



South Central NCCESA Spring Meeting
August 8, 2008
Cumberland County
Fayetteville, North Carolina

The 2008 fall meeting of the South Central District NCCESA was held in Cumberland County at the 18th Airborne & Special Operations Museum and the N.C. Cooperative Extension Cumberland County Center.

After being served a delicious breakfast in the museum conference room, Leeann Crump, President, called the meeting to order in the museum auditorium. Leeann thanked Peggy Elliott, Donna Foster, Carolyn Hodges, Susan Johnson and Jean Verhasselt along with the Cumberland County staff for all the hard work and efforts made in hosting the meeting.

Angie Priest led the group in the pledge of allegiance, followed by Kim Gibson, 2nd Vice President, providing an inspirational message.

Leeann welcomed all members present and recognized Cabarrus County and Union County as new members to the South Central District. Susan Johnson introduced Amy Cannon, Assistant County Manager who welcomed the attendees on behalf of Cumberland County and County Extension Director, George Autry and recognized the staff of Cumberland County for their dedication and loyalty.

Dr. Donald Cobb, South Central District Director, recognized Susan Brame, District Administrative Associate who presented the "I Got Caught Award" to Penny McCartney of Robeson County.

Dr. Donald Cobb shared that travel issues were still undecided. He thanked the secretaries for their diligent work in the Cooperative Extension offices throughout the South Central District. Once again, he stressed how important it is to have competent staff on the "front line". He also said that a 2.75% increase would be in the August checks for Extension Secretaries.

Dr. Cobb then entertained questions from the floor. Becky Lewis from Cabarrus County asked if Extension was looking at the four day work week as other County offices were. He replied that the group investigating the possibility was not excited about the idea though some counties were considering the option. Union County had presented a plan that looked like it would work. He said that if a county chose to have everyone work the four day work week that the MOU says they will abide.

We then toured the museum with our tour guide, Al, who was very informative and excited about sharing his experiences and knowledge with us. Some of the secretaries went to the simulator and found it most exhilarating.

Next, we traveled to the Cumberland County Center for a delicious lunch prepared and served by the staff of Cumberland County. The invocation was given by Susan Johnson, 1st Vice President. Entertainment was provided by Cumberland County 4-H members Lillian Haigh and Julia Eady Haigh who are excellent pianists.

BUSINESS SESSION:

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

The roll call was taken by Angie Priest, Secretary. Thirty-six 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	2	0
Columbus	2	1
Cumberland	5	0
Harnett	2	0
Hoke	2	0
Lee	2	0
Montgomery	2	0
Moore	2	0
Richmond	2	0
Robeson	3	1
Scotland	2	0
Stanly	1	0
Union	3	0
District Secretary	1	0
TOTALS	36	4

Treasurer:

Nan Rackley, Treasurer, was absent due to sickness. She will undergo rotator cuff surgery on August 21, 2008. In her absence, Penny McCartney provided each member a copy of the financial report. The treasury report is included in our District records book.

Account balances as of August 30, 2007:

Checking Account.....	\$ 2,024.29
Shares Account.....	\$ 156.37
Money Market Account	\$4,261.14
TOTAL.....	\$6,441.80

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committees briefly met to discuss any business.

Membership – (Donna Foster, Chair) Since our last meeting on April 25, 2008, we have had no new secretaries added to Cooperative Extension in the South Central District.

Starla Harwood, Stanly County has left Cooperative Extension.

We currently have a total of 47 members.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Foster, Cumberland County, South Central District Membership Committee, Chairman

Finance: (Nan Rackley, Chair) See copy of treasurer's report. The committee would like to remind everyone to turn in money for the \$100 drawing. We will not have a raffle at the state meeting in lieu of this drawing.

Public Relations – (Dianne Scarboro, Chair) The committee would like to thank everyone that sent news and pictures for our June 2008 newsletter. Thanks also to Kay Morton for posting the newsletter to our website. We would like to ask that you send news and pictures for our January 2009 newsletter. Articles and pictures will be accepted at any time and may be sent to any committee member. We would like the next edition of the newsletter to feature every county in our district. Please send your news to any committee member.

Scholarship – (Sharon Williams, Chair) Harnett County selected the NC Cooperative Extension Secretaries Association Scholarship this year. One High School application and two college applications were received. Daphne Williams of Dunn received the \$200 Scholarship.

Reflections – (Becky Lewis, Chair) Photos have been added from previous meetings to the scrapbooks. Several counties have submitted snapshots of Administrative Assistants in various capacities of work assignments. Becky thanked everyone for sending photos and for their patience with her. A special thanks to Scotland County for sending photos even though their office was damaged by water. Becky would like to have more pictures to submit to the state reflection books for Wilmington in September from the district and individual counties. Send photos with captions and dates.

Secretary of the Year – (Susan Johnson, Chair) Nominations were sent to Administrative Secretaries for distribution to all secretaries. Votes were sent to Starla via email. Votes are tallied and the winner will be announced later in the meeting.

