

# MACAA Newsletter

Spring Newsletter

## **A message from our President..... David Whitson**

2003 has been an interesting year here in SW Missouri, and I am sure you have all had your challenges with reduced staff and the weather. We just received another 8-10 inch snowfall and it looks like the week will bring challenges for travel and programs across state.

There are several challenges facing us as an association. I had hoped that we would be able to have a time to meet during the April ANR meeting. It looks really packed, but I hope that on Wednesday evening during the dinner own your own we can plan to meet somewhere for dinner and a short meeting. The Missouri Association will be providing the break for Tuesday morning at the National meeting. **There is a committee composed of Joe Koenen, Bruce Beck, Eldon Cole and Mary Sobba to organize the break.** They will need your help to seek donations of items that can be served fresh from the table. Items such as packaged candy, cookies, jerky or pastries. Fruit, beverages and perhaps others will be appreciated.

Mary Sobba and I attended the North Central meeting of JCEP (Joint Council of Extension Professionals) meeting in Kansas City in early February. The NACAA group met for 2 days with a lot of attention to business.

There was a lot of discussion concerning future meetings. Michigan has announced that it is going to bid for the 2007 meeting. National President Steve Munk talked about the NACAA and the Galaxy III, which, is now open for bids for 2008. For us older folks, Galaxy was a ford car of the 60's and 70's. But to extension professionals it is a joint annual meeting of the different members of JCEP, which, has been held every 5 years without the support of the NACAA.

Since NACAA has a different type of annual meeting than the other organizations, there has not been a lot of support to join in with the other groups in the past. Our annual meeting is unique in that spouse and kids have activities at the annual meeting. We generally meet during the summer so that they can attend. We also have activities planned for retired members. If we were to join with the group, most members feel that we would want to maintain those activities as well as the professional improvement tours and programs. We sense that it is back to a situation that most regions except the south support the idea of giving Galaxy a try.

Leadership opportunities for Missouri members will be available in the near and distant future. We have discussed making another bid for the national meeting some time in the

future and we might be looking around to see if we have someone who might be interested in running for national office. I believe that secretary and treasure positions will both be open this year. Missouri will be electing a vice director in 2008 to serve through the year 2011. Election of national vice president will be for north central in 2004 and 2008. The years of 2003 and 2007 are open to all regions..

A good place to start in leadership is to serve as a committee chair or vice chair. If you attend the national meeting on a regular basis you will find that this is an opportunity to become involved. Vice chairs receive reimbursement of their registration for serving, chairs have a higher level of commitment and receive travel and lodging.

**Openings for 2003-2004 are listed in the recent County Agent Magazine. I will try to list them here for you.** *(Any of our MACAA members are eligible and encouraged to apply for these positions.)*

**Professional Improvement Council**

- \*\* Animal Science - Vice Chair NC Region
- \*\* Horticulture - Vice Chair NC Region

**Extension Development Council**

- \*\* Early Career Development Vice Chair NC Region
- \*\* Administrative Skills Development Vice Chair NC Region

**Program Recognition Council-**

- \*\* Professional Excellence Vice Chair NC Region
- \*\* 4-H and Youth -Vice Chair NC Region

**Committee Chairs open to general membership**

- \*\* Communication
- \*\* Scholarship
- \*\* 4-H Youth
- \*\* Extension Programs.

*\*\* position that is open*

**Contact David Whitson for applications.**

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**Websites of Interest:**

**Our website MACAA**      [<http://outreach.missouri.edu/macaa/>](http://outreach.missouri.edu/macaa/)

**Wisconsin** (site of the 2003 Professional Improvement Conference & National Annual Meeting) information on the tours already available.

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/nacaa2003/>

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Award Applications are due **SOON**. Awards are due **March 15**. The details are in the County Agent magazine that all of you should have received in the mail.

**Communication Awards** - all categories get submitted to our Missouri State Chairman Kevin Hansen. Follow the directions in the County Agent magazine. There are many categories, so please try submitting some of your work in at least one category. There is lots of good things going on across the state. Let's take a few minutes and submit an entry to show NACAA what is going on in Missouri.

Kevin Hansen; MACAA Communication Chairman  
University Outreach and Extension  
609 Locust  
Chillicothe, Mo. 64601  
660-646-0811  
660-646-5197 - fax

(Note: applications need to be in Kevin's hands by March 15)

**Presentations** - deadline is March 15. Details are on Page 9 of the magazine. This is an opportunity to present your program at the national level.

**Have you lost your magazine and would like to participate?**

- 1) Check the NACAA website, which is linked off our MACAA website. We believe the forms are there, but the website is down this morning for maintenance.
- 2) If that doesn't work. E-mail Mary Sobba today and she will fax out forms Saturday morning. Be sure to include a fax number in the e-mail, and what type of application you need.