

MACS NEWS

August 2009

Minnesota Association of Credit Specialists - FSA

Web site address: www.macfsa.org E-mail address: macs@macfsa.org

2009 MACS/MNASCOE Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was held on July 24th in Alexandria. A joint session with MNASCOE was followed by the MACS business meeting. The full report will be provided when it is completed.

Linda Hennen – SED and Glenn Schafer – Executive Officer addressed the group. The two main issues that they discussed are FLP Office restructuring plans and a request to centralize guaranteed loan making. A taskforce is being developed to discuss options for FLP restructuring. Additional information should be available by the end of September. If you have any recommendations, please be sure to forward them to me within the next few weeks.

The State Office has been having ongoing discussions with AgStar (PLP Lender) due to the economic crisis in dairy and hog operations. They expect to submit a large number of guaranteed applications and are looking for consistency in processing. One concern is the variation in the interpretation of the family farm definition. No decision has been made to centralize the application processing, but watch for additional information regarding the tracking of applications for large livestock operations.

Officer elections were also held and the new officers for 2009-2010 are:

President – Jerry Hurrle
Vice President – Paula Lund
Treasurer – Scott Nordby
Secretary – Leah Lindgren
Past President – Lee Crawford
NASE Contact – To be appointed

Please be sure to contact your District Rep or any board member with any questions or concerns.

NASE State Contact Needed

A PT member is needed to volunteer to serve as the NASE State Contact for the 2009-10 year. This position was previously held by Karen Welander, Stearns County PT. This person serves as the contact point for NASE at the National level and obtains the information and other material from NASE for NASE members in the state. This person is also a member of the MACS Executive Committee as any other elected officer and attends the consultative meeting with the State Office and any other functions as a representative of the FLP PT's. If you are interested in volunteering for this position, please contact me as soon as possible.

MACS COMMITTEES

MACS has for primary committees that work on various issues throughout the year. They also review and present the resolutions to the members each year at the State meeting. The committees are: Farm Loan Program, Farm Program, Management/Personnel, and Information/Technology. If you are interested in participating on a committee, please contact me or let one of the officers know.

NACS

Mark Drewitz was elected as the new Vice President for NACS. Congratulations Mark. We are fortunate in Minnesota to be well represented on the National Board. Greg Janachovsky is also an alternate on the FP Committee. Congratulations Greg.

The NACS Board has set an incentive for first time members for the 2009-10 year. For first time members the NACS dues will be \$0.00 until June 30, 2010. NACS also has funds reserved for first time attendees at National Convention. First time attendees are those members attending the National Convention outside their home state. \$2,000 is budgeted by NACS for this assistance which would be divided between the number of first time attendees up to a maximum. The maximum that could be earned at the 2009 Convention was \$200. The goal is to get as many people to the National Convention to learn, participate and become involved in the Association.

This is an excellent time to join the association to learn what it is all about.

NACS/NASE Upcoming Meetings

The 2010 National Convention will be held in Portland, Maine on June 19-23. If you are interested in attending, please be sure to let me know. NACS has incentives for first time convention attendees.

Zone B Meeting – Fargo, ND, February 6-7, 2010.

NACS/NASE Information

NACS and NASE association information is available at their web sites. Information, newsletters, and other materials are available at their respective web sites:

NACS – www.nacsfsa.net

NASE – www.nasefsa.org

Links to these sites are maintained on the MACS web site under “Links”.

2009-10 MACS Board

President – Jerry Hurrle
Vice President - Paula Lund
Secretary – Leah Lindgren
Treasurer - Scott Nordby
NASE State Contact – To be appointed
Past President – Lee Crawford

District 1 Representative -
District 2 Representative - Justin Phillips
District 3 Representative - Ellen Dilly
District 4 Representative -
District 5 Representative - Jennifer Robinson
District 6 Representative - Kevin Hagan
District 7 Representative - Mark Baumann
District 8 & STO Representative - Cory Christensen