

Carroll Greene



Carroll Greene was born on the 400- acre family farm at Kenna, West Virginia, on March 14, 1906. His father, also in the Agricultural and Forestry Hall of Fame, was the first to raise a purebred Herefords in the area, an occupation which Carroll and his son Benjamin still peruse and which makes the Greene horned Hereford herd over 100 years old.

In 1941 and 1942, Mr. Greene helped organize the Western Soil Conservation District, of which he later became chairman. His tenure was marked by innovative practices, many of which are now standard across the State and nation. In 1949, he was selected to be the Executive Secretary of the State Soil Conservation Committee. His 28 years in this position insured West Virginia an exalted place in soil conservation history.

Among many other accomplishments, he led the efforts that resulted in the nationally famous Salem Fork Pilot Watershed and later the landmark Brush Creek Watershed, both of which were accorded national “Watershed of the Year” honors; was instrumental in organizing the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Executive Education Teacher’s Workshop, State Conservation Camp for students, a conservation awards program, and outdoor conservation laboratories at several junior high and high schools; and he provided the active emphasis that ultimately resulted in an award-winning history of the soil conservation movement in West Virginia.

Mr. Greene has also been active in civic affairs. He, for example, was once an official in West Virginia State Senate ; was an instrumental in procuring a full-time physician for his hometown of Kenna; was a founder of the Jackson County Memorial Hospital; serves on the Board of Directors and as chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee; was on the committee that initiated the FFA-FHA camp at Cedar Lakes; was instrumental in developing the public water system for Jackson County; and is working hard for public sewer extensions in Jackson County. He is a long-time member of the West Virginia Farm Bureau and the West Virginia State Grange.

Mr. Greene was named West Virginia Conservationist of the Year in 1956, received the Soil Conservation Society of America’s Nation Honor Award in 1978, was West Virginia Soil Conservation Farmer of the Year in 1980, is a member of the FFA All Stars, and was named State Conservation Farmer of the Year by the Governor’s Recognition Committee in 1981, among other awards. A man of impeccable integrity and a dedicated humanitarian with the deepest possible concern for others, Carroll Greene is rightfully acknowledged as West Virginia’s “Mr. Conservation.”