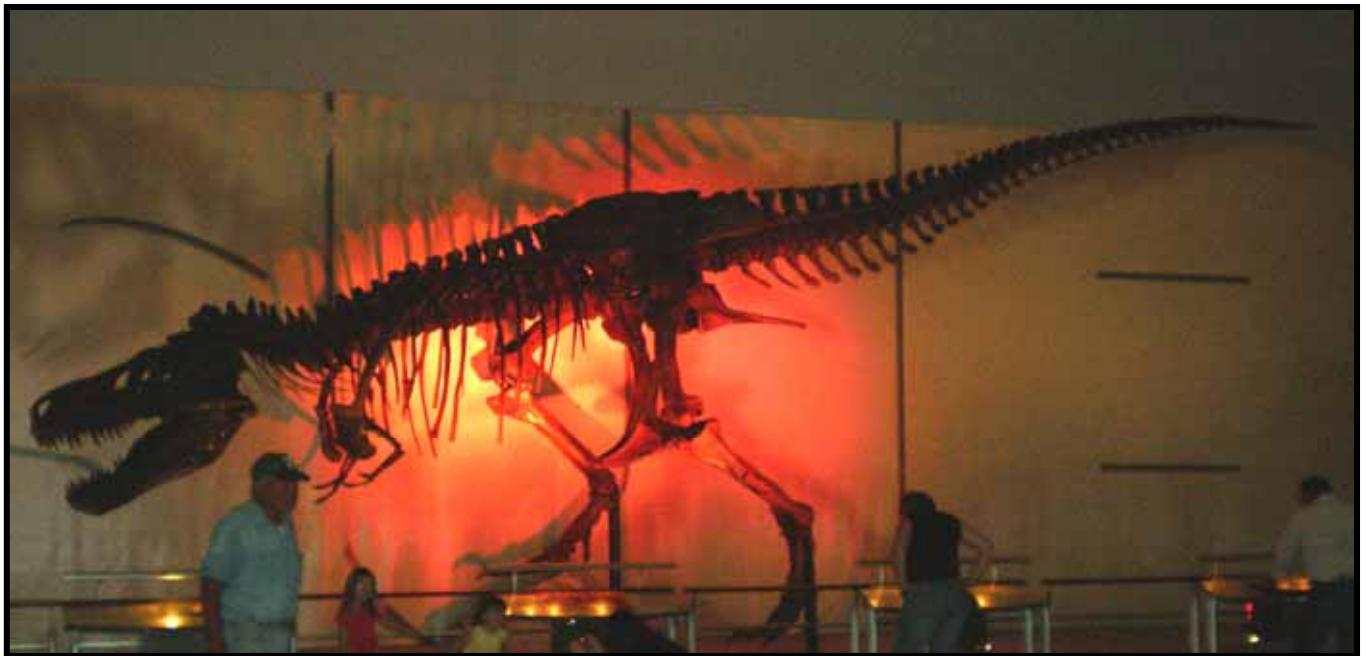


# Welcome Home



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## **SDASCOE NEWS**

*August 2008*

# REPRESENTING YOU ... .. THROUGH **SDASCOE**

## ***STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA***

President: James Anderson, Brule Buffalo  
Vice President: Peggy Groen, Lincoln  
Secretary/Treasurer: Dianna Shafer, McPherson

### ***DISTRICT DIRECTORS***

Alternates:

#1	EJ Goetz, Walworth	Rodney Strand, Edmunds
#2	Stan Lamb, Codington	Joel Foster, Grant
#3	Rachael Kirkebak, Union	Lynn Chilson, Lincoln
#4	Keith Zanter, Clay	Josh Pesek, Bon Homme
#5	Lonnie Sharping, Brule-Buffalo	Carmen Jessop, Lyman
#6	Jennifer Chavez, Hyde	Laurie Pfeifle, Hand
#7	Jodie Schrempp, Ziebach	Alan Voller, Perkins
#8	Kay Massingale, Mellette-Todd	Cindy Walker, Fall River-Custer

### ***COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS***

#### ***Awards & Scholarship***

Colleen Peterson, Jackson

#### ***Benefits***

Jeanie Emmett, Brookings

#### ***Legislative***

Larry Olsen, Minnehaha

#### ***Membership***

Lori Jones, Mellette-Todd

#### ***Programs, Emblems***

Roxie Stambach, Ziebach

#### ***Ways & Means***

Cathy Olstad, Fall River-Custer

#### ***Publicity***

Bonnie Nickelson, Hand & Hyde

Dawn Sheehan, Sully

#### ***Webmaster***

Jennifer Chavez, Hyde

### ***NORTHWEST AREA***

#### ***NWA Executive***

#### ***Benefits Chair***

Cindy Peterson, Minnehaha

Becky Zirpel, Gregory County

### ***NASCOE***

#### ***Benefits Chair***

Becky Zirpel, Gregory County

***RASCOE President:*** Gene Vognild, Minnehaha retiree

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Please send your comments or suggestions, as well as your news articles and photos to:

[bonnie.nickelson@sd.usda.gov](mailto:bonnie.nickelson@sd.usda.gov) & [dawn.sheehan@sd.usda.gov](mailto:dawn.sheehan@sd.usda.gov)

Items for scanning can be mailed to Bonnie at the address on the back cover.

## PRESIDENT'S INSIGHTS.....

As I sat down to write my first report as your President, I found myself more than a little nervous. I thought to myself, I wonder if all the past presidents had the same feelings when they first addressed the membership. I will be the first to admit, I am not the person with all the answers. This is why we have officers, directors and program chairs. These individuals were elected by you or they were appointed by me. These individuals are talented and have a great wealth of information and I encourage each of you to contact them with any of your questions or concerns.



What is new in SDASCOE/NASCOE? There are many issues facing us. You need to make sure you read the articles the program chairs have in this newsletter for the latest information in their respective areas as well as the NASCOE newsletter and visit the NASCOE website to read the NASCOE NOW. All of these sources have the latest information on the current and past issues being addressed on our behalf. Communication is the key element in keeping informed. This is one area we all need to improve upon in SDASCOE. It is easy to sit back and think that it is officers or directors job to keep us informed. Well, it may be part of it, but each member has to make the effort to find out information on their own behalf. If you have an issue or concern, please communicate your issue or concern to SDASCOE as it is hard to assist when we are not aware of the problem. If all we do is grumble and complain about an issue and we do not pass on the concern, then there will never be a solution. So, I encourage each of you to keep in contact with your director as these individuals are your voice in SDASCOE.

It would be remiss not to thank the county office staffs of Codington and Duel counties for hosting a great State Convention in May. If you did not attend, you missed a good one and the happenings of this event are in articles found in this newsletter. Further, we all need to give a great big thank you to Stan Lamb and to the Codington County office staff for being the host on behalf of SDASCOE and hosting the Northwest Area Rally in Watertown in June. For those of you who did not attend, there is a delegates report in this newsletter that will tell you all about the event. These two events were a great success and these individuals and counties should be commended for the great job they did!!

The National Convention is going to be in Omaha, Nebraska from August 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. I would encourage all of you to think about attending a portion of this event as this is where the business of NASCOE is taken care of. We have two delegates attending (Ernie Bures and Peggy Groen) and they will be doing the voting on behalf of SDASCOE and any issues or resolutions that may come to the floor during the general assembly. So, if you have issues or concerns about NASCOE you should contact your director so they can pass the issue(s) on to the delegates.

Finally, I have been looking for someone to fill the position of the CAPWIZ program area. This position was vacated by Peggy Groen when she was elected Vice-President. If you are interested, please contact me at [jlascoscoe@midstatesd.net](mailto:jlascoscoe@midstatesd.net). Also, if any of you would like to contact me this website is the best way for me to get your message.

Keep in touch and I hope the remainder of your summer is outstanding. Remember to take some time off and spend it with your families as they are your most precious treasure.

Respectfully,

Jim Anderson

## COMMENTS FROM YOUR VICE PRESIDENT

As you all know, our offices have been busy with an assortment of activities this summer and will be that way for a few months yet. Summer's seem busier with personal lives too so time has been going fast.



The summer has been pretty quiet for SDASCOE, but with the National Convention coming up things are getting busier. There are many issues to be discussed: the County Committee System, the ongoing controversy of CO vs GS employee systems, NASCOE expenses review, reorganization and member database. In addition there always seems to be other issues that come up at the Convention.

I encourage you to keep informed on the issues of NASCOE. What happens with NASCOE affects SDASCOE. The NASCOE website has a lot of valuable, timely information. Sign up for the NASCOE website alerts, you receive an email letting you know what has been updated on the website. That makes it even easier to be informed.

Thanks to all of you that attended the State Convention and NWA Rally in Watertown. Both were informative and fun events. Stan Lamb and all his assistants did a great job!

If you have questions regarding any SDASCOE issues please contact your director or officers. If they don't know the answer, they'll find someone that does! If you have any constructive suggestions or ideas for SDASCOE let's hear them. Communication is an important part of our organization.

Peggy Groen



## STATE CONVENTION MINUTES

May 2-3, 2008  
Watertown Event Center

The pre-convention Board of Directors meeting was held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4:00 pm in the Coteau Room.

There was a short discussion on the director elections and establishing the new district areas to be completed at the Fall Board Meeting.

There was a change in delegates representing SDASCOE due to personal commitments therefore Jodi Schrempp and Peggy Groen were selected to attend the NWA Rally and Ernie Bures and Peggy Groen will attend the National Convention.

NEBRASCOE forwarded raffle tickets for the National Convention to be held in Omaha and requested a donation to help defray costs which was discussed. Keith Zanter made a motion to contribute \$100 to the Host Convention. Motion was seconded by Kay Massingale. All were in favor.

Committee chairs gave a short recap of their committee meeting discussions.

### Lori Jones-Membership

With all of the retirements membership is regressing and in relationship to dues funding will also be decreasing. A discussion was held on membership dues.

### Colleen Peterson-Awards & Scholarship

A discussion was held on regarding the out going president purchasing awards for committee chairs an associate members being eligible for sick leave awards.

### Diane Dangel-Benefits

The discussion was held regarding the House Bill for FERS sick leave.

### Ernie Bures-Emblems

The discussion was on the history of the Convention trading pins and rather to continue.

### Jennifer Chavez-Publicity

Announced the SDASCOE website was up and running at <http://geocities.com/sdascoe> . The website was free however the space was limited to 14mgb of free space status and was requesting additional space which would cost \$70 to expand for the first year. The discussion was held as to whether the upgrade would be beneficial. Rachel Kirkebak made a motion to upgrade to the next step and approve an amount suitable to manage the site as appropriate. After discussion the motion was amended to include under the supervision of the officers. Keith Zanter seconded the motion and all were in favor.

