

# RASCOE 2015 Summer Newsletter



## President's Report

**Brenda Boomer**

**President**

First of all..... in this area of the drought, we have received such a blessing of moisture. A few producers in this area did not get planted due to flooding, but very little moaning and groaning! Our storm shelter got water in it, but only 3 inches.

I noticed that HR973 Social Security Fairness Act 2015 / Rep. Rodney Davis R-IL has 66 [D] & 19 [R] Co-sponsors. This would repeal both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision. It has been referred to the House Committee on Ways & Means.

We still haven't heard any discussions happening concerning tax reform which is where our health insurance being pre-taxed could come about.

From what I read, Medicare provisions might not change for current retirees. BUT it could be based on age as a guideline. That's another wait and see.

Recently, OPM had two data breaches. There has been many memos issued covering this, but the latest I received, was don't do anything until you are notified by OPM. Some numbers are 3 million current employees and 1 million retirees have been affected on the June 4th breach. Best thing to do is contact OPM through their website. They have several FAQ sheets.

We're hoping to have a large attendance in July at Milwaukee. Hope to see you there!

Also, I am running for RASCOE President in 2016 and would like to have your vote!



## Vice President's Report

**Jim Iverson**

**Vice President/Legislative Chair**

### Vice President Report

Everything is going well up here in South Dakota. It finally rained and the grass is finally growing. Locally, we were very dry all fall, winter and spring. We had no winter snow and as a result have no snowmelt to fill the dams and dugouts. This with no spring moisture so we had little grass for grazing. We had to cull 10 percent of our cow herd early in hopes rain would come. We will survive as long as moisture continues.

My wife (Eleanor) and I went on a 14 day cruise through the Panama Canal this spring. We had stops in Columbia, Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nicaragua. What a learning experience it was. Sadly there is a lot of poverty in these counties. One less item on my bucket list.

We had a large group of RASCOE members at our SDASCOE convention in Deadwood. They had a very good agenda and it provided a listening session with regard to current concerns. Every RASCOE member there expressed their thankfulness for the benefits they have. The old timers told stories and endeavors they experienced throughout their careers to gain the benefits we now have. If you get a chance to thank them for their energy and sacrifices with regard to our benefits.

I am seeking your support in my bid to be your RASCOE vice president for the next year. I will continue to work for our retirees and monitor any legislative action that could affect us.

I hope to see a bunch of you folks in Wisconsin. Thank you for your past support,

I wish to tell the RASCOE membership that if there is anything I can do for them they need to give me notification. We need to work together for the benefit of all. My E-mail address is [jim.iverson@hotmail.com](mailto:jim.iverson@hotmail.com).

Have a nice day!!!!

**Legislative Report**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Brenda for appointing me as your legislative chairman this past year. I have listened to the concerns of our membership and have done the best job I could do. I sometimes feel that I could have done more, but there are issues and events that we have no control of.

Early this year Brenda went to WDC to see what the status of HR 711 and HR 973 was. They were introduced at that time and was headed to committee. It was determined that RASCOE would support HR 973 as it was a bill to repeal both Windfall Profits and the Government Pension Offset provisions. HR 973 is known as the Social Security Fairness Act of 2015 and was introduced by Rep. Rodney Davis R-IL and at that time had 84 co-sponsors. I have been researching the government website to see where this bill is. I found nothing happening, but will keep looking. I am going to e-mail David to see what he knows. Some folks thought we should have backed HR 711 as it was a compromise that only reduced the penalties and not the elimination.

The Tax Reform is being discussed that we would be able to deduct healthcare cost pretax. Where this is going is unknown at this time.

Many of you know how slow Congress moves on any legislation before them. The common response from our congressional persons is where do we find the money to support any bill passage. I urge all of you to contact your congressional representatives to see where they are on these bills.

I hope to have more news at convention time. Keep up the hope and efforts.

Thank-you for your support and information that I received from you. My E-mail address is jim.lverson@hotmail.com.

**KSC Strategies**  
**David Senter**  
**Washington Legislative Representative**



Update from Washington

The spring held some surprises for folks who dealt with continuing cold, floods and dry conditions depending on where you live. The good news is summer is here which means the National Convention is right around the corner in Milwaukee. Joan and I look forward to seeing you there.

There have been a few signs recently that Congress is going to get some work done, but then the wheels fall off and partisan fighting takes over and the inability for them to compromise and accomplish important work grinds to a halt. That is what the American public has to look forward to through 2016 when the Presidential election is over.

Since President Boomer's call to action for RASCOE members following her Washington DC trip, progress has been made in adding an additional 18 cosponsors to H.R. 973, the Social Security Fairness Act of 2015. The number now stands at 102 which is pretty good for a bill that was introduced in late February. You can search CONGRESS.GOV and then put in H.R. 973 and you can find a list of all the cosponsors to see if you need to thank your Member of Congress or push them to cosponsor the bill.

This legislation is a full repeal of both the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination requirements. The legislation is supported by both Republican and Democratic members and several senior members from both parties.

RASCOE has worked tirelessly to protect the retirement benefits you earned. When there was concern that the new healthcare law was going to change your healthcare costs, RASCOE spoke loud and clear, benefits that have been earned and should not be changed. There are benefits for being a RASCOE Member and you enjoy those everyday. All the new retirees that have not joined RASCOE should understand; there are consequences for setting on the sidelines.

I'll park my soapbox now, see you in Milwaukee.

**RASCOE Benefits Report**  
**Ben Boshart**  
**Benefits Chair**

**In the market to buy a vehicle?** Are you a Costco member? Since I don't have any Costco stores in my area, I'd forgotten all about their Auto Program. But, I was reminded of it by a friend as we were heading off to a retirement party this past week. At this point in our lives (as retirees), we've pretty well established our "go to" people when we're looking to purchase a vehicle, but most of us are also open to the getting the best deal we can on that purchase. ENTER - research. Like many other goods and services, many of us research what we want online before we go to a store and the same certainly can be done for buying a vehicle.

According to their website, the "Costco Auto Program selects dealerships who meet strict requirements for ensuring member value, a streamlined buying experience and superior member satisfaction. Pricing and services are continuously monitored by conducting mystery shops of our own dealers, shopping the competition and surveying members to ensure our dealers remain competitive in their local markets". Obviously, you will be the one to determine if these factors are met. They have some robust research tools. Check out their site at [www.costcoauto.com](http://www.costcoauto.com). At the very least, you may get information that can help you get a better deal with your usual source. In order to go through the full process though, you need to be a Costco member.

Turning to a totally different topic, an article in the June 2 issue of the NARFE News Watch caught my attention.

It's titled "**Why Medical Identity Theft Is Rising and How to Protect Yourself**". You may recall that Blue Cross Blue Shield plans suffered as major data breach with up to 92 million records affected. Apparently the health/medical sector has accounted for the highest percent of total hackings of any industry for the past three years. We remember hearing about Target and Home Depot data breaches, but files containing someone's medical data can make the victims much more vulnerable. As financial and retail organizations have become more vigilant and stepped up their security training and systems, cybercriminals have been looking for new targets and newly digitized health records are valuable targets. The ramifications of stolen health records are far reaching, from personal finances, to mixed up medications and blood types to Medicare/Medicaid fraud.

