

## NEBRASCOE

Nebraska Association of FSA County Office Employees

## NASCOE Myths: Debunked

A Message From Your President-Jessi Colgrove

There are many reasons that people aren't NASCOE members. Some people were members at one time but became unhappy with the association and some have never been members. The reasons for not joining can be as varied as our FSA employees themselves but I have found that all too often, people don't join because they have been given erroneous information. I would like to debunk some of the more common myths that are floating around the state and in this issue of the NEBRASCOE Newsletter I will tackle one of the most common: "I don't want my dues to pay for you guys to go on trips".

Let's be honest here...your dues pay for us to go on trips. Each year, NEBRASCOE sends two board members to the Area Rally and two board members to the National Convention. Dues money covers their transportation (flight, car rental, or mileage), hotel, registration fee, and miscellaneous expenses such as parking and baggage fees. If a delegate travels a day early to take part in any tours or activities offered, they must pay their own hotel for that night. The basic registration fee is covered by the association but any tours or meals that the delegate chooses to partake in must be done at their own expense. Delegates are required to attend all meetings and are asked to write a report to summarize the topics discussed. Anyone who doesn't hold up their end of the agreement will not be reimbursed. Finally, the state associations receive a stipend from national to help cover transportation for the two delegates and this amount is based on the percentage of membership in that state and is calculated using the flight expenses from the nearest airport.

Every few years we also send delegates to a Legislative Conference. This year we are sending 7 board members who will share 2 rooms in order to keep costs low. We will also receive a stipend from National because several attendees have never been to a Leg Conference before. We will be able to meet one-on-one with our elected officials in DC and tell our story. Collectively, all associations across the United States can make a difference right where our laws our written!

(continued on page 8)

## **NEBRASCOE** Mission

NEBRASCOE strives to maintain and improve the confidence, esteem and respect of the public for FSA Committee Employees. NEBRASCOE employees are dedicated to providing outstanding service to the farmers of this great state.

October 2016

## Officers

President-Jessi Colgrove Vice President-Ann Kurpgeweit Secretary-Lisa Wiese Treasurer-Shanna Waterman

#### **Board Members**

- District 1: Jessi Colgrove Amy Vitosh
- District 2: Joni Johnson Mona Fassler
- District 3: Shanna Waterman Lisa Wiese
- District 4: Mel Campbell Niki Dittmer
- District 5: Linda Fegler Anne Kelley
- District 6: Sandy Orr Heather Amateis
- District 7: Shawna Mitchell Ann Kurpgeqweit

http://www.nebrascoe.com https://nascoe.org

Email: nebrascoe@yahoo.com

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

2017 NW Area Rally April 27-30, 2017 Lincoln, NE

2017 NASCOE Convention August 2-5, 2017 St. Charles, MO

## Working Advantage Benefits

- Theme Parks (Six Flags, Disney etc.)
- Movie Tickets (Cinemark, Regal etc.)
- Ski Tickets
- Hotels, Travel and Car Rentals
- Broadway Theatre Tickets
- Sporting Events
- Health and Fitness
- Museums and City Passes
- Online Shopping

Other Benefits Offered:

- Legal Services for NASCOE
  members
- Cell Phone Discounts

Check out these discounts on workingadvantage.com . You will need your NASCOE Member ID to access this site.

### Dillard Financial Solutions, Inc

- Complimentary Federal Benefits Analysis
- Social Security Maximization
- Group Workshops
- One-on-one Appointments
- Spousal Survivor Benefits
  Options
- IRA and 401K Rollover
  Options
- TSP Rollover Options
- Retirement Income
- FEGLI Life Insurance
  Alternatives
- Roth IRA's
- Tax Free Retirement Options
- Life Lock Identity Theft
- Protection

## Northwest Area NASCOE Benefits Committee Report

2016 National Convention~August 3-6, 2016~Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Promoting the Working Advantage, Dillard Financial Solutions Inc. and the member's free hour with the NASCOE Lawyer is a great value to all who utilize these great benefits.

For further information on these great benefits go to: <u>MyNASCOEBene-</u><u>fits.com</u> and check out all that they have to offer!

NASCOE Attorney: NASCOE offers an opportunity to talk with the NASCOE attorney for an hour per request through the proper channels. This is limited to individual employment issues, generally but not always, adverse actions against the individual. This benefit is not an entitlement or a guaranteed benefit as each request is reviewed individually and the request is granted based on the merits of the request or the facts as they are known. Please see your benefits executive to obtain further information on this benefit.