### Cathy Olstad, absent – Ways & Means

The discussion was to continue with the room raffle and prints as they seem to be the most favorable.

### Larry Olsen-Legislative

Erik Nelson from Senator Tim Johnson's Office and Steve Dahlmeier from Congresswoman Herseth-Sandlin's Office were present and both presented letters from the representatives and were open to question and answers.

There was a discussion on splitting the Secretary-Treasurer position and the consensus was this would be the year to take the necessary steps to divide the position and if necessary a member could run for both positions. The suggestion will be brought to the membership for further discussion.

There was a proposal to establish a nominating committee to select candidates for directors. The discussion was tabled until Fall Board Meeting.

There being no further business EJ Goetz made a motion to adjourn and Jodie Schrempp seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm

### May 03, 2008

The general session came to order at 9:00 am with the Posting of the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance courtesy of the VFW Post 750. At this time a military recognition was given. The invocation was given by Stan Lamb. A welcome was extended by Paul Fox, Mayor of the City of Watertown. Bill Chase, President welcomed all in attendance, recognized the host counties, staff and special guests.

Steve Cutler, SD SED welcomed all attendees and appreciated the invitation to attend. He discussed the ceiling levels concerns that offices are short staffed and have needs. He stated Edmunds, Jackson and Jones had been staffed with temporary assistance to accommodate until the positions could be filled. He did discuss delays anticipating the farm bill outcome. He reviewed the Knowledge Bank, FSA's agency study of employee's everyday basis analysis information report, procedure and the timeframe. Brookings was the selected county office for the study.

James Mace, JM Marketing addressed the assembly regarding the benefits available and new employees contacts. He then presented a \$100 donation.

Jim Anderson then introduced Senator Thune's top Ag Advisor Lynn Tjeerdsma from Washington DC, also a prior South Dakotan. Lynn discussed provisions related to the Farm Bill regarding the Sod Saver and indicating the probability that no state would participate and would opt out. He discussed the Payment Limitation tiers being scaled down to a direct attribution and no longer a three person provision, but indicated the ruling had not been finalized. He commented on ACRE being a substitute for Counter Cyclical implementation in 2010. He spoke of the Disaster programs and South Dakota ranking number two in the nation. He discussed the language written in the Bill regarding office closures. According to discussions held with Capitol Hill and USDA, the 20 mile provision will only be applied to approximately 60 offices nationwide. He did stress the SED were mandated jobs to do by administration and the management decisions come from Washington due to budget. The states that do not follow mandate do not get handled the same as those that do. We should soon have a Farm Bill. Both Houses of Congress have passed the Conference agreement and it now goes to the President. If the President vetoes the bill, many feel there are sufficient votes to override the veto.



## STATE CONVENTION MINUTES (continued)

### **Bonnie Heinzman, NASCOE National President**

addressed the assembly. She stated Chairman Peterson has indicated that he plans to move on USDA reorganization after a brief break from the Farm Bill. She stated membership can help by having an open-mind while we work on this project, submitting your ideas, assisting with research if asked to do so, etc.

#### Government Computer Usage

**As for the Don'ts, we do know.** Government computers, internet, email and other resources can never be used to solicit monies on behalf of NASCOE or our State Affiliates. These items can definitely never be used for political purposes, including lobbying Congress for support or repeal of any legislation, program, or proposal, or frankly, anything.

**What can we DO?** The membership can be kept informed through the electronic newsletter "NASCOE Now". Information on benefits, awards and scholarship deadlines can also be offered. It is permissible to write, submit and read negotiation/consultation items. There is no problem in relating concerns and issues and how they relate to FSA. And, you may offer questions, suggestions and solutions to your NASCOE leadership.

You have heard that occasional personal use of government resources is permissible. This is a privilege not a right or entitlement. The quickest way for everyone to lose this benefit is for a few to abuse it. Limit your personal use during breaks or lunch times, or before or after work.

**Your help is needed!** NASCOE and State Affiliates are developing a database of home email addresses. Any item, issue or announcement that is controversial, questionable or lengthy can be sent directly to you at home. This is the preferred method when corresponding with each other as well.

She discussed the CED and PT reclassifications. The CED reclassification is in progress but not set in stone and the provisions that apply. The finalization should be announced in June, and then consideration would be given to the PT reclassification. She discussed a few issues on the provisions in the farm bill related to the Disaster Programs being permanent.

She discussed the changes proposed in shared management and Performance plan ratings being tied to the awards money, how important for the process and ratings to be fair and accurate.

She spoke of the Reorganization Task Force and the group is a cross-section of the members of NASCOE from across the nation with a CED and a PT from each area of the country. The folks on the task force were recommended by their peers. Representing the NWA - Dan Sundseth (OR), and Cindy Peterson (SD). Other folks are also involved by contributing research, historical knowledge, and ideas. She encourages you to contact your area representative to share your thoughts and ideas. No idea is too small, too obvious, or too far out of the box.

She stated the 2009 Budget and Staffing will be very challenging. The staffing remains as is but we are working with a declining budget.



## STATE CONVENTION MINUTES, con't.

Questions were then directed to the head table by the assembly which concerns will be addressed in the legislative report by Larry Olsen.

Cindy Peterson, NWA Executive gave updates on happenings in the northwest area. She discussed her role on the Reorganization Task Force and encouraged members to please share your ideas or thoughts. The website address is

[http://www.geocities.com/nw\\_area/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/nw_area/index.html) .

At this time Roll Call was taken with 106 present. The roll call theme was what is your County's Historical Claim to Fame? Bill then recognized the Boards District Directors, Alternates and Committee Chairs in attendance.

RASCOE delegates thanked SDASCOE for their support and invitation and drew the five cash winners. National RASCOE President Gene Vognild discussed PAC and welcomed the new retirees.

There were no first time attendees and Jim Anderson recognized the departed members.

### MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The minutes for the State Convention held in Mobridge on April 27-28<sup>th</sup> were read as published. A motion was made by Mary Johnson to approve and accept said minutes as published; motion was seconded by Barb Poss. All were in favor. The financial report was given. A motion was made by Roxie Stambach to approve said report; motion was seconded by Barb Poss. All were in favor.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Copies of the respective reports given by Colleen Peterson, Awards and Scholarships; Ernie Bures, Emblems and Programs; Larry Olsen, Legislation; Lori Jones, Membership; Cathy Olstad absent, Ways and Means; and Dawn Sheehan, Publicity; are published in this issue of the newsletter. Larry Olsen made a motion to accept and approve all committee reports and motion was seconded by Jennifer Chavez. All were in favor.

There was no unfinished business.



Hand County's Historical Claim to Fame for Roll Call was a tribute to their former "FRANK AND HONEST" CED, Jim Iverson.

## STATE CONVENTION MINUTES, con't.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Jennifer Chavez discussed the SDASCOE website located at <http://geocities.com/sdascoe> and the proposed upgrade.

Ernie Bures gave a brief history of the purpose of the Convention trading pins and the committee recommended continuing with the purchases. Shelley Moncur made a motion to continue with the tradition of the trading pins annually at the National Convention and each member should receive a pin and those left over from the \$500 allocated for the pins would be used for trading. The motion was amended to read the minimum order of 500 pins not \$500. Roxie Stambach seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The discussion was brought to the assembly of splitting the Secretary-Treasurer position and the necessary steps to divide the position and inclusion if necessary a member could run for both positions. Racheal Kirkebak made a motion to have Legislative Chair Larry Olsen draft notification resolution to amend the by-laws 60 days prior to the State Convention to split the Secretary-Treasurer position and inclusion if necessary a member could run for both positions. Peggy Groen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Stan Lamb gave thanks for all of the assistance and to the Hamlin County Office staff for helping with registration, Mayvis Postra, Barb Berg for assisting with bowling, Laurie Pfeifle for putting together the registration form, the Codington County Office staff, Joel Foster for assisting with the golfing and Bill Chase for all of his help. He wants to invite everyone to attend the NWA Rally.

Election of Officers was Dianna Shafer, Secretary Treasurer nominated by EJ Goetz, seconded by Mary Johnson by unanimous ballot cast. All were in favor. Lynda Steichen nominated Peggy Groen, Vice President and Doug Hofer seconded by unanimous ballot cast. All were in favor. Hand County office staff nominated Jim Anderson, President seconded by Ernie Bures by unanimous ballot cast. All were in favor.

Colleen Peterson gave a short presentation and invitation to the membership to attend the 2009 State Convention in Wall, more information and date confirmation to follow.

A discussion was then held regarding host counties for the 2010 State Convention bid. Larry Olsen spoke on behalf of Marcia Bunger, CED at Lake County Office in Madison requesting the bid. Motion was made by Larry Olsen to accept Lake County as Host County for the 2010 State Convention to be held at Madison. Larry Gauger seconded the motion. All were in favor.

With no further business to attend to a motion was made to adjourn by Lynda Steichen and seconded by Kaye Massingale. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dianna Shafer, Secretary-Treasurer

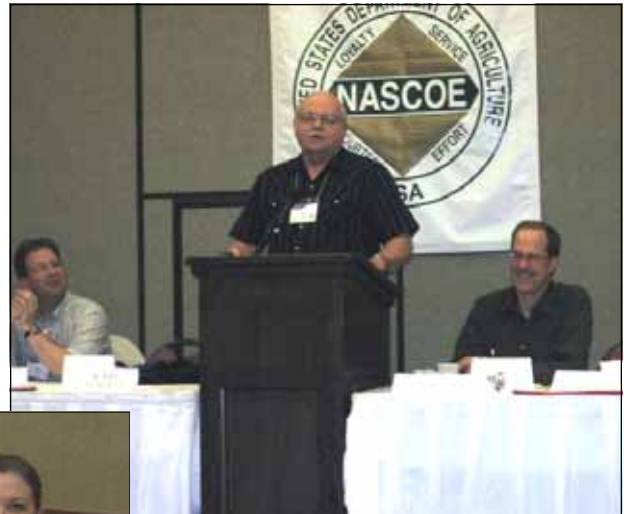
# SDASCOE Convention Scrapbook



Codington County CED, Stan Lamb, welcomes everyone to the Rising Star City of Watertown.

## YOUR SDASCOE OFFICERS

Dianna Shafer, Sec-Treasurer  
 Jim Anderson, President  
 Peggy Groen, Vice-President



Larry Olsen, Bonnie Heinzman- NASCOE President, and Cindy Peterson.



Barb Bergh, Bonita Sharp & Bobbie Ward.



Other SDASCOE members that attended the Watertown meetings.



Becky Zirpel, Dianna Shafer, Lori Jones, and Larry Gauger.

