



Winter Newsletter

Executive Board Change

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Zone B Rep, Joseph Grier, TX, has left the Agency to begin a career with Farm Credit Midsouth. Joseph has been a wonderful asset to NACS and he will be greatly missed! Zone B will still be well-represented, though, with Kris Wilcox (Bergen), NE, stepping up from Alternate to Rep. Filling Kris's role of Zone B alternate will be Ray Bartholomew, KS. Ray's most recent active NACS role was that of NACS Secretary in the 2016-2017 cycle.

I am Kris Wilcox, your NEW 2017-2018 Zone B Representative.
I was honored to be selected as Zone B alternate at the 2017 NACS Convention in Kansas City for a third term. I have served in this position since 2015, and was happy to fill in Zone B Representative position when asked. I have also served the Nebraska Association of Credit Specialists as Vice President and Treasurer for the last three years. I have also served as the IT committee chair for the last year and a half, and as an active member and alternate for the IT committee the two years prior. My first convention was in Chicago, IL in 2014, and I have been an active NACS member ever since then.

I have worked with the Farm Service Agency since 2010, beginning my career in the David City, Nebraska FSA office as a Farm Loan Officer Trainee. I became a Farm Loan Officer in 2012 and was relocated to Broken Bow, Nebraska. In 2014, I accepted a lateral transfer to Fremont, which is where I currently call my home.

I grew up on a dryland row crop and cow/calf farm near Superior, NE where I continue to be involved in the family farming operation. I earned a bachelor's degree in Agribusiness from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2010. I look forward to serving NACS in a more significant role this year and in the years to come.



Zone A update

The Zone A meeting will be at the Comfort Inn in Bozeman, MT, March 1-3, 2018. Registration will be \$100, with late registration (after February 1) of \$115.

For more information, contact:

Marilyn McMullen--marilyn.mcmullen@mt.usda.gov
406-587-6850 or 406-599-8181

Kim Adams --kimberly.adams@mt.usda.gov
406-587-6950 or 406-529-1599 and

Janet Smith--janet.smith@mt.usda.gov 406-799-7003



Zone B update

The Zone B meeting will be at the Embassy Suites in Grapevine, Texas, February 1-3. Registration, if paid before January 5, is \$65/person. This fee will increase to \$75 if paid January 6-31.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Jason McMillin--jason.mcmillin@tx.usda.gov 979-680-5223

or

Daila McAnally--daila.mcanally@tx.usda.gov 432-360-1298



Zone C update

The Zone C meeting will be held at the Wyndham City Centre Hotel in Downtown Springfield, IL, February 22-24. Zone C is offering an Early Bird Registration Fee of \$85 for all registrations received before February 1, 2018! The fee for registrants postmarked after February 1 will be \$95. A "day" fee to attend Friday meetings only (no hospitality) has been set at \$40 (early bird) or \$50 (after February 1).

For more Zone C meeting information, contact:

Kim Eilerman--kimberly.eilerman@ar.usda.gov 618-498-6836

or

Tamee Renwick--tamee.renwick@il.usda.gov 309-734-9308



Zone D update



The Zone D meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Monroe, LA, February 15-17. Registration has been set at \$80, and is due by February 4 to avoid \$10 late fee. Day registration fee of \$40 is also available. In lieu of hospitality room, Zone D is proud to offer an authentic Louisiana crawfish boil!

Zone D contacts are:

Beth Perkins--beth.perkins@la.usda.gov 318-255-2826

Sue Harmon--sue.harmon@ar.usda.gov 870-598-2287 or

Jamelda Fulton--jamelda.fulton@ms.usda.gov 662-455-1199

Additional Items

201 -201 CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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UPCOMING:

The 2018 NACS National Convention will be June 28 – July 2, 2014 in San Antonio, TX.

NACS Member Lyanne Mendoza--Making a Difference and Leading the Way

After the series of hurricanes that struck in the Summer of 2017, Lyanne Mendoza, California Association of Credit Specialists, was privileged to be able to volunteer to travel to Puerto Rico to aid in recovery efforts. Lyanne says,

My time in Puerto Rico was nothing short of amazement and sadness. Of course it was my first time going to Puerto Rico and despite the destruction the island was still beautiful to me. It was, however, heartbreaking to see the effects of the hurricane. Many towns were and still are without electricity and water. Certain areas of the island were impacted more than others and the agriculture was affected terribly. But the charisma and positive attitude of the people to rebuild was incredible, there is a sense of pride that spreads like wildfire. Everyone was grateful and thankful for our willingness to leave our homes and lives to assist their Puerto Rico. It was an experience I will never forget and cherish for a lifetime. I am thankful for our agency and local management for supporting the detail.

Picture is a local farm in Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico, with a guineo plant. Guineo is the term Puerto Rico uses for what we know as banana.