

# IASCOE

The Iowa Association Of FSA County Office Employees

May 2014



## 2014/2015 IASCOE OFFICERS

### **President**

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CED Poweshiek County



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### **Vice-President**

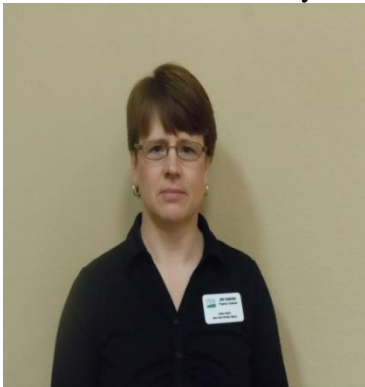
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PT Louisa County



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### **Secretary**

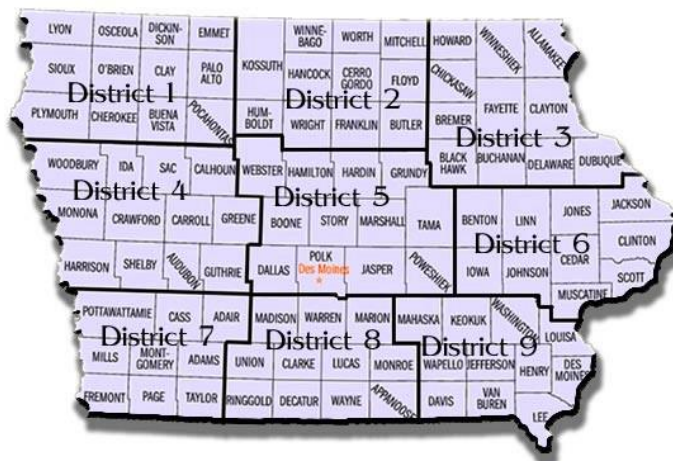
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PT Page County



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**2014-2015  
IASCOE DIRECTORS & ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

<b>District</b>	<b>Program Assistant and County</b>	<b>County Executive Director and County</b>
1 Director Alternate	Karen LaCour, Dickinson Samantha Erie, Pocahontas	Les Zobrist, Clay Larry Lago, Dickinson
2 Director Alternate	Cindy Pistek, Hancock Danielle Sidles, Kossuth	Barry TerHark, Cerro Gordo Angie Christian, Kossuth
3 Director Alternate	Andrea Carroll, Clayton Megan Koenigs, Howard	Curt Goettsch, Howard Heidi Nickol, Delaware
4 Director Alternate	Michelle Bruck, Shelby Cathleen Borst, Carroll	Steve Luke, Shelby Pat Warmbier, Harrison
5 Director Alternate	Alisha Lust, Jasper Travis Moore, Hamilton	Curt Houk, Poweshiek Justin Bahnsen, Polk/Dallas
6 Director Alternate	Joni Birkhofer, Muscatine Renee Schultz, Cedar	Kris Koth, Jones Randy Madsen, Muscatine/Scott
7 Director Alternate	Jennifer Comer, Page Monica Robinson, Cass	Cindy Bebout, Fremont/Mills Chris Irvin, Page
8 Director Alternate	Keith Wheeler, Madison Ronda Harrison, Lucas	Daniel Curry, Ringgold David Lundquist, Lucas
9 Director Alternate	Judy Dameron, Louisa Deanna Rood, Mahaska	Dee Ann Lehn, Keokuk Gretchen McLain, Jefferson



# COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2013-2014

## LEGISLATIVE CHAIR – Steve Luke

### BENEFITS CHAIR – Dee Lehn

District	Member	County
1	Rex Wittrock	Buena Vista
2	David Stromer	Hancock
3	Adriana Foxen	Buchanan
4	Pat Warmbier	Harrison
5	Teresa Simonton	Poweshiek
6	Renee Schultz	Cedar
7	Chris Irvin	Page
8	Kelly Cain	Madison
9	Patty Steffensmeier	Henry

### AWARDS CHAIR – Karen LaCour

### SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR – Daniel Curry

1	Larry Lago	Dickinson
2	Tammy Pruin	Wright
3	Connie Straw	Chickasaw
4	Donita Kenkel	Shelby
5	Kathleen Baker	Marshall
6	Amy Castillo	Johnson
7	Monica Robinson	Cass
8	Kathy Henely	Wayne
9	Lanie Benjamin	Davis

### PUBLICITY CHAIR – Kris Koth

1	Paul Berte	Pocahontas
2	Barry Terhark	Cerro Gordo
3	Heidi Nickol	Delaware
4	Heather Muenchrath	Shelby
5	Karla Novotny	Tama
6	Allison Vavroch	Benton
7	Mike Praska	Adams/Union
8		
9	Gretchen McLain	Jefferson

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIR – Joni Birkhofer

1	Lisa Forburger	Palo Alto
2	Rosalie Carlson	Worth
3	Sheri Rodman	Clayton
4	Cathleen “Skip” Borst	Carroll
5	Tom Abbas	Hamilton
6	Randy Madsen	Muscatine
7	Susan Lange	Cass
8	Marla Morlan	Monroe
9	Deanna Rood	Mahaska

### PROGRAM CHAIR – Keith Wheeler, Madison

### EMBLEMS CHAIR – Kitty Benda, Marshall

### NAFEC CHAIR – Mary Roberts, Calhoun



2014 IASCOE Directors

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**Newsletter Copy Editor**

Anna Boecker, CED, Tama County



2014 Awards & Scholarship Committee



2014 Publicity Committee



2014 Legislative and Benefits Committee



2014 Membership 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**  
**2011-13 Jeff Davis**

## A Message from our State Executive Director



What if? I often wonder what if we were adequately staffed? What issues would we face then? At the same time, I wonder what issues we would be facing today if we did not have a new Farm Bill. The one thing I have found as I ponder these issues is that I do not have the answers. I also know that there are many good answers that come from the county office staff, both GS and CO.

This is the reason why we will work together to formulate an Iowa plan for the CBS Concept. When we sit down together and talk through the issues, we will always come up with a better plan! I particularly enjoy our monthly calls for much of the same reason. Someone will offer a suggestion or asks question from a different perspective than before, and we all end up thinking about the issue in a different way. No two people think alike on every issue. I view issues from a statewide perspective and this perspective influences my decisions. CBS is a concept that we will flush out together and it will be better in its final form because of that.

On a different front, it will be good to be able to offer more training again. Yes, we will run into programs where the timeframe will not allow face-to-face training such as LFP/LIP/ELAP/TAP, but this will not be the norm. I firmly believe that face-to-face training will always be best and I will work to make that happen, whenever I can.

Take care,

John



John Whitaker at IASCOE Convention

## 2014-2015 IASCOE President



My how time flies when we are having fun! We hear this saying all the time, this past year as your IASCOE President has flown by, although I can't honestly say it has all been fun. I really do enjoy serving you, the great people of IASCOE, and our FSA family. At our state convention I was elected for another year as your president and I truly look forward to serving you and handling whatever challenges that come our way. I really do have to say that this would not be possible without the other wonderful and talented individuals that you, the membership, have elected to represent you on the IASCOE Board of Directors. I assure you that these people have and will continue to work hard to insure your best interests are properly represented.

