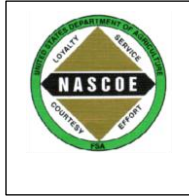


NASCOE Now

August 20, 2011



President-Elect Report

Submitted by

John R. Lohr

August 20, 2011

Just last week in Corpus Christy, Texas we wrapped up the 52nd NASCOE Convention. Thanks to the Texas association for hosting a great event.

Traditionally every second year the NASCOE leadership team undergoes a major transition. This year in addition to my election as your incoming President, the NASCOE Board of Directors selected the following:

- Mark Van Hoose from Ohio as Vice President
- Annette Hyman from New York returns as Secretary
- Shelly Odenkirk from Ohio returns as Secretary
- Myron Stroup from Kansas to serve one year as Past President to help mentor the Executive Committee.
- Charlene Neukomm from Illinois as a second-term Midwest Area Executive Committeeperson.
- Wes Daniels from South Carolina as a first-term Southeast Area Executive Committeeperson
- Dale Fowers from Utah as a first-term Southwest Area Executive Committeeperson.
- Larry Olsen from South Dakota as a first-term Northwest Area Executive Committeeperson.
- Dan Smeal from Pennsylvania as a first-term Northeast Area Executive Committeeperson.

Additionally I have selected the following NASCOE standing committee chairpersons:

- Tom Oasen from Wisconsin for Awards, Emblems, and Scholarship
- Tammy Eibey from Iowa for Publicity
- Terry Stehr from Pennsylvania and Dan Root from Minnesota as co-chairpersons of Legislative
- Phillip Morton from Oregon for Benefits
- Stephanie Bradley from Texas for Membership
- Patricia Sorensen from Florida for Programs
- Mark Van Hoose from Ohio as Parliamentarian

Deb Esselman will be returning as our webmaster.

Our first order of business is to get everyone quickly transitioned to their new positions and ready to deal with the issues at hand. In traditional fashion we will be traveling to the site of next year's national convention, Boise, Idaho, on September 25 and 26 for our annual organization meeting.

I can already gladly report that your new NASCOE leadership team has hit the ground running ready to work on the upcoming farm bill, the reduced salary and expense funding, the erosion of the COC system, and the issues surrounding FSA's downsizing and our ability to deliver program benefits.

With a great bunch of NASCOE member volunteers at home helping where they can, we are optimistic that together we will make a difference.

NASCOE PARTNERSHIP COALITION AWARD

I'm proud to recommend this nominee for the Partnership Coalition Award.

This Ohioan serves diverse agriculture backgrounds from across the state and understands small town and rural communities. He is committed to strengthening Ohio agriculture and to ensuring prosperity in our state's rural areas in years to come.

Jim Zumbrink, a self-employed farmer for more than 40 years in Rossburg, Darke County, Ohio, is the current president of the Darke County Agricultural Society, the vice president of the Darke County Farmers Union, and a Township Trustee. Zumbrink is serving on the Ohio State Farm Service Agency as a State Committee representative and in addition, he has also served the Ohio Farm Service Agency as both a county committeeman and as a community committeeman.

More importantly Jim served as Ohio's NAFEC President. In review of NAFEC's history in Ohio, participation was dwindling in numbers. Jim made a vow to make all County Committee's knowledgeable in NAFEC. With this effort from Jim = NAFEC membership has increased.

NAFEC had a very full agenda, which Jim participated in which includes a visit by Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Jonathan Coppess. The group of officers and directors, led by outgoing NAFEC President Dennis Kuhlengel of Ill., discussed many issues of concern to farmers and ranchers. The group discussed its legislative agenda with David Senter, Chairman of the Board & Chief Operating Officer of the Washington, D.C. firm KSCW, Inc.

NAFEC with Jim's input also held discussions of mutual interests with Myron Stroup, President of NASCOE, Jim Mace of JM Marketing. As elected Ohio President Zumbrink asked the group to continue to work for the good of the organization and its supporters. The next two years will be "tough times so we must look for all the resources and support available," Zumbrink said. He complemented Dennis Kuhlengel for his loyalty and leadership and asked him to remain active in the organization as Director serving the Midwest Area. He also thanked Cole Sims from Louisiana as he continues to serve as Southeast Area Director.

