

*Back in the Saddle*



**ASSOCIATION**  
**OF SOIL & WATER**  
**CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

**78th Annual Meeting**

*Sheraton Imperial RTP*

*Durham, NC*

*Thank you to our Platinum Level (\$5,000) sponsor...*



Thank you to our Silver Level  
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## Back in the Saddle

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*Thank you all for attending the 78th Annual Meeting of our Association here at the Sheraton Imperial. It is so good to see everyone again. These past two years have been challenging for us all. Much of what we are is the relationships we have established through our work and interactions at this meeting. We become stronger through our challenges and you all have risen to meet so many.*



*This year I have chosen "Back in the Saddle" as my theme because of my anticipation that as we move forward, we will continue to get back to our interactions on a personal basis. We have proven our resilience and commitment to serve citizens and conserve natural resources by providing service in new ways, accomplishing our tasks more efficiently, and continuing the legacy set before us many years ago.*

*This past year, though different in so many ways, has been a rewarding experience for me. I appreciate the opportunity to represent this great Association and the many people that make the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts an important part of conservation and agriculture for our great state. It is my hope that everyone enjoys this Annual Meeting and that we all leave with a greater knowledge of our duties, responsibilities and opportunities.*

*Sincerely,*

*Blount Knowles*

*Blount Knowles, President*

# SUNDAY

1/9/22

9:30 AM

Empire A and B

**NC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION WORK SESSION**

John Langdon, Chairperson, Presiding

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit for Work Session  
or Meeting*

2:00-3:00

Crystal Coast Ballroom

**DEA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Jason Byrd, DEA President, Presiding

2:00-6:00

Empire Foyer AB

**PM REGISTRATION OPEN**

2:00-6:00 PM

Imperial 123

**EXHIBIT HALL REGISTRATION & MOVE IN**

12:30-2:30 PM

Empire AB

**NCASWCD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Blount Knowles, NCASWCD President, Presiding

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

1:00-3:00 PM

Crown

**FIRST TIMERS AND NEW SUPERVISOR  
ORIENTATION**

Franklin Williams, Past President, Facilitator

*2 Hours of Supervisor Training Credit*

2:00-3:00 PM

Capital City

**AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

Betty Mathews, President, Presiding

3:00-5:00 PM

Imperial 4-7

**NC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION MEETING**

John Langdon, Chairperson, Presiding

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit for Meeting  
or Work Session*

# SUNDAY

5:00-6:00 PM

Empire Ballroom

## **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME RECEPTION**

*A complimentary reception will be served; rotating event.*

7:30 PM

Imperial 4-7

## **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Tracy Warren, Assistant Chaplain Presiding

Inspirational Message: Tracy Warren

Special Music: Conservation Pickers

9:00 PM

Capital City

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Chris Hogan, Immediate Past President, Presiding

9:00 PM

Crown

## **INFORMAL MUSIC JAM**

# MONDAY

1/10/22

6:00 – 7:00 AM

Imperial 1-3

**EXHIBITOR MOVE IN**

6:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Empire Foyer AB

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

6:45 AM

Empire CDE

**SUPERVISORS' BREAKFAST\*** Doors Open 6:30 AM

Chris Hughes, Vice-President, Presiding

Invocation:

Tracy Warren, Assistant Chaplain

Oaths of Office

New Area Chairs

NACD Report and Update

Franklin Williams,

NC NACD Board Member

Speaker:

Candice Abinanti

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

\*The initials SB are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.

7:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Imperial 1-3

**EXHIBIT HALL OPEN**

7:45 to 9:00 AM

Piedmont

**AUXILIARY HOSPITALITY**

Food and Coffee Provided

8:30 AM

Imperial 4-7

**GENERAL SESSION**

Welcome:

Blount Knowles, President, Presiding

Invocation:

Tracy Warren, Assistant Chaplain

Presentation of Colors:

Association Veterans

National Anthem:

