



**South Central NCCESA Spring Meeting  
March 23, 2007  
Bladen County  
Dublin, North Carolina**

The 2007 spring meeting of the South Central District NCCESA was held in Bladen County at the Lu Mil Vineyard.

Kay Morton, President, called the meeting to order. Kay made a change in the agenda order.

Beverly Burney, Bladen County Secretary, introduced the speaker, Phillip Little, Chief Deputy of the Bladen County Sheriff's Department. He spoke to the association about Self Defense for Women.

Kay introduced and welcomed the new secretaries:

Amanda Chavis – Scotland  
Jean Newsome – Cumberland  
Sharon Parrish - Bladen

Brenda Gooden, Bladen County Secretary, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Leeann Crump, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, who gave the Thought for the Day.

Devona Beard, Advisor and Administrative Secretary for Bladen County, welcomed the group to Lu Mil Vineyard in Bladen County.

Susan Brame, South Central Administrative Secretary, offered comments from the South Central Administrative Office. Danny Shaw, South Central District Director, was unable to attend the meeting today.

Sharon Parrish, Bladen County Secretary, introduced Sunday Allen, Lu Mil Vineyard Tour Guide. Sunday gave the group a tour of the vineyard and told us what was involved in the production of grapes and wine.

Greg Martin, Bladen County Manager, welcomed the group and encouraged them to explore Bladen County and spend some money at the vineyard.

Susan Graham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, gave the invocation, which was followed by a wonderful meal.

Susan Brame reminded the secretaries the NCCESA-SC Retreat will be held Thursday and Friday, April 26 and 27 in Cumberland County at the Charlie Rose Expo Center. Registration forms are due today. If you have your registration fee, please give to Susan Johnson. Susan Brame also distributed the Myers-Briggs instruments to the individuals that have not completed the Myers Briggs course and instructed the group to complete and bring with them to the retreat.

**BUSINESS SESSION:**

The minutes from our last meeting have been posted to the web. Kay asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion was made and seconded. All approved and motion passed.

Roll call was taken by Rhonda Gaster in the absence of Annie Freeman, Secretary. Thirty-four association members were present and three retirees.

<i>County</i>	<i>Active Member</i>	<i>Retirees</i>
Anson	1	1
Bladen	4	2
Chatham	2	0
Columbus	4	0
Cumberland	4	0
Harnett	2	0
Hoke	2	0
Lee	2	0
Montgomery	2	0
Moore	2	0
Richmond	2	0
Robeson	3	0
Scotland	1	0
Stanly	2	0
District Secretary	1	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3</b>

***Treasurer:***

Penny McCartney, Treasurer, gave a copy of the financial report to everyone.

Account balances as of March 23, 2007:

Checking Account.....	\$2,383.11
Shares Account .....	\$ 152.59
Money Market Account .....	\$4,198.71
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$6,734.41</b>

Leeann Crump, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and NCCESA Outreach Committee chairperson, updated that the Outreach Committee has as its goal to reach out to other state Extension associations with the intent to form a regional association within the next 5 years. It is with this goal in mind that we as an organization are interested in sending a delegation (group) to one/all of three state meetings

coming up. (one meeting per person please) Dr. Zublena has graciously given us “time” to attend, but he would like for us to remember that the ultimate goal for us going is to benefit our organization as a whole, professionally. Anyone who attends these meeting needs to be ready to report on said meeting, and how it professionally benefited them as an association member.

First meeting is coming up very fast...deadline to register is April 3. This meeting is in South Carolina in Spartanburg on April 25-27. Registration is \$40/room is \$80.

Second meeting is in Kentucky on April 19-20. Because of their limited overnight quarters at the 4-H Leadership Conference Center in Jabez where the meeting will be held, they suggested our attendee’s stay at the nearest hotel in Somerset at the Holiday Inn Express (45 miles away). They are still finalizing registration forms; do not have costs to share.

The third opportunity is the state meeting in Mobile, Alabama on May 16-18. Registration is \$35, room rates are \$72 per night, plus 10% sales tax. The deadline for registration is April 30, 2007 (postmarked). Late registration is an additional \$5 (after April 30) and \$10 at the conference.

This is a great opportunity to see how other states conduct business. This is also a great professional development opportunity. The different states are very excited that North Carolina wants to visit and observe.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please respond to [leeann\\_crump@ncsu.edu](mailto:leeann_crump@ncsu.edu) NO LATER than Monday, March 26 with the listed state meeting you’d like to attend. If you would not be willing to pay your own way to any of the following meetings, please do not put your name on the list as an interested party.

Janet Mabry made a motion that the South Central District Association agree to pay for up to two members to attend one other state association’s secretary meeting. Denese Prevatte seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership** – (Jane Tripp, chair) We had two new secretaries in the South Central District since our last meeting. Jean Newsome (Cumberland County) and Sharon Parrish (Bladen County). The Membership Committee sent both secretaries an official letter of welcome. We currently have a total of 40 members.