It is with great honor and pleasure that I have been given the opportunity to serve as you NW Area Benefit Chairman. If you have any questions or concerns about the NASCOE benefits available please contact me and I

will be happy to help you.

Respectfully submitted, Deana Tranby, North Dakota NW Area Benefits Chair



#### NEBRASCOE Giveaway

Anyone who is a NEBRASCOE member as of November 1, 2016 will be entered in a drawing for TWO Fitbit Activity Wristbands. (Your choice of an Alta or Charge HR...each a \$130 value) The winners will be drawn during the December 2016 board meeting. The NEBRASCOE Board appreciates your membership and the benefits of being a member are amazing!

If you have always been a member but haven't gotten your dues in yet, make sure you do so that you are entered. If you have a co-worker who is not a member, share this newsletter with them



and talk to them about the amazing benefits provided through membership. You can complete an FSA-444 form and submit it to Joni Johnson, NEBRASCOE Membership Chair and to the Administrative Section in the State Office at <u>FSA-NE-HRProcessing@ne.usda.gov</u>. Also feel free to contact any of the Board Members with any questions you may have.



Kelly Breinig, CED in Furnas and Gosper counties (Top Left) participated in the FSA State and County Fellowship Program and is seen here with (Front Row) Virginia Morgan, Program Manager for the program and Val Dolcini, FSA Administrator. Back Row L to R: Kelly Breinig; Tim Divis, CED in Saunders County; Steve Niemann, CED Douglas, Illinois; Thomas Nii, FLS, Hawaii STO.

## **NEBRASCOE Member Spotlight**

#### Kelly Breinig, Furnas and Gosper CED

During the months of August and September, I have had the honor to participate in a Farm Service Agency State and County Fellowship Program. This program provided the opportunity to work in the national office under certain designated programs and projects, outlined in National Notice PM-2962. The program area I was accepted in was with Farm Program Delivery Automation with Conservation and Price Support Programs.

Throughout my career, I have really appreciated the opportunity FSA provides to their employees for mentoring, career growth and development. NASCOE undoubtedly plays huge role in making those efforts and programs happen. While considering this fellowship program, I thought both personally and professionally, this was an opportune time for me to pursue, and thankfully, I was accepted.

During my tenure here at the national office, I have been busy working with handbook amendments, writing business rules and user requirements for software, and developing spreadsheets to analyze facility loan repayments and calculate grain forfeitures until the CLPS software is enhanced. I was also fortunate to participate in an additional outreach project proposal review with DAFO. It has truly been an experience working at the national office, gaining perspective from this level, while providing them field perspective particularly during unprecedented commodity loan and loan deficiency program demands and training needs.

I have enjoyed networking with the other fellows in the program and the national office staff. The fellowship program coordinators have kept us busy with tours and events at least once a week, including a tour of the Beltsville (Maryland) Agricultural Research Center, the largest agricultural research center in the world.

This was my first experience in Washington D.C. and it not only is a great place to visit, it's a fascinating place to live and work. I'm appreciative of the staff at Furnas and Gosper counties and neighboring counties for their support and assistance. This has been a great opportunity to gain perspective on policy and farm program delivery. If anyone ever gets the opportunity to serve on a task force, detail, or participate in a similar program, I would highly encourage it.

## **NASCOE** National Convention

#### By Heather Amateis

The National Convention held in Cedar Rapid, Iowa, started out, unofficially, with a daylong tour of exciting, interesting, educational and awesome sites. (This day was on our own dime, but very much worth going out a day early to do.)



There were multiple tour choices. I attended the Dyersville Tour. This tour took us first to the National Farm Toy Museum. For those who collect items involving farming and/or manufacturing would have loved visiting this two story museum that was sectioned into areas of Ford, International and John Deere items, amongst other very interesting items.

We then headed out to the ball field located in the middle of a corn field. I will bet you can guess what movie was filmed at this location, but I will tell you what.... If that wasn't an awesome experience..... to be able to walk the same areas as the great actor Kevin Costner and others in the movie "Field of Dreams". And not just that, but we also got to take photos and listen to one of the Ghost Players talk about the whole process of the movie being made and how it came about that the field still remains intact 28 years later. "Build it and they will come"....

Next, the bus took us to a most educational location. The tour Farm Tech was inspirational in the manor of stepping out of our traditional methods of growing crops and expanding our horizons to trying various new, organic and conservative methods of growing crops, plants, food, and animal products. There are so many items to cover under all the things talked about during the tour. If you want more info about it all you should just contact them. They were very well trained and hands on when it came to the Farm Tech environment and products.

