

Mike Mayfield, Tennessee

Southeast Area Alternate Executive

Beth Farmer, Alabama

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Upcoming Events

NASCOE 2019 Convention

o July 31 – August 3, 2019-Manhattan, Kansas

NASCOE Leadership Development Program

0 October 24th through 26th, 2019- Dallas, Texas

For more events check out the <u>NASCOE Events Calendar</u>



Southeast Area Executive

Mike Mayfield, Tennessee

It is with a lot of different emotions I prepare my final newsletter article as the Southeast Area Executive. The time has passed so quickly and there is still a lot of work to be done. That is how it should be because those that serve will never have all the answers and should never expect to make all the decisions. I hope I have stayed steady in what I truly believe and have represented the Southeast Area well in the executive board discussions. There is something very special about the County Office system and the tenets by which it operates. Personally I am proud that it makes us a different kind of federal employee. That difference allows us to be more closely entwined with our customer and drives us to provide service beyond what most believe we can accomplish with the resources that are provided. I want to challenge those leaders in the future, not just the new Southeast Area executive and alternate but, area chairs, state officers and state chairs to fight tenaciously to defend the system that makes FSA unique.

The negotiation session with management was pushed back into May this year. That has made for a very hectic spring meshing that in with the state conventions across the Southeast. I want to encourage those states not hosting a state meeting to find a creative way to get your members together. Utilize training meetings, retirement seminars or other creative ideas to build those peer to peer relationships that are extremely valuable in your states. If necessary partner with another state to host a joint meeting. Also, all states should take advantage of the ARC/PLC training meetings to do something special for employees to get them educated and engaged in their state and NASCOE!!

The negotiation session was a success. The executive board and negotiation consultants had great interaction with the national office. There were numerous topics that were discussed. Several very important ones we mutually agreed upon and a detailed report will be coming out soon. We were promised that information from the workload tool will be shared with each county. This is something we have been working diligently for since the new workload tool became a reality.

There are some challenges to the county office system of hiring that have come to light recently. NASCOE has been working diligently to address these concerns. It is viewed as another attempt to lessen the importance of the county committee and undermine their authorities. This particular issue is far from resolved and is a current focus of the executive board.

Kansas is looking forward to hosting the National Convention in Manhattan, July 31st to August 3rd. There is a great and informative agenda coming together. I want to encourage everyone to head to Kansas and participate. There are some rooms still available and you still have time to plan your travel.

For those that can't attend the National Convention, I would like to ask you to commit to do one thing for NASCOE the week of the convention.

- Join NAFEC
- Become a PAC contributor or increase your support
- Make a local contact with your legislator

For those that can't attend the National Convention, I would like to ask you to commit to do one thing for NASCOE the week of the convention.

- Submit a negotiation item
- Tell the FSA success story to county governments and/or ag organizations
- Talk to a county office employee that is not a member about joining

I am sure you can thank of even more ideas than these. I would love to get reports on actions taken by those working at home during the National Convention!! Give me the ammunition to report to the crowd what the SOUTHEAST AREA is doing to lead the way!!

I deeply appreciate the honor you have given me to serve as your Southeast Area Executive. It has been my pleasure to be your voice on the executive board. Please feel free to contact me anytime I can be of service. Our combined voice on behalf the County Office employees is a much stronger force than anything we can do as individuals.

Southeast Alternate Area Executive

Beth Farmer, Alabama



As I look forward to our National Convention in Manhattan, Kansas this summer I realize that my tenure as your Southeast Area Alternate Exec will be ending. What a year it has been!!! I have had the privilege of working with the most dedicated, hardworking and encouraging people that I have ever met, our NASCOE Board of Directors, Executive Committee and National Chairs. It has been my honor this year working and getting to know our Southeast Area Exec Mike Mayfield and our Area Chairs. I can't thank them all enough for their hard work and dedication to the greatest Area the "Southeast" and NASCOE. I can't thank you all enough for supporting me and allowing me to represent you. A big thanks to everyone involved in putting together our All South Rally in Nashville and especially Tennessee for hosting, it was amazing.

This year has had trying times for us all with the furlough, disasters and disaster programs, MFP, and the New 2018 Farm Bill implementation. It seems these days that the words "Can Do Agency" have never been truer. I don't know about you, but it is a comfort to me to know that I have my state association ALASCOE, the Southeast Area and NASCOE in my corner.

