



GRASSROOTS

KYLE SCHELL, EDITOR • SDSU • BOX 2170 • BROOKINGS, SD 57007 • kyle.schell@sdstate.edu • (605) 688-6623

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

JUNE 2010

Board of Directors

Lavern Koch, Chair

16746 227th Street
New Underwood, SD 57761
(605) 754-6718

James Faulstich, Vice Chair

33795 186th Street
Highmore, SD 57345
(605) 852-2622

Ellen Reddick, Secretary/Treasurer

1611 Reddick Lane
Saint Onge, SD 57779
(605) 642-3272

Lyle Perman

30872 143rd Street
Lowry, SD 57472
(605) 649-7629

Dan Rasmussen

26151 Cedar Butte Rd.
Belvidere, SD 57521
(605) 344-2250

Larry Wagner

26314 350th Avenue
Chamberlain, SD 57325
(605) 894-4448

Darwin Peckham

41557 147th Street
Bristol, SD 57219
(605) 380-4465

“Energy is Money & Money is Energy” was a Successful Workshop

Over 50 people gathered at the AmericInn in Chamberlain to listen to Ian Mitchell-Innes, a certified educator in Holistic Management. Ian’s insights to holistic management were interesting. One of the points that Ian stressed at this workshop was to watch animal performance when managing holistically. Ian says, “Animal performance requires us to look at the whole and manage the complexity of relationships within it.” Ian also explained how he uses his cattle as tools on his operation in South Africa. When the cattle need a higher plain of nutrition he keeps them in animal performance mode. When he needs to make some changes to the environment on his ranch he uses them in landscaping mode, where he uses ultra-high stock density grazing to maintain healthy land. Ian also discussed his mineral program. He offers his cattle free choice minerals where the animal can choose from 15 different minerals in the purest form obtainable. Ian said that everything we do should benefit the triple bottom line. It should provide social, financial, and environmental benefits. If we can keep these three things in mind when making holistic decisions, it can lead to better way of life.

In this Issue...

IAN MITCHELL-INNES WORKSHOP

LEOPOLD CONSERVATION AWARD

**NATIONAL RANGE JUDGING
CONTESTANTS RETURN HOME**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more information or other events the **SOUTH DAKOTA GRASSLAND COALITION** is involved with, please contact Kyle Schell or visit the website: <http://www.sdgrass.org>

Leopold Conservation Award

Sand County Foundation's (SCF) **Leopold Conservation Award (LCA)** recognizes landowners actively committed to living the legacy of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold. The LCA is a competitive award offered in a single state and today landowners in seven states (CA, CO, NE, TX, UT, WI and WY) are being recognized for their conservation efforts. As state partners, the South Dakota Cattlemen's Association (SDCA) and the South Dakota Grassland Coalition (SDGC) are working with the Foundation to present the first annual award to a South Dakota landowner in 2010.

The LCA recognizes extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation, inspires other landowners through their example, and helps the general public understand the vital role private landowners can and do play in conservation success. By presenting the award during the SDCA's annual convention, the landowner's conservation achievements will be showcased among their peers. The award winner will receive a cash prize of **\$10,000** and a Leopold Crystal.

For more information about the Leopold Conservation Award and the Sand County Foundation, please visit www.leopoldconservationaward.org.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

The Sand County Foundation, SDCA and the SDGC are seeking sponsors to help us present the first annual Leopold Conservation Award in 2010. Your sponsorship investment will help ensure the health of South Dakota's land, water, and wildlife through recognition of landowner conservationists.

Financial sponsors of the award have a unique opportunity to help recognize outstanding South Dakota families, many of whom have been living on, working at, and protecting beautiful landscapes for generations. These South Dakotans not only provide food and fiber to the nation's citizens, but also provide an array of environmental amenities that go largely unnoticed by the public: clean water, open space, wildlife habitat, and recreation, to name a few.

Sponsors will be identified with outstanding environmental stewardship and have the opportunity to interact with the South Dakota families who work so hard to protect the resources in their care. The

award will be presented during the SDCA Convention, advertising with print and broadcast media, and showcased in broadly disseminated video vignettes. Sponsors will receive full recognition on all event materials and during the event. Major sponsors are also encouraged to make respectful use of award materials and family stories in their own marketing.

Important Dates/Deadlines:

July 7	Nominations period opens
September 24	Nominations deadline
October 10	Finalists announced
October 25	Winner announced
December 1	Award presentation at SDCA Convention

2010 Sponsorship Levels:

Platinum Level Sponsors - \$10,000 +

- Sponsorship acknowledgement and logo anywhere SCF and state partners' logos appear (including state partner publications)
- Logo and listing with SCF and state partners in the award nomination and event brochures.
- Listed with SCF and state partners in press releases (approximately three per year), Op-Eds (approximately one per year) and other media outreach.
- Sponsorship acknowledgement at the award presentation.
- Logo in the annual Leopold Conservation Award Year in Review publication.
- Sponsorship acknowledgement with a logo and link on the SFC and state partners' websites.

