



IASCOE June Newsletter

(Photo submitted by John Landgraf, Sac County CED)



FROM THE DESK OF DERRYL MCLAREN, SED

Thank you for your trust and patience! Instead of spending months-on-end anguishing over the Farm Bill “what-ifs”, you have been productive in clearing your desks of routine tasks. The longer the Farm Bill debate dragged on, the more familiar it became. The political process DOES work, and, with a little tweaking, we will get Iowa’s farmers signed-up and paid in the four months remaining of the fiscal year.

Get ready for implementation of the new legislation. The Farm Bill is very familiar, especially for 2008. It had to be! We don’t have the luxury of time to deal with new programs or eligibility requirements. Our lawmakers realized that, and they wisely delayed authorization of the new programs until the 2009 crop year. In due time, the acronyms of ACRE and SURE will become part of our vocabulary, and we will do our best to provide enough knowledge to make you conversational, in the near term. Thankfully, the full details for these new revenue guarantee and permanent disaster programs will be provided in National and State-wide training this Fall and Winter.

So what is the task at hand? Well, first we will take acreage certifications, as we always have, in the month of June. While we are doing that, Washington will be providing direction on the issues of eligibility forms, such as 526’s, 1026’s, 502’s, and 211’s. So look for early July as a target date for all of the eligibility issues and paperwork requirements to be resolved. At that point, we can start signing-up producers and gathering signatures. I realize it only leaves us three months, but we knew the time-frame would be “tight”.

While you are busy with the Farm Bill, Administration will be receiving input from Washington on Linc Pass (HSPD-12), Gov Trip, ARS (workload reporting), BPMS, and your favorite, Performance Management. Don’t get me started!! Better than anyone in the State, I know how upsetting and traumatizing the transition has been from a pass/fail system of performance evaluation to a rating system carrying monetary rewards. Maybe Washington HR will have the answers for us at the SED/AO Conference in June. They are devoting over three hours to the subject, so it is certainly on their radar screen. In any event, it is necessary in any organization for management to establish the latitude and retain the prerogative in rating the performance of its employees.

We all know what is expected of us at work, but you have a personal life, as well. As we gather together for summer activities with family and friends, let us not only count our blessings but also share with the less fortunate such as those in Parkersburg and surrounding areas that have recently experienced the brutal forces of Nature. We have much to be thankful for!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Derryl McLaren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

See you at the National Convention!!!

This year's National NASCOE Convention to be held August 6 – 9 is literally in our own backyard – Omaha! This provides a unique opportunity for IASCOE members. If you have ever been to a National Convention, I am sure you will agree that it is quite an experience – a real eye opener into the inner workings of NASCOE. I strongly encourage each of you to come to the National Convention – even if for just a day. I know that we are all busy this summer, but take a little time and enjoy the fun and meeting new friends. See you there!!!

A Farm Bill - Finally

“What a long strange trip it's been”. These words from Jerry Garcia (Grateful Dead) ring true for the new Farm Bill. It has been a long time coming, and there have been a lot of twists and turns, but we do officially have a Farm Bill. From all indications, it appears that Farm Service Agency will play an important role in the implementation of the bill. We don't know when Farm Program sign up yet, but there is some indication that it will begin in July and have to be finished by the end of September. As is often the case, we will be asked to learn new rules, convey them to our producers, and get everyone signed up in a condensed time frame. It is important that we as NASCOE members, remind those above us, that we will need to be provided the resources necessary to get the job done.

Enjoy the Summer

With the late arrival of the new Farm Bill along with the late spring planting, it appears that we will be very, very busy this summer. It is also that time of year when many of us have planned our family vacations. While we have a job to accomplish, we also have our families and ourselves to think about. Take a little time off to enjoy this time of year. And if you can fit it in – go to Omaha for the National Convention!!! (Tip: The Henry Dorley Zoo is one of the best in the country and they will have their new butterfly exhibit open. You and your family will love it!!)



Steve Kennedy

IASCOE President

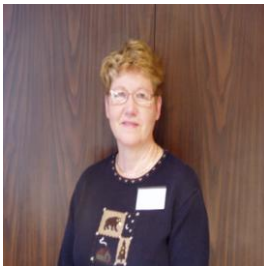
GREETINGS FROM SOUTHWEST IOWA

Yesterday we found out the new Farm Bill is now law. That means in a short time we will be very busy signing-up, certifying, re-enrolling CRP filter strips, finishing up LCP and LIP applications and the many other numerous tasks we do on a daily basis. I have always enjoyed my job and after 25 years with FSA, I am getting used to these times of high stress levels. During this time, we need to be able to balance our time between work and family. I know how easy it is to get caught up in the whirlwind at work and sometimes let the family and friends side of our lives slide.

Over Memorial Day weekend, I enjoyed the family side of my life. My husband, Paul, and I went camping at our farm in southeast Taylor County. Our daughter, Deb, son-in-law, James, their kids, Cole and Callyn, our son, Jim, daughter-in-law, Johana and their kids, Dakota and Hailee joined us for a very eventful weekend. We all gathered on Friday night and to say the least it was very cool out. We were huddled around the fire wrapped in blankets. During the night, the wind came up and it rained. We cooked breakfast over the campfire in between rain showers and ate in our shed, again wrapped in blankets. By noon, it cleared off and we made a trip to the Amish greenhouse buying flowers and vegetables and found great bargains at the Amish Wal-Mart. In addition, they had just made fresh donuts of which we all consumed our share. The kids enjoyed an afternoon of fishing and horseback riding. That evening my Dad, who is 92, joined us for supper over the campfire and watched slides from years gone by. The weather was good and the night was great for sleeping in the camper. We went to Memorial services at the cemetery in Blockton on Sunday and spent the afternoon eating, fishing, and horseback riding. Sunday evening we had a big windstorm and retreated to Deb's house for safety. That passed and again we had a good night in the camper. Monday morning we heard about the tornadoes in Iowa and were very concerned about the people who lost loved ones and homes. When a tragedy hits, it makes you realize how important family and friends are in comparison to material things. We finished up Monday, with another great meal over the campfire before everyone packed up and started for home. The times like these create memories that last a lifetime.

As well as our own families, we also have a FSA family. During these extremely busy times may we all do our best to have patience, understanding and show cooperation with our co-workers. Throw in a little laughter and this very busy time will go very smoothly.

Have a great summer and take time for yourself, your family and friends.



Sue Beemer

PT Taylor County

IASCDE Secretary/Treasurer

MIDWEST AREA EXECUTIVE REPORT

June 2008

It is hard for me to believe that my first year as Area Exec is coming to an end. It was a great learning experience as five new Area Execs, three new officers, and several new National Committee Chairs assumed their duties. After a slow start, I think the Executive committee came together very well.

Several things have been developed or improved with the new group that will be of great benefit to NASCOE and the general membership. A task force developed three position descriptions that have been submitted to HRD for review. These positions represent actual duties that are being performed by PTs in the field and may qualify at a higher grade if approved. Although this won't result in a blanket PT upgrade, we hope it provide upward mobility for some PTs and that it will stimulate a positive discussion about the knowledge, skills and abilities of all PTs.

We are in the early stages of developing a National Data Base for NASCOE which will allow NASCOE to communicate with members without using government equipment.

A Reorganization task force was developed to seek input from the members in the event FSA and NASCOE are involved with USDA reorganization. This task force raised questions and identified issues that need to be considered during any kind of USDA reorganization.

The recent negotiation session with management raised several issues that will hopefully bring improvements to the performance plan and award systems we are now using, improve the training for employees in various areas, and address some of the IT issues that concern many of us.

While successes are important, there will also be challenges that NASCOE will be facing, some known and some not known. Farm Bill implementation, IT issues, and leasing policies are just a few of the issues that we know lay ahead of us. I hope that all members will convey their concerns and ideas they feel are important to NASCOE so they can be addressed. Remember this is your association.

I have enjoyed representing the Midwest Area on the Executive board. I feel the future can very bright for FSA. The farm bill has many things that are favorable to FSA which should help solidify our role in the future. I look forward to seeing many of you at the National Convention in Omaha.

Quote

If you have a job without aggravations, you don't have a job. – Malcolm Forbes



Take care,
Jon Williams
MWA Executive

MARSHALL COUNTY'S CED ALAN HILLEMANN'S RETIREMENT PARTY ON JAN. 31ST, 2008



The lobby was decorated inviting those to enter.

Alan's daughter made a surprise visit to see Dad



Alan with fellow employees sharing good times.



Relatives and producers sharing their stories.



Producers stopping by to show their appreciation.



CED's sharing some of their memories together



Alan with his wife, 3 sisters, 1 brother & his wife.



Alan with his wife, son & his family plus Herky too.



“What are you looking at, Grandpa and I are trying to have a moment here!”



Alan being presented with his 20 year service award, certificate and his retirement clock thanking him for his dedicated service.

It was an truly an eventfully day, there were decorations, food and people everywhere. The bulletin board was covered with many of his personal life memories and a video was running with FSA moments. There were so many homemade goodies it was hard to pick just one.

Alan had a lucky day because believe it or not the weather cooperated! He had so much fun and was blessed with many visitors that being family, friends, fellow employees, producers and last but not least old classmates! Many who couldn't attend sent their congratulations by cards, e-mails and phone calls. Each and everyone whether present or not made Alan's retirement celebration very special for him!

Submitted by: Kitty Benda, CPT Marshall County

Publicity Committee – District 5



Hello Everyone!

I want to thank everyone who submitted award nominations for 2008. It is wonderful when person's take time out of their busy schedules to recognize the hard work and positive contributions made by their peers.

Congratulations to Dee Lehn for her Service to IASCOE/NASCOE Award; Tracy

Zimmerman for her Service to FSA/Agriculture Award and to Steve Abbas for his Community Service Award. Additionally, Steve was the Midwest Area winner for Community Service--- WAY TO GO STEVE!

Thanks again and remember to nominate those persons you know out there doing good work and making positive contributions next year!!