Vernon Cox and David Williams

Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by President

Year in Review

Bryan Evans, Association ED

Foundation and Grange

Jimmy Gentry, President

DEQ

Elizabeth Biser, Secretary

Comments from the Top

Steve Troxler, Commissioner

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

# MONDAY

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Foyer

## **BANQUET SEATING RESERVATIONS**

*(Bring name tag to make seating selection.)*

9:30 AM – NOON

Auditorium

## **AUXILIARY INFORMATIONAL SESSION & BUSINESS MEETING**

*See Separate Agenda for Auxiliary Activities*

10:00AM

## **BREAK**

10:30 AM

## **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

1.5 Hours of Supervisor Training Credit per Session

### **SESSION #1**

Crown

#### **2022 Executive Committee Orientation**

Chris Hughes, Association 1st Vice President, Facilitator  
*Are you an incoming 2022 Area Chair or a member of the 2021 Executive Committee who will continue serving in 2022? If so, this session is specifically designed with you in mind. You will leave the session better informed about specific duties and responsibilities for the upcoming year. There will be plenty of time for dialogue with the incoming president,, regarding goals and expectations for 2022. Whether you're a first time member of the Executive Committee or a veteran, this session is a must for getting you prepared for your role.*

### **SESSION # 2**

Royal A

#### **Conservation Easements; Are They Right for Your District**

Amanda Sand, Abby Haselton, and Tom Potter, NC Foundation

*Is your district interested in holding conservation easements or supporting farmers as they work to preserve their land through conservation easements? Want to better understand all the buzz about conservation easements? Then this session is for you whether you are a supervisor or district staff. Join us as the NC Foundation Executive Director provides a background for conservation easements, explains why they matter, and items of consideration for Districts. Bring your personal experiences and questions. This is the introduction to a training series beginning late-January supported by NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission and the NCDA&CS ADFP Trust Fund.*



# MONDAY

## **SESSION #3**

Empire AB

### **Leadership Project**

*This Session will be the kick-off for the Leadership Initiative sponsored by the NC Foundation and the NC Tobacco Trust Fund. Dick Fowler, the first Executive Director of the Association will facilitate this get-to-know and get prepared session. If you think you may be interested in participating in the leadership training opportunity, you are invited to attend.*

## **SESSION #4**

Imperial V

### **Maximizing Local Priorities (Local Workgroups)**

*Local Workgroups are a perfect way for Districts to develop their priorities to address District specific resource concerns, not just meet program requirements. This session will assist with increasing effectiveness of your Local Workgroup and provide new strategies to be more effective with stakeholders in your District.*

## **SESSION #5**

Royal B

### **Drones in Conservation**

*Join us to learn from local soil and water conservation districts regarding the use of drones in their conservation work. Hear about management considerations, technical capabilities, and some "lessons learned" from districts that use these tools. Wilkes, Tyrell and Pamlico SWCDs to share their perspectives.*

## **SESSION #6**

Imperial IV

### **Floodwise**

*Michelle Lovejoy with EDF will give insight to what the Floodwise program could do to address resiliency for flooding in various settings. This session will address opportunities for landowners and other emerging issues.*

# MONDAY

NOON

Empire DE

## **LEGISLATIVE LUNCH**

Craig Frazier, Legislative Committee Chair, Presiding

*.5 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

*The initials LL are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.*

1:30 PM

Bull Durham

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS' AND RECORDERS' MEETING**

2:00-5:00 PM

## **RESOURCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Community Conservation Committee	Imperial VI,VII
District Operations Committee	Imperial IV
Education Committee	Auditorium
Finance Committee	Royal B
Legislative Committee	Royal A
Natural Environment Committee	Crown
Research and Technology Committee	Imperial V
Water Resources Committee	Empire AB

6:30 PM

Empire Ballroom

## **CONSERVATION EDUCATION DINNER**

David Harris, Education Committee Chair, Presiding

Guest Speaker: Senator Natalie Murdock

Education Awards: Envirothon Hall of Fame  
Food, Land, and People Awards  
Other Envirothon Awards  
Teacher of the Year

*The initials ED are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.*

8:00 PM

Empire Ballroom

## **AUXILIARY AUCTION**

9:00 PM

Crown

## **INFORMAL MUSIC JAM**

# TUESDAY

1/11/22

7:45 to 9:00 AM

Piedmont

## **AUXILIARY HOSPITALITY**

7:30 to 5:00 PM

Empire Foyer

## **REGISTRATION OPEN**

7:00 to 2:00 PM

Imperial 1-3

## **EXPO OPEN**

8:30 AM

Imperial 4-7

## **GENERAL SESSION**

Blount Knowles, President, Presiding

Invocation: Tracy Warren, Assistant Chaplain

Milton Heath Lecture,

Flood Recovery, Resilience and Preparedness

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

9:30 AM

## **Comments from candidates for all positions**

ELECTION – Coastal 2nd VP,

Piedmont Commission Seat

10:00 – 10:30 AM

## **BREAK**

10:30AM

## **GENERAL SESSION Resumes**

Blount Knowles, President, Presiding

Introduction to the new Streamflow Rehabilitation

Program (StRAP) and what additional CCAP funding means.

