



## KENTUCKY SHINES!!!

**President note – I thought it would be great to get to know the District Employees in Kentucky. So we have developed the “Limelight” news flash to help you meet other district employees across the state of Kentucky and what they are doing in their counties. Meet your neighbors as they tell you about themselves in their own words. Welcome to the Limelight!**

### Who’s in the Limelight in Kentucky?



I started working at the Union County Conservation District October 23, 2000. The 6 ½ years have flown by. After working in a Baptist church for 21 years I encountered quite a change. It has been a good change though.

Every day is an adventure in Union County. Even after 6 ½ years I learn something new almost every day. Along with the many responsibilities of the district, I also administer 5 watershed conservancy districts and help NRCS with EQIP and PL-566 revisions and payments. Once in awhile I help NRCS with surveying. I told the DC when I started that I didn’t want to be bored and he has made sure of that. Most of all I enjoy working with the school children and our senior citizens at our outdoor learning lab.

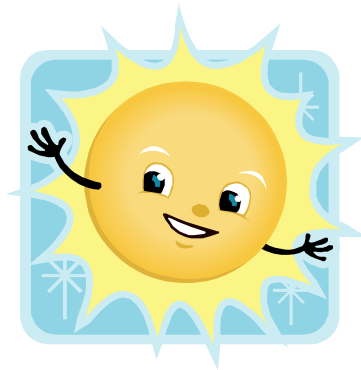
A few years ago I sat at the right table at the KACDE Convention Luncheon at Moonlight in Owensboro. Sue Edmondson, President

at the time, asked me to be Area 2 Representative. I didn't have a clue what that meant and would mean to me in the future.

Being a part of this organization made me decide to attend the KACDE Convention at Jabez last year. Riding to the convention with Jan Cole and Dorothy Mocko was an adventure in itself. I was glad for the training in QuickBooks and PowerPoint at the convention plus truly enjoyed the food, playing spoons, and meeting new people. To my surprise I even acquired the nickname Squirrel there.

In my free time, I enjoy spoiling our two beautiful grandchildren, Gavin (4) and Gracie (2). They are so special; just ask me if you have an hour or two. Our daughter is a stay-at-home mom doing a wonderful job. One of our sons lives in Lexington working for an Equine Insurance Company. He was married last May. Our other son is working on his PHD at the University of South Florida in Tampa. When I'm not visiting with family I try to find time to golf with my husband, Cliff.

**Presidents Note: Debbie Eubank is the Administrative Secretary in Union County. She serves as the KACDE Area II Representative and is also on the Benevolence Committee. You can always count on her winning smile and positive attitude. She is a great asset to KACDE!**



I am married to John (20 years this year) and have a 10 year old son (Dylan), 24 year old step-son (Ricky), a 2 ½ year old step-granddaughter (Paige) and a 3 ½ year old step-grandson (Josh). Ricky, Paige and Josh may not be mine by blood but they are mine by LOVE.



I am very involved in the community; I serve on several committees.

Burkesville / Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce – Secretary / Treasurer

Burkesville Little League Basketball – Secretary / Treasurer

Burkesville Little League Baseball – Secretary / Information Officer

City / County Fair Board – Gate Chairperson

Cumberland County Elementary School – PTO President

I started working for the Cumberland County Conservation District on September 27, 2001. With my district work and responsibilities and helping NRCS, I also wanted more for my county. So my quest for additional activities began.

I now have a District Display Board, Website and my mom hand sews a Quilt Block (sometimes two or more) for the Auxiliary Quilt Auction every year. I get to work with the students at the schools by participating and sponsoring the Soil Judging Contest, FFA Agricultural Construction Class, (2) Outdoor Classrooms, NACD Poster Contest, Commonwealth Cleanup Poster Contest and Jim Claypool Art and Writing Contest.

The district also sponsors (4) 4-H Scholarships, (3) High School Scholarships, (4-5) Teachers to attend The Kentucky Agriculture and the Environment in the Classroom Workshop. I also participate in Job Shadowing, Junior Achievement, Arbor Day Tree Giveaway, Soil and Water Stewardship and Earth Day Events.

One of the most rewarding activities is the Annual 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Conservation Field Day. I invite 6 agencies to participate in the field day. It is a 6 hour event and everyone enjoys the day outside. The students and teachers learn how the agencies work together as a team to help the environment and their community.

I am also a member of the KACDE. This association gave me the opportunity to grow and learn in my professional career at the conservation district. I am serving on different committees in the KACDE.

Not only do I help the farmers and producers of today, but I also help prepare the future generation. I am proud to work for the conservation district; it is a very rewarding job.

**President's Note: Wanda Gilbert is the Administrative Secretary in Cumberland County, part of Area VII. She serves on the KACDE Membership & Decoration Committees, and Chairs the Awards Committee. Her willingness to serve and her never say "no" attitude continues to make the Association stronger.**

*Start each day with a smile and end it with laughter!*

*Linda Smith*



**4/2007**