# SDASCOE Convention Scrapbook



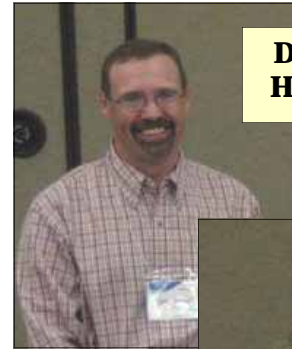
**Josh Pesek, Stan Lamb, Keith Zanter  
Rachel Kirkebak**



**Jennifer Chavez, Laurie Pfeifle,  
Kim Joy-Nelson**



**Ann (MN), Diane Dangel, Jamie (ND),  
Cindy Mengershauser, Mary Johnson.**



**Doug  
Hofer**



**Jodie  
Schrempp**



**Retirees** ↑

**Kris Stevens  
Shelley  
Moncur  
Jim  
Anderson**



## COMMITTEE REPORT

SDASCOE CONVENTION , Watertown, SD  
May 2 & 3rd, 2008

Once again thank you to Bill Chase for asking me to be chairperson of the Awards and Scholarship Program. I had hoped that we would have more nominations than what we received but the ones that we did receive were outstanding.

I would like to thank those people who submitted nominations for the various award categories. There are many members of this organization that deserve recognition and this is one way to acknowledge those people.

Prior to the DSA deadline I try to email the nomination forms with my request for nominations but I encourage anyone who is making a nomination to view the information on the NASCOE website. All the forms and information are available there also.

There are a couple of awards that have no deadline and can be submitted anytime during the year. I would like to remind everyone about these awards

- The **Professional Improvement Award** is an award that recognizes an individual who has taken advantage of educational opportunities available to them. Any member may submit an application or nomination for another member any time during the year to the state awards chairperson. The nomination must be for an employee with a permanent appointment.

The **Extra Mile Award** recognizes NASCOE members and their children that go the Extra Mile in their community, church, job, or in their school. These nominations can be submitted throughout the year to the respective State Awards Chair, then to the Area Awards Chair, then to the National Chair who will issue the certificates. For this award there are NO DEADLINES and they are not judged.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

There was a good response for scholarship application. There were nine applications received which were forwarded to the Northwest Area Chairperson for judging. The scholarship applications that were received were outstanding.

Just a reminder for those of you who have children that will be graduating or that are presently attending college the applicant must be a NASCOE member, member's spouse, member's child, or members legal dependent. The NASCOE membership must be current for the past 5 years or since becoming a permanent FSA employee. The applicant must be a high school senior or full time college student (12 credit hours) up to a Bachelor degree, with a minimum of a C average.

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

At this time we will have the presentation of the DSA awards, I would like to mention that all of the state winners were also NorthWest Area winners.

Service to NASCOE	Dianna Shafer	Nominated by Becky Zirpel
Service to Community	Gordon Lee	Nominated by Deuel County Office Staff

There were no nominations received for Service to FSA Agriculture.

Respectfully submitted, Colleen Peterson

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**SOUTH DAKOTA AND NORTHWEST AREA  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS**

**Service to NASCOE**

**Community Service**

**Dianna Shafer**

**Gordon Lee**



**SDASCOE CONVENTION**

**SDASCOE CONVENTION**



**NWA RALLY**

**NWA RALLY**

**Congratulations**



**South Dakota SHINES**

# South Dakota Recognizes Dianna Shafer

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD NOMINATION SERVICE TO NASCOE

For  
DIANNA L. SHAFER

January 29, 2008

Dianna Shafer began her employment with ASCS/FSA in 1984 as a temporary program technician in the McPherson County SD ASCS Office. She became a permanent employee in 1986. Dianna has been a member of SDASCOE and NASCOE since that time.

Dianna has attended several state conventions, but her real service to NASCOE began in 2001 when she was elected as the Secretary – Treasurer for SDASCOE. She has held this position for the past 7 years during the tenure of 4 different State Presidents.

Since Dianna became a State Officer, she attended and actively participated in Northwest Area Rallies and she has attended 5 of the last 6 NASCOE National Conventions. Dianna missed one due to a family emergency. Dianna would say that once you attend one you are hooked! Dianna served as a South Dakota Delegate to the Northwest Area Rally and the National Convention in 2004 where she learned the importance of these conventions. Dianna attended Legislative Conference in 2007 and came to the aid of NASCOE by attending a scheduled meeting with HRD in WDC. She represented NASCOE by taking notes and pictures in the absent of NASCOE Publicity Chair and at the request of Becky Zirpel, NASCOE Benefits Chairperson.

Dianna is a strong believer and supporter of NASCOE. She has and continues to be a driving force in encouraging others to join and become active at all levels. She has spent countless hours of her own time and resources. For the past 7 years, she has coordinated activities, maintained membership records and attended and recorded all meetings for SDASCOE, one of NASCOE's most active and highest membership percentage states. When asked you can depend on Dianna for ideas or help in computer technology. She comes through for her State and National in helping her friend, Becky Zirpel, National Benefits Chairperson. When asked she developed the on-line membership cards which are still being used across the nation today. Dianna continues to give of her time and

## **Service to NASCOE (continued)**

expertise in the Technical field in helping bring South Dakota into modern technology by making work easier for others and herself with updated equipment and software. She continues to give advice and assist NASCOE Benefits Chairperson and friend, Becky Zirpel with technical help when needed.

Dianna was instrumental in the planning and the success of the National NASCOE Convention held in South Dakota in 2005. She helped in organizing the fund raising tables, assisted in acquiring door prizes and displaying them, helped fill welcome bags and helped distribute daily news to all the convention goers in the wee hours of the AM and anything else that was asked of her. She has and continues to be a consistent source of organization, support, reason and professionalism for her peers and the membership she serves.

Dianna's devotion to FSA shines through as she graciously accepted being detailed to other neighboring county offices to help when asked, along with her duties in the McPherson County Office.

Along with her many countless hours she gives to NASCOE/SDASCOE she helps her husband with their farm and ranch operation. More than once while gone to NASCOE functions she will receive a call from home on where something is or how to prepare the meals that she had made before she left, for her husband and hired men. Many times her husband, Ken, attends conventions with her and does his part in running errands for SD. His support of her career and employee association duties is commendable. Dianna also spends many hours and days taking care of aging parents and takes time to enjoy her family, especially her grandchild. In her personal time Dianna still finds time to enjoy Scrap-booking.

Because of her dedication to NASCOE and her selfless efforts to improve the workplace for all employees, the McPherson County FSA staff and friend Becky Zirpel would like to nominate Dianna Shafer for the Distinguished Service Award for service to NASCOE.



## Community Service Award

### South Dakota Recognizes Gordie Lee

The employees of the Deuel County Farm Service Agency are pleased to nominate Gordon Lee for the SDASCOE Community Service Award as a sign of appreciation for his many years of dedication to the local community. Gordon has contributed in numerous ways and countless hours of service.

He has dedicated over 16 years to the Clear Lake Volunteer Fire Department as a fireman and well over 10 years as the department's treasurer. He also contributed to the construction of a new fire hall as a member of the fundraising committee. He has also coordinated the annual fundraising raffle in order to fund the purchase of new equipment.

He has worked as a volunteer ambulance driver providing emergency transportation to and from area hospitals up to 90 miles away.

He has contributed to the Deuel School District through his service on the Deuel School Booster Club. In addition to having held office positions, he has lead several fundraising events for the Booster Club. He also has contributed to the school and local athletic programs by volunteering endless hours of being a coach, umpire, referee, scorekeeper, and statistician.

He keeps the local community informed about the Farm Service Agency through his participation in local meetings, including speaking at Kiwanis meetings. Through these meetings, he shares information about FSA and the financial support that FSA provides the local community. He has also participated as a greeter at the Farmers Appreciation Banquet.

He has given of his time to his local church by assisting in teaching Sunday school as well as working on the committee to audit the church's financial records. He also helps setup for the church's fall soup day.

He also contributes to the local community in several other capacities throughout the year. He has willingly volunteered to sell tickets or park cars at the Crystal Springs Ranch Rodeo held each year in June. He assists the county courthouse by setting up the voting machine for elections, as well as setting up the 12 foot Christmas tree for the annual Christmas tree open house.

His other contributions to the community include being a financial supporter for the construction of the Clear Lake community swimming pool and by volunteering his labor to aid in the opening of the Clear Lake daycare facility.

He was the SDASCOE membership chairperson in 1993-1994. He was also presented the NASCOE Newsletter Award "Best Feature Story-Human Interest" in 1999 for his story titled "A Thankful Father." He has been a proud member of SDASCOE for 20 years and is thoroughly deserving of this award for service to his community.

**2008 Length of Service Awards**

**COUNTY OFFICE EMPLOYEES**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>YOS</b>	<b>CURRENT COUNTY OFFICE</b>
Dangel, Diane K	Chief Prog Techncn	30	SPINK
Folkerts, Cynthia K	PROG TECHNCN	30	DAVISONL
Lutz, Jeannine	PROG TECHNCN	30	DEUEL
Nickelson, Bonnie L	DIRECTOR	30	HAND
Olstad, Cathy L	PROG TECHNCN	30	FALL RIVER/CUSTER
Schrank, Doris A	PROG TECHNCN	30	AURORA
Steichen, Lynda H	PROG TECHNCN	30	SANBORN
Tennant, Gail M	PROG TECHNCN	30	SULLY
Wilcox, Larry D	DIRECTOR	30	UNION
Anderson, James L	DIRECTOR	25	BRULE/BUFFALO
Bergin, Ruth A	PROG TECHNCN	25	CHARLES MIX
Buus, Lois	PROG TECHNCN	25	BROOKINGS
Cape, Kelly J	DIRECTOR	25	DAY
Lamb, W Stanley	DIRECTOR	25	CODINGTON
Malde, Brian L	DIRECTOR	25	FALL RIVER/CUSTER
Palmer, Colette	PROG TECHNCN	25	BENNETT/SHANNON
Poss, Barbara A	PROG TECHNCN	25	BROOKINGS
Rosheim, Lisa	PROG TECHNCN	25	MOODY
Schiley, Debra	PROG TECHNCN	25	DAY
Schuetzle, Debra M	PROG TECHNCN	25	CAMPBELL
Schultz, Joseph L	DIRECTOR	25	CHARLES MIX
Sharp, Bonita J	PROG TECHNCN	25	CODINGTON
Skruzacek, Theresa L	PROG TECHNCN	25	LAKE
Squires, Helen B	PROG TECHNCN	25	HAMLIN
Vanden Berge, Judith P	Chief Prog Techncn	25	HUTCHINSON
Wicks, Sharon Ann	PROG TECHNCN	25	CLARK
Beaner, Jill A	PROG TECHNCN	20	MARSHALL
Beatch, Nadine M	PROG TECHNCN	20	DAVISON
Bergh, Barbara L	PROG TECHNCN	20	HAMLIN
Bures, Ernie R	DIRECTOR	20	BON HOMME
Chilson, Lynn A	DIRECTOR	20	LINCOLN
Eilers, Debora K	PROG TECHNCN	20	CLAY
Galinat, Larry J	DIRECTOR	20	HUGHES/STANLEY
Gauger, Larry G	DIRECTOR	20	MINER
Geditz, Cynthia	PROG TECHNCN	20	EDMUNDS
Hargens, Sarah Ann	PROG TECHNCN	20	AURORA