Hopefully you were able to attend the IASCOE Convention, if not, I hope that when you hear from somebody that was there what you missed, you will be sure to join us next year. The convention is a great opportunity to meet new people, enjoy the company of old friends, and to gain access not only to state office staff but also staff from Washington D.C. This year's convention was a big success! We had a large attendance for a very information filled convention. Friday was fast paced as we had a large amount of material to make it through in a short amount of time. The morning kicked off with a conference call from Hunter Moorehead, Crossroad Strategies, legislative consultant to NASCOE. The rest of the morning was filled with committee meetings consisting of numerous speakers that delivered a tremendous amount of information. One of the highlights of the morning was hearing from Robert Braden, Scott County Committee Member, Iowa NAFEC Director, and Midwest Area NAFEC Director. The afternoon consisted of benefits training provided by Dillard Financial Solutions Inc., NASCOE's benefits provider, and breakout sessions with State Office personnel. The breakout sessions were very successful. Great attendance followed with excellent back and forth communication with the State Office staff lead to an excellent afternoon filled with questions and answers. We are working on pulling all the information together and sending out a summary of each session. Be looking for this in the near future!

On Saturday we heard from multiple speakers such as John Whitaker, Iowa SED; John Judge, Chairman Iowa FSA State Committee; and Mark VanHoose, NASCOE President. Thursday afternoon before the convention started your IASCOE Officer Team met with the Iowa State Committee at the State Office. This meeting is for the purpose of negotiations and to sign the Employee Management Cooperation Agreement for 2014. The State Committee asked for some ideas of how to retain this talented workforce that we have. Some of the items discussed were; opening up CED vacancies and allowing current CEDs the opportunity to move to a different location if so desired, hiring a COT class from within, and the Lead PT position in shared management situations.

One of the hottest topics right now is the CBS concept which is the office model that is being presented by Secretary Vilsack. C = Central, B = Branch, S = Satellite. This is the concept that administration wants all of FSA to conform to. So you ask the question "What is CBS going to look like in Iowa?" At this point we don't know, we have been told that each state will have the flexibility to craft their model or at the very least the states will have significant input into how CBS will work in their state. IASCOE has been invited, as well as IACS and IASE to share input on the CBS for Iowa on April 24, 2014, Curt Houk and Jennifer Comer will meet with the SED to discuss CBS in Iowa. Robert Braden has also been invited to share the perspective of the COC system and our producers. After all, we would not be here without them. I have



asked all the directors to go out into their districts and to gather as much information as possible as to how you, the membership, would like to see CBS implemented. Take this opportunity to voice your questions/comments/concerns. It is your right as a member to have your voice be heard. I need as much information from our membership as possible to take into this first of a series of meetings to discuss the future of Iowa FSA.

I was one of seven members from Iowa that attended the Midwest Area Rally in Alexandria, Minnesota. This was an excellent couple of days packed full of information. It was great to see many friends from across the Midwest. At the rally I announced my nomination for MWA Executive Committeeperson for the NASCOE Board. This position will be voted on at the 2014 National Convention in Oklahoma City, OK in August.

These coming days, weeks, month is the most important time in the history of FSA. Change is inevitable and change is coming. Now is the time for you to get involved and make a difference. Take advantage of the opportunities to help mold the future of our agency. As always, never hesitate to contact me or any of the directors. Thank you for all that you do!

Curt M. Houk  
IASCOE President  
[curt80houk@gmail.com](mailto:curt80houk@gmail.com)  
(641) 777-5713



## 2014-2015 IASCOE Vice-President



### Update on the 2016 NASCOE National Convention

IASCOE has submitted the official notice to bid to NASCOE. What does that mean? We will be traveling to the 2014 NASCOE National Convention in Oklahoma City, August 11-16, 2014. We would love as many of you to go with us as we can get!!! We will be taking a motor coach from Des Moines to OKC. If you would like to ride along with us we have room for 40 on this deluxe Motor Coach. **The cost to you is \$100 per person.** Cheaper than flying and with this group sure to be a lot more fun! We will head out on August 12 from Des Moines and return on August 17<sup>th</sup>. We want to show all of NASCOE just how much fun Iowa can be, by bringing a good showing to the bid process! If you would like to “RIDE THE BUS” please contact Judy Dameron at [jldameron@hotmail.com](mailto:jldameron@hotmail.com) to arrange your \$100 payment and get your seat on the bus. Anyone wishing to ride with us needs to have their payment to Judy no later than **July 1st, 2014**. Also please make sure you register for 2014 NASCOE National Convention and book your room in OKC, all of the info for this can be found here: <http://www.nascoe.org/Pages/NationalConventions.aspx>

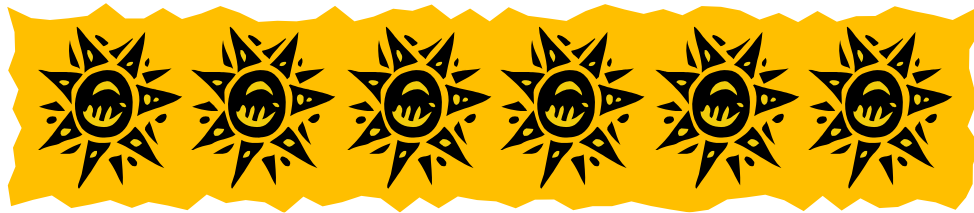
IASCOE invited three cities to bid for the opportunity to host the 2016 NASCOE National Convention! After months of working with each of the cities, Des Moines, Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, all presented their best offers to your IASCOE Board on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. In the end the Board voted to select Cedar Rapids for the host site of the 2016 NASCOE National Convention. The City of Cedar Rapids and the DoubleTree by Hilton Cedar Rapids Convention Complex are very excited to be a part of this bid process. They are going to help support our trip to Oklahoma City, both financially and in sending staff to help present Iowa's Bid to host the 2016 NASCOE National Convention. If anyone has questions about the 2016 Bid and/or riding with us to OKC feel free to contact me!

Wow, my first year serving as your Vice-President has gone by very fast. It was a hard year for us in FSA... one of many here as of late. “Yes FSA is still a great job in rural Iowa, yes it pays well, yes it's flexible but dang it... it sure isn't the same as it once was!” I hear this a lot from many of you, times have changed in FSA and things look to continue to change. Change however is nothing new to us in FSA. We in FSA have been forever changing with each new farm bill and each new program, even down to each policy change. We deal with change every day in FSA life. Some small some bigger, we know how to do this, we will get through this!

One big topic lately is “What is CBS going to look like in Iowa?” At this point we don't know, we have been told that each state will have the flexibility to craft their model or at the very least the state will have significant input into how CBS will work in Iowa. IASCOE has been invited as well to share input on the CBS for Iowa on April 24, 2014, Curt Houk and Jennifer Comer will meet with the SED to discuss CBS in Iowa.

Will NASCOE and IASCOE fight for you and your needs as employees? YES WE WILL! As we always have! We will not sit by and have your voice go unheard! That's why Curt Houk and I ran for and were elected to the IASCOE Board of Directors, to make sure your voices continue to be heard! All of you have been great in getting back to us with your questions when we ask for your input, but you don't have to wait for us to ask! I know we ask often but it's one of our few ways to be able to find out what feel is in each and every office. Please if you have questions or comments for us to pass along, you can find my contact information below!

Curtis Goettsch  
curt.goettsch@gmail.com  
319-290-6339



Administration department at IASCOE Convention

# Midwest Area Rally

By Judy Dameron

On April 10, seven of us, in a rental van, ventured up north to Alexandria, Minnesota to attend the MWA Rally that took place on April 11 & 12. Collin Peterson, a Minnesota Congressman who is the Ranking Member of the House Agriculture Committee, was there to address the members. Candy Thompson, Associate Administrator for Operations and Management was also there.

Curt Houk, your IASCOE President, made his candidacy announcement for Midwest Area Executive Committeeperson. The voting will take place in August at the National Convention in Oklahoma City.

I will give you some highlights of what we learned, but soon the approved minutes will be on the NASCOE/MWA website.

