



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OCTOBER 13, 2025

**NORTH CAROLINA POULTRY FEDERATION COMMEMORATES 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNERS  
AND NEW BOARD ELECTION AT ANNUAL MEETING**

North Carolina Poultry Federation

**Greensboro, N.C., October 13, 2025** – The North Carolina Poultry Federation (NCPF) held its annual meeting at the Grandover Resort & Conference Center on October 1-3. This was the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Federation and included the election of the 2025-2026 Board of Directors, an Awards Banquet honoring this year’s environmental award winners as well as retiring Executive Director Robert L. Ford. 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 “The Johnson Boy’s” band.

“This year’s event marked several important milestones for the Federation, including recognizing our growers and leadership transitions within NCPF and its Board. It’s always rewarding to honor growers—the often unsung heroes of our industry—and we had some outstanding candidates this year. We also celebrated our longtime Executive Director, Bob Ford, who will retire at the end of the year, and welcomed our incoming Executive Director, Summer Lanier. Finally, I’m honored to have accepted the role of President and look forward to leading the Board of Directors in the coming year,” said newly elected President Tim Thomas.

Each year, the Federation’s membership comes together to celebrate the individuals who keep our industry strong and thriving by awarding our annual Environmental Stewardship Award. This award recognizes growers who exemplify best practices, actively engage in their communities, and demonstrate a deep commitment to environmental sustainability. Outgoing board President Cowan Johnson presented the awards to this year’s recipients. The winner of this year’s award was Bradley and Kay Leigh Parker of Parker’s Island Creed Farms – a broiler producer in Duplin County, N.C. with House of Raeford Farms. First runner-up was presented to Dan and Sonya Andrews and their son Tyler of Faith Farms – a broiler producer in Robeson County, N.C. with Mountaire Farms.

**NCPF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNER: PARKER'S ISLAND CREEK FARMS**



*Pictured Left to Right: Cowan Johnson, Sherri Teachey, Kay Leigh Parker, Bradley Parker, Cathy Sholar, and Joe Sholar*

**NCPF 1<sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD WINNER: FAITH FARMS**



*Pictured left-to-right: Armando Mirande, Aaron McCaskill, Sonya Andrews, Dan Andrews, Tyler Andrews, Gerald White, Keith McDonald, Joshua Holt, and Zach Evans*



In addition to grower recognition, the North Carolina Poultry Federation honored its longtime leader, Robert L. Ford, Executive Director, to commemorate his retirement after 21 years of dedicated service.



*Robert L. Ford (right), Executive Director, and his wife, Linda (left).*

The Past President's Award was presented to Cowan Johnson, House of Raeford, by incoming NCPF President, Tim Thomas of Butterball LLC.



*Tim Thomas (left) presents Cowan Johnson (right) with Past President's Award.*



The third quarter business meeting of the North Carolina Poultry Federation was held on October 3, 2025, where the new Board of Directors were installed. The 2025-2026 Executive Board members are: President, Tim Thomas of Butterball, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Art Lankford of Butterball, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Matthew Wooten of Wayne-Sanderson Farms, Secretary-Treasurer, Zach Evans of Mountaire Farms, and Cowan Johnson, Immediate Past President.

#### 2025 – 2026 NCPF EXECUTIVE BOARD



*Pictured left-to-right: 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Art Lankford of Butterball, President, Tim Thomas of Butterball, Immediate Past President, Cowan Johnson of House of Raeford, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Matthew Wooten of Wayne-Sanderson Farms, and Secretary-Treasurer, Zach Evans of Mountaire Farms.*

Board Members for 2025- 2026 include: Micah Abernathy of Pilgrim's Pride, Chandler Adams representing the Carolina Feed Association, Dr. Brandon Armwood of Pilgrim's Pride, Andrew Boyles of Tyson Foods; Jacob Caviness representing the Breeder Hatchery Association, Clay Lindley of Perdue Farms, Tommy Furlough of Cal-Maine Foods, Jeff Hancock of Unicon, Inc., Todd Huneycutt of Huneycutt Brothers LP, Willie Jervis of Braswell Family Farms, Bob Johnson of House of Raeford, James Lee of Circle-S-Ranch, Dr. Armando Mirande of Mountaire Farms, Jon Pope of Jonathan Pope Farms, Tommy Porter, Jr. of Porter Farms, Scott 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, and Mark Whitt of International Paper.

## NCPF SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT WINNERS



*Pictured Left to Right: Jake Vuncannon- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Josh Lemons-1<sup>st</sup> Place, not pictured Wes Smith-3<sup>rd</sup> Place*

## NCPF GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNER – FOUR MAN SCRAMBLE



*Pictured Left to Right: Rob McKee, Neal Walsh, Chad Lawrence, and Barrett Barker*

## NCPF GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNER – TWO MAN SCRAMBLE



*Pictured: Chandler Brazeal and Jonathan Brazeal*

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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](http://www.ncpoultry.org) or contact Valerie Sherman, [vsherman@ncpoultry.org](mailto:vsherman@ncpoultry.org).