

The County Agent

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OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS

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NACAA - 6584 W. Duroc Road - Maroa, IL 61756 - (217)794-3700



NACAA★2011
Reach for the Stars
in Kansas



2011 NACAA AM/PIC OFFERS OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES

President's Message

NACAA Members,

I am so excited to join the Kansas Agricultural Agents in hosting you for NACAA's 96th Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference. This is our opportunity as NACAA members to come together to share in one another's successes, learn from one another, and celebrate the progress that we have made as an association over the past year. Each year's AM/PIC also holds some unique features for attending members. This year's conference continues that tradition with its own set of unique programs and tours.

This year's conference features a first ever series of Bioenergy opportunities for our membership. Thanks to a USDA Agriculture and Food Research Institute (AFRI) grant, received under the leadership of NACAA member Charles Gould, there will be a host of opportunities for members to take advantage of. Bioenergy opportunities include a Pre-Conference Tour, Luncheon Seminars on Sunday and Monday, Educational Sessions on Sunday and Monday, and a Super Seminar on Thursday. With increasing energy costs and increasing interest in Bioenergy, this is a unique opportunity for you to gain knowledge in this area and the skills to help your agriculture producers gain success in this arena.

Attending agents this year will also be able to learn from agents presenting in our newest Search for Excellence category of Farm Health and Safety, sponsored by the CHS Foundation. I hope that you will be able to attend this session and see what your colleagues across the nation are doing in this important area.

With inspirational speaker General Richard Myers, Retired and the 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and keynote speakers Dr. Ron Trewyn, Vice President for Research of Kansas State University, and Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh, Professor of Agricultural Economics and Policy at Kansas State University, attendees are sure to be inspired to continue the good Extension work that we are all proud of. I'm sure these speakers will also challenge us to see the world in which we live and work in a fresh, new way.

As is our proud history, there will be many professional development programs for you to choose from this year including many sessions by your peers, selected through

the competitive application process. We will also be recognizing many outstanding educational efforts and programs that NACAA members have applied to through our on-line awards and recognition process. I know Kansas has put a lot of effort into assembling an outstanding variety of Professional Development Tours for you and your family to take advantage of on Wednesday as well.

I hope that you will plan to bring your spouse and children to the meeting as well. Kansas has some wonderful workshops and tours for spouses, and the sons and daughters program will surely be a memorable one for your children. I encourage you to take a look at these and many other opportunities listed in this registration issue of the County Agent Magazine, and be sure to register early so that you can get in on the tours and sessions that are of most interest to you.

This Kansas meeting is one that you and your family will not want to miss. The Convention Center is located about 45 minutes from the Kansas City airport, and has lots of free parking if you choose to rent a car, or drive. So make plans to come to Overland Park Kansas on August 7-11. Whether you Drive, Fly or Catch a Plane you're going to have a great time when you "Reach for the Stars" in Kansas.



NACAA President
Stan Moore
Michigan



Come "Reach for the Stars" in Kansas

150 years and going strong! In 2011, Kansas is celebrating our sesquicentennial year. Kansas is 150 years old and has a lot of offer to our fellow NACAA members and families. The Kansas agents are excited for the opportunity to host the NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference August 7 - 11, as it was last held in Kansas in 1983. We are planning an outstanding AM/PIC and we don't want you to miss it.

Overland Park is the host site. Overland Park is the largest suburban city in the Kansas City metro area. Overland Park offers a unique blend of metropolitan amenities with suburban hospitality and is located 45 minutes from downtown Kansas City. Overland Park has 35 hotels and over 250 restaurants with lots of shopping opportunities and is a family friendly community as it was voted the #1 kid friendly city in America.

The Overland Park Convention Center is a perfect fit for the NACAA AM/PIC. It has more than 1,000 hotel rooms within walking distance and offers free parking. The convention center is connected to the Sheraton Hotel via an enclosed, climate controlled walkway. The convention center is spacious and has lots of room, but yet everything is very close and all within a short walking distance. The other contracted hotels for the AM/PIC are only a couple blocks away. All meetings and sessions will be located in the convention center and Sheraton Hotel.

Kansas is the nation's heartland. We are the exact geographic center of the contiguous 48 states. So our location is only a one day's drive for a large portion of our NACAA members. For those of you that choose to fly in, airfare to the Kansas City International Airport is reasonable and we have arranged for reasonably priced and easily accessed airport transportation for you.

Plan to arrive early in Overland Park and Kansas to take advantage of the Pre-Conference Livestock and Horticulture tours or maybe take in a Kansas City Royals baseball game on Sunday against the Detroit Tigers. Also, new this year will be more Professional Development opportunities with a BioEnergy tour and educational luncheon and sessions.

The diversity of agriculture in the Sunflower state will provide for an amazing array of Professional Improvement Tours on Wednesday. Kansas is one of the top agricultural producing states in the nation for wheat, beef cattle, corn, soybeans, and other products. That fact is well known, but Kansas also ranks among the top mineral producing states and leads the nation in the production of helium. Also, Kansas is a great spot for hunting and fishing and outdoor sports. Wind energy is also playing a major role in the state's economy. Kansas sports a tremendous amount of diversity from West to

East. We have a tremendous variation in our climate, terrain, soil, plants and animals. For instance, elevation ranges from more than 4000 ft in the west to 700 ft in the southeast part of the state. Average precipitation levels range from 15 inches per year in Western Kansas to over 45 inches in Southeast Kansas.

There will be a great mix of agriculture related tour choices as well as cultural tours, a Kansas City professional sports tour, Sustainable Agriculture tours, as well as urban agriculture and horticulture tour choices. You will experience a flavor of Kansas as all tours are within a two hour drive time from the convention center.

On Wednesday morning, Chris Cakes will provide breakfast to all tour participants thanks to the help of some of our friends in the North Central Region states. Many of you have attended AM/PIC's in the past where Chris Cakes was at, so you are familiar with them. Those of you that have not heard of Chris Cakes, you will not want to miss their act and good food! At the conclusion of the tours, you will be treated to some great Kansas pork and have a unique opportunity to visit the National Agriculture Hall of Fame. There will be many fun things to see and do at the hall of fame for all ages. There are exhibits to see, hay rides, train rides, living history and nature trails to name a few.

NACAA is planning an outstanding educational program with opportunities for professional development as well as fun and fellowship. The AM/PIC is a chance to renew old acquaintances and develop new ones. Some of the "traditions" of an AM/PIC are planned, along with some new twists that we hope you find to your liking.

Be sure to bring the whole family. Events are planned for all family members. The Sons and Daughters, Spouses and Life Member programs are sure to be to your liking. There are some new and different opportunities for spouses, both male and female, and the Sons and Daughters program promises to be loads of fun! For Life Members, the speaker for your program will be one of Kansas's own Extension Agents, and he will provide Kansas and old west history through a mix of songs, factual stories, and humor.

So come join us in Overland Park and "Reach for the Stars." We hope for just a little while you let, as the title of our state song says, Kansas be your "Home on the Range." See you in Overland Park!



*AM/PIC Chair
Richard Fechter*

First-Timers

On behalf of the Kansas Association of County Agricultural Agents, the First Timers Committee would like to extend an invitation and encourage you to attend the 2011 NACAA AM/PIC in Overland Park, KS. We are very excited about this year's event and confident that the program offers something for everyone. AM/PIC is educational, motivating, and very family oriented. Plus, the registration fee for any first timer with less than 10 years of experience is FREE!

The first step you need to take is getting registered. For someone new to AM/PIC, we know this can be somewhat of a daunting task. There is a very comprehensive schedule to navigate through and numerous decisions that need to be made on what to attend. Well, we're here to help. The Kansas First Timers Committee and Registration Chair have teamed up with the National Early Career Development Committee to offer a free webinar that will hopefully make your decision to attend AM/PIC and the registration process much easier.

This hour-long webinar will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2011 at 3:00 pm EST. We plan to highlight the benefits of attending AM/PIC, what events and activities first timers can and should attend throughout the week, and, finally, we'll take you through the steps of the registration process. This will be a live webinar, so if you have any questions, the presenters will be glad to help you out.

To participate, please use the following URL: <https://sas.elluminate.com/m.jnlp?sid=783&password=M.1743DDE0E6D80D88AAAF62F40E9367>

INSTRUCTIONS: This webinar will use Elluminate. You can go to www.elluminate.com/support at any time for assistance setting up your computer. If you have any hardware or software issues you can call Elluminate support at 1-866-388-8674, option 2. The steps you will complete are as follows: 1) Click on the appropriate link above. 2) Check that you have Java installed. If you do not, the screen will tell you how to download the latest version of Java. 3) Make sure your speakers and/or microphone (for presenters only) are set up correctly. You will need to enter the "configuration room" in order to test your audio setup. 4) Listen to the "recorded introduction" to get an overview of how to use Elluminate as a participant. This takes about 5-10 minutes to complete.

On the day of the webinar (May 11, 2011) you can enter the room 20 minutes before the scheduled start time of 3:00 PM Eastern Time. For questions beforehand, please contact Dan Kluchinski at 908-866-1766 or kluchinski@aesop.rutgers.edu.

Also watch the e-County Agent, NACAA website, 2011 AM/PIC website, and the "NACAA-Early Career Development (ECD)" Group Page on Facebook for reminders about this webinar. Those sources will have an electronic link to the hosting site as well as the instructions for Elluminate.



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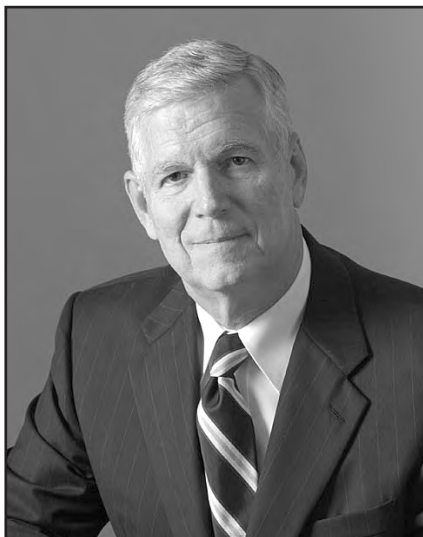
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General Richard B. Myers to speak at the Opening Session

The Opening Session and Welcoming Program on Sunday, August 7 will be a can't miss event. Along with the traditional, Presentation of State Flags, our inspirational speaker will be General Richard Myers.



General Richard B. Myers retired as the 15th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 1 October, 2005, after serving over 40 years in the US Air Force. During his term as Chairman, he served as principal military adviser to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council.

