

## March 2012



## 2011/2012 IASCOE OFFICERS

## President Jeff Davis CED Plymouth County



jeff.davis@ia.usda.gov tigerhawk89@hotmail.com

## Vice-President Cindy Pistek PT Hancock County



cindy.pistek@ia.usda.gov
Cindy.Pistek@gmail.com

# Secretary/Treasurer Judy Dameron PT Louisa County



<u>Judy.dameron@ia.usda.gov</u> jldameron@iowatelecom.net

## 2011-2012 IASCOE DIRECTORS & ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

DISTRICT NUMBER	PROGRAM ASSISTANT AND COUNTY	COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNTY
1 Director	Karen LaCour, Dickinson	Jeff Davis, Plymouth
Alternate	Nancy Heideman, Clay	Larry Lago, Dickinson
2 Director	Cindy Pistek, Hancock	Tammy Pruin, Wright
Alternate	Jeanine Diekhuis, Hancock	Barry TerHark, Cerro Gordo
3 Director	Karen McNeil, Winneshiek	Cindy Mensen, Clayton
Alternate		Kevin Keegan, Buchanan
4 Director	Brenda Albright, Audubon	John Landgraf, Sac
Alternate	Mary Lageschulte, Ida	Heidi Nickol, Ida
5 Director	Chris Grieder, Polk	Steve Kennedy, Jasper
Alternate	Teresa Heck, Polk	Lee Ann Davis, Boone
6 Director	Jessica Yuska, Scott	Devalyn Wilson, Cedar
Alternate	Joni Birkhofer, Muscatine	Randy Madsen, Muscatine/Scott
7 Director	Sue Beemer, Taylor	Cindy Bebout, Fremont
Alternate	Judy Lundgren, Page	Lynette Gruchow, East Pottawattamie
8 Director	Julie Derby, Marion	Kelly Cain, Madison
Alternate	Connie Bence, Madison	Joyce Frost, Wayne
9 Director	Judy Dameron, Louisa	Dee Ann Lehn, Keokuk
Alternate	Dawn Stewart, Henry	Gretchen McLain, Jefferson



#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2011-2012**

## LEGISLATIVE CHAIR – Dee Ann Lehn

## **BENEFITS CHAIR – Kelly Cain**

District	Member	County
1	Rex Wittrock	Buena Vista
2	David Stromer	Kossuth
3	Karen McNeil	Winneshiek
4	Pat Warmbier	Harrison
5	Teresa Simonton	Poweshiek
6	Joni Birkhofer	Muscatine
7	Chris Irvin	Page
8	Kelly Cain	Madison
9	John Bartenhagen	Louisa

### AWARDS CHAIR – John Landgraf SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR – Tammy Pruin

1	Larry Lago	Dickinson
2	Jeanine Diekhuis	Hancock
3	Connie Straw	Chickasaw
4	Denise Dugan	Woodbury
5	Connie Safley	Dallas
6	Angie Reynolds	Muscatine
7	Phyllis Reineke	Taylor
8	David Wynn	Monroe
9	Carol Long	Mahaska

## PUBLICITY CHAIR – Brenda Albright

1	Paul Berte	Pocahontas
2	Barry TerHark	Cerro Gordo
3	Rose Woerner	Black Hawk
4	Heather Muenchrath	Shelby
5	Kitty Benda	Marshall
6	Betty Williams	Muscatine
7	Carole Dawson	Taylor
8		·
9	Gretchen McLain	Jefferson

#### **MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - Karen LaCour**

1	Mark VonArb	O"Brien
2	Janine Schwarck	Mitchell
3	Sheri Rodman	Clayton
4	Cathleen "Skip" Borst	Carroll
5	Tom Abbas	Hamilton
6	Renee Schultz	Cedar
7	Sue Beemer	Taylor
8	Marla Morlan	Monroe
9	Deanna Rood	Mahaska

PROGRAM CHAIR - Jessica Yuska

**EMBLEMS CHAIR – Chris Grieder** 



2011 IASCOE Directors

## **Other Roles**

#### **CAPWIZ Co-ordinator**

Tammy Eibey - FLO Cedar County tammy.eibey@ia.usda.gov eibeyfarms@iowatelecom.net

#### **IASCOE Web Manager**

Brian Beach - PT Sac County brian.beach@ia.usda.gov bbeach@mchsi.com

<u>Convention Registration</u> Devalyn Wilson - CED Cedar County devalyn.wilson@ia.usda.gov dawilly@iowatelecom.net

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Brenda Albright - PT Audubon County brenda.albright@ia.usda.gov tbttt@windstream.net

#### **Newsletter Copy Editor**

Anna Boecker, CED Tama County anna.boecker@ia.usda.gov anna3003@hotmail.com



2011 Awards & Scholarship Committee



2011 Publicity Committee



2011 Membership Committee



2011 Legislative and Benefits Committee

## **PAST IASCOE PRESIDENTS**

1959-61 Kenneth Hatcher

1961-62 Raymond D Vanderhorst

1962-63 Luther Stock

1963-64 William H Holiday

1964-65 Charles Bacon

1965-66 Gaylor A Thayer

1966-67 V. Deane Thornton

1967-68 Marguerite Liddle

1969-70 Warner C Walrath

1970-71 Janet Hemm

1971-72 Carl Lantz

1972-74 James A Riekens

1974-76 Cecil F Zollars

1977-79 Garnita Ewart

1979-80 John Ace Parker/Gary Brewer

1980-82 Gary Brewer 1982-84 Larry Niles

1984-86 Joe McLaughlin

1986-87 Pat Drew / Ronald Parker

1987-88 Mike Houston

1988-90 Ronald Reuvers

1990-92 Steve Abbas

1992-94 Kevin Fitzpatrick

1994-95 Jerry Frank

1995-97 Kevin McClure

1997-99 Jolene Fechter

1999-01 Trice Smith

2001-03 John Landgraf

2003-05 Tom Lane/Alan Donaldson/

John Landgraf

2005-07 Dee Lehn

2007-09 Steve Kennedy

2009-11 Cindy Mensen

## A Message from our State Executive Director



How do we begin to describe the challenges that are facing the Iowa Farm Service Agency? Actually describing the challenges may be easier than finding ways to cope with them. The employees in the Iowa FSA have always been able (and willing) to do any task handed to them and in a timely manner. In rural Iowa, we see our customers in church, at ball games, or in our circle of friends. We care about delivering farm programs to them and we know that our programs help them provide food security for our nation. In turn, our producers understand how hard everyone in their local county office works. I have never heard anyone relate a story about an "under-worked government employee" about anyone in FSA (or ASCS when that was our name)!

