



## ~ Dixon RCD is 60 Years Old ~

While the means of accomplishing goals have changed, the key areas of the District's focus have remained the same over the past 60 years.....

### Objectives From 1963 Annual Report

- \* **Regional Drainage** - Working with County, Reclamation District 2068, City of Dixon on drainage improvement.
- \* We will continue to explore the possibilities of a master outlet drain for this entire portion of the County.
- \* We will give renewed emphasis on continued maintenance of conservation practices after construction.
- \* **Conservation Education** - We propose to continue our effort toward educating the farmer in a more constructive policy of land use and management.
- \* We also will continue to encourage more farmer participation in soil conservation activities
- \* **Wildlife Habitat** - We propose to continue work begun on wildlife habitat improvement and increased recreational areas. One of our Directors is a member of the Solano Wildlife Committee.
- \* **State & National Participation** - We will continue to be active in the Area, State and National Associations.



Board of Directors 1963 left to right, Charles Misuraca, Walter Anderson, Chairman, Grace O'Neill, Secretary, Bob Gill, John Maxwell and Ralph Moss.

### Focuses From 2012 Review of Services

- \* **Regional Drainage** - Working with RD 2068, Solano County Water Agency, City of Dixon, & Maine Prairie Water District, we formed the Dixon Regional Watershed Joint Powers Authority to implement the Dixon Regional Watershed Management Plan (2000). See insert for more detail.
- \* Continue to operate and maintain the 70-mile drainage system constructed by DRCD in 1950s—60's in the most cost effective manner possible.
- \* **Conservation Education** - Together with Solano RCD, we administer the Irrigated Lands Program, conduct regular water quality monitoring, and provide management practice education to help members comply with State regulations.
- \* **Wildlife Habitat** - We manage three agricultural subleases on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area that explore & showcase agricultural practices that benefit wildlife habitat for the public.
- \* **State & National Participation** - We continue to remain active.



Board of Directors 2012 left to right, Sam Beukelman, David Viguie, John S. Currey, Manager, Mark Holdener, President, Rick Martinez, Tom Bors (not pictured)

## ~ History of the Dixon RCD ~

By Larry Norris, District Conservationist *reprinted from the 25th Annual Meeting Brochure 1978*

This year marked the 25th Anniversary of the Dixon Resource Conservation District. In January of 1952, a group of eight farmers, including: Walter Anderson, Vernon Schmeiser, Bud Rose, J. C. Wiggins, William Tutt, Godfrey Priddy, Arnold Collier, and Bud Anderson got together to see if, through mutual help and cooperation, something could be done to solve local flood control problems in the Dixon area. The group decided to form a Soil Conservation District on February 27, 1952. The petition was started June 19th and completed July 24, 1952. The district was officially organized by the County Board of Supervisors on September 2, 1952. Official records show that members of the first Board of Directors included:

Walter Anderson.....	Chairman
Arnold Collier.....	Director
W. E. Rayn.....	Director
Vernon Schmeiser.....	Director
Charles McGimsey.....	Director
Ernest Belew.....	Secretary

Their principle interest was the construction and maintenance of one or more large drainage ditches to handle winter runoff. The District, in 1952, totaled 16,128 acres; however, the popularity and success of the District program rapidly spread and the District boundaries grew until the present acreage, 114,968 acres, was achieved.

With the completion of the major drainage projects behind them, the District must now look to the future and set priorities and goals on a number of important issues. These include: providing strong representation of farming interests in directing the bulk of future growth to existing non-prime farmland areas within the county, representation of farming interests in the solution of the City of Dixon drainage problem and the active participation in the 208

2012 DIXON RCD COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR

By Jim Schneider & Sally Negroni, USDA NRCS

The 2012 Cooperator(s) of the Year are Cliff, Luke & Gabe DeTar of DeTar Livestock. In addition to projects with Solano Resource Conservation District, they have worked with USDA NRCS to install several conservation practices on their properties over the last few years including:

- \* Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) 2010: Replaced 3200 ft of broken concrete pipeline and open ditch with PVC pipeline and alfalfa risers, reducing irrigation water loss and significantly increasing irrigation efficiency.
- \* EQIP 2011: Replaced 3900 ft of open ditch irrigation with PVC pipeline and alfalfa risers resulting in reduced irrigation water loss and increased irrigation efficiency.

