Marry Graham presented her award.

Steffanie Eckhardt was sponsored to attend the workshop by Gillespie County Wild Game Dinner.



Cord Weinheimer was sponsored to attend the workshop by Gillespie County SWCD and Hill Country RC&D Area, Inc.



Jordan White received 3rd place for her conservation essay at Area II, on May 4, at Wall, Texas. Marry Graham presented her award.

Calendar of Events

For Summer 2010

June—Sept. 2010 Thursdays only. Fredericksburg Farmers Market from 4 pm to 7 pm at Marketplatz, under Kinderhalle pavilion (corner of Main & Adams). Locally grown fruits, vegetables, herbs, farm cheese, fresh baked bread & pastries. Closed on July 15.

July 23 Deadline to enter the Gillespie County 2010 Hay Show. Judging is in August. More details are available at Texas AgrILIFE Extension, 830-997-3452.

July 28, Prescribed Burn Association meeting, American Legion Hall in Fredericksburg. See page 1.

August 24 Feral Hog Workshop, at 4-H bldg., 12132 Leslie Road, Helotes, TX 78023. \$15 by Aug. 19, or \$20 at the door (incl. lunch & handouts). RSVP to Melissa Thompson at 830-249-6163. 3 to 5 CEUs. Additional information is at www.alamordc.org

Aug. 26-29 The 122nd annual Gillespie Co. Fair at the Gillespie Co. Fairgrounds, Fredericksburg. Visit <http://www.gillespiefair.com> or call 830-997-2359.

Sept. 30 Agricultural Waste Pesticide Collection - Gillespie Co. Fairgrounds, for materials originated in agricultural production, and old tires. Visit www.tceq.state.tx.us for lists of accepted items.

Oct. 7, 2010 Fall Field Day at Doss, TX. Program details to be announced soon, save the date! The Field Day is co-sponsored by Gillespie SWCD, Texas AgrILIFE Extension, USDA NRCS and Hill Country RC&D Area, Inc.

A few words about our Conservation District . . .

The SWCD Board of Directors includes:
Royce Herbolt, Chairman (Zone 3)
Patrick Kunz, Vice-Chairman (Zone 2)
Guenter Ottmers, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer (Zone 1)
Clayton Grona, Director (Zone 4)
James Wahrmond, Director (Zone 5)

The District Manager, newsletter editor, and webmaster is Pat Kroll.

Our office is at 1906 N. Llano, #106, Fredericksburg, TX 78624. The SWCD office hours are M, T, W, F from 8:30 to 4:30. On Thursdays, we're out of the office, although NRCS may be here. (Call before coming to visit on Thursdays).

Gillespie County SWCD supports NRCS, the local prescribed burn association (GPBA) and the Gillespie County Water Control & Improvement District (WCID).