



## RASCOE of SOUTH DAKOTA

President Lanney Nelson PO Box 322 Centerville SD 57014	Vice President Bonnie Nickelson 33490 181 <sup>ST</sup> St Highmore SD 57345	Sec-Treasurer Lynda Steichen 23579 US Hwy 281 Woonsocket SD 57385
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### Post-Convention Newsletter

The 2014 Annual Meeting was held Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at the Fort Randall Country Club, Pickstown.



Back row: Gene Vognild, Ernie Bures, Leon Edlund, Lanney Nelson and Kris Stevens. Front Row: Bev Birkeland, Betty Stevick, Alice Weisz, Lynda Steichen, Judith VandenBerge, JoAnn Weisz and Bonnie Nickelson.

**Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting** The meeting was opened with Pledge of Allegiance by Vice President Lanney Nelson at 2 PM. President Jim Iverson was absent. Roll Call was answered by each member introducing themselves, county worked and years of service. Guests welcomed to the meeting were Deb Krusemark and Dee Wright of Iowa. Deb and Dee serve as present officers and helped establish the Iowa State RASCOE Association.

The 2013 Annual Meeting minutes were approved as printed in the 2013 Summer Newsletter and available on the [sdascoe.org](http://sdascoe.org) website, motion made by Gene Vognild and second by Ernie Bures. During the discussion of the FY 13-14 Treasurers Report, it was noted that the ending balance is \$1082.39 less than the opening balance. The difference was postage for mailing the Constitution and By-Laws and the 2014 raffle prizes cash deducted before the convention. Motion was made by Ernie Bures, second by Leon Edlund to approve the report. Deceased members Norma Weerheim, Roberta Bensen, J B Heilman, Jr, Yvonne Sandman, Madonna Solomon, Harold "Sonny" Kniffen, Patricia Freeman, Marion Fett and Darlene Moak were remembered with a moment of silence.

Old business: discussed the loss of the Verizon Phone discount, trouble making changes during Health Insurance Open Season and keeping informed of all issues.

New business: President Jim Iverson appointed the committee of Rich Rische, Kris Stevens and Gene Vognild to review and proposed changes to the Constitution and By-laws. Copy of the present Constitution and By-laws and a listing of changes were mailed to every dues paying member 30 days before the annual meeting. A motion was made by Kris Stevens, second by JoAnn Weisz to approve changes. The revised Constitution and By-Laws will be posted on the [sdascoe.org](http://sdascoe.org) website. Printed copies can be requested from the Secretary. Dues for FY 14-15 were approved at \$25.00 for members and \$15.00 for Associates. First Year Free Membership will continue to be offered to all FSA retiring employees. Also to be continued will the \$100 stipend to each officer attending the National Convention. The 2014 RASCOE Lunch schedule was reviewed. Fish 'n Fun will be held June 21, 22 & 23 at the Governor's Inn, Pierre the National NASCOE/RASCOE

Convention will be in Oklahoma City, OK August 14-16 and be sure to check out Red Power Roundup in Huron during June.

Elections of Officers; VP Lanney turned the election over to Secretary Lynda. Secretary Lynda called for nominations for the office of President. Gene Vognild nominated Lanney Nelson. Leon Edlund called for nominations to cease. Ernie Bures called for unanimous ballot be cast for Lanney Nelson, motion carried. Lanney Nelson nominated Bonnie Nickelson for the office of Vice President. Ernie Bures called for nominations to cease. JoAnn Weisz called for unanimous ballot be cast, motion carried. The election was returned to VP Lanney. VP Lanney called for nominations for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. Gene Vognild nominated Lynda Steichen. JoAnn Weisz seconded the nomination. Ernie Bures called for nominations to cease. Bev Birkeland called for unanimous ballot be cast, motion carried. Jim Iverson was thanked for his service as President.

There being no further business a motion was made by JoAnn Weisz to close the 2014 Annual Meeting, the motion was second by Alice Weisz. After the meeting adjourned the drawing for the 2014 Raffle was held. The twenty winners were drawn by each member present.

