

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

2018 Report of Accomplishments

OUR MISSION

The mission of Washington Conservation Society is to promote natural resource conservation efforts in Washington State by providing a philanthropic center for investments in citizen-led, voluntary-based conservation projects, activities, education, and outreach efforts.

WHAT WE DO

- ❖ Support educational opportunities for youth by sponsoring Conservation Education Programs in Washington State.
- ❖ Support conservation of natural resources by utilizing our 501 c (3) status and acting as a pass through entity for district's seeking grants.
- ❖ Honor the life-long dedication and service of notable Washington State conservationists by including them in our Leaving a Legacy booklet.

EDUCATION

2018 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Washington State Envirothon



The 2018 Washington State Envirothon Competition was held in Conconully, Washington from May 23rd - May 24th. In 2018, the current issue is Western Rangeland Management: Balancing Diverse Views. Eight teams from schools all over the State competed. The winning team was Okanogan High School.

EDUCATION

2018 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Underwood CD ~ Environmental Education Support



UCD and the White Salmon Valley School District, along with other local and regional partners including US Fish and Wildlife Service and local volunteers, participate in the school district's 'Stream Surveys', a monthly water quality field experience for 4th graders. In addition WCS funds were used to support 'Water Jam.' The annual 'Water Jam' event brings over 400 students from 8 different schools together over two days to learn all about water.

EDUCATION

2018 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Benton CD ~ Salmon Summit



BCD Salmon in the Classroom Program culminates with a special outdoor educational event called "Salmon Summit." In April 2018, BCD's Salmon Summit served 2,583 students. During the event, these elementary students attended field stations to learn how science is used in natural resource management, including fish tagging, agriculture, conservation, and recycling.

EDUCATION

2018 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Ferry CD~ Lunches to Lunches, CHS



Funds provided by the WSC for the Curlew School greenhouse/composting program were used primarily to purchase materials (hardware cloth, hardware, etc.) for a set of composting bins. (A small amount of the funds was spent on potting soil for greenhouse planting). These bins have been used to compost food waste from the school's cafeteria. A huge component of the program has been the education of 1) the agricultural science students building and using the composters and 2) the rest of the students in the school who are separating their food wastes in the cafeteria.

EDUCATION

2018 Conservation Education Mini-Grant

Palouse CD ~ Capturing the Palouse

This grant is still being implemented....more information coming soon.....

Conservation Education Mini-Grant Applications FY19

4 Applications Were Received & Ranked by the Sub-committee:

- ❖ Benton CD ~ Salmon in the Classroom Support
- ❖ Envirothon ~ WA State Envirothon Competition Support
- ❖ Snohomish CD ~ Envirothon Resource Trunk
- ❖ Underwood CD ~ Environmental Education Program Support

Pass Through Grants

- ▶ Pierce CD, Patagonia Grant - \$5,000
- ▶ Pierce CD, Puyallup Tribe grant to support the Children's Water Festival - \$1,900
- ▶ Stevens County Conservation District, NEEF Hands on the Land Grant - \$4,250

LEAVING A LEGACY

- ❖ Created to honor conservationists for their outstanding dedication and service to our natural resources.
- ❖ 6 New Inductees
- ❖ Book is Available Electronically



Bill was a soft spoken, yet highly respected man. He lived a life of service, serving in the National Guard, serving the farming community, serving his church community at First Reformed Church, and most of all, serving his family.

Bill was born in Bellingham and graduated from Lynden High School in 1957. He married Marie Bovenkamp and together they had 3 children: Coni, Greg, and Grant.

Bill Bonsen

Whatcom Conservation District
January 28, 1939 – November 23, 2017

In November 2017, Whatcom CD and the county community said goodbye to our colleague, mentor, friend, and public servant - Bill Bonsen. His tireless commitment to serving landowners in Whatcom County started in 1959, with NRCS, and then Whatcom Conservation District in 2006.

Bill cared about the environment, and he cared about the many dairy and berry farmers in Whatcom County. Bill always greeted you with a smile. He literally walked acres and acres of farms in his career, and farmers honored him by calling him "friend". He was trusted and admired by all who worked with him.

In 1958, Bill began what was to be a 59-year career working as a Soil Conservation Specialist, first with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. After 47 years, Bill officially retired in 2005, but he couldn't quite give up the job he loved so much and went back to work part-time for the Conservation District, working right up to the last week of his life. Bill designed hundreds of lagoons, wildlife ponds, and drainage areas throughout Whatcom County.



In 1999 Brian was awarded the Washington State District Employee of the Year in recognition of all his accomplishments.

Brian Abbott

Pierce Conservation District

Brian Abbott was Pierce Conservation District Manager from 1996-2000. Within 3 years of becoming manager Brian grew his team from three employees to ten. He wrote countless grants and brought in over half a million dollars to hire additional staff, acquire vehicles, and upgrade the computer equipment. He created the District website, set up its email system, and set up a computer network with a server. He added a fish passage program which worked to remove fish passage barriers throughout Pierce County.