A native of Kansas City, Kansas, and a 1965 graduate of Kansas State University, General Myers also served as Vice Chairman and Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He has held command positions at every level, including Commander of US Space Command, North American Aerospace Defense Command, Pacific Air Forces, US Forces Japan, and two fighter wings. A fighter pilot with over 4,100 hours, General Myers logged more than 600 combat hours during the Vietnam conflict.

General Myers is on several public and non-profit boards and currently lectures nationally on national security issues and leadership. He is Foundation Professor of Military History and Leadership at Kansas State University and holds the Colin Powell Chair for National Security Leadership, Ethics, and Character at National Defense University. He serves on the Defense Health Board as well as serving as Chairman of the USO Board of Governors and on the boards of several other non-profits to include Fisher House, Midwest Research Institute, the Kansas State University Foundation Board, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation. He lives in the Washington, D.C. area with his wife, Mary Jo. He has two daughters and a son and, to his great joy, a growing number of grandchildren.

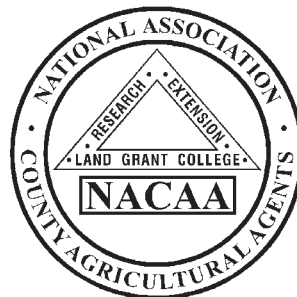
Keynote Speaker Dr. Ron Trewyn to Speak about the Biodefense Facility in Kansas

Ron Trewyn is Vice President for Research at Kansas State University and President of the KSU Research Foundation. As Vice President for Research, he serves as the university's chief research officer with responsibility for research administration and research compliance matters. As President of the Research Foundation, he facilitates the protection, licensing, and commercialization of university intellectual property and assists in regional economic development.



After graduating from a business school in Illinois, serving as a Staff Sergeant in the infantry in Vietnam, and receiving a bachelor's degree in biology in Wisconsin, Trewyn earned his Ph.D. from Oregon State University in 1974, with a major in microbial physiology and minors in biochemistry and genetics. He conducted cancer research at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center prior to joining the medical school faculty at Ohio State University in 1978, where he attained the rank of Professor of Medical Biochemistry in 1988. He was a member of the Comprehensive Cancer Center during his 16 years at Ohio State, and his research efforts focused on the molecular and cellular events involved in cancer development and treatment.

Dr. Trewyn joined Kansas State in 1994 as Associate Vice Provost for Research and Professor of Biology. He became President of the Research Foundation in 1995 and was named Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School in 1998. He was promoted to Vice President for Research in 2007.



Capstone Speaker Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh

Dr. Barry L. Flinchbaugh is a Professor of Agricultural Economics at Kansas State University. A native of York, Pennsylvania, Flinchbaugh holds B.S. in Animal Science (1964) and M.S. in Agricultural Economics (1967) degrees from Pennsylvania State University and a



Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics (1971) from Purdue University. Flinchbaugh joined Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, in 1971. He teaches a junior-senior level course in agricultural policy and lectures throughout Kansas and the nation on agricultural and economic policy. Flinchbaugh has received the Outstanding Teacher Award from KSU College of Agriculture students on three different occasions. From 1984 until 2004, Flinchbaugh served as the Kansas Extension Leader for Agricultural Economics.

For four years, Flinchbaugh served as Special Assistant to the President of Kansas State University (coordinating the information and public affairs activities of the University). Flinchbaugh served for five years as Chairman of the prestigious Alfred M. Landon Lecture Series on Public Issues.

Flinchbaugh has participated in two Japanese Trade Missions. He has led Kansas Agricultural People-to-People tours to the Soviet Union and European countries, the South Pacific, the Peoples' Republic of China and Africa.

He receives approximately 100 speaking invitations per year and is the author of 100-plus publications including an agricultural policy textbook. Flinchbaugh is a member of Rotary International, serves on the Board of Directors of the Kansas City Board of Trade, the Kansas Agricultural and Rural Leadership Inc. and is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Farm Foundation. Flinchbaugh served as Chairman of the Commission on 21st Century Production Agriculture authorized in the 1996 Farm Bill. Flinchbaugh has received the prestigious Hildreth Award for career achievement in public policy education, the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award from the American Agricultural Editors Association and the Distinguished Service Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Flinchbaugh is married to the former Catherine Scott, a 1969 KSU graduate originally from Washington, Kansas. They have two sons, David Lewis (KSU graduate/deceased), Dr. James Truman (a practicing veterinarian) and a daughter, Catherine Jeannette, Esq. (a practicing attorney).

SARE Sponsored Professional Development Workshops

Educational Lunch Seminar I

Monday, August 8

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Great Plains Sustainable Agriculture Research Educational Seminar

Learn about the organization of programs and funding sources for Sustainable/organic programs in the Central/Southern Great Plains and an overview of research conducted in Kansas that is coordinated by KCARE, SARE, and the Kansas Rural Center.

Educational Lunch Seminar II

Tuesday, August 9

11:45 - 1:15 p.m.

Organic Agriculture Primer

Organic Agriculture Research: An overview of Rodale Research and Needs for Further Research in the Great Plains, Rhonda Janke, Professor, Kansas State University Department of Horticulture, Forestry, and Recreation Resources.

Educational Lunch Seminar III

Thursday, August 11

11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Sustainable Grazing Strategies for the Great Plains Region

Tallgrass prairie once covered 140 million acres of North America. Today less than 4 percent remains, mostly in the Kansas Flint Hills where cattle ranchers are now the stewards of this remnant of the once vast tallgrass prairie and its cultural resources. Managing the tallgrass prairie is both science and art. Grazing management strategies will be discussed by the Flint Hills ranchers who practice those strategies.

SARE Fellows Program

Tuesday, August 9

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Moderator: Adam Hady

Presentations by Award Winners

Search for Excellence Luncheon

Thursday, August 11

11:45 - 1:30 p.m.

Moderator: NACAA

Recognition of Award Winners

Sunday and Monday Night

Kansas is one of the leading beef producers in the nation and Kansas City is famous for its barbeque. Beef will be a featured product in the Sunday night "Welcome to Kansas" dinner as we will be serving Jack Stack BBQ at the convention center. No one will leave hungry as they head to the Opening Session and presentation of the state flags. The opening session speaker will be General Richard Myers. General Myers is a Kansas State University graduate and a former Joint Chiefs of Staff. For more information, about General Myers, refer to his writeup elsewhere in the magazine.

Monday evening offers you an opportunity to get away from the Overland Park Convention Center and take a short trip out for a relaxing and enjoyable meal before the 4-H Talent Revue. We are giving NACAA members an opportunity to experience Overland Park and the area by having a free night to dine on your own and get a "Taste of Kansas." Shuttle buses will be available to transport you to one of the areas trendiest upscale shopping districts, the Leawood Town Center Plaza. This shopping area is home to a wide variety of restaurants and shopping experiences in the heart of Johnson County. Shuttle service will run from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. If you need to stretch your legs, Leawood Town Center Plaza is located about one mile from the convention center. Website for the town center plaza is <http://www.towncenterplaza.com/>. However, you will want to return by 7:30 p.m. for the ever popular 4-H Talent Revue at the convention center.

4-H Talent Revue

You won't want to miss some of the best talent 4-H has to offer at this year's NACAA 4-H Talent Revue! With acts ranging from singing to juggling and everything in between, this year's show is bound to blow you away Kansas style. Performers from Kansas, Arkansas, Georgia, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska and South Dakota have pulled out all the stops to make this year's Revue one you will never forget. The stars will shine on Monday night, August 8th at the Overland Park Convention Center!

Be there and be left in 'Awe-Z'!



State's Night Out

Tuesday night will be the traditional states night out. State's night out provides the opportunity to escape from the conference and enjoy time with co-workers. The Kansas City area is famous for our barbeque, but the area also boasts a wide range of flavors to savor during your visit. Whatever your particular likes, Overland Park and Kansas City will have something for you. Here are some websites that have information about dining options. On several of these you can search by cuisine, location, price, or other factors.

<http://apps.opkansas.org/Doing-Business/odc/Food-Court/Index.cfm>

<http://www.kcrestaurantguide.com/>

<http://kansas.city.diningchannel.com/>

<http://kansas.city.diningguide.com/>

Transportation is available to state groups through Agenda transportation. They are offering: 7 passenger, 14 passenger, 24 passenger and 32 passenger vehicles. States wanting to utilize one of these options, should contact Bobby Riggins at briggins@agendakansascity.com or 913-268-4466 to set these up. Bobby will be able to arrange the appropriate transportation for each group, plus coordinate for multiple groups to share vehicles when possible, to keep their costs in line.

For more information, contact Richard Fechter at rfechter@ksu.edu.

96th Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

7:00 am - Pre-Conference Livestock & Horticulture Tours
 8:00 am- 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

7:00 am - Pre-Conference Livestock & Horticulture Tours
 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Pre-Conference Bio Energy Tour
 8:00 am- 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting
 12:00 pm-8:00 pm Registration
 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Registration for 4-H Talent Revue
 6:00 pm- 9:00 pm 4-H Talent Revue Orientation and Dinner

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

7:30 am- Noon 4-H Talent Revue Rehearsal and Meal
 8:00 am- 7:00 pm Registration
 9:00 am- 1:00 pm Commercial Exhibits & NACAA Educational Exhibits, Poster Set Up
 9:00 am- Noon Regional Directors and Vice Directors Workshop
 9:00 am- 5:00 pm Scholarship Selection Committee
 9:00 am- Noon Nominating Committee Meeting
 12:00 pm-2:00 pm Past National Officers and Board Luncheon
 1:00 pm- 6:30 pm Computer Technology Center
 Noon- 2:00 pm National Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Luncheon and Workshop
 Noon: Bio Energy Luncheon Seminar I
 Noon: Bio Energy Luncheon Seminar II
 1:00 pm-5:00 pm Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room
 1:00 pm-6:00 pm Commercial Exhibit Trade Show - and NACAA Poster Session Display - Open
 2:30 pm -3:00 pm Break
 1:30 pm-3:00 pm State Officers Workshop
 1:30 pm-2:40 pm Teaching and Educational Technologies Hands-on Teaching Sessions
 1:45 pm-5:00 pm Bio Energy Professional Improvement Seminars
 2:50 pm-5:00 pm Teaching and Educational Technologies Hands-on Teaching Sessions
 2:00 pm- 5:00 pm Program Recognition Council Workshop
 2:00 pm- 5:00 pm Extension Development Council Workshop
 2:00 pm- 5:00 pm Professional Improvement Council Workshop
 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm Life Member Committee Meeting
 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm NACAA Educational Foundation Annual Meeting
 3:00 pm-4:00 pm First Timer Orientation and Reception
 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm Welcome to Kansas BBQ Dinner
 5:30 pm- State President Rehearsal for Flag Ceremony
 6:00 pm -6:15 pm National Leadership Rehearsal
 6:00 pm-6:45 pm Parents Orientation for Sons and Daughters Program
 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Opening Session and Inspirational Program
 8:30 pm-11:00 pm Ice Cream Social
 8:30 pm-11:00 pm State Pictures
 9:30 pm-11:30 pm Hospitality
 10:00 pm Kansas Meeting