We also made a quick stop at the Basilica of St Francis Xavier. This was most impressive. The décor of the gold leafing detail and the hand painted murals on all of the ceilings and walls. The plaques depicting the life of Jesus and other disciples were intricate and detailed with foreign words on them. The stone work inside and out was also detailed and depicted specific items. Then there are the enormous stain glass windows that also told stories of important catholic historical items. The front doors were as large as life and demanded respectable strength to open them.

That night we had free time to mull about and get to know those we had met that day on the tours, meet new people that had gone on other tours, or meet up with those that we had met at previous conventions.

#### Day 2: BUSINESS TIME

Attendees started the day bright and early so that we could be seated and ready for the 8:00 am start of the General Session Invocation, Roll Call and Seating of Delegates. After a few other formalities, we were graciously greeted by Val Dolcini. He addressed the group with optimism for the future of FSA and great appreciation for all the hard work and professionalism provided by all the employees of FSA at all levels. Mr. Dolcini seemed very sincere in his regard of all FSA staff and the sacrifices we make to do our jobs.

It was often said by many different people that had attended past conventions, that we were extremely fortunate to have gotten to observe, listen to, and ask questions of eleven different Washington Deputy Administrators and Associates. I understand in past years there was typically only three. So for that Mr. Dolcini, we say THANK YOU!

The whole day was filled with intriguing speeches, questions and answers of the panel and others of managerial positions. I would like to follow up this summary with another article addressing many of the items discussed.

That evening the IOWA NASCOE group put on a very successful auction of items with all funds going toward Scholarship Awards. Previous Scholarship winners were there to help with the auction. Kudos to all those who put all those items together and to all those who worked the auction.

#### DAY 3:

Again, we were all up early and anxious to hear all about items scheduled for the day. We started again as a large group in general session, but the broke out into specific committee groups. The groups were:

Awards, Scholarships, Emblems, Legislative, Membership, Programs and Publicity. This allowed chairs from each state to focus on just their specific agenda. Other attendees could pick which committee group they



wanted to learn more about and attend that break out session. I cannot tell you how informative these sessions were. I will try to hit the highlights in the later article. We then reconvened back into the larger group, where the Committee Chairs reported on the breakdown sessions and submitted their reports to the NASCOE secretary for record.

That session was followed by one more breakout session of NASCOE Area Meeting. In these breakout sessions, we elected our area representatives and discussed items that pertained to our area group only.

#### Day 4:

With a most touching video honoring those who had dedicated their lives to the USDA cause, from all over the nation, we began our day with a rejuvenate respect for our agency and all those that have gone before us. After the Memoriam, the president of NAFEC (COC Association), Craig Turner, spoke to the general session. His enthusiasm and sincerity for the cause and job duties of the COC members was very informative and appreciated. Mr. Turner was respective but honest about the role of COC members in FSA and what types of situations they have been able to help office employees and NASCOE with in past years.

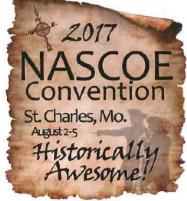
Following Mr. Turner was Ms. Brenda Boomer, RASCOE president. RASCOE is the National Association of Retired ASCS/FSA Office Employees. Let me tell you, she maybe retired, but she was a ball of fire and very entertaining. Her report of the items important to RASCOE was informative and exhibited the exact reasons for why we all need to stay involved in these groups as we approach and advance into the retirement faze of life.

After reports from the NASCOE President, Secretary and Treasurer, we were then addressed by the individual committee heads and NASCOE elections were held. The reports reiterated and reinforced the need for NAS-

COE and each and every member. I came out of these meetings wondering what the best method would be to get more county office employees involved in NASCOE and all it has done, maintains and brings forth on our behalf.

The day was ended with a dinner and awards night. It is humbling to hear the sacrifices, amazing talents, community service in multiple areas and extreme dedication of those who received these awards.

I beg of all of you that have never attended a conference to please consider attending the 2017 National Convention in St Charles, MO to be held August 2-5, 2017 or at very least come to our North West Area Rally coming soon to Lincoln, Nebraska to be held April 27-30, 2017.





