



*Greetings Mid-Atlantic SWS Chapter Members,*

*The SWS International meeting in D.C. was a great start to a new year for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Special thanks to Terry Doss and Kel Wieder for organizing one of the most successful SWS conferences. We had over 600 attendees which invigorated the discussions during the technical sessions and informal gatherings in the hallways and social events. Over the coming year we will be hosting several events throughout different parts of our region to bring together SWS members and other wetland colleagues and learn new information in the field of wetland science (details below). I hope that you will join us to support our network in the Mid-Atlantic region! Also if you have other ideas or opportunities for our chapter I'd love to hear from you – [amy.jacobs@state.de.us](mailto:amy.jacobs@state.de.us).*

*Until next time enjoy the whimsical button bush flowers,*

*Amy*

**Chapter Officers:** Amy Deller Jacobs, President; Sharon Yates, President-elect; Ron Prann, Treasurer; Ellen Kracauer Hartig, Past President

**Website:** <http://www.sws.org/regional/midatlantic/>

**Membership:** SWS members from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and District of Columbia

## **SWS MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING**

**Tuesday, May 27, 2008**

**SWS International Annual Meeting**

**Washington, D.C.**

President Ellen Hartig welcomed everyone and relayed that the D.C. meeting attendance is high and the conference is going very well. Our chapter will receive 25% of the profits from the meeting, however, this may take over a year to several years to rectify the finances and have the funds in our account.

**Chapter Meetings/ Events:** Ellen provided a brief summary of our last meeting in October in Ocean City, MD. This coming year will be the last year that we are committed to be in O.C. and could then move it to other parts of the region. It was decided that we should look into partnering with other meetings in NY/ PA.

There is a soil exhibit at the Smithsonian that we have been offered to have a behind the scenes tour. Establishing a subcommittee to organize the meeting which will be Charlie Rhodes, Albert McCullough and Amy Jacobs. Look into regional meeting at Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC), partnering with the New York Wetlands Forum in April. There are a lot of members in New York (Cornell/ Syracuse) and PA around Penn State and also a lot in the DC area.

**Organizational Business:** There is a need for multi-year planning. It is difficult to plan events and implement in a 1 year term of the officers. There is an option for extending terms, another option is to edit guidelines to better define roles. Andy said that guidelines should be updated more often and revisited now. Ellen and Amy will edit guidelines and have them ready to vote on for the next meeting.

New President Elect: Ellen asked for nominations for president elect. (National Board decided that VP is now called president elect). Sharon Yates was nominated. She works for A.D. Marble & Company and has been working in consulting for 20 years and previously for a nonprofit for 6 years. We are now opening additional nominations for 30 days. All nominations should go to Ellen. If other nominations are received we will send a ballot to all members. If no other nominations are received Sharon will become the president elect in 30 days.

**Financial Report:**(Ron Prann not present). Ellen relayed that after the commitment to the D.C. meeting we had approximately \$6k left.

## Upcoming Events

### ***October 27-30th - Fall mid-year meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWS in conjunction with the Wetlands and Watersheds Conference***

This years workshop features an enriching hands on learning experience designed to directly engage participants, and also give them training to effectively apply the knowledge they acquire. The workshop is designed as a series of training sessions to help members gain a more well-rounded, thorough and enjoyable understanding of the most pertinent concerns in aquatic resource protection. We are once again seeking to unite scientists, regulators, non-governmental organizations, consultants, resource managers, academicians and users to discuss contemporary wetland and watershed issues. Training sessions will include an introduction to the Rapano's decision, federal compensatory mitigation rule, Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plain Regional Supplement for the 1987 Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual, plant identification, and wetland restoration techniques. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWS will hold their business meeting and social Tuesday or Wednesday evening. More information will be available soon at:  
<http://www.wetlandsworkgroup.org/>

### ***Winter 2008/09 - Dig It! The Secrets of Soil - National soils exhibit behind the scenes tour***

SWS Past President, Pat Megonigal has offered to provide our members a behind the scenes tour of the national soils exhibit being displayed at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. We will be organizing a group tour in January or February. More details to come soon.

### ***Spring2009 - Meeting in upstate New York/ Pennsylvania***

We are looking to plan or partner with an existing meeting in upstate New York or Pennsylvania in the spring of 2009 to bring together members in the northern part of our region. We are currently looking for opportunities to partner with other meeting/ conferences as well as ideas for a topic that we could host a speaker or seminar. Please send any ideas to Amy Jacobs at amy.jacobs@state.de.us.