Tom Lane

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD NOMINATION FORM Service to FSA-Agriculture

Recommended Award:

Service to FSA-Agriculture

State: Iowa

Area: Midwest

Award Nominee Name: Tracy Zimmerman

Home Address: 42022 Sycamore Rd Avoca IA 51521

Telephone: (712) 343 2658

Office Address: E Pott FSA 14 Main St Oakland IA 51560

Telephone: (712) 482 6486

Email Address: tracy.zimmerman@ia.usda.gov

FSA Position: Program Technician

Person submitting Nomination: Julie Hall & Chris Irvin

Address: 900 15th St Onawa Iowa 51040

Home Phone: (712)433 1208

Office Phone: (712) 482 6486

Email Address: julie.hall@ia.usda.gov chris.irvin@ia.usda.gov



Tom Lane, Awards Chairperson with Tracy Zimmerman

Brief Explanation:

Tracy Zimmerman has worked for FSA for 20 years. She has gone above and beyond normal expectations. The best adjectives for Tracy would be always willing to help and being efficient. When the district was looking for employees to help counties catch up, Tracy volunteered to help in Ringgold County. Not being one who is fond of staying away from her family, this was a great sacrifice. When the State Office asked for volunteers throughout Iowa, Tracy again offered to help. This time the request came from Clarke County. She was an invaluable asset to the success of the Clarke County FSA. Her eagerness to dive right in and help out provided a great example of work ethic to the staff. Tracy is always looking for ways to effectively and efficiently carry out her programs. She has developed several checklists that help other employees complete a producer's application for CRP or cost-share. This eliminates the producer from making several trips to the office. She provided these checklists to other counties for their use. She provided valuable knowledge and training in Clarke County. She completed a tremendous amount of CRP work included preparing AD-245's, 862's, sending cost-share letters and paying cost-share and PIP in Clarke County. To date, Tracy has helped in Clarke County for over five weeks. Tracy has been an IASCOE member for most of her 20 years of employment with FSA. Due to this enthusiasm and willing to help attitude, we are very proud to nominate Tracy Zimmerman for distinguished service to FSA and Agriculture.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Hall & Chris Irvin

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD NOMINATION FORM Service to IASCOE/NASCOE

I WOULD LIKE TO NOMINATE DEE LEHN FOR THE 2008 SERVICE TO IASCOE/NASCOE AWARD. DEE JOINED IASCOE IN 1987, WHEN SHE BEGAN HER FSA CAREER. SHE WAS A WILLING PARTICIPANT FROM THE START AND A READY VOLUNTEER.

PRIOR TO HER SERVICE ON THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, SHE ATTENDED MANY CONVENTIONS AND DISTRICT GATHERINGS THAT WERE HELD ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. WHILE SERVING ON THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, DEE HAD THE IDEA TO START A CONTINUING SAGA, IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE MORE NEWSLETTER READERSHIP. THUS BEGAN THE STORY OF POLLY P.T., A STORY THAT RECOUNTS SOME OF THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS, OF COUNTY OFFICE LIFE, WITH HUMOR AND LIGHTEARTEDNESS. THOUGHOUT THE YEARS, DEE HAS BEEN AN ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPANT OF THE ANNUAL IASCOE TALENT SHOW. SHE HAS ORGANIZED MANY SKITS AND HAS TAKEN HOME THE TOP PRIZE FOR HER EFFORTS IN RECREATING HEE-HAW, WITH A SOUTHERN IOWA APPEAL.

IN 2005, DEE'S ENERGY AND MOTIVATION PROMPTED HER TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT OF IASCOE.



As president, she was instrumental in bringing the convention back to Des Moines. She also negotiated a visit from Teresa Lasseter, the FSA Administrator, during the 2006 convention. She serves NASCOE as our Midwest area benefits chairperson and continues to attend many state and National Conventions, even though her term in office has expired. She has served on the Negotiating team and has traveled to Washington D.C., several times, in an effort to secure more benefits for County Office employees. Dee's great ideas and continued motivation make her an asset to our organization and very deserving of this award.

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Woerner
CED, Black Hawk County

Franklin County FSA Program Technicians would like to nominate Steven Abbas for the 2008 IASCOE Community Service Award. Steve grew up on a Franklin County farm assisting his father with the required tasks for a successful operation. He graduated from Hampton Community School in 1972 with aspirations to pursue a farm related occupation. Steve chose Iowa State University to further his education and while there began a lifelong dedication to community service. Steve began donating blood while attending college with this giving tradition continuing; he currently nears the 10 gallon mark.

Steve and his wife, Jan, recently celebrated 25 years of marriage. They have two children. Their oldest, Tom, an Iowa State graduate, recently accepted a position as a County Office Trainee with the Iowa Farm Service Agency. Margaret currently attends the University of Northern Iowa.

The Abbas family attends St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Hampton where Steve serves as lector, usher, parish council member, Knights of Columbus member, and is a former catechist and Eucharistic Minister.

When Steve's son, Thomas, played little league baseball, he quickly raised his hand to coach, dedicating many an evening for practice and ball games. Steve's commitment to youth inspired his decision to mentor a boy for several years.

When contacted by an American Legion member, Steve volunteered to play taps at soldiers' funerals. This displays remarkable commitment to honoring our veterans.

Several years ago Steve offered to drive tractor for the Franklin County Fair pulling wagon loads of fair goers from the parking lot to the fairgrounds. As the Franklin County Fair rates one of the best in the state, several thousand attend this five day July event with all appreciating this service.

Steve joined the local Kiwanis in June 1992 and has been on all committees including board of directors twice and chairperson of the youth committee. While on the youth committee he was instrumental in establishing policies for distribution of Kiwanis scholarships. When the Kiwanis display flags on designated dates, Steve assists with setting up in the morning and taking down in the afternoon. As this organization helps with Franklin County recycling once per month he has assisted in this project. During the Franklin County Fair Steve works several evenings in the Kiwanis fair booth.

In the 1980's Steve's leadership qualities landed Franklin County as a COT training county. He currently serves as an End of Year Review team captain. Steve has helped Wright County twice when they lacked a CED and currently travels to Hamilton County. When needed, Steve has fulfilled District Director duties.

Steve's dedication to IASCOE includes President from 1990-1992. He has attended many NASCOE Legislative Conferences.

All contacted representatives commented how helpful Steve is and stated he does anything asked. For all the above mentioned reasons and many we are unaware of, we nominate Steve for the Distinguished Service Award for Community Service.



Steve Abbas receiving his Iowa award
He also was the MWA winner



THE EXTRA MILE AWARD

Nominee: Nelda Wolthuis NASCOE Area: Midwest
County: Clay 19-041-4 State: Iowa
PT CED Child

Person Submitting Nomination: Steve Waller, County Executive Director

NARRATIVE OF SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENT:

Nelda Wolthuis has served USDA and the producers of Clay County, Iowa for over 28 years. Her can do attitude is an inspiration to her fellow employees and her extraordinary personally and willingness to assist producers during her carrier is an asset to the agency.

Nelda has overcome numerous obstacles throughout her career, demonstrating patients, perseverance and initiative. Her willingness to be flexible and helpful daily to producers is just a few of her attributes. Her extra effort she extends to producers and other FSA Office personnel is always warm, welcome and most of all in a very professional manner.

Nelda has offered additional program training ideas, served on various USDA teams throughout her career, providing seasoned guidance that enhanced the positive and success of a combined USDA team concept. Her willingness to be flexible with constituents and producers while not compromising USDA program requirements is an outstanding trait.

She has effectively and efficiently coordinated and instructed program activities when called upon, which is reflected by her strong leadership skills, USDA bearing and direction provided to constituent.

Nelda has been a very active supporter of IASCOE throughout her career. Serving on committees and a very solid supporter, with positive involvement at annual conferences.

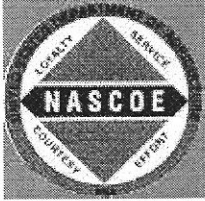
Nelda Wolthuis additionally is a community minded individual with involvement outside of USDA. Her self initiative, leader awareness and sound direction coupled with her vast technical knowledge and great resource ability significantly enhanced FSA daily operations. Her dedication, accountability and superior leadership foresight insured program implementation were successful and effective throughout. Her devotion to FSA, along with resource abilities and program knowledge bring great credit upon herself and USDA.

To be completed by State Awards Chair:

Is the recipient a NASCOE Member? Yes No

Is the child's parent a Member? Yes No

Date submitted to the Area Chair _____



THE EXTRA MILE AWARD

Nominee: Michele Ronfeldt NASCOE Area: 4

County: Sac State: Iowa

PT _____ CED _____ Child X

Person Submitting Nomination: Cathy K. McDonough

NARRATIVE OF SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENT:

I would like to nominate my daughter Michele Ronfeldt for the "extra mile award". Michele is 33 years old, married with 3 children Kayla 14, Tasha 12, and Austin 7. She is from Schaller, a small town in Sac Co.. Being from a small community you hear when other families are in need of help. Michele's husband Jason is a local fireman and another fireman from Schaller was in need of a kidney. Gary Hoffman was on kidney dialysis 3 days a week for four hours and on the transplant donor list in Rochester, MN. Michele's husband was tested in December but the sergeons were not very positive with the match so Michele asked the Dr.'s to test her. She was a perfect match so on Jan. 17,2008 Michele donated her kidney to Gary Hoffman. Everything went very well, Michele is recuperating at home with her family and Gary Hoffman is still in Rochester hoping to be released Feb. 8th. Michele is very caring do do something like this with such a young family. She will be off work for 4 week, but she is looking forward to getting back to work at the Buena Vista hospital in Storm Lake and also being an EMT for the community of Schaller.

To be completed by State Awards Chair:

Is the recipient a NASCOE Member? Yes _____ No _____

Is the child's parent a Member? Yes _____ No _____

Date submitted to the Area Chair _____

IASCOE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

We have just completed another successful year honoring some very deserving students with a \$300 IASCOE Scholarship. This year we had 18 very competitive applications and after much deliberation we awarded four of the applicants with a scholarship.

Alison Berg is a senior attending Kuemper Catholic High School in Carroll, Iowa. Alison is the daughter of Roger and Kathy Berg. Roger is the CED in the Carroll County FSA Office. Alison plans to attend Iowa State University this fall and pursue a degree in architecture. Her hobbies include running, travel, photography and shopping.



Jacob Zobrist is a senior attending Spencer High School in Spencer, Iowa. Jacob is the son of Leslie and Sheila Zobrist. Jacob's father is the CED in the Palo Alto County FSA Office. Jacob plans to attend Drake University and pursue a degree in Pharmacy. His hobbies include soccer, wrestling, camping, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and reading.

Jessica DeBoer is a senior attending Central Lyon High School in Rock Rapids, Iowa. Jessica is the daughter of Joel and Lorene DeBoer. Lorene is a Program Technician in the Lyon County FSA Office. Jessica plans to attend Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Her hobbies include reading, listening to music and playing piano.