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

# TUESDAY

## AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Length of Service  
NCASWCD Outstanding Employees of the Year  
and District Awards

9:30 – Noon Auditorium

## AUXILIARY INFORMATION SESSION and BUSINESS MEETING

NOON Empire CDE

## DEA LUNCHEON\*\*

Jason Byrd, DEA President, Presiding

\*\*The initials DL are on your nametag if you purchased this meal in advance.

1:30 PM Auditorium

## NRCS STAFF MEETING

1:30 PM Imperial 4-7

## NCASWCD BUSINESS MEETING

Chris Hughes, 1st Vice President, Presiding;  
TBD, Parliamentarian

## REPORTS

NRCS Comments	Tim Beard, State Conservationist
DEA Report	Jason Byrd, President
Auxiliary Report	Betty Mathews, President
Division Comments	Vernon Cox, Director
Foundation Report	Jimmy Gentry, President
	Amanda Sand, Exec. Dir.

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

## ACTION ITEMS

Nominating Committee Report	Chris Hogan, Committee Chair
Other Actions Items	By-Laws Update
Committee Reports	Committee Chairs

# TUESDAY

6:30 PM

Imperial Ballroom

## **BANQUET**

Blount Knowles, President, Presiding

Invocation: Tracy Warren, Assistant Chaplain

## **OUTSTANDING N.C. CONSERVATION FARM FAMILY AWARDS**

COASTAL REGION

S&S Farms

Pitt County

MOUNTAIN REGION

Wetmore Farms

Rowan County

President's Award,

Blount Knowles

NC Foundation Presentation

Jimmy Gentry

Hall of Fame Presentation

Franklin Williams, Chair

Outgoing President's Remarks

Blount Knowles,  
2021 President

Installation of 2022 NCASWCD President

Handing Over the Gavel

Blount Knowles, 2021 President

Incoming President's Remarks

Chris Hughes  
2022 President

9:00 – 11:00 PM

Crown

## **INFORMAL MUSIC JAM**

WEDNESDAY 1/12/22

9:00 AM

Crystal Coast

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BREAKFAST MEETING**

*1 Hour of Supervisor Training Credit*

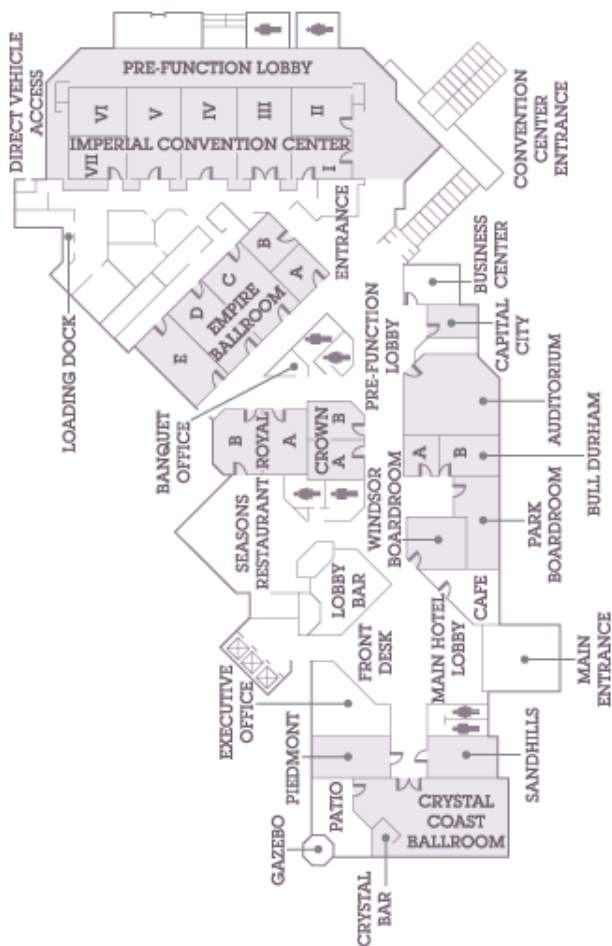
# Past NCASWCD Presidents

1944	<i>O.J. Holler - Rutherford Co.</i>
1945	<i>Dane S. Rhine - Gaston Co.</i>
1946	<i>A. C. Edwards - Greene Co.</i>
1947	<i>W. Herbert White - Rockingham Co.</i>
1948	<i>Wade E. Eller - Ashe Co.</i>
1949	<i>J. Hawley Poole - Moore Co.</i>
1950	<i>W. W. Eagles - Edgecombe Co.</i>
1951	<i>H. S. Hogan - Orange Co.</i>
1952	<i>W. J. Fonville - Alamance Co.</i>
1953	<i>J. T. Graham - Rowan Co.</i>
1954	<i>S. Vernon Stevens - Lee Co.</i>
1955	<i>Allen Swindell - Beaufort Co.</i>
1956	<i>Charles Ladd - Durham Co.</i>
1957	<i>B. L. Angell - Davie Co.</i>
