

SEA NASCOE NEWSLETTER

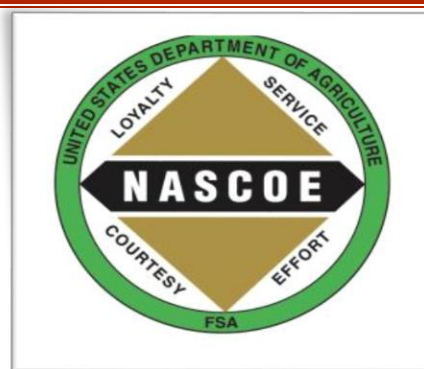


Southeast Executive

Beth Farmer, Alabama

Southeast Area Alternate Executive

Donny Green, Tennessee



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Upcoming Events

- **NASCOE National Convention**
Savannah, GA – August 8-13, 2020

For more events check out the [NASCOE Events Calendar](#)

From the Desk of the SEA Executive

Hello, I am Beth Farmer from Cherokee County, Alabama and I am your Southeast Area Executive Director. I am so excited to be serving in this position and so honored to be representing the greatest members of NASCOE, the Southeast. I have been a CED for 10 years and before that I was a PT. I have been with the Agency for 30 years. I know for many of you that feels like a life time but rest assured the time goes by fast especially when you love what you do.

My husband has a row cropping operation, where we grow cotton, corn and soybeans. We have one daughter who is a nurse, one granddaughter, another granddaughter due to arrive in February and our son-in-law is a teacher, coach and youth pastor. So as all of you we have busy lives.

My first task after you elected me to this position was to assemble our Team of Area Chairs and Judges. I want to thank everyone who helped in this process. Along with Donny Green, SEA Alt Exec, we are very excited to be working with the following group of talented and dedicated volunteers:

SEA Committee Chairs:

Scholarship/Awards - Julia Davidson, MS

Programs – Rachel Mullican, AL

Publicity - Hilliary Hancock, KY

Negotiations - Rachel Mullican, AL

Benefits/Emblems - Katie Taylor, KY

Legislative - David McBryde, NC

Membership - Chiquita McDowell, VA

COAC - Charla Brannon, TN

SEA Scholarships & Awards Judges:

Denise Otto, GA

Nancy Chlapecka, AR

Lisa Couvillion, LA

Judy Rudd, AL

Corley Richardson, FL

Andrea Stafford, TN

Donny Green, TN

There is something to be said about being from the South, we are dedicated, passionate, loyal and competitive. With that being said my challenge to you is to help us make the Southeast the best Area in NASCOE. We can start by joining Georgia in planning the best National Convention NASCOE members have ever attended. Mark your calendars now for August 8-12, 2020 Boots on the Beach in Savannah, Georgia.

Thanks for your help,
Beth Farmer
SEA Executive

From the Desk of the SEA Alternate Executive

I am excited to be serving as the Southeast Area (SEA) Alternate Executive Committee person! We are fortunate to have a wonderful and extremely capable SEA Executive Committee person, Beth Farmer, and I look forward to working on Beth's team to represent our area and deliver our mission. Beth has done a remarkable job appointing area chairpersons for all our SEA committees. We are excited to see planning, goal-setting, communication, and membership engagement activities that are already underway!

If you know me, you know that I have fundamental and core beliefs in our county office and county committee systems of management and program delivery. I am honored to be appointed by NASCOE President Brandon Wilson to serve as the national chairperson of the new County Office Advocacy Committee. NASCOE's mission and focus is to advocate for county office employees and our county committees. I believe the county committee is the foundation of FSA. No matter what you do to it, it's still the foundation and whatever you build on top of it will only be as stable as the foundation. Like any good foundation, it must be maintained. The county committee's foundation is firmed by handbook, federal regulations, and statute. Our farmer-elected county committees are trusted and accountable, from the local grassroots level to the national level.