# Length of Service

-Continued-

Johnson, Mary	DIRECTOR	20	JERAULD
Kindelspire, Carol D	PROG TECHNCN	20	MCPHERSON
Lee, Gordon H	DIRECTOR	20	DEUEL
Peterson, Colleen	PROG TECHNCN	20	JACKSON
Rische, Richard D	DIRECTOR	20	SPINK
Schmidt, William W	DIRECTOR	20	WALWORTH
Simon, Russell	PROG TECHNCN	20	SPINK
Smith, Jennifer L	PROG TECHNCN	20	TURNER
Uhlir, Stephanie K	PROG TECHNCN	20	JACKSON
Walker, Cynthia K	PROG TECHNCN	20	FALL RIVER/CUSTER
Zubke, Judy	PROG TECHNCN	20	DAY
Busser, Lisa	PROG TECHNCN	10	LAKE
Chavez, Jennifer	PROG TECHNCN	10	HYDE
Ducheneaux, Deb Allen	PROG TECHNCN	10	DEWEY
Hawkinson, Joann J	PROG TECHNCN	10	MARSHALL
Keller, Jill M	PROG TECHNCN	10	DEWEY
Kirkebak, Rachael D	PROG TECHNCN	10	UNION
Schock, Dawn R	PROG TECHNCN	10	MCCOOK
Steffen, Suzanne	PROG TECHNCN	10	GREGORY
Westin, Darla D	PROG TECHNCN	10	UNION
Wipf, Sharla K	PROG TECHNCN	10	BEADLE
Evenson, Shari L	PROG TECHNCN	5	CORSON
Hofer Jr, Len Douglas	PROG TECHNCN	5	CORSON
Horstman, Angela	FLOT	5	HUTCHINSON
Pesek, Joshua A	PROG TECHNCN	5	BON HOMME
Schock, Joann R	PROG TECHNCN	5	MINER
Stormo, Damon L	DIRECTOR	5	CLARK
Willey, Kelli L	DIRECTOR	5	HARDING

# Length of Service

-Continued-

GENERAL SCHEDULE EMPLOYEES		
Name	Descr	YOS
Halvorson, Lyndon W	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	30
Wenz, Ryan R	ELEC DUPL SYS OPTR	30
Claeys, Arnold P	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	25
Davis, Sylvia	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN OA	25
Haley, Janelle K	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	25
Kappel, Nyla J	ADMV TECHNCN	25
Kostel, Thomas J	Exec Offcr	25
Payant, Patricia F	CO LOAN TECHNCN	25
Plummer, James M	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	25
Pudwill, Rhonda L	AGRL PROG SPECLST	25
Steckelberg, Kevin R	SUPVY AGRL DISTRICT DIRECTOR	25
Adam, Ronald A	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	20
Anderson, Sandra D	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN	20
Davis, Michael L	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	20
Helmer, Larry L	Mgmt & Prog Anal	20
Hine, Barbara J	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	20
Kirkegaard, Lois A	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN OA	20
Kwasniewski, Margaret A	CO LOAN TECHNCN	20
Noziska, Bonnie Lee	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN OA	20
Warne, Barbara J	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	20
Young, Lori	DIST SPECLST	20
Dangel, Debora F	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN OA	15
Gullickson, Gail L	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	15
Hueners, Lesa L	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	15
Nelson, Jolene R	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN	15
Selzler, Beverly A	PROGRAM TECHNICIAN	15
Klingberg, David M	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	5
Stephens, Kayla Lynn	Loan Speclst (Agrl)	5

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Here are some of the **BENEFITS** of NASCOE being passed on to you as members:

Of course, one of the biggest benefits is our association with JM Marketing. Open enrollment for Dental is coming in September. Dental insurance is for members only! Watch for details.

Check out [www.nascoetravel.com](http://www.nascoetravel.com) for the latest travel deals available. There are some great deals available on airfares, hotels, special events tickets, etc. Tell your family and friends about the site. They can use it, too, and every time it's used, NASCOE gets money back to the general budget.

Don't forget about the cell phone discounts for Alltel available to SDASCOE members.

Discount tickets are available for certain Theme/Amusement Parks. One such amusement park with discounted tickets available, new to NASCOE, is Valley Fair in Shakopee, MN. If you need discount tickets, contact me.

Also in the works is a NASCOE discount with Sam's Club. This would involve paying the normal price, and with a membership card, you would then get \$10 off on your next purchase at Sam's Club. More about that later.

If there are any special discounts exclusive to South Dakota membership that you'd like checked out, please let me know.

I would encourage you to look at [www.nascoe.org](http://www.nascoe.org) click on Benefits and read what's there. If you have any questions, let me know.

Jeanie Emmett  
SDASCOE Benefits Chairman

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

# M E M B E R S H I P



### " CONGRATULATIONS "



### TO THE FOLLOWING 2007 / 2008 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP HONOREES

*KAREN HERROLD – CHARLES MIX (28)*

*DIANE BARTNICK – ROBERTS (30)*

*PEG TRABING – HANSON (11) & DAVISON – HANSON (11)*

*KENNY FEHLMAN – SPINK (18)*

(NUMBER INDICATES YEARS OF SERVICE)

### HONORARY LIFE MEMBER CRITERIA

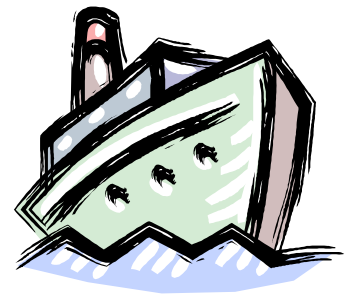
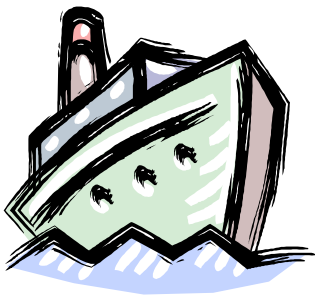
A person is eligible for Honorary Life Membership if the person was a member of his or her state association since the second year of formation or from the first full membership year of employment until retirement and an annuity is earned. Honorary Life Membership for RIF'ed employees is limited to those retaining their Civil Service Retirement Rights.

States must certify to the above at the time a request is submitted to the National Membership Chairperson for recognition as an Honorary Lifetime Member. NASCOE will supply a Honorary Lifetime Membership Card to the state. The state will be responsible for issuing the card to the recipient.

If any state has a person they would like to recognize with Honorary Life Membership and the person does not meet the present requirements, the state may request a waiver through the NASCOE Membership Committee Chairperson, with the proposed lifetime member's knowledge and consent, detailing the persons membership history and listing the reasons they feel the person should be an Honorary Life Member.

This request for waiver will be acted upon by the Executive Committee at the next scheduled board meeting and the state will be notified of approval or disapproval.

Note: In addition to the **Honor** of being a "Honorary Life Member" --- these persons registration fees will be waived at all future *National Conventions*.



# ALL ABOARD!

The "Captain" is looking for a 100% of our passengers for the 2008 – 2009 dues year! It is really quite a GREAT trip with lots of benefits! Some of the outstanding benefits offered on this "Cruise Line" are the DONATED LEAVE PROGRAM – AL – SL – FSL – WGI's – COLA's -- Etc. In addition, there are a number of other wonderful benefits available to you just for being on board. For more info on some of the additional money saving benefits contact our SDASCOE Benefits Chairperson --- Jeanie Emmett of Brookings County.

If you are interested in joining our "Cruise Line" by becoming a **Regular** Member (county office employees --- CO & GS) of SDASCOE / NASCOE you can simply contact me --- Lori Jones --- and I will help you get everything taken care of.

If you are interested in joining our "Cruise Line" by becoming an **Associate** Member (retired employees and others) --- you can simply send your \$25.00 dues to me at Lori Jones - 38945 255<sup>TH</sup> ST - PLANKINTON SD 57368, made payable to SDASCOE. I will then get you hooked up with the SDASCOE and NASCOE Newsletters to keep you up to date on what is going on in the agency. Quite the deal for the money!

The "Cruise Line" rates are UNBELIEVABLE again this year. Check it out --- still no change since the 2005 – 2006 year. Just figure out which way you want to pay for your "Cruise" and get-er-done!!!

If at any time you have any questions about this "Cruise" --- please contact one of the shipmates (SDASCOE Officers, Chairperson and / or Directors) and they will be more than happy to fix you right up!!! I am quite sure a list of these shipmates is listed somewhere in this newsletter for your convenience.



Membership Coordinator-  
Lori Jones



## COMMITTEE REPORT

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Submitted by Cathy Olstad, Chairperson

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Ernie Bures – winner of the Terry Redlin print 'Welcome to Paradise'

Dan Whetham – winner of the Jon Crane print 'Snowy Monday'

*Thank you to all who bought tickets – better luck next year!*

### *RASCOE Notes*

Where is the Summer going? Its almost 1/2 over and days are getting shorter!! My Dad always said, kid, as you get older, time fly's!!! How right he was!! Of course, there were other things he told me that now as I am older, I realize he was right about them also.

The National Convention is just around the corner and I would hope we have a good attendance from SD, both at NASCOE and RASCOE. I know Nebr. is working hard to show us a good time and with important meetings and speakers. The Convention will not be as close again for many years so this is a good opportunity for everyone to attend and take part in the business that is conducted and be able to ask questions of Washington representatives.

I wish to thank the SD employees who have joined RASCOE as associate members. We have excellent membership and support from our people and we appreciate it.

God Bless !