- There will be a notice sent to producers on their base and yield history. The goal is to have this notice sent out before certification.
- Signup will probably be in the fall of 2014, but no payments will be issued until October of 2015.
- Dairy Margin Protection Program will replace MILC, should be a signup this fall.
- CRP reduction in total acres to 24 million by 2017. There is to be an early out in 2015 and there is a lot of discussion about what practices will be allowed.
- There is no list of offices to be closed. There are still 51 offices nationwide that have no employees.
- CBS..they are thinking the Central Office would have 6 PT's and a CED, and the Branch Office would have just 3 PT's.
- Business Partner in MIDAS will be updated and eventually we will be getting rid of SCIMS. All updates will be done in MIDAS.
- Administrative Solutions Project: The SWA is a pilot area for consolidation of administrative functions in the STO. Washington DC has looked at how administrative functions were done and then looked for ways to consolidate functions so to free up staff for other programs. There are virtual teams set up for this project. If this works well, it will be expanded to other areas.



# Winter Fun

By Rose Woerner, Black Hawk County

When Steve Kennedy, former Jasper County CED, posted a picture of himself on Facebook, I thought...Wow! That is one cool contraption he's riding. I couldn't wait to contact him and inquire about it. In the pic to the left, we find Steve with his childhood friend, Steve Arends, who lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. They are at the top of Vail Mountain – elevation 11,000 feet.



These 'Ski Bikes' have a BMX frame. While there is a shock absorber, there are no pedals and no brakes. On the descent, the rider stands on pegs 90% of the time...standing aids in steering. Less than 1,000 people are engaged in this awesome activity but it's growing fast. This was the first year the bike was allowed at Vail.

The ski bike weighs about thirty pounds and getting it back up the hill is a bit of a challenge. Imagine, jostling a bike and yourself on a moving ski lift or climbing into a gondola with friends and the bikes of friends with a timeframe of twenty seconds each.

These bikes are fairly stable, due to their low center of gravity. It's a more balanced workout than skiing, and because the rider is in a sitting position there's much less stress on legs and knees. The fatigue factor is also less. They've been around Europe for 50+ years and have a very good safety record.

Stopping on a ski bike is much like stopping on skis – lean sideways and dig the ski edges into the snow. There isn't much of a learning curve and Steve attested to that fact. He had three spills the first day, one spill the second day, and by day three, he was spill free.

The current Ski-Bike speed record is 125 mph. They are raced regularly in Europe in standard ski events: slalom, giant slalom, downhill, etc. Below is a pic of Steve and his friends having a great time on their bikes. From left to right: Our boy Steve, Steve Arends, Devin Lenz (instructor, designer, and builder of ski bikes), Graham Arends.

How do you say FUN!!!!



## Legislative/Benefits Minutes

April 4, 2014

Des Moines, Iowa

Benefits Chairperson, Dee Ann Lehn, called the joint legislative/Benefits meeting to order and proceeded with roll call. All nine of the IASCOE districts were represented.

Prior to the official start of the meeting, membership engaged in a conference call with NASCOE legislative consultant, Hunter Moorehead. Hunter touched on the farm bill process and the programs included in the new farm bill. He spoke of the President's budget which includes closing 250 county offices and reducing CO staff by 815 employees. He stated the Secretary had recently testified before Congress revealing his proposed plan for restructuring FSA

Several benefits providers were in attendance. The providers included Dillard's Financial Solutions, J M Marketing and Joshua Katcher from Ameriprise Financial. Dillard's is a new NASCOE benefits provider; however, members have the option to continue working with J M Marketing and Josh. Representatives from Blue Cross Blue Shield were also present to answer any questions members had relating to their federal health care coverage.

Employees will have the opportunity through the federal health care program to enroll in a Self plus One option beginning in 2016.

Dee summarized the availability of other NASCOE benefits such as cell phone discounts, consultation with the NASCOE attorney, AirVac Life Team membership and the 2014 Sam's Club discount. National Chairperson, Eylse Mussel, is currently working to secure discounts through AAA and also working to secure a gas card discount.

Legislative chairperson, Steve Luke, introduced MWA Executive, Dennis Ray. Dennis discussed the Central, Branch and Satellite (CBS) county office structural concept. A NASCOE work group headed by NASCOE Vice President, Wes Daniels, is accepting input from the membership concerning how county offices should be structured in the future.

Due to a tight budget, NASCOE chose not to renew a contract with Capwiz. A decision was made based on a recommendation from our legislative consultant to go back to the grass roots method of enlisted key contracts from within the membership to contact legislators on urgent issues.

Mary Roberts, Iowa's NAFEC chairperson, talked of the importance of our County Committee members becoming NAFEC members and the importance of employees supporting that organization by becoming associate members. During the past year NAFEC membership has increased from 940 members to 1500 members. NAFEC is working on such issues as county

office staffing, COC's meeting as often as needed and the problem caused by rounding issuing as pertaining to CRP acres.

Bob Braden, Iowa NAFEC director and Scott County COC member not only proved to be an entertaining speaker but also a talented yoga instructor. Bob shared his experiences from last year's national convention held in Ashville, North Carolina.

Gretchen McLain, MWA Area Legislative Chairperson, challenged the membership to make contact with their legislative representatives whenever an opportunity arises and to use the social media to educate ourselves and others on the issues facing FSA.

Dee asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Luke so moved. Theresa Simonton seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted by:

Dee Ann Lehn and Steve Luke



Dee Ann Lehn and Steve Luke at IASCOE Convention

**Membership Committee**  
**Joni Birkhofer Membership Chairperson**

This year we had 15 Counties receive 100% Certificates and they are as follows:

- Butler County – 5 years
- Mills and Shelby County – 10 years
- Madison County – 15 years
- Allamakee, Buena Vista, Delaware, Franklin, Mahaska, Muscatine, & Sioux – 25 years
- Plymouth and Wright County – 30 years
- Page County – 35 years
- Dickinson County – 55 years**

IASCOE member whose dues are received before June 15<sup>th</sup> is eligible for a refund of \$50. This year the following IASCOE members were drawn:

- Joanne Hawkins – Jones County
- Dan Wells - Adair County
- Janice Collins – Keokuk County
- David Lundquist – Lucas County
- Sandy Gerldt - Montgomery County

Congratulations to the winners!!! Remember next year to get your dues in early to be eligible.

As of August 1, 2013 we had 93.1% membership with District 1 having 100% membership. We have 70 counties that have 100% membership.

Thanks to those who choose to be members of IASCOE we are able to receive and maintain benefits that do not come automatically like many people think. All the benefits we receive as County Office employees are a direct result from the efforts of NASCOE/IASCOE. It is very important for us to maintain a strong membership to achieve the goals we have set for ourselves. This process would be virtually impossible without a strong membership and your continued support.

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IASCOE Convention



## IASCOE Scholarships

This year the IASCOE Scholarship Committee received 7 applications and awarded three scholarships for \$400. All seven applications were forwarded to the Midwest Area for consideration for the NASCOE Midwest Area Scholarship. This year we are proud to announce that Chantel Schmidt from Harlan, Iowa was awarded the MWA scholarship. Congratulations Chantel!

This year the applicants showed amazing balance of academic achievement, extracurricular involvement and community service. A short biography was received from each winner and posted at the IASCOE convention in Des Moines, but if you missed out, here they are:

### **Chantel Schmidt**

Chantel is the daughter of Donna and Michael Schmidt from Harlan, IA. Donna is a PT at the Shelby County FSA office. Chantel has 3 brothers: Bryan, Stephen and Collin.

Chantel currently attends Harlan Community High School.

Her hobbies include running, music, church, swimming, dancing, friends, crafts, sewing, and family.

