



SOUTH DAKOTA RASCOE

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FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER

Drawings for submitting your dues before September 1.

Early Bird \$25 Cash Drawing - Larry Peterson

Free FY 18-19 Membership

Evelyn Peterson

Harland Peterson

Presidents Report,

Well it does not seem like it should be September this soon. We now have the cool mornings and warm afternoons, but soon it will be frost and the dreaded four-letter S word (snow). It has been a very interesting year for the producers that we served for so many years, drought in many areas, excess moisture in other areas, and of course always hail and strong winds. I just hope that we can get through this year without any more catastrophic weather events.

Soon enough we in South Dakota will be hosting the 2018 NASCOE convention as well as the RASCOE counterparts. I would encourage all of our members as well as any FSA employee to attend this important event in Sioux Falls next summer. Becky is heading up the RASCOE portion of this convention I would encourage all members to volunteer to help in any way needed to make this a successful event as it has in the past.

On the benefit side of this for RASCOE, it appears that Congress and the Administration may be looking to heal some of the budget woes on the backs of current federal employees as well as from us who have already retired. I am not going to list all of the cuts that they are looking at, as many of you get the same information that I have from NARFE, and NASCOE. Congress will be working on this during the next few weeks and months. I would encourage everyone to reach out to your Congressional people and let your thoughts be known.

In closing I like to list my personal email address for you if you wish to contact me, it as follows rdrische@hotmail.com my cell phone is 605 450 0416. Feel free to contact me to express any ideas or concerns that you may have. **Rich Rische RASCOE President**



Notes from your RASCOE VP Becky Zirpel

September 2017

It seems that no matter who I meet or where I go everyone seems to need to know how can I retire – does that question ever end? First if that person really knew me they would know that I have a lot of energy and never really sit still. I have even been told I will die early because I retired too soon. Personally, I think I will live longer – just saying. I love to finally have time to take care of me, but especially to finally work with my craft projects. Check me out on Facebook and look at my “Creations by Becky” page.

Remember that we have changed the place for our October lunch from Madison to Sioux Falls. I asked if we could bring it to Sioux Falls as we have a lot of people that have retired and moved to this area. New faces hopefully at our lunch on October 17th (Tuesday) at the Ramkota Best Western Maple Street Café. Hope to see many from the area there!

National convention –plan to attend August 1 – August 4, 2018! I volunteered, going into retirement, to chair this event along with co-chair, Joel Foster, Grant County CED. I will soon post the info on the Motel for making reservations. For overflow I have the Club House Inn and Suites. The shuttles for both motels will work together. We are suggesting that SD stay at the Club House and as rooms open up we move them over if the person would like. This gives our guest first chance at the Ramkota Best Western. (Only a suggestion).

We have started 4 fund raisers for this event. If you would like a ticket for any of these for a chance to win let me know. These will be on the web site very soon www.sdascoe.org and on Facebook. They are:

- Cookbook (all new recipes from the prior one many of you may have been part of) \$15



- Star Quilt fit a queen size bed made by one of our own (Roxie Stambach from Ziebach County) 1 ticket for \$1 or 6 tickets for \$5 or 12 tickets for \$10. The winner will be drawn at the banquet on Sat August 4, 2018 need not be present to win.

- Barn similar to this pic – Larry Olson is making the Barn in his spare time. We are going to start selling tickets now and draw before Christmas – what a great gift to give that special grandchild or maybe you are the kid at heart and will keep it for the little ones to play with at your home? Tickets are the same as for the quilt. Again, you do not need to be present to win and we will make arrangements for you to get the barn in time for Christmas.



- Now for our Major raffle \$20 for a ticket and only 3000 tickets were printed you have the chance to win (grand prize of \$3,500, or 2nd place \$1,500, 3rd \$1,000, 4th and 5th \$500 each). Drawing Saturday night at the Banquet August 4, 2018.

As plans unfold for this convention I will keep the RASCOE group well informed.

Becky Zirpel
SD RASCOE VP

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Recent Retirements, Welcome to RASCOE!

Sharla Wipf, Beadle Co
Janet L Hohn, FL STO
Donna Webb, Hutchinson Co
Susan Struck, COR

Messages from members:

Don Bristow says, "We are getting along pretty well. Still have about 50 cows that we calved out. Had my 90th birthday 2 months ago (paid dues in June) and we just celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary.