Background:

Below are some of my leadership and personal experiences:

- NASCOE member since being hired at FSA 27 years ago
- Proud associate member of the National Association of Farmer-Elected Committees (NAFEC) and National Association of Support Employees (NASE)
- Served as:
 - State director, Vice-President, and President for the Tennessee association
 - SEA Scholarship Chairperson
 - SEA Legislative Chairperson
 - National Legislative Chairperson
 - Member of the COC authority task force
- Lived in DeKalb County, TN. all my life and I graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a B.S. in Agronomy and Soils
- Member of the DeKalb Co. Fire Department since I was 18 years old and have served as the County Fire Chief since 1994
- Served as an FSA county office Program Technician in DeKalb County, Tennessee for 4 years
- FSA County Executive Director in DeKalb-Cannon County since 1996
- I am married to my wife, Misty. We have one daughter, Kayley, who lives and works in Austin, Tx. We have one son, Luke, who is currently a junior at Tennessee Technological University.

I have a strong conviction and passion for NASCOE's mission, and I want to share that as it has been shared with me. I consider it a privilege and honor to have the opportunity to serve you, as well as work and support NASCOE's leadership in this capacity.

Donny Green
SEA Alternate Executive

Awards/Scholarships

Julia Davidson

A Note from Julia Davidson:

I started my career with ASCS/FSA in August 1986. I have been Acting CED in Prentiss County, Mississippi since 2017. I have been a MACOE/NASCOE member since day one. I am the VP of MACOE, oversee scholarships and awards on state level and the SEA chair for scholarships and awards.

As your SEA area chair, I want to increase publicity of all the available scholarships and awards available to our employees. With the cost of education increasing, this is a great way for our children/grandchildren or current employees to be recognized in our organization and help with the cost of education.

Also, we all have that special coworker that goes above and beyond. Nominate them for an award! It's an easy process to recognize that special person.

Please read over the handbook on scholarships and awards available and contact me with any questions you may have. Awards/Scholarships Handbook link: <https://nascoe.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/awards-and-scholarships-handbook.pdf>

Julia Davidson
juliadavidson2@yahoo.com
(662) 401-2733

Emblems/Benefits

Katie Taylor

A note from the SEA Emblems and Benefits Chair:

Hello! My name is Katie Taylor. I am the SEA Emblems and Benefits Chair. I live in New Castle, Kentucky (About 30 miles northeast of Louisville). I am a shared management CED serving in the New Castle and Carrollton Service Centers in Kentucky.

During my time as the SEA Benefits and Emblems Chair I want to raise awareness of the wonderful benefits and emblem items we have. In addition to raising awareness, I hope to help provide our membership with more benefit options. I look forward to serving as your SEA Benefits and Emblems Chair.

Legislative

David McBryde

A note from the SEA Legislative Chair:

So who is David McBryde? I'm a fortunate man who God blessed with an incredible wife for 19 years, Lori. Also we have two wonderful children, John (14) who loves farming and being on his school's Cross-Country and JV Baseball teams and Katie (10) who is an awesome travel softball player and enjoys playing the clarinet in her elementary school band! My family continues to operate our family farm and as fourth generation farmers, hopefully we can help John and Katie carry on this family tradition.

I've been blessed to have had a career with ASCS/FSA for 25 years, the last 18 as CED in Wilson County, NC helping serve the needs of our farmers and ranchers to be a part of NC's #1 Industry; Agriculture. I was honored to be presented the FSA Administrator's Award in 2013 for Personal and Professional Excellence and having been nominated by my staff was overwhelming.

It has been my honor to serve our State Association (NoCASCOE) as State President for the past 3 years, 2 years as State Vice President and most recently asked to serve as the 2019-2020 SEA Legislative Chair. My goals are similar to both Beth's and Donny's to increase membership, PAC participation and hopefully meet and work with everyone to make the SEA the best area in NASCOE!

Membership

Chiquita McDowell

A note from the SEA Membership Chair:

For those that know me and for those getting to know me, I am Chiquita McDowell and I reside in the great state of Virginia. I serve proudly as your Southeast Area Membership Chair. I am the County Executive Director for the Southampton County Office located in Courtland Virginia. I served as a Program Technician in both North Carolina and Virginia for a total of almost 4 years and currently as CED for 12 years. I love what I do, who I work with and the producers I serve.

As the Southeast Area Membership Chair, I hope to be a leader you can follow and depend on. I plan to give and do my very best to represent the Southeast Area. Without members, there is no NASCOE. Without NASCOE, there is no seat at the table to have a voice for county office employees, our benefits, our rights and an advocate for County Committee rights. With many members, active and committed, NASCOE sits proudly at the table in support of us all-members and nonmembers. My goal as Membership Chair is to be a voice and support for NASCOE by reinforcing members why one should continue to be member and a voice for your state and for nonmembers, to always be ready (with facts and a membership form!) and available to inform and educate on all NASCOE does on our behalf.