Gene V. , RASCOE National President



**2008  
SICK LEAVE AWARDS**



**1000 hrs.**

Ernie Bures  
EJ Goetz  
Steven Minor  
Barb Poss

Bon Homme County  
Walworth County  
Brookings County  
Brookings County

**1500 hrs.**

Sylvia Davis  
Lori Jones  
Jeanie Emmet

Edmunds County  
Mellette/Todd County  
Brookings County

**2000 hrs.**

Stan Lamb  
Cheryl McMillen  
Susan Mizera  
Ron Russell

Codington County  
Jones County  
Corson County  
DD

**2500 hrs.**

**DUKE WESTERBERG  
HAAKON COUNTY**

# 25th Annual FSA FISH N FUN

## Results:

The 25th Annual Social was held June 27-29, 2008 with a total of 79 entrants. This year, there were a total of 45 “Fisher people” who actually attended the annual outing that was headquartered out of the Pierre Inn and Suites. There were many FSA’ers, Retirees, and guests from throughout the State, as well as guests from Minnesota that made the “trek” to fish the “Mighty Mo” and partake in the weekend activities. The festivities once again began on Friday evening with a “Brat and Beer Fest”. As history usually repeats itself, there were many stories told and Saturday fishing strategies were planned. Everyone was well aware of the forecast for Saturday...WIND! Even after taking the wind conditions into consideration, most of the “gang” chose to “test their boat control techniques” and fish above the Dam (Lake Oahe) this year because this is where the “Big Fish” live.

After 5 dozen Brats were consumed, the Calcutta Committee consisting of Lori Young, Leon Edlund, Bev Birkeland, and Mary Johnson announced the rules of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual FSA Calcutta to the boisterous and loud crowd (not as loud this year, because Ron Russell could not attend – need I say more?). Individual names were then drawn and 9 Teams consisting of 5 members each were formed. Each team member’s “walleye catch” for the weekend would be added together to determine their total team weight. The top four team totals would then “Place in the Money”. Auctioneer Steve Jacobson (member of the “Miner County Hooker Team”) then began auctioneering off the Teams to the highest bidder(s). The bidding process was extraordinarily fun (everybody believes he/she is the best fisherman), and at times, almost frantic. The highest price paid for any team was \$340 and the low purchase price was \$180 for two of the teams (could it have something to do with Larry Olsen and Steve Cyriacks being members of those two teams)? A total of \$2,200 was collected, and a 100% payback was paid to the successful “owners” of the top four teams. Taking home 1<sup>st</sup> place and \$880 were Team members Brad Olson (Ryan Wenz guest), Larry Peterson, Dudsey Vognild, Mike Allbee (Lori Young’s nephew), and Barry DuFour (Lynn Stoltenburg’s guest), who purchased themselves. The remaining three payouts (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Place Teams) were \$660, \$440, and \$220. It appeared everyone enjoyed the Calcutta and we are all looking forward to the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual, which should prove to be even more electrifying as the bids seem to get higher each year, as everyone believes he/she will boat the “Big One”.

Saturday morning arrived “very early” for several participants, and everybody was dreading the windy conditions they knew they would encounter on the water. Even with the windy conditions and most boats fishing in the Bays, 23 people weighed in fish. Honors of the “Biggest fish of the Day” were bestowed upon Tom Ellingson (Jonathan Ristau’s guest) who weighed in a 4 pound 10 ounce walleye. Mike Allbee was #1 on the Leader Board after Day 1 with a total weight of 6 pounds 15 ounces. It was a slight lead of 1 ounce over Tom Ellingson, but everybody was anticipating “big fish” on Sunday and knew they could overcome Mike and carry home the coveted FSA Fish N Fun Trophy. After the Saturday weigh-in, many more “cold” beverages were consumed and most of the participants then headed to the Cattleman’s Club to enjoy a thick, juicy steak and most of the people “hit the hay” rather early. It must have something to do with people getting a little older and oh...did I mention, the WINDY conditions!!



**Tom Ellingson and  
Saturday’s Biggest Fish  
4lbs. 10oz.**

## Fish N Fun—continued

On Sunday morning, everyone was on the water and fishing around 7:00 A.M. Weigh-In was conducted at noon, and after another 3 dozen brats were consumed, the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual FSA Fish N Fun Champion was determined to be Mike Allbee, who “blew the rest of the field away”! Mike had a two-day total of 13 pounds 15 ounces. Todd Miller of the “Miner County Hooker Team” placed 2<sup>nd</sup> with a two day catch of 10 pounds 8 ounces. Lynn Stoltenburg received the “Biggest Fish” Award of Day 2 with a HUGE walleye weighing in at 2 pounds 11 ounces. The two day total weighed in by all participants was slightly more than 148 pounds of walleye, which was down from last year, when 219 pounds were weighed in. In 2006 the FSA’ers weighed in 330 pounds, so it was quite apparent the windy conditions had a dramatic effect on the number of walleyes people were able to “put in the net”.



Lynn Stoltenburg, left and Jim Iverson, right present Mike Albee with the coveted title of

One of the highlights of the FSA Fish N Fun Social is to award a Traveling Trophy named “Charlie the Tuna” to the individual who catches the **LEAST** amount of walleyes. This year, the trophy could have been presented to 14 different people, as these 14 individuals did not catch **ANY** fish. These individuals were each presented with a prestigious fishing rod for their efforts, compliments of Mr. eBay, Larry Olsen. The defending Champion, Ron Russell, could not attend (could it be that he was afraid of being our 1<sup>st</sup> 3-Time winner?) to present the Trophy to the most deserving individual. This year’s “proud owner” and first **FEMALE** winner (FSA does not discriminate) of the coveted Trophy was presented to Mary Johnson, as she **once** again failed to catch any walleye! Mary was also presented with an anchor, as she really exemplifies the meaning of “Dead Weight”! Mary humbly accepted “Charlie” with her deepest gratitude, but vowed not to be the 1<sup>st</sup> **TWO-TIME** Female winner (Mary, Mary.....Things will have to **CHANGE**)! Note to Mary: Google Search the word “Walleye” for fishing tips!!

The winner of the free Rod/Reel drawing for the entrants that paid, but did not show up to fish was won by Keith Zanter, Clay County CED. All of the fishing participants would like to extend their thanks and gratitude to the entrants that always pay, but for whatever reason, do not fish. This FSA outing would not be possible without your support and it is very much appreciated! We hope to see some of you “non-fishermen” next year!

Jim, Lori, and I would like to add special thanks to Ryan Wenz, Fred Beck, Rhet Russell, and Larry Olsen (Brat Cookers) and to Bev Birkeland, Leon Edlund, Mary Johnson, and Steve Jacobson for “Taking the Bull by the Horn” and making the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual FSA Calcutta a huge success. Hope to see you all next year!!

# FISH 'N FUN OTOS



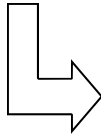
It's a dirty job... but somebody's gotta do it !

Even a fun time involves a certain amount of work.

There were 14 qualified candidates for the "Charlie the Tuna" traveling trophy.

(6 were too embarrassed to even be in the picture)

And the winner (loser ?) was:  
Mary Johnson !!



To be frank and honest ... I think everyone had a good time !





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Name	Service Branch	Current Location / Service History	SDASCOE / FSA Relative
Craig W. Nelson	Air Force	Stationed in Arizona. Served previous tour of duty overseas; scheduled again in May, 2008.	Nephew of Mary Rae Peterson and Peg Schmidt, PT's McCook County.
SPC Katie Boesch	US Army	Stationed in Texas. Has served in Iraq & is scheduled to again deploy in '08	Niece of Mike Goetzinger CED; Bennett/Shannon
SPC Dan Boesch	US Army	Stationed in Texas. Has served in Iraq & is scheduled to again deploy in '08	Spouse of SPC Katie Boesch
Cpt. Matthew Strand	Army Infantry	Returned from Iraq in July, '06. Currently at Ft. Benning, GA	Son of Rodney Strand, CED Edmunds Co.
PFC Andy Davis	SD Army National Guard	Currently serving in Afghanistan	Nephew of Mike Davis, FLM Hand Co.
Staff Sgt. Shaye Melton	Air Force	Currently stationed in RAF Mildenhall, England	Son-in-Law of Cathy Olstad, PT Fall River-Custer Co.
TR Hill	Air Force	Stationed in Omaha NE	Nephew of Charlene Lolley, Meade Retiree
CPT Neil L. Sanders	Army	Returned Home from 2nd deployment to Iraq	Brother-in-law of Kari Sanders, PT Fall River/Custer
Frank Moser	SD Army National Guard	Served 1 Year in Iraq	Brother-in-law of Kari Sanders, PT Fall River/Custer
Cpt Michael Thompson	Air Force	Currently stationed in Georgia	Son of Stan Thompson, CED Marshall Co.
Sgt. Josh Bryant	SD Army National Guard	Served in Iraq from Dec., '03 to Feb.05. Is now a Recruiter in Redfield, SD	Son of JoDee Bryant, FLO Faulk Co.
Zach Carter	US Navy	Stationed in Pensacola, Florida	Nephew of Stacy Smith, PT Pennington Co.
Staff Sgt. Ryton Hitzel	US Air Force	Stationed in Minot, ND	Son of Ruby VanderMay, TPT Jackson County
SPC Phillip Olson	SD Army National Guard	147th 1st Field Artillery, FSC in Webster - On alert	Nephew of Kathy Lindquist, STO
SPC James Olson	SD Army National Guard	147th 1st Field Artillery, FSC in Webster - On alert	Nephew of Kathy Lindquist, STO
PV2 Joshua Olson	SD Army National Guard	147th 1st Field Artillery, FSC in Webster - On alert	Nephew of Kathy Lindquist, STO
MP Aaron Monteith	SD Army National Guard Military Police	235th Military Police, Army National Guard out of Rapid City. Currently serving in Afghanistan	Nephew of Kathy Lindquist, STO
SPC Scott Fried	101st Airborne	Deployed to Bagdad, Iraq in September. 2007 for 15 months. (2nd deployment ).	Son of Peggy Fried, PT Perkins
Cpt. Matthew Thompson	Marine Corp	Currently deployed to Iraq	Son of Stan Thompson, CED Marshall Co.
Rob Schoenwald	Marine Corp	Currently deployed to Iraq	Son of Edie Schoenwald, PT Turner Co.
Sgt. Jason Lunders	SD Army National Guard	Currently in Mississippi training. Will be home for Christmas then off to Iraq.	Nephew of Mary Rae Peterson PT in McCook County.
PFC Caleb Schaefer	SD Army National Guard	Attending Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown, SD .	Son of Debra Schaefer, PT McPherson Co.
PFC Katherina Schaefer	SD Army National Guard	Completed AIT in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. Attending BHSU this fall.	Daughter of Debra Schaefer, PT McPherson Co.
SGT / E6 Joshua Schaefer	Admin. NCO	Rapid City, SD	Son of Debra Schaefer, PT McPherson Co.
E3 Tracy Lennick	SD Army National Guard	Attending Advanced Individual Training in Ft. Lee, VA, Aug-Nov. '08	Son of Bonnie Nickelson, CED Hand & Hyde Counties

**THANK - YOU**

## County Office News



Racing over the hill at 50 were.....

## Davison-Hanson



At right, Curtis Fox, CED celebrated his 50th Birthday this spring. The staff made sure it did not pass by unnoticed!