1958	<i>Neal M. Craig - Mecklenburg Co.</i>
1959	<i>Charles L. Davis - Jones Co.</i>
1960	<i>A. W. Nesbitt - Buncombe Co.</i>
1961	<i>A.J. Flanagan - Pitt Co.</i>
1962	<i>Leon Ballance - Hyde Co.</i>
1963	<i>J.B. Slack - Randolph Co.</i>
1964	<i>James Bellamy, Jr. - Brunswick Co.</i>
1965	<i>Thomas H. Bonham - Buncombe Co.</i>
1966	<i>James T. Moss, Sr. - Franklin Co.</i>
1967	<i>Lloyd C. Bunch - Chowan Co.</i>
1968	<i>George B. Collins - Wilkes Co.</i>
1969	<i>George Winchester - Wake Co.</i>
1970	<i>William G. Sullivan - Duplin Co.</i>
1971	<i>Blair Goodson - Lincoln Co.</i>
1972	<i>A. W. Bunch - Scotland Co.</i>
1973	<i>M. E. Knight - Gates Co.</i>
1974	<i>G. C. Palmer - Haywood Co.</i>
1975	<i>C. Roy Nifong, Jr. - Forsyth Co.</i>
1976	<i>Joseph L. Williams - Duplin Co.</i>
1977	<i>John B. Harris - Burke Co.</i>
1978	<i>Stewart Adcock - Wake Co.</i>
1979	<i>Ralph Tucker - Pitt Co.</i>
1980	<i>Wade Carrigan - Iredell Co.</i>
1981	<i>D. R. Huff, Jr. - Moore Co.</i>

1982 F.C. Laughinghouse – Beaufort Co.  
1983 Charles Patton – Buncombe Co.  
1984 Garland Strickland – Nash Co.  
1985 David Holland, Jr. – Onslow Co.  
1986 H. Gray Ashburn, Jr. – Wilkes Co.  
1987 John Y. Phelps, Jr. – Wake Co.  
1988 William V. Griffin – Craven Co.  
1989 Rebecca H. Rhyne – Gaston Co.  
1990 William Butler – Bladen Co.  
1991 Tom Burns – Pasquotank Co.  
1992 James Ferguson – Haywood Co.  
1993 Charles Snipes – Orange Co.  
1994 Samuel D. Davis – Jones Co.  
1995 Don Abernethy – Burke Co.  
1996 John W. Finch – Nash Co.  
1997 David M. O’Neal – Hyde Co.  
1998 Eddie Stroup – Mecklenburg Co.  
1999 Jeff Turlington – Harnett Co.  
2000 Franklin Williams – Duplin Co.  
2001 Jim Hollifield – Rutherford Co.  
2002 Albert Troutman – Moore Co.  
2003 James Mason – Hertford Co.  
2004 Grover McPherson – Forsyth Co.  
2005 Tom Davidson – Durham Co.  
2006 Don Rawls – Pender Co.  
2007 Ned Hudson – Cabarrus Co.  
2008 Bobby Stanley – Columbus Co.  
2009 William Pickett – Duplin Co.  
2010 James Ferguson – Haywood Co.  
2011 Craig Frazier – Randolph Co.  
2012 Donald Heath – Craven Co.  
2013 Tommy Houser – Lincoln Co.  
2014 John Langdon – Johnston Co.  
2015 Manly West – Currituck Co.  
2016 Ben Knox – Rowan Co.  
2017 Chris Hogan - Orange Co.  
2018 Dietrich Kilpatrick - Craven Co.  
2019 Myles Payne - Alexander Co.  
2020 Samuel Green, Jr. - Vance Co.  
2021 Blount Knowles - Bertie Co.



# Sheraton Imperial Durham, NC



# NOTES



**Mark your calendar  
now for the  
79th Annual Meeting  
Jan. 8-10, 2023**