

MAEP News

The Newsletter of the Missouri Agricultural Extension Professionals
February 16, 2006

President – Todd Lorenz
President Elect – Parman Green
Secretary – Amie Schleicher
Treasurer - Kevin Hansen

Visit our Webpage at <http://www.extension.missouri.edu/maep/>

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Welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our 2006 membership in the Missouri Agriculture Extension Professionals. We are happy to note that membership is up this year and the activities are increasing within the organization to accommodate our membership. Our mission is to foster professional improvement, develop personal and professional opportunities of Extension professionals and to provide that network of communication with shared interest and goals at the national level. In this newsletter, you will find many ways to get involved at the state and national level to make your involvement with this organization as beneficial and memorable as possible. Due to the short time frame on these applications, I challenge you to take the time out of your busy schedule to read this newsletter in its entirety and become active members in YOUR association. Welcome aboard!

(Todd Lorenz, MAEP President)

NACAA Committee Leadership Positions – Apply by March 1

Let me encourage the Missouri association members to participate in NACAA committees. The committees provide some outstanding professional development at the annual meeting. Involvement allows you to get to know colleagues from other states and when committee members work together the time commitment is often not significant.

A major incentive for participation is the expenses that can be paid for attending the annual meeting. Committee vice-chairs may receive a reimbursement for their registration fees each year and committee chairs receive all expenses paid for attending the annual meeting. This certainly saves on expenses in your state professional improvement allowance.

The following is a list of openings for Council Chair, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs that North Central region members are eligible to apply for in 2006. You can see there are plenty to choose from. If you are interested in participating please let me know ASAP and please make application through the NACAA website at

<http://www.nacaa.com/committees/2006/committeopenings.html>

You will need to submit your applications by the end of this month.

Professional Improvement Council	Region Open To Application	Term
Professional Improvement Council Chair		3 yr term
Agronomy & Pest Management - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Ag Economics & Comm. Dev. - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Natural Resources - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Extension Development Council	Region Open To Application	Term
Public Relations & Ag Issues - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Teaching & Communications - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Program Recognition Council	Region Open To Application	Term
Extension Programs - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Public Relations - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Recognition & Awards - Vice Chair	North Central	2 yr term
Committee Chair Openings	Open to General Membership	Term
Recognition and Awards National Chair		2 yr term
Professional Excellence National Chair		2 yr term
Public Relations National Chair		2 yr term

(Tim Schnakenberg, MAEP Past President)

Add a Shovelful of Spice to Your Professional Development

Are you new to Extension and looking for new ideas? Or are you a seasoned specialist, but feel your programming is in a rut or you've look at the same revolving problems so often that your job is not as exciting and rewarding as it used to be?

Be proactive and join your colleagues and their families at this year's NACAA annual meeting and professional improvement conference (AM/PIC). I am sorry my wife and I waited so long before experiencing this fantastic opportunity for networking with colleagues, exposure to the best and most exciting professional development, and to observe our agricultural industry in various regions of the country. Next to Extension, the NACAA's AM/PIC is our best-kept secret. I am providing you this insider information – but let's just keep it to ourselves – okay?

This year NACAA AM/PIC will be held at Cincinnati, Ohio from July 23rd to July 27th. Reserve these dates on your calendar today!
(Parman R. Green, President Elect)

(FOOTNOTE: You may receive up to \$1500 during your career from the Extension Fellowship program to offset some of the costs of participating in these activities. Details are available at <http://outreach.missouri.edu/staff/awards/fellowship.html>>

Pre AM/PIC Horticulture Tour

On page 3 of your County Agent magazine, is the information regarding the horticulture pre-tour. This tour was not held last year due to lack of funding. We still do not have funding for it, but we are going to have the tour anyway. The Kentucky and Ohio horticulture agents are in the process of planning it. They do not have a detailed schedule just yet. Many people at the national meeting last year indicated in our horticulture meeting that they would be willing to pay for the tour themselves. We don't know what the cost will be yet, but we hope around \$150/person or less. Some of you might be able to use professional development funds for this. As your state horticulture chair and your north central region vice-chair to the national horticulture committee, I want to strongly encourage you to apply for the pre-tour. All of the details about applying are found in the magazine. Please send your entry to me by March 15.
(Jennifer Schutter, NC Region Vice Chair Horticulture&Turfgrass)

