



“Super” Star July 2009



**RAY ADAMS, SR.
VICE-CHAIRMAN
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

There was once a man who enjoyed his job so much that after he retired he looked for ways to stay connected and involved with the people that he had worked with for some 28 years. “I got tired of sitting on the sidelines watching the world go by; there’s more enjoyment to life when you get involved and you can see where your efforts have made a difference.”

That describes Ray Adams, Sr., who retired from the Division of Conservation, where he served as a Field Representative until 2002. As soon as there was an opening on the Jefferson County Conservation District board, he became a supervisor. After a few years on the board, Ray was nominated and appointed to be the Area 4 Commissioner. He is always happy to help any district solve problems and develop opportunities. The role of conservation districts is ever changing and we must be more creative in our thinking, especially in this time of budget cuts.

Over the years, Ray has made over 2,500 Wren birdhouse kits for Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs and conservation district youth events. A birdhouse kit has all the wooden pieces pre-sawed and pre-drilled. “What a joy it has been to help many youngsters drive their first nail and complete their first wooden project”, Ray says. Along with the birdhouse, the child is told all about the

life style and habits of Wrens. "A Wren's food supply is almost entirely flying insects that they catch in flight. Wrens are a real asset to have around your yard and are people friendly", Ray points out.

While Ray's birdhouse making has slowed down in his retirement, he has provided many groups with birdhouse patterns and is always happy to share his knowledge and experience with group events and projects.

Ray lives in Louisville with his wife Ava. He has been an Assistant Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 212 and has been a guest speaker at various conservation district banquets and events. "Growing old gracefully while staying active and 'making a difference', that's my goal" Ray says.

Jefferson County is very fortunate to have Ray as a member on the Conservation District board. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our District.

Nominated by: Joy Edwards
District Secretary, Jefferson County SWCD