

WASCOE Presidents Report
WASCOE Convention April 20, 2018
Jake Bourget

WASCOE Membership,

Another year gone by! As I look back on the year I can't help but think of the "in suspense" state it seemed like we were in for the year. Always worried about the budget, then a couple furloughs, no SED, and still today no FSA Administrator! As we now have our state leadership in place we now face the effects of stating over again with the communication channels with this administration. As people get settled in we will try to once again get on the quarterly agenda of the Management Team, so we can bring the concerns of the field to the state office and work to get them addressed. We will continue to try to get our avenues of communication opened up best we can as we now have very limited use of the WASCOE link on SharePoint. If you have a home email address and haven't seen anything in it from WASCOE lately please send that to Jon Beam, WASCOE Treasurer/Webmaster so you are sure to receive our emails. We are also trying a new website of communication in cooperation with the Midwest Area website. While it saves your money on annual website fees it also opens it up so you can access other states at the same site and see what's going on in the states around us. Be sure to check it out and set a bookmark to: <http://midwestnascoe.org/> hover over the word "STATES" in green and click on any of the states including Wisconsin!

I want to send out a special thank you to the WASCOE Officers Shelby Niskanen - Secretary, Jon Beam - Treasurer, and Jon Williams – VP. They are there at any hour of the day to help any of us with whatever they can to benefit you as a member and the agency. Tell them thank you whenever you see them.

Now I ask you, do you want to be involved? We know our lives can be very hectic and we can be involved in so many things we need 8 days a week!!! Believe me I know, I have twins in two different sports at the same time and I coach!!! But what about WASCOE? An organization looking out for all of us DAILY in our careers. Ask should I be more involved? Start by being a director in your own area. It takes virtually very, very little of your time but your opinion is important. Consider being a Director in your area. Also think about the WASCOE Committees. Each of those committees has a chair working hard for our benefit. Thank them, and send me an email and let me know that you would like to be involved!

I want to mention the PAC and how important it really is. NASCOE has a legislative consultant, Hunter Moorhead hired to inform us of legislation that is affecting our careers positively or negatively. He then keeps track of it to see if it's gaining traction and if it will negatively affect your job or not. If so, it's the PAC that gets him face to face time with key legislators to explain to them how important we are in FSA to the matter at hand and works to convince legislators to work for our benefit, not against us. That is what the PAC does and for as little as \$1 a pay period donated to the PAC you could be saving your job and benefits for a lifetime. Cheapest insurance you will ever buy! Contact me immediately and I will get you on board for as much as you want, but as little as \$1 a pay period. Believe me when I say you will gain the feeling of the satisfaction of doing your part to insure your career.

In the coming year I hope we as Team WASCOE can continue to open up the lines of communication between all of us as FSA employees and the State Office. I hope we can continue to make strides in developing the Key PT position to benefit us as employees and improve the COT hiring process. Hopefully working together, we can accomplish these and other projects that arise in the coming year for the benefit of us all.

Thank you!