

NASCOE Now

Your News Bulletin

December 27, 2006

Happy New Year 2007!

2007 will be another busy and exciting year for the Legislative Committee with the possibility of a new Farm Bill. Things in the Legislative arena will start to heat up in January and go full steam through the summer.

NASCOE's efficiencies and program suggestions for the new Farm Bill will be sent to the Secretary within the week. As you remember at the National Convention he asked for our input on both of these items. As soon as possible the letter will be published for your review. The main focus of the letter will be for FSA to be the lead administrative Agency for all programs whether conservation or program titled.

Some of you have not had the chance to respond to the CapWiz alert sent concerning staffing for FSA. Senator Grassley and Senator Dorgan agreed that FSA improper payment issue was directly related to staffing problems within FSA. So please when you get the chance send those messages out to your congressmen. It is very important that we hit on these when the issue is hot. Remember in DC what is important changes very quickly.

The Legislative Conference plans are in full swing. Look after the first of the year to receive a listing of "key contacts" and an updated schedule of events. Remember we are asking that you consider bringing a coalition partner with you to the conference. This would be a great chance to build a relationship and show their support of NASCOE. Until then have a safe and Happy New Year!from the Leg Committee

Awards, Emblems & Scholarships

Herb Sorley

Happy New Year and the best to each of you!!! Did you eat more than you needed? I sure did. Did you enjoy your relatives and company? I sure did. Did you celebrate too much? I had a very calm New Year celebration. Were you ready to get back to work? Man, I sure was. I had to come back to work to get some rest.

NOW the BIG QUESTION-----Have you completed that resume for that person that you are going to nominate for NASCOE's Distinguished Service Award? If you have not completed the nomination, get on it, and get-er-done!! Our Committee just wants to remind you that the FINAL date to submit nominations to your respective Area Chair is February 20, 2007 -- That's not very far off. Remember that the nomination must include the DSA Cover Sheet and that the nomination must be submitted via hard copy to your State Chair who will then submit it on to the Area Chair. Oh yes, be sure and have your State Officer sign off with the eligibility certification. Should you have any questions concerning eligibility or any of the other rules for nomination, all

that information is on the web site. Just go to nascoe.org and everything is there. Last year's winners nominations are also there should you want something to look at when writing the nomination.

NOW on to SCHOLARSHIPS-----Man the year is going so fast! Did you realize that the final date to submit applications to your Area Chair is March 1, 2007? That date is just around the corner. I know that our numbers are down, but I also know that many of you have kids that will be attending college next year and a little help with money will be GOOD!!!! Start gathering the information and start completing the application. Yes, the application, the eligibility rules, and etc are all on the NASCOE web site. Should you have any questions contact your State Chair, if they don't have the answer, contact your Area Chair, and if they don't have the answer they will get with me and we will get a ruling on any situation as soon as possible. Don't wait until the last minute to do that though, NOW IS THE TIME!!!!!!

NOW on to EMBLEMS-----I don't know about you, but there are so many that are very proud of our Association and want the world to know who we are and what we stand for. THERE IS NO OTHER AGENCY THAT GETS THINGS DONE AND GETS THEM DONE AS EFFICIENTLY AS OUR FOLKS!!!! Yea, I truly believe that statement. Debbie Shaw and Era work very hard to have the BEST product available to you the member. We all know that the "erroneous payments" issue takes in a lot of different issues and 99.9% are just down to the fact that there are too few of us with too little training. BOTTOM LINE---be proud of who you are and what you stand for – show the rest of the world that you are proud!! Wear some of our Emblems products, let folks ask, and then let them know. Not only that, you will be supporting NASCOE's Scholarship program for our youth, now that's important!

Sorry, I got to preaching a little there. Main issues – Nominate someone for our Distinguished Service Award, submit an application for NASCOE's Scholarship program, and BUY at home --- thenascoestore.com!!!!

Publicity

Cindy Peterson

The Publicity Committee wishes everyone an exciting and successful 2007! We are once again starting the Contest judging for 2006. I do not envy the judges! Once again we have had lots of participation. Our newsletters are more informative and entertaining than ever before. And the websites! Have you seen the websites? If not, just sign onto the NASCOE website at www.nascoe.org, click on area news and pick a state – pick several. There is so much information available! I challenge everyone to visit all the sites.

Good luck to all the contestants and thank you for your hard work.