The challenge today of doing more and more with less and less has never been greater in the agency. Not only are we being asked to perform all of our tasks with fewer people, we are facing a proposal to do this with fewer offices. We are telling producers that we can't print certain items for them or we are not mailing notices which help our producers comply with the programs they participate in. If it is true that "it is always darkest before dawn," then there isn't much light right now!

Throughout everything that we are facing, I see one constant; the FSA family will support each other no matter what! This a quality and a bond which is hard to find and one that we cannot ever lose.

We never know what next year will bring for any of us or our agency. Last fall, there was a proposal, and at least on the surface, an agreement for a new Farm Bill. Now, I am reading that it may not be possible to pass a Farm Bill this year because even the farm groups have backed away from their previous proposals. The only two things certain in all of this is that change will occur and Iowa FSA will properly administer and deliver whatever the farm program is.

John Whitaker



## 2011-2012 IASCOE President



#### Hello All,

I would like to start by thanking the individuals that took time to attend the Legislative Conference for the State of Iowa. Dee Lehn, Steve Abbas, Curt Houk, Gretchen McLain, Justin Bahnsen, Jesse Wegner and Tammy Eibey went to Washington D.C. and met with each and every Congressman and Senator from the state of Iowa. They took the information that our leadership thought was best. They took the time to get involved and get involved in a very big way. Again thank you for what you did and thank you from everyone that you represented by being there.

The second thing that I would like to talk to you about is the IASCOE Convention that will be held March 16th and 17th at the Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston, Iowa. If you need more information, the registration form is on the IASCOE website at www.iascoe.org and you need to register as soon as possible. We will share the information about what is happening with IASCOE/NASCOE and you can learn more about what you can do to get involved. This year's convention will be like last year's convention in that it will be a joint convention with IASE and IACS. I would like to see everyone register so we know what kind of numbers that we will have at the convention.

Talking about getting involved, I want to discuss how to get involved. There are many ways to become involved. One major thing is that you can do to get involved would be, sign up for CapWiz. You can go to the NASCOE website and sign up to get notified when our NASCOE leadership believes there is a need to contact your Congressman and Senators in the State of Iowa. There have been a number of notifications that were sent out in the last couple of weeks that asked us to get involved. The one a couple of weeks ago was looking out for our future with FSA. In the days of smaller budgets over the past few years, the government is looking for more places to cut. I would hope that the government is looking for places to get the most bang for their buck. I know it is somewhat controversial but I truly believe we need to be involved in the Crop Insurance (CI) process. There is a lot that we already do with the CI industry. If the sale of CI is part of my job I will do it, but anything after the sale of the CI we are already involved with the process. We do certification and I would venture to guess that over 80 to 90 percent of our farmers that have CI take a copy of our certification to their Cl agent. The only question with that is, why do they need to certify twice? How many of your offices have had a RMA spot-check that needs to be done in the spring and fall on a producer that has been questioned about the number of claims they have had in the past. We also have the SURE program and if it has shown us nothing else, there needs to be some oversight so not as many mistakes are made on the CI side of the information needed for the SURE application.

How many times have you told a producer that they needed to go back to their CI agent and correct portions of their reported information? These are a few things that I see we already do with Crop Insurance. The report done for NASCOE stated that over two billion, that is "billion" with a "B", could be saved by the government if FSA services and takes over some of the processes of Crop Insurance. Why not save money and we keep busy?

There was another CapWiz alert put out this last weekend (February 17th) and it was about our benefits like us paying more toward our own retirement and it talked about the eliminating the supplemental payments (received from retirement until age 62) being eliminated for FERS employees. There were other things that will possibly be in jeopardy with current legislation.

To respond to a CapWiz alert takes about 30 seconds. After you have signed up for CapWiz on the NASCOE website all you do is watch your email for a notification. Once you receive a notification, you have a couple of options. You can just forward the letter that your NASCOE leadership has supplied in the alert or you can revise the letter to put it in your own words. Hit the send button and it automatically sends a copy of your letter (in email form) to the Congressman from your area along with the two Senators from the state. It is a very easy process and it makes it easy for you to get involved.

What CapWiz does, is it makes a Congressman or a Senator sit up and take notice because they don't just get one or two people's letters. They could receive many, many more than that and it makes them take notice of the topic at hand.

Here are a couple of my final thoughts for this newsletter. I want to see you at the convention. Do me a favor and TAKE SOME INTEREST IN YOUR JOB AND GET INVOLVED. We have lost a number of our friends over the past few months and there is strength in numbers. Our numbers are getting smaller so we all need to stick together.

Hope to see you at the convention.

Jeff Davis, IASCOE President



## 2011-2012 IASCOE Vice-President



First and foremost, I wish to thank all of my friends at FSA. The cards, prayers and thoughts were absolutely overwhelming at the time of the passing of my mother-in-law. Time and time again I see proof that we are all a very caring group of people, not just co-workers sharing office space. I'm proud to be a part of such a wonderful "family"!

The past few months have definitely been a little more than challenging for all of us. As a member of the Work-Load Task Force, I can honestly tell you that we spent many hours discussing how best to capture the work that is done in a county office and we all know that there is undoubtedly more work to do than we have people to do the work. We came together once at the STO in a very intense face-to-face meeting and then conference calls after that. Brian Gossling may have best described our task and the utilization of the worksheets; "The worksheets are an allocation exercise – given the bodies we have, where should they be located? Nothing in the worksheets gives an indication of how many people we should have." The entire Task Force understood the seriousness of our assignment and be assured that not one of us took that assignment lightly.

Over the past several months we have bid farewell to many of our co-workers and long time friends. At the same time we are happy for them, we are concerned for our own futures. We are concerned about the welfare of our producers and how budget mandates will affect our ability to provide our services. We are frustrated by the fact that when other counties need help, we can't provide it because the "travel budget" doesn't allow it. Our own benefits are being discussed by our Congressional leaders in Washington and we are anxious about what the outcome might be for us.