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

6:30 am-7:45 am Voting Delegates Breakfast
 6:30 am-7:45 am Scotts Miracle-Gro Breakfast
 7:00 am-7:00 pm Computer Technology Center Open
 8:00 am-5:00 pm Registration
 8:00 pm-5:00 pm Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room
 8:00 am- noon NACAA Poster Judging

8:30 am -4:30 pm 4-H Talent Revue Rehearsal
 8:00 am-10:00 am General Session
 9:00 am-5:00 pm Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits Open Break
 10:00 am-10:30 am Trade Talk Concurrent Sessions
 10:30 am-11:40 am Agriculture Awareness & Appreciation Award Luncheon (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Meet the Authors Poster Session
 11:45 am -1:15 pm First Time Attendee Luncheon (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am -1:15 pm Professional Improvement and Search for Excellence Luncheons (Tickets Required)
 Crop, Farm and Ranch Management ,Landscape Horticulture
 Excellence in 4-H Programming Luncheon
 Educational Luncheon Seminars
 1:30 pm-2:30 pm Committee Workshops for all NACAA Members
 1:30 pm -3:00 pm Life Members Business Meeting
 1:30 pm-5:00 pm Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leaders Meeting
 Break
 2:30 pm- 3:00 pm Regional Meetings and Candidate Presentations
 3:00 pm-5:00 pm Dinner on Your Own
 5:00 pm -7:00 pm 4-H Talent Revue
 7:30 pm-9:00 pm Ice Cream Social
 9:00 pm-10:00 pm State Pictures
 9:00 pm-11:00 pm Hospitality Rooms
 9:30 pm-11:30 pm Kansas Meeting
 10:00 pm

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

6:30 am- 7:45 am Administrators' Breakfast
 6:30 am-7:45 am Poster Session Breakfast
 7:00 am - 8:00 am Achievement Award Recognition Breakfast
 7:00 am- 8:30 am Life Members Breakfast and Program
 8:30 am- 4:30 pm Load buses for Life Member Tours
 7:00 am - 4:30 pm Computer Technology Center Open
 8:00 am -5:00 pm Registration
 8:30 am-11:30 am Delegate Session
 8:30 am-11:30 am Excellence in 4-H Program Workshop
 8:30 am- 11:30 am Extension Development Council Seminar
 Administrative Skills
 Early Career Development
 Teaching & Educational Technologies
 Ag Issues & Public Relations
 Break
 10:00 am- 10:30 am Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits Open
 9:00 am- 4:00 pm NACAA Poster Session Open
 9:00 am- 4:00 pm State Presidents and Vice Presidents Luncheon
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Communication Awards Luncheon
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Search for Excellence in Livestock Production
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Search for Excellence in Remote Sensing
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Search for Excellence in Young, Beginning or Small Farms/Rancher Program
 Educational Luncheon Seminars (Tickets Required)
 SARE Fellows Luncheon
 Professional Improvement Council Seminars
 Agronomy and Pest Management
 Ag Economics
 Animal Science
 Natural Resources/Aquaculture/Sea Grant
 Sustainable Agriculture
 Horticulture and Turf Grass
 Break
 2:30 pm-3:20 pm Commercial Exhibits close and take down
 4:00 pm -6:00 pm States Night Out
 4:30 pm

7:00 pm	Silent and Live Auction Preview
8:00 pm	Live Auction
10:00 pm	Kansas Meeting

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

6:30 am- 9:00 am	Assemble for Professional Improvement Tours
6:30 am	Chris Cakes Breakfast
8:00 am- 6:00 pm	Professional Improvement Tours
4:45 pm	Shuttle buses for Kansas BBQ for non-tour participants
6:00 pm	Kansas Pork on a Stick Dinner
10:00 pm	Kansas Meeting

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00 am -8:30 am	National Committee Members Breakfast Recognition of Retiring Chairs, Vice Chairs and Special Assignments
7:00 am -4:00 pm	Computer Technology Center Open
8:00 pm-5:00 pm	Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room
8:30 am- 10:00 am	NACAA Policy Meeting
8:30 am- 10:30 am	General Session
9:00 am- 5:00 pm	Registration
10:30 am-10:45 am	Break
10:45 am- 3:30 pm	Bioenergy Curriculum Super Seminar (including Lunch – Tickets Required)
11:45 am- 1:30 pm	Search for Excellence Luncheon- Sustainable Agriculture
11:45am- 1:15 pm	Educational Luncheon Seminars (Tickets Required) United Soybean Board - Focus on Soybeans Sustainable Grazing Strategies for the Great Plains Region
1:30 pm -5:00 pm	Teaching and Educational Technologies – Hands on Teaching Sessions
1:30 pm- 4:00 pm	American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists Certification Exam
4:30 pm-5:00 pm	Formal Picture Opportunity
5:00 pm- 6:30 pm	DSA & AA Recipients, Hall of Fame Recipients, NACAA Board Members, Region Directors, Past Officers, Special Assignments, Special Guests, Council Chairs, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Assemble for Banquet
6:30 pm- 9:00 pm	Annual Banquet
9:15 pm-11:00 pm	President's Reception
10:00 pm	Kansas Meeting & Celebration

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00 am- 5:00 pm	NACAA Board Meeting
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

8:00 am- 12:00 pm	NACAA Board Meeting
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Educational/Award Luncheons

Sunday

- Bioenergy - Reducing Water and Energy Use on the Farm
- Bioenergy - Digesters and Bioenergy Crops as Economic Development Tools

Monday

- The new face of Scotts Miracle-Gro, New technologies, new products, new innovations (Breakfast)
- SFE Crop Production
- SFE Farm & Ranch Management
- SFE Landscape Horticulture
- Excellence in 4-H Luncheon
- Merial - Latest Trends in Animal Science
- Agrotain - Nitrogen...the Key to Effective Growth
- Bioenergy - The Educator's Role as Facilitator
- Bioenergy - The Triple Bottom Line: Bioenergy Sustainability Dimensions
- SARE - Great Plains Sustainable Agriculture
- National Sunflower Association/Kansas Sunflower Commission - Sunflower Production Techniques and Extension Education Strategies

Tuesday

- SFE Livestock Production
- SFE Young, Beginning, or Small Farmers/Ranchers
- SFE Remote Sensing/Precision Ag and Ag Technologies
- SARE Fellows Program
- Specialty Fertilizer Products - Maximizing Fertilizer Efficiency
- SARE - Organic Agriculture Primer
- Southwest Dairy Farmers - Educating the Public on Today's Modern Dairy Industry
- Johnson County Extension Master Gardeners - Our Success Story

Thursday

- Bioenergy Super Seminar - Community Preparedness: Understanding the Issues and Opportunities Associated with Bioenergy Development
- United Soybean Board - Planting Techniques That Work
- SARE - Sustainable Grazing Strategies for the Great Plains Region
- SARE - Search for Excellence Luncheon

Council Seminars

Tuesday, August 9, is a great opportunity to experience presentations by your fellow colleagues during the Extension Development and Professional Improvement Council Seminars.

Each presentation has been peer reviewed during the selection process and is designed to provide NACAA members an opportunity to share successful Cooperative Extension educational programs.

Take advantage of these seminars on Tuesday!

2011 Professional Improvement Tours

Educational opportunities await those attending the Professional Improvement Tours on Wednesday, August 10. The Kansas agents have developed a wide range of tour options during the day. Everyone should find a tour of interest. Keep in mind that on-farm tours could have uneven terrain. Water, snacks and lunch will be provided while on tour. Tours will conclude at the Agriculture Hall of Fame for dinner before returning to the Overland Park Convention Center.

Each tour has a \$10 Tour Fee.

Agronomy Tours

Tour 1: From Farm to Table

Experience the different aspects of Kansas agronomic enterprises starting from the field to grain marketing, to products used to produce our grain commodities. The tour starts at the Kansas City Board of Trade, the largest free market of hard



red winter wheat. Bayer Crop Science Research Park, located in Stillwell, Kansas is the next stop. Bayer is the global leader in the innovation and marketing of sustainable crop protection products to support the production and maintenance of food, fiber, fuels and public health. Then head to the Kansas State University Agronomy Department's East Central Kansas Experiment Field. The field's focus includes, no-till and strip-till production systems, variety performance tests, bio-fuels research, fertilizer application methods and weed and disease control practices. Wrap up the day at Pendleton's Country Market, a diversified family farm, growing vegetables, bedding plants and cut flowers. See how they have developed agritourism to be an integral part of the farm.

Tour 2: Northeast Kansas Agriculture

Kansas isn't all feedlots and flatlands, and few areas of the state confirm that better than Northeast Kansas. This tour travels to the northeast corner of the state then heads west. We'll see production agriculture in the glacial soil regions and interesting agriculture industries on a rapid-fire tour. Stop one will be a tour of Hemisphere GPS's Ground Agriculture site located in Hiawatha. Hemisphere GPS is the maker of Outback Guidance Systems. We'll continue westward to Nemaha County, home of USC, LLC, a premier manufacturer offering a full line of seed treating, seed handling and complete bulk bin seed systems. Their seed treating solutions include products for farm use, retail and commercial industry. USC

treatment machinery is used around the world. No agronomic tour of the "Wheat State" would be complete without wheat. Bunc Seed Farms of Everest is the final stop. Hear about the wheat industry in Kansas from a



family that has been involved with seed wheat sales for two generations. Relax on the return trip viewing some of the most beautiful and historical areas in all of Kansas.

Tour 3: Food – Production to Processing

Our food supply starts with a local farmer and that's where we'll start on this tour. Bruncker Farms is a multi-generational farm using precision agriculture technology. They produce and market corn and soybeans in the backyard of the largest urban county in Kansas. Once grains are harvested, a variety of processing and value added components emerge. Archer Daniels Midland is one of the largest agricultural processors in the world and we'll visit their Overland Park facility to learn firsthand how they turn bushels of grain into food and energy products that feed and fuel the world. We'll stop at Danisco, a world leader in food ingredients, enzymes and bio-based solutions. Their ingredients are used globally in a wide range of industries – from bakery, dairy and beverages to animal feed, laundry detergents and bioethanol. A lunch stop at SFP's corporate headquarters will showcase this fertilizer research and development company that's committed to agricultural education and crop nutrient improvement.