Kristin Milbrandt is a senior attending Turkey Valley High School in Jackson Junction, Iowa. Kristin is the daughter of Lori Milbrandt, a Program Technician in the Winneshiek County FSA Office. Kristin plans to attend Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa this fall and pursue a degree in pharmacy. Her hobbies include volleyball, basketball, softball, swimming, reading, shopping and spending quality time with family and friends.

All 18 IASCOE applicants were eligible for the MWA Scholarship which has just recently been announced. The winner of the MWA Scholarship was **Natalie Clevenger** from Hamilton, Missouri. Natalie's mother is the CED at the Caldwell County FSA Office. Natalie is a student at the University of Missouri-Columbia currently working towards her biochemistry major. Her goal is to become a pharmacist. Congratulations to Natalie from IASCOE.

I wish to thank all IASCOE members for their contributions towards the scholarship program. A portion of your annual dues goes directly towards scholarships as well as the auction item proceeds from the IASCOE convention.

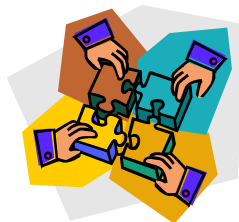
Cindy Pistek
Scholarship Chairman



IASCOE Lifetime Memberships Awards

Presented March 29, 2008

NADA COMBS	Dubuque
Diane DANIELSON	Buena Vista
SHERYL FASTENOW	DICKINSON
Jean FINCH	Greene
Paulette HENKLE	Benton
CLIFTON HILL	Winnebago
MIKE HOUSTON	Sherokee
ROGER JOHANNES	Maquoka
CHARLOTTE JOHNSON	CRAWFORD
JUNE KASPER	LUCAS
BRIGHT LEENEY	JOHNSON
BONNIE LEIST	WRIGHT
DORIS LYNCH	FLOYD
JAMES MAGEL	DAVIS
LORETTA MCCLEAM	OSCEOLA
JUDITH MILLER	FLOYD
MICHAEL RYAN	Dubuque/Delaware
ELAINE STOBBE	Buena Vista
CAROL VAN PELT	Boone
LOLA YOTTER	LOUISA



IASCOE "IOWA GAMES" Trivia Winners

- 1st place: DUH
- 2nd place: Ditsy Chicks
- 3rd place: Hancock County Chicks



County 100% IRSCO Membership Awards

County:	Consecutive Years of Membership:
Спиская	5
Хеллу	10
Хитволд	10
Уиннескиек	10
Монона	15
Унион	15
Андивон	20
Висканан	20
Салкок	20
Фаветте	20
Джефферсон	20
Монрое	20
Роуескиек	20
Лyon	30
FLOYD	30
Лоуса	45
TAYLOR	45



Bonnie Leist, recently retired CED from Wright Co., is pictured receiving her Honorary Life Membership to NASCOE award. Bonnie has been a NASCOE member since its inception and has been a strong supporter her entire career.

Bonnie served in the Wright County office for 47 years as a Program Technician and then as County Executive Director.

She is enjoying her retirement which is allowing her more time to spend with her family!



On April 24, 2008, "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day", Kimberly Davis brought her daughter, Melissa to work with her at the Clarke County FSA Office. Melissa is a 16-year old sophomore, who attends the Murray Community School in Murray, Iowa. Melissa said she really enjoyed spending the day with her Mom, and the entire staff enjoyed it as well!

Kimberly Davis, PT from Clarke County

FSA and daughter, Melissa



With Thoughts and Prayers

Deb Beatty, Muscatine, was diagnosed with Stage 4 Glioblastoma Cancer in late February. She has been taking chemo and radiation treatments since that time. She is very much appreciative of the leave that has been donated by the Iowa FSA employees, and still has a long road ahead of her. Please keep her in your thoughts

Iowa Convention Report

Johnston, IA

March 28-29, 2008

Friday, March 28, 2008

Friday's agenda included the IA director's meeting in the morning with officer elections. Committee meetings were held at 1:00-2:00 pm. Benefits and Legislative issues were discussed at 2:15 pm. Introductions were made of all out-of-state guests.

Steve Abbas, welcomed everyone, provided opening remarks and introduced out of state guests. Reminded everyone that NAFEC associate membership is only \$20.



Dan Root (past NASCOE Past President): Discussed the following:

- **NASCOE**-Talked about Clyde Payne, one of the founding fathers of NASCOE and why NASCOE was formed. It has evolved into becoming involved in more legislative issues.
- **Farm Bill**-we need to be more proactive legislatively. WTO agreements dictate much of our farm policy. If there are no programs, FSA will not have work. Food, water, metal and power is influenced by energy demands and these are the major factors in the current rising prices. Dan thanked Trice Smith for all her hard when she was the Legislative Chair. The current bill is to expire April 18. No one knows if a new bill will actually get done. NASCOE is working on Conservation administration. This is important for FSA to administer this program and let NRCS do the technical work. If this is not accomplished in the farm bill, it may be addressed in reorganization. Permanent disaster legislation is very important and we must continue to push the message to congress that FSA needs to administer this program. Crop revenue program will be a new program that is proposed. RMA was designated to be the lead agency for this program, but with a lot of discussion, FSA looks to be the lead agency. Only time will tell when the farm bill is done. Crop Reports: 3 agencies are now taking crop reports and FSA should be the agency that does this. NASCOE is pushing for this and that FSA should administer animal ID program because the GIS system would work very well.
- **FERS Sick Leave**- now we get no credit for sick leave. Moran, a congressman from VA, introduced a bill that would give SOME credit for sick leave. A CAPWIZ alert was sent out regarding this issue. The Federal Managers Association and many other employee associations were pushing for sick leave credit.
- **Reorganization**-When farm bill issues were discussed, it was announced that there would be USDA reorganization after the farm bill was done. Bonnie appointed a task force to address reorganization. We need to be proactive on this issue to insure we have a future. Congressman Colin Peterson is committed to reorganization. The task force is not to decide what NASCOE should do, but the members must get their ideas to NASCOE. The NASCOE website has a place to put ideas. When the farm bill was first discussed, FSA was to be the administrative agency for conservation and NACD pulled their support for this after they discovered monies would go to FSA for staffing.
- **Leasing**-A three sentence line was left out giving COC authorities for leasing. Not much else to say about that at this time.
- **NASCOE PAC**-gives us the ability to legally support candidates that support FSA. We have about 120 members donating to the PAC. There is information on the PAC-the money is donated to congress members who support FSA. The PAC makes a difference. Many companies and organizations have PACS.

- **Robert Redding-NASCOE legislative consultant**-has brought NASCOE to a new level with congressional folks. Renewed his contract for a 4 year period. Dan feels Robert is doing a good job for NASCOE.
- **Membership and dues**-in the 1990's had over 13000 members, now we have around 7700 members. This is due to staffing levels going down. We need active members and we must convey that to more members. The NASCOE officers cannot do the job themselves, so it is important to have active members and we need to get more people involved. The NASCOE board determined that NASCOE needs one year's administrative costs in savings. The cost of doing business is going up. Hotels rooms, transportation, etc is higher each year. The NASCOE Board has done a lot of things to save money. The NASCOE website has been a great aide in saving money. NASCOE is not spending money foolishly. The NASCOE dues are only \$40 and they are the only venue for operating money. We need to have a good discussion on dues. If you want NASCOE to continue to represent you as it is today, dues will have to be examined and probably increased.
- **NAFEC**-The County Committee folks work just as hard for us and they do for themselves. Please become an associate member.

Cindy Pistek-Reorg Task Force-discussed the following:

- Kevin Beekman from MN is also present and could answer questions.
- Congressman Collin Peterson will be looking at reorganization after the farm bill is passed. The Reorg Task Force is to collect information from the membership and present this to the NASCOE board. They want the membership to have input on reorg.
- Three possible situations: *Status Quo*, leaving things the same-*Reassignments of responsibilities and duties*-FSA to be lead agency for many program-*Merger of agencies*, this could affect many areas and agencies. The NASCOE website has Reorg information posted and she encouraged everyone to look at the site and be informed on the progress of the task force. All of the situations must be examined closely and how FSA would be affected. The task force wants members to be involved. It is totally membership driven. The task force is only to relay information to the NASCOE Board.
- Nationwide participation: it is very important that everyone get involved.



Dee Lehn-MWA Benefits Chairperson: (Past IASCOE President): Gave a list of websites that have benefits information. She discussed the following:

- **Benefits for members:** Travel Advantage, this is a new project and NASCOE is now working in the black, so this was good news. Have received a royalty check from this. This is not only for NASCOE members, anyone can use it to book travel, but NASCOE gets a % each time it used.
- **Cell Phone discounts**-Alltel, Cingular, Sprint, Nextel, and many others offer discounts. The smaller companies do not offer this discount.
- **NASCOE Attorney:** Members are allowed one hour free with the NASCOE attorney on agency issues.
- **JM Marketing**-Mary Mike Taylor will discuss more details on policies that are available. The cancer policy provides a \$100 refund for wellness screening.
- **Whole Health Wellness-Blue Cross Blue Shield** offers many different alternative wellness benefits for only \$23/year. Becky Zirpel has been contacting many other health spas to get discounts.
- **Theme Parks**-The process may change this year. With internet access, members can obtain good deals directly with these parks through their own websites. You can go to the NASCOE travel website and book a vacation through that. The committee is looking into how to make this information available to members.
- **Apple**-Government purchasing power. You can order things at a discounted cost to Federal Employees. Please refer to the handout for the websites that you can go to.

Tammy Eibey-National CAPWIZ Coordinator: discussed the following-

- CAPWIZ-started as the coordinator after Bob McGrath went to Washington DC. In 2006, over 23000 messages were sent. FSA Tomorrow is a good example of how the system can work.
- Subscription. The 3 year subscription has been renewed for a cost of \$16200.
- Messages: posted 12 items, some information, 10800 messages were sent in 2007. Since Jan-March 21, over 3000 messages have been sent this year. There are over 2000 signed up for CAPWIZ nationwide. There is an alert out there now.
- Iowa-206 subscribed, but only about a third are actually sending messages.
- Volume really makes a difference when sending out messages regarding a subject. There is information available and she can enter information for anyone who would like to sign up for CAPWIZ at this convention.
- IASCOE needs home email addresses to get out information, but they are not shared and they are kept private.