The uncertainty that we are facing affects each and every one of us, no matter what position we hold in the agency. Knowledge about what is happening and how we can help our situation is the key in determining our destiny. CapWiz, the PAC, the Legislative Conference and NASCOE are our best sources of knowledge and tools to help ourselves and those that we serve. In this newsletter you will find a registration form for the IASCOE Convention in March. Are you planning to come to Des Moines and pick up your "tools" and "knowledge"? Are you planning to come to Des Moines to enjoy some time with your "FSA family"? Are you a potential IASCOE/NASCOE member waiting to be asked to join? This is YOUR invitation to join the organization and work side by side with your family members at FSA.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Des Moines on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>- see you all then<sup>©</sup>

Cindy Pistek

IASCOE Vice-President



## 2011-2012 IASCOE Secretary/Treasurer



I am writing this article with a heavy heart. The staffing numbers came out on February 7 and there are counties facing losing employees. There are counties hoping to get employees from those counties to help them get the job done and there are the offices that are facing possible closures. The conference call that we had on the 8<sup>th</sup> was heartbreaking to say the least. I have been with FSA/ASCS for 28+ years and all of you are like my extended family. My heart goes out to each and every one of you. Hopefully we can all come together and accomplish everything that needs to get done in the coming months. We are the Farm Service Agency and that not only means to be of service to our producers but to be of service to our own employees.

On January 21, we held the election for Districts 1, 2, 3, 5 & 7. We now have some new blood on the board. I would like to welcome them all! The results are as follows:

	Director	Alternate
District 1	Jeff Davis – CED	Dustin Miller – CED
	Karen LaCour – PT	Nancy Heideman – PT
District 2	Tammy Pruin – CED	Barry Terhark – CED
	Cindy Pistek – PT	Jeanine Diekhuis – PT
District 3	Curt Goettsch – CED	Kevin Keegan – CED
	Karen McNeil – PT	Joseph Huber – PT
District 5	Curt Houk – CED	Tom Abbas – CED
	Kitty Benda – PT	Karla Novotny – PT
District 7	Lynette Gruchow – CED	Justin Bahnsen – CED
	Jennifer Comer – PT	Monica Robinson – PT

IASCOE Convention is March 16-17; this will be a time where we can come together as employees and discuss our issues and celebrate our friendships. Hope to see many of you there!!

Think Spring.....March 20.

Judy L Dameron

IASCOE Secretary/Treasurer



#### PROPOSAL CHANGES FOR IASCOE BY-LAWS

The Directors of the 2012 IASCOE board would like to make a possible change in the structure of the executives. They would like to have the option to separate the Secretary and the Treasurer jobs if desired. This would merely be done if we cannot find someone to fill the position as a Secretary-Treasurer. The changes to the bylaws will be as follows and will be voted on by the individual members present at the general session on Saturday morning at the IASCOE convention March 17, 2012.

Now Reads:

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

#### Section I

This association shall be known as the "lowa Association of FSA County Office Employees". The offices of this association shall be maintained in the city of the Secretary-Treasurer. (Amended April 1998)

Will read:

**ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE** 

#### Section I

This association shall be known as the "Iowa Association of FSA County Office Employees". The offices of this association shall be maintained in the city of the Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer. (Amended March 2012)

Now Reads:

**ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS** 

#### Section I

The officers of this association shall consist of a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be selected and serve as provided in the by-laws.

Will read:

**ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS** 

#### Section I

The officers of this association shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary and a Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be selected and serve as provided in the by-laws. (Amended March 2012)

Now reads:

ARTICLE IV - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

#### Section II

All members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Association members in the IASCOE Districts. This election shall be by mail. Written notice of such election shall be given by the Secretary-Treasurer of the association on or about the first of December each year with ballots to be returned by January 1. The elected board members shall take office immediately following the annual meeting. (Amended 1961.)

Will now read:

**ARTICLE IV - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS** 

#### Section II

All members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Association members in the IASCOE Districts. This election shall be by mail. Written notice of such election shall be given by the Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer of the association on or about the first of December each year with ballots to be returned by January 1. The elected board members shall take office immediately following the annual meeting. (Amended March 2012.)

Now Reads:

Section III

The Board of Directors so elected in the manner prescribed above shall elect a President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer at the first meeting after the directors assume office. The officers so elected shall be from the membership on the board. The manner of nomination and election shall be by secret ballot.

Will read:

**Section III** 

The Board of Directors so elected in the manner prescribed above shall elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer at the first meeting after the directors assume office. The officers so elected shall be from the membership on the board. The manner of nomination and election shall be by secret ballot. (Amended March 2012)

Now Reads:

Section IV

No officer shall be eligible to serve for more than two consecutive terms with the exception of the Secretary-Treasurer, who is exempt from the above provision.

Will read:

**Section IV** 

No officer shall be eligible to serve for more than two consecutive terms with the exception of the Secretary and Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer, who is exempt from the above provision. (Amended March 2012)

Now Reads:

Section V

The President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be from different IASCOE Districts.

Will Read:

Section V

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer shall be from different IASCOE Districts. (Amended March 2012)

Now Reads:

**ARTICLE V - OFFICERS** 

Section III

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be bonded for a minimum of \$5,000, issued by an accredited firm and all funds of this Association shall be deposited in an accredited bank in the State of Iowa in the name of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the official correspondence of the Association, keep an accurate record of all transactions of the Association and keep an accurate record of the meetings of the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall preside at meetings during the absence of the President and Vice President, collect dues from all members and disburse all moneys subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall give an accurate financial report of the Association at each regular meeting and perform such duties as the Association Board of Directors may prescribe. The record books kept by the Secretary –Treasure shall be audited by three (3) members of the Board, appointed by the President at the last annual meeting of the Board each year. (Amended 1963 reducing the bond from \$10,000 to \$5,000.)

Will Reads:

**ARTICLE V - OFFICERS** 

#### **Section III**

The Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer shall be bonded for a minimum of \$5,000, issued by an accredited firm and all funds of this Association shall be deposited in an accredited bank in the State of Iowa in the name of the Association. The Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the official correspondence of the Association, keep an accurate record of all transactions of the Association and keep an accurate record of the meetings of the Board of Directors. The Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer shall preside at meetings during the absence of the President and Vice President, collect dues from all members and disburse all moneys subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer shall give an accurate financial report of the Association at each regular meeting and perform such duties as the Association Board of Directors may prescribe. The record books kept by the Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer shall be audited by three (3) members of the Board, appointed by the President at the last annual meeting of the Board each year. (Amended 1963 reducing the bond from \$10,000 to \$5,000.)

**Reads Now:** 

POLICY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 3, 1981

President and Vice President, are the delegates, Secretary-Treasurer, is the alternate delegate to both National Convention and Midwest Area Rally.

