



NDCDEA NEWS

Volume 5, Issue 1

December, 2020

Achievement Awards Banquet & Annual Meeting

Greetings and Happy Holidays!

2020 was sure a year! There were plenty of challenges this year, but the Employees Association took them in stride. The most noticeable change in 2020 was the lack of an Achievement Awards Banquet. We were still able to hold the necessary meetings virtually, but I think we can all agree that it wasn't quite the same as meeting in person.

The 2021 Achievement Awards Banquet will be held on November 21-23 at the Fargo Holiday Inn. As many of you know, the majority of 2020 Achievement Award Winners will be honored at the banquet in 2021. Those districts that are choosing a new winner for 2021 have alternative plans to honor their 2020 winners.

Elk Raffle Fundraiser

As many of you already know, the NDCDEA held a raffle for a chance to win a bull elk tag on the Standing Rock Reservation. 243 tickets were sold and the winner was Jon Johnson from Dickinson. There were also 5 gift cards ranging from \$100-\$500 raffled off as well. Half of the proceeds will be going towards an orchard education project for Standing Rock elementary students. This project is being led by the Cedar SCD. The remaining proceeds will take the place of the auction and 50/50 raffle that is normally held at convention to fund employee trainings. Thanks to all of those that helped sell tickets!

New NDCDEA Directors Elected

We would like to welcome Dustin Krueger from the Stutsman County SCD, Shannon Anderson from the Eddy County SCD, Valerie Frohlich from the Morton County SCD, Kari Beckman from the Bottineau County SCD, and Tokina Mcharry from the Dickey County SCD to the NDCDEA board of directors. Dustin and Shannon are appointed directors until November 2021. Val, Kari, and Tokina were elected on November 20th at the business meeting to serve a 2-year term ending in November 2022. Congratulations to all of the new directors and welcome to the NDCDEA board!

Tree Promotion Workshop

The 2021 Tree Promotion Workshop will be held virtually on March 10-11. Ken Miller, the 2017 Aldo Leopold Award winner will be the keynote speaker. There will be sessions on arboretums, pruning, outreach, new employee training, and more. This year's agenda is being finalized and should be out very soon!

Things to Think About...

It's time to start thinking about who you would like to nominate for the Above and Beyond Award. Last year's winner was Rhonda Kelsch. More information will be coming out later this winter.

2021 Scholarship Applications can be scanned and emailed to Ryan Thorson with the Grand Forks County SCD. There will be two \$1000 scholarships offered. Essay topic and applications will be sent out soon.

As always, if you have anything you would like to see as part of a workshop or individual training, please let one of your directors know.

Upcoming Events/Deadlines

- *Above and Beyond Award-Nominations due by February 26, 2021*
- *NDCDEA Scholarship deadline is February 26, 2021*
- *Tree Promotion Workshop is March 10-11, 2021*
- *Tentative Tree Planting and Cooler Maintenance Workshop—April 2021*



Directors:

Area I

Shannon Anderson
Ryan Thorson

Area II

Tokina Mcharry
Nathan Johnson

Area III

Kari Beckman—Secretary
Stetson Myers

Area IV

Dustin Krueger—Vice President
Valerie Frohlich

Area V

Kaylee Stein—President
Sarah Tunge

Darci Gahner—Treasurer

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