Tour 4: Crops of Kansas

Known for crop diversity, this tour will showcase Kansas' finest. Between Overland Park and Kansas State University in Manhattan,



this tour will take you from beautiful irrigated and dryland crop production to the tall grasses of the Flint Hills prairie. The Kansas River Valley Experiment Fields are up first to highlight current local research and also hear about state-wide irrigation management advances. A campus tour will

reveal the beauty and native limestone buildings of Kansas State University. The international impact of Kansas grains is featured in a presentation from the International Grains Program, followed by a tour of the Hal Ross Flour Mill - the only production-size mill at a major university. The Agronomy Farm will exhibit cellulosic ethanol feedstock production among other items. The last stop is the Rannells Flint Hills Prairie to appreciate native rangeland, where beef production and other management practices maintain the last expanse of native prairie in the United States.

Animal Sciences Tours

Tour 5: Kansas City Animal Health Corridor

Greater Kansas City is the national leader in animal health and nutrition accounting for nearly 32% of global sales. The



Kansas City region is America's Animal Health Corridor as local companies and universities lead the nation in animal health and nutrition research, innovation, business functions and production. Stops include the K-State Olathe campus. This new endeavor opened in 2011 brings K-State's expertise in animal health, food safety and security to the area working directly with local companies' to house research, education and commercial ventures in its laboratories and classrooms. Bayer Animal Health has its North American headquarters in Shawnee, Kansas and is one of the world's leading manufacturers of veterinary drugs. Learn more about this company on the guided tour. Hill's Pet Nutrition is the recognized global leader in nutritional health care for companion animals. We will stop in Topeka, Kansas, to visit Hill's headquarters and tour the company's only canned facility in the U.S. Participating on this tour will provide a greater understanding of the animal health care industry.

Tour 6: Flint Hills Ranching

Tour the beautiful Flint Hills and meet operators of two of Kansas' premier ranching operations. Our first stop will be at Downey Ranch, a large cow/calf operation named the 2010 Beef Improvement



Federation's Commercial Producer of the Year. Then, we'll visit the historic Beecher Bible and Rifle Church and an amazing view of the tallgrass prairie from the Konza Prairie Scenic Overlook before driving through the heart of the K-State campus adorned with native limestone buildings and Wild-

cat pride! Enjoy lunch at the Fink Beef Genetics sale facility, catered by Little Apple Brewery—a local steak house owned in part by the Fink family. As early adopters of embryo transfer, the Finks utilize cooperator herds implanted with Fink embryos producing Angus and Charolais bulls sold nationwide. Rounding out the trip, a stop at the Cross Country Genetics embryo transfer facility offers insight into Fink's ET program.

Tour 7: Genetics, Trailers and Ethanol

Enjoy an interesting tour into southeast Kansas and sample many of its unique business ventures. SEK



Genetics/Genetic Horizons offers advanced reproductive technologies to beef cattle producers. Services include cloning, embryo transfer, artificial insemination and beef cattle semen sales. From there, the tour will travel to B & W Trailer Hitches – the manufacturer of high quality truck beds and trailer hitches. B&W is an industry leader by inventing unique solutions to solve towing problems with the turnover ball, tow and stow ball and custom truck beds. The tour will conclude at East Kansas Agri-Energy, producer of fuel grade ethanol and distiller grains. EKAE produces over 40M gallons per year of ethanol and over 250K tons of distiller grains, from 15M bushels of grain. (No open toed shoes, dresses, skirts, shorts or sleeveless shirts.)

Cultural Tours

Tour 8: Historic Atchison County

Rolling hills of Kansas, along the Missouri River, give Atchison County the corn and soybean production typical to northeast Kansas. This tour will allow guests to see farmland and rural scenery plus we'll visit agribusinesses that add value to locally grown crops. While in historic Atchison we'll tour a Victorian style home, see the early childhood home of Amelia Earhart; discover the history of Lewis and Clark, the origination of the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Railroad and other attractions that characterize historic Atchison County.

Tour 9: A Taste of Kansas City

A good cup of coffee is the start of a great day. "The Roasterie," one of the most renowned coffee roasters in the country, located in Kansas City will kick off the day. Next, on to "Original Juan," a specialty food



processor in Kansas City, Kansas that creates specialty sauces, salsas, snacks and dips for wholesale, retail and co-pack/private label customers since 1998. The Woodyard Bar-B-Que is on tap for lunch for mouthwatering BBQ. A representative from the Kansas City Barbeque Society will talk about Kansas City Barbeque and its long, tasty history. After lunch visit “Bichelmeyer Meats,” a local butcher, to look at their wide selection of meats that cater to an array of nationalities. The tour will wrap up with a stop at one of Kansas City’s best barbecue eateries, Johnny’s BBQ, for a quick taste of some of their more popular smoked meats.

Tour 10: Fort Scott Kansas

Bourbon County has something for everyone. From history and culture to manufacturing and small town life, the Fort Scott area is full of “Simple Pleasures ...Hidden Treasures.” While at the Fort Scott National Historic site, you become immersed in the Bleeding Kansas years and the daily living of the soldiers. A narrated bus tour of Fort Scott will follow the “Dolly the Trolley” route; you’ll witness the National Cemetery, famous landmarks and the beautiful homes and mansions found on our brick streets. Twister Trailer, building since 1998, is one the premier manufacturers in the equine industry. Get a behind the scenes view of the trailers that are pulled by Craig Cameron, Char-mayne James, Tuf Cooper and many more. Bandera Stone is known for their custom work for fireplaces, tabletops, landscape boulders and flooring. The unique stone used can only be found in Redfield, Kansas. This tour will enable you to witness six of the eight wonders of Bourbon County! (No open toed shoes, dresses, skirts, shorts or sleeveless shirts.)



Tour 11: Kansas Historic Barns

The Kansas Barn Alliance day tour will feature six byre and buff barns in rural Doniphan County, KS. Tour guide instructors will provide in-depth education about traditional and varied barn construction and the importance of barn preservation. Additional tour stops in Troy, KS will include: a Timber Frame Barn; the George Putnam Washburn courthouse; a quaint lunch at a historic restaurant; and touring a pre-1859 home in Troy that was visited by Abraham Lincoln during his presidential campaign. The day will conclude at Trillium Dell Timberworks, one of the largest timber frame shops in the Midwest that uses traditional



handcrafted joinery. They will share information about their numerous barn restoration projects. Trillium restored a pre-Civil War Gindler Barn in Collinsville, Ill.; an 1880’s red pine frame barn near Dekalb, Ill. and the historic beef barn at the University of Illinois.

Tour 12: Going To Kansas City

Explore the rich culture of the Kansas City area by visiting museums only found here in the Heartland. The tour starts with a visit to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library. Learn more about this period in history including what lead to dropping the atomic bomb. From there you will travel back into time touring the National World War 1 Museum, the only museum to document these events in American history during this time at war. Going to Kansas City concludes with a trip to 18th and Vine, where jazz grew up. Stops at the American Jazz Museum and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum combine for an enjoyable outing. The Jazz museum pays tribute to Kansas City’s rich jazz legacy. The NLBM preserves the history of African -Americans in history before major league baseball became desegregated. This tour will show how up-to-date Kansas City is by reliving its historical past.



Tour 13: Kansas City Sports

Have you ever imagined suiting up to play professional football or baseball? How about being a NASCAR driver? If you are a



sports junky this tour is for you. You will tour the newly remodeled Kauffman and Arrowhead stadiums. While touring Kauffman Stadium you will have the opportunity to experience the interview room, press box, visitor’s locker room, dugout, Dugout Suites, a Triple Crown Suite, the Stadium Club, Party Deck, the Outfield Experience and the Royals Hall of Fame. A member of the grounds crew will also answer any questions you might have. The Arrowhead Stadium tour will take you behind the scenes to experience an NFL locker room, broadcast booth, luxury suites, the press box and the Kansas City Chiefs Hall of Honor. While at Kansas Speedway experience the thrill of NASCAR racing as you visit the President’s Suite, the Media Center, and the garage area and end up at Victory Lane for your very own photo

opportunity. Bring your cameras and capture your sporting fantasies as you tour the world of professional sports in Kansas City.

Horticulture Tours

Tour 14: Topeka Horticulture and History

Tour world class gardens at Lake Shawnee. Experience a walk back in time in Ward-Meade Park's old mansion, botanic gardens and Old Prairie Town (a short street of 19th Century buildings including a drug store with working soda fountain). Learn how plants enhance the grounds and feed the animals on a horticultural tour of the Topeka Zoo. Visit Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site commemorating the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision that ended racial segregation in America's public schools.



Tour 15: Botanicals, Books and Banking

Enjoy two of the areas emerging arboretums and botanical gardens. Powell Gardens features several theme gardens including the new Heartland Harvest Garden featuring a tapestry of fruit and vegetable plantings. The Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens combine woodlands, prairie and theme gardens into a serene, peaceful setting. Guided tours will provide insight into the development and plant materials in these gardens. The tour also features a stop at the Linda Hall Library and a visit to their rare book collection. Their collection includes some of the most well-known and referenced botanical books and prints dating back to the 15th Century. Kansas City is home to one of the nation's twelve Federal Reserve Banks. Tour the Money Museum for an overview of the banking system and take a peek into the cash vault. (Attendees will be required to show picture identification at the Federal Reserve Bank.)



Tour 16: K-State Sports and Horticulture

This tour will begin with a visit to sports fields used by K-State athletes. A guided tour of the baseball field with its natural grass will be followed by a look at the indoor practice surface. Next, is a tour of the developing KSU Gardens. Collection gardens include roses, daylilies and iris. The cottage garden and native garden are complete with anticipation of 19 more acres. Colbert Hills Golf course will be the first afternoon stop. The course is home to the men's and women's golf teams of Kansas State University, and is used by the university as an environmental research and turf management facility. Colbert Hills is also home to the Earl Woods National Youth Golf Academy. The final stop is the Sunset Zoo. Dr. E.J. Frick, zoo founder (1933) and former head of surgery and medicine at the Kansas State University School of Veterinary Medicine, created a cultural and educational examination of the natural world for the Manhattan community.



Tour 17: Johnson County Extension Master Gardeners

Johnson County, the host county for the AM/PIC, is home to an ambitious group of EMG volunteers. This laid-back tour will visit a sampling of their projects. The group maintains a network demonstration gardens, youth programming, a horticulture therapy project, and an active gardening hotline. On this tour we will visit several of the gardens, drop by a school garden and make a visit to the Extension office which is located in a LEEDs certified facility. We will also be treated to a private garden and make a stop at the K-State Horticulture Research Center, home of the Prairie Star Flower trials. Along the way, EMG volunteers will be on hand to discuss their program and treat you to lunch. It will be a fun and enjoyable day with a great group of Extension volunteers.