2014 Raffle Winners

1	Lori Jones	11	Shelley Moncur
2	Marilyn Hofer	12	Jason Skjonsburg
3	Avis Elenz	13	Carol Otto
4	Dorothy Bruhn	14	Geraldine Storm
5	Kathy Zilverberg	15	Theresa Holderby
6	Peggy Groen	16	Paul Bishop
7	Mary Johnson	17	Stan Lamb
8	Larry Olson	18	Shirley Fiala
9	Marjorie Miller	19	Brenda Wicks
10	Betty Stevicks	20	Jolyn Nielsen

RASCOE Lunch on Saturday, May 10 was held at the Fort Randall Country Club. Those attending were Betty Stevick, Lawrence and Alice Weisz, Judith VandenBerge, Cindy Beringer, Nancy Gall, Cindy Mengenhauser, Leon Edlund, Gene and Shirlee Vognild, Lynda Steichen, Bonnie Nickelson, Roy and Joann Weisz and Lanney Nelson.

Door prizes were earned by answering 'Know Your SD Counties' questions.

Question	Answer	Winner
Bug	Beadle	Roy Weisz
Under age	Miner	Bonnie Nickelson
Wedding	Union	Ernie Bures
Family Restaurant	Perkins	Leon Edlund
Fall color	Brown	Judith VandenBerge
Opposite of night	Day	Gene Vognild

RASCOE Lunch was held on Monday, March 17 at the Springs Inn, Wessington Springs. Attending were Wayne and Betty Testerman, Leon Edlund, Bonnie Nickelson, Mary Johnson, Carla Mentzer, Betty Salveson, Lynda Steichen, Luella Longcur, Nyla Kappel, Bobbi Ward, Linda Boschee and Sharon Krueger.

Redfield RASCOE Lunch was Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Leo's Good Food. Attending were Rich and Mary Ellen Rische, Doug and Diane Dangel, Kim Joy Nelson, Lynda Steichen, Kris Stevens, Carol Otto, Barb Dickhault, Bonnie Nickelson, Betty Salveson, Marvin Mannie and Carmen Mason.

Please keep your mailing and email address current.

Saves RASCOE time and money.

May 20<sup>th</sup> RASCOE Lunch was held at Pony Creek in Parkston.



Back row: Mary Tiede, (retired January 2014), JoAnn Weisz, Marvin Mannie, Franklin and Monica Horstman, Gene Vognild.

Front row: Gladys Friederich, Joan Sommer, Lynda Steichen, Lawrence and Alice Weisz. Not pictured: Roy Weisz.

Hope to see you at RASCOE Lunch on Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 at The New Plains, 960 4<sup>th</sup> St NE (Hwy 14), Huron SD.

Recent retirements: Allen Barton, STO; Cathy Olstad, Fall River-Custer; Daryl Campbell, STO; Diane Clayton, STO; Mark Stearns, Lake; and Richard Schwartz, Yankton.

Elected SDASCOE Officers for FY 14-15 are:

President-Stan Lamb, Codington,  
Secretary-Racheal Kirkebak, Union

Vice President-Joel Foster, Grant  
Treasurer-Mary Johnson, Hand-Hyde.

*Thank You -*

Paul Bishop thanked RASCOE for the raffle dollars but would like to return the raffle prize as a donation to the general fund.

Shirley Fiala wrote Thank You for drawing #18! What a surprise. Not many of the Charter Members left. I enjoy the newsletters and try to keep up. I am so thankful for my Federal Retirement.

**Please contact your officers if there are any errors or omissions contained in any mailings that you receive from RASCOE. Suggestions and ideas for better communication are welcome.**

BEGINNING BALANCE - **4/26/2013**                   \$ 10,183.34

**INCOME**

DUES   \$ 4,960.00  
2013 RAFFLE   \$ 438.00  
2014 RAFFLE   \$ 951.00  
OFFICE MAX CHGD WRONG ACCT                         \$ 126.27  
CHECK ACCT INTEREST                                   \$ 5.21  
Paul Bishop Returned Raffle Prize                   \$ 50.00  
TOTAL INCOME   \$ 6,530.48