What should you do to help protect yourself?

**1. Get a copy of your medical records from your doctors and review them for accuracy.**

Make sure that all the information describes your medical history. If you see something you don't recognize, it could mean that your health information has been mixed with someone else's, whether it's a fraudster or simply another patient with the same name as yours. Keeping your medical record, including your allergies and blood type, accurate will help protect you if, for instance, you have to go to the emergency room and need medicine or a blood transfusion.

**2. Check your Explanation of Benefits.**

Since EOB's generally say in bold at the top, "This is not a bill," most people don't read them, but you should review every single one. Make sure you received the service it says you did on the date and at the organization stated. If not, this could be your earliest way of detecting whether someone else is using your health insurance or other personally identifying information.

**3. Only give your Social Security Number if absolutely necessary.**

If you're asked for your SSN at the doctor's office, find out why they need it, and see if there's a way to avoid providing it.

**4. Monitor your credit regularly.**

You can obtain a free credit report from each of the major credit bureaus once a year at [AnnualCreditReport.com](http://AnnualCreditReport.com). Pull one of them every four months so you can keep regular tabs.

**5. Consider using a medical identity monitoring service.**

A number of companies have begun offering identity theft protection services specifically around health care or health data. These services will alert you whenever there's a health care transaction on your account.

These just seem to be good "personal business" practices. As much as each of us doesn't necessarily enjoy pouring over medical statements of service, closely reviewing these documents as soon as we receive them is the best way to catch any irregularities early, and possibly keeping a situation from turning into a calamity.

**Did you know** "There are three kinds of memory - good, bad and convenient" - Author Unknown

I hope you have a wonderful summer and plan on attending the RASCOE Convention in Milwaukee, WI, August 12-14, 2015. You'll be glad you did.

## OPM Data Breach Update

USDA was informed by OPM that USDA current and former employee information was compromised.

OPM concluded that personally identifiable information for current and former Federal employees across Executive Branch agencies may have been exposed in this incident. Beginning June 8 and continuing through June 19, 2015, OPM will be sending official notifications to affected individuals via email and the U.S. Postal Service. In addition, the investigation is ongoing. OPM will do additional notifications if necessary.

If personal information is at risk, individuals will receive notification from OPM either in the form of a letter via the U.S. Postal Service, or, in an email from this email address: [opmcio@csid.com](mailto:opmcio@csid.com). If you received the OPM notification, we recommend that you immediately take the appropriate actions outlined in the notification to protect yourself. If you have not received the notification from OPM, we ask that you check your home mail, and email addresses, to include your spam

or junk email folders. We encourage you to visit [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov) for additional updates, and steps you can take to protect yourself.

--In order to mitigate the risk of fraud and identity theft, OPM will offer affected individuals credit monitoring services and identity theft insurance through CSID, a company that specializes in identity theft protection and fraud resolution.

-- This comprehensive, 18-month membership includes credit report access, credit monitoring, identity theft insurance and recovery services and is available immediately at no cost to affected individuals identified by OPM.

--Beginning at 9 a.m. EDT on June 8, 2015, questions from current and former Federal employees were directed to CSID. The company's website is [www.csid.com/opm](http://www.csid.com/opm) and its toll free number is 844-222-2743 (International callers: Call collect 512-327-0700).

#### **Reminder - Steps for Monitoring Your Identity and Financial Information**

- Monitor financial account statements and immediately report any suspicious or unusual activity to financial institutions.
- Request a free credit report at [www.AnnualCreditReport.com](http://www.AnnualCreditReport.com) or by calling 1-877-322-8228. Consumers are entitled by law to one free credit report per year from each of the three major credit bureaus - Equifax®, Experian®, and TransUnion® - for a total of three reports every year. Contact information for the credit bureaus can be found on the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) website.
- You may place a fraud alert on your credit file to let creditors know to contact you before opening a new account in your name. Simply call TransUnion® at 1-800-680-7289 to place this alert. TransUnion® will then notify the other two credit bureaus on your behalf.

#### **Precautions to Help You Avoid Becoming a Victim**

- Be suspicious of unsolicited phone calls, visits, or email messages from individuals asking about you, your employees, your colleagues or any other internal information. If an unknown individual claims to be from a legitimate organization, try to verify his or her identity directly with the company.
- Do not reveal personal or financial information in email, and do not respond to email solicitations for this information. This includes following links sent in email.
- Do not send sensitive information over the Internet before checking a website's security.
- Pay attention to the URL of a website. Malicious websites may look identical to a legitimate site, but the URL may use a variation in spelling or a different domain (e.g., .com vs. .net).
- If you are unsure whether an email request is legitimate, try to verify it by contacting the company directly. Do not use contact information provided on a website connected to the request.
- Install and maintain anti-virus software, firewalls, and email filters to reduce some of this traffic.
- Take advantage of any anti-phishing features offered by your email client and web browser.
- Additional information about preventative steps by consulting the Federal Trade Commission's website, [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov).

The FTC also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with the commission using the contact information below:

Identity Theft Clearinghouse  
Federal Trade Commission  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20580  
[www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov)



#### **Secretary's Report Micki Linehan Secretary/Publicity**

It has been a wonderful summer so far in the Pacific Northwest. Lots of sunshine. In fact, we have had so much sunshine that some areas are approaching drought conditions... Not even July yet and things are getting pretty dry.

This past year seems to have flown by. A year ago at this time I had no idea I would be representing RASCOE as your Secretary. It has been interesting to say the least. Thank goodness for Lynda Steichen or I certainly would have been lost. I may still be and just don't know it yet!

Once again I am including the 2014 draft minutes in our newsletter. This is one more opportunity for everyone to review them prior to our meeting in Milwaukee. I ask you all to at least give them a once over. It will make it much easier to approve them during our meeting. Thank you ahead of time for your efforts.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you that I am seeking your support to continue to serve as your RASCOE Secretary for upcoming year.

See you in Milwaukee!!!

## **PUBLICITY**

I am excited because I have received two items from our members for this newsletter. The first one was submitted by Sandi Roker on behalf of Elaine Umstead of Nebraska. It's very special recognition of a very special lady. The second item is a poem that was submitted by Lynda Stiechen on behalf of Stan Thompson. Stan is a recently retired CED from Marshall County SD. When I read Stan's poem, it made me smile. It is something all of us can relate to when we think back to our farmers coming into the County Offices.

Please continue to send me articles for our newsletter. RASCOE is not only about working hard to protect our benefits, it is also about keeping in touch with the friends we have all made across the country over the years.

**Written by Stan Thompson.  
Marshall County SD CED  
Retired in May 2015.**

### JUST ANOTHER DAY AT WORK

We put the news in the paper and send the postcards out as well  
Why nobody calls us I really just can't tell.  
But then someone comes in and some money quick goes out  
Now we have their interest and they're rushing all about.

They still ask their questions and pretend that they don't know  
Trying to find out how it all works before they sign below.  
They'd like to know the answers that will help them out the best  
But they'd like to hear it at coffee to find out from the rest.