Chantel plans to attend the University of Iowa in the fall. She is intending to pursue a degree in Human Physiology/Physician Assistant.

### **Maria Derdzinski**

Maria is the daughter of Patrick and Mary Derdzinski from Greene, IA. Patrick is the CED in Vinton County. Maria also has 3 sisters: Anna, Aurora and Isabel.

Maria currently attends North Butler High School. She is involved in concert band, full choir, select choir, drama and musicals, National Honor Society, Spanish Club, Cross Country Manager and Wrestling Cheerleader.

Outside of school she is an active member of Girl Scouts, 4-H, and Vacation Bible School. Maria works at the local pool in the summer teaching swim lessons and lifeguarding. She also is a waitress at a local restaurant/bowling alley, and babysits.

Maria's hobbies are reading, listening to music, visiting with family and friends, and shopping.

Maria plans to attend Simpson College in Indianola, IA in the fall. She has not chosen a major yet but expects to explore career opportunities in math.

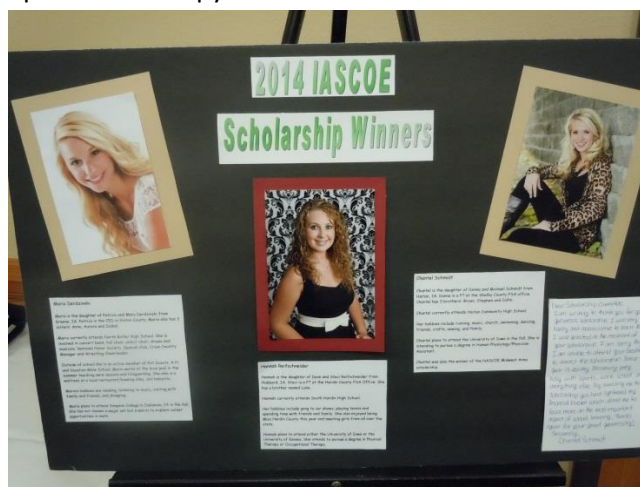
### **Hannah Reifschneider**

Hannah is the daughter of Dave and Staci Reifschneider from Hubbard, IA. Staci is a PT at the Hardin County FSA Office. She has a brother named Lane.

Hannah currently attends South Hardin High School.

Her hobbies include going to car shows, playing tennis and spending time with friends and family. She also enjoyed being Miss Hardin County this year and meeting girls from all over the state.

Hannah plans to attend either the University of Iowa or the University of Kansas. She intends to pursue a degree in Physical Therapy or Occupational Therapy.



**Publicity Committee**  
**Kris Koth, Publicity Chairperson**

During the IASCOE convention the publicity committee met and discussed that we will continue with 4 newsletters a year which will tentatively be published in January, April, July and October. We held a discussion about what content we would like to see in the newsletters. The committee members are free to write about whatever they would like to but we would like to publish more stories about our FSA employees. It was noted that it can be hard at times to get someone to share their story but the committee will continue to ask each district for its help in gathering articles

The following was submitted to NASCOE for Publicity Awards:

- 1) Best Website
- 2) Best Overall Newsletter
  - a. We submitted our 4 issues in 2013 January, May, July and October
- 3) Best Single Issue
  - a. July 2013
  - b. October 2013
- 4) Best Humor Story
  - a. Agency Memories By Barry TerHark, January 2013
  - b. Brief Return of Polly PT by Rose Woerner, May 2013
- 5) Best Human Interest Story
  - a. A Journey of Determination by Mike Praska, October 2013
  - b. Inspired by Ian by Jenifer Comer, October 2013

I would like to say Good Luck to those that were submitted. Also, please take the time if you are asked by your district representative to submit something for the newsletter to please do so. This is your newsletter and we count on our members helping us make it the best newsletter in NASCOE. If you ever have an article you wish to submit or suggestions for the newsletter please contact your districts committee member or me.



# Notes from IASCOE

By: Kris Koth and Allison Vavroch

To those that couldn't attend the IASCOE convention in Des Moines this year, the following notes are outlined as a highlight of what was presented. Many of our peers from across the state spend a substantial amount of time fighting for our benefits and for what we do as an agency. At IASCOE, no topic is off limits and it's a great place to get answers to questions you may have about day-to-day things at FSA or the wide array of benefits we have available to us. It's going to be very important as we move forward with the new Farm Bill and the possible changing structure of our offices that you become involved and move thoughts and concerns on to your IASCOE leadership.

## Hunter Moorehead, Crossroads Strategies, Legislative Consultant to NASCOE

- a) Farm Bill has become law
  - i) Most complex Bill he has seen since 1996
  - ii) Many options for producers. FSA's job to inform producers and use all tools available to guide them
  - iii) \$100 million for implementation of Farm Bill
    - (1) Unfortunately we don't know how that will be spent
    - (2) Some will be for TO's but not as much as they hoped for. Hunter's opinion is that some of the funds are being used for MIDAS and software
  - iv) Permanent disaster was a big issue
  - v) FSA will be in charge of the new Dairy Program
- b) President's Budget proposal
  - i) Calls for closing up to 250 offices and reducing up to 815 CO staff
- c) Congress hearing with Secretary
  - i) Congress is questioning Secretary on what he is doing with staff and budget
  - ii) They have concerns with Administration making this decision during Farm Bill implementation
- d) House Ag Committee raised some questions with the Secretary
  - i) Staff workload was an issue
  - ii) Why close an FSA office but not NRCS office
  - iii) Message to Secretary was that he is hurting FSA
- e) Meeting with Juan Garcia
  - i) FSA will need to change the structure of FSA to meet budget and workload
  - ii) Will use workload to justify office closures
- f) Secretary has changed a bit on his stance now
  - i) Says we aren't going to do this...this year
  - ii) NASCOE needs to keep on the accelerator on this issue
    - (1) They are trying to get workload numbers put together to justify closing offices
- g) Next few weeks is when to expect to be fully funded on salary and expenses
- h) Status of CRP
  - i) Secretary has heard recommendation for general sign-up but wouldn't commit to that this year
  - ii) Secretary made it known that the implementation of Title 1 of the Farm Bill is THE most important thing right now and needs to be done first
  - iii) No indication of when CRP will start back up
- i) CBS Office Structure – Central, Branch & Satellite Offices
  - i) There is a shortage of details on this, nobody saying much
  - ii) Each state does workload studies differently
    - (1) Central Office would have full-time employees and full-time supervisor on site. Open 5 days/week.
    - (2) Branch Office may be with part-time employees and no supervisor on site. Limited structure.
    - (3) Satellite Office will be open by appointment only. No employees.
- j) No idea when anything on PLC/ARC or base and yield work will start up
  - i) Heated debates on software right now
  - ii) Focused on getting web based portal system set up so producers can go in by farm and see what program is best for them
- k) There is a new website to track the progress of the Farm Bill

- i) <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=farmbill>
- l) They want to take their time to make sure they can inform producers with the best information possible to make their decisions on which programs are most beneficial to them
- m) There are talks that some of the \$100 million will be used for COC training but nothing specifically mentioned

## 2) Dee Lehn – IASCOE Benefits Chair

- a) Dilliard Financial Solutions
  - i) They're new to NASCOE/IASCOE and can provide financial and retirement training and information
- b) In 2016 we should be offered a Self Plus One option with Blue Cross Blue Shield
- c) NASCOE's website has a good listing of what benefits they have to offer
  - i) NASCOE is working on a gas card benefit right now
  - ii) No longer offer NASCOE travel or amusement park discounts
  - iii) NASCOE members only page - you need to obtain an ID and password to access
  - iv) Listing of cell phone discounts
    - (1) Occasionally you will need to call to re-new that with any provider (US Cellular is every two years)
    - (2) Important to check your bill to make sure you are receiving
    - (3) Verizon is only available to active employees, not retirees
- d) NASCOE in Iowa still in the very early stages of getting the group going. Around 30 members now.