Joshua Katcher-EJ Brown and Associates: this Company provides financial information. Handouts were provided to everyone that attended the convention. Discussed FERS benefits and how it impacts you.

Mary Mike Taylor-JM Marketing: Discussed policies available to members. Said thank you to everyone for their past support. Long Term Care insurance fits into financial planning. Why Long Term Care Insurance? There is a handout with all the information regarding why you should think about long term care insurance. The average length of stay in a nursing home is 2-3 years. Alzheimer patients generally stay much longer. At some point in time most people will have some type of assistance (home care, etc) and this assistance is very expensive and creates quite a burden on families. The cost of long term care can be \$45000 to \$75000 per year. For a much smaller amount per year, long term care insurance can ease this burden. Why Wait? It gets more expensive to buy the older you get. It is based on the age and health of the person at the time they take the insurance out.

General Assembly Convenes



Welcome-Steve Kennedy, President IASCOE: Thanked everyone for coming. Was grateful the bad weather hit a day earlier. This is called the "Spring Break" for IASCOE. He introduced the officers, Cindy Mensen, VP, Sue Beemer-Sec/Treasurer. These are the officers for the next year. He also introduced STO personnel and DD's present.

Charlene Neukomm-Midwest Area Alternate Exec- She thanked everyone for their support. She discussed the following:

- **Membership:** Midwest Area membership is 85%. Need strong membership to have a strong organization to support our cause and people.
- **CED Classification:** David Vidrine and Randy Cook are NASCOE representatives on this committee. There will be some CED reclassifications. Current CED's will be grandfathered. Criteria: 3 or more full time PT's, have 3 or more major programs, and over 300 program participants. Must have 2 of the 3 criteria to maintain a 12 grade level.

- **PT Classification:** After CED classification is done, the PT reclassification will be examined again. Mark VanHoose is working on this project. They came up with 3 new positions, this is a start to obtain more upgrades. The positions submitted to date are: Assistant CED, Office Operations Coordinators and District Program Assistant.
- **Communication:** we are affected by the Hatch Act and any type of congressional contact must be on your own time and own dime. Cannot solicit membership with the government computer. Communication can be done through Association. The NASCOE website has an update alert available. NASCOE NOW has the latest topics and issues and is a great tool to keep you updated.
- **National Database:** this is a necessary tool to communicate information through. Need home emails and need everyone to sign on or it will not be an effective tool. There are many concerns regarding this, such as security, etc. Hope to have a form ready by June to collect database information. There are many inconsistencies in how states collect membership information at this time. Once the database is in place, it can be of help to the states.
- **Negotiations:** We are very fortunate that we have this process because most agencies do not allow the employees to make suggestions on how programs could be done better. If you have an idea, please submit it. All suggestions are reviewed and then the information are compiled and it is determined if they are negotiation items or program issues. The list is sent to Washington and each item is deliberated on. Example: face to face training. This request has been done by IL each year. If you have a program idea or issue you do not have to wait until fall. The Program Chairperson is in constant communication with the Program Specialists in Washington. If you don't ask, they don't know that you need it or want it. In April, the NASCOE Negotiation Team will meet with the Washington specialists to discuss the negotiation items.
- **Midwest Area Rally,** April 18-19 in Indianapolis, IN. Robert Redding will be there. The Administrator will not be present. She reviewed the convention list. National Convention will be August 5-9 in Omaha, NE. The best human interest story for the Midwest was written by an Iowa member.

• **Brad Murray, Price Support Specialist- Iowa STO-MIDAS/Lean Six Sigma:** He discussed the MIDAS program:

MIDAS: Modernize and Innovate the Delivery of Agricultural Systems will transform FSA's delivery of farm program benefits into a 21st century business model by developing intranet based self service options. The IBM system 36 programs have to go web based soon. It is hoped that it will improve business processing. He went on to describe the MIDAS project. It is hoped that it will provide the needed future capacity for our customers and our agency. This system will provide the customers the ability to do business with any office at any time. In 2004, CM-493 detailed the MIDAS project. It was picked back up in 2007. The MIDAS team is using the Lean Six Sigma (LSS) system. This system analyzes data and determines the time and processes involved. It is a time study to identify inefficiencies in programs. Pilot counties will be used in the study. Data will be compiled from the study locations and will try to use off the shelf software to improve program delivery. Not sure how this will work, but the analysts insist it will work well. This system has been used by many Fortune 500 companies to improve business practices. Will find "pain points", which is what you don't like about the current system. These points are important to identify areas that need to be improved.



Jim Book, Iowa STO: Discussed Budget. The budget is in good shape. Staffing has remained the same for the past three years. There has been some reduction in permanent workload. It seems that workload and staffing is coming more in line. With a steady ceiling, it enables the state to fill vacancies quickly. There are many COTS in the program, but there are many anticipated CED retirements. The CED vacancies are a priority to be filled. FL vacancies have been filled as well. They have been able to backfill PT vacancies far more timely. There will be no workload report this

fall. Starting next year there will be a web-based work reporting system. There will be a code for every activity in the office. Not sure what will be in the new farm bill. Rest assured that there will be some new forms and the work that goes along with that. Once the farm bill is finally passed, it will take time to actually get procedure and web applications in place to administer the bill. He closed by saying that FSA was a pretty good place to work.

Evening festivities included a dance and the famous Iowa's "Got Talent Contest", an event no one should miss!

Saturday, March 29, 2008.

The Banquet Breakfast started out the day with Awards presented at the banquet. Scholarships, Sick Leave and Distinguished Service Awards were presented. Dee Lehn won the Distinguished Service to NASCOE Award. Service to FSA Agriculture Award was presented to Tracy Zimmerman. Community Service Awards: District 6 award went to Elaine Frank, District 2 award went to Steve Abbas, who also won the Midwest Area award. Dan Wells presented membership awards.

General Assembly Reconvenes

Welcome-Cindy Mensen, IASCOE Vice President:

Invocation, Steve Abbas, CED Franklin Co

Presentation of Colors, Iowa Army National Guard, JFHQ

National Anthem-Emily Bailey

Military Tribute-Deb Esselman-Baird

NASCOE National Convention-Nebraska Delegation: gave a presentation on the NASCOE convention in Omaha, NE, August 5-8.

Committee Reports

Scholarships: Tom Lane gave the committee report. There were four \$350 scholarships awarded this year. The Distinguished Service awards winners were again announced.

Membership: Dan Wells presented the membership committee report. He reviewed the sick leave and years of service awards. 74 counties are at 100% membership. Iowa is at 88.4% membership. 20 honorary membership awards were presented. On the membership drive in May, home email addresses will be requested.

Publicity: Tammy Eibey gave the committee report. She reviewed the newsletter and how effective personal articles are. There will be a format established for obtaining information from each district. It's OUR newsletter, not just the committee's. The newsletter is sent out quarterly. If you think of an article, send it to Tammy. Best human interest story from Iowa award won the Midwest Area Award. You have to be a member of the state association in order to be a winner of an award.

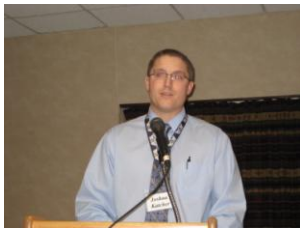
Benefits/Legislative: Steve Abbas and Jeff Davis gave the committee report. See Friday's notes.

Programs: Cindy Mensen read the report. You can make program suggestions and you can access the NASCOE website for the electronic form to fill out.

All committee reports were approved.



JM Marketing-Mary Mike Taylor: JM Marketing gave IASCOE a \$100 donation. Mary reviewed some of the programs available such as: long term care, cancer, and life insurance. Please report all changes so that the paperwork can be done properly. The supplemental health plans are not secondary insurance, you submit original bills for compensation.



EJ Brown & Associates-Joshua Katcher; They will give one on one presentations on their programs if requested. There is a website you can go to for information.

Trivia Contest awards were presented. Hancock County Chicks were in third place, the Ditsy Chicks were in second, and Team Duh won the award with the most points earned. This is a great contest for Iowa members!



Iowa Corn Growers Association ICGA, Craig Floss, Executive Director: Thanked everyone for the job they do. Iowa has a check off of 1 ½ cents. He discussed the following: 93.6 million acres planted to corn with 151.1 bu/acre average yield. Iowa averages 171 bu/acre. People don't understand all the uses of corn and how it impacts us as consumers. Corn Growers are trying to add value to the product that is produced. It is very important to work toward expanding value-added markets for the products in order to get more money for the corn producer.

Anything you make from petroleum can be made from corn. It's a matter of figuring how to do this economically. Livestock industry is the number one customer for corn. Ethanol is **NOT** the driving force in the corn market. Requests for information on Ethanol have increased dramatically. There are 145 Ethanol plants in operation and 63 under construction/expansion in the country right now. The long term projections are clearly that we will need to produce more corn. The corn growers are pushing for the 10% ethanol blend to be increased. We could produce more ethanol to keep up with increased demands. There are many things the Iowa corn growers can do to help the Ethanol industry and Mr. Floss outlined many ways. Minnesota has been doing an excellent job of working on this issue. Need to raise the "corn cap" in congress. The Ethanol plants generate over \$13 billion for the country in jobs, tax revenues, etc. Ethanol and Bio-Diesel is the fastest growing industry in the US. All other industries are attacking the corn industry. This is a daily battle with oil and food industries. Less than \$.02 of a

consumer dollar went to agriculture in 2000. Only 10% of our income is spent on food in the US. \$.81 of each food dollar spent goes to packaging, etc, only \$.19 of the food dollar goes back to the farmer. Energy and labor costs are the major factors in the rising food costs. There is a program called Kernels of Truth that informs the public on the actual costs of food. Break even costs are at \$4.05-\$4.15/bu to grow corn. \$5 corn is in the realm of reality with production costs. More information can be found at www.iowacorn.org.

Raffle and Auction winners announced

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Esselman, WI VP and MWA Webmaster



The 2008 Midwest Area Rally was hosted by Indiana on Saturday, April 19, 2008 in Indianapolis. Midwest Area Executive Chairperson welcomed all attendees from the eight state included in the area along with special guests and speakers. The Iowa delegation included Steve and Mary Kennedy, Cindy Pistek, Judy Dameron, Joni Birkhofer and Dee Ann Lehn.