Nominating – (Myra Johnson, Chair) On behalf of the South Central District of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Secretaries Association's Nominating Committee —Peggy Elliott, Aletha Mebane and Jean Verhasselt, I would like to submit for your approval the following slate of officers for 2009:

President: Susan Johnson, Cumberland

1st Vice President: Kim Gibson, Montgomery

2nd Vice President: Ruth Ann Pope, Anson

Treasurer: Christine Barrier, Cabarrus

Secretary: Myra Johnson, Moore

Advisor: Leann Crump, Richmond

Also, I am pleased to announce that Kay Morton has been nominated for 2nd Vice President of the State Secretaries Association.

Respectfully Submitted – Myra Johnson

Professional Improvement – (Carol Capel, Chair) The Professional Improvement Committee would like to encourage all support staff to take advantage of the many opportunities for continued career improvement, whether by reading self-help books or taking a class at a local community college, scholarships are available as well as NCSU's tuition waiver program. Please consider taking advantage of these opportunities. We'd especially like to thank all the officers, committee chairs and those serving as mentors for their hard work this year. We have a certificate of appreciation for each one.

Rules and Bylaws – (Janet Mabry, Chair) Janet presented the Proposed By-Laws Additions found in Article III- Organizational Structure. A copy is in the District notes notebook.

Awards- (Annie Freeman, Chair) The Awards Committee would like to encourage all members to nominate a deserving secretary for one or more awards. The Awards Committee will offer any help needed to assist in the application process.

FEDERATION REPORT

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

NCCESA continues to be busy with Federation Business. Briefly, the most recent activities and those coming up ... Asked to bring 'Greetings' from the Federation at the opening Luncheon of the FCS Annual Conference, Tuesday, at Lake Junaluska. The Horn of Plenty will be August 22nd in Craven County, New Bern, NC. The theme this year is "Celebrating 100 years of County Unity- 1908-2008". NCCESA sponsors and serves beverages (tea, lemonade, water) for the Extension-sponsored meal on Friday night. ESP-Galaxy III will be in Indianapolis September 14th -19th. NCFCEA Board of Directors Meeting is October 31st at Brickhaven Building in Raleigh. The Federation Forum will be held on Friday, December 12th on the campus of NC A&T. Each association is responsible for 10 voting delegates. Please seriously consider attending if you have the opportunity. A complete report is included in the NCCESA notebook.

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. The Theme is "Reaching Out in 2008".

This Association was formed through the continued efforts of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Secretaries Association representatives visiting other state associational meetings as well as representatives from other states visiting our state meetings and encouraging a national association.

An organizational meeting was held July 13, 2007 in Burke County, NC with representatives from Mississippi, West Virginia, South Carolina, Alabama and North Carolina. Members from NC on the organizational committee are Christine Barrier, Leeann Crump, Chris Austin, Kim Gibson, Kay Morton and Devona Beard. At the end of the day Interim Officers were in place, committees organized and a mission statement was declared. The meeting will include professional development, workshops and tours. Commemorative Items are being offered as well. For detailed information, please see the complete report in the NCCESA notes.

NEW BUSINESS

Secretary of the Year

Susan Johnson presented the Secretary of the Year Award to Nan Rackley, Columbus County. Linda Brulet accepted the award in Nan's absence. We are all proud of Nan and her dedication to Extension.

Installation of Officers

Kay Morton creatively installed the new officers and encouraged them to continue the 'Great Race'. Our Pit Crew for 2009 is:

Susan Johnson, Cumberland - President: 'Crew Chief'
Kim Gibson, Montgomery - 1st Vice President: 'Tire Changer'
Ruth Ann Pope, Anson - 2nd Vice President: 'Tire Carrier'
Christine Barrier, Cabarrus- Treasurer: 'Gas Attendant'
Myra Johnson, Moore- Secretary: 'Jack Attendant'
Leeann Crump, Richmond- Advisor: 'Support Crew'

Susan Johnson presented a plaque to Leeann Crump, for a superior year of service as President of NCCESA 2007-2008. Leeann then passed the gavel to Susan Johnson, President 2008-2009.

We were reminded that the State Secretaries meeting will be held in Wilmington, September 18th-19th.

Ingrid Bell invited the group to the District Spring 2009 meeting to be held in Harnett County.

A special thanks to Penny McCartney for filling in for Nan Rackley during her illness.

The Half and Half Raffle collected a total of \$86.00; the winner was Ruth Ann Pope.

The \$100 State Meeting Raffle collected \$855.00; the winner was Anna Kay White from Bladen County. Brenda Gooden sold the winning ticket.

Door prizes were presented to everyone by the Cumberland County Secretaries. Each person also received a gracious goodie bag and snacks to go. Everyone left with gifts and pleasant memories, full and content!

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

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