"Our entire board will continue to maintain a watchful eye and a tuned ear on the politics and policy issues facing America's farmers and ranchers," pledged Zumbrink.

A bit of diverse information concerning Jim is that he is involved in a turkey farm. He will gladly pass around pictures of his toms—male turkeys—showing their different stages of growth. He will receive approximately 12,000 turkeys, and he said this will be the 187th batch that has gone through his barn.

“They grow them to 20, 21 weeks now,” Zumbrink said. “They weigh 45 pounds when they go to harvest.” He added that he keeps the barn heated so the turkeys will not pile together and smother themselves.

Jim has been so instrumental in evaluating upcoming Agricultural policy and has been taking a proactive approach in dealing with our Countries fiscal straps. Jim is here for the farmer, the Farm Service Agency, NASCOE, OASCOE and more importantly NAFEC in the best behind the scenes way he can.

I hereby nominate Jim Zumbrink for the Partner Coalition Award from NASCOE.

Respectfully submitted by:

Michelle L. Stahl, CED of Van Wert FSA.





Awards, Scholarships & Emblems

www.nascoeemblemsonline.com

Thank you Texas for a fantastic NASCOE Convention! The temperatures were hot outside but the sales at the Emblems tables were hotter and the amount of money raised at the Scholarship auction was smoke'n hot!

Thanks to the generous folks that brought tons of cash or a check book, we raised over \$7,500 at the auction! JM Marketing also kicked in \$2,500 to cover the \$10,000 we need to cover our traditional Scholarship program for the 2012 year (Thank you JM Marketing)! Many other States also contributed cash with the Georgia Association leading the way with a \$500 donation! Thank you all for your generous donations, as without the items you donated this auction would not be possible!

Many items sold out within a few hours at the Emblems tables, so if you missed out, please visit the NASCOE Store at www.nascoeemblemsonline.com to take advantage of the current sales going on!

Thank you again for your continued support of the NASCOE Awards, Scholarships and Emblems programs!

Tom Oasen

NASCOE Awards, Scholarships & Emblems Chairperson

6/24/11

Who's watching out for your interests?

Hi folks. Many of you probably know me. For those of you that don't, allow me to give a brief introduction. My name is Steve Stark. I am currently working in Washington, DC as a member of the MIDAS team. MIDAS is an ongoing project to transform the way FSA does business. A big part of that transformation will be the development and implementation of a new completely integrated software system.

Before I came to Washington last July I spent 20 years as a CED in the Gage County, Nebraska FSA Office. Many of those years I was a NEBRASCOE board member serving in various roles including NEBRASCOE President during the 2009-2010 year.

So let's go back to my original question. In the current environment of extremely tight budgets with future budgets proposed by Congress being even tighter, it makes sense to ask, "Who is watching out for your interests?" I can answer without reservation, "NASCOE is!"

Having been a NASCOE/NEBRASCOE member all of my FSA career, those of you that know me probably don't find it surprising to hear me speak in support of NASCOE. However, after working in Washington for a year I must say that it has been a real eye opener to see the respect that NASCOE commands not only among the FSA leadership, but in the halls of Congress as well. When the people in DC want to know what's going on in the county FSA offices, they are quick to contact the NASCOE leadership and get the facts instead of just guessing or assuming that they know how their actions will affect the field offices. It's also easy to see from the DC vantage point that the NASCOE leadership team takes their job seriously and devotes a tremendous amount of time to representing county office employee interests.

With a new NASCOE membership year fast approaching (7/1/11 though 6/30/12) I encourage you to become a NASCOE member. Whether you're already a member and that simply means renewing your membership, or you've been a member in the past who has let your membership lapse, or even if you've never been a member, your support in the future will ensure that NASCOE continues to have the means to watch out for your interests. For my money, less than two-tenths of one percent of my annual salary is a bargain when I know it means that the highly respected NASCOE organization will continue to represent my interests in Washington, DC.

Steve Stark
MIDAS Business Process Analyst



NASCOE Labor Management Agreement Signing

FSA Administrator, Mr. Nelson and NASCOE President, Myron Stroup