Will read:

POLICY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### April 3, 1981

President and Vice President, are the delegates, and the Secretary or Treasurer or Secretary-Treasurer, is the alternate delegate to both National Convention and Midwest Area Rally. (Amended March 2012)



## 10WA FARMER

There's a guy who lives on a farm
Him and his family could do no harm
Living on a farm is just so fun
But it's so sad when the day is done.
You're driving in your Big John Deere
And when you are done, you can switch gear.
They're so tough they don't need armor
This is what you call an lowa farmer!

## Membership Keep it Going

It is March and we are all gearing up for our annual IASCOE Convention on March 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> at the Stony Creek Inn at Johnston, Iowa. Be sure to pre-register by March 9<sup>th</sup>. You can get your registration for online at <a href="http://iascoe.org/">http://iascoe.org/</a>. I hope to see all of you there.

I just wanted to share with you that March seems to always be the month of uncertainties. This is not only seen in the outside weather going from subzero temps to 50-60 degree days to calm sunny days to blizzard conditions in a matter of hours, but we are also seeing changes within our own agency, from office closures to those offices considered understaffed that are struggling to keep up with their work to those offices considered overstaffed that are wondering the future of their employment. Wow, can we have more of a diverse year than this to show how important it is for EVERY FSA employee to take heed in what is going on around the State and realize that being a member of the IASCOE organization is the most important thing that you can do to fight for what is yours.

It takes numbers to show a united front and make a strong voice to take our needs and desires forward to Capitol Hill. It is NEVER TOO LATE to join IASCOE and become a united member. I would like to challenge everyone to make this difference and help our State become a 100% membership State. My challenge to you is if you are reading this article, I would like you to personally contact (face to face, via home phone, or home computer) all of your FSA friends and ask them if they are a member of IASCOE and if they are not, ask them what it would take for them to become a member and pass this information on to me, without any identifying names, so that I can compile a list of needs to take on to our IASCOE Committee to see where we might be able to change to meet the needs of those who are not members to consider for our new fiscal year membership drive that will begin around the first of May. I would also like to you to share this newsletter with them as well.

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."

#### ~ Maria Robinson

Acceptance of new members is welcomed any time of year! Contact myself or any IASCOE member and without any direct out of pocket layout you can start payroll deduction for a minor sum each pay period. This has been the favorite of most of our IASCOE members, however you also may pay your dues directly yourself.

Karen LaCour Iowa State Membership Chair cmego@evertek.net 712-330-1347

## HAPPY SPRING!!

Seems hard to believe March is just around the corner. We have submitted the following for the National Publicity Contest for 2012 and here are our entries:

Best Web-Site: Brian Beach, Webmaster (www.iascoe.org)

Best Single Issue: March 2011, Cindy Pistek, Editor

Best Feature Story: Human Interest

Have You Ever Thought of Donating Leave?

Christa Eads, PT Cedar County - March 2011

Best Feature Story: Humorous

Wedding. A Father's Point of View

David Stromer, CED Hancock County - June 2011

These submissions have been sent to area judges. The judging will be completed by March 31<sup>st</sup> and the score sheets will be sent to the National Publicity Chairperson. Notification to the National Winners is scheduled as of April 30, 2012.

Iowa won the best Web-Site in 2011 and we will be waiting to hear if we will win any of the categories this year. Thanks to all who have sent in articles and have made the newsletter as great as it is. Also, a Special "Thank You" to Brian Beach, for continuing to have a great website and to Anna Boecker for taking everything we send to her and putting it together in such a wonderful manner. It's been a pleasure and an honor to work with these individuals this last year and I look forward to another terrific year!

By Brenda Albright,

**Publicity Committee Chairperson** 



## **Emblems!**

THENASCOESTORE.COM is your one-stop shop for emblem sales. The store is provided as a benefit to NASCOE members (as well as all USDA-FSA employees). They provide a variety of officially sanctioned emblem and logo items. Remember, NASCOE gets 8% of all online sales.

Polo & dress shirts for office attire

- Long & short sleeve denims for both men and women
- Ladies sleeveless denim shirts
- Embroidered **USDA-FSA** t-shirts
- Embroidered sweatshirts
- Embroidered logo jackets
- Head Wear
- USDA and FSA Emblems Items

Check out the THENASCOESTORE.COM website for a huge variety of items with either the USDA-FSA or the NASCOE logo on them. Special and Featured Items as well as both New and Clearance items are available. Many items are being offered at 10% off.

Now being offered is a new category – 'Yard Sale'. The Nascoe Store is marking products down to 'Yard Sale' prices and moving them to this new category. Watch this category closely and order because these items should go quick.

GIFT COUPONS IN \$10, \$25, \$50, AND \$100 INCREMENTS ARE AVAILABLE.

REGISTERING FOR THE FIRST TIME, BE SURE TO USE YOUR HOME EMAIL ADDRESS, NOT YOUR .GOV ADDRESS.

<u>SPECIAL NOTE:</u> Please note that all credit card transactions will show on your statement as thenascoestore.com/BEJs Advertising, 706-864-3886. Charges to your credit card will be made when order is received.

They make every effort to process all orders in two weeks.

Not sure about buying on-line? Do you want to save on the shipping? Come to the IASCOE State Convention being held March 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at the Stoney Creek Inn - Johnston to see a variety of products for sale.

See you at the Convention! Chris Grieder, Emblems Chair

## <u>Creating change thru NASCOE Programs or</u> <u>Negotiatios Committees</u>

Suggestions, recommendations, and new ideas are needed from **YOU!** NASCOE provides an excellent tool to county office staff across the nation to make contributions to improve software, change policy and even revise forms. The NASCOE Programs & Negotiations Committees each promote change by



collect recommendations and suggestions from members across the nation. Our State has previously done superb in submitting items through both committees to enact *change*! Please consider forwarding your ideas through the NASCOE website or email me and I will assist you in creating change!

Consider using the following form to make your program and software recommendations through the **Programs** Committee. Check out the NASCOE website to see the status of recently submitted Programs items: <a href="http://nascoe.org/Programs.aspx">http://nascoe.org/Programs.aspx</a> too. A few of the outstanding items listed there have come from fellow Iowans!! Submit your completed forms to either my email listed below or to Rosemarie Gallagher MWA Programs Chair at <a href="mailto:rosemarie.gallagher@mi.usda.gov">rosemarie.gallagher@mi.usda.gov</a> (Your identity will not be share with anyone outside the Programs Committee.)