For both projects, closing the open irrigation ditch and getting the cattle out of the ditch improved the quality of tail water runoff from the fields and into the drainage system. It also prevented the cattle drinking from the ditch water and improved animal health.

\* EQIP Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI) : 185 acres are included in a 3 year contract to spray artichoke thistle in the Montezuma Hills. 2 years of the contract have been completed with good results. Mapping of infested areas are done and follow-up monitoring is also completed. Artichoke thistle is rapidly spreading in range areas of southern and southwest Solano County reducing rangeland productivity.

Cliff and his partner Martin Ronayne of D&R Livestock are also working with NRCS on a project to develop alternative watering facilities for their livestock. They are installing 10,000 feet of pipeline & 10 water troughs to facilitate rotational grazing through 10 pastures. The practice provides a clean water source to prevent livestock drinking from tailwater ditches to improve water quality.

1952 -2012 Dixon Resource Conservation District Board Members

~ Thank You for your service! ~


* Original Board	Starting	# yrs	# Current Board	Starting	# yrs
* W.E. Rayn	1952	6	Leroy Bertolero	1978	4
* Vernon Schmeiser	1952	4	Albert Martinelli	1981	8
* Charles McGimsey	1952	12	Peter Braun	1982	15
* Arnold Collier	1952	8	Tom Raycraft	1986	5
* Walter Anderson	1952	39	Charlie Misuraca	1988	24
Carl Becker	1955	5	Bob Bulkley	1989	9
Robert Dana	1959	1	Spencer Bei	1997	3
Robert Gill	1963	10	Erik Freese	1997	5
Charles Misuraca	1959	19	Martin Emigh	2002	3
John Maxwell	1959	9	Stuart Rowe	1990	8
Ralph Moss	1957	13	# Mark Holdener	1991	
Irving (Irvin) Bulkley	1967	22	# Rick Martinez	1997	
Michael Merkley	1969	13	# David Viguie	1999	
Buel Campbell	1971	7	# Tom Bors	2005	
Fred Rehrman, Jr.	1978	9	# Sam Beukelman	2011	

The Director’s leadership and willingness to address problems over the past 60 years has improved our community. Today the Board provides for the sound management and continued direction that enables staff to address critical issues. The Board is always interested in your input. If you would like to participate in the decisions and policies, consider applying to be a Board Member or an associate board member. You can help the District address the current and future resources concerns of our community. If you would like more information, please contact John Currey.

DIXON RCD 2011-2012 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

2011/2012 Fiscal Year	Drainage Systems	Other Gov. Activities	Water Quality Coalition	Dixon Regional Watershed Authority	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	Combined District Operations
Revenues	\$ 88,583	\$ 91,899	\$ 52,981	\$ 15,507	\$ 87,897	\$ 336,867
Expenses	\$ 112,840	\$ 83,673	\$ 52,025	\$ 15,088	\$ 41,468	\$ 305,094
Net Position	\$ (24,257)	\$ 8,226	\$ 956	\$ 419	\$ 46,429	\$ 31,773

\*\*2011-2012 Dixon RCD Audit will be posted on the DRCD website



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS	STAFF
President – Mark Holdener	District Manager - John S. Currey, AFM
Director – Rick Martinez	Project Manager - Kelly Huff
Director – David Viguie	Office Manager - Janice Beaman
Director – Sam Beukelman	
Director – Tom Bors	
Associate Director – Jim Campbell	<i>As always, if you have any questions or would like more information on anything in the newsletter, give us a call!</i> ~DRCD Staff~