



Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program

PROFESSIONAL WETLAND SCIENTIST E—LETTER

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Corner

President's Corner	1
Renewal Notice	1
2009 Annual Dues	2
CESB Accreditation	2
Nominations	2

Since assuming the role of the presidency in June 2008, I have watched SWSPCP take a thoughtful pause to reassess and reflect upon its goals and its services. This experience has led us to be a stronger, more focused organization with a well-constructed foundation for continued growth. We are now moving forward and advancing the expansion of our vision to achieve our principal objectives, increase the value and recognition of WPIT and

PWS for you, our members, and position SWSPCP for growth long into the future. We are currently in the midst of implementing our strategic plan, and will let you know how things are progressing in future updates. Thank you for all your continued support! *Mal Gilbert*

Renewal Notice

In order to preserve the high standards endowed by certification with PWS, SWSPCP, Inc., certification renewal is required (Section 26 of Standing Rules). Beginning June 1, 2001, all newly certified PWS are required to renew certification at five year intervals from the original certification date. Individuals originally certified prior to June 1, 2001, are also required to renew their certification.

When you receive your renewal notice please take some time and promptly respond to ensure your recognition as a professional in the field of wetland sciences continues. We believe that through this process we can all work together to maintain the highest standards for our profession and continue to increase the value of our certification. Please consult the webpage (<http://www.wetlandcert.org/rules.html>) and/or contact our business office if questions arise. Special thanks to those of you who have followed through thus far.

The Society of Wetland Scientists Professional Certification Program, serving the public's need to identify qualified individuals to assess and manage the Nation's resources. This program is intended to meet the needs of professional ecologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, educators, agency professionals, consultants, and others who practice wetland science. www.wetlandcert.org

2009 Annual Certification Maintenance Dues

Just recently a request for payment of your 2009 Annual Certification Maintenance Fee was sent to you. We asked everyone to please pay before February 27, 2009 to ensure you remain in good standing. If you have not already done so, please submit your annual maintenance fee at your earliest convenience. This is such an important source of revenue for our organization that we ask you to make this payment a priority. This will maintain your name in the “Search for a Scientist” on-line directory and ensure your account is up to date. If, for some reason you did not receive your 2009 annual certification maintenance fee bill, or if your name is not found within the “on-line directory,” and you think it should be, please contact our business office immediately. We are here to serve your needs.

If you are also a member of SWS (which we certainly hope you are), please remember that SWS and SWSPCP are separate organizations, with separate annual certification renewal/membership fees.

Increasing Your Certification Value

Accreditation by an external body has been a primary goal for SWSPCP over the last few years. Through the efforts of dedicated Board Members and volunteers, we are now listed as a member Board by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB), and on November 14, 2007 SWSPCP was accredited by CESB. This accreditation is a solid third-party endorsement of the validity and standards of our certification program and allows us to pursue endorsement opportunities with other interested parties. Thus, it represents a very tangible increase in the value of certification for our members. Please standby for updates on this accreditation endorsement.

Request for Nominations

The Nominations Committee of SWSPCP is seeking nominations for the office of President-Elect for the term 2009-2010. The President-Elect will automatically be appointed President of the SWSPCP for the 2010-2011 term. The President-Elect is a member of the Executive Board and attends two Board meetings a year and participates in email and conference calls during this year. The President-Elect provides support to the President of the Board and leadership in the development, growth, and member services offered by the SWSPCP to its members. Please submit nominations to Kurt Philipp, SWSPCP Immediate Past President by March 15, 2009.

Showcase Your Consulting Services – TODAY!!

Recently, a large number of inquiries have highlighted the need to increase the amount of information provided on our website. In response, your Board is now offering all members in good standing the opportunity to announce their willingness to provide consulting services. To do this, we have provided a "menu" of Consulting Service areas so you can indicate your availability to provide these services. This additional information will assist people seeking qualified professionals by showcasing the credentials of our certified members.

To update your information, log on with your last name and application number. Take a few minutes to edit your profile and choose from the consulting menu. You may choose one, a few, all, or none of the areas of consulting services...but you are cautioned to use care as you do so. We cannot vet any assertions of qualifications in consulting and therefore ask you to keep our code of ethics in mind as you make your selections. Tell your colleagues, employers, employees, friends, and clients that this service is now available on line! "Search for a Scientist" now has a much broader meaning!

SWS Annual Meeting

We hope to see you at the Society of Wetland Scientists Annual Meeting June 22-26, 2009 in Madison, Wisconsin (http://www.sws.org/2009_meeting/). Come visit the SWSPCP booth and join us at the PWS Mixer (time and day TBA on meeting schedule).

*For questions or comments, please contact
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