Negotiations

Rachel Mullican



NASCOE

National Association of FSA County Office Employee
Beth Farmer, Southeast Area Exec
Donny Green, Southeast ALT Area Exec
Rachel Mullican, Southeast Area Negotiating Consultant

November 1, 2019

Dear NASCOE Friends~

It is the time for negotiation items. Please, take the time to complete a negotiation/consultation form and let your NASCOE Exec Board know what's on your mind. Is there a benefit that you would like to have, an idea you have that would make doing business more efficient, or maybe you have an IT issue? Whatever the issue, it will be addressed.

The negotiation process is a unique tool that NASCOE has, to voice our concerns. It is our direct link to let the folks in Washington, DC know about issues that need attention or that need to be addressed. Let your voice be heard. Every member counts and every idea is discussed.

After you have completed the negotiation/consultation form, which can be found on the NASCOE website (www.nascoe.org), send it electronically to Rick Csutoras and please forward me a copy. Deadline for submission is **December 01, 2019**.

Also, if you have an item that is a **program** concern it will not go to Rick Csutoras. All program items need to be sent to Chris Hare.

If you have any questions or concerns, as always, please do not hesitate to contact either Beth or myself.

Thanks,

Rachel Mullican
SEA Negotiation Consultant
rachel.mullican@usda.gov or rachel_mullican@yahoo.com

Beth Farmer
SEA Exec
Elizabeth.farmer@usda.gov or befarmer6@yahoo.com

Publicity

Hilliary Hancock

Hello!! I hope this newsletter finds each of you well! I'm Hilliary Hancock and I am the Southeast Area Publicity Chair. I am from Dover, TN where I live and work on our family farm which consists of tobacco, corn, soybeans, wheat, and beef cattle. I attended Murray State University and received my Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business in May 2015.

My FSA career began with a part-time Program Technician position in Dover, TN where I worked for 8 months before being hired full-time as a Program Technician in Hopkinsville, KY where I currently work. As a new and young employee to the agency, my CED encouraged me to be a member of KASCOE/NASCOE and to be actively involved in the organization. I then attended my first National Convention in 2016 and quickly realized how much the organization gives to it's members and how much I need to give back.

I am passionate about agriculture and love serving the needs of our ranchers and producers through USDA-FSA programs and services. Just as much, I love serving the members of NASCOE and giving back to an organization that has given me so much.

Now, the question is "how can YOU help me in my new role as the Southeast Area Publicity Chair?" First, it is important to realize the significance of NASCOE communication tools and services. We must have newsletters and online sources, such as our website, for information to stay connected! Below are some ideas of how the newsletter will work:

- Send in any and all information that you would like to see in the newsletter. Example: pictures, write-ups, upcoming events, retirements, state news, anything!
- Let me know if there is anything you would like to see in the newsletter!
- Questions or suggestions? Just let me know!

All the Best,

Hilliary Hancock

Hilliary.hancock@outlook.com

931-627-7397 (cell)

NEWS NEWS NEWS State News NEWS NEWS NEWS

Alabama

Recent State & Employee Highlights:

- New COT's- Kimberly Rice, Lance Hopper, Jamie Pride
- New Key PTs- Hannah Barton & Jennifer Stanley
- New President-Elect- Jennifer Stanley
- Leadership Excellence for Program Technicians participates- Rachel Mullican & Jamie Pride



Birth- Marshall County CED Zachary Burns
daughter Raylee



Leadership Development Program
Participants





State News



Kentucky

Kentucky would like to recognize our recently graduated group of COTs, who are all members of NASCOE. Katie Taylor, serves as SEA Emblems/Benefits Chair and is KASCOE's Treasurer. She was recently selected as CED in Henry/Owen Counties. Charlie White is Legislative Chair for KASCOE. Carla Harper is KASCOE Awards Chairperson for KASCOE and is transitioning to the role of CED in Caldwell County. Sarah Tapp is the new CED in Mercer/Washington Counties. David Wayne is the newest KASCOE member of the group of 6 COTs, having joined upon being hired in 2019. Corey Anderson is a COT having worked as a PT in Clinton/Cumberland County office. All of these COTs show a very promising future for FSA and NASCOE in Kentucky. We applaud their current contributions to their employee association and look forward to many opportunities ahead with them as part of our team.

