



**South Central NCCESA Spring Meeting
April 25, 2008
Columbus County
Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina**

The 2008 spring meeting of the South Central District NCCESA was held in Columbus County at the Boys and Girls Homes in Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina.

Leeann Crump, President, called the meeting to order. Leeann thanked Nan Rackley, Linda Bulet, Linda Duncan, Ann Pridgen, and the Columbus County staff for all the hard work and efforts made in hosting the meeting.

Leeann led the group in the pledge of allegiance, followed by Susan Johnson, 1st Vice President, providing an inspirational message.

Leeann welcomed the members present from Cabarrus County to the South Central District; they are Christine Barrier, Cynthia Brown, and Becky Lewis. The Union County secretaries were recognized and welcomed as well; while they were unable to attend the meeting they sent greetings with the Cabarrus County Secretaries. Leeann extended a warm welcome to Chris Austin, Dana Braswell and Lisa Eubanks and stated that we look forward to meeting them at our next meeting.

Christine Barrier, Cabarrus County Secretary, welcomed everyone on behalf of our State President, Janet VanJaarsveld, who sent her regrets in not being able to attend. Janet will plan on attending our meeting in the fall in Cumberland County.

Leeann introduced and welcomed the new secretaries:

Ingrid Bell – Harnett County

Sherry Hall - Bladen County

Leeann introduced Jackie Roseboro, Columbus County CED, who welcomed the secretaries to the meeting and recognized the staff of Columbus County for their dedication and loyalty. She expressed appreciation to all South Central District Secretaries for the great job they do. In honor of Administrative Professionals Week she thanked everyone for “Making a Difference.”

Dr. Donald Cobb, DED, was introduced by Leeann. He echoed his appreciation for all Administrative Professionals and thanked the secretaries for the good job they do for

Cooperative Extension. He said change was inevitable and welcomed Cabarrus and Union Counties aboard as well. Dr. Cobb said he appreciates the opportunity to be a part of the South Central District. He then asked for any questions from the floor.

Janet Mabry, Stanly County, asked if there had been any further discussion at the administrative level concerning the issues with the new templates. Dr. Cobb indicated that Crystal Bartlett was aware of the issues of concern and that Clinton McRae, Richmond County CED was scheduled to share the problems at the next Extension Council meeting. To Dr. Cobb's knowledge there has been no response as to how or when the problem will be resolved.

Denese Prevatte, Robeson County, asked if there were any plans to print the newsletter template so that it could be purchased by counties. Dr. Cobb was unsure.

Debbie Humphrey, Robeson County asked if new name tags with the current logo will be made available. Dr. Cobb said they should be. Debbie also had positive comments about the hands on use of Elluminate. Dr. Cobb was glad to hear that it was beneficial and said it may be used more in the future due to the cost of travel.

Dr. Cobb then turned the meeting over to Susan Brame, South Central District Administrative Associate, to present the "I Got Caught" awards. The winners were Debbie Humphrey, Robeson County and Carolyn Hodges, Cumberland County. Congratulations, ladies! Susan reminded us that the next deadline for the award is June 30th and to continue sending in nominations.

Jackie Roseboro, Columbus County CED, introduced Bill Thompson, Former CEO of the Boys and Girls Homes; Tom Lamont, Director of the Civic Clubs; and Rev. John Cobb, Chaplain of the Boys and Girls Chapel.

Bill Thompson thanked the group for making a difference. He appreciated the opportunity of speaking to the secretaries in Southern Pines and from that engagement has received several speaking opportunities. A scholarship through NCSU or NC A & T State University has been established in his name and is available to students majoring in the field of agriculture.

Tom Lamont then divided the group and took half of the Secretaries on a tour of the Boys and Girls Homes campus, farm, Country Store, cottages, and facility.

Rev. John Cobb conducted a tour with the others at the Chapel. Both group leaders shared the history of the Boys and Girls Homes along with interesting information and facts. They currently serve 14 counties with 60 residential youth and 106 supervised foster care youth. Groups exchanged places so everyone had the complete tour.

The groups reconvened at Dale's Seafood for a delicious lunch, along with three million May flies, which were anxious to greet us. Leeann asked each person to have their own invocation as they saw fit. After the meal, we walked on the pier at Lake Waccamaw, what a beautiful place!