When we ask for their maps they say they're out on the dash  
But I bet you could pull up a set and do it in a flash.  
We pass him the maps and watch as he scrunches up his face  
I don't see where I am, where's the Old Haney Place?

Oh right there you say then I'm just down here a little ways  
Doesn't look like it's on this here map it's just not here he says.  
You see if you foller this creek down south oh you say that way's up?  
Let me turn that darn thing over no wait I'll just get up.

Well here it is right here but those acres are all wrong  
There's lots more acres in that piece ya see it's a little long.  
Cause there's this creek down there that Old Jack can't get across  
So I farm that end for him it's where I graze my hoss.

He always makes it up to me if I lose money on his end  
Cause my grounds lots better don't tell him as we're friends.  
Now back to the question of how much of that old creek I got hayed  
Will the answer have anything to do with how much I'll get paid?

Not that I'll say anything different no sir I'll just state the facts  
But I was in the bar last night where I talked to my friend Jack.  
He says that the less I hayed will increase my payments here  
So I'm thinking I didn't get much hay, hardly any put up last year.

What's that you say you aren't talking about twenty ten?  
Then you better get that map back out and let's go over it again.  
See Old Jack got over and hayed the land in 09  
In fact I even let him hay all of the land that was mine.

But if there's a disaster check coming make sure it goes my way  
Cause the reason I let him hay it at all is due to there weren't no hay.  
So the fact that there was no hay tells you the check should come to me  
Old Jack didn't even pay me I let him hay it for free.

Who do I have to see to put some land in that CPR  
What's the rate for that now I heard 120 in the bar.  
I should get more than Jack as my land is much better  
The only reason I want to get it in is it seems to be getting wetter.

Can I plant it of course if that's what you want to hear  
See Jack quit telling me what to say when I quit buying beer.  
I don't see what the question is I've worked that land for years  
The fact that it is wet right now can about bring me to tears.

About that AGI form you say that's going to the IRS  
Will they look at just my farm income or will they see the rest?  
I don't know why my stock funds should ever show up there  
Will they look at my first wife's too or just review my share.

I wisht you had asked me yesterday I know I got a card  
And I know that it told me to prepare, the form could be quite hard.  
But I knew that you knew how many acres I planted to wheat  
Hey this bowl here is empty what happened to your treats?

It's easier for you to find the info and to add up all the tracts  
I'll just sit here and visit while you gather up the facts.  
Right friendly place you have here, why look at the line out the door  
You'd think those fellers could come back it's about 20 after 4.

I was gonna ask you at noon at lunch but I'd just filled my plate  
I could see you were in a rush and didn't want to make you late.  
4:30 you say is closing time well then here's how to end your day  
If I could just have a new set of maps I'll quick be on my way.

No I don't know my farm number but it hasn't changed in 30 years  
I'd think you'd remember it by now, hey don't go cryin those big tears  
I can come back tomorrow when that other lady is around  
She knows all of my numbers and is used to all my ground.

No, they'll be the same acres that I've farmed since you were two  
I've added some but not much and I broke up that big slough.  
Actually I added them last year but may have forgot to report  
Well don't get so nasty you don't have to be so short.

We all forget something every now and then  
Heck you do too shall I remind of just when.  
I asked you for my maps and you didn't know which farms  
So see you can't get all crappy what happened to your charm?

Sure I can come back tomorrow if that will help you out  
I'll be very glad to go you really don't need to shout.  
I should have left an hour ago my wife will skin me alive  
Why didn't you just tell me it was 15 minutes past 5.

If you'd have worked a little faster we could have gotten done  
Say could I change my 902 to add my two young sons?  
They seemed to like this farming or that's the way it seems  
They made quite a chunk of money on last year's PP beans.

They could have gotten more and that would have been so sweet  
If they hadn't took failed acres instead of PP wheat.  
I'm giving them the wet land as I can't insure it no more  
Don't know why they won't let me they always did before.

Ok if that's all I'll just be on my way right now  
But before I go I should report I think I lost a cow.  
She got out on the road and was run over by Old Jack  
I had sold her to him you see but she was on her way right back.

Don'tcha think that that could work and pay me under LIP?  
She could've dodged the truck if not for the snow and her downed hip.  
She never should have jumped that fence although she had before  
She wasn't that old at all I just got her back in 84.

Ok ok I'm going now and thanks for all your time  
You've been a big help to me and still a friend of mine.  
Say all these papers that I brought in to prove that yield for you  
Do you suppose you could keep them here for maybe a year or two?

I know you'll need them a few more times before this program's done  
And it'd be swell if I left them here finding them weren't no fun.  
Ok ok I'll take them home but when you want them back  
They won't do no good no more as I rented my farm to Jack.



Attached is pic of retirees who attended their luncheon in New Orleans at the SE area rally on April 17th. We dismissed with a thought for the day:

Work for a cause, not for applause  
Live life to express, not to impress  
Don't strive to make your presence noticed  
Just make your absence felt.

James Redding (1jwr@att.net) has the original pic if you need one that has not been reduced. Thanks, Beverly Roberson

### 2014/15 RASCOE NATIONAL OFFICERS

Brenda Boomer - President  
223 E 26th St  
Littlefield TX 79339 5606  
bboomer275@gmail.com

James L Iverson - Vice President and Legislative Chair  
1000 W 2nd St  
Miller SD 57362 1249  
Jim.iverson@hotmail.com





NEBRASKA	101	83	72	67
NEVADA	1			
NEW MEXICO	2	2	2	2
NEW YORK	15	6	8	5
NORTH CAROLINA	51	11	55	58
NORTH DAKOTA	14	12	9	13
OHIO	42	57	50	48
OKLAHOMA	39	29	42	37
OREGON	4	5	1	2
PENNSYLVANIA	7	3	2	1
SOUTH CAROLINA	49	56	51	47
SOUTH DAKOTA	183	186	186	210
TENNESSEE	2	3	2	4
TEXAS	61	64	75	67
UTAH	2	3	2	1
VIRGINIA	2	1	4	4
WASHINGTON-ALASKA	5	5	3	5
WEST VIRGINIA	7	5	4	5
WISCONSIN	92	80	93	91
WYOMING	3	3	2	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>1323</b>	<b>1382</b>	<b>1332</b>
6/10/2015 96.30% 15.6%				

**In Memorium  
RASCOE MEMBERS**

**DECEASED MEMBERS**

ARKANSAS

WAYNE C PERRYMAN

GEORGIA

CLAYTON BRUCE

IDAHO

RUTH ECHEVARRIA

NORTH CAROLINA

INEZ KOONCE BANKS NOBLES

SOUTH DAKOTA

PHYLLIS GODEL

VIOLET PHILLIPS

LARRY D STANEK

DONALD PETERSON

MILDRED C LARSON

**Treasurer's Report**

**Lynda Steichen**

**RASCOE Treasurer/Membership Chair**

As FY 14-15 comes to an end it is great to be able to say 'we have money in the account'. Our expenses were larger than our income by about \$5000.00. The largest difference in spending was travel. President Brenda was able to attend the Fall Board Meeting in Milwaukee and 2015 Legislative Conference in Washington DC plus RASCOE provided presentations at the SWA, MWA, SEA and NWA Rallies. No officer or chairs were available to attend the NEA Rally.