## 3) Dennis Ray – MWA Executive

- a) NASCOE's budget is tight. Membership down because of retirements and not being able to hire
- b) FSA Management funded a negotiation trip for NASCOE
- c) NASCOE understands that some offices may need to be closed but they want to make sure it's the right offices that close. They're trying to get a feel from membership what an office should look like and how far it's reasonable for PT's to drive to work.
- d) CED's may have to compete against one another for job
- e) NASCOE is asking its members for input on what's important for CBS offices
- f) It's key that if FSA Management asks for something we respond
  - i) Very poor response to the Employee Viewpoint Surveys that went out - only 40% returned
  - ii) Anytime you can provide feedback to Management you should take that opportunity
- g) CAPWIZ is no longer used.
  - i) Too much cost associated with little use
    - (1) \$18,000 for 3 years or \$7,000 per year
  - ii) 4,000 subscribers with only a 15-18% response rate. 25-29% response rate during furlough.
  - iii) Some in congress weren't seeing this so we lost ground with legislative people from losing personal contact
  - iv) If you know a representative in any political capacity, PLEASE get that information to Gretchen McLain, CED, Jefferson County. She is compiling a list. It can be someone you know, a COC member knows, a farmer knows. Anyone that can be contacted when needed in short order.
  - v) NASCOE/IASCOE moving to a more Grass Roots approach
- h) If you want NASCOE Alerts you can sign up for them on their website
  - i) \*\*If you change your email address, let your IASCOE district director know so it can be corrected and you're getting the most up to date information available
  - ii) Working on getting it set up so information can be sent via text message
- i) Establishing new Base and Yields will take place in stages
  - i) Must first fill in the holes. 375,000 tracts with combinations or divisions done since this was previously completed.
  - ii) KC will notify them about their bases and it will be sent to both operators and owners
  - iii) They're bringing in field employees to help write handbooks and policies

## 4) Mary Roberts – NAFEC Chair

- a) Goal is to have 2 directors in each State
  - i) Iowa currently has 1-Bob Braden from Scott County who spoke at convention
- b) Strongly encourage everyone to join NAFEC, both employees and COC's
- c) NAFEC met with Administrator Juan Garcia for 1.5 hours about FSA
- d) They currently have about 1500 members

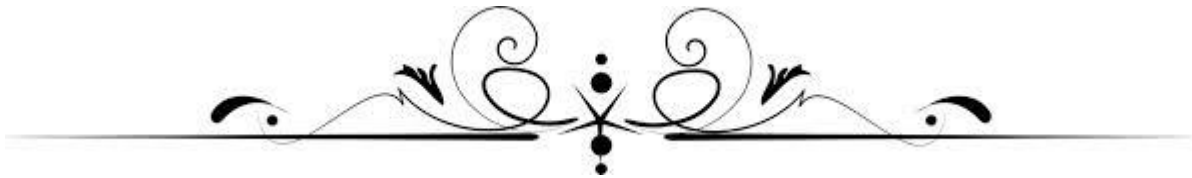
- e) They are working on the proposed office closures and staffing reductions
- f) They want to improve COC training and be able to meet as needed
- g) Want resolution on December grass reporting date
- h) Important as FSA employees to support NAFEC. \$20/year as associate members will strengthen NAFEC
- i) Congress looks stronger at NAFEC fighting for FSA than NASCOE
  - i) They look at NASCOE fighting for our jobs but NAFEC is fighting for FSA so they seem to listen better to what NAFEC says.
- j) Encourage everyone to talk with their COC members about joining. It's \$35/year. There are additional benefits for COC members.

**5) Gretchen McLain – MWA Legislative Chair**

- a) Emphasized the importance of making personal contacts with your legislators
- b) If anyone knows a member of Congress or someone in their office YOU can be a key contact
- c) Use all media that you can. Make a phone call, use Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn

**6) Dillard Financial – John Lohr**

- a) Plan early for retirement!
- b) Many things with Social Security to understand and spousal benefits
- c) Use tools like [www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator) and [www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/mystatement) John encouraged everyone to look at these sites, especially employees age 50+
- d) Many types of TSP funds you can be involved in and many withdrawal options
- e) Make sure beneficiary forms are up to date
- f) Roth vs traditional IRA's have different advantages/disadvantages depending on your individual situation
- g) Make sure you know FEHB and Medicare options going in to retirement



PA and PS departments at IASCOE Convention

## NAFEC Update

I'd like to start off with a big THANK YOU to all who signed up for NAFEC at IASCOE! Bob Braden and I both gave presentations on why your COC and you should consider being members and associate members of this great organization. Bob wowed the audience with his wit and passion for NAFEC, COC, and our organization's mission. Bob is currently Iowa's only NAFEC director. He farms in Scott County and serves as a COC member there. I first met Bob in August last year at the NASCOE National Convention. Although he knew no one from our Iowa group when he arrived, he soon became one of the gang. Bob has a great personality and just has a way of making anyone he speaks to feel welcome. While in Asheville, he had the opportunity to meet Craig Turner the NASCOE President from Texas and sit in on a NAFEC meeting with Juan Garcia. He was very impressed with both NAFEC and NASCOE. I believe that Bob and other farmers & COC members like him are a huge asset fighting for the future of FSA and our farmer elected committees. I encourage you to talk to your COC about joining NAFEC. For as little as \$3 per meeting or \$35/year (for COC members), NAFEC members will receive the following from JM Marketing:

- A \$1,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan
- 24 Hour Emergency Travel Assistance
- Identity Theft Recovery Assistance

In addition, JM Marketing offers the additional benefits

Dental/Vision Coverage, Long Term Care, Health Insurance/Medicare Supplement, Life Insurance, Cancer/Critical Illness Insurance, Accident Insurance, Disability Income, Retirement Savings, & Estate Planning

For those not currently serving as COC members, you can join for as little as \$20 or just \$1/pay period. I'm sure we all could spare 50 cents per pay period to support and strengthen an organization who can speak directly Congress to ensure that we continue to have farm programs that America's farmers, ranchers and rural communities need in order to thrive in today's world. If you are interested in joining either print off the membership form from [www.fsacountycommittees.org](http://www.fsacountycommittees.org) or contact me at [lazydaneacres@gmail.com](mailto:lazydaneacres@gmail.com) and I will get the information sent to you. I also have a few packets of NAFEC information that were handed out at IASCOE with all of the JM Marketing information included. I'd be happy to send one to your office so you can share it with your COC.

**ATTENTION:** We are still actively seeking one more director to represent Iowa. The goal for NAFEC is to have 2 directors for each state, so please help us reach our goal. If you have an outgoing, passionate COC member who would fit the bill, please let me know and I will send you more information on what the director position entails.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Roberts  
NAFEC Chair



Bob Braden at IASCOE Convention



## **IASCOE Convention Thoughts**

By Candace Fette

My name is Candace Fette, and I have been a PT in Clayton County for five years. Attending an IASCOE convention has always been of interest to me, but with three young children at home age six and under this year was the first opportunity I have had to attend. It was a great first time experience for me.

I enjoyed meeting FSA coworkers from all over our state as well as other states. Putting a name to a face is always helpful, and the convention provided a wonderful chance to learn more about many people I have only interacted with by phone or email. The enhancement of these personal relationships will be beneficial as I continue my FSA career.

This year's speakers were great; hearing the latest information first hand was so valuable to me personally as well as providing data I could share with my co-workers who were unable to attend the convention. From retirement facts to presentations by state office employees, I received detailed information that pertained not only to my career but to my life in general.

