

# TASCOE TALES



WINTER 2025/2026 EDITION

## IMPORTANT DATES:

April 9-11, 2026  
Cajun Surf & Turf Rally  
(NEA, MWA, SEA)

April 19-22, 2026  
Far West Rally  
(NWA & SWA)



[www.tascoe.org](http://www.tascoe.org)

# President's Report

BY JOHN TYSON

Closing out 2025, ringing in 2026!

I hope you have found time to make memories with those you love over the last few months/holiday. Between the furlough, new programs, and other work obstacles it can be challenging to "leave it at the office". We have faced many challenges this year but have persevered and 2025 is in the rear-view mirror.

New year, new focus!

As we prepare for the new year, I wanted to take this time to reflect on where we are as an Association. With the DRP and other retirements we knew membership would take a hit. The Executive Committee alongside our Membership Co-Chairs have been monitoring this for months. We have set a goal to be at 70% membership by the NASCOE Convention. With our current staffing levels, we would need 33 new members. This can sound like a very large task but with 15 districts, it is my hope that gaining at least 2 per district we can achieve this goal, together.

Do you hear what I hear?

We want to hear from you, the members. We have lots of ideas on how to bring the spark back to TASCOE but hearing from you would be so beneficial. What have you heard from non-members? What are you hearing from members? Can we improve the association in any way?

I look forward to what 2026 has in store for this Association and please reach out if you have any questions, suggestions, or just need a chat.

Thank you,

John Tyson  
TASCOE President





# *Vice President's Report*

BY APRIL M. COWLING

Dear TASCOE Members,

Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! Whew! What a whirlwind!

My name is April M. Cowling, and I am the TASCOE Vice President. I have been an employee with FSA for almost 20 year, 2 ½ of those being temporary years. I became a member of TASCOE as soon as I became a permanent employee in November 2008. I have been TASCOE District 7 Director for 4 years and Memorial Program Co-Chair for 2 years.

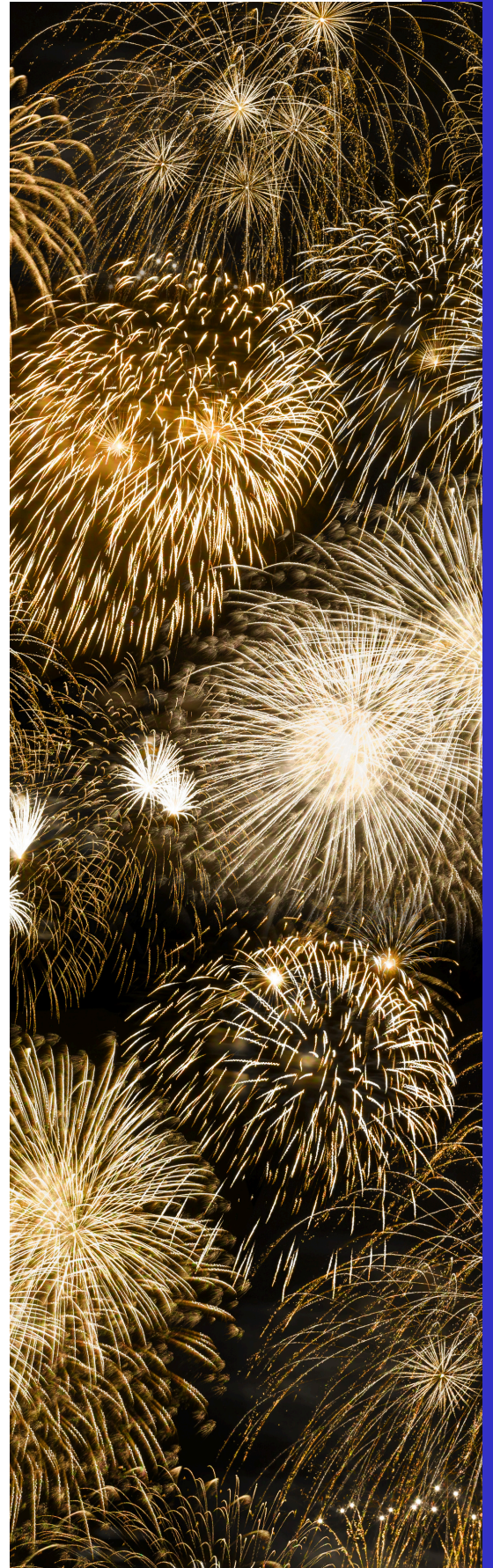
Chance Fenoglio told me I needed to attend a convention to put faces to the names of other county employees I was working with and to have some fun. The first convention I attended was in Dallas in 2009. I was pregnant with my first child, attending convention with so many people I didn't know, but immediately felt at home with my work family. Wayne Lyssy and Jeannine P. Wendel were among the first 2 people I met. The TASCOE family is one I want to continue to grow, and we need passionate people involved for that to happen.