Heather Amateis, Lisa Wiese, Linda Fegler, Niki Dittmer, Adrian Smith, Ann Kurpgeweit, Jessi Colgrove

## Washington DC Leadership/Legislative Meeting

### By Linda Fegler, Legislative/PAC Committee Chair

The Leadership meeting had 137 members in attendance, we spent a full day covering leadership roles we all hold building relationships with congress. We had comments from Wes Daniels, NASCOE President, Dennis Ray, NASCOE Vice President, Jackson Jones NASCOE Legislative CO-Chair and Donny Green Legislative CO-Chair. Hunter Moorehead, NASCOE Legislative Consultant discussed the role we play with our hill visits and the impact we can each make. Chad Hart, RASCOE, Vice President, Craig Turner, NAFEC President and John Lohr, Dillard Financial Solutions also spoke. As you can see we had an outstanding panel to help prepare us for the hill visits.

**Capitol Hill** – We each had appointments with congressman to attend, we were asked to provide background on the following: NASCOE, FSA, NASCOE's Legislative Priorities (Federal Appropriations, Farm Bill, Continuing the County Office Structure, Maintaining Farm Records, Maintaining Federal Employee Benefits)

**Nebraska Hill Visits** – We met all three congressmen and two senators and/or their aides. One visit with Senator Ben Sasse went really well. His Agriculture Policy Director – Ginger Wilson had a great meeting with us before the Senator arrived and this allowed us to build a relationship with their office. She asked us to provide information on the following:

What are the dollars put out to various programs and explain how it helped. Where have we saved money?

The discussion regarding the current farm bill gave her an insight of the complexity and additional workload it has put on the County Offices. We talked about how employees have become independent consultants due to this complexity. Many producers have to visit our offices 4 times or more a year making it extremely difficult to manage with our current staffing. Then Senator Ben Sasse came in and asked us to join him on his walk to the Senate floor where he was making a presentation. Along this walk we talked about these issues discussed with Ginger. He was very interested in following up on these issues and looks forward to hearing from us.

Representative Brad Ashford's Aides, Chris Kelley and Heather Voorman met with us. They were supportive of FSA and wanted to know if there us anything "wording wise" that needs included in the farm bill.

Fischer's Aide asked what we thought of the farm bill.

Fortenberry's Aide, Allen, wants input for the next farm bill.

## **NEBRASCOE NAFEC Notes**

In Nebraska, there are currently 19 Associate and 17 COC members (past or present) that are NAFEC members. Thanks to all that are supporting NAFEC! If you or your COC member(s) are still not sure what NAFEC does and why it is important to be a NAFEC member please visit NEBRASCOE's Website (http://www.nebrascoe.com/)page "Other Info" for links to NAFEC and the membership application.

The NAFEC Website, <u>http://fsacountycommittees.org/</u>, contains FSA Administrator Dolcini's video addressing the COC members and a PowerPoint presentation about NAFEC. The CED or PT in your office should have presented this to their COC members earlier this year. If not, the upcoming election and/or reorganizational meeting would be an excellent time to do this. There are many benefits to being a regular NAFEC member such as a voice on Capitol Hill, help with difficult situations within your county, discounted benefit plans offered by JM Marketing and family members are eligible for NAFEC scholarship given each year. This past year NAFEC awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Brenna Doeschot of Firth, NE! Brenna is the daughter of Clayton Doeschot, Lancaster COC Chair. Congratulations to Brenna!! Look for a write up on the NAFEC and NEBRASCOE websites in the next month.

Nebraska's NAFEC Director is Jim Densberger of Lancaster County. You can contact him at 402-783-2563 with any NAFEC questions or COC issues as well as myself at 402-580-1399 and your District Delegates! Nebraska is in need of another NAFEC State Director, please discuss with any COC member that is a member with NAFEC and have them contact Jim if interested.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Chewakin NEBRASCOE NAFEC Chair 402-580-1399 gchewakin@gmail.com



## From Your NEBRASCOE Programs Chair

NEBRASCOE/NASCOE Members-

I just want to send this quick reminder to use the program tab on the http://NASCOE.org site to your advantage. The association has provided this avenue of communication so that we all have a voice in any issues that may affect just small areas but could also affect the USDA as a whole. All questions and suggestions are reviewed and replied to. The site also has a list of all guestions and answers that have already be submitted. The national programs chair and helpers have taken the time to organize the Q&As into categories so that you can easily look for information on topics that are concerning to you. It is very easy to click in the submission box and type out your itemized question and maybe even add a solution to the topic. Do not be bashful! Step up and let your voice be heard! As you will see on previous submissions, the WDC staff review all of these items and gives us an answer. Sincerely, Heather Amateis

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## 2016-2017 NEBRASCOE Scholarship

## By Amy Vitosh, Scholarship Chair

The deadline to apply for a 2016-2017 NEBRASCOE Scholarship is January 1, 2017. All applications will then be forwarded to the NWA for judging by February 1, 2017 and the area winners will be submitted to the National chairperson by March 1, 2017. At the 2016 National Convention in Cedar Rapids, the majority of areas voted to continue with the current system of sending all state scholarship applications to the area judges. While there was some concern that the area might award a scholarship to an applicant who did not win at the state level, it was determined to be the fairest way since not all states offer a state-level scholarship.

