

# The MASCOE Journal

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY OFFICE EMPLOYEES

## A NOTE FROM THE MASCOE PRESIDENT

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- MASCOE Convention August 28-29, 2019 in Maryville!
- Dillard Financial One on One's at MASCOE Convention! Contact Mandi Bird to schedule your appointment with a Dillard's rep.

Thank you for reading the MASCOE summer newsletter. This has been yet another eventful year with FSA as counties have dealt with extreme cold, multiple floods, a delayed planting season, another round of MFP 2 as well as many other programs. I know the farmers and ranchers of Missouri appreciate all of our efforts. Many retirements across our state has lead us to say farewell and best wishes to many staples of the agency. But with those retirements we have also welcomed many new faces and I am excited to see others grow and learn the many qualities of FSA.

I would invite everyone to read through our Summer Newsletter. If you have any questions about the association, or would like to become a member or associate member feel free to contact any current member or board member. Your district representatives can be found at <http://mascoe.org/Leadership.htm>.

Lastly, I would like to invite everyone to the 2019 Missouri Convention in Maryville on August 28-29. This is a great opportunity to learn, be heard, network, visit and enjoy time with the people we have so much in common with. Please see pages 2-4 for more information.

Mandi Bird

## A NOTE FROM THE SED

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This comes to you from the warm reaches of Phoenix, Az during ARC/PLC, Farm Records and NAP Farm Bill training. Our Missouri delegation is spending long days in class working to learn program changes. And as a training highlight, Arizona knows air conditioning! The ladies are all wearing sweaters and Rod is so cold that his nose is running, while he shivers in his short sleeve shirt!

The obvious, sometimes, bears repeating. FSA is a land-based agency. FSA farm records establishes this base. We know our producers. We know their land: how it changes and how it is impacted by disaster. We know if they had a good year or a bad year. We can tell the story of agriculture-our records tell that story.

What also has become obvious to me, after listening to the many, many details of

the farm programs in these training sessions, is that the integrity of Missouri FSA rests in the hands of our employees and their ability to implement these complex programs. While I hear our sister agencies wondering how they are going to accomplish their workload, Missouri FSA is meeting the challenge. I sincerely appreciate all the hard work coming from COFs to assist agriculture this year.

Brent Hampy, SED



**Join us for the 2019 MASCOE Convention at Mozingo Lake outside Maryville!**

Full Registration (\$40) includes two meals. Thursday Only Registration (\$20) includes lunch.

**Agenda Highlights**

**Wednesday, August 28**

Noon	Registration Table Open	Mozingo Lake Conference Center
1:00 p.m.	MASCOE Board Meeting	Mozingo Lake Conference Center
2:30 p.m.	Backyard Vine and Wine Golf on-site at Mozingo Golf Course	Offsite Contact Tim Dreier (Nodaway County)
6:00 p.m.	Dinner	Mozingo Lake Conference Center
8:00 p.m.	Libations and Comradery	Cabins 1, 3, & 5

**Thursday, August 29**

7:30 a.m.	Registration Table Open	Mozingo Lake Conference Center
8:30 a.m.	Convention Convenes	
	-SED Brent Humpy -State Committee -Signing of Labor/Management Agreement -NASCOE Leadership -Dillards Financial -Catered Lunch On-site -Keynote Speaker Susie Thompson -State Office Panel and Q & A -Awards/Scholarship/Silent Auction Winners	
2:00 p.m.	Convention Adjourns	

Visit <http://mascoe.org/2019MASCOEConvention.html> for full convention details and to register.

Registrations due by August 15.

**Silent Auction**

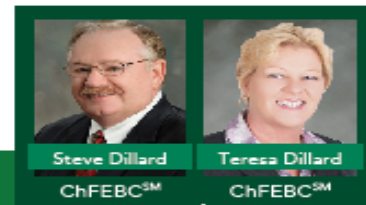
There will be items in the silent auction throughout convention for counties to place bids on.

Counties who would like to donate items are asked to contact Drew Walters. All proceeds go to the MASCOE scholarship fund.

## MEET WITH DILLARD'S AT THE MASCOE CONVENTION



Your NASCOE National  
Retirement Benefits Provider



Attention NASCOE Members

# Learn About Your Personal Retirement Income Options



Licensed Representatives From  
**Dillard Financial Solutions, Inc.**  
Are Attending Your Upcoming NASCOE State  
Association Conventions



### BRING THESE FORMS

#### Employee Benefits Statement

Print from the Employee Personal Page: [nfc.usda.gov](http://nfc.usda.gov)

#### Social Security Statement

#### TSP Statement

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Suitability requirements must be met. Returns are guaranteed by the reserves of the insurance companies.

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Dillard Financial Solutions is the Benefits provider of the National Association of County Office Employees (NASCOE). By being a member of MASCOE you are also a member of NASCOE. Meeting with Dillard's is complete free and a perk of being a member. They are certified TSP advisers as well as many other retirement and employee benefits.

Contact Mandi Bird (Davie County) to schedule your One-on-One appointment with a Dillard's representative.

Available times include Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in one hour increments. Spouses are welcome to attend also. Please bring the items listed on the above flyer to your appointment.

## Thinking of ordering some USDA apparel?

**Emblems by Superior is our NASCOE emblems provider. They are sending a variety of items to shop at convention.**

**If you'd like to order something specific, visit <https://nascoe.org/store/> and place your order.**

**15% of all item proceeds go towards the NASCOE scholarship fund.**



### Special Offer!

*Emblems by Superior* has offered a deal to MASCOE. All merchandise purchased between now and August 14 can receive a 10% discount AND free shipping to the convention in Maryville. Enter MO2019 at checkout and your discounted items will be at Maryville August 28/29 for pick up.