Perhaps you have a procedure suggestion that would be best served through the **Negotiation** process. Please visit the NASCOE website <a href="http://nascoe.org/Negotiations.aspx">http://nascoe.org/Negotiations.aspx</a> to view previous suggestions and to submit your own recommendation. Please use handbook and paragraph references to support your submission and provide it directly to the NASCOE Secretary, Annette Hyman. Negotiation items are collected through December 15<sup>th</sup>. Then member's ideas are organized to create a 'promotional' package the Executive Committee presents to National Office to enact *change*!! (Again your identity is not shared outside of committee.)

Iowa has been a forerunner in submitting creative ideas, fantastic recommendations and enacting *CHANGE*! Please drop me a note if you need help formulating your recommendation or completing the forms. The Program recommendation form will also be available at the Convention later this month  $\sim$  I look forward to witnessing *change*!

Jessica Yuska <u>jesshovie@hotmail.com</u> Iowa Programs Chair

## **MARCH 16-17, 2012**

Stoney Creek Inn – Des Moines
5291 Stoney Creek Court | Johnston, IA | 50131 | phone: 515.334.9000

NAME:		
COUNTY:	POSITION:	
NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTEND	DING	
Pre-registration: (by March 9 <sup>th</sup> )	\$30.00 Each	
Extra Guest (Hospitality & Brea	akfast): \$20.00 Each	
Registration at Door:	\$35.00 Each	
	TOTAL \$	
Registration includes: Meeting Ro Hospitality Room, (which will include beverages) Entertainment, and Br morning.  Please check one of the Follow	reakfast Saturday  YES  NO	
IASCOE Member IASE Member IACS Member IASCOE Associate Member Out of State Member Other		
	make all checks payable to "IASCOE"  Mail completed form and payment to:	

All pre-registration forms should be received by March 9, 2012

Two individuals who "pre-register" will also be eligible for a FREE room the night of the convention. Directors and Committee members are exempt

**Devalyn Wilson** 

#### **Highlights of 2012 Legislative Conference**

Submitted by Dee Ann Lehn, CED Keokuk County Iowa Legislative Chairperson

Due to the many issues facing FSA employees, NASCOE held a legislative conference in February in Washington D. C. IASCOE sent six members to represent the lowa association. Those members were Steve Abbas, Curt Houk, Jesse Wegner, Gretchen McLain, Justin Bahnsen and Dee Ann Lehn. This was the first opportunity for Jesse, Justin and Gretchen to attend a legislative conference. Tammy Eibey was also in attendance as the National Publicity Chairperson.

We traveled to Washington D.C. on Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and returned home on Thursday. The group spent Tuesday preparing for congressional visits. We were instructed in how to present information to the Senators and Congressmen and we were given position papers and talking points to emphasize during our visits.

Congressional visits were made on Wednesday and we talked about several issues with during each visit. Talking points about the new Farm Bill included the elimination of duplicate services such as paying 3 agencies for taking crop reports. There is currently another area where duties are being duplicated. Functions of the Conservation programs are being duplicated by FSA as well as NRCS.

The Budget talking points addressed the office closure plan stating stakeholder groups, agricultural producer and rancher organizations, local elected officials, etc. should have been given the opportunity for input on the front-end of the decision process, not just an opportunity to defend offices that have been arbitrarily designated for closure. Good plans to reorganize include input from all those who will be affected by the final product. In addition, the plan calls for closing 131 FSA field offices but only closing 24 Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices throughout the Nation. The plan indicates by making these changes, it will improve customer service. FSA is proportionally closing a significantly larger number of offices when compared to its sister agencies. If a producer now has to drive to two different offices to complete their business, we do not believe that service will be improving. All USDA agencies located in the given office should be evaluated when making a determination to close an office. Congress needs to identify what services they want a properly functioning USDA field office to provide so USDA can properly structure its field offices.

We also presented information gathered from a recent independent study commissioned by NASCOE which indicated a substantial amount of savings could be realized if FSA was doing the administrative functions now performed by RMA. A recent Informa Economics study determined that 98% of the people interviewed reported that FSA provided crop insurance agents with acreage reports and production reports. The study also shows **Crop Insurance companies are paid 1.3 Billion dollars annually to do the same reporting functions that FSA already performs.** The Informa Economics study reflects an **estimated government cost savings of \$197 million annually if FSA were the sole agency to take acreage reports and production reports.** 

Generally, the visits went well. All of the Congressmen and Senators were concerned about the Office Closure Plan, some, however, were not receptive to Informa Economics Study but seemed willing to research the issue further.

Legislative visits, CAPWIZ and the PAC are our best defenses against the issues currently facing our employees. Become active in your association and speak your voice.



Justin, Curt, Steve and Gretchen in front of the White House

## Scholarship Update! by Tammy Pruin, CED Wright Co

This year's scholarships have been received and reviewed by our panel of judges! The winners have been notified and are in the process of sending us some information and pictures to share at the convention. <u>ALL</u> scholarship applications have been forwarded to the Midwest Area for further judging and we will hope that one of our outstanding students is selected as an area winner!

Just a reminder that our scholarships are funded by the sales of cash raffle tickets and the items that are sold at our silent auction. So please help support our future scholars by purchasing those tickets and fun items. Thanks........



..

We have had a great year working as the Key PT's for Conservation and Payment Eligibility. It has been an enjoyable learning experience and great opportunity for both of us. Working in the same office has been a great advantage. We can brain storm, share ideas, and help resolve problems. Being Key PT's we have had the opportunity to work State wide not just within our own district. This has enhanced our roles as district trainers.

Some of our common goals are: better communications, problem solving and working together. Desk-top sharing has increased the ability to help train and solve situations. We have strived to promote a "team effort" as our motto.

The State Office Staff and District Directors have been great mentors for this program. We feel privileged to serve as Iowa's Key PT's this last year and appreciate the support that NASCOE-IASCOE has given to this program. We hope that the Key PT program will continue in the future.

Thank you,

Sandy Gerlt Sue Reynolds



#### NASCOE Legislative Conference Comments from First Timers

When I was asked to attend the NASCOE Legislative Convention this year, I was honored to have the opportunity to be a representative for Iowa FSA. As a first timer to the convention, I wasn't sure what to expect besides being told about the hectic schedule. I was impressed with the presentations and information we received from our fellow FSA employees and the passion everyone has for our agency. It really gave me a new appreciation for the NASCOE/IASCOE organization. As a new CED and relatively new employee, I thought it was a great learning experience especially meeting with the congressmen and senators of our state. I would suggest that given the opportunity, everyone should go if they can. I know I would go again if I get the chance.