President Brenda attended the Legislative Conference to meet with DAFO to promote the inclusion of RASCOE in 22PM as the representative organization for all retirees.

The newsletter cost between the printed newsletter and the email newsletter were reduced by \$2600.00. Any funds saved on newsletter costs are earmarked to produce a promotional video of RASCOE. A budget of \$5000 has been designated for the video.

'Temporary Away' returns are at their highest for fall, winter and spring newsletters costing RASCOE \$.92 for each return. A list of the returns has been compiled with those labels pulled to mail those newsletters First Class instead at the Bulk Rate at the printers.

Future expenses will include moving the RASCOE records and updating the computer system used to record membership and expenses. The records haven't been moved for 6 years so the move will be interesting.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer for the past year. RASCOE is the greatest organization make up of the greatest people. Separating the Secretary and Treasurer position has been a good move for the organization. Please consider serving RASCOE as an elected officer or appointed Chair. See everyone in Milwaukee!

**RASCOE FY 14-15 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT**  
 Beginning Balance 7/1/2014 \$23,720.09

July Dues	\$6,575.00
August Dues	\$5,750.00
September Dues	\$4,030.00
October Dues	\$1,630.00
November Dues	\$1,670.00
December Dues	\$20.00
January Dues	\$310.00
February Dues	\$55.00
March Dues	\$790.00
April Dues	\$895.00
May Dues	\$330.00
June Dues	\$680.00
Return Convention Cash	\$200.00
J M MARKETING	\$500.00
Interest	\$8.54
Refund Office Supplies	<u>\$486.67</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$23,930.21</b>

Cash for Convention	\$200.00	
Convention Supplies	\$545.29	
2013 Convention Expenses/Travel	\$1,451.08	
2014 Convention Expenses/Travel	\$5,758.40	
2015 Convention Expenses/Travel		
Fall Board Meeting Expense/Travel	\$924.66	
KSC Strategies Annual Fee	\$4,500.00	
KSC Strategies Convention/Travel	\$1,721.81	
KSC Strategies Data loading	\$560.00	
KSC Strategies News Release	\$245.00	
Legislative Conference	\$1,668.22	
Mailing Permit	\$220.00	
Newsletter	\$5,060.94	
Office Supplies	\$856.54	
PETTY CASH		
Rally	\$3,520.79	
Secretary of State Filing Fee	\$10.00	
USPS - stamps/postage	<u>\$816.04</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$28,058.77</b>	
<b>Ending Balance 6/9/2015</b>		<b>\$19,591.53</b>

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**  
**Linda Steichen**

Membership for FY 14-15 in RASCOE continues to be high at 96.3% of FY 13-14. This high membership is through the dedication of our members and the officers of the state associations. The officers of the state associations provide many volunteer hours to keep their organizations active, informed about key issues and the happening of their members.

Many members, who are not covered by a state association, submit their dues timely and without reminders. Your continued dedication is most impressive.

Is First Year Free working? Yes, but with county office help we could do better. Membership brochures are mailed to each State Office in September. If the state has an association, the contact information and dues amounts are changed to the

state information. Seventy-five First Year Free memberships were provided for FY 14-15. The test will be if those free members become paid members for FY 15-16.

Multi Year (5) Dues by fiscal year: FY 19-20 1; FY 18-19 10; FY 17-18 9; FY 16-17 14; FY 15-16 10 and FY 14-15 6 or 50 members are paying their dues 5 years at a time. The six members with dues expiring 6/30/2015 will receive a personal reminder letter.

Our dues amount has been \$20 for members and \$10 for associates for many years. It is with pride to be able to tell potential members that RASCOE has had only one dues increase since inception in 1994 and that our organization is fiscally sound.

A discussion was begun at the SEA Rally to invite members from states without a state association to join and pay dues to a state with an association. Example: South Dakota is organized state so members from Wyoming could choose to become a member of the South Dakota association by paying state dues. The new association may want to change the name of the association to show the combination. Please give this idea some thought and be prepared to discuss pro or con during our Annual Meeting in Milwaukee.

Remember Chairs are appointed by the President. If you wish to serve RASCOE as a chair or elected officer, please make your intention known.

Thank you President Brenda for allowing me to serve as RASCOE Membership Chair this past year, I hope I provided service to RASCOE through my actions.

Through the determination and dedication RASCOE was organized in Milwaukee at the 1994 NASCOE convention; hope to see many RASCOE in Milwaukee continuing the work of RASCOE.

**Special Thank You  
Linda Steichen**

We have come to the end. Thank You for allowing me to service RASCOE as your Secretary-Treasurer for 5 years and as Treasurer for the past year. I hope I have served you well. I have tried to reduce the amount of stored paper by scanning documents to disc, transferring dues information from the computer Leo used to the present laptop, destroying or donating excess supplies/machines and simply bring our records to a manageable amount. Some records must remain in their original form and cannot be destroyed but most can be stored electronically. Good Luck to our future Treasurer, may you enjoy the same level of cooperation from our members that was extended to me. I will miss serving RASCOE on the national level and of course, the 2nd computer and copier.

**NEBRASKA ISSUES CHALLENGE  
By Sandi Rocker**

On April 25, 2014, Nebraska RASCOE met for their annual meeting. Among those present was Elaine Umstead, retiree from Polk Co. Nebraska. What is so awesome and unique is that Elaine is 95 yrs. young as of May 30th! Elaine started working in May, 1941, when it was AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Agency). Elaine says "We sat around desks with no equipment but an adding machine".

In December, 1941, she took a job in Lincoln NE with the Bureau of Vital Statistics. Everyone needed a birth certificate because of Pearl Harbor. While working in Lincoln, she met her husband who was stationed there. She worked part time in the SCS and Selective Service offices as well.

Side note--Her husband was sent overseas in 1944. As a cook, he was stationed on the island of Tinian (part of the Mariana Islands in the Pacific) where the atomic bomb originated. He got to watch them load the bomb on the plane. It was so large they had to strip everything out of the airplane. There was a civilian aboard that fused the bomb on the way over.

At that time, she returned to the Polk Co. office where she worked at the PMA (Production & Marketing Association). All three committeemen worked full time in the county office. She worked part time due to having small children. She was called in to put out the county wide newsletter. This included the typing of the stencil, running the mimeograph machine, folding and addressing the letters individually. It took three days to get a letter out.

In 1956, she returned to working full time at the ASC and then ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service). She retired at age 62 in 1982 and wishes she had worked longer.

In addition to her RASCOE membership, Elaine attends NARFE meetings in Grand Island where she claims she "sneaks through the back door because she drives her car there. Her driver's license has been renewed to the age of 100! She generally limits her driving to smaller towns.

We all are so proud of Elaine!

**Trevor Gardner**  
**JM Marketing**



**Coping With Financial Crises**

Life has a way of throwing unexpected financial roadblocks, detours and potholes in our path. These might be large medical bills, car or home repairs, a death in the family, or expensive legal situations. Such financial emergencies can happen in our later years and even derail your retirement. The following are some strategies for managing financial crises.