Gold Level Sponsors - \$5,000-\$9,999

- Sponsorship acknowledgement at the award presentation.
- Listing in the nomination and event brochures as well as state partner publications.
- Sponsor listing in press releases (approximately three per year), Op-Eds (approximately one per year) and other media outreach.
- Listing in the annual Leopold Conservation Award Year in Review publication.
- Sponsorship acknowledgement with a logo and link on the SFC and state partners' websites.

Silver Level Sponsors - \$1,000-\$4,999

- Sponsorship acknowledgement at the award presentation.
- Sponsor listing in the nomination and event brochures as well as state partner publications.
- Listing in the annual Leopold Conservation Award Year in Review publication.
- Sponsorship acknowledgement with a link on the SFC and state partners' websites.

We're happy to work with you to customize a sponsorship package that works for you.

For more information contact:

Jodie Hickman
 South Dakota Cattlemen's Association
 Office Phone: 605.954.2333
 Cell Phone: 605.280.9462
 E-Mail: executive@sd cattlemen.org

Jim Faulstich
 South Dakota Grassland Coalition
 Home Phone: 605.852.2622
 Cell Phone: 605.871.3606
 E-Mail: Faulstich@sbtc.net

Many organizations have made financial commitments and we hope you'll join us.

National Range Judging Contestants Return Home

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK - The Newell FFA Chapter along with the Butte County 4-H team from Newell, SD have returned home after participating in the 59th Annual National Land and Range Judging Contest in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Six hundred and fifty teenage FFA and 4-H members competed in the contest held May 4-6, according to Trey Lam of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. Lam is the president of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts, the contest's principal sponsor. The El Reno Federal Corrections Institute hosted the event on its FCI Farms near El Reno on May 6th. Redlands Community College hosted the luncheon for participants at its Darlington Agricultural Education Farm near the contest site. Total registration for the event exceeded 860 with coaches, sponsors, officials and group leaders in addition to the contestants.

The FFA and 4-H participating teams qualified for the national event by placing among the top five teams at contests held in their home states. The first

two days of the three day event offered contestants opportunities to visit nearby practice sites to get acquainted with Oklahoma soils and plants with information available from soil experts. The actual contest site remains a secret until contest day, so no one has an unfair advantage. Contestants and coaches gather on contest morning to find out the official contest location. They then travel to the site, with a police escort, in a caravan of over 100 vehicles spanning several miles.

The event ended Thursday night with an awards banquet in the Great Hall of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Jeanette Nance, liaison to Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry, welcomed the participants. National championship trophies were awarded to team and individual winners in each category of the competition including land judging, range judging, and homesite evaluation. Each category included FFA and 4-H.

In the Range Judging 4-H Competition, the Butte County 4-H team brought home the National Championship! JC Seaman placed 2nd individually along with Ethan Pauley placing 3rd, Blane Hotchkiss placing 4th and Kyle Tiffitt placing 8th, respectively. The Newell FFA Range Judging Team placed 9th in the nation. Team members included Tyler Swan placing 22nd, Morgan Myers placing 34th, Cady Olson placing 39th and Brodie Shaykett placing 45th individually. The teams were coached by TJ Swan, Butte County Extension Educator, Dave Ollila Newell FFA Advisor, Jodie Dunbar, Newell FFA Advisor and Dani Herring, Newell FFA Alumni Supporter.

According to Dave Ollila, Newell FFA Advisor, "These opportunities to study Range Management provide students with skills and understanding of a valuable natural resource that drives the economies of Rural America in the West. Many students will pursue careers which require the knowledge of habitat and range resource management.

In addition to practicing and competing in the range judging contest, the Newell FFA and Butte County 4-H members were able to take in some of the local attractions Oklahoma had to offer. They were able to tour the Oklahoma City Zoo, Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, Lazy E Ranch, and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Some other activities included go-carts, watching a movie in an IMAX theater, watching a few horse races at Remington Park, and eating at the infamous Braum's! Jack Link's Jerky supplied more than 40 lbs of jerky to be enjoyed by the 10 South Dakota Teams competing in the National Land and Range Competition. Overall, this was an excellent educational opportunity for all!



Kyle Schell
Box 2170, ASC 105, SDSU
Brookings, SD 57007

Calendar of events:

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Deuel County Pasture Walk	July 12	Clear Lake SD	Rebecca Schafer	605-874-2681
McPherson Co. Range Day	July 15	Leola SD	Lanette Butler	605-439-3331
Mellette Co. Pasture Walk	July 20	White River SD	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623
Grazing School	Sept 13-17	Chamberlain SD	Kyle Schell	605-688-6623

Please remit any comments, suggestions, or topics deemed necessary for further review to: Kyle Schell, SDSU Box 2170, Brookings SD 57007, kyle.schell@sdstate.edu, (605) 688-6623