Search for Excellence

As the chair of the Extension Programs Committee I am in search of great work in the following areas: Search for Excellence in Crop Production, Precision Agriculture, Farm and Ranch Management, Livestock and The Young and Beginning Farmer Program. We do good work but we are way too modest. If you have an application for any of the topics listed above please send them to me by March 15th. I look forward to hearing from you.
(Amanda Cook, State Chair)

Communications Awards

If you are considering submitting entries for the communications awards for NACAA, send your entry to me before March 15th to 609 Locust, Chillicothe, MO 64601. I will then compile our state winners and forward them on. Instructions and criteria for the awards are listed on page 14 and 15 of the last County Agent. Good luck and I will be anticipating your entry.
(Kevin Hansen, MAEP Communications Chair)

Poster Presentations

The Poster Session at the NACAA Annual Meeting is a popular attraction. There's no better place to demonstrate to other extension professionals what we do in Missouri, and to learn from colleagues in the 49 other states what they do successfully. In addition, you or your group can earn up to \$500 for the best poster. It's \$250 for second place and \$150 for third place. The posters are judged on (1) scientific and/or educational merit (60%), (2) poster presentation (30%), and (3) following the poster guidelines accurately (10%). Missouri professionals have done very well each year. I encourage you to submit a poster on your programming or research.

The guidelines for a poster are on pages 10 and 11 in the January 2006 issue of "The County Agent" magazine. Phone or e-mail me if you want to talk to a colleague who has submitted a poster in the past. You need to send your abstract to me by **March 15**. Call or e-mail me if you have questions.

(Bruce Beck, State Chair Professional Excellence)

Animal Science Pre-Conference

The Animal Science Pre-Conference Tour has become a great learning and sharing tool for NACAA members who go on the tour. Missouri has had several participants in the past and I hope this participation will increase. Ask Eldon Cole, Amy Schleicher, Randy Saner and Dinah Peebles about the tour. I think you will get an affirmative response. Please note: Dinah went on the tour last year, proving you do not have to be a livestock specialist to participate. Forage production, business management and livestock facilities are all covered.

(Mark Stewart, State Chair Animal Science)

Sponsorship Project Underway

Efforts to raise funds for MAEP activities through sponsors are now underway. Thanks are in order for members who submitted business names and contact people. We have a good list to get started but could use more contacts, particularly in the Northern and Eastern side of the state. If you know of a business that we should contact, please let me know so that we can add them to the list. Specific uses of the funds will be centered on developing an in-state meeting for MAEP members. Other projects may develop depending on the response. Levels of sponsorship include: Diamond - \$3000; Ruby - \$1000; Gold - \$500; Silver - \$250; MAEP Supporter - \$100. A committee is being formed to help plan a meeting and we are seeking ideas for a meeting site and professional development to be addressed. Any ideas could be directed to me or any of the executive committee.

(Tim Schnakenberg, Past President)

North Central Regional Director Rotation

It is Missouri's turn to forward an individual for the role of North Central Region Vice Director. The 4 year term would begin in 2008 in a Vice Director role and convert to Regional Director in 2010. After speaking with Stan Moore (NC Regional Director), I learned that our annual conference would be the opportune time for us to let him know of our selection. The individual candidate should seek letters of support from the local council and Extension administration. During a recent officer and regional representative Centra meeting we decided the individual should be willing to prepare a presentation for the MAEP membership at annual conference where the membership will be voting for the candidate of their choice. If you have interest, please contact any officer or regional representative if you have more questions on the roles or responsibility of the Regional Directorship.

(Todd Lorenz, President)

National Leadership Opportunity

Another leadership opportunity that you should consider is the NACAA Treasurer's spot at the national level. This would be a great way for MAEP to get behind a candidate and show the national membership our Missouri shine. As there is a time commitment involved here as well,

you should be requesting letters of support from your council extension administration. If you would like more information on this opportunity, please contact me.
(Todd Lorenz, President)