#### --Justin J. Bahnsen, CED Montgomery County

As a first timer at the 2012 NASCOE legislative session, I can assure you that your NASCOE membership is well invested. I was extremely impressed with the detailed message that was prepared by our NASCOE leadership to take to Capitol Hill, and all the other work that is being done behind the scenes. In a year full of uncertainties, NASCOE has been relentless in its fight for FSA employees. Only NASCOE has been unwavering to stand up for everything we do as an agency, budget cuts, COC involvement, and our place in the next Farm Bill. I appreciate the opportunity to represent Iowa at the national level and encourage all members to rally around our NASCOE PAC!

#### --Jesse Wegner- CED Fayette County

Are you waiting for the ship to come to you?

Do numbers speak louder than words??? You better believe they do!! On Tuesday we sat in meetings as NASCOE's Legislative team rolled out the Executive Summary, completed by Informa Economics. It was a shocker to see that FSA could save the government 2 billion dollars annually if FSA performed the Administrative portion for Crop Insurance - without anyone losing their jobs!!! This was very impressive. However, if you take a look at Exhibit 3 in the executive summary you can see the density of FSA offices vs. Insurance Agents. The Midwest is highly populated with both. There was concern that when taking this to our Legislators there would be significant push back. But, we were pleasantly surprised with the reception of this idea and that 'most' of the legislators wanted more information.

Wednesday was packed full of appointments. We started the morning off with breakfast at the Dirksen Senate building where we met up with Tom Harkin and some of his staff. Dee had miraculously set up a White House tour, so we speedily walked over to the Metro. One thing that I learned is that if you ever go with Curt Houk, put your running shoes on!! His legs are at least 6 inches longer than mine, and he wore comfortable boots while I'm racing to keep up with him in heels. The White House tour was amazing, there was so much history. Thank you Dee for arranging this! We then split into two different groups so we could adequately cover all the Legislators, regrouping again in the late afternoon to meet with Senator Grassley. Although Wednesday was extremely busy this was my favorite part of the trip. For once, I felt like I was not waiting for the ship to come in, I was swimming out to meet it. I had a fire within that was already kindling and these visits ignited that fire. By ourselves we might just be a small soft voice but putting all of our voices together (NASCOE/IASCOE) sends a very large voice to those in power.

We are in very turbulent times right now. You need to stand up and let your voice be heard. Two powerful things you can do RIGHT NOW are to sign up for CAP WIZ and PAC. Your future deserves your voice TODAY!! Thank you to IASCOE for this opportunity to represent you, it was a wonderful experience. I think that everyone at least once in their career needs to experience this first hand.

#### --Gretchen McLain, CED Jefferson County





The following are the retirements from December thru February. We apologize if we have left anyone out in this listing:

Mary Jean Leach Virginia Jensen

Sharon Tibbals Connie Bence

Connie Brinegar Steve Kennedy

Sue Kennan Ardella Felper

Sherri Butcher Paula Smith

Vince Graham Terri Vaughn

Larry Niles Nancy Smith

Jan Wickman Cindy Hageman

Kent Gluver Gwen Maur

Rhonda Schmelzer Maryella Johnson

Kim Svejda Vicki Stephens

Vicky Rechkemmer DeAnn Hensdale

## "WE WISH YOU ALL THE BEST!"



## JUNIOR PARK RANGER? submitted by Barry Terhark, CED Cerro Gordo Co



"I, Ethan, promise to preserve and protect our parks; care for my natural and historical surroundings; share what I have learned about the parks with others; continue to explore these treasures."

I don't know how many times I have heard this statement spoken the last couple of years. The statement gets read right after your child earns a Junior Park Ranger badge at

I first heard about Junior Park Rangers four years ago. One of our a National Park. friends came back from a very long summer vacation, and the spouse said, "I think my husband's favorite part of the trip was that our kids picked up 14 Junior Park Ranger badges." My ears perked up after hearing this. What is this Junior Park Ranger badge and how can Ethan (my boy) get more?

In other words - "Game on!"

Our National Park Service adventures began shortly after. had visited National Parks before such as Grand Portage, Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Wilson's Creek, Mesa Verde, and the National Mall, just to name a few, but I had never heard of having your child earn a badge by going. We've walked past the park rangers desk many times before and not once had I heard the words - "Would your child like to earn a Junior Park Ranger badge?" How do we get into this secret society?





It all began with Effigy Mounds National Monument located in Allamakee County. One of the things that our family does to reduce stress is walking or hiking. I know you would never guess it by looking at us, but it is true.

We went to this park before, but now I was prepared for our kids to earn a badge. I found the packet that needed to be

completed on the Internet, and we completed everything but the scavenger hunt on our way to the park. I have always found it incredibly satisfying to know the answer before we ask the question. I drug my son up to the park ranger's desk. "Do you have Junior Park Ranger packets?" I asked ever so smoothly with my boy staring at me with eyes

that showed "I can't believe you are asking them this, dad." The park ranger was about to hand me the packet when I said, "Oh, I printed one out from home. What do we do?" We were in.

This was the beginning of the fun. We have been to several national parks since. What I have observed is that National Parks are typically where history, culture, or just plain beauty abounds. The cost is usually pretty nominal compared to other places you may go. By helping your child/grandchild

complete the packet you actually get more out of the trip.

It does get a little addictive so be forewarned. You may get comments from your spouse such as, "Do you think the kids can play in the pool sometime this trip?" or "How many of these are we going to do in the next three days?" Your younger child might be a little confused and ask, "Where are the slides in this park?"

We went to South Dakota last summer. We saw Pipestone National Monument in Minnesota, the Badlands, Jewel Cave, Wind Cave, Minuteman Missile, and Mount Rushmore earning badges at each site. We also received a free pontoon ride on the St. Croix River, a tour of the Minneapolis flourmill, science museum, and zoo while touring the Mississippi National River and Recreational Area. Herbert Hoover National Monument was explored following a youth baseball game.



We are going to Arkansas in February for a couple of days. It's challenging when you plan your trip around National Parks, but I think I have it set to visit the Little Rock Central High School, Fort Smith, Hot Springs, a portion of the Trail of Tears, and, if we can fit it in before the words ""Do we really have to do another packet?" or "Can you carry the packet, I'm tired", Pea Ridge.

