



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NORTH CAROLINA POULTRY FEDERATION COMMEMORATES 2026 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNERS
AND NEW BOARD ELECTION AT ANNUAL MEETING**

North Carolina Poultry Federation

Greensboro, N.C., October 12, 2026 – the North Carolina Poultry Federation (NCPF of “the Federation”) recently concluded its Annual Meeting at the Grandover Resort & Conference Center, bringing together poultry industry leaders, growers, allied industry partners, and stakeholders from across North Carolina for two days of networking, education, and celebration. This was the 59th Annual Meeting of the Federation and included the election of the 2026-2027 Board of Directors and an Awards Banquet honoring this year’s environmental award winners. With record attendance, this year’s meeting boasted a golf tournament – both 2-man and 4-man scrambles – as well as a sporting clays tournament and evening entertainment by Bourbon & Sons band.

A key highlight of the meeting was the unveiling of NCPF's new Strategic Plan, which outlines the Federation's priorities and strategic direction for the future. Leadership shared new initiatives focused on strengthening advocacy, increasing member engagement, enhancing communications, and positioning North Carolina's poultry industry for continued growth and success. During the Federation's annual business meeting, members also installed the 2026-2027 Board of Directors and Executive Officers.

"This year's meeting reflected the strength and momentum of our industry," said NCPF Board President Art Lankford. "From unveiling our strategic vision for the future to recognizing outstanding growers and industry leaders, the Annual Meeting showcased the very best of North Carolina poultry and the people who make our industry successful."

One of the meeting's most anticipated events was the presentation of the Federation's Environmental Stewardship Awards, which recognizes poultry growers who represent the highest standards of environmental responsibility, farm management, and community involvement. This year's competition produced a historic first, with judges awarding dual Environmental Stewardship Award winners following a tie for the top honor, along with a First Runner-Up recipient. Outgoing board President Tim Thomas in conjunction with 2026-2027 President Art Lankford presented the awards to this year’s recipients. The Environmental Award was presented to both Morrison Farms & Barber Brothers Farms. Dustin & Camrey Morrison of Morrison Farms, LLC. is a broiler producer in Moore County, N.C. with Mountaire Farms. Jacob, Gabriel, and Luke Barber of Barber Brother Farms, Inc. are turkey producers in Bladen County, NC with Prestage Farms. First runner-up was presented to Frankie & Edie Spivey of Spivey Farms, LLC a broiler producer in Lee County, N.C. with Perdue Farms. All three farms exemplify the excellence, innovation, and

stewardship that define North Carolina's poultry industry and serve as outstanding examples of modern poultry production.

In addition to celebrating this year's accomplishments, NCPF announced that its 2027 Annual Meeting will be held in Beaufort, North Carolina, where members will gather to celebrate the Federation's 60th Anniversary, commemorating six decades of advocacy, leadership, and service to the state's poultry industry.

NCPF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNERS: MORRISON FARMS LLC. & BARBER BROS. INC.



Dustin & Camrey Morrison



Pictured L to R: Gabriel, Luke & Jacob Barber

NCPF 1ST RUNNER UP ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNER: SPIVEY FARMS



Pictured left-to-right: Edie Spivey, Frankie Spivey, Chesley Johnson, and Kelli White

The Past President's Award was presented to Tim Thomas, Butterball, by incoming NCPF President, Art Lankford, Butterball.



Art Lankford (right) presents Tim Thomas (left) with Past President's Award.

Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Chuck Snipes of Amlan International & Randy Kivett for their many years of service to the NC Poultry Federation in running their Annual Meeting golf tournaments.



Pictured Left-to-right: Chuck Snipes & Randy Kivett

The third quarter business meeting of the North Carolina Poultry Federation was held on September 30, 2026, where the new Board of Directors were installed. The 2026-2027 Executive Board members are: President, Art Lankford of Butterball, 1st Vice President, Matthew Wooten of Wayne Sanderson Farms, 2nd Vice President, Zach Evans of Mountaire Farms, Secretary-Treasurer, Kris Torbert of Braswell Family Farms, and Tim Thomas of Butterball, Immediate Past President.

2026 – 2027 NCPF EXECUTIVE BOARD



Pictured left-to-right: Zach Evans, Tim Thomas, Matthew Wooten, Art Lankford, and Kris Torbert

Board Members for 2026- 2027 include: Micah Abernathy of Pilgrim's Pride, Chandler Adams representing the Carolina Feed Association, Andrew Boyles of Tyson Foods; Jacob Caviness representing the Breeder Hatchery Association, Tommy Furlough of Cal-Maine Foods, , Jeff Hancock of Unicon, Inc., Cowan Johnson of House of Raeford, ViviAnn Johnson of House of Raeford, James Lee of Circle-S-Ranch, Clay Lindley of Perdue Farms, Dr. Armando Mirande of Mountaire Farms, Jon Pope of Jonathan Pope Farms, Tommy Porter, Jr. of Porter Farms, Max Prestage of Prestage Farms, Alex Simpson of Simpson's Eggs, Kevin Taylor of Case Farms, Jessica Tilley of Perdue Farms, Scott Vanhoy or Perdue Farms, Mark Whitt of International Paper.

NCPF SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT WINNER



Pictured L to R: Gabe Purvis, Mitchell Faulkner, and Jake Vuncannon

NCPF GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNER – FOUR-MAN SCRAMBLE



Pictured L to R: Kevin Taylor, Jason Smith, and Jim Love. Not pictured: Blake Rigdon

NCPF GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNER – TWO-MAN SCRAMBLE



Pictured: Bradley Billings & Corey Roberts

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Since 1968, the North Carolina Poultry Federation has represented the state's chicken, turkey, and egg industries through advocacy, education, and industry coordination. The Federation is committed to promoting a favorable business environment for poultry producers and processors across the state.

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If you would like more information about this appointment, please visit www.ncpoultry.org or contact Valerie Sherman, vsherman@ncpoultry.org.