Three Honored for Long-Time Dedication and Commitment

The Farm Science Review Hall of Fame will welcome its 24th class of inductees at the Vice President’s Luncheon on September 17. Don Breece, Dan Kush and Marti Smith have been selected for induction in recognition of their contributions to the success of the Farm Science Review.

Don Breece
Don retired from Ohio State University Extension in May after most recently serving as the Assistant Director of the Agriculture and Natural Resources program area. Don chaired both the Farm Science Review Program and Policy Committee and the Farm Science Review Steering Committee during his tenure as Assistant Director. In his leadership role, Don worked to strengthen the educational programs at the Review, making them second to none among all of the farm show venues in the country. He was also responsible for operating and staffing the information booths during the show, gathering Ohio State emeriti educators and agents to serve as information personnel. With his service attitude, Don has greatly impacted the producers not only in Ohio, but also in the entire surrounding region with his work and commitment to the Farm Science Review.

Dan Kush (posthumous)
Dan was a strong advocate and friend of the Gwynne Conservation Area at the Farm Science Review. He was instrumental in the procurement of the grant that funded the construction of the Natural Resources Interpretive Center and then served as one of the volunteers that helped erect the structure. In his position as a SWCD employee and Co-Chair of the Gwynne Conservation Area Committee, Dan championed programs for youth education and instructed numerous youth programs about the importance of conservation principles at the Review. Many of the features currently found in the Gwynne were established under Dan’s leadership. After his passing in 2003, the Daniel Kush Gwynne Conservation Area Endowment Fund was established in honor of Dan and to carry on his legacy of conservation practice and youth education.

Marti Smith
Marti’s involvement with the Farm Science Review began during her tenure as an employee of the Harvest Publishing Company, later becoming the Farm Progress Companies, when she called upon the management team of the Review to create the show’s ad and directory program. As co-owner of American Small Farm, a national publication tailored to the wants and needs of small farm operators, Marti championed the establishment of the Center for Small Farms program at the Review. Marti’s involvement with the Review is unique in that she has been a vendor, a volunteer and an exhibitor with the Review. To this day, she can be found at the Ohio-Michigan Equipment Dealers Association display visiting with farmers and equipment dealers about their groups’ many activities while also overseeing the volunteers that are providing shuttle assistance in the Review parking lots. Marti is also a major donor to the Review, as she recently donated the famous scarlet and gray building located at the Center for Small Farms to the Review in support of the Center.

Breece, Kush, and Smith will join past FSR Hall of Fame recipients, including Mike Adkins, Steve Baertsche, Jack Bardall, Harold Bauman, Jim Beuerlein, Sam Bone, Shirley A. Brooks-Jories, Donna Brown, Jim Caldwell, Robert L. Eby, Novice G. Fawcett, Craig Fendrick, Francelle Firebaugh, Fred Fisher, Molly Caren Fisher, Dale T. Friday, Dorothy R. Friday, Mike Gahn, William L.