**Establish an emergency fund if you haven't already done so.** This can lessen the need to dip into retirement savings for a financial emergency. Building an emergency fund is tough for most retirees on a fixed income that haven't already done so, but every dollar can help. Put the money into a low-risk, accessible account such as a savings account or money market fund that can be drawn more easily and readily than traditional investments or your Thrift Savings Plan.

**Insure yourself.** Insurance protects your financial assets, such as your retirement funds, by helping to take care of the really big financial disasters. Consider these following types of insurance coverage to help protect your assets in your retirement years.

**HEALTH.** Your Federal Employee Health Benefit plan (FEHB) provides robust medical insurance not only in your working years but throughout your retirement. When you become eligible for Medicare at 65, consider whether to take coverage for option B as well. With option B, you have the advantage of coordination of benefits between Medicare and your FEHB plan, reducing your out-of-pocket costs. In addition, your FEHB plan may waive its copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles for Part B services. Many Federal Retirees don't realize that some services covered under Part B might not be covered or only partially covered by your plan, such as orthopedic and prosthetic devices, durable medical equipment, home health care, and medical supplies .

**UMBRELLA.** This provides additional liability coverage, usually through your home or auto insurance policies, in the event you face a lawsuit. We know that accidents can and do happen unexpectedly; having additional liability protection in place through an umbrella policy will provide excess liability coverage on top of auto or homeowners policies for a small annual premium.

**LIFE.** Having life insurance can help you or your spouse continue if either one of you dies before the other earlier than ever anticipated in retirement. On the other hand, you may not need life insurance if no one depends financially on you. There are many types of life insurance, and understanding which type of policy is best for your situation not only today but through retirement is important. Many permanent life insurance plans can provide benefits such as cash values that can be borrowed from or living riders that may pay out an advanced death benefit upon critical or chronic illnesses.

**LONG-TERM CARE.** This insurance can help pay for costly long-term health care either at home or in a health care facility or nursing home. It protects you from draining savings and assets you could use for retirement. With modern medicine, today's retirees may likely live much longer than their generation before. Having a plan in place for if and when a skilled or custodial care need arises can mean all the difference in being able to stay in the home and avoid the depletion of retirement savings and other assets.

**Borrow.** If you must borrow because of a financial emergency, carefully compare the costs of all options available to you.

**Sell investments.** It's usually advisable to sell taxable investments first. Try not to touch your faster growing retirement accounts. Be aware that taking money out of your retirement accounts could trigger income taxes and penalties. It's wise to consult with your financial planner, long before a need should ever arise, on the liquidity of your different investments should you need access in a financial emergency.

**John R. Lohr**  
**Dillard Financial Solutions, Inc.**  
**Marketing Director**

June 15, 2015

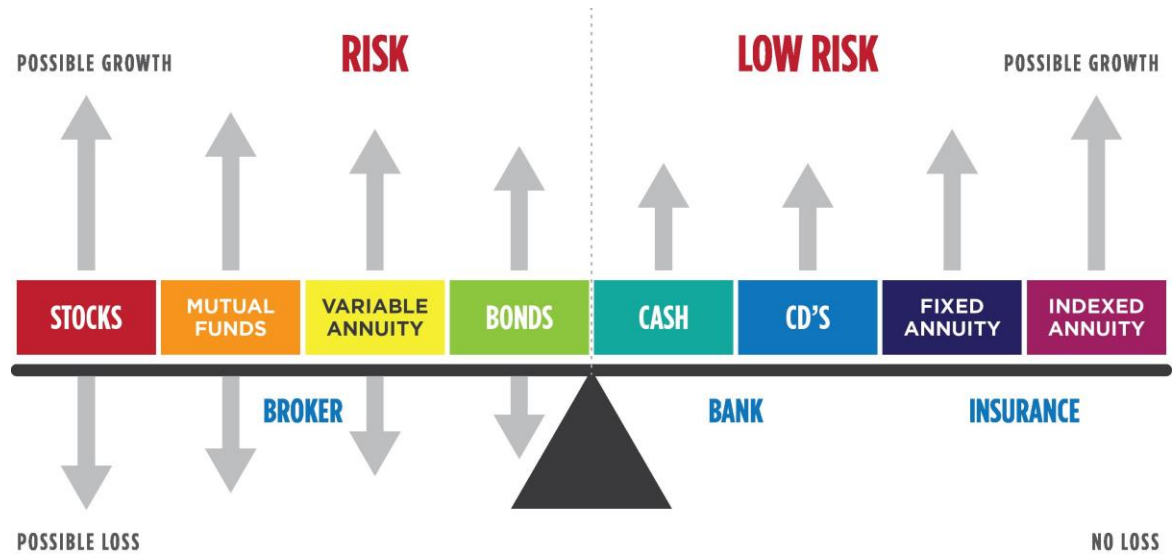
The negative effects of risk are something we all try to avoid. Most people insure their homes, cars and other valuables against theft, natural disasters or simple accidents. When you purchase insurance you are transferring the risk to an insurance company.

When you invest your money, the younger you are, the more risk you can take. However, as you approach your retirement age, you will want to reduce the amount of risk you are taking as much as possible.

Risk has many different levels. The expression "as long as you can sleep at night," is a good indicator that you may be close to exceeding your personal risk tolerance level.

The graphic below shows possible growth vs. possible loss for the most popular financial vehicles. The right side of the image is populated by Low Risk options while the left side is made up of Risk options. Note that the left side illustrates an almost equal potential for growth, but also illustrates a significant possibility for losses.

Please free to contact us anytime at [nascoebenefits@aol.com](mailto:nascoebenefits@aol.com) to help you understand and better manage your retirement account risks and the role insurance can play in your portfolio.



**56th Annual Convention  
Milwaukee, WI  
August 13-15, 2015**

**Potawatomi Hotel & Casino  
1721 W. Canal Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233  
P: 414-847-8103 | F: 414-847-8433**

**Block of rooms has been reserved under: NAT08092015**



**SPIRIT OF RASCOE AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

**NOMINEES SHOULD EXEMPLIFY THE TRUE "SPIRIT OF RASCOE" IN ACTIONS, SUPPORT AND PROMOTION OF THE RASCOE RETIREE ORGANIZATION.**

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLICITY CHAIRPERSON NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2015.**

Entries received after the deadline will be reviewed and/or saved for the next year.

**MAIL NOMINATION TO:**

**MICKI LINEHAN  
3743 SWALLOWS NEST CT  
CLARKSTON WA 99403 1738  
mllinehan@dableone.net**

**NOMINEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINEE'S ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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STATE OF RASCOE MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

IN TWENTY-FIVE WORDS OR LESS, EXPLAIN WHY YOU NOMINATED THIS RETIREE FOR THE SPIRIT OF RASCOE AWARD:

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OTHER COMMENTS:

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PAST SPIRIT OF RASCOE AWARDS WINNERS:    2005 - ERA JARRARD, GA  
2006 - VIRGINIA SHORT, KY (AND ROSE MELICK, SD)  
2007 - CONRAD SHEPP, WI  
2008 - DORIS STUCKY, SD  
2009 - GENE LUTZ, CO  
2010 - CLARA RUTH SAINT, LA  
2011 - JUNE FAULK, GA  
2012 - GENE VOGNILD, SD  
2013 - PAUL NEWTON, IL  
2014 - LEO OSBORNE, UT

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**Happy Days are Brewing in Milwaukee in 2015!**

Wisconsin is cordially inviting you to the 2015 NASCOE convention in beautiful Milwaukee, Wisconsin August 12, 2015 through August 15, 2015.