Retirements:



Coy Higdon, CED, Hopkinsville, KY

September 2019

Coy served in many NASCOE roles and attended many events and functions of the association in his 33 year career with the FSA.



Diane Dunne, CED, Clinton

September 2019

Diane recently served as KASCOE Vice-President. She frequented State, Area and National Events often serving as a delegate.



State News



North Carolina

Martha Mills Retirement

"FSA & NoCASCOE family, After 32 ½ years I am retiring. My career has been one that I have enjoyed serving the folks that work hard and put food on our tables. My FSA job has been most rewarding. The friendships I have made, I will always treasure. To my NASCOE/NoCASCOE family you are the BEST! I plan to still be involved, so you will see me around with the crock pots at the next State Convention! Today it is time to start a new adventure in my life. I am very blessed to have had my ASCS/FSA career and to have served as your past NoCASCOE Secretary/Treasurer for over 15 years.

Do keep in touch friends.

Martha Mills"

South Carolina

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and South Carolina showed support by county office employees dressing in PINK!!!





State News



Tennessee

TASCOE is very proud to have two member that are Committee Chairs for NASCOE. They are Donny Green, National County Office Advocacy Committee Chair, and Clint Bain, National Legislative Co-Chair.



Tennessee had great representation at the 60th Annual NASCOE Convention in Manhattan, Kansas. Those present are pictured below: Cali Bain, Clint Bain, Mike Mayfield, Donny Green, Donnell Poss, Carrie Major, Sarah Smith, Dana Baucom, and Ross Moore (not pictured). Donny Green received a NASCOE Service Award for his service and leadership as the Legislative Chairperson for NASCOE, Carrie Major received the SEA Cash Club Award, and Sarah Smith received the TASCOE First Timers Award!





State News



Virginia



Retirement:

Charles M. Ingram, County Executive Director retires with over 41 years of service. Charles began his career with USDA in 1978 and was the County Executive Director in the Lee County Office from January of 1979 until his retirement on October 2nd of this year. Mr. Ingram stated that when he first came to work with FSA it was known as ASCS and Lee County had over 3,000 tobacco quotas.

In October of 2018 the Lee and Scott County Offices went under shared management with Mr. Ingram sharing his time between the Lee and Scott County Offices. Mr. Ingram said it gave him a new challenge to go shared management and that he enjoyed working with the farmers and staff in Scott County. Mr. Ingram stated, "I have truly enjoyed working with the farmers in Lee County throughout these many years and that it did not seem like many years at all". Mr. Ingram was a dedicated employee and his achievements and contributions will not soon be forgotten. The Lee and Scott County employees were blessed to have worked with Mr. Ingram and we wish him a long and happy retirement.

On another note:

If you are attending a home Virginia Tech game, look for Julia Stephens's daughter, Senah on the sidelines. She is a member of the High Tech's, VT's dance team. Senah is a Junior majoring in Biology and Biochemistry with plans to enroll in Medical School. Senah was a 2018 winner of the Southeast Regional VASCOE scholarship.

Boots on the Beach

*Reservations can now be made for the
61st NASCOE National Convention*

in

Savannah, Georgia

AUGUST 8-13, 2020

**The Convention will be held at the Hyatt Regency
on River Street in Savannah**

**The link to make your reservations is
[https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-
booking/SAVRS/G-GCOO](https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/SAVRS/G-GCOO)**

The room rate is \$116.00

**We will kick off the convention on Saturday, August 8th with tours being on
Sunday, August 9th. The meetings will start on Monday and continue
through Wednesday.**

The banquet will be held on Wednesday evening.

**Registration for the Convention is still in the work's, but we wanted
everyone to have a chance to go ahead and reserve a room.**

Superior the Emblems Store now offers **license plates** AND **gift cards** for the upcoming holiday season! Visit <https://nascoe.org/store/> and shop today! For gift cards, contact Mike or Denise at the Emblems store.

NEW--full color USDA License Plate.

Order yours today!!!!





NASCOE Benefits Included with Your Membership

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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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LIVE STREAMING FITNESS. LiveStreamingFitness.com is an on-line healthy lifestyle platform that includes live streaming and on demand fitness, nutrition and cooking shows available 24/7 in a safe and interactive community of professionals and individuals promoting the best version of a healthy you.