Application forms are available online, however this year NASCOE will be moving to an on-line system. All information will be submitted via an on-line form which will make the application process much more simple for both applicants and judges. We will send out notification when this system becomes available. The scholarship categories include the Traditional, Grandchildren, Open Continuing, Member Continuing, and Adult Continuing. In addition this year an Associate Member Scholarship of \$500 will be awarded at the national level. You can access the 2016 Award and Scholarship Handbook at <u>https://nascoe.org/forms-downloads/awards-scholarshipapplications/</u> or contact the NEBRASCOE Scholarship Chair Amy Vitosh for more details!

## Remembering Our FSA Employees

By Joni Johnson, Membership Chairperson

The 2016 NASCOE National Convention was held in Iowa in August and all of the NEBRASCOE members who attended agreed it was a great convention. During the fall NEBRASCOE board meeting, as board members discussed various meetings and events of the convention, it was agreed that one of the most moving moments of the convention was the memorial video.

During the convention, a memorial video was presented to honor and remember FSA members who passed away during the past year. It was a very special way to remember the deceased members of our FSA family.

The board members agreed that we would like to do the same for our Nebraska FSA family. With that intention in mind, we have started trying to gather information for any current or former FSA employees (including COC members and field reporters) who have passed away in 2016. The hope is to get a photo, the county office the employee worked in and the job title of the person. That information will then be sent for inclusion in the memorial video shown at the 2017 National Convention in St. Charles, MO.

If you know of the death of a former/current FSA employee (beginning with calendar year 2016), please e-mail the information to joni.johnson@ne.usda.gov or jonijohnson0926@gmail.com.

## Brenna Doeschot Wins NAFEC & JM Marketing 2016 Scholarship

On August 5, 2016 I had the pleasure to announce Brenna Doeschot as this year's NAFEC & JM Marketing scholarship winner.

Brenna is the daughter of Clayton and Stephenie Doeschot of Hickman, Nebraska. Clayton serves as Chairperson of the Lancaster County FSA Committee.

Brenna is currently a sophomore at Morningside University in Sioux City, Iowa. Brenna grew up on a family farm raising corn, soybeans, hogs and cattle. She served as Co-President of the Norris FFA Chapter, was an active member of 4-H and volunteers with young children in her community.



Brenna hopes to obtain a degree in nursing and return to her rural roots for others in her community. Brenna is also a member of the Morningside University Cheer squad.

Craig Turner, NAFEC President

*"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."* 

- Helen Keller

## **NASCOE Myths: Debunked**

(continued from page 1)

NEBRASCOE feels that handling your dues money must be done carefully and with transparency. We need to send representatives to these meetings but expect high standards from them! We sometimes post photos of us having fun at these events and hope that it hasn't led members to think that all we do is play. We are there to work first and foremost, but we want to show that attending is also fun in order to encourage others to attend!

Keep in mind that travel is not the only expense that is funded with member dues. A portion of each state member's dues is paid to the national association. We also use dues money to fund the scholarship program, to pay for postage and supplies, and to conduct general association business. Anyone is welcome to view our records at any time if they have any questions about how their money is being used.

The NEBRASCOE board is always open to suggestions and we are happy to answer any questions that you may have. Please feel free to contact me or your district board member if you have anything to discuss.

## **Distinguished Service Awards**

## By Mona Fassler, Awards Committee

We all know of that co-worker who is a NASCOE member that goes above and beyond doing extra community service that would be eligible for a Distinguished Service Award. This program encourages recognition of NASCOE members who make outstanding contributions in the areas of: NASCOE; FSA-Agriculture; or Community Service. Nominations for these awards are competitive. Area winners are selected from winning State entries and the National winner in each category is selected from the Area Winner. NASCOE members may nominate another member serving under a permanent appointment.