If you have never considered being involved in your state association or NASCOE, I encourage you to get involved. It is life changing!!!!! It gives you a deep understanding of the "behind the scenes" parts of our jobs and Agency.

I hope to see you all in Manhattan, Kansas this summer for the National Convention, I know that we will come away with more knowledge, understanding, new friends and have had a great time. KASCOE has put together a great convention and let's go support them. See you in Kansas!

Membership

Glenn Thomas

Southeast Area Membership,

Springtime is finally here.

During the 2018 NASCOE convention held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the NASCOE membership committee was tasked with the following items:

- 1. Membership drive teams to be formed within states and areas to reach out to all the new employees as well as those who have not joined in the past;
- 2. Create Mentorship Program for first timers attending conventions. Membership was asked to put a game plan together as to what and how we would like to handle it;
- 3. Online Award Submission;
- 4. NASCOE video was approved and we need to get a plan together.

Since that meeting, state and area membership chairpersons have been working with our own NASCOE Membership chairperson, Lynsey Brooks, to meet these requests.

Since the convention, the following actions have been taken in these areas:

- Each state formed a membership drive team to encourage co-workers to join NASCOE and to inform me when I may be of help. Setting up of these teams have shown progress in the membership percentages. In review of the latest membership report 3-4-2019, we have seen an increase in the membership percentage in 5 of the 11 SEA states. Shout out to Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia. Many of the other states are close to their same percentage and continue work. We now stand at 81% membership in the SEA. Thank you for all the hard work.
- 2. The mentorship program is in progress and hope to have it ready for the National Convention in Manhattan, Kansas.
- 3. The NASCOE website now includes the required forms to submit for awards. Please take a moment and recognize your co-workers. Go to the association website at www.nascoe.org for more information.
- 4. I am pleased to announce that progress is being made on a NASCOE video. This video will help to explain who we are and the benefits of being a member.

As you can see, much has been accomplished and thank you to Lynsey and those who helped get this information together. These items are great tools to encourage membership in your state associations and in NASCOE.

I ask that all state membership chairpersons, membership drive members and state presidents make a concerted effort to reach out to all the new employees while continuing to also reach out to those who have not joined NASCOE.

During the SEA break-out session, states reviewed the newly implemented area dues rate (\$1 per paid regular member) that was approved at the SEA Rally in April and was set to begin for 2018-2019. These monies were to be paid by February 1st of each year into an account held by the Area Executive Committeeperson.

Membership

Glenn Thomas

These funds are to be used for (in no particular order):

Seed fund for the host state of an Area Rally (up to ½ of the monies collected);

Unexpected expenses that occur during an Area rally;

Additional expenses as needed.

I am happy to announce that all states have paid their dues and there is now funds for needs that arise. I want to thank each of you for taking care of this item timely.

States membership chairpersons and presidents were reminded of the following items:

- 1. Third quarter dues and reports to NASCOE were due April 10, 2019. Reminders were sent out to all state membership chairpersons and presidents prior to this meeting. Update reports will be coming out soon.
- 2. Continue to work with your State Offices to get the NASCOE membership package as part of the hiring package for new employees. Also make contact with your new co-workers and discuss the application package with them, Be prepared to answer any question they may have.
- 3. Review dues report provided to the Secretary/Treasurer at least quarterly. Make sure that dues rates have been updated on the employees applicable 444 in case of a promotion, pay increase, etc. In most states, it is the members responsibility to make the state office aware of any updates to their dues withholding.
- Maintain a list of those individuals and counties who have maintained 100% membership in NASCOE for 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 55years. Report these to Lynsey online through the NASCOE website by June 15th each year.
- 5. Dillard's Financial Solutions Membership Drive The state with the highest increase in new members, including associate membership, form July 1 to June 30 of each year will receive a \$1,000 award sponsored by Dillard's Financial solutions, Inc. The winning state president will receive a plaque on behalf of their association. Dues must be paid by July 10th to be eligible for the contest. More information is on the NASCOE website at www.nascoe.org
- 6. Take the time to remind membership of the NASCOE Memorial Presentation that is a tradition at our NASCOE National Convention. We ask that you help us honor the deceased members from your state by submitting their information and a photo, if available, so they may be memorialized in the service. Andrea Stafford, Program Technician form Tennessee, has volunteered to put the memorial service presentation together for the National convention in August. Please submit the information to Andrea using the directions found under the membership tab on the NASCOE website BY July 1, 2019.
- 7. Be sure to check your home e-mails for updated information.