You will be staying in Milwaukee's newest luxury hotel for less than a third of the price non-convention goers have to pay! The views are amazing and the rooms are spacious and tastefully decorated. The Potawatomi Hotel, Casino and Convention Center offers gaming, nightlife, multiple restaurants, and ample meeting rooms to conduct our NASCOE business, all under one roof!

An added benefit to the convention attendees is the hotel offers free parking, free shuttle service to and from the Milwaukee airport (General Mitchell - which offers fantastic prices for flights in and out of Milwaukee), and will also provide the free shuttle service to our guests that want to venture to the historic 3rd ward and other popular destinations for shopping, dining, nightlife, museums, and so much more! Please visit the NASCOE website ([www.nascoe.org](http://www.nascoe.org)) under the "national conventions" link to check out the links we have provided for the hotel and Visit Milwaukee. You may also book your room(s) now using the registration code listed on the WASC OE website.

We have fantastic tours planned for all of you on Wednesday, August 12, 2015.

The Farm Tour takes you Koepke Dairy Farms Inc, Growing Power and Serenity Farm of Wisconsin.

The Koepke's are five generations strong producing high quality milk, contented cows, and award winning land stewardship in the heart of Wisconsin. They also market their own cheese under the LaBelle label. Growing Power is Urban Agriculture's "Poster child" for the rest of the Country! From aquaculture, to multi-level vegetable crops being harvested all year, to the digester that creates energy, to the design of the roofs on the greenhouses to use all of the rain water collected, to the worms that feed the fish and fertilize the vegetables - nothing goes to waste! Lunch will be at Serenity Farm of Wisconsin. Laura and Paul Phelps own a CSA that they provide a variety of vegetable crops to their customers. Paul is also an artist that specializes in stain glass - you will be amazed at his creations as you enjoy your lunch and get to tour the farm.

The Wisconsin Industry tour boasts two national manufacturers that are known worldwide and home-based in Wisconsin - Case IH/New Holland in Racine WI, and Harley-Davidson in Milwaukee. Lunch will be served after the tour at CaseIH tour in the morning.

The CaseIH/New Holland tour starts you at the beginning of the assembly line and works through all of the steps and then you get to see the finished tractor pulling off the line. Lunch will be served in the Case IH education center before you head back to Milwaukee to tour the Harley-Davidson museum.

The guided tour at the fantastic Harley-Davidson museum starts in a footprint of the small garage the friends built their first motorcycle. You are then taken through history with your guide leading the way. After the guided tour, you are free to take a test drive on a real Harley-Davidson motorcycle which is on what looks like a treadmill - it was a real rush running through the gears!

Finally, Wisconsin is best known for one thing - you guessed it! BEER!!!

The third tour package is our Wisconsin Brewery Tour!

We'll start you off at the historic Pabst mansion (sorry! No free samples of beer on this tour). Here you will learn all about the Pabst family and how they brought the title, Beer City, USA to Milwaukee. Then you will head to Miller/Coors and see one of the largest breweries in the world - and yes, you will also get to sample along the way!

Lunch will be provided at Lakefront Brewery. Lakefront is a craft brewery that has many award winning brews you can sample. They still use the line to bottle the beer that was made famous with the glove on the bottle during the intro to the Laverne and Shirley show.

Finally we will change gears a bit and take you to the only distillery in Wisconsin - the Great Lakes Distillery. There you will learn the art of a world class distillery, and get to sample some of the finest spirits ever made!

Evening activities include our welcome to all of you on Wednesday evening with the taste of Milwaukee dinner followed by a sock hop - dress up in your favorite 50's outfits!

Thursday evening will be the NASCOE scholarship auction followed by non-stop fun provided by Lucille's Dueling Pianos!

Friday evening will be the awards banquet followed by an entertaining performance provided by the Red Hot Horn Dawgs!

The youth committee has each day packed with events for your children/grandchildren that will leave them good and tuckered out each evening! There are some fantastic events planned for the kids, including a trip to an indoor waterpark and an indoor campout/movie night! Other events include video games in real life, Milwaukee Public Museum, Discovery World, the Milwaukee Zoo, to name a few.

The complete registration form will be posted to the NASCOE and WASCOE web sites in early January.

The tours will book up quickly, so please complete your registration form early to ensure your spot on the tour of your choice!

If you have any questions or issues completing the registration form or booking your room, please contact Tom Oasen at [oasen@charter.net](mailto:oasen@charter.net) or Deb Esselman at [debessel@pcpros.net](mailto:debessel@pcpros.net)

RASCOE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED ASCS/FSA EMPLOYEES

8/13/14 Informal Meeting of RASCOE and KSC Strategies, Inc. was held from 5:30-6:30 PM David Senter and Billy Senter representing KSC Strategies, Vice President Brenda Boomer, Legislative Chair Gene Vognild, Benefits Chair Ben Bosshart, Paul Newton and Secretary-Treasurer Lynda Steichen met in the Threadgill Room.

David and Billy discussed the importance of press releases including announcing elections of new officers, appointment of chairperson and sending action releases to contact congressional members about the goals of RASCOE. They emphasized RASCOE must work to maintain all benefits not allowing an increase to co-pays.

The KSC Strategies Consultant Agreement was discussed and signed by David Senter and Brenda Boomer.

A Tax Reform Bill could address GPO, WEP and pre-tax Health Premium, however all issues are money driven. Members must get involved in Town Hall meetings and forums.

A further discussion was held about changing responsibilities of RASCOE Officers and Chairs. Chairs are appointed by the President. Brenda requested input about assigning each officer Chairman responsibilities and change Secretary-Treasurer Office into 2 positions of a Secretary and a Treasurer. To split Secretary-Treasurer to a Secretary and a Treasurer will require an amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws.

8/15/14 Informal Meeting of State Secretary-Treasurers or designees and Lynda Steichen, Secretary-Treasurer began at 9:30 AM. Items discussed were the difficulty securing names, addresses and emails of recent retirees, fund raisers, amount of dues charged and extending First Year Free to retirees after charging state dues. After exchanging ideas, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

8/15/14 Informal Meeting of State Presidents or designees and Lynda Steichen, Secretary-Treasurer began at 10:30 AM.

The Presidents were interested in what activities other states have for their members. Most states only meet for their annual meeting, while some state enjoy monthly lunches or a summer picnic. A few fund raiser ideas were shared. The group adjourned at 11:00 for the group RASCOE picture.

#### **UNAPPROVED MINUTES of the 2014 Annual Meeting of RASCOE**

***Thursday, August 14, 2014 Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center, Oklahoma City, OK.***

The Annual Meeting of RASCOE was called to order at 1:00 PM by Vice President Brenda Boomer in the absence of President Charolette Saunders. Charolette had knee surgery in early July and later experienced a fall. Charolette's health did not allow her to travel to the convention.