Robert Redding, NASCOE's Legislative Consultant updated members on the status of the farm bill and touched on the possibility of reorganization within USDA. Congressman Peterson (Minnesota) is determined to start reorganization after the farm bill has passed. Mr. Redding emphasized NASCOE needs to be prepared and must be in a position to deal with issued regarding the possibility of organization.

NASCOE President, Bonnie Heinzman (West Virginia), addressed such topics as CED reclassification, PT reclassification, and Performance Work Plans. She also touched on the need for NASCOE to take a pro-active approach to reorganization and encouraged everyone to read over the report prepared by the NASCOE task force which has been posted on the NASCOE website.



Deputy Administrator of DAFO, John Chott spoke to the group on the status of office closures, reorganization, funding COT and FLOT positions, CED and PT reclassifications, the security clearance process, leasing and appropriate use of government equipment. He extensively talked about the current Performance Work Plan system and acknowledged much more training is needed to help development individual standards instead of using the "cookie cutter" approach that is now in place. The system is a good one if administered properly.

The reminder of the meeting consisted of reports from the area chairpersons, candidacy announcements and miscellaneous business.

Indiana proved to be a gracious host not only providing outstanding accommodations but also offering attendees such hospitality as happy hours, a "BIG 10" theme dance and the opportunity to attend a ballgame.

Iowa will have a tough act to follow as we will be hosting the 2009 Midwest Area Rally. Let's all work together to make it one of the most unforgettable rallies ever experienced in the Midwest!

From AAA to FSA

By Barb Gerzevske

Fremont County CED

In my office I have a reprint of the front page of The Des Moines Register from November 25, 1933. It is beautifully matted and framed, and the headline reads "Iowan Gets First U.S. Corn Loan." Along with a picture of the historical event, the accompanying article states that the farmer in the picture, W.W. Eral of Pocahontas, will use the \$585 he receives to 'pay a few debts and buy livestock.' This \$585 was the first loan under the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) plan to lend farmers 45 cents a bushel for their corn, and signaled the start of a seemingly never-ending chain of Federal farm programs for our nation's farmers.

As I reflect on this framed "snapshot" of agriculture as it was 75 years ago, it speaks volumes of the ever-changing role that Federal farm programs have played in U.S. agriculture. It's amazing when you think about how Federal farm programs and farming have evolved since Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the AAA into law in 1933 and Mr. Eral received that first corn loan.

WWI severely disrupted agriculture in Europe, and this worked to the advantage of farmers in the U.S. who were able to dramatically increase production and export the surplus. By the 1920s, European agriculture had recovered and no longer needed U.S. exports. However, U.S. farmers continued to produce more food than could be consumed or exported and prices began to fall. It was not unusual for a county grain elevator to list corn as minus three cents a bushel – if a farmer wanted to sell them a bushel of corn he had to bring in 3 cents.

The AAA's intent and mission was to restore the purchasing power of U.S. farmers to pre-WWI levels by attempting to balance the supply and demand for farm commodities. The law also established county committees of farmers called "Triple A Committees" who oversaw those first Federal farm programs offering loans to farmers, like Mr. Eral. Since the AAA committees were comprised of local farmers, this gave the farmers in each county a much-needed say in how Federal farm programs were administered at the grass-roots level. The government checks began to flow as most farmers couldn't afford not to take the government payments offered through the AAA.

The Supreme Court declared the actions of the AAA unconstitutional in 1936. However, in 1938, regulations were revised and another Agricultural Adjustment Act was passed and with it came new, complicated changes in conservation, crop support and marketing legislation. The 1938 Act also provided for the Ever-Normal Granary, Federal crop insurance and the food stamp program. The Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act (AMA) of 1937 also became part of the AAA, and it sought to establish and maintain orderly marketing conditions for agricultural commodities in interstate commerce and establish parity prices.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the War Food Administration (WFA) was organized to meet the increased needs of a country at war. As wartime posters declared, "Food Will Win the War" and "Sow the Seeds of Victory," government programs were added that supported the expansion of production of all farm commodities. The Ever-Normal Granary reserves that were authorized in the 1938 AAA provided the nation with a vast supply of food, feed and fiber. There was already in place a network of 100,000 farmer-committeemen elected by their neighbors spread throughout the U.S. that worked diligently to inform farmers on the needs and goals for farm products, besides carrying on many emergency activities such as providing help and guidance in avoiding gluts in the marketing of livestock and in getting corn marketed for war industries.

Following WWII, the authority for the WFA was terminated, and in its place came the Production and Marketing Administration (PMA). The PMA maintained a field services branch to aid in program oversight and local county offices to administer the programs. The post-war period of adjustment to peace-time production levels was almost more difficult than gearing up for a war. The PMA was charged with administering the new programs that were established in an attempt to reign in the overproduction that again threatened farm income. Throughout the post-war years, overproduction remained a nagging problem for both farmers and policymakers.

Reorganization in 1953 created the Commodity Stabilization Service (CSS) which oversaw price support and supply management with an emphasis on the preservation of farm income. Conserving programs such as the Soil Bank were introduced to bring production in line with demand by taking land out of production for periods of time ranging up to 10 years.

The CSS became the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in 1961, and the new name reflected the agency's expanded role in stabilization and resource conservation missions.

In 1994, reorganization resulted in the Consolidated Farm Service Agency (CFSA), renamed the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in November 1995. The new FSA encompassed the ASCS and the farm credit portion of the Farmers Home Administration.

The FSA of today continues to provide U.S. farmers with a safety net through farm commodity programs. There are also disaster programs for both insured and non-insurable crops, livestock programs, dairy programs, and price-support programs. FSA continues the long-standing tradition of conserving the nation's natural resources through the Conservation Reserve Program. The agency provides credit to agricultural producers who are unable to get private, commercial credit, and FSA places special emphasis on providing loans to beginning, minority and women farmers.

From the very beginning of federally administered farm programs in 1933 through the AAA to our present day FSA, the common thread is that policymakers saw, and continue to see, the wisdom and practicality of Federal programs for farmers being administered at the county level. The Federal agencies that administer the farm programs will continue to change, just as farming will continue to change. But something that has always been a constant is the commitment of the local county office staff and county committee to be there for the farmer.

Maybe there's still a Mr. Eral that farms somewhere in Iowa. If so, he probably has been into the county office and is participating in one or more of the programs administered by FSA. There is the real possibility that a check for \$585 issued to him by FSA will be used to pay a 'few debts and buy livestock.'

"The Puppies are Coming!"

Submitted by Dee Ann Lehn

Keokuk County CED

The world is just stuffed full of small wonders and I was apart of one of those wonders a couple of weeks ago.

My son, Derek, adopted a boxer pup, Sadie, 15 months ago. I lovingly refer to her as my granddaughter as it appears this is as close as I am going to get to a grandchild for quite some time and she seems to spend as much time at my house as she does at his.

Now this story starts with a son refusing listening to his mother (hard to imagine isn't it) and breeding a dog (my grandchild) at far too young an age but he seems to have this strong willed streak in him that I cannot seem to overpower and believe me, I do try! Derek has a very good friend who also has a boxer, Malcolm, so one thing led to another and Sadie becomes a mom-to-be on March 14, 2008. There is nothing to do now but wait for the big event and hope that all goes well. I did a little reading and learned that the average gestation period for a dog is 63 days but birth can take place where from 58 to 68 days. This would make Sadie's due date May 14th according to my calculations.

I spent the first few weeks hoping the she was not actually pregnant but as the days passed, it becomes more and more apparent that Sadie was indeed going to have puppies. As the time grows nearer, I was growing more concerned that she may experience difficulty with the birth as she was only a little over a year old herself. Derek once again ignores his mother and always replies with "She's fine" whenever I raise my concerns.

I finally accept that this event was truly going to transpire and actually start becoming a little excited. I thought Mother's Day would be the perfect time for Sadie to present me with my "great grandchildren" so I sit her down a few days before and have a long chat with her about this—just like her master—she doesn't listen!

Now, part of me kind of wanted to be a part of the birthing process and part of me wanted nothing to do with it. However, if I was going to partake, the event would have to happen before the 15th of the month as I was leaving on vacation to visit my good friend, Lisa, in Ohio and I really couldn't be much help if I were 500 miles away.

I just finish lunch on May 14th and I receive "the call". A voice etched with uncertainty is on the other end of the phone line: "Mom, Sadie is really panting heavily and didn't sleep last night, I pretty sure she's in labor". I calmly ask if he would like me to come and he replies: "how soon can you get here!?" (His voice now etched with relief!). I informed the staff of the situation and I hear them snicker as I depart: "She sounds just like the maid in One Hundred and One Dalmatians proclaiming *the puppies are coming-the puppies are coming!*"

As I drive to Fairfield from my office in Sigourney, thoughts of Gone with the Wind began to invade my mind and I kept hearing Prissy say: "*Lawdy, Miss Scarlett, I don't know nothin' bout birthin' no babies!*" I suddenly come to the realization that I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' 'BOUT BIRTHIN' NO PUPPIES! What was I thinking! Why did I think I could actually be of any assistance to Derek and Sadie? "Calm down, Dee", I tell myself, "you did have enough sense to pick up some latex gloves before embarking on the journey". (I wasn't touching those things bare-handed!)—Derek assured me he had everything else we could possibly need. One of his co-worker talked to him about preparing a little bit before hand and told him do a little reading on the process so he would know what to expect and to know if Sadie was in distress and needed professional assistance —He listened to his co-worker (go figure—can you believe it)!

One hour after I arrive, Sadie begins to deliver. Derek and I are as ready as we get possibly get and hold our breath as she pushes to deliver the first puppy. She performs like an old pro—never lets out so much as a whimper during the whole process and knew exactly what to do when the pup is born. Derek helps with the cleaning off process but Sadie looks at him as if to say "I can take it from here". Sadie calmly goes about licking her first born clean and is ready to deliver another, then another and another and another—until the eighth and final puppy is born some 8 hours later. Sadie has become the proud mother of 4 little males and 4 little females and her world has now totally changed-- for the next several weeks at least!

I have to stop by a regular basis to check up on the "kids". They started opening their eyes last week-end and I just could not resist naming them all (No, I am not becoming attached—what would give you that idea????). Bernice is the first born and is easy to recognize as she has a white spot on her shoulder. Her brothers and sisters are Brutus, Bruno, Eli, Ike (the runt), Selma, Trixie and Dixie. Derek is refusing to acknowledge their names—the strong will is surfacing once again.