Tour 18: Wine and Wildlife

The Wildlife and Wine Tour begins with a stop at the Cedar Cove Feline Conservatory & Education Center in Louisburg, KS. This non-profit organization is devoted to the care and preservation of endangered large cats. Then on to Somer-

set Ridge Vineyard & Winery, a family-owned vineyard and winery known for their hand-crafted premium wines. Next head to the number one tourist attraction in Kansas, Cabela's, the World's Foremost Outfitter of hunting, fishing and outdoor gear. Their 180,000 square foot showroom houses Mule Deer Country Museum, a breath-taking display of African game, and aquarium featuring fish native to Kansas. Dine at the Yukon Base Camp Grill and have a guided tour of this world class facility. We end the day at Holy-Field's Vineyard & Winery; a "growing" legend for producing award winning fine wines. Having been featured in The Wine Report, numerous magazine and newspaper articles and on several television stories; it's a wonderful way to end this exciting day.



Sustainable Agriculture/Natural Resources Tours

Tour 19: Konza Prairie and Kansas State University

This tour provides an understanding of the importance of a grassland ecosystem. The Konza Prairie Biological Station is an 8,600-acre native tallgrass prairie preserve owned by The Nature Conservancy and Kansas State University dedicated to a three-fold mission of long-term ecological research, education, and prairie conservation. A Walking Prairie Research tour (3/4 mile) provides an overview of Konza Prairie fire, grazing, and climate research. This will be followed by the Bison Loop Driving Tour winding through lowland and upland prairie with spectacular views of the Flint Hills, to observe the 300-head bison herd. Watch for flowering forbs and grasses, deer, turkey, and other wildlife. Enjoy lunch at the Kansas State University Alumni Center. Next, participants will tour the 1,120 acre K-State Beef Stocker Unit designed to hold 300 head of 500 lb. cattle. The tour will pass through Kansas State University, known for the use of native stone dating back to 1879. Returning to Kansas City we'll travel through the productive land of the Kansas River Valley.



Tour 20: A Variety of Sustainable Agriculture Tour

Sustainable agriculture can be seen in a variety of ways. This tour will give you a broad look at sustainable operations. Pendleton's Country Market is a multiple generation farm that has changed enterprises to fit the markets and human capital expertise. The Community Mercantile, a Cooperative grocery store that specializes in local, all natural and organic food, plus provides educational classes for health and cooking. The Bradley family manages their land for multiple objectives, and were winners of a state Natural Resources award. Soaring Eagle Farms/ACME Grain is an organic farm that raises a variety of grains, beef and poultry, and sells ground feed and labeled flours. (SARE Sponsored)



Tour 21: Protecting Water Quality - From Raindrops to Drinking Glass

Protecting water is in the best interest of every human. This tour will explore the water cycle from raindrops to the drinking glass. Rocking H Ranch has been proactive in a variety of ways to protect and care for the water that impacts their farm. Visits to the Clinton Reservoir, Tri-District Water Treatment Plant and the Lawrence City Wastewater plant, where they provide biosolids for fertilizer for local farms will help attendees see ways water is used and protected. (SARE Sponsored)

Tour 22: Recycling and Rain Gardens

This tour will include stops that complete the circle of organic recycling in compost utilization. Watch the process of food waste composting at Missouri Organic Recycling,



where compost is made from organic waste taken from the urban setting. Then see multiple examples of Kansas City's 10,000 Rain Gardens initiative. This initiative strives to reduce storm water runoff. Visit a rain garden at the Cooperate Headquarters of Hallmark Cards and then a rooftop garden at the Internal Revenue Service complex. Lastly we

will tour the DST Systems community garden where 5 acres of urban landscape has been transformed into an oasis of rain water storage, and an urban garden to help grow vegetables for Harvesters, the region's largest food pantry. This tour will connect and explain some challenges and benefits in the urban setting from waste handling to food production to storm water management.

Tour 23: High Tunnels

Come and learn how vegetable growers in the Midwest are using high tunnels for season extension and protection against the elements. We will tour a few organic and conventional high operations as well as the K-State Horticulture Research and Extension Center in Olathe and the Haskell Indian Nations University Cultural Center and Museum in Lawrence, KS. The KSU-Olathe Center has several high tunnels including the traditional "snow arch" design as well as single and multi-bay Haygrove tunnels and is conducting long-term research comparing organic and conventional open-field and high tunnel growing systems. This tour will give participants a general overview of the various types of high tunnels available as well as several examples of how local growers are using them to grow vegetable crops. A catered lunch at the K-State Olathe Horticulture Research and Extension Center will be served. (SARE Sponsored)

Tour 24: Sustainable Practices on the Family Farm

This tour features four large family farm operations that have remained profitable while using sustainable management practices. Participants will visit a farm which has been continuous no-till since 1984 to learn about their nutrient management techniques, herbicide, insecticide and fungicide programs and educational efforts. Two beef cattle stops showcase the families' grazing management strategies. These include such practices as riparian protection and utilization of an off stream watering system. The farms also incorporate non-confined feeding sites, and rotational grazing systems into the operation. The dairy segment features a 200 head operation. The barn utilizes a flush system in a free-stall barn making for a labor efficient carousel milking parlor. Waste manure separation equipment is used along with a manure press to dry the material for re-use as bedding and a center-pivot to apply the lagoon contents. (SARE Sponsored)



Urban Agriculture and Local Foods

Tour 25: Urban Fringe Agritourism

Begin with a visit to what must be the farthest thing from the urban fringe - Kansas City's Historic 'City Market' in downtown KC. After experiencing one of the largest, most enduring public farmers' markets



in the Midwest, head off to Platte County, MO, home to breathtaking vistas of Loess hills along the Missouri River and several regionally- and nationally-recognized agritourism operations. Take in a mix of destinations including an orchard, a sheep/lamb operation that makes farmstead cheese from sheep's milk, a vineyard/winery, and an educational farm on the tour. Enjoy fine dining in downtown Weston, MO where a chef has prepared a limited, local menu especially for this tour. After lunch, take time to tour and shop Weston's downtown district which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Participants on this tour are sure to gain valuable input about operating successful agritourism destinations.

Tour 26: Building a Local Food System

Douglas County is working hard to build a local food system that will improve the physical and financial health of its citizens. The goal is fresh, local food for all their citizens. Visits will include: Lone Star Lake Bison that produce and market bison in a variety of markets; Santa Fe Trail Meats, a locker plant that does custom processing, direct meat sales and catering; Local Burger, a



restaurant and caterer that utilizes local food for their menu; The Community Mercantile, a Cooperative grocery store that specializes in local, all natural, and organic food, plus provide educational classes for health and cooking and Just Food, a warehouse food bank that partners with other charities and farmers to provide food to those in need. (SARE Sponsored)

Tour 27: Urban Agriculture

The Kansas City metropolitan area is home to numerous small farms and non-profit organizations that help make sustainable, local food a reality in the urban neighborhoods.



This tour will visit a variety of locations in the metropolitan area that will show off the diversity of the local food system in Kansas City. The tour will begin at the Kansas City Community Gardens, which features 90 plots, a children's garden and an educational center. The tour will then visit a 1.5 acre, certified organic CSA, JJ Farm. The third stop (and lunch) will be Drumm Farm at the Andrew Drumm Institute, a 2-acre organic farm. After lunch, the tour will visit two projects of the Kansas City Center for Urban Agriculture. The Juniper Gardens Training Farm is part of the New Roots for Refugees program and the Kansas City Community Farm is the training and research area for KCCUA. The tour will also feature a presentation about the innovative Growing Growers program, supported by K-State Research and Extension.

Bioenergy Tour**Tour 28: Bioenergy**

This tour addresses biomass supply chain issues, feedstock logistics, and marketing and distribution issues, and wind power. The first stop will be Northwest Missouri State University. NMSU uses wood chips, paper pellets, and animal waste pellets to heat and cool over 2 million square feet. Participants will tour the plant and gain a better understanding of the type and form of biomass the plant can use. The next stop will be the Rock Port, Missouri wind power project. Rock Port is the first town in the US to be powered 100% by wind. The final stop will be the University of Missouri Graves-Chapple Farm Agricultural Experiment Station to learn the latest from MU researchers on growing poplars, cottonwoods, willows, miscanthus and switchgrass. (USDA Agriculture and Food Research Institute (AFRI) sponsored)

**Tour Day BBQ Dinner at the National Agriculture Hall of Fame**

There's not a better way to wrap up a day of professional improvement tours than to return to the National Agricultural Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, Kansas. A place where agriculture is highlighted and recognized for its unequalled contribution to humanity. You will be served a one inch thick grilled pork chop on a stick with a couple of side orders of potato salad and slaw with plenty of liquids to drink as you stroll across the Ag Center to see the history and heritage of agriculture across the Nation.

Agriculture touches the lives of every living person. The food we eat, the clothes we wear, the way of life that developed the values, economy, and culture of our nation all find root in agriculture. Yet, today, few people understand or appreciate agriculture as the dynamic and pervasive force that has shaped our nation's past and that will shape the world's future.

To awaken people to the importance of agriculture and help them understand and appreciate its influence, agribusiness leaders of the 1950's, in Kansas City and throughout the country, envisioned the creation of the nation's premier center for agriculture. To this end, the focus of the proposed institution would be the American farmer and farming and would include not only the rural heritage which has been so influential in shaping America, but also the science and technology of farming that are shaping our world of tomorrow.

The National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame, or the Ag Center as it is more commonly known, became a reality when it was issued a federal charter by an act of the 86th Congress and signed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on August 31, 1960. This rare federal charter, an historic beginning the institution shares with organizations like the American Red Cross, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Future Farmers of America, charged the Ag Center to serve as the "national" museum of agriculture and a memorial to farming leaders.

Although the museum was created by federal action, it receives no appropriation from local, state, or federal government. The Center is entirely funded by private and corporate donations, and revenue generated by admissions, memberships, special events, and facility rental.

We look forward to this evening with you at the Ag Hall of Fame.

SPOUSES PROGRAM

Monday, August 8, 2011
Spouse Tours

The Kansas agents and spouses are planning a variety of tour experiences for spouses. From history to shopping, nature to golf, our guests will have a great tour day in the Sunflower State. Water, snacks and lunch will be provided while on tour.