NASCOE represents all county office employees. We are always looking for opportunities to enhance the services for our employees. As the SEA membership chairperson, I can assure you that the NASCOE Membership Committee is continuously looking into new avenues of promoting membership.

If anyone has any suggestions, please don't hesitate in contacting your State Membership Chairperson, State President or myself.

Glenn Thomas, SEA Membership Chairperson <u>thomas928613@bellsouth.net</u> (864) 978-7498

Scholarship

Julia Davidson

Hello!

It is an honor to serve as the Southeast Area Scholarship/Awards Chairperson for 2019. The SEA had 26 eligible applications submitted for Scholarships. 5 were submitted without required documents. The number of applications judged in each category were as follows: Traditional ---- 16 Open Continuing --- 8 Continuing Education for Adult Children of Members - 1

Member Continuing Education -- 1

Applications per State: Alabama – 7 Georgia – 2 Louisiana – 1 Mississippi – 3 North Carolina – 11 Tennessee – 1

Virginia – 1

This is the first year for the January 15th deadline. In my opinion, the change is very positive. Hopefully, for the 2020 year, transcripts and letters of recommendation will be submitted online along with the application. I want to encourage all employees to nominate your co-workers for the Distinguished Service Awards next year!

Scholarship Winners:

Traditional – Emily Babineaux, Lousiana

Open Continuing Education Scholarship Member Continuing Education Scholarship DIXIE BALDWIN Continuing Education for Adult Children of

Hinners

2019 Southeast Area

EMILY BABINEAUX

JENNIFER NGUYEN



LAKESHIA WATSON





Open Continuing – Lakeshia Watson, North Carolina Continuing Education for Adult Children – Dixie Baldwin, Mississippi NATIONAL WINNER Member Continuing Education – Jennifer Nguyen, North Carolina NATIONAL WINNER

There were 3 nominees submitted for Distinguished Service to NASCOE and one nominee for Service to FSA-Agriculture. Dawn Ovesen from Kentucky was selected as the recipient of the Distinguished Service to NASCOE and Michelle Slappey from Georgia was selected as the recipient of the Distinguished Service to FSA-Agriculture.

NASCOE National Scholarship/Awards Chair, Julie Goetzman, has been amazing to work with. She is always willing to help and goes above and beyond. I would like to thank the area judges that so willingly gave up their time to judge the applications submitted on the area level. Your support to NASCOE and the SEA is greatly appreciated. If there is anything I can do for you as your SEA Scholarship/Awards Chair, please let me know.

NAFEC

Pam Rhoades

Hello from the SEA. I want to thank all the dedicated members of NAFEC for the efforts they provide in getting information out to the County Offices and their dedication to the COC and FSA.

The year has been busy for NAFEC. NAFEC has a new Chair, Carla Spencer from Alpine Texas. Carla is full of energy and ready to move NAFEC forward. NAFEC has been busy this year on the behalf of its members. Listed are some of the things that NASCOE's NAFEC committee have been working on this year.

- Revised membership drive packet documents
- Began assistance to NAFEC Legislative consultant on bounced email list
- Provided NAFEC with a COF mailing address listing of all FSA COFs
- Provided Dillard Financial with COF mailing address list and comprehensive list of all COC members in the nation for a NAFEC direct mail drive
- Requested all state association leadership to send out NAFEC membership packets to all COFs December and February
- Requested application and 444 be revised in DAFP COC Orientation Training
- October conference call concerning goals and objectives
- February conference call on progress
- Working on assisting NAFEC with capturing data on members with dues paid by 444

In addition, NAFEC continues to move forward with positive change and has:

- Changed benefits provider from JM Marketing to Dillard Financial
- Moved NAFEC website from fsacountycommittees.org to nafecfsa.com
- Participant on multiple calls alongside NASCOE concerning furlough and FSA CO employee status
- Drafted a letter to Administrator Fordyce on the importance of COCs being called back along with CO staff during furlough
- Serious concerns about management's handling of the 2019 performance plan creation process. This was discussed during the March trip to WDC. This item made it to House Ag Committee Chairman Peterson motivated his proposed legislation to move to COC funding through CCC funds in the event of another government shut-down to perpetuate COC activities.
- NAP concerns on COC authority within payment processing
- Multiple email updates sent from Legislative Consultant David Senter on ag issues in WDC

As NAFEC continues to move forward activities that are in place to keep NAFEC growing include:

- Continue to promote NAFEC membership through outreach to CEDs across our areas
- Keep CO employees informed of NAFEC's purpose and activities on behalf of their COCs
- Encourage NAFEC members to get involved as State/Area NAFEC Directors
- Assist NAFEC in planning August Annual meeting, increasing COC awareness of Annual Meeting, promote attendance at meeting in Manhattan, Kansas
- Help get the NAFEC scholarship application process posted and implemented with Dillard Financials' assistance

Within the SEA, things have stayed steady the last year. An issue did arise concerning COC authority for program approvals and the reach of STC oversight. The issue was handled quickly at the local level in agreement with COC. Several teleconferences have taken place and we continue to look for ways to help promote NAFEC. Membership remains roughly the same for the SEA, with approximately 350 members.

A reminder that NAFEC has teamed up with Dillard Financial Services to offer a \$1,000 scholarship. If you are a current or past COC member and paying full dues as a regular member of NAFEC and have a child, grandchild, or great grandchild that has graduated from high school and is enrolled, or in the process of enrolling into an accredited college, university, or trade school this fall, then they are an eligible applicant and you are encouraged to tell them about this opportunity. The application process is simple. Go to <u>https://www.nafecfsa.com/scholarship</u> for the guidelines to apply. The application process is very simple, but the opportunity is great. I know we have some deserving youth out there. <u>The deadline to apply is June 23, 2019</u>.

I would like to thank everyone again for the continues support for the COC system and NAFEC. If there is anything I can assist you with, please do not hesitate to let me know. I also ask that everyone keep the SEA producers and their families in our prayers for the disastrous flooding and other weather-related disasters that they are experiencing, our Ag communities and their families are hurting.

Emblems/Benefits



Flag and Truck America Tri-Blend Wicking Raglan Tee

Show your American Pride with this Patriotic design!!

Unisex sizing, this White Triad Shirt is an unltracomfortable Tee combines moisture wicking performance, unbeatable tri-blend softness & Posicharge Technology.

4.4-ounce, 75/13/12 poly/cotton/rayon jersey with PosiCharge Technology

Removable tag for comfort and relabeling



Unisex sizing, this light grey heather, ultracomfortable tee combines moisture-wicking performance, unbeatable tri-blend softness & PosiCharge technology to lock in color. I Stand for the National Anthem Tri-Blend Wicking Raglan Tee

Great Shirt to Show your American Pride!!!

Unisex sizing, this light grey heather, unitracomfortable tee combines moisturewicking performance, unbeatable tri-blend softness & PosiCharge Technology to lock in color.

4.4-ounce, 75/13/12 poly/cotton/rayon jersey with PosiCharge Technology

Calling on Beach Heifers--this shirt is for you!!

Unisex sizing, this white triad shirt is an unltracfortable tee combining moisture-wicking performance, unbeatable tri-blend softness & PosiCharge technology to lock in color.

4.4-ounce, 75/13/12 poly/cotton/rayon jersey with PosiCharge technology.

NASCOE Benefits Included with Your Membership

DILLARD FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS (DFS) is the Official Benefits Provider for NASCOE and they offer many products including retirement, insurance and investments. Free retirement and benefits analysis. For all their products visit their website at http://dillardfinancialsolutionsinc.com/nascoe/ benefits/. DFS can also be found on the NASCOE website under benefits.

WORKING ADVANTAGE EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT PROGRAM offers employee discounts to NASCOE members for hotels, theme parks & attractions, movie tickets, water parks, shows, rental cars, gift cards and shopping deals. https://workingadvantage.com/. The NASCOE Company Code can be obtained from your National, Area or State Benefits Chair.