The whole experience has been thoroughly amazing and I can hardly wait for the puppies to become strong enough to romp and play which may be about the time they are coming out to my house for a week as Derek is going out of state in June. I haven't found the nerve to tell the hubby we will be having 9 houseguests for several days! I'll cross that bridge when I come to it. For now, I'm just going to enjoy the great grandkids until they are adopted into a loving family and watch in wonder as they grow and develop their own little personalities

Puppies anyone???



KFFAFS Chapter Day Camp - 2008



May 1st was the annual Farm Safety Day Camp for 1st graders in Kossuth and surrounding counties for the Kossuth FFA Farm Safety Chapter. This event began 4 years ago and continues to improve each year. Nine stations are set up and the information is presented by the chapter members who are students. We feel students teaching students is a very effective method of program delivery. Everyone learns using this method.

The day was cool but the Kossuth County Fairgrounds can house students in shelter houses and buildings in case of rain and this year maybe even snow. We were fortunate that we had neither on that day but we did not see any sun and of course it was windy.

The student's present information to groups of 15 to 20, and each group has two presenters and one group leader along with a teacher. The stations are decided by the chapter students and they have kept their topics but just add or change the information presented in the past year. Each station is 10 minutes in length and group leaders present the material 9 times so are very comfortable with their presentation when they finish with the last session.

This year we had 6 of the 8 schools invited in the county attend. Schedule conflicts and budget issues are usually the reason why a school can not attend. The invitations for the day camp are sent in the fall, along with a reminder early spring, and then a RSVP a month before the event. Cookies and juice are provided for a snack.

The following topics are presented:

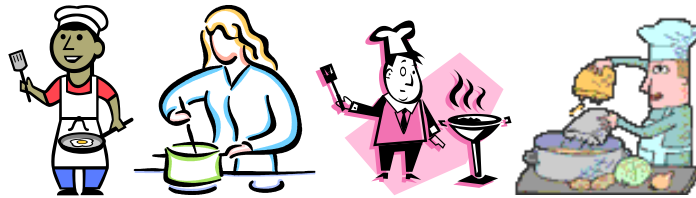
- Station 1 – First Aid
- Station 2 – Tractor Safety
- Station 3 – Manure Safety
- Station 4 – Grain Safety
- Station 5 - ATV Safety
- Station 6 – Lawn Mower Safety
- Station 7 – Chemical Safety
- Station 8 – Animal Safety
- Station 9 – Sun Safety



The adult members that help with day camp include FFA Ag Advisors Lynn MacVey, Algona, Jason Holt, North Kossuth/Sentral and Clyde Johnson, West Bend/Mallard along with Lisa Forburger, FSA, Carolyn Marshall and Shirley Pecoy, NRCS and Bob Cink, SWCD.

Lisa Forburger, Kossuth County

CRUNCH TIME!



Hey! Did you know those great folks at IASCOE are putting together a cook book? And you can be a part of it! Just choose your favorite recipes to share and go to www.typensave.com on your home computer. Enter your name and county. The group name is IASCOE and the password is IOWA. In just a couple minutes you can enter your recipes.

It's a piece of.....



Go to the web site and take a peek at the recipes that have already been entered.

We obviously have some good cooks in our organization.

And it sounds like they like to have fun, too!

We have reached the 650+ recipe mark and we can use more to meet our goal.

HELP!

We have extended the deadline to **June 10th** so don't put it on the back burner.

You may enter up to 10 recipes! We need your help to make this project work.

FLP, NRCS, COC, DD's, Retirees, State Office.....we want your recipes, too!

This will be your last chance to get you favorite recipe in the book.



After you've entered your recipes, you'll want to get your order in. Just complete the order form on the next page and send it along with your check by June 15th to:

IASCOE Cookbook

%Tammy Pruin

PO Box 103

Clarion, IA 50525

Check the IASCOE website for all the details!

This will be a beautiful 3 ring binder containing all submitted recipes at the low price of \$20.00 each. (Remember this is a fundraiser so all proceeds go to support IASCOE business!)



More good news.....the books will be ready in time for your Holiday gift giving! So remember Mom, the kids, your friends, your brothers and sisters - anyone who likes to eat - and give them a gift in good taste. This may be your only chance to order, so be sure to get your requests in soon!

Re-orders may be available at a later date, but we will need a minimum of 200 to place a second order. The costs to IASCOE for re-orders are also higher. Be certain you order enough cookbooks for all your needs!

If you need any assistance with entering recipes or editing the recipes that you have submitted, you may contact any of the cookbook committee. We would be happy to “fix” anything that needs to be corrected!

The committee members are:

Patty Van Zyl – Sioux

Robin Rode – Kossuth

Rose Woerner – Black Hawk

Denise Dugan – Woodbury

Joni Birkhofer – Muscatine

Kelly Cain – Madison

Judy Dameron – Louisa

Wright Co staff

Tammy Pruin – Chairperson

Glenda Von Arb – Co-chairperson

Stay tuned to the IASCOE website for more updates!

Thanks for your participation – both entering recipes and purchasing cookbooks. This is a great fund-raising opportunity for our association. IASCOE does so much for us – but it takes our support and this is a great way to show it!



Sales Order Form

Date _____

Price per Book \$20.00

Number of books _____

Amount Paid \$ _____

Purchased by:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

County _____ IASCOE District _____

Phone (____) _____

(Please return this order form with payment by June 15)



Keep for your records

Cookbook Receipt

Date _____

Price per Book \$20.00

Number of Books _____

Amount Paid _____

Organization IASCOE



Sales Order Form

Date _____

Price per Book \$20.00

Number of books _____

Amount Paid \$ _____

Purchased by:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

County _____ IASCOE District _____

Phone (____) _____

(Please return this order form with payment by June 15)



Keep for your records

Cookbook Receipt

Date _____

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Number of Books _____

Amount Paid _____

Organization IASCOE



Sales Order Form

Date _____

Price per Book \$20.00

Number of books _____

Amount Paid \$ _____

Purchased by:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

County _____ IASCOE District _____

Phone (____) _____

(Please return this order form with payment by June 15th)



Keep for your records

Cookbook Receipt

Date _____

Price per Book \$20.00

Number of Books _____

Amount Paid _____

Organization IASCOE



My Mother's Journey

Submitted by Susan Jacobson, PT, Union County

In the fall of 2006, my mother was diagnosed with stage III colon cancer. Soon after she started treatment, the CEA number (cancer cells in the blood) decreased and our family was so hopeful that she was going to be a success story. Then the cancer spread to her liver and a spot was found on her lung – now the cancer was stage IV.

After two disappointing trips to the Mayo Clinic, months of radiation, chemotherapy, and a multitude of tests, my mother died on January 8 of this year. Only one year and two months after her first trip to the doctor and she was gone. She was only 70 years old.

My mother was my best friend and I miss her every day of my life. I didn't know what to do with all my grief and anger - I was afraid it would affect my home life with my two daughters and my work. I needed to find a way to grieve and still function.

I can't bring my mother back, but I thought I could try to help others with this same situation and those trying to deal with the fear and anxiety as my mother did. I have decided to host a 1st Annual Jane Jensen Colon Cancer Awareness Walk – the purpose is not to raise money, but simply raise awareness. I first contacted the American Cancer Society who was very helpful in getting me started. I am getting help ordering literature to have available at the walk and an ACS representative will have someone come to the walk so participants can ask questions and get some answers that day.

I am still working out the details, but organizing it has helped me turn my grief and anger into positive energy. The walk is set for September 20th and will be held at the Bridgewater Elementary School in Bridgewater, Iowa. There is a walking path around the school and is near my parent's home, so it is a perfect location. The ACS recommends at least 30 minutes of exercise everyday, so prizes will be given depending on how long people walk.

I have learned more than I ever want to know about colon cancer, but the main thing I have learned is that early detection is critical. My goal is to have my entire community and everyone else that I can possibly reach, be aware that a colonoscopy is the only method available for early detection – EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE ONE AT LEAST BY AGE 50 – or earlier if you have symptoms or other family members have suffered from this terrible disease.

I will report back on how the walk goes. In the meantime, think about being proactive with you own health and learn all you can about colon cancer prevention.



My mother, Jane Jensen, with my daughter Rebecca, last fall at homecoming

FARM BILL BLUES

From

Muscatine County

As we wait for certification to begin and the farm bill to pass, our farmers believe we have nothing to do, have you heard enough of those remarks??? We continue to be busy in our office; we have cleaned files that have been neglected for years. We have our maps updated in the DCP folders for certification, we have reviewed our direct deposit files, price support master files, Joni has had time to finally get caught up on her CRP folders/files. We have continued to process the disaster program payments and the problems that arose from differences of yields between RMA and our records along with all the daily routine events of the office.

We have been able to organize our desks and clean stuff out that was long overdue. Well, you've all been there and know we NEVER have nothing to do in our office, it may be stuff we chose NOT to do, but there is always STUFF to be done.

I have included a recipe to share for those who love mushrooms but seem to never be where they are!! Enjoy



MUSHROOM HUNTERS

HERE IS A RECIPE FOR THOSE MUSHROOM HUNTERS THAT COME HOME EMPTY HANDED FROM THEIR ADVENTURE. THESE ARE TASTY AND EASY WITH NO TICKS TO PICK OR POISON IVY TO DODGE.

ONE LARGE CAN CAMPBELL CREAM OF MUSHROOM SOUP

2 SLEEVES SALTINE CRACKERS, CRUSHED

2 EGGS BEATEN

STIR ALL TOGETHER, SPOON UP TABLESPOON OF MIXTURE, PUT IN SKILLET WITH ENOUGH OIL/BUTTER TO COVER BOTTOM OF PAN, DROP TABLESPOON OF BATTER IN SKILLET FLATTEN W/SPATULA, FRY TILL DONE ON ONE SIDE AND TURN OVER.

Tasty little morsels...you'll be surprised...we were!! a safe and happy Summer with certification and FARM BILL BLUES!!

Submitted by: Betty Williams, PT Muscatine County

MARSHALL COUNTY FSA EMPLOYEES



Matthew **Kitty**
Rosemary **Amy**



**We're tired of cleaning out old records & are use to
being knee deep in paperwork,
Ssssoooo BRING ON THE FARM BILL, PLEASE!!!**

!

Name: Kitty J Benda

Years of Service: 22

Title and Programs: CPT - Administration, DCP & Automation

Marital Status: Married to a wonderful man; Bruce for 33 years this June.