Spouse Tour 1: Atchison



Atchison, the birthplace of aviator Amelia Earhart, is located on the scenic bluffs of the Missouri River. Our tour of Atchison will include a stop at the historic train depot which houses the current Chamber of Commerce and historical museum. We'll take a driving tour of historic homes, and allow plenty of time for shopping and browsing in downtown Atchison. No trip to Atchison would be complete without a stop at Nell Hill's, a noted home furnishing and decorating store (www.nellhills.com). Depart 8:00 am, return 5:00 pm.

Spouse Tour 2: Tallgrass Prairie/ Chase County



Visit the picturesque Flint Hills where you will tour the historic Z Bar Ranch at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. At one time over 140 million acres of tallgrass covered the plains. Only 4% remain. At the preserve you'll learn about this unique ecosystem and tour the barn and home which are constructed of native limestone. After lunch you'll visit the historic Chase County Courthouse, the oldest operating courthouse west of the Mississippi River noted for its exceptional architecture. There will be time for museums and shopping in Cottonwood Falls. Be ready to do some walking. Wear comfortable shoes.

Depart 7:45 am, return 5:30pm.

Spouse Tour 3: Fiber Fest Tour

Join us for a quilt/yarn shop hop. Kansas has a long tradition of quilting and fiber arts. Beautiful fabrics and yarns will be on display for your shopping pleasure. Enjoy lunch in downtown Lawrence, where you'll find lots of fun, eclectic stores. Depart 9:00 am, return 4:30 pm.

Spouse Tour 4: Topeka



Enjoy the sights as we tour Topeka, the capital of Kansas. Start at Ward Meade Park that features an historic mansion, botanical gardens and Old Prairie Town with 19th century buildings including a drug store with a working soda fountain. Visit the historic school that was the focus of the Brown vs. Board of Education case. Tour one of the Hallmark facilities and find out what goes into making cards for "when you care enough to send the very best". Finish your day with a tour of our spectacular capitol, which features murals by famed artist, John Steuart Curry. Depart 7:30 am, return 4:30 pm.

Spouse Tour 5: Bourbon County/ Ft. Scott



Bourbon County has something for everyone. From history and culture to manufacturing and small town life, the Fort Scott area is full of "Simple Pleasures... Hidden Treasures". While at the Fort Scott National Historic Site, you become immersed in the Bleeding Kansas years and the daily living of the soldiers. A narrated bus tour of Fort Scott will follow the typically "Dolly the Trolley" route; you'll witness the National Cemetery, famous landmarks and the beautiful homes and mansions found on our brick streets. Lunch at the Lyon's Twin Mansions is sure to hit the spot while enjoying the beauty of these 1876 homes and the hospitality of Miss Pat. At the Gordon Parks Museum we'll view exhibits and learn how this great man overcame adversity to make significant contributions in photography, film making, music composition and writing. A trip to Fort Scott would not be complete without a chance to shop at our Downtown Merchants. This tour will enable you to wit-

ness 6 of the 8 Wonders of Bourbon County. Wear your comfortable shoes as part of the tour will involve walking. Depart 7:30 am, return 5:30 pm.

Spouse Tour 6: Lawrence Historical Tour



When you think of Kansas do you think of oceans or the Civil War? Visit the Territorial Capital Museum in LeCompton and the Lawrence Visitor Center to learn about the conflicts surrounding Kansas' bloody journey to statehood. Retrace William Quantrill's fiery path through Lawrence as he and 400 pro-slavery guerrillas burned most of the "Free State Fortress" in 1863. Explore the exceptional Kansas Natural History Museum and learn about everything from when Kansas was under an ocean to mammals, bugs and rocks. Leaving 8:30 am, return 4:30 pm.

Spouse Tour 7: Golf Outing



Do you want to get out and enjoy some golf? Take a break from the convention and hit the links. You can use your own clubs or some rental clubs that will be available. We'll have a modified shotgun start format with prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, longest putt, etc. The beverage cart will make the rounds and we'll enjoy a cookout after the round of golf at the beautiful Oak Country Club. Registered spouses will have their fees covered under the spouse registration fee. \$30 will be charged for agents or guests that would like to join us. An extra fee will apply to those needing to rent clubs. Depart 9:00 am, return 2:00 pm.

Tuesday —Workshops and Luncheon

Tuesday will feature a variety of workshops. Topics range from foods to crafts, with workshops that will appeal to both men and women spouses.

Luncheon



Marci Penner, our luncheon speaker, is passionate about all things Kansas. She established the Kansas Sampler Foundation to encourage Kansans to preserve and sustain rural communities. She is the author and publisher of several Kansas tour books that help Kansans find all the hidden treasures of the Sunflower State. You'll be able to purchase Marci's latest book, "The 8 Wonders of Kansas Guidebook", at the luncheon.

Marci has used her 8 Elements of Rural Culture to help groups identify and promote the unique features that make their community special. Over the past few years the foundation has held competitions to help determine not only the 8 Wonders of Kansas, but the 8 Wonders of each of the elements (Architecture, Art, Commerce, Cuisine, Customs, Geography, History and People). Marci will be the perfect person to share the Wonders of Kansas with our guests as our state celebrates its 150th birthday.

AM/PIC Spouse Workshops Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Morning Spouses Workshops:

Spouse Workshop #1 - It's a Piece of Cake

Become your own "Cake Boss" in this hands-on cake and cupcake decorating workshop by Kendra Stitt, owner of Mutanu Confections and Sous Chef at the Leawood South Country Club. Stitt will offer practical decorating techniques that anyone can use in their home kitchen. Participants will leave with decorated cupcakes to show off the skills they have learned.

**Spouses Workshop #2 -
Baking With Friends**

Join Charlene Patton and Sharon Davis, Home Baking Association, and authors of the new cookbook “Baking with Friends” as they demonstrate age appropriate tasks to teach kids self-sufficiency in the kitchen while inviting questions and providing answers. Parents, grandparents, youth leaders, teachers and anyone who works with youth will all find this workshop filled with resources to help young people develop a love for cooking. Participants will get “hands-on” as they participate in one of the learning activities, leaving with a signature baking mix from the cookbook. In addition, participants won’t want to miss the opportunity to purchase their own autographed copy of this exciting new resource, [Baking with Friends](#).

**Spouse Workshop #3 -
Explore, With Impact!**

Learn how to explore communities of every size and make a difference while you’re doing it! Join Marci Penner from the Kansas Sampler Foundation as she encourages the exploration of the eight elements of rural culture: architecture, art, commerce, cuisine, customs, geography, history, and people. Learn to enjoy and appreciate authentic tourism, not just a tourist attraction and learn how tourism dollars and activities can make a big impact on small rural communities. Penner’s infectious enthusiasm will inspire participants to go home and explore with impact!

**Spouse Workshop #4 -
Zumba Dance Exercise**

Come prepared to experience high-energy fitness workouts with Eva Shurts, a Zumba Fitness Instructor and Personal Trainer. Between workouts Shurts will discuss the important role that sound nutrition plays in developing healthy bodies and adding muscle. She will share tips to improve strength and cardio workouts as well as simple exercises to strengthen core and lower back muscles.

**Spouse Workshop #5 -
Everyone Say “Cheese”**

Learn how to make your pictures tell stories. Join award winning photographer Haley Fischer of Haley Fischer Photography and a student at Columbus College of Art Design as she shares ideas to help you take great pictures. Bring your camera and get tips on just the right settings for every occasion. Then hit the convention and surrounding area to take some shots for sharing and critique. Wrap the session up with some fun ideas to turn all those pictures into lasting keepsakes or just entertaining facebook posts. Don’t miss your chance to take home a piece of Haley Fischer art as a souvenir of a great AM/PIC in Kansas.

**Spouse Workshop #6 -
Yes you KAN arrange flowers**

Join us for some hands-on fun as we learn how to use native plant materials and garden flowers to make a fresh floral arrangement that can add color and interest to any space. Kansas is the “Sunflower State” so let’s learn how to bring a bit of Kansas to your home state using bright sunflower arrangements. Tools and materials will be provided. Take home a self-made memory from your Kansas City experience!

**Spouse Workshop #7 -
Agritourism - Your Next Cash Crop?**

Want to create or expand an agritourism business? “You don’t have to plant tourists, they’re perennials,” says Jan Jantzen, experienced agritourism provider and owner of BoonDocks Initiatives, his rural business development firm. Guests from all over the U.S. and world are paying farmers and ranchers for authentic rural experiences and both the number of providers and their average incomes are growing. From Jantzen’s entertaining power point presentation attendees will learn about topics such as customer profiles, what guests want and how much they will pay, simple marketing methods, layers of liability protection, income projections, example businesses, and real life stories about agritourism. Bring your current or proposed business and marketing ideas for sharing and discussion in this interactive session.

**Spouse Workshop #8 -
Made in the Shade Gardens**

Rob (The Hosta Guy) & Sheri Mortko turned their shaded property and love of hostas into a home based Business called “Made in the Shade Gardens.” Join this workshop for a walking tour of the gardens to view a variety of shade-loving perennials and unique hostas. Relax on the shaded deck and engage in an informal discussion of growing hostas and other perennials. The workshop will be topped off with the chance to browse the largest selection of hostas for sale in the KC area in the retail greenhouse. Select from over 400 varieties of hostas, many developed and introduced by Rob and Sheri, to purchase that perfect souvenir from your Kansas AM/PIC experience.
(Off-site workshop – transportation provided.)

Afternoon Spouses Workshops:

**Spouse Workshop #9 -
It’s a Piece of Cake**

Please refer to details of Workshop #1...this will be the afternoon version of that same workshop.

**Spouses Workshop #10 -
Baking With Friends**

Please refer to details of Workshop #2...this will be the afternoon version of that same workshop.

**Spouse Workshop #11 -
Birdwatching 101**

Do you enjoy watching the birds at your backyard bird feeder but feel like you're ready to take "the next step"? Avid bird watcher, Chuck Otte, will take you step by step through the process of how to be a better birder. Chuck will discuss how to watch birds, where to watch birds, equipment you may want to consider purchasing and how to select a good bird book from the myriad of selections on the market today. Anyone who enjoys wild birds is welcome to attend this session. Participants will have the chance to purchase an autographed copy of the new Birds of Kansas that Chuck has co-authored.

**Spouse Workshop #12 -
Zumba Dance Exercise**

Please refer to details of Workshop #4...this will be the afternoon version of that same workshop.

**Spouse Workshop #13 -
Everyone Say "Cheese"**

Please refer to details of Workshop #5...this will be the afternoon version of that same workshop.

**Spouse Workshop #14 -
Agritourism -
Your Next Cash Crop?**

Please refer to details of Workshop #7... this will be the afternoon version of that same workshop.