NASCOE EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SERVICES (ERS) - 1 HOUR OF FREE LEGAL COUNSEL with the NASCOE Attorney. Designed to confidentially assist and guide members that need advice, education, or legal services regarding employment and human relation issues. For more in-depth information, please visit the NASCOE web page and look under Benefits | NASCOE Employee Relations Services. Be sure to follow the proper channels that are listed.

AIR MED CARE GROUP DISCOUNT. The application can be found on the NASCOE website at Benefits | Air Med Care | AirMedCare Contract. The current cost is \$65 per year. They have several different policies to choose from and can save you and your family from additional burdens in accident situations.

SAM'S CLUB \$10 GIFT CARD. By joining or renewing your Sam's Club membership, you can receive a \$10 gift card. Visit the NASCOE website at https://nascoe.org/benefits/.

JM MARKETING is another source for long term care, vision and cancer policies. You can find their information on the NASCOE website under Who Is NASCOE? | NASCOE Affiliates | JM Marketing.

Programs

Amy Moore

What's the difference between a Program's submission and a Negotiation's submission?

PROGRAM SUBMISSIONS: These are items that are administrative or mechanical in nature. Items that could potentially be fixed without direct consent from management. "Quick fixes" if you will. They are a lower level type of business.

NEGOTIATIONS: Items that are procedural/policy in nature. Those items are those that upper level NASCOE and upper level FSA need to negotiate. They are somewhat executive type of business.

EXAMPLES:

1) Suggestion to change the acreage reporting date for a crop. This is a negotiation item. This type of request requires NASCOE to negotiate with FSA management. It is policy that we are wanting to change.

2) Suggestion to add a "button" on a CARS screen to route the user back to the home page. This is a programs item. It is administrative in nature and doesn't require upper management to make a decision.

The below chart is the latest program submission updates:

	MWA	NEA	NWA	SEA	SWA	Grand Total
Jul-18	2	1	0	0	0	3
Aug-18	3	2	0	1	0	6
Sep-18	1	0	0	1	0	2
Oct-18	3	0	2	1	2	8
Nov-18	5	1	1	3	0	10
Dec-18	4	1	0	1	0	6
2018 Totals	18	5	3	7	2	35
Jan-19	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb-19	2	1	0	2	1	6
Mar-19	2	0	0	0	1	3
Apr-19	13	3	5	5	0	26
May-19	7	0	1	3	3	14
2019 Totals	24	4	6	10	5	49
Grand Total	42	9	9	17	7	84

Program Submissions by Area By Month Program Year 2019-20

The hot topics within the Southeast Area were MIDAS, CARS, FSFL, Farmers.gov, and WebTA. NASCOE Program Chairperson, Chris Hare from Indiana, is doing a wonderful job addressing all submissions and getting them to the area chairs and then moved up nationally.

To submit a Program's issue:

Go to the <u>NASCOE website</u> Click: Programs – Online Programs Submission Form

It's very quick and easy! I appreciate your support to NASCOE and if there is anything I can do for you as SEA Program Chairperson, please let me know.

Legislative Clint Bain

How Do We Develop, Sustain, and Utilize Our Relationships?

During the SWA/SEA Legislative committee breakout session at the All South Rally, the Legislative committee discussed and shared ideas about how we can improve going forward. PAC participation, Communication, Outreach, Education and improving our relationships with Partner Organizations were four areas where the committee felt we could always make improvement. For the sake of space, I will give you a brief overview of what was discussed and maybe cover a few other items as I go along.

Without a doubt, I must begin with the PAC and its purpose. The NASCOE Political Action Committee (PAC) helps NASCOE build relationships with Congressional Leaders. If you do some research, you will find that many organizations have an established PAC. PACs have been around since 1944, when the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) formed the first one to raise money for the re-election of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. NASCOE utilizes PAC funds to support candidates who have agriculture interest, regardless of political affiliation. Campaigns require a substantial amount of funds in today's political environment. By supporting candidates that care about agriculture, we can develop relationships with elected officials that will have an interest in our positions. PAC funds also assist NASCOE in educating our legislators on the roles of FSA County Office employees, and how FSA impacts the local economy. Through these relationships we have a chance to influence legislation that supports the best interest of NASCOE membership as well as our agriculture Committee hosted a Farm Night Event in Washington D.C. NASCOE was prominently displayed as a sponsor of the event. This a prime example of how the PAC is working for our membership. PAC funds are voluntary contributions and are not part of your NASCOE dues. Please contact me at <u>clihbain@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in contributing to the PAC.