## Corson

At Left, Corson County helped Program Technician Susan Mizera celebrate her 50th birthday. Happy 50th Birthday Susan!



# Lake



October of 2007 Linda Bruns, PT was recognized for 25 years of service. L-R is Marcia Bungler, John Minnaert, Donna Rensch-COC Chair, Linda Bruns, PT, Joel Overskei & Brad Wilkens, DD.



July 2008 Theresa Skluzacek, PT was recognized for 25 years of service. L-R is Donna Rensch, Theresa Skluzacek, PT, John Minnaert-COC Chair, & Joel Overskei.



## County Office News

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“The Corson County Committee congratulates these fine folks for their achievements. Shari Evenson & Doug Hofer received their certificates for 5 years of dedicated service to FSA. Susan Mizera received her NASCOE certificate for reaching 2000 hours of unused sick leave.”

Back row (l to r): Larry Jacobs, Paul Comeau, Charlie Clark, Jack Ward, Bill Chase  
Front row (l to r): Susan Mizera, Shari Evenson, Doug Hofer

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**Homme**

On May 22<sup>nd</sup> the Bon Homme COC presented CED Ernie Bures with his 20 years of service certificate.

# Edmunds



Sylvia Davis received her 25 year length of service award. Also pictured are Rodney Strand, CED and COC Chairperson, Joyce Vetch.

# Bennett- Shannon



Mike Goetzinger, CED presented Collette Palmer with her certificate for 25 years of service.

# Marshall



Pictured is JoAnn Hawkinson being presented her 10 year certificate by COC Chair James Michlitsch along with Jill Beaner and Lois Kirkegaard receiving their 20 year certificates.

**Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt."**

**Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about. He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."**

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After a church service on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, 'Mom, I've decided to become a minister when I grow up. 'That's okay with us, but what made you decide that?' 'Well,' said the little boy, 'I have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell, than to sit and listen.'

**WORKING & PLAYING TOGETHER!**



Dan Wetham and Ron Russell's districts met for their management meeting on July 24th in Faulkton at Lakeside Country Club. Following the meeting a few of the CED's, FLM's, and COT's took in some time to play a round on the golf course.

Above: JoDee Bryant and Sandy Bower relax on the golf course.

At Right: Marty and Stan Thompson observe their team members as they vie for the 'best shot' along the way. Any pointers for your team guys?



# Kid's to Work Day, April 24



## Gregory

Teah Serr and Tyson Serr who participated with their Mom and Teachers approval on Bring your Son or Daughter to work, April 24<sup>th</sup>. They were so pleased to be able to do this and were a great help in a small project in the office. They each worked for an hour and then returned to school with a map of Burke to show their class and then keep for a souvenir. Their Mom works for Gregory County FSA (Tammi Serr).

## Hughes-Stanley

Eryn Schlott helped with a grain bin site evaluation, then went to Dupree with her Mom, Mary Liz Davis, to help move files and send out letters and then another FV before heading home. Eryn then gave a speech to her class about her mom's job and what she did that day.

Eryn's mom is the FLM in Pierre, and her stepdad is Mike Davis, FLM in Miller.



## Jones



Jones County's temporary employee, Carrie Lolley, brings her son, Jacob, to work with her April 24, 2008.

## County Office News

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Spink County FSA'ers helping out with the flower planting project for the City of Redfield. Pictured are Terri Roth, Pat Payant, Barb Dickhaut, Diane Dangel, COT Janelle Seer, Carmen Mason, and Teagen Mason.

## D E U E L

Jason  
and  
Brandy  
Aho



were married on  
June 28, 2008  
at Trinity  
Lutheran

Church in Lake Norden, S.D. Parents of the couple are Dave and Patti Wolf of Clear Lake, S. Dakota and Larry and Sandi Aho of Lake Norden, S. Dakota. Lona Krueger, Jenni Squires, Kim St. John and Andrea Fieckert along with Rob Boettcher, Ryan Squires (son of Helen Squires, Hamlin Co PT), Darin Aho and Brett Wolf included the wedding party.

Jason is a feed salesman for J & R Feeds out of Lake Norden and also has a hobby farm. Brandy is a Deuel County PT. The couple will reside in Lake Norden.

Brandy & Jason honeymooned in San Juan Island (off Washington State) where they hiked, whale watched and took part in other activities around the island.

# *CREATIVE WRITING CONTRIBUTION*

Submitted by: Stan Thompson, Marshall County CED

## **New Guy**

The State FSA Office has sent a new, young, supposedly improved model of me to our office for training. Train to do what I asked? Your job they said. My job I asked? Yup they replied. HmMMM I said. Ok.

That's what I said out loud. To myself I said yeah like right. In the first place it took me 56 years to become me so just how do they propose that I turn this new young to be improved guy into me in 3 weeks! They must think I'm really dumb if they think I'm going to train somebody to replace me. Maybe that is why they believe they need to train somebody to replace me, do they think I'm dumb? Last time I looked they weren't farming in this county so what gives them the right to think that? But if they believe I'm that dumb why would they send him here for me to train rather than send him to an office where they have somebody a little smarter and thus capable of doing a better training job? Who's the dumb one here?

Everybody knows we have the best staff in the state right here in Marshall County so maybe they think the staff will do all the training. Maybe they think I'll just push him off on them and he won't pick up any bad habits from me. Maybe they just plain weren't thinking at all when they sent him here.

I went back for further clarification and it turns out that they don't want him to take my job after all. I acted like I knew that all the time but said a Whew! under my breath just the same. They just want him trained so that he can fill in one of the offices where there is a management opening right now or soon will be an opening due to retirement. Evidently they figure either I don't have anything else to do or they think the ladies have me trained well enough that I can pass some of this experience with them on to a younger newer version of me.

So, I started working on a list of 25 knowledgeable and highly important tips to pass on to the younger, newer, has more hair version of me. All of these tips have been gleaned from my 56 informative years. I'm still adding to the list but these are the real important ones. Mostly from things other people have reported to me. Mostly. A few I thought up myself.

## New Guy, continued

1. Never tell any employee (or your wife or girlfriend) that their new clothes make them look slimmer. Some make take this as a fat comment. Go figure but I guess it can.
2. Never ask one employee for a cookie recipe when all of the employees brought cookies that day. (It is also a good idea to not give your wife your mother's recipes)
3. Never pick your nose when working with a customer.
4. Never tell your wife you like the cologne worn by one of your employees.
5. Don't take your lunch break at 10:00 or you won't have anything to do over lunch break.
6. Never lock a customer in the office when you leave.
7. If you hide food in your desk drawer sooner or later the ants will find it.
8. If you can't do everything in your office you better have one or two employees that can.
9. Everybody has a best friend that they believe they can entrust with a secret.
10. Either treat everybody great or treat them like dirt but for darned sure you better treat them all the same.
11. If you don't wear clean socks to work keep your shoes on.
12. If you are golfing during the middle of the day don't do it on the day the big boss could show up.
13. If you absolutely have to golf in the middle of the day take the GPS unit with you and say you are measuring for somebody.
14. For taking trips out in the country try to have a vehicle equipped with a compass so you can get back to the office before quitting time.
15. Don't stick your mechanical pencil in the electric pencil sharpener.
16. Try to leave the first set of footprints through the snow to the office.
17. Don't wear a John Deere cap to a Case-International free lunch.
18. Try not to be the first one to the free lunch.
19. Try not to be the last one to leave a free lunch.
20. If you are out for lunch with your peers, try not to get stuck for lunch.
21. If you are visiting with a producer try not to act like you are out to lunch.
22. Occasionally buy your staff lunch.
23. Learn all the acronyms that are important to the job, i.e., DUWFWT (Do u want fries with that), YSUB (Yeah sure U Betcha), RUK (Are u kidding). 24) Learn to say "The check is in the mail" with a straight face.
24. And finally of 25 great things to know, always and I mean **ALWAYS**, say **thank you to your staff as they are the ones that make you look like you know what you are doing**. Or not.

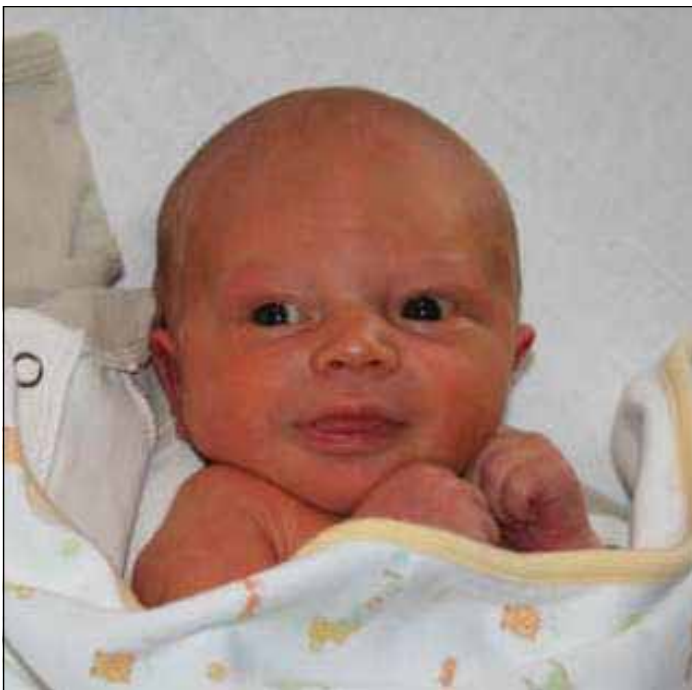




# Harding

Skyler Nation, along with her "Grammy" Deb Brengle are very excited to announce the arrival of Skyler's baby sister Sorel Jayce, born July 3, 2008. Skyler and Sorel are the daughters of Steve and Stormy Nation and the granddaughters of Deb Brengle & Sonny Nation, and Dewayne & Tammy Lei, all of Buffalo, SD.

# Sully



Chase McQuirk was born July 20th, 2007 to Nate and Lorie McQuirk. Fran McQuirk, PT in Sully County and her husband Mark are the proud grandparents. Chase resides in Spearfish.

Mellette-Todd  
Mellette-Todd



Wonder what these little guys are dreaming up?! Lori Jones gets twice the pleasure in spoiling her grandsons Payton and Paxton.

# Potter

Grandma Cindy Driscoll, PT, just HAD to go to Albuquerque, NM to welcome her new granddaughter, Olivia Renee Froehlich, into the world. Olivia was born on August 4 and weighed in at 7lbs., 8 oz.



# Graduates Take on ...

Are Mom and Dad really ready?????

