



KACDE “Kentucky Shines”

Greetings fellow district employees:

This year is passing fast. Every day seems to go by more swiftly than the last. I can remember, as a child, I thought I would never become eighteen. It seems like ever since my eighteenth birthday each year has gotten shorter.

This is the way my term as President of KACDE has been. Here we are half way through the first year of my second term. I am sure the rest of my term in office will continue to fly. Time goes by fast when you are busy and KACDE is very active.

I want to share with you the many things that we are working on and trying to accomplish. To achieve this goal, I plan on sending KACDE “KENTUCKY SHINES” each month following our meeting.

Because of our many activities the governing board meets monthly. To save on travel expenses and to keep officers and Area Representatives informed of all activities, a conference call is held on Tuesday following the board meeting each month. This call is for those not able to attend the monthly meeting. Your Area Rep. can give you details on our accomplishments if you would like more facts.

Here are a few things we are working on at the present:

Directory

The District Employee Photo Directory is being updated. We hope to have the new one out by the end of February. If you have employee changes, please let us know as soon as possible so the directory will be accurate. All members will receive a free copy. If you have not sent your photo in please do so soon.

KACDE will also be working with NCDEA on a National Employees Directory.

Recognizing District Employees:

KY Shine Award

KACDE wants employees to be acknowledged for “a job well done”! In October we began a new award call the “KY Shine Award”. Each Area Representative will nominate a recipient from their area in an assigned

month. This person will receive recognition from the KACDE Awards committee. In July, anyone may nominate someone for this award. If you know someone that you think deserves this award, please nominate them during July. Each recipient will be recognized at the KACDE luncheon which will be held at the KACD Convention.

Employee Choice Award

This award will be presented as a State Award. This Award will be chosen from the nominees of the KY Shine Award that are willing to complete an application for this award and anyone else that would like to be recognized for the state award. The winner of the Employee Choice Award will also be submitted for Regional Competition. If there is an employee or Supervisor that you think should be considered for this award and you want them to be recognized for their hard work, please take the application from the KACDE website (www.kacde.org) or contact Wanda Gilbert, Awards Committee Chair, from Cumberland Co. for an application.

Get Moving Kentucky Award

Coni Meador from Hart County won the “Get Moving Kentucky Award”. Coni attended the annual State Convention at Jabez, Kentucky and started walking for her health. The goal was to walk more than her competitors. Coni walked 447,769 steps during the time of the competition!!! She will receive a \$25.00 gift card from Wal-Mart and several other neat gifts for her efforts. Congratulations Coni!



KACDE officials present Coni (front left) with a plaque, a \$25 gift certificate from Wal-Mart, a trophy and a goody bag for her hard work!

National Employee Choice Award

Stephanie, Martha and I traveled to Los Angeles for the NACD Convention in February. We attended the NCDEA luncheon where our “Martha” was honored as this year’s National “Employee” of the year. This was the first time an employee from Kentucky has received this award!! Great job, Martha - You have made KY Shine!

This award was well deserved. Martha has worked for the Conservation District for thirty plus years. She is always willing to go the extra mile to get the job done. We are extremely proud of her and so delighted that she has been honored on the national level!

Award Plaque

KACDE is purchasing a plaque with plates engraved with the name of the State “Employee Choice Award” winner listed for each year. That year’s winner will have the honor of displaying the plaque in their office until the new winner receives it the following year.

New Project

Benevolence Committee

KACDE is constantly trying to find ways to help district employees. This is in the form of training, moral support or networking.

We are in the process of creating a Benevolence Committee. Terri Shaw and Tom Karnser, Franklin County and Debbie Eubank, Union County will be on this committee.

This committee will determine and implement fundraising ideas to start this project. Donations will also be accepted and appreciated. More details of the procedures will be provided when we have collected enough funds to start this endeavor. We are developing guidelines and procedures that will be sent to the committee at the end of the month.

Thanks



KACDE officers, Linda Smith (left) and Linda Russell (right) presented a donation on behalf of KACDE to Paula Waters (center). Paula suffered a tragic loss in November when fire destroyed her home.

I am so proud to say that you were very generous when you sent money to help Paula Waters after her home burnt. Linda Russell, Taylor County, and I met with Paula before Christmas and presented her with your generous gift. Paula was very appreciative of everyone's help. Thank you for helping her out in her time of need. We delivered \$350.00 to Paula and her family.

We hope the Benevolence Committee will be a good source for hardships such as this in the near future.

Fundraiser



Flower Bulbs - We will be taking orders for flower bulbs for the spring. Area Representatives have been given brochures with perennial and annual flowers.

Area Representatives should have received these brochures and sent out information to you already. If you have not received this info contact your Area Rep or visit the KACDE website for details: www.kacde.org . Please place your order with your Area Rep. by March 31st.

Cookbook

As you know the cookbook has been a work in progress for quiet some time. In July that project was completed. We are so proud of our "Cookin in the Country" Cookbook. It has many delicious recipes from districts across the whole state of Kentucky. If you would like to purchase one or more, please let me know or visit the website. Cookbooks are \$15.00 each.

Annual State Convention

KACDE State Convention

We have already started planning this year's state convention. Workshops are being determined and speakers are being contacted and confirmed. We are so excited about some "Hands on" activities that are being considered this year. A brochure with a tentative schedule will be mailed out soon. **Please remember to budget for this training and District Sponsorship for this educational program.**

We will be asking District's to help sponsor these workshops again this year. We hope your district will see the need for this training and participate.

NCDEA News

KACDE was well represented in Los Angeles, CA this year. Stephanie Young (Boyd County) worked registration and Martha Newby (Woodford County) and I worked on the NCDEA fundraisers. I have been asked to serve on two National Committees this year. I will be serving on a committee to develop procedures for the “removal of a national officer”. I have also agreed to serve on the National Employees Award Committee for next year. I am so honored to serve on these committees.

Educational Note

Cindy King, Past KACDE President, would like to share a website for everyone that is interested in new ideas for your education program. Please check out this website. www.greenteacher.com . We will put it as a link on the KACDE Website for future use also.

Email

We have developed a new list of emails for each area. If you do not receive emails from Your KACDE Area Rep. please let us know so we can make sure you are on our list.

SECDEA Challenge

Kentucky, along with all other Southeast States was challenged by Mississippi DEA to donate \$100.00 to the SECDEA Benevolence Fund. Kentucky accepted that challenge and I also gave \$100.00 and challenged all state officers and the SECDEA governing board to donate funds for this very worthwhile project. I know all donations will be appreciated.

Tulsa Conservation District in Florida was hit by a tornado in February. The building was destroyed. KACDE sent care packages to ease their heavy load at this time. This is an excellent example of the need for the Benevolence program.

In Memory of

KACDE has donated \$50.00 to the Kidney Foundation in memory of David Sawyer, former NRCS State Conservationist. David will be truly missed by all. He worked with KACDE by providing trainers and funding for our annual State Convention. He was also ready to lend a helping hand. His family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Volunteers Needed

If you would like to have an active part in KACDE, please contact me. We are always looking for new ideas and leaders. Maybe you would like to serve on a committee, if so, please email and let me know.

Thanks for all of your help. I hope to provide you with more “KY Shine Updates” soon.

