

NCDEA Update

The NCDEA national board met for three days May 31, June 1 and 2 to address a full slate of business. The minutes of the three day session and regional reports will be shared when approved by the board. A few highlights should be shared.

The first Don Aron Scholarship was approved as a part of this meeting. Fourteen excellent applications were received. A three member panel of board members served as the jury for this first round of applications. Thanks go to Ann Spake, Sharon Underwood, and Jeri Trebelcock, who did a great job!

The board also participated in an excellent training session provided by Sharon Ruggi, President of the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils.

This was our first meeting with our new slate of NCDEA officers and some new regional board members. Past president Bob Dobbs still a member of the board participated throughout the session and made the transition a smooth one.

NACD treasurer John Redding gave us an in depth report and update on NACD activities. As usual he was a great addition to our meeting. On one item regarding committee membership the board decided to send John a letter outlining support and suggestions for NCDEA non voting membership. On a second item the board agreed to be a co sponsor along with NASCA, and NARC&DC's of the NACD legislative reception in the Capitol in Washington, D.C. July 24th.

A new board member orientation handbook was approved as developed by a board committee.

An extensive finance and funding report was made and the board adopted a forward looking and proactive set of actions to keep the NCDEA on a continually improving financial status.

Finally the board closed out the session on Saturday by beginning a process of updating the current strategic plan. More will follow on this action as we progress through the year.

Just a preliminary reminder to start getting your Outstanding District Professional and Outstanding District Official candidate applications ready for submission. All applications must be sent to NCDEA Regional Representatives by October 1. Martha Newby from Kentucky was last year's Outstanding District Professional,

and Andy Jackson from Florida was the Outstanding District Official recipient. Two well deserving candidates! I know there are more out there; take the time today to start on this process.

NCDEA will be publishing a cookbook in the near future. Details will be forthcoming, but we would like all those wonderful cooks out there to dig out their best recipes. Sharon Underwood, South Central Regional Representative, is our cookbook committee chair, and she has promised submitting recipes will be an easy process.

I hope you are all able to take some time off in the next couple of months to relax and enjoy friends and family. Happy summer!

Cindy Moon, President