Invocation was given by Paul Newton. Vice President Brenda welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting. New retirees introduced themselves. Thursday roll call was 64.

An amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws was presented for a first reading. The Constitution Article IV Amendments allow amending the Constitution and By-Law by providing a written copy of the proposed amendment 24 hours prior to the vote. The proposed change would split the position of Secretary-Treasurer to a Secretary and a Treasurer by amending By-Laws Article IV, Election of Officers Section 1, Article V Officers Section 3, Section 5 to all use of debit card and renumbering Section 4 to 5, 5 to 6 and 6 to 7. Gene Lutz spoke that the presented written amendment was not complete or properly written and should not be considered. After much discussion, Vice President Boomer appointed Jim Iverson, Ben Bosshart and Gene Lutz to make appropriate changes and to bring the amendment back on Friday. Ben Bosshart moved, with a second by Tim Gray to bring the issue back to the floor on Friday. Motion carried.

Vice President Boomer returned to the agenda requesting the secretary to read the 2013 Annual Meeting minutes.

A motion was made by David Squires, second by Fritz Scarborough to waive the reading of the printed minutes. The Minutes were printed in the Fall 2013 Newsletter and are also included in the Annual Report. VP Brenda asked if there are any corrections to the minutes. Gene Lutz questioned if the 2013 minutes were complete. Gene pointed out that there was no mention on Thursday of the First Reading of the Amendment that was passed on Friday. No mention of which items of the Constitution and By-Laws were changed. Gene Lutz felt that the approval of the 2013 Annual Meeting minutes be tabled until those corrections are made. Motion to approve the minutes failed and Secretary directed to made corrections.

Motion by Jim Iverson and second by Fritz Scarborough to suspend the reading of officer and chair reports printed in the Annual Report. Vote was called, motion carried.

The Audit Committee of Cindy Mengershauser, SD and Janice Sweet, KY found a \$10 deposit error listed on the annual report but not found in the check book. The committee felt the books were in good order and the audit easy to complete. Motion by Gerald Elson, ID, second by Chad Hart, CO to approved the report as read at the podium. Motion carried.

Trevor Gardner, JM Marketing presented RASCOE with a \$500.00 check in appreciation of a long relationship and stated that it is an honor to serve RASCOE members. Trevor shared his cell phone number of 816-813-6624. Trevor also introduced JM employees Myron, Cathy and Mike. Trevor explained that JM Marketing provides added value policies such as life, health, accident, dental, cancer and long term care that are not available with every company. Products are unique due to being



able to buy as part of an organization . Be sure to stop at the table with your questions or concerns. JM needs feedback to serve you better. JM Marketing can offer non-insurance group products if there is an interest.

Moved to Old Business:

Ben Bosshart discussed progress of the RASCOE promotion video. Video message of where we came from and where we are going needs to be short for use at meetings, email streaming, added to the RASCOE website and as a link on the JM Marketing site. JM Marketing has offered technical help. Select members of RASCOE will speak on the video. RASCOE needs to spend some money to ensure a professional looking video. Gerald Elson, ID reminded that the discussion of a RASCOE video was authorized in Texas several years ago. Gerald encouraged that funds be provided to Ben Bosshart to allow him to move forward producing an informational video suitable to be used at State meetings and Area Rallies. Motion was made by Chad Hart to commit \$5,000, second by Mary Ann Parks. Vote in favor.

A discussion was held about establishing a RASCOE Facebook page. The page could be used as a means to keep members informed. No decision was made.

Mark Van Hoose, NASCOE President, addressed the group announcing that he will be eligible for retirement in 1 year and he is counting the days. Linda Whalen brought Mark to his first convention in 1999 and Mark has been active ever since. Mark hopes RASCOE is experiencing a good convention. His favorite part of being NASCOE President is getting out to the states and visiting with members. Mark shared that it has been a challenging year for members and that employee numbers are down. NASCOE has sent the message to Congress of the need of more bodies and tools to implement the new farm bill. Management needs to include NASCOE in discussions. Hunter Morehead, new Legislative contact, has helped by working with Congress to increase funding and staffing. Mark is proud to announce the NASCOE budget has returned to the black. Directives have been sent to the states but the 22 PM amendment has yet to be released. Larry Olsen is working with John Schott(Chott??) on the exhibit for 22 PM. Gerald Elson asked that NASCOE talk to the Administrator about State Admins including the RASCOE brochure in the retirement packets as the Secretary said they would do. Gerald asked that NASCOE just check to see if the brochure is being included in Retirement packet. Mark Van Hoose paid his annual dues before leaving the meeting.

KSC Strategies has indicated a willingness to begin emailing newsletter with the same articles and material as the hardcopy newsletter. RASCOE spent \$9,000 in 2014-15 on setup, editing, printing, labeling and mailing of the 4 quarterly paper newsletters by our publisher. KSC Strategies price will begin at \$35 per email newsletter release.

Motion was made by Cindy Hall, second by Ben Bosshart to begin emailing the newsletter with the September 2014 issue. All voted in favor. RASCOE will continue mailing printed newsletters to members without email address or those not wishing to receive the newsletter by email. Billy Senter and Joan Senter will maintain a KSC Strategies data base of email addresses provided by RASCOE.

Juan Garcia, FSA Administrator, will talk to all State Executive Directors about including RASCOE Membership brochures in retirement packets. He stated that receiving RASCOE information should be a courtesy to employees when they retire. Juan said he will talk to SEDs next week. RASCOE would like an exhibit for retired employees in 22PM similar to the NASCOE exhibit for new employee. Juan said he will be retiring soon after 38 years. Juan began his career in Sept 1976 with NRCS, moving over to ASCS. His job titles included CED, DD and SED. Juan then went to WDC as the deputy for Farm Programs. After 4 months he was given the opportunity to become FSA Administrator. He said it has been a great experience. Juan thanked RASCOE for giving him the opportunity to address the group.

Drawing was held for door prizes provided by Oklahoma.

Teresa Dillard, Dillard Financial, passed out information packets for services provided by Dillard Financial. Dillard has a 6 year contract with NASCOE. Teresa asked the membership to stop by the Dillard table for a free social security analysis. Dillard can also provide services like printing flyers and banners for state or area meetings.

The floor was opened for 'Willing to Serve' announcements. Brenda Boomer announced her willingness to serve as President. Jim Iverson announced for Vice President. Lynda Steichen announced for the office of Secretary-Treasurer or for Treasurer if the Constitution and By-Law Amendment is approved.

Session was recessed, will resume at 11:30 AM on Friday for pictures followed by the RASCOE Luncheon.

Hospitality Room will open immediately in the Kinkade Room on 2nd floor of the hotel.

Jerry S Smith, NARFE Vice-President, Region VI will provide NARFE membership information and answer membership questions at the Kinkade Room during the social.

**Friday, August 15, 2014 Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center, Oklahoma City, OK.**  
Vice President Brenda Boomer called the meeting to order at 12:50 PM.