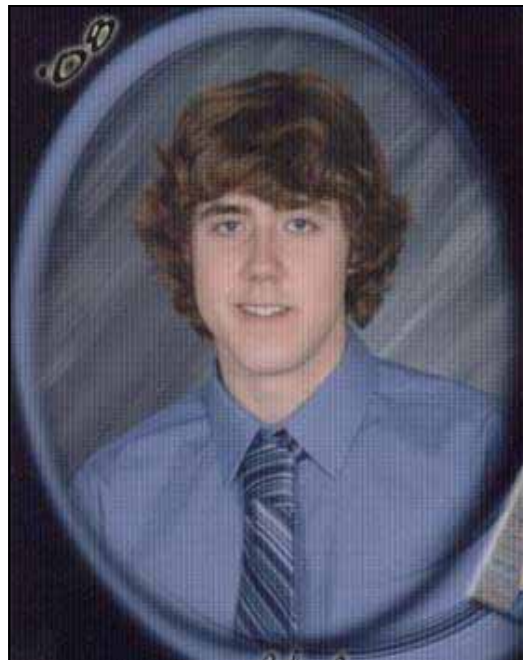
## HIGHMORE

2008 Highmore High School Graduate. Tracy Lennick, son of Bonnie (Hand & Hyde CED) and Larry Nickelson.

Tracy will be attending National Guard Advanced Individualized Training in Ft. Lee, Virginia August-November, 2008.



## MILLER



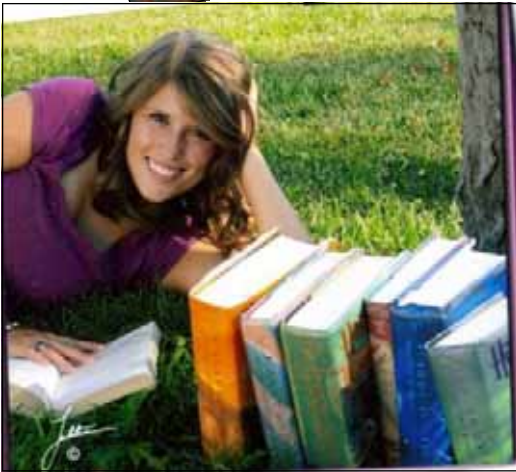
2008 Miller High School Graduates. Left is Aaron Stevens, son of Kris (Hand PT) & Ken Stevens. Aaron will be attending Lake Area Vo Tech in Watertown this fall. Right is John Iverson, son of Jim (Former Hand CED) & Eleanor Iverson. John will attending SDSU this fall.

# ... The World



Tyler Mason is a graduate of Doland High School. He is the son of Brent and Carmen Mason. Carmen is a PT in the Spink County office. Tyler was involved in wrestling, football, all school plays, high school rodeo and 4-H rodeo. Tyler has been accepted at Mitchell Technical Institute in the electrical construction program this fall.

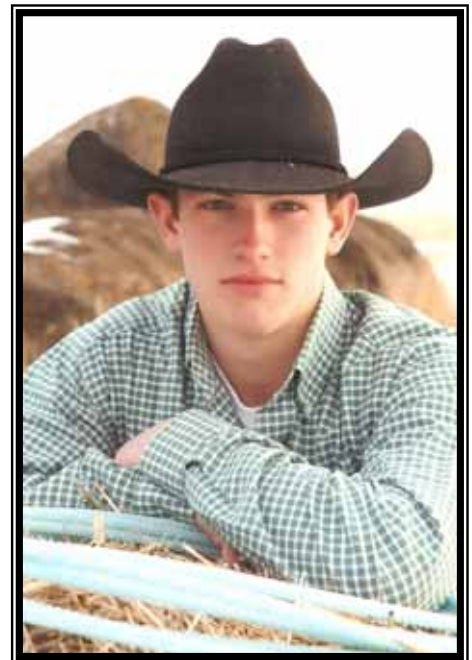
## DOLAND



Briana Troske graduated from Doland, SD this spring. She is the daughter of Bill and Pat Troske. Pat is a temporary-fulltime PT at the FSA office in Redfield, SD. Briana plans on attending SDSU in Brookings this fall, she is undecided as to her major.

Austin Schaefer graduated in May from Leola High School as valedictorian. He will be attending SDSU in Brookings this fall, majoring in International Business. Austin is the son of Debra Schaefer, PT.

## LEOLA



# CLASS OF 2008

## CHESTER AREA High School

Jacob Busser, graduated from Chester Area High School. Jake has joined the Army National Guard, and will complete Basic Training in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO in January, 2009. His future plans include attending SDSU this fall majoring in Criminal Justice. Jake is the son of Leon and Lisa (PT-Lake).



## McPHERSON COUNTY

### SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

PFC Katherina Schaefer completed basic training at Ft. Jackson, SC., where she received "Soldier of the Cycle". After completing Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, she will be attending Black Hills State University in Spearfish this fall. Katherina is the daughter of Debra Schaefer, PT.





## **NORTHWEST AREA RALLY**

### **Delegates Report**

Dear SDASCOE Members:

The Northwest Area Rally was held in Watertown, June 19-21, 2008. Cindy Peterson, the Northwest Area Executive, had a great lineup of speakers. It was a great opportunity to meet our FSA Administrator, Teresa Lasseter and the South Dakota Secretary of Ag, Bill Even.

The rally kicked off on Thursday night with a Seafood Buffet at the Dakota Sioux Casino. Friday activities began with a Tour of the Terry Redlin Art Center and lunch. For those of you that have not had the opportunity to visit the Terry Redlin Art Center I urge you to visit it if the opportunity presents itself, from there the tour continued on to the Glacial Lakes Energy Ethanol Plant. FSA Administrator, Teresa Lasseter joined the group for the tours. The last stop was the Mellette House, home of South Dakotas first Governor, Arthur Calvin Mellette.

On Saturday, the Business meeting was packed with powerful speakers. Stan Lamb, Codington County CED and Paul Fox, Watertown Mayor welcomed rally goers. Mr. Cutler, South Dakota State Executive Director, spoke briefly and also welcomed NASCOE.

Bill Even, South Dakota Secretary of Agriculture gave an overview of the South Dakota Department of Ag. The Department has a budget of \$15 million, and it employees 100 people. Of that number, fifty are in Pierre, and fifty are scattered across the state.

Secretary Even informed the attendees that in 2010, a new census will be completed. The information compiled from that census will be used by every state to redistribute funding. This is a concern as our state is increasingly losing a lack of conviction to Agriculture. It is everyone's responsibility to educate our friends and neighbors on the positive facts of Agriculture. "Ignorance of Agriculture" is becoming too common. Farmers comprise less than 2% of the population of the United States. Secretary Even stressed that Agriculture needs your voice, let it be heard. He ended with praise for FSA employees.

Don Dixon, Idaho State Executive Director gave a brief resume of himself and how he became the Idaho SED. SED Dixon spoke briefly on the following topics; continuing resolutions, PT reclassifications, office closures and training. SED Dixon believes personal contact is vital and has visited every office in his state. He also believes that FSA came out of the recent Farm Bill well. SED Dixon closed with, "Change will continue, change is good".

Jim Meidinger, Special Assistant to the Administrator spoke briefly and gave a synopsis of the Administrator's schedule before arriving in Watertown. Mr. Meidinger touched on the Farm Bill implementation.

## **NWA RALLY DELEGATES REPORT, pg. 2**

**Teresa Lasseter, Farm Service Administrator, addressed the rally attendees. Administrator Lasseter told the group that it was a pleasure to serve in the capacity as the Administrator and that she appreciates all of the hours that Jim puts in. Ms. Lasseter visited State Committee Member Marietta Lakness' farm and home before coming to Watertown. Ms. Lasseter discussed the Farm Bill implementation and the changes for the 2009 crop year.**

**Ms. Lasseter felt strongly that Washington should not develop a plan to close offices, that such a plan should be individual to each state and she believes that stopping the closure process was unfair to the states that had already implemented their plans. Ninety three offices have been consolidated and forty-six meet the criteria to be closed as they are within 20 miles of another office. She does not plan to implement any action, at this time, to close offices that meet the 20 mile criteria. Ms. Lasseter believes that providing efficient, accurate and timely service is extremely important and that our current delivery structure must change due to budget, urban sprawl and advances in electronics.**

**Ms. Lasseter addressed the Knowledge Bank review. This was performed by a private company to assess FSA's state and national offices. The review has been completed after many months and is now available on the Web. We are encouraged to read the review and recommendations (they are only recommendations at this point). Even though county offices weren't reviewed, any changes made may affect us at the county level. Ms Lasseter explained that states already had reviewed plans for the county offices and she felt it was time to look at the state and national level.**

**Ms. Lasseter touched on MIDAS, Modernize and Innovation of Delivery of Ag Systems. Cindy Beringer, former PT in Hughes-Stanley, is now in Washington and is working on the MIDAS Team. The purpose of MIDAS is to study our delivery system as Ms Lasseter feels there needs to be a better understanding/connection between the county offices and DC management. Brookings County is involved with the MIDAS program.**

**NASCOE President, Bonnie Heinzman addressed program technician reclassification, reorganization task force (see Cindy's comments later in this report), personal use of government computers, financial status of NASCOE and Knowledge Bank Report.**

**Regarding PT reclassification, NASCOE has been working on this for many years. Now that HRD is finishing their review of CED reclassification they will work on the PT position descriptions. The three new PT position descriptions submitted will be even more important with the new activity reporting system we will be using.**

**Bonnie said NASCOE has taken steps to refine its use of government computers and equipment. Check the web site for these guidelines.**

**The financial status of NASCOE is sound, there is no discussion at this time to increase NASCOE dues.**

## **NWA RALLY DELEGATES REPORT, pg. 3**

**Bob Redding, Consultant, addressed the group from DC via conference call. He touched on USDA Reorganization (again see Cindy's comments), PAC, office closures, conservation administration, IT Modernization and ACRE.**

**Mr Redding feels that USDA reorganization, whatever it may be, might be coming in 2009. He commented that the need for PAC (Political Action Committee) is a reality in the times we are in.**

**NASCOE has a lot of support in the Senate and Congress, which helped with the 2009 Ag Appropriations and that we lost nothing regarding conservation.**

**Cindy Peterson, NWA Exec was on NASCOE's Reorganization Task Force. She recommended reading the report and strongly encouraged members to contact her regarding any possible reorganization issues. No one know at this time what may be involved with the reorganization. When it happens it may happen fast and our NASCOE leadership wants to be prepared with thoughts and ideas from the membership on many possible topics.**

**Cindy is currently on the DC initiated Performance Management Task Force representing PT's. She was one of the individuals presenting this tiered performance system at the National AO/SED Conference held in June. This system is required by law so we must get to know it. The task force has recommended training for more consistency. Any ideas regarding the elements etc let Cindy know and she will pass it on to DC. She did comment that CR/EEO wasn't intended to be a separate element.**

**A Question and Answer session was held with the speakers already mentioned. One of the questions involved a 4 day work week due to budget. Ms Lasseter has no plans at this time to make that available. She feels there are already problems getting a hold of individuals due to nonworkdays. When asked what NASCOE's stance is on this issue, Bonnie replied that NASCOE will work for whatever the majority of the membership wants.**

**We wrapped up the afternoon with the business meeting and reports. A couple items worth noting are:**

- After discussing a Northwest Area Fund for Legislative fly-ins etc, the membership present voted to establish the fund. Cindy will work out the details and present it at the NWA meeting at the National Convention.**
- The SWA has proposed an All West Rally next year in Reno, hosted by California. The members present voted in support of this. More details will be coming.**

**Please see the secretary's minutes for a full account of the business meeting and read the published reports.**

**The rally was a great mix of entertainment and business.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Jodi Schrempp and Peggy Groen**







Touring the Ethanol Plant. At the right is the tour guide, Teresa Lasseter and Jim Meidinger.