**Spouse Workshop #15 -
Improve Your Hunting &
Fishing Experience**

Join Wildlife and Fisheries Biologists from the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks for a workshop designed to improve your lifetime hunting and fishing experiences. These experts will share ideas on working with and improving relations with landowners. Great habitat leads to great

hunting and fishing and so participants will learn how to create habitat designed to help desired species thrive. Don't expect all "classroom" work as participants will get to try their hand with a waterfowl call or working to improve their angling techniques.


**Spouse Workshop #16 -
Made in the Shade Gardens**

Please refer to details of Workshop #8...this will be the afternoon version of that same workshop.

Thursday—Shopping

Thursday we will offer our guests a variety of shopping experiences. Some of the stops include Legends Mall, which features a wide variety of outlet stores, and the Oak Park Mall, the largest mall in the Kansas City area. We will also stop at Cabelas and Bass Pro Shop, two amazing stores for the hunting, fishing, and outdoor enthusiasts. Shuttles will operate on a scheduled loop so shoppers can stay for a brief visit or a longer shopping adventure. Food options are available at all stops. Shuttles will start picking up guests at 9:30 am. The last shuttle will have you back to the hotel by 4:00 pm.

Keep Up-to-Date on Invasive Forest Pests With Free Webinars from EAB University!




Emerald Ash Borer University is a **free series of informational webinars** brought to you by EAB educators from prominent universities in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. Our curriculum has recently expanded to include several invasive pests and pathogens that threaten US forests.

All you need to participate is reasonable fast Web access and one hour of your time.

Many live webinars are **eligible for continuing education credits** and all presentations are archived for later viewing.

For more information, including a schedule of upcoming topics and information on how to participate, visit:

www.emeraldashborer.info



Sons & Daughters Program

Hot weather and sunshine is typically what you'll find in Kansas in August. Bring your swimsuit, shorts, t-shirts, and lots of sunscreen. We'll be outdoors most of the time, enjoying some really "cool" activities.

Sunday, August 7 -

Registration & Orientation

Registration: Look for the Sons and Daughters registration table in the main conference registration area (Overland Park Convention Center). We'll be taking pictures, checking health forms, and distributing T-shirts, so don't forget to stop and see us.

Orientation and Get Acquainted Party: Parents are encouraged to attend the Sons and Daughters orientation with their children on Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. The orientation should last less than 30 minutes. We want to review the week's schedule, answer your questions, and give you a chance to meet the people who will be leading the youth activities throughout the week. After the orientation session the youths are invited to participate in get-acquainted activities organized by the Kansas 4-H Agents Association while parents attend the conference opening ceremony.

Monday, August 8 - Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead & Schlitterbahn Water Park

We'll start the day with a stop at Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, home to almost 200 animals, vegetable and flower gardens, a one-room schoolhouse and more. This 12-acre farmstead is designed to depict a turn-of-the-century family farm. After a quick tour of the Deanna Rose Farmstead, we'll hustle off to Schlitterbahn Water Park for a fun-filled day at Kansas' newest water park.



Tuesday, August 9 -

Worlds of Fun

There's something for everyone at Worlds of Fun. Teenagers looking for big thrills will enjoy Worlds of Fun's six roller coasters and nine thrill



rides. Moms or dads pushing strollers might cool off while their toddler takes a nap in one of the air conditioned theaters. And everyone will enjoy the 13 family rides and 13 kids' rides. At the end of the day we'll give you the choice of either taking the first bus back to the convention center to be back in time for States Night Out or staying a couple more hours to "get your money's worth."

Wednesday, August 10 -

Professional Improvement Tours

Enjoy tour day with your family!

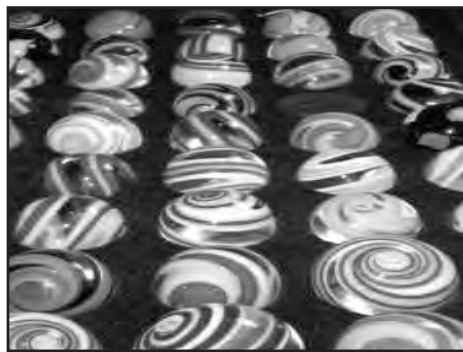
Thursday, August 11 -

Shawnee Mission Park and Moon Marble Company



The 1,250 acre Shawnee Mission Park will be the headquarters for Thursday's activities. The park features a large lake with canoes, paddle boats, and a swimming beach. There are miles of hiking trails, a Frisbee golf course, open space for kite flying, and lots of shade trees. Your day can either be relaxing or it can be active; you get to choose. Bring your swimsuit and a towel. The swimming beach will be open in the afternoon.

Tours of Moon Marble Company will also be available throughout the day. At Moon Marble you'll watch a craftsman make a hand-made marble, learn to play marbles around the marble ring, and spend time shopping for marbles and other old-time games. Moon Marble is also a toy store, so bring money if you want to take home more than just the small tube of marbles you'll receive on the tour.



Thursday Evening - Farewell Party

Our farewell party will be held at PowerPlay Family Entertainment Center, an 80,000 square foot state-of-the-art indoor fun center. PowerPlay offers an all-you-can-eat buffet, laser tag, bumper cars, cosmic bowling, a ropes course, kids' play area, arcade games, and more. There's something for everyone.



Life Members Program and Tours

Tuesday, August 9 -- Life Member Plated Breakfast and Entertainment: Jeff Davidson, "Bringing Kansas History to Life Through Song."

Jeff Davidson, Greenwood County Kansas County Agricultural Agent, tells the story of how the development of Kansas as a territory and state influenced virtually all of western U.S. settlement. Mixing songs, factual stories, and humor, Jeff highlights the trials, events and life as pioneers traveled west. The stories of the Santa Fe and Oregon trails, the farming and ranching settlers, the Pony Express, the Civil War, the building of the railroads and the great Texas-to-Kansas cattle drives are included in his program.



Life Member Tour 1: Pioneers of Kansas

(Picture Identification Required for Fort Leavenworth Entrance)

How about DOIN' SOME TIME in Leavenworth! Leavenworth, home to the famous federal penitentiary, was established as a frontier military outpost, and is the oldest city in Kansas. The history of Kansas begins here!

Take a guided tour of Fort Leavenworth, the oldest active military base west of the Mississippi. See the old fort grounds overlooking the Missouri River. Learn about the Buffalo Soldiers. See the old wagon ruts coming up from the Missouri River crossings. And learn about the current mission of Fort Leavenworth as home to the Command and General Staff College and Foreign Military Studies office, as well as the United States Disciplinary Barracks.



In Leavenworth, take a ride on a restored 1913 wooden carousel and tour the C.W. Parker Carousel Museum. Enjoy lunch with the "Harvey Girls" at the Riverfront Community Center, housed in the renovated 1888 Union Depot. Maybe you'll be greeted by a convict and get your picture taken in jail ... and receive an "I did Time in Leavenworth" button.

After lunch, travel to Atchison, Kansas to discover Atchison County at the County Historical Museum and the Atchison Rail Museum. Visit the home where Amelia Earhart was born and developed her interest in becoming a female pioneer of flying. Stop by the Snow Ball Ice Cream Shoppe for a treat before returning to the convention center.

Life Member Tour 2: Early Kansas History

See the Shawnee Mission Indian School operated from 1831 until 1862. It was established by the Rev. Thomas Johnson (Johnson County Kansas, home to the NACAA meeting was named for Rev. Johnson). The school was founded by the Methodist Church and the federal government. The Indian children who attend the school were taught the “arts of mechanism” and the English language, as well as religious studies. We will tour the Shawnee Mission museum to learn more about this historic school on the frontier.



During the 1850's and 60's there were numerous acts of violence over the issue of slavery along the Missouri and Kansas border, leading up to, and continuing through the Civil War. The territory became known as “Bleeding Kansas”. Drive through this section of Kansas, home to John Brown, to learn more about events leading up to the Civil War, and visit the Civil War battle site of Mine Creek.



Visit Fort Scott, Kansas for lunch at the El Charro restaurant. Tour historic Fort Scott, a frontier garrison manned by the U.S. Army from 1842 to 1853. Established on the edge of the Indian frontier, the Fort has been preserved as a national historic site. The Fort's 18 original buildings exude military order and efficiency. Right next to the Fort is quaint downtown Fort Scott, providing an opportunity to visit a number of unique shops and businesses.

Life Member Tour 3: Frontier Trails and President Truman

This tour visits Independence, Missouri, the hometown of Harry S. Truman, 33rd President of the United States. Explore the life of President Truman and his wife Bess in a visit to the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. History buffs won't want to miss this museum that chronicles how a man from humble beginnings and Midwestern values became the most powerful leader in the world. Explore five areas of Harry Truman's life: Family, The Early Years, Political Career, Life in the White House, and Mr. Citizen.



See the famous Thomas Hart Benton mural “Independence and the Opening of the West” that dominates the museum lobby. Watch the award winning film *Harry S. Truman: 1884-1972*. Learn about a typical day in the life of a busy President in the White House Gallery and see the original “Buck Stops Here” sign. See the details in the replica of the Oval Office, decorated exactly as it appeared in 1950. Visit the courtyard graves of Harry and Bess Truman, along with their daughter Margaret. The courtyard also features an American Legion Flame of Freedom, paths, and benches.

We will travel the streets of the downtown area adjacent to the Truman home and enjoy lunch in the historic district that hosts 43 historic sites. The afternoon provides an opportunity to visit the National Frontier Trails museum, the only museum in the nation exclusively devoted to the history of the Santa Fe, Oregon and California trails – all originating in Independence. Hear the stories of daring pioneers who gathered in Independence to purchase supplies, outfit wagons and organize into caravans heading off into the great western frontier. The tale of the trails across the West is one of the most fascinating sagas in American history. The museum helps tell the story of those hardy pioneers that took those trails. Those that survived set the course of American history.

Life Member Tour 4: Steamboat Arabia, WW I Museum, Downtown Farmers Market

In the year 1856, the steamboat Arabia served as a lifeline to the frontier, bringing tons of new supplies westward to settlements along the Missouri River. “Steamboats a’comin” were the words townspeople listened for as they awaited the supplies necessary to sustain lives. However, just leaving Kansas City, the hull was pierced by a submerged tree, and the 171 foot-long Arabia sank in minutes with all her treasures lost. Buried for 132 years, enterprising “treasure hunters” recovered 200 tons of the supplies lost when the steamboat went down. Described as the “King Tut’s Tomb of the Missouri River”, this museum will fascinate visitors with the fine dishware, jewelry, guns, gold and other precious items recovered from the Steamboat Arabia. National Geographic Traveler called it ... a time capsule of another age!