Finally, one of the best benefits of my first convention experience was that it was a fun two days. In addition to the positive convention activities, there were opportunities to get away from the location to do some shopping in the area. I took full advantage of this! I look forward to future conventions and strongly encourage everyone to attend one as soon as you can to capture your own positive experience





## **Webster County FSA**

**Front:** Bonnie Stok, Carolyn Leners, Deb Friesth, Lisa Espe

**Back:** Mindy Ott, Jennifer Halstead, Leanne Halligan

### **REMEMBER WHEN????**

We had certification and set-a-side acres? The days we stood at the counter the entire day for certification and LDP's? The long line of producers outside our doors and down the sidewalks? Columbus Day LDP's when the fax machine went into overload and we'd return to work with papers all over the floor or blank sheets of paper because they were faxed wrong or the fax machine was jammed? 2002 when we added the soybean bases and established counter cyclical yields? Call me odd, but I always loved the busy days!!! I think implementing the 2014 Farm Bill will be busy but that makes time fly. We will get it done .... we ALWAYS do!!

Come meet the staff at Webster County:

**Deb Friesth** - I remember my 1<sup>st</sup> day with ASCS like it was yesterday. I was only supposed to help out for a short time with the new maps. I couldn't believe they were really going to pay me \$5.15 an hour to outline maps. My four little boys were going to have a very good Christmas this year. Well, needless to say things didn't work out as planned, I never did work on maps, but there were other more challenging things to conquer, like the dreaded ADDRESS-O-GRAPH machine, PIK certificates, 0/92, proven yields and hand written everything. Before I knew it 2 years had flown by and then the real work started, we were getting computers....No more fighting over typewriters. Well here it is 30 years later, my kids are all grown and I now have four grandchildren, and I'm still calling FSA my home away from home and having fun remembering all the changes we've been through. Can you even begin to count the number of disaster applications we processed in the early 90's? Who ever thought LDP's would end, or that we'd ever get through the shoe boxes full of yields that the 2003 farm bill authorized. Oh, but what fun and how satisfying it was to load that last yield. We really work as a team here and that's what has gotten us through each and every challenge we've faced. That's what I'll miss the most when my time with FSA is over, my team mates. I'm not quite ready to call it quits yet, you know 60 is the new 40 but I have grandkids that count on me cheering for them at ball games, wrestling meets or where ever else they might need a cheerleader. Hopefully we'll get through the 2014 signup and we'll all remember this as just another challenge we were asked to complete.



**Lisa Espe** – I've worked for the Webster County FSA for almost 28 years, working with many programs over the years. I started out as a Temporary Program Technician during Data Loading time. Back then we were called the ASCS office and we had just gotten computers. We ran entirely on the SYS36 and each had a keyboard and computer screen on our desk. If we were lucky, we had what was called a split screen, which allowed the user to have two screens, but mostly we just had single screens. The computer itself was the size of a small car. What a difference 28 years has been! I have a husband, Kurt, who is a Regulatory Manager for Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica in St Joseph, Missouri. I have three children, Shane, who lives in Manson, Iowa; Scott who is a senior at SDSU in Brookings, SD; and Tiffany who is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Manson NW Webster schools. I enjoy traveling, photography and scrapbooking.

**Leanne Halligan** - I have worked for the Farm Service Agency for 26 ½ years and have had the conservation program since I started in 1987. When I started working, I remember Larry Clark sticking me in the back room of the office for the first two weeks because we were short on desks and told me to read the CRP handbook. I was totally lost. At that time we had a total of 40 contracts with less than 150 acres. Now we have around 1,500 contracts with around 14,000 acres entered into the Conservation Reserve Program. I have enjoyed working with the farmers over the years to take land out of production to help with land conservation.

The biggest surprise I received was when my husband Don and I attended a Pheasant Forever banquet here in Fort Dodge in March of 2006 and they called my name to receive a plaque for Outstanding Support in Preservation of Wildlife Habitat. I did not have a clue that they intended to present me with this plaque. I was very appreciative that they realized how hard we work here to enter as many acres into the CRP program as we do.

In June I will have been married to my husband Don for 40 years and we had three boys together. All three of our children, Mike, Matt and Mitchell are married with children. Don and I have eight grandchildren that we spend a lot of time enjoying. We live near Brushy Creek Lake east of Lehigh on a farm that is mostly timber. We do have some cropland that we rent out to our neighbor. My husband is a big hunter and he is always trying to plant areas to different seeding mixes to help feed the deer and turkey that we have around our area.

I work with a great bunch of people and I feel very fortunate to have the job that I have and all the experiences we have shared together over the years.

**Jennifer Halstead** - I'm Jennifer Halstead and I've been with FSA for 15 years. I'm married with 3 sons and will have a new baby granddaughter arriving in June. I like to read, quilt, and spend time with family, especially my little Chihuahua Lola. I am currently in charge of GIS/Compliance with a working knowledge of most other programs. I was a GIS district trainer for several years, but decided to pass that on to someone else with the introduction of Midas. I enjoy my job and have great co-workers that have become like family over the years.

**Bonnie Stok** – I've been working for FSA for 13 years. I guess working with recons, farm records, NAP, and disaster programs has made the time seem to fly by quickly. I live in Badger and have two daughters who are both nurses. My 3 grandsons keep me busy with another one expected in October. I was raised on a farm and have always loved working with the farming community. My Webster County FSA family is the best. We work very well in a team oriented atmosphere.

**Mindy Ott** - I have worked for FSA for 6 years. My current programs are Price Support, FSFL, ARCT, and CRP Cost-share. I enjoy working for the FSA because no two days are the same! My husband, Jason and I will be married for 5 years this August. We have one son Grant, who is 2 ½ and we have a baby on the way with an ETA of August 7<sup>th</sup>! We live south of Boxholm and farm in that area. We help the family farm with raising hogs, feeder cattle and the cow calf operation. We are getting ready for spring field work and are ready for some NICE spring weather. Winter has lasted long enough!

**Carolyn Leners** – My journey with ASCS began in 1987 when I was hired to work the night shift (3:30-midnight) at Kossuth County ASCS. I left Kossuth County and continued my journey with ASCS at Sac County for 20+ years. In January 2011 I was hired as CED in Dallas County and in January 2012 I was the acting CED in Polk County. In June 2012 I came to Webster County and from Day 1 it felt right....just like slipping on a glove. I can't believe I've only known these gals for 2 years because it seems like I've known them for much longer. We love to have fun here and rarely does a day go by without laughter. It truly is a team effort and I appreciate each and every one of them.

I AM GONNA BE A GRANDMA! Bill and I are so excited to join this elite group and are anxious for the October arrival!! Kyle and Allyson live 2 blocks from our home so we'll get plenty of play and cuddle time with Baby Leners. Our oldest son, Ryan, lives and works in Lake View and our daughter, Katie, is finishing up her master's degree in Speech Language Pathology at Truman State University. We are so blessed to have our children near and are able to spend time with them.

If you are ever in Fort Dodge stop by and say hello! We are located at the junction of Hwy 169 & Hwy 7.

“WORK MADE FUN GETS DONE!”  
-FISH monger



## The Lake Hendricks Fishery

By: Michael Praska

Ten years ago while at a local sportsman club meeting a discussion started on how the club could do some type of activity to promote the local community and get youth interested in the outdoors. In the gloomy cold months of winter when most of us are house bound just trying to keep warm and the kids are getting cabin fever, what could we do to get kids interested in something not plugged into a TV--so began the "Lake Hendricks Ice Fishery".