Sherry and Gerald Elson requested to present a Toilet Paper Award. "Life is like a roll of toilet paper, the closer you get to the end the faster it goes!" A full roll was presented to June Faulk, GA so she will be able to attend many more National Conventions.

Roll Call total was 68.

Craig Turner, NAFEC President, spoke about the work and goals of NAFEC. NAFEC is working to protect jobs, strengthen COC as local level control, funding to provide monthly meetings, keeping an open door and willingness to listen policy with the State Office. NAFEC wishes to thank JM Marketing for allowing conference calls to help strengthen and grow the NAFEC organization.

Copies of the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws and Executive Committee Policies were passed out.

David Senter, KSC Strategies, shared that RASCOE has had a successful year politically resulting in no reduction to retiree benefits. Health care benefits were not changed. Co-pays stayed the same. Benefits were changed for new hires. New retirees need to join RASCOE. During the Board of Directors meeting Wednesday evening the KSC Strategies Consultant Agreement was discussed and signed by David Senter and Vice President Brenda Boomer.

Marsha Kellswig, representing WI RASCOE President Leon Wolfe, announced the 2015 convention to be held in Milwaukee, WI. Convention dates will be August 12 through 15th. Room rates will be \$118.00.

Door prizes donated by Oklahoma were awarded.

2014 Spirit of RASCOE Award was presented to Leo Osborne, UT. Spirit judges were Deb Krusemark, IA and Chad Hart, CO.

Leo's award will be mailed.

Gifts from Charolette Saunders were presented to officers and chairs, Brenda Boomer, Lynda Steichen, Pam Fyffe, Sharon Limbaugh, Paul Newton and Ben Bosshart for serving with Charolette over the past two years. Charolette Saunders was presented with a Thank You gift from RASCOE for her two years as President. The gift will be mailed to Charolette.

Constitution and By-Law Change - Copies were handout to members present. Jim Iverson as member of the appointed committee to review changes to the Constitution and By-laws requested motion to suspend the reading of changes (highlighted in red) of Constitution and By-Laws. The motion to suspend the reading was made by Mary Ann Parks and second by Chad Hart. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Cindy Hall and second by Rachel Sivil to approve changes as printed to the Constitution. Motion carried.

Deb Krusemark made the motion to suspend the reading of printed changes to By-Laws. Motion was second by Paul Newton. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the By-Laws as printed was made by Mary Ann Parks and second by George Jaquich. Motion carried.

Mary Ann Parks motioned to suspend the reading of the printed changes to the Executive Policy, second by Gerald Elson.

Motion carried.

Mildred Scarsborough wished to discuss Executive Policy Item 3, does the membership have the opportunity to see copies of the Executive Committee Meeting. Example of the Executive Committee meeting, such as an officer needed to be replaced or a special caucus. Copies of all meetings are included in the Annual Report.

Gloria Covert questioned Item 4, should read Secretary or Secretary-Treasurer. Item 4 changed to read Secretary. Question Item 6, insurance should read 'in the amount of'.

Motion by Jan Wanoreck, second Bera Gaskins, to approve Executive Committee Policy as corrected. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Gerald Elson, second Earlene Jirik to discontinue Secretary-Treasurer Stipend of Executive Committee Policy. Motion carried.

George Jaquish asked as a new member to RASCOE what constitutes the Executive Board or Committee. George was directed to the Constitution Article III, Government, Section 3.

Vice President Brenda called for 'willingness to serve announcements' for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer since the approval of changes to the Constitution and By-Laws

Micki Linehan, ID announced willingness to serve as Secretary

Jan Wanoreck, TX announced willingness to serve as Secretary  
Cindy Hall, NE announced willingness to serve as Secretary  
Lynda Steichen, SD announced willingness to serve as Treasurer  
James Iverson, SD announced willingness to serve as Vice President  
Brenda Boomer, TX announced willingness to serve as President  
President Boomer announced a seven minute recess.  
President Boomer opened session with Election of Officers.  
The gavel was passed to Secretary-Treasurer Lynda Steichen to begin the Election.

#### Office of President

Leon Edlund, SD nominated Brenda Boomer, TX. Gerald Elson, ID motioned to close nomination, second by Earlene Jirik. Fritz Scarsborough moved nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot, second by Sherry Elson, ID. Brenda Boomer was elected President of 21st year of RASCOE.

#### Office of Vice President

Gene Vognild, SD nominated James L Iverson, SD. Motion by Sherry Elson to close the nomination and elect James Iverson Vice President by a unanimous ballot. Motion was second by Earlene Jirik.

#### Office of Treasurer

James Iverson nominated Lynda Steichen, SD. Motion was made Chad Hart, second by Cindy Hall to vote in cease nominations and vote by acclimation.

#### Office of Secretary

Gerald Elson, ID nominated Micki Linehan, ID. Ben Bosshart, WI nominated Cindy Hall, NE. Bera Gaskins, GA nominated Jan Wanoreck, TX.

Paul Newton moved nominations cease and vote by secret paper ballot, second by Henry Ford. Vote in favor. Ballots were provided. Ballots counted. Micki Linehan, ID was declared Secretary.

President Elect Brenda Boomer announced Ben Bosshart will continue as Benefits Chair, Vice President James Iverson will serve as Legislative Chair, Secretary Micki Linehan will serve as Publicity Chair and Treasurer Lynda Steichen will serve as Membership Chair.

Approve President to attend NASCOE Organization Meeting.

Motion made by Gerald Elson to approve the President to attend Fall Organizational Meeting, second by Chad Hart. Fritz Scarsborough questioned if motion should include approval for the Vice President to attend if the President is unable to attend. Gerald Elson amended the motion to include approval for the Vice President to attend Fall Organizational Meeting if the President cannot attend, second by Chad Hart. Motion carried.

President Charolette had appointed a committee to create Guidelines to Organize a New State Organization. Deb Krusemark presented list of 12 steps followed by Iowa when creating their state organization. More work will be completed on the items before presenting.

James Iverson motioned with a second by Sherry Elson to make no changes to the Travel Policy. Motion carried.

Motion made by Gerald Elson to maintain present dues structure, second by Earlene Jirik. Motion carried.

Motion made by Gerald Elson to authorize a budget of \$5000.00 to begin work on the RASCOE promotional video.

Memorial Service prayer was given by Paul Newton. Poem Memories and names were read by Sharon Limbaugh.

Sharon Limbaugh decorated a table and hung a poster with the name of deceased members from the past year. Names were also posted in each quarterly RASCOE newsletter.

#### Constitution and By-Laws

Motion was made by Cindy Hall to Hire KSC Strategies to begin email newsletter. Second made by Ben Bosshart. Motion carried.

Cindy Hall spoke concerning the emotional impact of retirement and asked if the group would be interested of pursuing a training session or articles on the subject. Cindy agreed to find materials on the subject.

Motion to adjourn the 20th Annual Meeting of RASCOE was made by Deb Krusemark, second by Gloria Colvert.

Motion carried. 2015 Annual Meeting will be held August 12-15 at the Potawatomi Hotel, Milwaukee WI. 2016 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Grand Rapids, IA.