Brian was not an all work, no play kind of manager. He created a culture where the district team felt like a family. Brian left the District to work for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board at the state Recreation and Conservation Office in 2000. Eventually he became the Executive Director of the Washington State Salmon Recovery Office. His legacy lives on at the Conservation District today.

David Mead Palmer

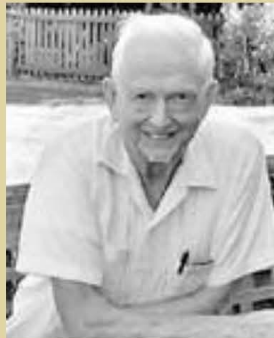
Grays Harbor Conservation District
July 12, 1937 - August 30, 2016

David Mead Palmer, son of George and Eva (Sanborn) Palmer was born in Alameda, Calif., in 1937. Dave graduated from Grants Pass, Oregon High School. While on a scholarship with U.S. National Bank, he moved to Portland, Ore., where he started his data processing career. He joined the IBM Corporation in 1961 and worked for them for 30 years.

The Black River fish kill of 1989 caught David's attention and interest. For the next decade, he was deeply involved in water quality and flooding issues. This led David to be the Founding member and 1st Chairman of the Chehalis River Council. He expanded that interest as a member of Board of Supervisors, Grays Harbor Conservation District, Board of Directors Chehalis Basin Land Trust member, Governors Watershed Coordinating Council member, Department of Ecology SW Region Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Member of the Critical Issues Council, Chehalis.



In 2001, he was awarded the Environmental Excellence Award from the Department of Ecology, it is the highest award for recognizing environmental excellence in the state of Washington.



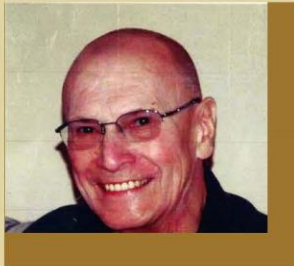
Ernie was often seen on the Puyallup River trail riding his bicycle and was never shy about sharing his love and admiration for the many unique insects found in the Puyallup River Watershed.

Ernie Bay

Pierce Conservation District

Ernie Bay joined the Pierce Conservation District Board of Supervisors in 2004 at a pivotal time. He helped gain approval of the District's first special assessment. He had focus and was tireless in his pursuit of his passion for improving the environment and livability in Pierce County. Ernie was instrumental in establishment and growth of the Foothills Rails to Trails organization. Today, the Foothills Trail includes 28 miles of asphalt, ballast, and dirt trails and a 4.1 mile asphalt trail along the Puyallup River.

In addition to his considerable prowess at community organizing he was an accomplished academic, holding a PhD in entomology. He was Executive Director of the Washington State Research Center in Puyallup, and during his tenure he led a campaign to fund and build the Allmendinger Center, which serves to this day as a center for discussion and action to preserve and promote farming as a way of life in Pierce County.



George was best known for his organizational skills.

George Mahoney

Clark Conservation District

George Mahoney was born May 22, 1924. George served in China, Burma and India in the U.S. Army during WWII. He continued military service in the National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve, culminating his military career with the rank of Colonel, as Chief of Staff for the 104th Division. After retiring from the military, George worked as a volunteer for the Clark Conservation District, becoming an Associate Supervisor in 1991. George served as an Associate Supervisor for 16 years. During his tenure as an Associate Supervisor George organized accounts and grant contracts, assisted with internal audits, committee meetings, the district's tree sale and any other task that would move the district forward. "He was a remarkable man and I always enjoyed his forthright and positive approach to solving problems." Tom Salzer, former WSCC Regional Manager.

George was well respected in all circles, receiving numerous awards and commendations from the military and Clark County for his work. In 1991 he was awarded an accommodation by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) for his outstanding leadership to the District. In 1997 he was recognized again by the WSCC with a commendation for his exemplary service.

Peter "Pete" Guglielmino

Stevens County Conservation District

Pete was born on October 15, 1957 in Colville, the son of Don Minot and Kathleen Lois (Dompier) Guglielmino. Following high school, he attended Eastern Washington University. During his junior year, a freshman by the name of Patricia "Patsy" D. Coulter caught his eye. They exchanged wedding vows on September 11, 1982 in Northport after Pete completed his B.S. in Geology and graduated in 1981.

Pete spent his life engaging in his passion of cattle ranching and sharing the ranch life with guests at Bull Hill Guest Ranch, which he built in 1995. Pete was also past president of the Stevens County and Washington State Cattleman's Associations and Cattleman of the Year recipient. Pete served on the Washington State Governor's Trade Mission, National Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board, Stevens County Soil Conservation District, Stevens County Planning Commission and the Providence Hospital Fund Raising Committee.



