

NASCOE SCOOP



Vice President's Message

🌾 Harvest Season Reflections 🌾

It's harvest time across the nation—a season that reminds us of the power of hard work, dedication, and care. The seeds we've planted throughout the year—through every decision, every commitment of time, and every challenge overcome—are now bearing fruit. And what we reap is more than just crops; it's the love, intention, and perseverance that have shaped our journey.

As we celebrate this season of abundance, your NASCOE officers want to share a few kind reminders about how we continue to sow and reap, day in and day out.

★ Legislative Updates

Amanda and Katie, with Hunter's support, have been keeping us informed on appropriations and key legislative items as Congress returns to session. Please take a moment to read the latest updates posted in the NASCOE App. Your legislative team is actively monitoring our benefits, budget concerns, and legislative needs—including the long-awaited Farm Bill.

★ Advocacy in Action

President Kayla recently reached out to our national leadership (DAFO and DAFP) to advocate for office needs such as on-going phone issues, and updated program software and reports. Her message carried a strong, positive tone—one that reflects our deep appreciation for each of you and the hard work you do for your office, your community, and the farmers and ranchers we serve nationwide. Let's continue to nurture what we've planted and celebrate the harvest—of progress, of unity, and of purpose.

On the Horizon

- Monthly Executive Committee Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month
- Monitoring Agriculture Appropriations in House and Senate
- Monitoring Farm Bill 2.0 discussions in House and Senate
- Reorganization Plan Impacts for FSA
- Quarterly Membership Dues paid -by 10/15
- Quarterly Call with DAFO & Administrator
- Awards & Scholarships rollout

“How can people trust the harvest, unless they see it sown? ~ Mary Renault”

Get to Know NASCOE: UP



NASCOE Vice President: Christa Kraatz

Location: Texas

FSA County Location(s): Caldwell, Hays, and Comal (Combined Offices)

Family: Dusty (Husband), Maebry (Daughter), Lexi (Daughter), and one pup, Luna (Corgi Mix)

Something Others May Not Know: Over the past 20+ years of marriage and life together, my family and I have experienced over 100 live shows - bands, artists, and performances that have shaped our shared love of music. Our daughters have a knack for being able to see up-and-coming talent. They've seen artists like Matt and Kim, Kimberly Dunn, Sofi Tukker, and Lizzo well before they hit mainstream radio or became household names. Music is more than a hobby for them - it's a passion. Both are talented drummers (unlike me, who couldn't carry a tune if it were gift-wrapped and handed to me). Beyond music, they're also seasoned actors, having performed in over 40 community theater productions here in Central Texas. In 2023, they took their talents to the screen, starring in a Vrbo commercial that aired during college football season. And yes, they may have been dressed in a certain shade of orange from a certain cow-themed university that I definitely don't root for - but we'll let that slide for the sake of showbiz.

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Get to Know NASCOE: Secretary

NASCOE Secretary: Taylor Stucki

Location: Oklahoma

FSA County Location(s): Canadian

Something Others May Not Know: For a side hobby/business I like to create balloon décor for special moments of friends and family. What started as a fun activity during harvest, while the guys were in the field a few years ago, has turned into a business where a friend and I have multiple bookings most weeks May thru September and at least a couple monthly in the slower months. I have been able to keep this business a true hobby by sharing the love during work gatherings and family birthdays over the years. If I could have any other job besides working for FSA, I would go into event planning/decorating as I truly enjoy the planning and chaos that takes an idea or dream into reality for others. We all need an activity we can enjoy outside of work, and I think that is a major necessity to keeping ourselves mentally and physically healthy!



Get to Know NASCOE: Treasurer

NASCOE Treasurer: Jessi Colgrove

Location: Nebraska

FSA County Location(s): Gage

Family: Blaine (Husband), Ruby (Farm Dog), Dobber and Pounder (Dog Besties)

About Jessi: Hey there NASCOE Members! My name is Jessi Colgrove and I am currently serving my fifth year as your NASCOE National Treasurer. I have been a NASCOE Member for as long as I have been an FSA employee. During my first week as a PT, one of my co-workers handed me a sheet of paper and said, "There is also NASCOE...we are all members and this is how much your check will be for." I was in no position to question her so I wrote a check immediately! Attending my first NASCOE Convention in Boise, ID really got me hooked on the importance of our association. I got involved at the state level which eventually led me to serve at the national level, and I haven't looked back!

After one year as a PT, I entered the COT program and have been the CED in Gage County, Nebraska for 15 years. I manage a large, busy office with a huge farm loan presence. Our total FSA staff is 14 permanent employees.



I have also had the opportunity to serve as Acting CED for periods of up to 18 months which has given me exposure to the challenges of shared management. I have also been able to participate on numerous jump teams which always result in an increased knowledge and better understanding of our programs.

My husband Blaine and I live on his family farm in southeastern Nebraska with our farm dog Ruby and my two little besties, Dobber and Pounder. We love to travel and our favorite way to see the world is through international cruises. Growing up on a cattle ranch in Nebraska, I only dreamed of seeing the Pyramids in Egypt, the Tower of London, and the riches of Saint Petersburg, Russia but I am grateful to have had the chance to explore together. I look forward to seeing where our next trip will take us!