JoAnn Weisz Thank you to RASCOE for drawing y name for \$100.00. Great. We'll see you for RASCOE Lunch in Mitchell in August and Lake Andes in September. Our son-in-law is just home from Mayo with a liver transplant.

Vicki Larson Wish I could make it work to meet up with your Lunch Bunch sometime. I will keep watching the schedule. Have fun at NASCOE.

Dorothy Bruhn Miss you and everybody, but I don't get around much anymore.

Gayle Nilson Happy 4th of July, enjoy the rest of the summer.

Sharon Steffen Wishing you a good year.

Beverly Birkeland Tell all 'Hi'!

Marilyn Van Liere When we worked for Cleo Olerud, there was no questions we all joined SDASCOE. Cleo had worked before they received benefits and said how important the benefits are to her. It saddens me as she is in a nursing home in Clear Lake and has memory problems. Her husband, Ole, is so good to her as she enters this phase of her life. She had hip surgery and recovered but now it is her memory. I visit often and spend time with her. She was my boss but also a very good friend to our family.

Avis Elenz I am settled in my new life which is so different now. My apartment is lovely, probably the nicest place I have ever lived. This place is only a year or so old. I have many friends. I play a lot of cards and some scrabble. Can you believe there is 'happy hour' very Friday! I sip some white zin.

Marilyn Steiger Where does the time go? Had these handy, so I'd be on time...that didn't happen. Missed Leo's and convention. Too much going on this time of year...some day. Ha! Ha!

Evelyn Peterson, resident of Vermillion Care Center, turned 99 in July 2017.

Message Secretary-Treasurer – Lynda Steichen

I want to thank all of you who include messages along with your checks, change mailing or email address, etc, some of the notes are 'only for me' but the messages are welcome. Your messages entertain and touch my heart, thank you. Proud to announce our membership has reached 152 members for the FY 17-18 year. RASCOE dues are \$30, sent to me at the address listed on front of newsletter.

RASCOE OF SD FY 17-18

<u>BEGINNING BALANCE - 4/20/2017</u>	\$10,639.31		
INCOME		EXPENSES	
DUES	\$1,505.00	2018 Convention Sponsorship	\$1,000.00
2017 RAFFLE	\$195.00	DUES - NATIONAL RASCOE	\$1,450.00
CHECK ACCT INTEREST	\$2.12	EARLY BIRD DRAWING	\$25.00
Return Convention Cash	\$580.00	NATIONAL CONVENTION - OFFICERS	\$200.00
Change	\$10.00	POSTAGE	\$49.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,292.12	2017 Raffle winners	\$500.00
		SD SECRETARY OF STATE-2017	\$10.00
		SUPPLIES-INK, ENVELOPES, ETC	\$174.38
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,408.38
		<u>ENDING BALANCE - 9/6/2017</u>	\$9,523.05

2017 LUNCH SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 19 TUESDAY 11:30 Inside Scoop, Lake Andes
Golf after lunch

OCTOBER 17 TUESDAY 11:30 Maple Street Café @ Ramkota Hotel, Sioux Falls

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The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) officially announced the dates for the 2017 FEHB Open Season which will run from Monday, November 13 through Monday, December 11, 2017.



NARFE'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES (AUGUST 2017)

Below are the top three legislative priorities for which NARFE is advocating this August during NARFE's Grassroots Advocacy Month.

Prevent Harmful Budget Proposals

- The Trump administration fiscal year 2018 budget would cost federal employees and retirees, cumulatively, hundreds of thousands of dollars over the course of retirement, and reneges on the commitments made to our nation's dedicated public servants, who were promised their retirement benefits in exchange for hard work over long careers.
- The president's budget proposes to eliminate or reduce cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for current and future retirees under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) and the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS).
- The president's budget proposes to increase FERS employees' contributions to their annuities by 1 percent each year for the next six years, without any corresponding benefit increase. This amounts to nothing more than a 6 percent pay cut.
- The president's budget proposes to change the calculation for federal pensions to be based on the average of the highest five years of salary instead of the current highest three, which particularly hurts those closest to retirement.
- The FERS Annuity Supplement would be eliminated for new retirees starting in fiscal year 2018.
- These proposals would diminish the value of federal annuities, threaten the financial security of those just years away from retiring, and generally reduce the quality of life of our nation's employees and retirees.
- More information on these budget proposals can be found [here](#).