Starting from scratch with a project of this magnitude was very interesting; we started making contacts, first the Local County Conservation Board to see if the club would be able to have the Fishery at Lake Hendricks which is located in Howard County and owned by the conservation board. They were more than happy to get some free publicity for their park so we received the ok form the Conservation board. Next I filed for the fishing tournament permit with the Iowa DNR and got that approved. Now we needed some incentives to get people there and for most cash does the trick. We checked the laws and established 4 categories for prizes based on fish species ranked by weight. The categories are Crappie, Bluegill, Perch and Bass (which have to be bigger than 18" to keep in that lake) each category would pay first place at \$20 and second place at \$10. Also for the grand prize the County Conservation board had a fish tagging gun, so a day or two before the fishery we go catch a fish from the lake and tag the dorsal fin of a random fish and put a reward of \$250.00 on it. Now we had the incentive for the adults, but wanting this to be an activity to get kids involved what else could we do, so we began knocking on doors for prizes visiting the surrounding communities and businesses. Donations poured in, hats, gloves, fish poles, ice augers, stuffed animals, hand knitted hats and scarfs, gift certificates, crafts, pop, candy, toys, etc. etc. etc.

Now we had the prizes, we had volunteers from the club to help; we had the lake, the tournament permit, the time and date were set, the fish was tagged all we needed was the people. That first year was very nerve racking, wondering if anyone would show up. Then they started to arrive and that first year there was about 80 adults and 30 kids. Over the years the number has fluctuated on those that have participated all depending on the weather and temperature. The biggest year was around 200 adults and 100 kids and the smallest was about 20 kids and 40 adults, in 2014 there were about 120 participants.



Since the primary goal of the fishery was to get kids involved in the outdoors, every kid that signs up get a pop and a candy bar. Then we do a drawing until every kid gets a door prize so everyone leaves a winner and the rest of the prizes are distributed to the adults.



Often it is kids that win the fish categories because if they did not catch the fish themselves, the parents give the fish to the kids to weigh in and so their name goes on the board which is a big deal for them. For the adults it is a day of fellowship with many of the adults grilling on the ice or meeting old friends for the annual event and for the kids a day of fun outdoors. We have a few contests to keep everyone engaged in the day if the fish are not biting. A race on the ice, scavenger hunt and ice drilling contests are a few of the organized activities. However games of tag, snowball fights and catch often break out at random on the ice.

Over all it has been a success for getting youth engaged in a new outdoor activity. It has done so well that 2 other non-profit organizations (Chickasaw Pheasants Forever and Winneshiek County Conservation Board) have started fishing tournaments on different lakes on different weekends to offer more opportunities for youth to participate in ice fishing and get outdoors in the winter.



A couple of facts to go with the article:

-as you can tell Snacks are an intricate part of having fun.

-In 10 years there has never been a bass over 18" caught so that prize category usually goes to the smallest fish caught, as small as a .06 ounce bluegill.

-You can insure almost anything – wanting to cover the cost of the tagged fish I checked with an insurance agency and you can insure a tagged fish in a tournament – however the premium of insuring a random fish in a lake (which the insurance company does not see as a good investment) is more than 50% of whatever the price of the prize on the fish is.

-Yes the tagged fish has been caught but it was in June, roughly 5 months after the tournament. It is key to make it known that the prize for a tagged fish is only good the day of the tournament.

-If you are interested in seeing pictures from past years events the local paper has always done an excellent job of covering the contest which is held usually the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in February and you can check them out at the “Riceville Recorder”



# Photos from IASCOE Convention





**HOLD ON TO YOUR BOOTS, CHAPS AND COWBOY HATS**



**AND GET READY FOR THE WILD WEST NASCOE CONVENTION**

## 55<sup>th</sup> NASCOE CONVENTION

**August 11 - August 16, 2014**

Renaissance Hotel (Main Hotel)

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

405-228-8000

[Click Here for Link to Renaissance Hotel](#)

Sheraton (Overflow for Tuesday only)

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Circle One: Delegate    Member    RASCOE    NAFEC    Honorary Member    District Director  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phones: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

*Please choose ALL EVENTS that you plan to attend—even if it is FREE!*

*Honorary Life Members and guest under 13 years of age may attend the Convention free as our guest. Your registration is essential so that we can be prepared for the correct number of attendees to each event.*

DATES/TIMES	EVENT	COST PER PERSON	# ATTENDING	TOTAL \$ DUE
POSTMARKED BY JUNE 15, 2014	REGISTRATION	\$35		
POSTMARKED FROM JUNE 16 - JULY 15	REGISTRATION	\$45		
POSTMARKED AFTER JULY 15	REGISTRATION	\$65		
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13 8.00 - 4.00	AG TOUR. OKC STOCKYARDS TOWN AND ACUCTION, LUNCH AT CATTLEMEN'S, BRAUM'S DAIRY, EXPRESS RANCH	\$40		
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13 8.00 - 4.00	ARBUCKLE MOUNTAIN TOUR. TURNER FALLS AND CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER	\$40		
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13 8.00 - 4.00	OKC TOUR. OKLAHOMA CITY MEMORIAL AND	\$40		



	NATIONAL COWBOY AND WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM			
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13 8.00 -	GOLF TOURNAMENT	\$50		
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14	Bricktown	Free		
FRIDAY, AUGUST 15	RASCOE LUNCHEON	\$30		
FRIDAY, AUGUST 15	OKLAHOMA NIGHT OFFSITE - REMINGTON PARK - TRANSPORTATION AND MEAL INCLUDED	\$10 <b>FREE IF YOU WEAR 2014 CONVENTION T-SHIRT</b>		
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 6.00 - 7.00 PM	SOCIAL HOUR	CASH BAR		
SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 7.00 - 9.00 PM 9.00 - MIDNIGHT	WILD WEST SHOW, NASCOE AWARDS BANQUET AND COUNTRY HOE-DOWN	\$45		

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Must submit Parental Consent Form for any and all Youth Activities.  
(Form available at [www.okascoe.org](http://www.okascoe.org) or at Convention Registration Desk.)

Youth Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Ages: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY	COST PER PERSON	# ATTENDING	TOTAL \$ DUE
WEDNESDAY, AUG 13 <sup>TH</sup>	GET AQUAINTED	FREE		
THURSDAY, AUG 14 <sup>TH</sup>	ZOO & BURGERS	\$20.00		
FRIDAY, AUG. 15 <sup>TH</sup>	ICE SKATE/PIZZA	\$20.00		
FRIDAY, AUG. 15 <sup>TH</sup>	REMINGTON PARK	FREE		
SATURDAY, AUG 16 <sup>TH</sup>	TRAMPOLINE /MOVIE	\$30.00		

PURCHASE YOUR 2014 NATIONAL CONVENTION T-SHIRT FOR \$20

COLORS AVAILABL. ROYAL BLUE AND ORANGE

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ Size \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PURCHASE YOUR 2014 NATIONAL CONVENTION DISC OF PICTURES @ \$20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Convenience fee for Pay Pal.... \$5.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2014 NASCOE NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN YOUR COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

OKASOCE  
C/O ANDREA PETTIJOHN  
3969 ST HWY 92  
CHICKASHA OK 73018-7021

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR THOSE ATTENDEES ARRIVING AT THE OKLAHOMA CITY AIRPORT:

ARRIVAL DATE AND TIME: \_\_\_\_\_  
AIRLINE/FLIGHT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPARTURE DATE AND TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

QUESTIONS:	MIKE LEE 405.238.6236	ANDREA PETTIJOHN 405.224.1381
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## **AG TOUR:**

