



## Achievement Awards Banquet & Annual Meeting

Greetings and Happy Holidays! The annual meeting and banquet was a success again this year. Thank you to everyone who donated auction items! We made around \$3,500 on the auction. The money raised goes to scholarships sponsored by the NDCDEA . Last year the NDCDEA gave out 4- \$1000 scholarships. A big thank you goes out to Terry Lund for coming back and being our auctioneer!

Allen Williams, keynote speaker, was well received. He helped with the Achievement Award Winners breakout session which had some great information. Thank you to all the speakers that presented during the breakout sessions.

This year's Aldo Leopold Award winners was the Bartholomay Kattle Kompany, Sheldon, North Dakota. The Bartholomay family has adopted conservation practices that benefit the land, water, and wildlife on a unique North Dakota landscape. Congratulations to them.

Sarah Tunge was presented with the NDCDEA Appreciation Award during the breakfast meeting on Wednesday morning. Sarah is a great advisor for the NDCDEA reporting back on the Outdoor Heritage Fund grant, the contribution agreement, the National Employees Association and so much more.

## New NDCDEA Directors Elected

The NDCDEA would like to welcome Ty Nordby from Stark & Billings SCD, Billie Jo Hinders from Richland County, and welcome back Kelli Schumacher from Burke SCD to the NDCDEA board of directors. Ty is replacing Cassidy Fairbanks in Area 5, Billie Jo is replacing Matt Olson in Area 2, and Kelli is replacing Stetson Myers in Area 3. The NDCDEA wishes the past directors best wishes in the future and we look forward to working with Ty, Billie Jo and Kelli in the years to come!

The board reorganized and Easton Brown from Foster County SCD was elected president, Billi Jo—Vice President and Tokina McHarry from James River SCD—secretary.

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### Upcoming Events/Deadlines

- NDCDEA scholarship deadline is February 29, 2024
- DAM Meeting is March 11-13, 2024
- Above and Beyond Award Nominations due by February 23, 2024

### Directors:

#### Area 1

Easton Brown-President

Shannon Anderson

#### Area 2

Billie Jo Hinders– Vice President

Tokina McHarry– Secretary

#### Area 3

Kelli Schumacher

Kari Beckman

#### Area 4

Chad Thorson

Dustin Krueger

#### Area 5

Ty Nordby

Molly Jugovic

Darci Gahner—Treasurer



## District Annual Meeting (DAM)

In 2024 DAM meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Fargo on March 11th-13th, 2024.

More information will be coming out in the near future.

## Urban Conservation and Outreach Workshop (UCOW)

The 2024 workshop will be held in Grand Forks more than likely during September.

The planning committee is busy working on this workshop be on the lookout for more information in the future.

## NDCDEA Workshops for Employees

In April the NDCDEA put on a tree planting/cooler maintenance workshop in Ward County. Thank you to Stetson Myers and Betty Brown for hosting this and putting this on. New employees are taught how to plant/handle trees correctly from the cooler to the field. They also learn how to properly take care of the tree cooler and other equipment.

In August the NDFS put together a workshop for Project Learning Trees and Project Wild. District employees were given the opportunity to attend one of 4 different sessions across the state. This workshop showed employees how to use the learning material and how to engage students for outreach opportunities.

In September the Windbreak Technology Workshop was put on at Menoken Farm. This was a 3-day intensive workshop for employees from SD and ND to educate themselves on proper tree planting/handling of trees. The workshop went through each popular type of tree planting in ND. There were also some tours to show some good and not-so-good shelterbelts.

## Things to Think About

It's time to start thinking about who you would like to nominate for the Above and Beyond Award. The last winner was Jeff Miller. More information will be coming out later this winter. 2024 Scholarship Applications can be scanned and emailed to Dustin Krueger from Stutsman County SCD. 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.

The NDCDEA does have a website <http://ndcdea.com>. Check it out and save it as a favorite. There is a lot of information on there for district employees, including the employee handbook we are currently working on updating. Don't be afraid to reach out to one of the directors in the state, that is what we are here for. If anyone needs some help or looking for some mentoring assistance contact one of us.

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