#### Service to NASCOE

Years of NASCOE membership; committee activity; offices held; contributions to the organization; FSA background

#### Service to FSA-Agriculture

How long has the nominee worked for FSA?; What program(s) or special project have they worked with?; What is the size of the county and number of farmers?; What are the nominees outstanding contributions to FSA and/or Agriculture?; Has the nominee received any special awards or promotions?; What is the nominee's NASCOE back-ground?

#### **Community Service**

What organization(s) has the nominee worked with?; Does the nominee hold an office or any special committee assignment?; What is their church affiliation, family status, children, etc?; What has the nominee done to improve the community he/she lives in?; Has the nominee received any special recognition?; What is thenominee's FSA and NAS-COE background?

## **Extra Mile Award**

This program will be utilized to recognize NASCOE members and/or their children that go the Extra Mile in their community, church, jobs and schools. The program is designed to recognize members and their children for specific contributions by the nominee. Nominations for these awards are not competitive.

#### Who is Eligible?

Members of the association who are in good standing or children of the members are eligible to receive this award. Members or their children who have "gone the extra mile" for their community, their church, their school, or their state, area or national association may be nominated at any time during the year. There are no deadline for nominations for this award.

#### From the NEBRASCOE Cookbook

#### **Sausage Bread**

- 1 lb. sausage, browned and drained
- 2 eggs, reserve 1 yolk
- 1 load frozen bread dough, leave in refrigerator overnight
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese
- 8 oz. mozzarella cheese
- 1 T. parsley flakes

Mix sausage, cheese, eggs, parsley and cheese. Roll out bread into a rectangle. Spread the sausage mixture on the bread and roll up. Place in a Bundt pan or cake pan. Brush reserved egg yolk on top and bake at 350° for 20-30 minutes. Slice and serve.

Submitted by Brenda Tremmel, Wayne County

If you would like to purchase a NEBRASCOE Cookbook please contact your District NEBRASCOE Rep!

#### Legislative Meeting (Continued from Page 6)

Mona Fassler had the opportunity to hear Mike Conaway, Chairman - House Committee on Agriculture. He made the following comments:

- New farm bill is expected to be fine-tuned from the present, having less choice for producers.
- Commodity prices are expected to continue to go down, he is glad for the safety net. He always asks "what will it do to the cost of food?"
- Next year will be bad for the farmer with lower prices and small government payments for many producers.
- Lots of PAC's hate farmers and the farm bill, One example was the Heritage Action PAC.
- American people just believe the food is just in the market.
- Talked about closing FSA offices and said we need to be more efficient.
- Talked about CRP and resources that are in competition with several other agencies. He said they do not intend to add any acres to enrollment.
- They are looking at the option to change bases and find another way to work with cotton producers current program is not working.
- He is very supportive of the COC system. Producers need COC to have a say on what is going on in the County.
- He stated is appears ARC/PLC will not get a payment next two years. He does not believe there will be mid tem correction, new ARC/PLC will be tweaked in the next farm bill.
- They want to do more for beginning farmers to allow them to get funding faster in in FLP.
- ACRSI is Title 1, mandated by the farm bill, they are waiting for producers to get on board with technology.
- FARM+ is here to stay.
- He said we are 240 years as a nation, we need voluntary alliance, and we need honesty and moral authority.

He said ask yourself two questions:

- When we pray to God what are we asking him to bless?
- What is our responsibility as a citizen?
  - -Claim moral responsibility

-We must think about the legacy we leave what will be the story told about us as a nation.

The NEBRACOE members in attendance all made contacts with either congressmen and or Senators. This is critical because it enables us to build relationships with their offices and to be a resource when working on matters that effect FSA programs and employees.

Linda Fegler NWA Legislative/Nebraska Co-Legislative

## **NASCOE HISTORY**

A Brief View of What Your Membership to NASCOE Has Done in the Past

1960s-Government Life Insurance; Increased Leave Earnings

1970s-Secured "Saved Grades" where grades were reduced due to reduction in workload and/or reclassification

1980s-Supplemental Insurance on payroll withholding

1990s-Maxi-flex implemented; Donor Leave Program implemented; PT and CED reclassification approved

2000s-Established NASCOE Program Committee; NASCOE PAC established

More Recent Years-Return of Time Off Awards and Cash Awards; A legislative agenda that was effective in procuring and protecting CO staffing dollars above all other concerns

# Photo Op!

## Washington DC Leadership/Legislative Meeting



## **NASCOE** National Convention





Winterfeld dancing!

Cindy Hall and Jessi Colgrove riding the horses!

Cindy Winterfeld, Mona Fassler & Angie Biester are stunned by the tactics used during the scholarship auction!