**Public Relations** – (Rhonda Gaster, chair) Please submit your articles when requested by your Public Relations contact or you may submit anytime during the year. The newsletter is posted in June and January.

**Nominating** – (Peggy Elliott, chair) The district officers shall be the same as the state officers: President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 in June.

**JUST A REMINDER TO EVERYONE**, the state Nominating Committee will soon be asking for new people to serve as officer. We encourage each of you to volunteer or say “Yes” when asked.

**Finance:** (Penny McCartney, chair) See copy of treasurer’s report.

**Scholarship** – (Susan Johnson, chair) Applications and information concerning the scholarship were sent to 10 public high schools, 4 private schools, 2 colleges and 1 community college. A news release was sent to the Fayetteville Observer, several radio stations and the Community Channel. The information was also sent to the Public Relations coordinator and she placed a big article about the scholarship in our County Newsletter. A deadline of April 13, 2007 has been established for the scholarship. Information concerning the scholarship is posted on the Cumberland County website. We have received two applications.

**Reflections** – (Starla Harwood, chair) Please look over the scrapbooks. I stayed up late last night trying to get them caught up. If anyone has anything to include in the books, please send it to me.

**Professional Improvement** – (Sharon Williams, chair) We want to remind everyone of the Secretarial Certification Program that we can participate in. Secretaries can take classes at the community colleges or NCSU. We’d like to encourage secretaries to apply for the NCCESA Professional Improvement Scholarship. If anyone runs across any educational information that will help secretaries, let us know. We encourage you to take more computer training programs to enhance your work. We would like to encourage everyone to check online for helpful class and trainings that will help us in our job performance.

**Rules and Bylaws** – (Susan Graham, chair) No Report

**Secretary of the Year** – (Devona Beard, chair) The deadline is July 1, 2007. We encourage all to nominate a deserving secretary. Winner receives a plaque and \$50. The form can be found on our website.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**2006 State Meeting Follow-up** – Starla Harwood commented that the state meeting went well. They really liked the banquet being separate from the other activities. Received nothing but good comments regarding the food. Sharon Williams said the hotel was very accommodating.

**Dues Increase by E-mail** –Due to our State Association dues being increased by \$5 at the September 2006 state meeting, the NCCESA-SC officers recommended that we raise our district dues to reflect the \$5 increase in dues so our association would not have to shoulder the extra dues expense. Devona Beard made the motion that we increase NCCESA-SC dues from \$25 to \$30 and vote by e-mail. Susan Graham seconded this motion. An e-mail was sent to all association members on October 18, 2006 by Kay Morton, President. A reply was requested by 5:00 pm on October 19 with your vote. Votes were tallied and the results were yes-26, 0-no. Dues were increased from \$25 to \$30 effective immediately.

## NEW BUSINESS

**District Retirement Guideline Changes** – Rhonda Gaster made a motion to change the District Retirement Guidelines:

**Current:** An engraved gift in the \$40 to \$60 price range to include name, association name, and dates of service to be purchased by someone in the retiree's county and/or Executive Board and be presented at the next district meeting after retirement. Not all retirement gifts can be engraved; therefore, it was decided that retirement gifts will be engraved when appropriate.

**Proposed:** An engraved gift in the \$40 to \$60 price range to include name, association name, and dates of service to be purchased by someone in the retiree's county and/or Executive Board and be presented to the retiree by current District President or Executive Board member at the retirement reception or the next district meeting if no reception is given. Not all retirement gifts can be engraved; therefore, it was decided that retirement gifts will be engraved when appropriate.

Devona Beard seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

**Host Meeting Suggestion** - Susan Johnson suggested that the next host county should double check with the other associations to make sure the meeting dates are not the same. It may cause a hardship in the office if too many people are away at one time.

**Retiree Recognition** - Kay presented Pearl Blount with a small token of appreciation from the association with 39 years of service.

Thetis Williams also retired with 34 years of service. She was unable to attend the meeting today.

**Invitation – 2007 Fall Meeting** - Chatham County will host the fall meeting. Information will be sent at a later date.

**Announcements** – Kay encouraged members to nominate a deserving secretary for one of the following awards:

- Secretary of the Year Award
- Sue Mills Lighthouse Award
- NCCESA Executive Board Award
- NCCESA Professional Improvement Scholarship
- Secretary Awards of Excellence
  - Technology and Utilization
  - Special Leadership

All applications are located on the NCCESA website.

**NCCESA State Meeting** – September 20-21, 2007, Kill Devil Hills, NC

Half & Half Drawing was won by Cindy Vann of Harnett County.

The meeting was adjourned.