BUSINESS SESSION:

Leeann Crump, President, stated the minutes from our last meeting have been posted to the web. Brenda Gooden, made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Denese Prevatte. All approved and motion passed.

The roll call was taken by Angie Priest, Secretary. Thirty-five active and four retiree association members were present.

<i>County</i>	<i>Active Member</i>	<i>Retirees</i>
Anson	2	0
Bladen	3	2
Cabarrus	3	0
Columbus	4	1
Cumberland	3	0
Harnett	2	0
Hoke	2	0
Lee	2	0
Montgomery	2	0
Moore	1	0
Richmond	2	0
Robeson	4	1
Scotland	2	0
Stanly	2	0
Union	0	0
District Secretary	1	0
TOTALS	35	4

Treasurer:

Nan Rackley, Treasurer, provided each member a copy of the financial report.

Account balances as of August 30, 2007:

Checking Account.....	\$ 853.80
Shares Account.....	\$ 155.46
Money Market Account	\$4,911.71
TOTAL.....	\$5,920.97

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – (Donna Foster, Chair) We had two new secretaries Ingrid Bell, Harnett County; and Sherry Hall, Bladen County in the South Central District since our last meeting. It was announced that Union and Cabarrus County had joined the South Central District and Chatham County is now part of the North Central District. Letters of welcome were sent to new members. We currently have a total of 48 members.

Finance: (Nan Rackley, Chair) See copy of treasurer's report. The Finance Committee would like to recommend that each secretary try (hard) to sell 25 tickets at \$1.00 each for a chance at a \$100.00. The drawing will be at our District Fall Meeting on August 08, 2008 in Cumberland County. We would not have a raffle at the state meeting.

Devona Beard made a motion to accept the proposal and Denese Prevatte seconded it. All approved and the motion was carried. The tickets will be emailed to the county offices by Nan Rackley.

Public Relations – (Dianne Scarboro, Chair) The committee would like to ask that you send news from your county for the upcoming June newsletter. Pictures to go with the articles would be great also. Please send your news to any committee member. Committee Members are; Dianne Scarboro, Chairman; Rhonda Gaster, Mentor; Debbie Humphrey, Angela Priest, Cindy Vann, and Linda Shaw.

Scholarship – (Sharon Williams, Chair) Harnett County will select a person for the NC Cooperative Extension Secretaries Association Scholarship this year. Scholarship application forms have been sent to all 4 High Schools in the County. News releases have been sent to five newspapers. The deadline for applying is May 15th. The recipient will be announced at the fall meeting.

Reflections – (Becky Lewis, Chair) Please send any pictures, news articles or scrapbook materials by mail or email to Becky. Becky also complimented the past members on the wonderful scrapbooks that have been compiled.

Secretary of the Year – (Starla Harwood, Chair) Everyone please nominate yourself or another secretary for this award. The application is on the website and is due by July 1st. Good luck!

Nominating – (Myra Johnson, Chair) Myra was unable to attend; Leeann Crump read the report. The district officers shall be the same as the state officers: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The retiring President shall serve as Advisor.

Officers shall serve a term of one year. Elections shall be held at the fall meeting and elected officers will be installed at this meeting. Their terms of duty will begin October 1 and continue to September 30. No two officers shall be elected from the same county.

Requests for nominations will be sent to all members sometime in June.

Janet Mabry brought to our attention that the 2nd Vice President is to be elected from the South Central District for the next term. Let the nominating committee know if you would like to

volunteer or if you would like to nominate someone for the position. To be nominated for this position, you must have held a District Office in the past. Nominations are due August 1st for the State 2nd Vice President. A nomination form is available on the state association website.

Professional Improvement – (Carol Capel, Chair) The Professional Improvement Committee members Ann Pridgen, Ruth Ann Pope, Lula Shipman and Carol would like to encourage everyone to take advantage of any and all professional improvement opportunities available to you. Annie Freeman has been so helpful in offering to bring a list of professional development items from the Scotland County Library with her. If you would like to see the items available, the link is <http://southcentral.ces.ncsu.edu/content/library> to the NC Cooperative Extension – Scotland County Center Library. If you see something on the list that you or someone else would like to borrow, please contact Annie. Items were on hand to be checked out through Annie at the meeting. Interested in classes in Excel and/or PowerPoint? Look here: <http://nccetechtalk.blogspot.com>. We encourage everyone to please feel free to share any professional development opportunities that you may come across throughout the year. Carol ends with, “Today my mind and heart are open to New Opportunities and I make the most out of every situation, I challenge you all to do the same”.