**EXPENSES**

FALL/SPRING BOARD MEETING                         \$ 157.41  
DUES - NATIONAL RASCOE                                 \$ 4,230.00  
NATIONAL CONVENTION - OFFICERS                     \$ 200.00  
CHARLENE LOLLEY EARLY BIRD DRAWING               \$ 25.00  
POSTAGE   \$ 505.97  
DARLENE MOAK - 50/50 WINNER                         \$ 100.00  
2013 Raffle Winners                                     \$ 295.00  
2014 Raffle Winners                                     \$ 1,000.00  
2014 Door Prizes   \$ 58.80  
SDASCOE Dues   \$ 30.00  
SECRETARY-TREASURER STIPEND                       \$ 250.00  
SD SECRETARY OF STATE-2013                           \$ 10.00  
SD SECRETARY OF STATE-2014                           \$ 10.00  
OFFICE MAX   \$ 126.27  
SUPPLIES-INK, ENVELOPES, ETC                       \$ 169.72  
Re-order Checks & Deposit Slips                       \$ 51.25  
TOTAL EXPENSES   \$ 7,219.42  
ENDING BALANCE - **5/24/2014**                         \$ 9,494.40

## Darlene saved her typewriter during county ASCS battle

Published August 28, 2013

By Sandy Bond



Darlene Moak was an employee of the Campbell County Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Office in Mound City when area residents organized an effort to block the move of the office to Herreid.

Darlene Moak, as an employee of the Campbell County Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Office in Mound City, was there during the infamous struggle to keep the Campbell County ASCS Office in Mound City in 1961 and '62.

When movers hired by the government tried to move the desks as well as the files, employees and Mound City farmers wives resisted by sitting on desks in the ASCS office, she said.

"I had an old manual Royal typewriter," she said, "I didn't sit on my desk because I was pregnant at the time. I did take my typewriter and hide it in the side compartment of my desk. It was the only typewriter that didn't get moved to Herreid."

The daughter of Oscar W. and Dacotah Emma Prasek, Darlene was born July 2, 1935, at Herreid.

After graduating from Glenham High School in 1953, she began a career at the Agricultural and Stabilization Office, which was located at the Campbell County ASCS in the county seat in Mound City. Darlene married Herb Moak in 1956, shortly after he returned from seeing action in the Korean Conflict.

The old ASCS building was located north of what used to be the grocery store on Main Street in Mound City. Owned by O.H. Noste, it had housed the office since the farm programs began in the 1930s.

Mound City, was settled in 1884, but in 1901, the railroad came through the county. Instead of running through the town, it ran eight miles north which led to the founding of the town of Herreid. Herreid quickly grew around the railroad stop and prospered while Mound City began to slip away. Over the course of many years, the businesses located in Mound City began to relocate to Herreid. Pretty soon the two towns began squabbling over the location of the county courthouse.

In the mid-1950s, the Department of Agriculture condemned the old building, declaring that it was a fire hazard and poorly heated and ventilated. Back then, farmers and the then-elected three-man county ASCS committee, all Republicans, didn't agree that the building was substandard, and nothing was done.

It all came to a head when Orville Freeman, then Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, came into the office and a new state committee composed of Democrats took over. They believed that the office should be replaced. In June 1961, the state somehow bypassed the county committee and asked for bids on a new office. A bid from Herreid was deemed to be the only one that met specifications and the county committee accepted and signed a contract.

Soon members of the county committee protested that the state committee had misled them into signing the contract. Although the building of a new ASCS office was already underway in Herreid, population 767, the people of Mound City, population 144, banded together, formed a development corporation and started building a new ASCS building on Highway 83.

The state committee remained unwavering and continued to honor the Herreid contract. A local moving company, Hardcastle Transfer of Moberge, was hired to move the office equipment and records out of Mound City. But on two occasions Mound City residents sounded the alarm by several means including fire alarm, rifle shots and telephone. As many as 500 Mound City area farmers and their wives raced into the town of Mound City and blocked movers and eventually ran the movers and the state committees out of town.

Mound City forces sealed the building by hiding the front door keys, welding the door joints to the building shut and barricading the front of the building with sandbags.

The Justice Department issued an ultimatum that federal marshals would be sent in to get the records. Because the records were held in hostage, more than \$300,000 in soil bank and other payments to county farmers were delayed. Farmers were definitely hurting and emotions were running high on both sides of the issue.

Still, Mound city proponents refused to surrender on principle, feeling that the town of Herreid had already taken so much from them.

Because some of the attempts to move the records had not been successful, for a time some of the records were located in Mound City and some in Herreid.

But in the end and despite great odds, the proponents of keeping the ASCS office in Mound City won.

Darlene had "retired" for approximately five years to become the primary caregiver of their boys, Ladean, Loren, and Larue. When she returned to full-time work, she worked at the ASCS office in Selby. She retired from the agency in 1996. She now lives in Selby.