There are huge shoes to fill from the Executive Committees that have come before me as they have made TASCOE the best it can be. I look forward to continuing their leadership and legacy.

Looking forward to serving TASCOE to the best of my ability!

Sincerely and respectfully.

April M Cowling



# BENEFITS CHAIR REPORT

Hi everyone! My name is Taylor Ancinec, and I am the TASCOE Benefits Committee Chair. I am the County Executive Director in Falls County and have been with the agency since 2018. I currently live in Temple with my husband Barrett and our 18 month old daughter Parker! As always be sure to look over the benefits offered to TASCOE members on the TASCOE website. If you are still looking to book your summer travels, Working Advantage offers a range of benefits from hotels, flights, and theme parks! Just email me for the code and you can set up an account. We also have a benefit as NASCOE members of Live Streaming Fitness for a discounted rate. If you are looking for an insurance quote, please be sure to contact AgWorkers Insurance. My committee will now be covering the Emblems Store. Please be sure to reach out to any one of us if you have any questions, or ideas of new benefits we can look into for our members! Have a great year!

Taylor Ancinec  
Benefits Chair

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# MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT

What a year has it been! This was our first year as Membership Chairs and we have learned so much in a short amount of time. The past year had its share of changes and eventful times, and we have successfully navigated each challenge as it arose. We have consistently worked on improving the management records of new and existing membership as well as timely enrollment of new members

Our current membership is approximately 61%. We have gained several new members throughout the year but with retirements that have gone on, our membership has dropped some this past year.

Our current focus is to work on new membership materials and strategies to utilize and distribute when the hiring freeze has lifted and we are able to recruit new employees as well as existing nonmembers throughout the state. We look forward to a new and prosperous year for TASCOE.

Thank you for allowing us to serve as your membership chairs.

Alissa Limon

Shayla Peters

TASCOE Membership Chairs



# COAC CHAIR REPORT

Hello TASCOE members!

The County Committee (COC) structure is the backbone of our agency and NASCOE continues to work with NAFEC thru the COAC to preserve the importance of the COC system and promote COAC membership. The COAC plays a vital role in the ongoing working relationship between NAFEC, county office employees and COC. That relationship is supported by you and your COC support with membership.

The COAC's mission is to protect, enhance, and provide continual education for the farmer-elected committee and county office system for the betterment of NASCOE's membership, county office FSA employees, and the agricultural communities we serve while working independently, but cooperatively, with the National Association of Farmer-Elected Committees (NAFEC). To achieve this mission, we as county office employees encourage membership!

The COAC fully represents Communication, Cooperation, Collaboration and Community and as we continue to strengthen NASCOE through COAC and NAFEC with roles and responsibilities from all participating together. I also encourage each of you to get involved and get the word out of the importance of the COC and NAFEC to the future of FSA. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, concerns or comments you may have regarding the COAC.

Thank you,  
Lori LeBlue  
COAC Chairperson



# PUBLICITY CHAIR REPORT

Howdy TASCOE!

This past year was a whirlwind, to say the least. With all the changes we've seen across our offices, districts, the state and the nation, one thing remains the same, our dedication to the producers that we serve in our offices. Thank you all for your resolve and commitment to FSA. As one of the fortunate that gets to serve in a leadership position with our employee association, I want to assure and reinforce that TASCOE is just as dedicated to you as you are to our producers. If there is ever anything that I can do to assist any one of you please let me know. I am always here to lend help, give advice, or be a listening ear.

The Publicity Committee has been doing its best to stay on top of all things to keep our membership informed. From social media, Tales, and email blasts I strive to get the information to everyone out as quickly and complete as possible. I hope that everyone finds the information informative and enjoys seeing the updates on our friends across the state. Receiving all your joys and highlights to share in Tales is one of the biggest highlights of this position! If ever anyone has any suggestions on ways that we can improve communication or publicity, please let me know. I am open to any and all suggestions.

This past year Publicity published 4 issues of TASCOE Tales, sent multiple emails, made numerous Facebook posts, maintained the website, and prepared many documents for convention and more. For the upcoming year plans are to make more updates to the website to give it a good refresh and to look into alternative email databases that will coordinate the needs of our association while taking into account costs and benefits.

Being able to serve this organization for another year has been an honor and privilege. I thank the Executive Committee for their faith in my work in this position and thanks to my committee for all their help and advice. I truly enjoy serving as Publicity Chair and the opportunity to help make our organization successful.

Thank you,

Dawn Hoffmann  
Publicity Committee Chair



# SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR REPORT

J&J here...

This year we were overly joyed to have 8 applicants for scholarships.

The below 7 are our 2025 recipients:

Avery Hughes ~ daughter of Jeremy Hughes (Liberty-Hardin-Chambers Co.)

Benjamin Burk ~ son of Michelle Singleton (Throckmorton Co.)