Since I mentioned the PAC, it is important for you to know that the SEA is leading the way with 275 total contributors, 20% of SEA NASCOE members are contributing, at \$1285 per pay period. The SEA leads the way in every category except percentage of employees contributing. I would love to see our percentage increase to 25% this year. I think this is a much attainable goal! We still have more Farm Bill trainings to come. Take this opportunity during a break, lunch or happy hour at the hotel, and tell someone about the PAC and the benefits of becoming a member of NASCOE if they haven't already. We just had our state training last week, and there were so many new faces. Maintaining our **membership** is key to NASCOE's **existence**; education and **outreach** are key to maintaining our membership

Partner Organizations

In addition to building relationships with Congressional Leaders, we also need to be working towards building relationships with NASCOE's partner organizations. You may ask, "what is a partner organization?" Partner organizations may be any organization, association, or business that has similar interests to NASCOE. For example, American Farm Bureau would be considered a partner organization because they support agriculture production and have similar interest. Other examples of partner organizations are National Corn Growers Association, American Soybean Association, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Cotton Council, NAFEC, RASCOE, etc. These organizations may also have a local representation in your state or community. Building relationships with these organizations can be extremely beneficial to NASCOE, as well as your state association. We should be working toward improving our relationships with partner organizations at the state level. One way that was discussed during our breakout session at the All South Rally is to establish a partner organization contact list. This may be accomplished by researching the web to find these contacts or you may reach out to your state Farm Bureau. I was able to work with the Tennessee Farm Bureau to obtain a document with a listing of all partner organizations in the Tennessee.

Education

As I mentioned previously, there are several new faces in our agency. We need to be better than we ever have before about educating our new employees about not only the benefits of being a NASCOE member, but also the history of our association and agency. A great example of NASCOE providing education to our newer members is through the upcoming National Leadership Conference. This will be a great opportunity for these members to go back to their states on fire for NASCOE and pay it forward to the new employees and new members in their respective states. I'll say it again, maintaining our membership is key to NASCOE's existence; education and outreach are key to maintaining our membership.

The Legislative Committee will continue to focus on all the issues as they arise and be proactive in our approach. We have a great Legislative team, and we all work hard to stay on top of the issues. My personal goal is to have more communication with the state legislative chairs and our members. Please reach out to me with your questions and concerns so that I can be a resource for you.

Negotiations Sabrina Conditt

Negotiation consultants, area execs, and the NASCOE executive board met with management in WDC the week of May 28-31, 2019 to discuss negotiation items. The team is pictured below. There were 22 items that were negotiated. NASCOE won some and on some we had to agree to disagree. As soon as WDC and NASCOE get the responses written up and reviewed they will be posted to NASCOE website.



Please continue to send in any items as you think of them. The negotiation form is automated and located on the NASCOE website. This is a process that we do not want to lose!!

Publicity

Ashlee Dalton

Thank you TASCOE for a wonderful time at the All South Rally! During the rally the publicity team had a joint SEA/SWA breakout session. There were lots of great ideas shared but the top three are listed below!

• NASCOE TEXTING



similar to GovDelivery but for updates on important items for members

•"Check it Out"



Listing of all the State Facebook pages with links for NASCOE members to view

• Post the written Q&A from DC on the NASCOE Facebook page



Please help me spread the word about the wonderful things we are doing in each state in the Southeast Area. Some examples of things to send: Birth announcements, retirements, awards, promotions, new life events, etc. Thank you for all that you do for our employee association. Thank you so much for everything you and if you have any questions or comments please email me at acwashburn10@gmail.com!



ALABAMA



The Alabama Girls and Mike enjoyed the All South Rally. Thanks to the host state Tennessee for a great time!

GEORGIA

Georgia is very excited about hosting the National Convention in 2020 in SAVANNAH, GA!! The Convention will be held at the Hyatt Regency on River Street <u>https://www.hyatt.com/en-</u> <u>US/hotel/georgia/hyatt-regency-</u> savannah/savrs.

Check out their website for a sneak peek. The rate of a double room will be \$116 a night! Mark your calendars for August 8-13, 2020. We look forward to making this a convention to remember!