**OKLAHOMA CITY STOCKYARDS/COW TOWN: STOCKYARD CITY IS THE HOME OF THE LARGEST STOCKER/FEEDER CATTLE MARKET IN THE WORLD. ALONG THE STREETS ARE MANY UNIQUE STORES AND BUSINESSES WHICH CAN PROVIDE WESTERN CLOTHING, BOOTS, BELTS, SADDLE REPAIR, LEATHER WORKS, AND OTHER ACCESSORIES. LUNCH WILL BE AT THE WORLD FAMOUS CATTLEMEN'S STEAKHOUSE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [www.onsy.com](http://www.onsy.com) or [www.stockyardscity.org](http://www.stockyardscity.org).**

**BRAUM'S: THE 10,000 ACRE WORKING DAIRY FARM HOUSES THE BRAUM'S PRIVATE DAIRY HERD, MILKING FACILITY, PROCESSING PLANT, BAKERY AND WAREHOUSE DISTRIBUTION FACILITY, TRUCK MAINTENANCE FACILITY, WATER TREATMENT PLANT, AND ACRES OF CROPS WHICH PROVIDE THE MAJORITY OF THE FEED NEEDED FOR THE DAIRY HERD. BY MILKING 24 HOURS A DAY AT 1,600 COWS AN HOUR PROVIDES ENOUGH FRESH MILK FOR OVER ONE MILLION GLASSES OF MILK A DAY. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [www.braums.com](http://www.braums.com).**

**EXPRESS RANCH: A MULTI-FACETED BEEF PRODUCTION ENTITY THAT IS INVOLVED IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE BEEF PRODUCTION SYSTEM FEEDING AS MANY AS 50,000 HEAD OF CATTLE PER YEAR. THE HERD OF LIMOUSINE, ANGUS AND LIM-FLEX CATTLE HAS EXPRESS RANCH RANKING AS THE SECOND LARGEST LIVESTOCK OPERATION IN AMERICA. EXPRESS RANCH IS ALSO WORLD KNOWN FOR THE EXPRESS CLYDESDALES HORSES. THESE GENTLE GIANTS TYPICALLY STAND AROUND 18 HANDS HIGH AND WEIGH NEARLY A TON. WHEN HITCHED TOGETHER AS A TEAM, IT'S LIKE WATCHING A DRAMATIC BALLET! FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [www.expressubar.com](http://www.expressubar.com).**

## **ARBUCKLE MOUNTAIN TOUR:**

**EXPERIENCE THE CHICKASAW CULTURAL CENTER FOR AN UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL CELEBRATION OF THE CHICKASAW NATION. THIS STATE OF THE ART CENTER HAS SHOWCASES, INTERACTIVE MEDIA STATIONS, AND HANDS-ON-CLASSES TO SHARE AND CELEBRATE THE CULTURE, HISTORY, AND TRADITIONS OF THE CHICKASAW PEOPLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT. [www.chickasawculturalcenter.com](http://www.chickasawculturalcenter.com)**

**TURNER FALLS IS SURROUNDED BY A PICTURESQUE TERRAIN THAT GIVES ONE A NATURAL VIEW OF BEAUTY. THE TURNER FALLS PARK IS HOME TO THE LARGEST WATERFALL IN OKLAHOMA WHEN HONEY CREEK CASCADES DOWN 77 FEET TO A NATURAL SWIMMING POOL. THE PARK OFFERS NATURE TRAILS, CAVES, AND MUCH GEOLOGICAL WONDERMENT. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [www.turnerfallspark.com](http://www.turnerfallspark.com).**

## **OKC TOUR:**

**THE DAY THAT FOREVER CHANGED OKLAHOMA IS SYMBOLIZED BY THE OKLAHOMA CITY NATIONAL MEMORIAL FEATURING 168 GLASS BASED CHAIRS, GATES OF TIME, REFLECTING POOL, SURVIVOR CHAPEL, RESCUERS' ORCHARD, CHILDREN'S AREA AND THE SURVIVOR TREE. THE MEMORIAL OFFERS AN INSIGHT INTO THE IMPACT OF VIOLENCE AND THE PROMISE OF COMFORT. THE OKLAHOMA CITY NATIONAL MEMORIAL MUSEUM OFFERS A SELF-GUIDED TOUR THROUGH THE DAY OF THE BOMBING OF THE ALFRED P. MURRAH FEDERAL BUILDING ON APRIL 19, 1995. THE INTERACTIVE LEARNING MUSEUM DISPLAYS THE CHAOS OF THE BOMBING HAS TURNED TO HOPE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org](http://www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org).**

THE NATIONAL COWBOY AND WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM IS MORE THAN 200,000 SQUARE FEET OF DISPLAYS SUCH AS HISTORICAL GALLERIES, THE AMERICAN RODEO GALLERY, NATIVE AMERICAN GALLERY, WEITZENHOFFER GALLERY OF FINE AMERICAN FIREARMS, AND MANY MORE. EACH COLLECTION FOCUSES ON THE PRESERVATION OF THE HERITAGE OF THE AMERICAN WEST. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [www.nationalcowboymuseum.org](http://www.nationalcowboymuseum.org).

## NASCOE GOLF

THE 2014 NASCOE GOLF OUTING WILL BE Wednesday, AUGUST 14<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 A.M. WE WILL LOAD UP IN THE VAN AT THE HOTEL AND TAKE A SHORT 10 MINUTE RIDE TO SILVERHORN GOLF CLUB WHERE EVERYONE WILL TEAM UP FOR A SCRAMBLE FORMAT TOURNAMENT, GUARANTEEING A FUN MORNING OF GOLF FOR ALL. IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR ROUND, GOLFERS WILL BE SERVED A HAMBURGER/GRILLED YARDBIRD BUFFET, (THAT'S CHICKEN FOR YOU MORE REFINED FOLK) IN THE COMFORT OF THE CLUBHOUSE. \$50 COVERS EVERYTHING-GREEN FEES, ½ CART, RANGE BALLS, THE MEAL AND A GOODY BAG (JUST IN CASE YOU FORGOT SOMETHING).

LOCATED IN OKLAHOMA CITY, SILVERHORN GOLF CLUB IS SET AMIDST 170 PICTURESQUE ACRES OF BEAUTIFULLY MAINTAINED TURF, NATIVE GRASSES, OAKS, ELMS, HACKENBERRIES, AND FOUR CREEKS THAT WIND THROUGH THE PROPERTY. DESIGNED BY RANDY HACKENKEMPER IN 1991, THIS 18-HOLE CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF COURSE WAS BUILT TO CHALLENGE AVID GOLFERS WITHOUT FRUSTRATING MORE CASUAL PLAYERS. SILVERHORN GOLF CLUB IS AN EXCEPTIONAL SETTING FOR A ROUND OF GOLF WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY AND NASCOE MEMBERS. [www.silverhorngc.com](http://www.silverhorngc.com)

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

WE HAVE A TEAM OF PEOPLE READY TO SHOW YOUR KIDS A GREAT TIME IN OKLAHOMA.

WEDNESDAY:	GET AQUAINTED PARTY	FREE
Thursday:	ZOO & BURGERS	\$20.00
FRIDAY	ICE SKATING/PIZZA	\$20.00
FRIDAY	REMINGTON PARK	FREE
Saturday	TRAMPOLINE PARK & A MOVIE	\$30.00

*(CHILD CARE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE TOO YOUNG TO ATTEND THESE FUNCTIONS.)*

## RV PARK

RV Park—TWIN FOUNTAINS (\$40 PER DAY, \$37 W/GOOD SAM'S CLUB) \$247 PER WEEK...MINIATURE GOLF, GAME ROOM, POOL, BIKE RENTALS. LESS THAN 10 MINUTES FROM THE CONVENTION. [www.twinfountainsrvpark.com](http://www.twinfountainsrvpark.com)