We have seen some very beautiful country getting the children involved in the National Parks. We have also learned about history and various cultures we would have never reviewed before if it weren't for this program. I know I will never get to brag that "we received 14 Junior Park Ranger badges", but the memories we have built will last forever.

# FOOD & DRINK FUN FACTS "Submitted by Heather Muenchrath, PT Shelby County

- \*Coca Cola was originally green.
- \*The world's oldest known recipe is for beer.
- \*Chocolate is associated with the release of serotonin, the hormone that makes you feel relaxed, calm, and happy.
- \*In the 1800's, rum was considered excellent for cleaning hair and keeping it healthy. Brandy was believed to strengthen hair roots.
- \*Orange juice naturally contains a small amount of alcohol.
- \*50% of pizzas in America are pepperoni.
- \*All 13 minerals necessary for human life can be found in alcohol beverages.
- \*The first breakfast cereal ever produced was Shredded Wheat.
- \*The Number One Selling Snack in the US is potato chips.
- \*Watermelons can cost up to \$100 in Japan.
- \*Tomatoes were originally thought to be poisonous.
- \*To burn off one plain M&M candy, you need to walk the full length of a football field.
- \*There is more real lemon juice in Lemon Pledge furniture polish than in Country Time Lemonade.
- \*There are more nutrients in the cornflake package itself than there are in the actual cornflakes.





## Test Your Knowledge County Fun Facts

1.	How many FSA Offices have the same County Name as where they are located?
2.	Can you name them?
3.	Which County was formed as Fox County?
4.	Which County was formed as Buncombe County?
5.	Which County was formed as Slaughter County?
6.	Which County was formed as Wahkaw County?
7.	Which County was named after the longest living signer of the Declaration of Independence?
8.	Which County was named after the only member who died on the Lewis & Clark Expedition?
9.	Which County took over Bancroft County?
10.	Which County is named after an Island and where is the Island located?
11.	Which County's name is not borne by any other County in the United States?
12.	Which County has the oldest continuously operational courthouse in Iowa and the second oldest
	in the United States?
13.	Which 2 Counties were used for the Twister Movie? &
14.	Which County was home to our only Iowa born President?
15.	Which County did Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens & the "Big Bopper's" airplane crash in?

Submitted by: Kitty J Benda, PT Marshall County







HINT: Answers are later in the newsletter!!



## The 2012 Midwest Area Rally will Be held in St. Louis April 27th and 28th, 2012

#### **Sheraton Westport Chalet**

191 westport Plaza, St Louis, MO 63146 314-878-1500 Ask for MASCOE block of rooms http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/missouricfsa

## Check out what westport has to offer at:

www.westportstl.com

## So many Great Things To see while You visit St. Louis

Science Center
Gateway Arch
City Museum
St. Louis Cards
Budweiser Brewery
Grants farm

Magic House
Wax Museum
Botanical garden
Art Museum
Historic Downtown St. Charles
The St. Louis ZOO

# The 2012 MWA Rally is heading to



# April 27 & 28th re you Registered ?

## <u>Send This Form and A Check by April 6 to :</u>

Gasconade County FSA % MASCOE 316 Olive St. Owensville, MO 65066

Name(s):

This will includes lunch on Saturday

Please indicate the numbe

**Just Friday** 

The Full Event

Ad	dress:		-
Ph	one Number:	3	
Em	ail:		
	Check should be written p	payable to: MASCOE	
erai Re	estration .	Membel	· 01:
he number of would like to	people and which option you select Below.	□MASCOE □	MOACS
		☐ MOAFSE ☐	MAFEC
day	_\$20 per person	RASCO	
l Event	\$40 per person	□ OTHER	

( Please fill in if you are an out of state guest)

## <u>Additional Activities for Friday Night</u>

There will be extra activities Friday night for an additional cost. If you are interested in either and would like to be contacted with price information please indicate which you are interest in. Registrations must be received by **March 1** so arrangements can be made for tickets.

Cardinal Tickets: Cardinals Vs. Brewers night game			
Funny Bone Comedy Club			
Where To	Stay		

Registration Deadline April 6, 2012 Sheraton Westport Chalet

191 westport Plaza, St Louis, MO 63146 314-878-1500 Ask for MASCOE block of rooms http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/missouricfsa



Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Please have all raffle tickets submitted to Susie Williams, by April 24. 2012. Or, better yet, come to convention. You need not be present to win the

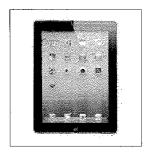
## IPad2 or 50/50 Drawing

Thanks for your support. All proceeds go to help fund the MWA Rally in Spring of 2012

## A MUST HAVE FOR ANYONE TO STAY CONNECTED

**Key Features** 

- Apple I Pad2
- 32GB
- Wi Fi



#### MASCOE Raffle 2012

## Please Circle ONE

IPad2 or 50/50 CASH Drawing

NAME

Phone Number

Return to: Howell County FSA, Attn: Susie Williams 3210 Hoover Drive, West Plains MO 65775

#### MASCOE Raffle 2012

## Please Circle ONE

IPad2 or 50/50 CASH Drawing

NAME

Phone Number

Return to: Howell County FSA, Attn: Susie Williams 3210 Hoover Drive, West Plains MO 65775

#### MASCOE Raffle 2012

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#### MASCOE Raffle 2012

#### Please Circle ONE

IPad2 or 50/50 CASH Drawing

NAME

Phone Number

Return to: Howell County FSA, Attn: Susie Williams 3210 Hoover Drive, West Plains MO 65775

## Celebrating Irish Heritage on St. Patrick's Day

-Amanda Willimack, Clinton County PT

Although my husband and I, and our two children live in DeWitt, we always make it "home" to the tiny town of Imogene, IA, each year to celebrate St. Patirck's Day. Imogene, population 57, is my mother's (Peggy O'Connor) hometown and tends to grow more than ten times its size for the weekend's festivities. (The celebration actually begins about a week before when the main street is painted with a large green shamrock.)

On Friday night of the official Irish weekend, the place to be is at the Imogene pub, aptly named the Emerald Isle, for the Irish Ceili (party). The Ceili includes a fish fry, an Irish talent show and the crowning of the King and Queen of the Ceili. The King and Queen will wear the official crowns and velvet capes throughout the weekend as they preside over all events.