Cindy Mengenhauer, Kris Stevens, Laurie Pfeifle, Dianna Shafer, Lynda Steichen, Peggy Groen, Mary Johnson.



Cindy Hall, NWA Executive Alternate and Becky Zirpel.



NASCOE Pres. Bonnie Heinzman, Annette S (ID), Kevin M (OR), Gwen and Jamie (ND).



Diane & Doug Dangel



NASCOE Pres. Bonnie Heinzman, Don Dixon, Idaho SED, Cindy Peterson, NWA Exec., and SD Sec. of Ag, Bill Even.

## NWA RALLY

## SNAPSHOTS



# CREATIVE WRITING CONTRIBUTION

## A Luggage Adventure By Peggy Groen and Her Luggage



*Hi, I'm Peggy's Luggage. Peggy and I have traveled many places. We've been to California, Georgia, Wisconsin, Washington DC, Oregon, Utah, Arkansas, Texas, New York, the Caribbean, Alaska, Washington, Louisiana, Alabama and many other places (her sons even took me to Europe). So you see, I'm quite the traveler. Yes, Peggy and I have been many places together.*

***Last year we traveled to South Carolina – but we weren't together.***

*It started out as a typical adventure (as Peggy likes to call them). Once settled into the stuffy luggage compartment I thought about the important job I have carrying Peggy's traveling 'stuff' and knowing she can't travel without me. I've heard all kinds of traveling stories from other luggage. Most are fun, exciting stories. But some are just plain scary. Sometimes luggage disappears and is never seen again.*

*In the luggage compartment that day I found luggage for six of Peggy's traveling friends. Several of us knew each other from past travels and in fact have been room mates many times.*

*On our way to Myrtle Beach we stopped at Atlanta, Georgia to change planes. That's the roughest part of the trip for luggage. The baggage handlers are in a hurry so they get kind of rough with us, grabbing and tossing. But we're made for that so we're ready for it. As we were getting adjusted to our new cargo compartment someone mentioned our destination - it wasn't Myrtle Beach.*

*After that it's kind of confusing because we got split up going on different planes. Eventually I got to Myrtle Beach. I worried about the other SD luggage, would they be seen again?*

*I was loaded into a van and taken to a hotel. I thought it strange that none of the other SD luggage was in the van. At the hotel, I sat behind the registration counter waiting for Peggy and her friends to come haul me to the room. They and their luggage are a fun group and by now I was ready for some fun. I waited. And waited. Then...I waited some more. Where was Peggy? It seemed like days went by. Luggage and people came and went. Then I was stuck in an office and people kept walking right by me and I got kicked several times. What was Peggy doing without all of her important 'stuff' I carried. Time passed very slowly.*

### **Meanwhile...**



I'm Peggy and here's my side of this 'Adventure'. After several flight delays we (Jim, Dianna, Mary, Lynda and her daughters Brandi and Abby and I) finally arrived at Myrtle Beach in the middle of the night instead of 8:30 pm as scheduled. All of our luggage was still traveling. We filed our Delayed Baggage Claim forms and were told our luggage was coming on the next flight and would be delivered to the hotel.

That night we started calling the airline baggage claim department in an attempt to track down our luggage. Each call took an average of 30 minutes, most of it on hold (not a good sign).

## A Luggage Adventure, pg. 2

The next morning we were told we had to switch rooms. The Good News – no luggage to move. We continued our phone calls to the airline. We also started trips to the lobby to see if our luggage had arrived and we started checking the delayed baggage status on the internet. By noon we had only a couple of bags out of the 14 we started with. We all had plans for a dinner cruise that night and tours the next day so decided we had better do some shopping. Assuming (and you know what that means) our luggage would be coming soon we bought just enough clothes etc for that night. Some of our group had makeup and jewelry in their carry on bags so we shared (except for poor Jim). We enjoyed ourselves on the beautiful cruise and forgot about the luggage situation for a few hours.

I should mention that we traveled to Myrtle Beach a day early so we could do some sight seeing. Not so we could go shopping and calling about our luggage. One very important thing to note is that the humidity in Myrtle Beach that week was about 100%. And a body tends to perspire quite a lot – quite a lot – enough said on that.

Within the first 24 hours The Good News -12 bags had arrived. The Bad News – two hadn't. They were mine, but I was optimistic they would soon show up.

Everything in my luggage was replaceable except my SD denim vest with about 200 convention pins I had collected from the past 13 conventions. I had two wonderful SDASCOE friends offer to give me their vest and pins if mine didn't show up. SDASCOE members are sooo nice!

I had planned on a tour that next day, but since the business portion of the convention would be starting I chose to forego the tour and do some more shopping. I decided to shop for what I needed for the rest of the week as I didn't want to take time out everyday to go shopping. (Think about all the items you need for a convention. Clothes (casual and dressier), undergarments, toiletries, shoes and jewelry to go with the new clothes and luggage to haul it all home. Since it was an outdoor mall it took one outfit just to shop (remember the humidity).

The Good News – the stores at the mall were having end of season sales. The Bad News -I must be 'average' as it was very hard to find anything in my size.

My roommates (wonderful) and I kept calling the airline and checking the internet trying to locate my luggage. The reply we received was 'We're sorry; we have no updates on this bag and are still trying to locate it. Check back again.' At one point I called and was told it would be delivered between 4:00 pm and 4:00 am that day. Super! Being skeptical, Lynda called right back and was told they were unable to locate it. Hhhmmm. Another time they said they would check the various cities and countries where it could be. Countries? Again, not a good sign.

I made the best of the situation – after all I was in Myrtle Beach with good friends! The lack of my own favorite clothes didn't spoil the fun. I was still able to walk along the beach and stick my toes in the ocean. Every time I headed towards the lobby I said 'I'm going to get my luggage' hoping positive thinking would make it appear. Other convention attendees that knew my plight would say 'Nice shirt, Peg'. My reply 'Thanks, it's new'. What else do you do?

## A Luggage Adventure, pg. 3

I arrived home six days later. The Good News – I traveled light going home. The Bad News – my luggage was still on vacation. Most of my new clothes, because they weren't my style and size, would be going to charity. And my favorite clothes were still... somewhere. So I had to do more shopping once I got home. I was still trying to be optimistic that my luggage would arrive.

I continued with the phone calls and internet tracking, but my enthusiasm was waning.

I had been told earlier by the airline to file a claim for delayed baggage, they would pay \$25 a day for three days. Wow! I did ask at what point is it no longer delayed but just plain lost? The answer was 180 days. Wow!

Day 12 without my luggage – A phone call from the Paradise Resort in Myrtle Beach. My luggage had been there for a 'while now'. While I had been at the Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach, my luggage had been down the road at the Paradise Resort.. The Good News – my bags had been located. The Bad News – it took that resort 12 days to check the bag tags and call me.

I immediately called baggage claim and told them where my luggage was. They said it would be picked up and delivered to my house.

Day 14 - still no luggage. I called the Paradise Resort. My luggage was still there. I called baggage claim. I was assured it would be picked up and sent to Sioux Falls.

Day 15 - I called the resort. They still had my luggage and I still wanted it!

I don't like to complain – at least, I try not to complain - too much. But my frustration was taking over. I made more of an effort to find my luggage than they did. After all, I told them where my luggage was and it still took them 2 weeks and over 11 phone calls to get it to me. I won't mention the airline - momma and daddy said if you can't say anything nice don't say anything at all!!! I'm still working on that one.

Day 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 - I called baggage claim -every day – sometimes more than once a day. Finally, The Good News – my luggage had been sent to Sioux Falls.

Day 23 – I got a call at 2:00 am from an airline employee saying he had a bag of mine, where did I want it delivered? He was in Louisville, Kentucky. 'A bag' I had two.

Day 25 - The Good News – my luggage with all contents including my vest came home!!

Day 28 - I called to check on my luggage (just because). The reply 'We're sorry; we have no updates on this bag and are still trying to locate it. Please check back again.'



Final Note from the luggage:

*I was glad to be home, I was glad Peggy enjoyed herself in Myrtle Beach (even without me and her stuff) and I was glad she fought so hard to get me home. I'm really, really glad that we're traveling to this year's NASCOE Convention by car!!!!*



## SLRs' Rally Cry

**“Boxes, boxes we adore  
Can we fill any more?”**



# Bits 'n Pieces

**“NARA & FSA hope you can  
To make more room, cuz of the ban”**

**“NARA promises it will be a breeze  
While we make room during the freeze”**

**“We need to make our records more secure  
While we protect the privacy & integrity of FSAs' future”**



# SDASCOE's on the WEB

<http://geocities.com/sdascoe>



**Check it Out !**

**Thanks to our  
newly acquired**

**WEBMASTER,**

**Jennifer Chavez,  
PT - Hyde**

SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF  
FSA COUNTY OFFICE EMPLOYEES

BONNIE NICKELSON  
33490 181ST STREET  
HIGHMORE SD 57345

Non Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Carpenter SD 57322  
Permit No. 1

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## ABOUT OUR COVER:



Sue is the largest, most complete and best preserved Tyrannosaurus Rex ever unearthed. She was discovered near Faith, SD by fossil hunter Sue Hendrickson. She is estimated to have weighed 14,000 pounds when alive. Her skull alone measures 5 feet long and weighs 600 pounds. Sue had 58 teeth, ranging from 7 ½” to 12” long. She is believed to have died about the age of 28.

The spectacular, full-sized case of this dinosaur’s 42-foot-long, 13-foot high skeleton is on display at the Community Center in Faith, SD through September 1.



Sue is not owned locally, so due to the costs of having her transported, she may not be returning home again for many years.

Joining her on display, is “Bucky”, a teenage T-Rex as well as other related displays. Bucky was also found in western SD.