He filled the room in his humble presence and raised the rafters with his unforgettable laughter.

Current Board of Directors

- ❖ North Central ~ John McLean
- ❖ South Central ~ Heather Wendt
 - ❖ Northeast ~ Jerry Scheele
 - ❖ Northwest ~ Larry Davis
- ❖ Southeast ~ Jerry Hendrickson
 - ❖ Southwest ~ Doug Rushton

Current Officers

- ❖ President ~ Larry Davis
- ❖ Vice President ~ John McLean
- ❖ Secretary – Treasurer ~ Heather Wendt

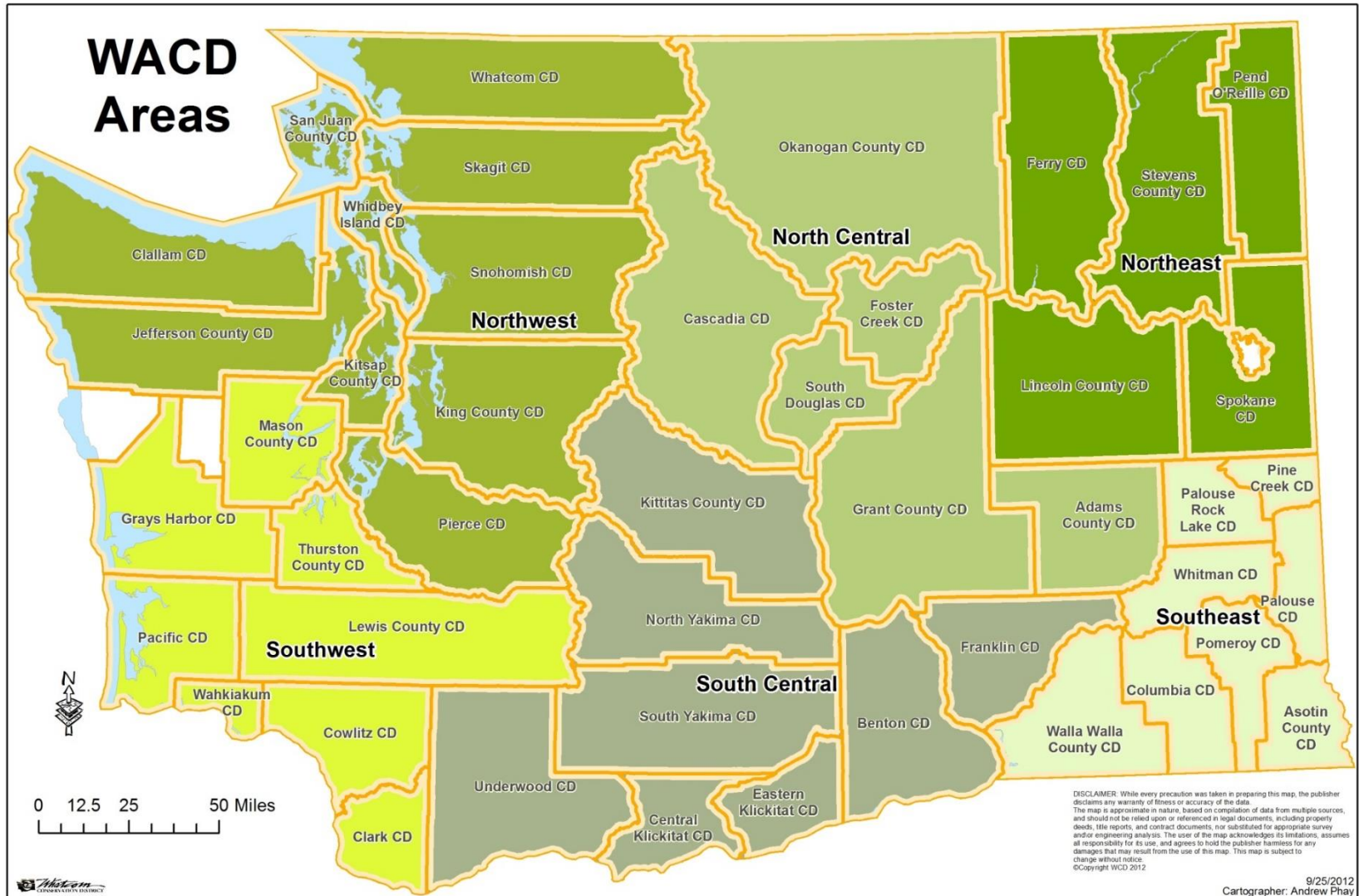
Election of Officers

President ~ Larry Davis

Vice President ~ Doug Rushton

Secretary – Treasurer ~ Heather Wendt

WACD Areas



FUTURE GOALS AND PROJECTS

- ❖ WCS to Assist in Seeking Funding for Development and Implementation of Supervisor Leadership and Training Program
- ❖ Continue to explore ways we can fundraise for our Conservation Education Mini-Grant Program.