Rules and Bylaws – (Janet Mabry, Chair) To our knowledge there have been no issues brought before the state rules and by-laws committee for discussion. No issues have been brought forward on the district level to date. Note; Committee member for the state rules and by-laws committee representing our district was not a member of the district committee so to our knowledge the district committee has had no communication from the state committee. Ruth Ann Pope, being that member, confirmed that she knew of none.

Awards- (Annie Freeman, Chair) Annie gave everyone a list of Award Opportunities and encouraged everyone to apply or nominate someone.

FEDERATION REPORT

Christine Barrier, 2008 NCFCEA President (Representing NCCESA 2007-2009), gave this Federation report:

Donna Fulp, Administrative Secretary from Rockingham County, received the first 'Leadership & Service Recognition Award.' The Federation Annual Forums will be moved around the state in order to offer more exposure not only to Federation, but also professional development opportunities for persons attending the forums. The next Executive Board Meeting will be October 31, 2008 at Brickhaven in Raleigh. The Forum is scheduled to meet December 12, 2008; location to be confirmed at the October Board Meeting. Discussion this year for Administration will not only focus on Issues and Concerns, but also comments from Field Staffs as to what Administration is 'doing right' for us. The Horn of Plenty will be August 22nd in Craven County. Christine invited everyone to join Epsilon Sigma Phi; the annual meeting will be in Greensboro on November 21st.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SRERSSA (Southern Regional Extension & Research Support Staff Association)

Devona Beard, SRERSSA Planning Committee Chair, gave an update on the first regional secretaries' conference to be held in Nashville, Tennessee on November 12-14, 2008. Each secretary was given a packet of registration information and encouraged to support this event.

Leeann stated that additional funds to support this first regional conference were needed; a motion had been made and passed at the State Board Meeting in Raleigh for each county in North Carolina to contribute \$100 towards this effort. She asked for discussion in sending more money.

Devona said the Regional membership fee overage may be around \$30 (the exact amount to be voted on at the meeting in November) per secretary. That money will help fund association operating expenses for the next regional conference, however, more funds are needed for this year because it is the first year for this type of meeting. Devona stated that our South Central District secretaries association has already sent \$500, with an additional \$300 collected on the county level for a total of \$800. She made a motion that the South Central District send the remaining \$700 from the Money Market Account to comply with the request of the State Board. The motion was seconded by Janet Mabry; funds will be mailed to Donna Fulp, SRERSSA President, to be used for conference expenses. The South Central District's 15 counties have now contributed a total of \$1500 to SRERSSA for the 2008 Regional Conference.

NEW BUSINESS

Denese Prevatte has inquired about the future use of the Red Brick letterhead. She found that the Red Brick letterhead is to be used for all letters except for those multiple topic newsletters that would go on the new template. The new newsletter template does not have to go on the Red Brick letterhead.

Leeann said Susan Graham gave her three yellow shirts left over from the state meeting with the logo on them. These will be available for \$10 each; first come, first served.

Nan told everyone there would be a snack and drink from the Columbus County Secretaries to take when they leave the meeting. The Columbus County secretaries also made the lovely sweet potato necklaces given to each secretary in their abundant goody bags at the meeting.

The four retirees were recognized and a thank-you card was read from Thetis Williams for the retirement gift given to her by the South Central District.

Invitation – 2008 Fall Meeting - Cumberland County will host the fall meeting on August 8th at the 18th Airborne Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville. More information will be sent at a later date.

Announcements – the NCCESA State Meeting will be held September 17-19 at the Hilton Riverside in Downtown Wilmington.

The half and half drawing was won by Kay Morton of Lee County.

Dr. Cobb took a group picture for the scrapbook.

Columbus County gave out door prizes to everyone.

Leeann read the “Making a Difference” story from the Columbus County theme.

Motion was made to adjourn by Devona Beard and seconded by Ann Pridgen and Friends.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectively submitted by Angie Priest, Secretary, NCCESA-SC District