Saturday begins with Irish-themed kid's games, followed by the largest St. Patrick's Day parade in SW lowa. When the last float has traveled through the 4-block main street, a creek running through town is dyed green and a floating shamrock race takes place with spectators standing on the bridge, cheering their shamrock to the finish line. At The Emerald Isle, Irish corned beef and potatoes are served as jig contests, Irish sing-a-longs, and a Bobbing for Potatoes competition become part of the entertainment. As evening rolls around, a live Irish band performs songs from the "Ould Sod", party music, and are not beyond offering Irish karaoke to those, who by this time of the day, think they can sing!

Sunday concludes the celebration beginning with Mass at the national historic St. Patrick Catholic Church. Then it's time for breakfast and a quick nap before the annual meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Imogene. To wrap things up, the grand finale is the Annual Blarney Bowl. This is a game of Gaelic football, with its own set of rules, played between the Irish of Imogene and the Swedes from nearby Essex, IA.

Although the town is small in size, it has an immense amount of Irish pride. On this weekend, people young and old with Imogene roots, along with their friends and families, come from miles around to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in this small SW lowa village. So, on Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>, if you are near Imogene, put on your green and stop in for some true Irish craic (fun). I know you'll receive a Caid Mile Failte! (A hundred thousand welcomes.)





#### I Realize

As each generation passes through our office.

I realize how quickly time goes by.

As each history file gets filled.

I realize just how many great producers I have known.

As we wait on each producer.

I realize even more what the seasons of life really means.

As each year goes by.

I realize what our producers mean to us.

As each busy day of living our lives goes by.

I realize more than ever that each interaction could be our last.

As I was thinking about our newsletter this came back into my head.

I realize that I wrote this a year ago but it's even more of a revelation today.

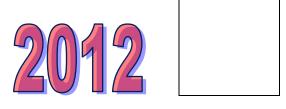
Submitted by: Kitty J Benda

**Marshall County** 



#### Answers to County Fun Facts:

- 1. 8
- 2. Audubon, Boone, Carroll, Cherokee, Humboldt, Muscatine, Pocahontas & Washington
- 3. Calhoun
- 4. Lyon
- 5. Washington
- 6. Woodbury
- 7. Carroll
- 8. Floyd
- 9. Kossuth
- 10. Muscatine & Muscatine Island in the Mississippi River
- 11. Ringgold
- 12. Van Buren
- 13. Hardin & Story
- 14. Cedar
- 15. Cerro Gordo



# REND LAKE RESORT

11712 East Windy Lane Whittington, IL 62897

Located just off Interstate 57 at exit 77 near Sesser, Illinois



SO per Night Single/So9 per Night Double For Reservations call 1-800-633-3341 Or 1-618-629-2211 Ask for "IASCOE CONVENTION"

#### **Tentative Agenda**

Friday, March 23, 2012  More activities on Friday!	10:00 am 10:00 am 12:30 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm - Midnight	Registration IASCOE Board Meeting Continental Tire Tour Departs IL SED and STO Q&A Panel Hospitality Room Opens Dance - DJ
Saturday, March 24, 2012	8:30 am - Noon  12:00 pm 1:00 pm 2:30 pm 3:00 pm	Saturday Session Convenes NASCOE Officer, Congressman from District, JM Marketing, MWA Exec. Charlene Neukomm Awards Luncheon Awards Presented Adjourn Sporting Clay Shoot

REMINDERS: EACH COUNTY OFFICE IS TO BRING A DOOR PRIZE. EACH DISTRICT IS TO HAVE ONE ITEM FOR THE SILENT AUCTION!



Fri., March 23, 2012: Leave hotel at 12:30pm in your own vehicle. Directions will be provided.

Continental Tire~E. IL Highway 142~Mt. Vernon, IL 62864 www.continentaltire.com

Mount Vernon hosts a 48-acre facility for <u>Continental Tire</u> of North America (German Company). Recently an expansion was announced on May 12, 2011, that would invest \$224 million and construction began

immediately. In just five and one-half months, the 438,000 square foot expansion was ready and the first tires were produced. Along with the investment, the company announced a total of 444 new full-time jobs to be filled within

the next three years. A total of 50 new employees have been hired since the May announcement. When the expansion project reaches the planned full capacity in 2014, an additional volume of around 3.7 million tires will be produced, bringing the total production capacity of the Mt. Vernon plant to more than 13.4 million PLT tires and 3.15 million CVT tires per year.

Continental is the #1 tire maker in Germany, #2 in Europe and #4 in the world. In 21 plants around the globe more

than 90 million passenger car tire and more than 6 million commercial vehicle and two-wheel tires are produced each year.

The tour will take about 1 hour. Guests must wear closed toed shoes, no heels, and no white clothes. IASCOE has to confirm the tour count by MARCH 5, 2012!

#### **IASCOE Sporting Clay Shoot**



## Rend Lake Shooting Complex 17738 Conservation Lane ~ Whittington, IL 62897 SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012

3:00pm Attendees and Spouses are welcome!

Take I-57 to Exit 77, then east to RT 37. Head North 3-3.5 miles, then west 1 mile to the complex.

Cost \$20 per person. Fee is paid at the shooting complex that day. The cost includes eye protection, ear plugs, and ammunition for 25 clays. (A person can shoot more than 25 clays, and you will pay for the extra at the shoot.) They would prefer you bring your own gun, but those who want to participate and do not have a gun need to specify that in your email. The facility can handle up to 120 participants. This event can be held rain or shine.

**EMAIL DEBBIE STALEY:** 

gogodeb@hotmail.com

YOUR NAME AND IF A GUN IS NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE



## **PRE-REGISTRATION**

Name:	-	# of Peopl e		<u>Total</u>
Guest:	Convention Registration (Friday & Sat. Activities)		x \$5. <sup>00</sup>	\$
State: County:	Saturday Luncheon Meal		x \$20 <sup>00</sup>	\$
	**Friday Continental Tire Tour: # attending**			
	Grand Total			\$

## I am a member of:

		<b>SCOE</b>		<b>IACS</b>	$\Box$ I	AFEC		RASC	COE			_Stat	e Assoc	. 🗆	Guest	
Please d	etach ar	nd return	ı to	Charlen	e Neuko	omm~20	2 S. 4	th St.~	Cissna	Park,	IL 6092	4. Che	cks may b	e mad	de payable t	C
IASCO	Ξ.															

All registrations received or postmarked by March 5, 2012, will be eligible for a \$25 drawing.

\*\*CONTINENTAL TIRE TOUR WILL LEAVE THE HOTEL AT 12:30PM ON FRIDAY and RETURN BACK TO