VIRGINIA

Congratulations to our newest VASCOE members Donna Olinger, Jesse Booker, Jack Johnston, Paige Withers, and W.P. Johnson!! Virginia had our convention in Harrisonburg, VA this year. There was a wonderful group of speakers and tours for members to attend. Pictured below is our Southeast Alternate Executive, Beth Farmer, on one of the farm tours! Thanks Heather for all your hard work!



Say hello to the newest member of the FSA family, Baylee Dalton! Baylee had a blast at her first VASCOE Convention and the All South Rally.



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KENTUCKY

KASCOE has been busy preparing for Farm Bill training by creating games for the trainings. For DMC training we played Jeopardy. It was an exciting game that was just like what is on TV. For LDAP training we are having a quiz bowl. All participants are being chosen at random based on years of experience, etc. It is a great way to get all involved!

Kentucky is proud to announce the addition of six County Office Trainees. Katie Taylor, Charlie White, David Wayne, Carla Harper, Sarah Tapp and Corey Anderson. Congratulations!!



Kentucky wants to recognize our recent retirees who have provided years of valuable service to this agency: Penny Fleming, Kim Angel, Glenda Boisseau, Dennis Campbell, David Duke, and Kay Dunn. Enjoy Retirement!!!





NORTH CAROLINA

The 2019 NoCASCOE State Convention was held April 30 through May 2, 2019 at Harrah's Resort at Cherokee, NC. NoCASCOE Officers were excited to welcome 102 registered members and guests to participate in another exciting and informative Convention which included many benefits and program training seminars along with several fun-filled team building activities! NoCASCOE Officers strived to deliver a Convention full of energy and excitement designed to elevate employee-member morale while helping them understand the valuable impact their workplace tasks and customer service is making within their communities.

Members and guests were fortunate to hear from our NASCOE SEA Executive, Mr. Mike Mayfield who provided a very passionate speech about what NASCOE and the State Associations are doing to: protect employee- members benefits, secure budget funding, ensure staffing for Offices, work towards sensible Office Closure policy, meeting with National FSA Management to address programs concerns and how NASCOE/NoCASCOE were a tremendous resource for members to receive information during the recent Government Furlough. Additional guests included; field representatives from US Senator Richard Burr (Mrs. Robin Ramsey) and US Senator Thom Tillis Offices (Mr. Jordan Barnes), NC FSA State Executive Director, Mr. Len McBride and NC FSA State Committee members, Mrs. Alice Scott-STC Chair, Mr. Richard Renegar, Mr. Jeff Tyson and Mr. Nathan Ramsey, NASCOE National Co-Legislative Chairman, Mr. Neil Burnette, Representatives from Dillard Financial Solutions, representatives from NC BCBS-FEP, USDA RMA Regional Director, Mr. Alex Sereno, NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) Commissioner Steve Troxler and Dr. Sandy Stewart, Assistant Commissioner, who both provided very informative comments regarding the State Hurricane Disaster Assistance Program and how thankful their Agency is for the efforts provided from our employees-members, Mrs. Lisa Wallace, Public Affairs Specialist for Social Security Administration (SSA), Mrs. Catherine Fannon with the Seniors Health Insurance Program (SHIIP) and Mr. Rob Satterfield, Mr. Kevin Wooten and Ms. Tracie Jones from the NC State FSA Office who provided comments and program training sessions. Members and guests also enjoyed team building activities such as: Casino Night along with an entertaining bowling tournament and cookout!

The Convention concluded with the Employee Awards Banquet where we recognized the following: NC Distinguished Service Award to NoCASCOE winner, Mrs. Lynne Hall (who also had another surprise awaiting for her, the birth of her first grandchild Carson Dale Moody!), our Employee Sick Leave Award winners; Mrs. Karen Beneville (1000 hrs.), Mrs. Joyce Ramsey (2000 hrs.), 5 NoCASCOE Traditional Scholarship winners, 55 NC FSA County Offices that have 100% Association Membership and 19 employee/members who achieved 25, 30 or 35 years of Service to the Agency! Following the Award Banquet was our very entertaining Scholarship Reverse Raffle and Live Auction along with the traditional silent auction which combined to raise \$5943.25 for the NoCASCOE Scholarship fund!