Celeste Pawelek ~ daughter of Steven Pawelek (Austin-Washington Co.)

Jake Hruska ~ son of Jed Hruska (Reagan-Crockett-Irion-Upton Co.)

Jessa Burk ~ daughter of Michelle Singleton (Throckmorton Co.)

Raelynn Welsh ~ daughter of Renee Giesenhagen (Hunt Co.)

Yahaira Hernandez~daughter of Griselda Hernandez (El Paso-Culberson-Hudspeth Co.)

We have worked with the EC and created the following scholarship policy:

No more than 6 TASCOE Scholarships will be awarded annually &

Selection of recipients will be based on judging scores.

Since this is policy and not an amendment to the by-laws, this can be changed by EC/scholarship chairs. If the availability of funds is a concern, this policy may be changed and the policy will be updated. Any additional scholarships presented are not official TASCOE scholarships and not part of the designated funds set forth in this policy. This updated policy will be added to the next release of Chair Duties/responsibilities

We are excited to begin reviewing the 2026 scholarship submissions and see all the hard working students you all have around the state.

All the best, yall

Jennifer Cochran & Jordyn Higgs  
(scholarship co-chairs)

# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## SCHLEICHER-SUTTON-VAL VERDE COUNTY

**Bailee Capuchin's birthday was celebrated at the county office. They made sure to make her big day known by decorating her desk!**

## MEDINA COUNTY

**The Medina County office celebrated Christmas and welcomed Alejandra Salas to their team!**





# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## MATAGORDA COUNTY

**Jillian Diaz, daughter of PA-Jerrell Diaz, turned 6 years old! She also received A-B Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks of school!**

## LAVACA/GONZALES COUNTY

**The Hines Family attended the Texas A&M vs South Carolina football game. Dawna is the CED in Lavaca and Gonzales Counties. Whoop!**





# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## GUADALUPE COUNTY

Allie Aguilar kicked off her Senior year at New Braunfels High School! Allie is the daughter of Guadalupe County CED Albert Aguilar and wife Linda.



## CORYELL COUNTY

Arianna Yochum, Coryell County CED, and daughter Avery made the nice list when Santa visited Hamilton!



# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## LAVACA COUNTY

Baylee Decker, daughter of Lavaca County PA Courtney Decker, was crowned Young Miss Shiner and Miss Photogenic at the 2025 Shiner Royalty Pageant. Baylee is enjoying riding in parades and representing her town!

## JACKSON COUNTY

David John, husband of Jackson County PA-Tristin Kallus, is a coach for the Edna Cowboys. They had a great run in football this year, making it all the way to the State Championship, narrowly being defeated by LLano by 3 points.





# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## MATAGORDA COUNTY

Kally Jo Felcman, CED, and husband Cam welcomed Quincy Jo into the world on November 20<sup>th</sup>. She was 7 pounds 11 ounces and is one happy, healthy spoiled rotten girl!



## CORYELL COUNTY

On Halloween, Officer Avery came across two Cattle Rustlers and had to call in for backup from the Texas Cattle Rangers. Avery is the daughter of Coryell County CED, Arianna Yochum.





# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County PA, Tristin Kallus, and daughter Presley did some hunting this fall. They took out some hogs and tagged out a 9 point buck!



## COLORADO COUNTY

Clay Hoffmann (pictured bottom right), son of Colorado County CED-Dawn Hoffmann, earned 5<sup>th</sup> place in Number Sense at UIL District Contest.



# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## CORYELL COUNTY

The Yocham family helped light the Evant Christmas Tree in Evant. The whole town gathered to sing Christmas Carols around the tree.

## COLORADO COUNTY

Kylee Hoffmann, daughter of Colorado County CED-Dawn Hoffmann, earned Reserve Champion Breeding Goat at the Schulenburg Jr. Livestock Show. She was also awarded Showmanship for Breeding Goats!





# TALES FROM THE TRAIL...

Happenings from our friends around the state!



## LAVACA COUNTY

Wyatt and Baylee both won Grand Champion Broiler and Goat in the Shiner Junior Livestock show in November. They are the son and daughter of Lavaca County PA, Courtney Decker and her husband Tim.





VISIT OUR ORGANIZATION WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR FOLLOW US ALL ON FACEBOOK!!



[www.tascoe.org](http://www.tascoe.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Texas-association-of-FSA-County-Office-Employees/188526634494360>

[www.nafecfsa.com](http://www.nafecfsa.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/fsacountycommittees/>



[www.nascoe.org](http://www.nascoe.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/NASCOENews/>

## TASCOE Executive Board

**John Tyson**

**President**

**Johnson-Bosque Counties CED**

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**April M. Cowling**

**Vice-President**

**Wise County PA**

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**Veronica Crum**

**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Fort Bend County CED**

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# **DISTRICT DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES**

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## **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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