



President Report

End of Year | July 2025

South Central District

I. District Meeting Dates and Locations:

September 5th, 2024- Cumberland County

Professional Development Program: The *Creative Exhibits for Community Events* program was presented by Lisa Childers and Candy Underwood to help prepare for the upcoming fair season. The group was able to tour their exhibits in action at the Cumberland County Fair.

April 4th, 2025- Gaston County

Professional Development Program: A guest speaker from the Centralina Area Agency on Aging presented on making connections and available resources for programming at local senior centers.

Next meeting date: October 17, 2025- Harnett County

II. Collaborative Programs:

Regional Extension Master Food Volunteer Program Summary From February to June 2025, FCS agents from six counties collaborated to offer a regional Extension Master Food Volunteer (EMFV) Program. Six volunteers participated in a mix of virtual and in-person learning. Two regional meet-ups—at the NC State Plants for Human Health Institute and Linney’s Mill—provided hands-on experiences and built cross-county connections. Counties held individual graduations, with Gaston and Iredell hosting a joint ceremony to highlight collaboration. This program strengthened volunteer capacity and set the stage for a cross-county project in 2026.

SCDECA Leader Lesson Training, a joint effort between Alexander, Iredell, Lee, Stanly, and Union, aims to provide leader lesson training for South Central District Extension & Community Association (NC ECA) leaders, equipping them with essential skills and resources to strengthen their local clubs and communities. The training will focus on leadership development, effective communication, volunteer management, and community engagement strategies, aligning directly with the NC ECA mission of strengthening families and communities through leadership and service. Participants will gain practical knowledge on implementing impactful programs in their counties, such as health and wellness initiatives, food and nutrition education, financial literacy, and intergenerational learning opportunities. The team was awarded an ECA Innovative Grant to help fund the professional development.

III. Membership Updates:

Current Membership: 20 Active, 1 Associate

Retirements: Pam Outen, Cabarrus (Jan 2025) | Linda Minges, Gaston (August 2025)

New Members: Brittany Spangler, Lincoln | Donna Mull, Catawba |

Joining: Suzanne Doad, Cabarrus |



President Report

End of Year | July 2025

South Central District

New Baby: Knox Conor Cowell born July 17th to parents Hayley and Clint Cowell

Professional Development Recognition:

1. Ashley Szilvay: title promotion to Associate Agent
2. Der Holcomb: MS in Nutrition with a focus on Public Health (graduated from Appalachian State University in December 2024)

IV. Other District Happenings:

Over the past year, our membership we reached a final decision on district dues. After a thorough discussion, the membership at large agreed that incorporating district dues would be beneficial, and these changes will take effect in October 2025.

Please review changes to [Policies and Procedures and Bylaws](#), which outline the statements that will be incorporated into our newly adopted SCDEAFCS Bylaws and Policies & Procedures.

Key Updates Effective October 2025:

- South Central District membership dues for all active members will be **\$10**.
- Associate membership district dues will be **\$5**.
- As follows State procedure, District dues will be waived for the first full year.
- District registration fees for spring and fall meetings will not exceed **\$15 per meeting**.

Our membership has also been focused on clarifying the duties of District officers. Working collaboratively, we produced and last updated a comprehensive roles-and-responsibilities document in March 2025 to guide future officers and ensure that every obligation is fulfilled, thereby supporting the effective operation of the association. Please see [here](#)