

## **NDWCA Education Committee Meeting March 18, 2008**

On March 18, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. central time, the Education Committee met via IVN across the state. IVN sites were in Langdon, Minot, Stanley, Bismarck and Fargo. Education Committee members present were: Shauna Berg, Stan Wolf, Jim Hennessy, John Arlien, Rachel Seifert-Spilde, Blake Schaan, Kadie Herseth, Chuck Weiser and Derrill Fick. Rachel Seifert-Spilde introduced Blake Schaan as the new hire in the department. He will also take over the Education Committee slot. Sprayer schools have been set up for May 20<sup>th</sup> in Rugby and May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Bismarck. Shauna is working on the final details and should have a poster ready by next week. Kadie updated the committee on the youth t-shirts. They are in the process of being set up; the company is having some trouble but thinks it shouldn't be a problem. The NRCS Earth Day that will be held on April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Bismarck is a prime opportunity to not only promote Earth Day, but to promote the NDWCA's coloring contest. We will have a presentation to the winner of the contest & hand out t-shirts to the winner's class as well as the top posters from each area. Shauna & Kadie will send out letters to the schools to personally invite the top schools that participated to attend Earth Day and our award presentation. There was discussion on making bag lunches to feed the kids that come, Derrill said there will be a concessions stand for people, it was talked about working with the concession stand to feed the kids we personally invite. Derrill, Kadie & Shauna will set up a NDWCA booth and show off the posters sent in as well as have coloring books, etc. for kids that promote weed control. Theodore Thistle has been scheduled to attend Earth Day and has offered to help out. Shauna & Kadie are still working on Lucy Loosestrife and hoping she will be able to help out at Earth Day as well. Stan discussed what caps should be ordered for the ladies of the symposium and how many to order. It was agreed he should order 24-36 in pink of which ever he felt of the two choices the committee narrowed it down to. The stainless steel mugs for \$4.00/each with the logo printed on was discussed next. The committee agreed we should order 150 mugs and sell them for \$5.00/each. T-shirts for the symposium was talked about. Lucy & Theodore will be on the front and the ND State Noxious Weed List will be on the back. The hats will have the NDWCA's website on the back and the logo on the front. Symposium gifts handed out to attendees was budgeted for \$25 last year and that's what we are looking at this year. Last year we gave Weeds of the Great Plains books as part of the attendee packets. Do we want the same book or should we go with Weeds of the West. Kadie said she received a really good book from Bonnie Harper-Lore last year and thought we should possibly check that route. We will contact Bonnie to see what the cost of the book is and Kadie will have members of the committee look at the book before we make a final decision. We do have the \$9,800 RC&D grant funding for the school again this year. Radie Clayton will be doing the meals and asked if we wanted meals the same or if she should change anything. It was in agreement by the committee to stay the same. The committee then put together a skeleton schedule together. Tuesday: we will begin with Peter Rice from the University of Montana, Break, then have Chuck & Ken Eraas present a live weed ID, followed by GPS training, supper, treasure hunt and ending with weed Jeopardy. Wednesday: Breakfast, possibly Roger Becker from the University of MN, break, Dave Hirsch (biological), Karen Smith (cultural), Brian Wehausan (prevention), lunch, Jim Hanson

(NDDA) Vince Thomas (Reds Fixit) Mark Silver (Topo), Kelly & Jack from Vegetative Management out of SD, followed by ATV's & other equipment on display, supper, ending with golf, trap shoot and a possible tour or visit to a state park. Thursday: breakfast, calibration with Bill Walker, Bonnie Harper-Lore, ending with lunch. Registration cost will be the same with an early bird deadline of July 1<sup>st</sup>. The second annual symposium will be held on August 12-14<sup>th</sup> at the Washburn 4-H camp. Promoting the symposium was discussed. Shauna has started making a state association list for possible attendees from examples Chuck gave at the last meeting. A poster will be made as well and sent to all weed boards and weed officers across the state to print off and display to help promote the training. Next meeting will be on April 15, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. central time via IVN. Shauna & Jim Hennessy will set up the IVN meeting sites.