(If you are not able to attend convention other arrangements can be made to deliver items)

### ***MASCOE Election for 2019/2020 Board Members***

***Watch Daily Updates for upcoming MASCOE election. Members in good standing can vote for 1 CED, 1 PT and 1 of either position in their district. Thank you to all our members and to the 2018/2019 Board!***



## CHERRY BLOSSOMS, CRAB, & CAPITOL HILL

By: Amanda Brosch

Two Months in D.C.? Who in their right mind would sign-up to go spend two months in D.C.? I might be crazy, but I did!

I got the opportunity through the 2019 Fellowship Program to spend April and May in “The District” working with National Office leadership on the ARC/PLC and Payment Limitation program areas. It was a once in a lifetime experience, and I am thankful that I was selected to participate. I got to cross off many personal and career “bucket list” items while there.

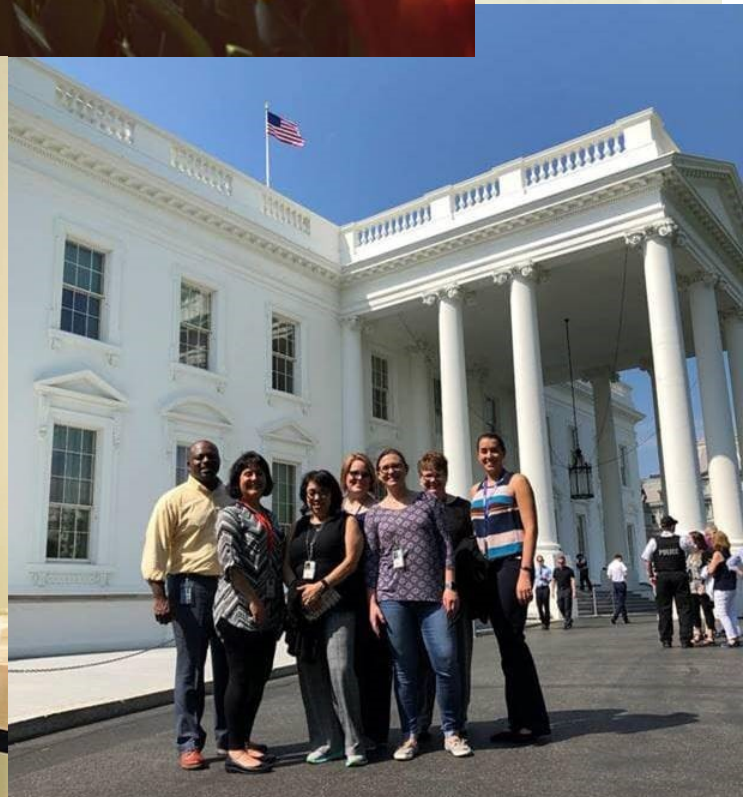
A few highlights of my work experiences include working side-by-side daily with Program Managers creating and implementing policies of the 2018 Farm Bill; meeting with Senate Ag Committee staffers; writing a National ARC/PLC Notice; meeting regularly with the Assistant Director and Director of Farm Programs on policy and planning decisions; and I even drafted and presented an ARC/PLC Pilot Program proposal to the UNDER SECRETARY! It’s an eye-opening experience to see the extensive process of program policies being made and released to State and County offices. In an awesome surprise on our last day, we got to meet Secretary Perdue by happenstance.

On the personal side, we arrived during peak Cherry Blossom time (which was beautiful), toured the White House and Capitol, ate Maryland-Style crabs (you know the kind you have to take a hammer to), visited historic Mount Vernon Estate, Old town Alexandria, Harper’s Ferry, WV, and many other wonderful places. I also got the opportunity to meet other Fellows from across the U.S. and now consider them good friends.

Now that my Fellowship is over I am glad to be back home. However, I would encourage anyone interested in future fellowships or detail opportunities in D.C. to really consider it. It is a time commitment away from home, but I promise, you won’t regret it!



## CHERRY BLOSSOMS, CRAB & CAPITOL HILL CONTINUED.....





2019 MASCOE  
RETIREMENTS



Debby Bartholomew retired on July 19, 2019 from Chariton County with 28 + years of service.



Jeffrey Kruessel retired  
from Chariton County on April 29, 2019  
with 31 years of service!

## **DISTRICT 5**

### **GASCONADE COUNTY SURPRISES DISTRICT DIRECTOR**



To honor DD Motley's upcoming retirement, former COC members and former FSA employees were invited to a small reception. The COC met for a regular meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, Motley was surprised with extra visitors for donuts and coffee.

**Front (L to R) – Diane Wieberg—Temp PT, Jayme Geisler—PT, Kate Gerlemann—CED**

**Back (L to R) – Dale Brehe—Current COC, Sharon Borgman—Retired CED, Debra Nowack—Retired PT, Michelle Motley—Retired DD, Brenda Kurrelmeyer—Retired PT, Neil Kramme—Former COC, Edgar Brehe—Former COC**



## District 5

### Gasconade County Hosts International Students

In early May, students from China and Poland visited the Gasconade County Service Center. Accompanied by Dr. William Meyers, the students are participating in a fellows program through the University of Missouri. During their visit, they learned about various FSA and NRCS programs, and visited a local farm to see programs in action, including Farm Storage Facility Loans, Conservation Reserve Program and grazing systems.