NoCASCOE State President David McBryde with NCDA&CS Commissioner Steve Troxler



NoCASCOE Bowling Tournament



NoCASCOE Distinguished Service Award winner, Mrs. Lynne Hall

2019 NASCOE ALL South Rally

Nashville, TN

By all accounts, the 2019 NASCOE All South Rally in Nashville was a huge success! TASCOE was honored to host the Rally in collaboration with the Southeast and Southwest Areas of NASCOE. TASCOE would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event!

The following is a quick summation on the Rally. After much preparation and hard work leading up to April 10th, the All South Rally got started with set-up of meeting room and decorations, hospitality suite preparation, and registration of folks that were able to make it to Nashville on Wednesday.

Thursday began with a great golf outing for approximately 16 at the Gaylord Springs Golf Links. To say the least the course was quite a challenge to all of us that went out that morning. But at the end of the 18 holes, everyone had nothing to say other than "that was FUN!" Thursday allowed those not participating in the golf outing, set-up, or meetings to take in the sights and sounds of Nashville.

Thursday was capped off with Boots and Hats Night in downtown Nashville! Lower Broadway was, to say the least, KICKIN'!!! When posed with the question of "Are you having a good time?", all attendees, even those who had visited Nashville before, answered with "This place is GREAT, I LOVE Nashville"! I believe that it is safe to say that a good time was had by all!

Friday began the "business" of the All South Rally. The General Assembly began at 8:00 AM. Tennessee FSA SED Dennis Beavers, Danny Sutton from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, NASCOE President Dennis Ray, and National Office speakers filled the morning session with welcome messages and updates.

A Q&A session was held with FSA management where a vast array of questions and concerns were addressed by the WDC FSA management present. Dillards Financial, NASCOE Legislative Consultant Hunter Moorehead, and a TSP Trainer made presentations to those in attendance. All these folks did a wonderful job in their respective areas of presentation.

The Rally's Banquet was held Friday evening. It included presentations of awards and a very successful scholarship auction. The Banquet concluded with a live performance by Singer/songwriter Brice Long. His performance was the highlight of the weekend for many in attendance.

We reconvened Saturday morning for NASCOE Area Breakout Sessions, and a Joint Business Session for Candidacy Announcements and 2019 National Convention updates. During the Joint Session we were also updated on proposed Constitution Bylaw Changes.

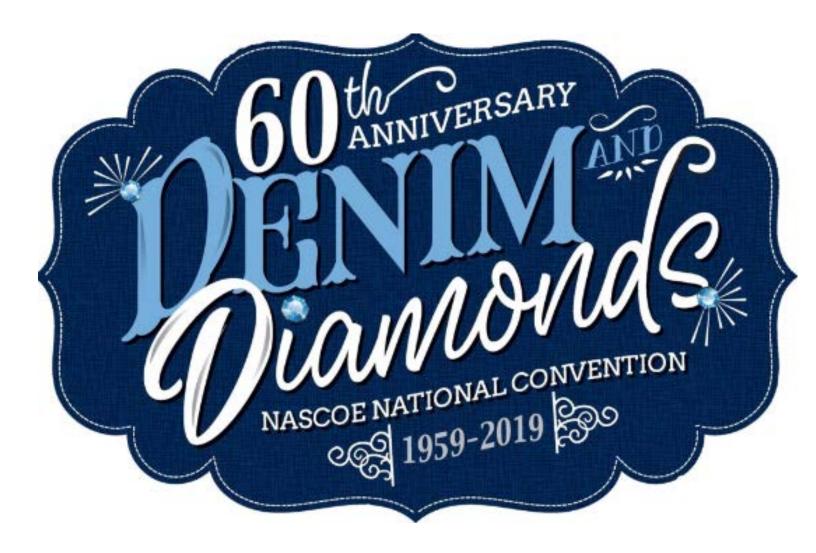
It was a full few days with quite a bit of business addressed and good times had!

Report submitted by TASCOE



2019 NASCOE National Convention

July 31 – August 3, 2019-Manhattan, Kansas



Please <u>Register</u> for the convention! As of June 1, registration will go from \$50 to \$65. Don't wait!!!!

For the latest news on the check out the <u>May Updates</u>!!