



KENTUCKY SHINES!! SEPTEMBER 2008

**This is a great way to get to know your
co-workers and
what is happening in our sister counties.**

Who's in the "Limelight"

Cheryl Bersaglia - Jefferson County Conservation District



Hi! I'm Cheryl Bersaglia! What an experience this has been these last seven years as Program Coordinator with the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District! Born and raised in Ohio, I found myself married with two children, Emily and Alan, and living in Richmond, Kentucky, 24 years ago. I finally completed my college education, which I had started many years ago, by graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Paralegal Science from ECU. I had been an investigator of Medicaid fraud and abuse in Ohio and believed I was on the path to a law degree. I soon realized that getting a law degree would make me nuttier than I already am, so I concentrated on working--a divorced mom with two small children in tow. Some years later, we were living in McKee in Jackson County and I was substitute teaching and volunteering as a PRIDE coordinator with East Kentucky Pride--- when PRIDE was just getting started. I started educating myself on water issues by attending NRCS workshops, forums and generally picking the brains of folks in the "know" to gain more knowledge. As a result, I was appointed by the Governor at the time to serve on the Water Well Certification Board representing the Public at Large. I served for six years. At the same time, I was writing lots of grants to get rid of Jackson County's illegal dumps, developing community education programs and then eventually created a week long water quality education program for high school biology and chemistry students. It seemed I was spending more time working as a volunteer than working for a paycheck, and I realized I had to do something about that! So we packed up our belongings in a horse trailer, put the greyhound and beagle in the back of our mini-van and moved to the Louisville area over the Christmas holidays to start my new job at the Conservation District on January 2, 2001.

Emily now lives in Richmond and has a master's degree in psychology from ECU. She is currently working on her specialty to become a school psychologist. Alan is a welder and pipefitter for a company in Ohio and he and Amber live in Erlanger. They have provided me with my first grandchild, Ailey Monroe! And I love working with the schools and community here in Louisville and anywhere else, for that matter, passing on the kind of knowledge not found in schoolbooks. I say I am reliving my childhood by "playing" in the dirt and water and collecting bugs and stuff! (And getting paid to do it!) If I travel out west or somewhere new, I take along soil probes, packable nets, pans and boots. My friend, Steve, says the van sits lower with all my rocks and samples I bring back! Steve works for Toshiba as a national troubleshooter for MRI repair, so he gets to drive all over the country. Sometimes I am able to travel with him to California, Las Vegas, New Orleans, Texas and lots of other places. When I am not working, I am a voracious reader, work difficult Sudoku puzzles and look forward to travel and spending time with my kids and granddaughter.

Awards Committee Chairperson Notes: Cheryl is dedicated to her job - keep up the good work!

Patricia Flowers - Clinton County Conservation District



My name is Patricia Flowers and I am a native Clinton County resident. I enjoy reading, writing, drawing, photography and most of all, spending time with my family. I have been married for almost five years to the love of my life, Richard, who is a Mechanic at Ky-Tenn Tractor Parts in Tompkinsville, Ky. I have two wonderful step-daughters, Netosha (age 14) and Kendra (age 11). I am also the proud mother of a beautiful and healthy 5 month old little girl, Allison Lynn. I have a loving and supportive family, of which I am very thankful. I have been with the Clinton County Conservation District for almost three years. I work with a terrific team, Joe Russell, our NRCS District Conservationist and along side our FSA office, who all work together to help our local farmers in every way we can. During this time, I have had the wonderful opportunity to

be involved with EQIP, State Cost Share, equipment rentals, Tree-giveaway, 6 Grade Outdoor Conservation Workshop, Poster and Essay Contest, Soil Stewardship promotion and other activities.

Awards Committee Chairperson Notes: Patricia is a very dedicated employee and will help you anyway that she can. Keep up the good work.



KACDE TEAMWORK MAKES EVERYONE A “SHINING” STAR

Wanda J. Gilbert – Awards Committee Chairperson