Kids and/or Pets: One daughter; Rhiannon age 13 and 2 Cavalier King Charles Spaniels; Tinker Belle is Blenheim and 3 years old & Abbey Rocks is Tricolored and 2 years old.

Outside Interests: Anything with my daughter (especially watching her in dance), GNO (Girls Night Out), traveling (Florida/Disney), music, volleyball, tennis and shopping, especially for others.

In my free time I like to: Take family walks, enjoy the outdoors and watch movies together.

I have always wanted to: Visit Europe and Australia (animals & snorkeling).

I love: My family and friends of course, but in addition I love animals and always wanted to work at a Zoo (ZOO/ FSA-see the similarities!). However, I am thankful for my job and the people I work with and for (our producers)!

An amazing fact about myself is: The higher the roller coaster the better, so you see skydiving would be a thrill for me!

If I won a big lottery I would use some of the money to: Beyond the norm of helping my loved ones; I would help children find good homes, because there are too many children that are treated like possessions without rights! With our technology (Adoption Data Bases) today there is a better way for us to locate children who need help and find them loving families to take care of them, that they can call their own! I would also use some of the money to help animals because they are powerless like our children and many of them are treated unfairly too!

Name: Kathleen L Baker

Years of Service: 19 years since June 1986

Title and Programs: PT – Price Support, FSFL, Wool, CDP, Dairy

Marital Status: Widowed

Kids and/or Pets: 2 children: Austin age 12, Samantha age 10, 1 dog Luke age 12 ½ years

Outside Interests: Attending children's sports events, and daughters dance, attending nieces & nephews sport activities.

In my free time I like to: Play softball, volleyball, crafts, cross stitch.

I have always wanted to: Travel to Hawaii , drive down route 66, travel all over the United States, own a log home.

I love: Spending time with family and friends, watching & attending Nascar races, playing softball.

An amazing fact about myself is: I'm stronger then most realize for all that life has thrown at me.

If I won a big lottery I would use some of the money to: pay off bills, give some to my family, buy my dream home (log home), set up trusts funds for my children, donate to the Kidney Cancer Foundation so they can find something that would help those with kidney cancer since this is what my Mom and Husband died from in 2003.

Name: Rosemary L Chapman

Years of Service: 25

Title and Programs: PT – Payment Limitation, Reconstitutions, Farm Changes and Bankruptcies

Marital Status: Happily married to Jeffrey for 26 years.

Kids and/or Pets: 3 sons: Joseph age 26, Joshua age 25, Jacob age 16 and 1 daughter: Jennifer age 14. We have 2 dogs: Max and Gus, 2 cats: Babie and Abbie, 2 grand dogs: Lela and Sadie and 1 grand cat: Cobie Joe

Outside Interests: Going to games with my children and husband. You name it they play it.

In my free time I like to: Relax (I don't have much 'me' time). I also like to do scrapbooking, crafts, and I like to sew.

I have always wanted to: Travel all 50 states. If my husband keeps bowling, I may get this accomplished by attending all the Men's National Bowling Tournaments. If not, I would like to hook our camper to the truck and just take off for two weeks at a time, with no distinct destination in mind.

I love: My children very much, they are the highlight of my life. My Mother, she is always there for me, even at 88 years young (We call her the little energizer bunny, she stands 4'8" tall and has more energy than you can imagine). My work; I have met so many people (producers) through work. I love it when I am shopping and a producer yells "Hi, how's it going, do we have a farm bill yet?" at me.

An amazing fact about myself is: I can drive a tractor, but I cannot cook. I am the third generation of my family to work for ASC, ASCS, CFSA, and FSA.

If I won a big lottery I would use some of the money to: I would buy my Mother and my children anything they want. I would give a lot of it to charity and I would help out my friends. I would pay all my bills and buy a new camper because ours is pretty old to take across the United States.

Name: Amy J Castillo

Years of Service: 5

Title and Programs: PT – CRP/GIS

Marital Status: Married to Felix

Kids and/or Pets: 1 son Trey age 10

Outside Interest: Going for walks with my family around the lake where we live. Watching and feeding the deer, birds, pheasants and squirrels.

In my free time I like to: Scrapbook and make jewelry.

I have always wanted to: Sail the Caribbean and live on a boat.

I Love: Spending time on our houseboat at Coralville Lake, and going on trips with my husband on our Harley.

An amazing fact about myself is: I have been a hospice volunteer for 7 years.

If I won the big lottery I would use some of the money to: I would of course give my Mother and my Father in law everything they ever wanted. Next, I would set up a trust fund for family reunions for many years to come. Then, I would give to many different charities, but I would have to give generously to Hospice and Ducks Unlimited.

Name: Matt T Kemp

Years of Service: 9 months

Title and Programs: PT - Compl Oth/Off. Meas/Sod-Swamp-NAP/GIS

Marital Status: Married

Kids and/or Pets: 2 children

Outside Interests: Farming and landscaping our yard

In my free time I like to: Relax

I have always wanted to: Fly an airplane

I love: Spending time with family and friends

An amazing fact about myself is: I enjoy flying and have always wanted to fly an airplane, but I have a fear of heights

If I won a big lottery I would use some of the money to: Give to the church

Mandy Kohlhaas, Junior at Bishop Garrigan High School in Algona placed 5th in Class 1A at the 2008 Iowa Girls State Golf Tournament in Marshalltown, Mandy is the daughter of Allan and Shelly Kohlhaas (PT in Kossuth Co.) Mandy shot a 92 on Day 1 to place 11 and improved on Day 2 shooting an 83 to the 5th place position with a final score of 175. Mandy was District medalist shooting an 86 and runner-up medalist at Regional firing an 82. Last year she was 10th overall and the team was Class 1A Champions. Mandy is also involved in Volleyball, Basketball, 4-H and member of the Iowa Junior [Beef Breeders Association](#). She has been very competitive in the show calf circuit, winning Grand Champion Market Heifer at the 2007 Iowa State Fair.



Picture 1 of Mandy Kohlhaas at the 2008 IFSGT

Picture 2 of Mandy Kohlhaas and coach Dean Capesius

Pictured 3 here is Mandy with her 2008 Market Heifer "Lexi".



10 Ways to Enjoy a Track Meet

1. Don't go, have someone tape it for you.
2. Dress as if you were going sledding.
3. Get to the meet late.
4. Only let one child per household participate unless they are in the same meets
5. Remind yourself it is spring and summer is around the corner.
6. Add flavored schnapps to your coffee, it will smell like creamer.
7. Have your spouse be a timer.
8. There is a cancellation from adverse weather and you found out before you left home.
9. Take a sleeping bag, bed down in the middle and just listen to the announcer.
10. Take your supper break and at a recommended home town pub from 6:30 to 7:30 and hope the service is slow.

I hope this is helpful. Track is such a fun season all my children participate in. I am so disappointed that they did not qualify for state! I just might have gone there!

Lisa Forburger, PT Kossuth County FSA



PERILS OF POLLY P.T.

PART 26

Written by Roseanne Woerner

Created by Dee Ann Lehn

I have a mental, must-do list, if I ever get the chance to run the office for a day.

Man, oh, man. Would I make some changes. First off, I'd call the landlord right away and tell him to fix the potholes in the parking lot. They are enormous. They're soooo big; in fact, we even named some of them. Take the one closest to the mailbox, for instance. We call it Mr. T. because of the shape.

Maybe, fixing potholes wouldn't be the priority of most people. But since I have to get the mail, it makes a big difference to me. Yesterday, I wasn't exactly watching where I was going. (Okay, so a bunch of beefy-looking guys were jogging by and I was forced to turn my head at the most inopportune moment. Sue me.) Anyway, I sort of lost my balance and twisted my foot, which is still sore today, I might add.

I'm pretty sure that Tessa Starr won't address the problem until she has her own close call, which means that she has to get the mail. So, I've devised a plan. I even rented crutches.

It's Tuesday morning. Tessa has been waiting for a letter from a producer for six days now. He wants to appeal. Since the COC meets tomorrow, she has big hopes that the letter will be here by then. Did I mention that it rained all night?

Tessa comes to my desk around ten o'clock. "Did we get any mail today, Polly?" she asks.

I give her my best grimace and I follow that up with a heavy sigh. "I was about to go out," I say. "But my foot is throbbing right now. Must be the rain." I start to rise. "But I'll go out if you need it right now for some reason." I make half-hearted lunge toward my crutches.

Tessa glances around the office. She's probably looking for a temporary, mail proxy, but everyone else is busy. "Never mind," she huffs. "I'll go."

Tessa hates to get the mail. Even in perfect weather. It's not her thing. She wears these witchy shoes, six inch heels and pointed toes and I'm sure they crunch her feet so much, it's hard to walk. (Those tight skirts don't help her mobility much either, but that's just my opinion.)

As soon as she leaves the office, I go over to the window to watch her progress. Kadie Vaughn, who happens to be walking past, watches with me. It rained so much this morning; there are big, long ugly worms all over the lot. I haven't seen them around for years and years. Gross. It's kind of funny though, to watch Tessa tippy-toe around them. There are so many worms; she's walking along the side

of the parking lot that borders the street. She looks like she's walking a tightrope. Her heels haven't touched ground since she stepped off the sidewalk.

Finally, she makes it to the mailbox, but her back is to the street now. She can't stand directly in front of the mailbox, because Mr. T. extends too far out on that side. She gets the mail and takes a step back. She's halfway turned around and headed back when WHOOSH, a car speeds down the road.

You guessed it. The car is driving too close to the curb. It hits a pothole that is filled to the brim with yucky, mucky water. It drenches Tessa. Her big, poufy flip goes instantly flat. Her very expensive, silky, white blouse is the color of dung and pretty much see-through. Even from this angle. She just kind of stands there like a statue for the longest time. Her hands outstretched; her mouth a big, gaping hole.

Kadie and I exchange horrified glances. "She wears shoes like that for a reason, Polly," Kadie says. "You better run."

TO BE CONTINUED. . .



The Lost Dr. Seuss Poem

I Love My Job!

I love my job, I love the pay!
I love it more and more each day.
I love my boss, he is the best!
I love his boss and all the rest.

I love my office and its location, I hate to have to go on vacation.
I love my furniture, drab and grey, and piles of paper that grow each day!
I think my job is really swell, there's nothing else I love so well.
I love to work among my peers, I love their leers, and jeers, and sneers.
I love my computer and its software;
I hug it often though it won't care. I love each program and every file.
I'd love them more if they worked a while.

I'm happy to be here. I am. I am.
I'm the happiest slave of the Firm, I am.
I love this work, I love these chores.
I love the meetings with deadly bores.
I love my job - I'll say it again - I even love those friendly men.
Those friendly men who've come today,
In clean white coats to take me away!!!!



"Is this where we sign up for SAFE?" Two geese recently stopped to visit the Clarke County FSA Office.





2008 Registration

NASCOE'S 49th NATIONAL CONVENTION
 August 6, 7, 8 and 9, 2008
 Doubletree Hotel Downtown
 1616 Dodge Street
 Omaha NE 68102
 Phone : (402) 636-4917 or 1-800-766-1164
 Ask for NASCOE National Convention or code NNC



Hotel Reservations must be made by July 3, 2008

Name _____ Guest _____
 _____ Delegate _____ Member _____ NASCOE _____ NAFEC Youth Name _____ Age _____
 Address _____ Youth Name _____ Age _____
 City/State/Zip _____ Phone: _____
 Your STO _____ Email _____
 Airlines/Flight Number _____ Arrival Date & Time _____
 Airlines/Flight Number _____ Departure Date & Time _____

Registration – For Age 13 and Older	Number	Price	Total
Pre-Registration – postmarked before July 6 th , 2008	_____	x \$25.00	= _____
Registration – postmarked after July 6 th , 2008	_____	x \$30.00	= _____

The above registration fee is waived for Honorary NASCOE Members.

Events

Day	Event	Time	Price	Number	Total \$
Tuesday	Harrah's Casino – Transportation Provided	All Evening	FREE Transportation		---
Wednesday	Pasta Buffet Dancing with the Stars Contest Joseph Hall, Elvis Impersonator	7:00 PM 8:00 PM 9:00 PM	\$5.00 x		
Thursday	Scholarship Auction & Dance	7:00 PM	FREE		---
Friday Afternoon	Retirees Luncheon	12.00 PM	\$25.00 x		
Friday	HeeHaw Skit Contest	7:00 PM	FREE		---
Saturday	Awards Night & Banquet	7:00 PM	\$38.50 x		



Tours & Golf
(Wednesday August 6th)

Tour #	Tour Description	Time	Price	Number	Total \$
1	Baseball Game & Lunch	11:30AM	20.00 X		
2	Lauritzen Gardens & Strategic Air & Space Museum (lunch included)	9:30 AM	\$45.00 X		
3	Henry Doorly Zoo	10:00 AM	\$15.00 X		
4	Amazing Energy Ethanol Plant & Village Pointe	8:30 AM	\$25.00 X		
5	Golf at Tiburon Golf Course (includes sack lunch, green fees, cart, flag prize money and use of driving range)	9:00 AM Shotgun Start	\$50.00 X		

Youth Tours

**Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult at Amazing Pizza Machine & Fun Plex!*

Day	Tour Description	Time	Price	Number	Total \$
Wednesday	Get Acquainted Party & Dinner	6:30 PM	\$5.00 X		
Thursday	Amazing Pizza Machine (includes buffet, \$40 of Play Points & rides)	10:30	*Child \$30.00 X		
			Adult \$30.00 X		
Friday	Fun-Plex (includes rides & water park all day) Lunch on your own	10:30	*Child \$25.00 X		
			Adult \$25.00 X		
Saturday	Game & Movie Night (at the hotel)	Lunch	\$5.00 X		
		Dinner	\$5.00 X		

Registration Total

\$ _____

Make checks payable to NEBRASCOE. Payment must be included with Registration.
Mail payment and registration form to: Sherry Stubbendeck, 1711 322nd St. Elmwood, NE 68349
Questions: Call Sherry @ (402) 994-6955 home or (402) 269-2361 Ext 100 work.
For more information on all tours and events, visit www.nebrascoe.com

FREE Child Care

Lunch & Dinner provided - \$5.00 per meal

Day	Child Care Provided	Number of Children	Ages of Children	Drop off Time	Pick Up Time
Wednesday	9:00am – 5:00 pm				
Thursday	9:00am – 9:00 pm				
Friday	9:00am – 9:00 pm				
Saturday	9:00am – 9:00 pm				

Extras

Item	Description	Price	Number	Total \$
NEBRASCOE'S FAMOUS COOKBOOK	Over 2000 Recipes <small>(Can be picked up at convention or mailed for \$5.55 postage)</small>	\$20.00 X <small>(Plus \$5.55 for mail orders)</small>		
2008 NATIONAL CONVENTION T-SHIRT	Advance orders only – None sold at the convention	\$15.00 X	_____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large	



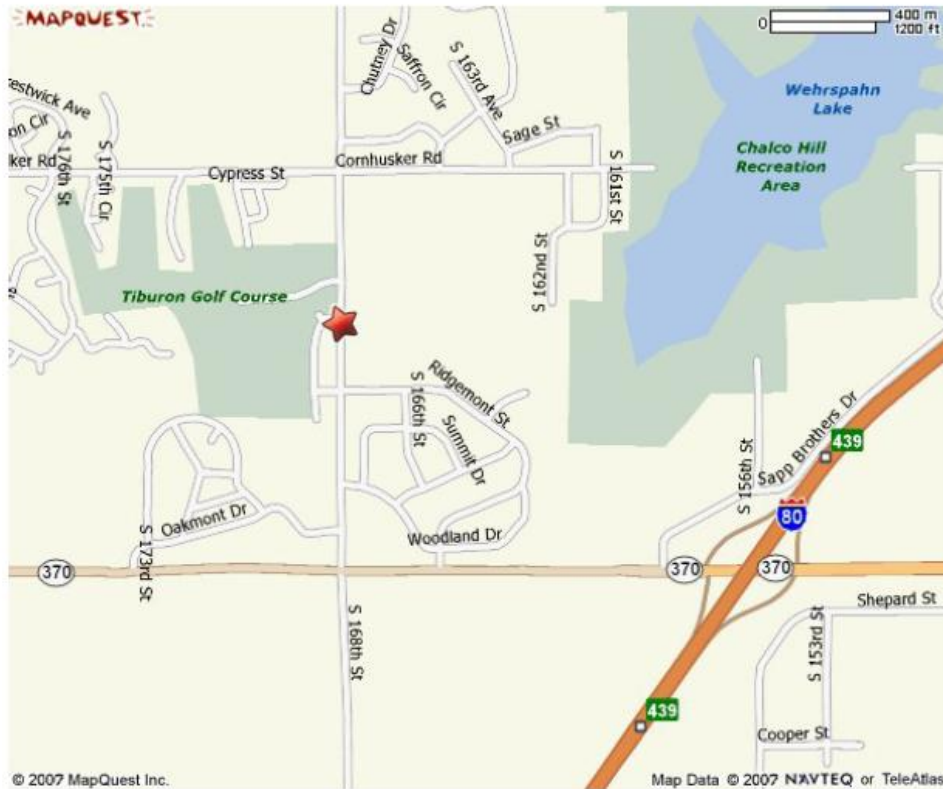
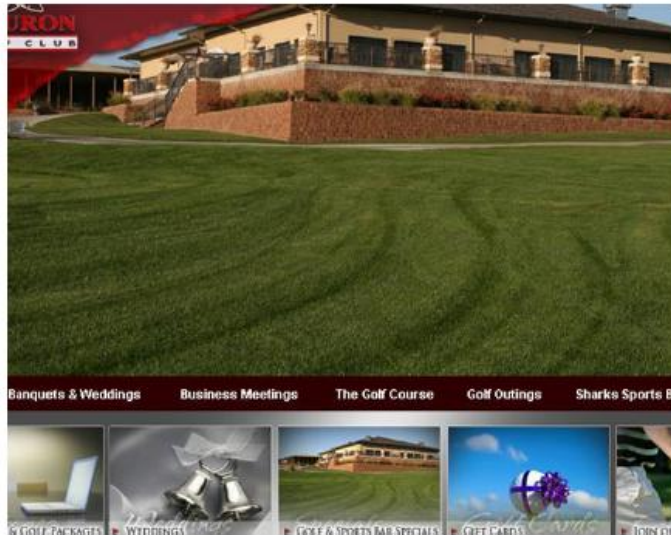
2008 NASCOE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Date: 8/6/08
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Tiburon G.C.
10302 S. 168th
Omaha, NE
www.tiburongolf.com

Cost: \$50

Bus or shuttle will leave
Hotel at 7:30 & return
approx. 3:30.

Price of \$50 includes green
fees, flag prize money, lunch
and use of driving range.



NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE

I have GREAT NEWS!!! AAA has recently announced that Nebraska is the second least expensive state for a vacation in 2008! Kiplinger rates Omaha as the 3rd best city in the nation to live for 2008!

Those of you who have made plans to come to Omaha for the 49th annual NASCOE Convention have made a very wise choice! Those of you who haven't made this decision yet should be seriously considering it! With the high prices this summer, a vacation in Nebraska is just what the doctor ordered!

We have some great family events planned for Wednesday including a trip to the zoo or to a baseball game.

Our headquarters hotel is the Doubletree which is within walking distance of the Old Market Area in Downtown Omaha with an abundance of interesting shops, restaurants and bars.

There are several affordable options for lunch within a few minutes walk to you can save money and still get back in plenty of time for the afternoon or evening activities.

We have a lot of activities planned for the kids as well with our Little League Club.

We're going to have a great time in Omaha this summer, but it won't be the same without you!!!!





IASCOE
The Iowa Association Of FSA County Office Employees

May 29, 2008

To IASCOE family and friends.

Southern Butler County was devastated by a tornado on Sunday May 25. The loss of many homes has created situations of people being without the basic necessities that we all take for granted during our everyday activities.

The list of items includes:

- Toothpaste
- Tooth brushes
- Towels
- Shampoo
- Pillows/cases
- Batteries
- Deodorant
- Tube Socks – new
- Garbage Bags
- Washcloths
- Diapers

A distribution center has been set up in the Aplington School for anyone wanting to donate needed items. One easy method would be to purchase a gift card from a chain store such as: Home Depot, Walmart, Kohls, etc. You may also make a monetary donation. Any funds collected will be used to purchase these items.

Please send any donations prior to June 6 to: Aplington School

% Deb
215 10th Street
PO Box 607
Aplington, Iowa 50604

You may indicate it is from Iowa Association of FSA County Office Employees.

Thank you to everyone for your caring concern. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers.

Butler County FSA and IASCOE