Enjoy a stroll through the historic City Market of Kansas City, now serving as the site of the downtown farmer’s market. Established in 1857, the City Market was the site for commerce, horse trading, medicine shows, political rallies and circuses in the town that was to become Kansas City. We will have lunch at one of the many restaurants in the area.

A visit to Kansas City isn’t complete without a visit to the National World War I Museum at Liberty Memorial. This fascinating museum tells the story of WW I, where 36 nations took up arms in the world’s first global conflict. The museum shares deeply personal stories of courage, honor, patriotism, and sacrifice, through thousands of historical objects, photographs and eyewitness accounts. Visitors are taken through an epic journey through a transformative time in our world’s history.

Airport Transportation

The Kansas Association of County Agriculture Agents are excited for your arrival at the 2011 Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Overland Park. Those arriving by air will be flying into the Kansas City, Missouri International Airport. KCI is one of the most flyer friendly airports in the country with its three terminal system and curbside pickup. The airport is located approximately 45 minutes north of the Overland Park Convention Center. To help facilitate those arriving and departing by air, the Kansas Association of Agriculture Agents has arranged for shuttle service exclusive to NACAA members through our official transportation company, Agenda: USA.



Agenda buses will run on arrival day Sunday, August 7 from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. with pickups scheduled approximately every 30 minutes. Departures from the hotels to the airport will run from 4 a.m. till 10 a.m. Friday, August 12. Those arriving at different dates and times will have access to reservations and transportation through Agenda. These include a range of vehicles from private car to vans to accommodate group arrival. Scheduling your airport transportation needs is easy. On the registration simply link to airport shuttles and enter the flight information and shuttle options then proceed to checkout and pay online with a credit card. The link is <http://agendausa.hudsonltd.net/res?USERIDENTRY=NACAA11&LOGON=GO>.

We look forward to seeing you in Overland Park this August as we all “Reach for the Stars” in Kansas!

REGISTRATION FORM

NACAA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE

August 7-11, 2011

Registration forms must be postmarked on or before June 15, 2011: Late fee is \$100 - **Return ALL forms together**

Please fill out all forms completely. Enclose proper payment where needed.

Detailed information about activities is available in other parts of this publication.

Registration will be in the Overland Park Convention Center

ON-LINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.NACAA.COM - SECURE SITE - EASY TO USE

For Insurance Liability reasons - Name Tags will be required at ALL EVENTS (meal functions, bus trips, conference sessions - everything). NO EXCEPTIONS

SEND FORMS AND PAYMENT TO:
NACAA
6584 W. Duroc Road
Maroa, IL 61756
Phone: 217-794-3700 Fax: 217-794-5901 E-mail: NACAAAMPIC2011@aol.com

PARTICIPANT'S NAME

_____ (Last) (First)

(Preferred first name on tag) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE - daytime (____) _____ - _____

Cell Phone (____) _____ - _____

(for emergency conference contact)

E-mail address _____

Confirmations will be sent electronically for everyone (unless you are without email - it will then be mailed via U.S. Mail) - by no later than July 1, 2011.

Are you an NACAA Member YES NO

Check your region: NC NE W S

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS – Please check below if you need special assistance during the meeting.

- Accessibility needs during the meeting
- Dietary (Please contact the registration office at the above address two weeks prior to the event to make request)

ANNUAL BANQUET
Thursday Evening August 11, 2011; 6:30 p.m.
Tickets are required. 1 ticket per registrant is already included in the price of **full** registration (daily registrations do not include a banquet ticket - must be purchased separately). Tickets will be in registration packet...**IF YOU SELECT THE "YES" BOX BELOW.**
 Do you plan to attend: Yes No
 Number planning to attend _____

- 2011 DSA - Please check if you are a Distinguished Service Award Winner for 2011. You need to sign up for the Annual Banquet above...to reserve a ticket.
- 2011 AA - Please check if you are an Achievement Award Winner for 2011. Make AA Breakfast reservations with National Committee Chair. Annual Banquet ticket must also be selected above if you plan to attend (not required for AA award).

If your spouse, child(ren), and/or guest is attending the conference, please complete:

SPOUSE NAME: _____ (Last) (First)

GUEST'S NAME _____ (Last) (First)

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES (if attending):

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

FIRST-TIMER'S

Is this your first NACAA AM/PIC? Yes No

If so, please pick up your registration packet at the regular registration area (Convention Center) then stop at the information table to learn more about the conference.

First time and worked less than 10 years? Yes No

NACAA members attending for the first time and employed after 8/1/2001 will have registration fees waived.

Complete the following:

Date of Employment _____

The First-Timer's Luncheon is provided for first-time attendees on Monday, August 8, 2011. Your Spouse/Guest is welcome.

Number planning to attend? _____

(This event takes place at the same time as the Spouse Tours; please select one or the other).

REGISTRATION FEE INFORMATION

Check ALL Blocks That Apply to You

Participant's Name _____

Last Name First Name

NACAA Member **Agent Fee # Attending** **Spouse/Guest Fee # Attending** **Total Fees to be Paid**

First Time Attending (Waived x _____) + (\$210.00 x _____) = \$ _____
employed after 7/1/2001

Regular Member (\$250.00 x _____) + (\$210.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Life Member (\$250.00 x _____) + (\$210.00 x _____) = \$ _____

OTHERS

Sons & Daughters (*participating in activities*) (\$200.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Visitor (\$250.00 x _____) + (\$210.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Univ. or USDA Administrator (\$250.00 x _____) + (\$210.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Guest of NACAA President (Waived x _____) + (Waived x _____) = \$ _____

National Donor/Exhibitors (Waived x _____) + (Waived x _____) = \$ _____

Tour Add-on Fee (All Professional Improvement Tours have a \$10 fee)
 (Tour fees are non-refundable unless tour is canceled and you do not select another tour) = \$ _____

Spouse Tour Add-on Fee (Spouse Tour #7 (Golf Outing) has a \$30 fee) = \$ _____

Past National Board Luncheon (\$28 Fee) = \$ _____

PART-TIME ATTENDANCE

Number Attending Each Day: Sun____; Mon____; Tues____; Wed____; Thurs____
 Daily Fee (\$150 x Number of Days____x Number of People____) = \$ _____

Attending only Thursday Night Banquet: (\$50 x Number of People____) = \$ _____

Late Fee: Applies to all registrants listed above whose registration form and fees are postmarked after June 15, 2011 - \$100 per individual = \$ _____

Facilities Fee (FOR ALL ACTIVE AND LIFE MEMBERS):

NACAA has initiated a facilities fee for this Conference. = \$ _____

If you do not plan to stay at one of the approved hotels listed on this registration form - a \$250 fee will be administered. The lodging form must be completed with reservation information- or the fee will be added to your total registration cost.

TOTAL FEES PAYABLE WITH REGISTRATION: (Make checks payable to NACAA) = \$ _____

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED IF FEES ARE NOT PAID AT THE TIME OF REGISTERING (I.E. WAITING FOR SECONDARY FUNDING). IF A PERSONAL CHECK/COUNTY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION IS NOT SENT WITH THE REGISTRATION - YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE PLACED ON HOLD UNTIL THE MONIES ARE RECEIVED.

IF PAID BY CREDIT CARD:

___ MasterCard ___ VISA ___ Discover Card - No other cards will be accepted.

Person's Name on Credit Card _____; Expiration Date _____

Card Number _____; (List all numbers 16 digits)

Address of Credit Card Billing Statement if different than address given on Personal Information

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature _____

(IF CARD INFORMATION IS INCORRECT OR NOT ACCEPTED DURING THE CARD APPROVAL PROCESS, YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE DELAYED)

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

There shall be a 90% refund of registration fee when a request is made 30 days or sooner before the start of the AM/PIC (July 7). There shall be a 75% refund of registration fee if request is made from 15-29 days before the AM/PIC (July 8 - July 27). There shall be a 50% refund of registration fee if a request is made less than 15 days and prior to the end of the AM/PIC (July 28 - August 11). No refunds will be given if a request is made after the close of the AM/PIC (August 11). Appeals due to emergency will be handled on a case by case basis by the NACAA Board. **Requests must be made in writing** to NACAA 2011 Registration, Scott Hawbaker, 6584 W. Duroc Road, Maroa, IL 61756 or email to: NA-CAAAMPIC2011@aol.com. Refund for part-time attendance is the same, except there will be no refund for the banquet. Members and guests eligible for fee waivers will be refunded upon verification by the National Board of Directors.

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT TOURS

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

REGISTRATION

Participant's Name _____

Last Name _____ **First Name** _____

NOTE: If the spouse and children are participating in the same tour as the agent, please list the total number under the agent.

AGENT	Tour No.	# of people on Tour	SPOUSE/GUEST (If different from Agent)	Tour No.	# of people on Tour
1 st Choice	_____	_____	1 st Choice	_____	_____
2 nd Choice	_____	_____	2 nd Choice	_____	_____
3 rd Choice	_____	_____	3 rd Choice	_____	_____
4 th Choice	_____	_____	4 th Choice	_____	_____

Reminder - there is a \$10/person for each Professional Improvement Tour - don't forget this on the payment form.

Agents have the opportunity to pre-register for the following Educational & Award Luncheons. **Preference will be given to award winners - but non-award winners are welcome to register for available tickets.** Family members are encouraged to attend Award Functions - so please indicate if family members will be attending. Please place a 1, 2 or 3 for your first, second, third choices on days you wish to attend a luncheon.

Sunday, August 7, 2011 (12 noon)

- ___ Educational Luncheon Seminar : Bioenergy - Reducing Water and Energy Use on the Farm
- ___ Educational Luncheon Seminar : Bioenergy - Digesters and Bioenergy Crops as Economic Development Tools

Monday, August 8, 2011 (11:45 am - 1:15 pm)

- ___ The new face of Scotts Miracle-Gro, New technologies, new products, new innovations (Breakfast 6:30 am - 7:45 am)
- ___ SFE Crop Production
- ___ SFE Farm and Ranch Financial Management
- ___ SFE Landscape Horticulture
- ___ Excellence in 4-H Awards Luncheon
- ___ First Timers Luncheon
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: Bioenergy - The Educator's Role as Facilitator
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: Bioenergy - The Triple Bottom Line: Bioenergy Sustainability Dimensions
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: Merit Update
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: National Sunflower Association/Kansas Sunflower Commission Sunflower Production Techniques and Extension Education Strategies
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: SARE - Great Plains Sustainable Agriculture
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: Agrotain - Nitrogen Fertilizer Technology

Tuesday, August 9, 2011 (11:45 am - 1:15 pm)

- ___ Poster Session Awards Breakfast (6:30 am - 7:45 am)
- ___ SFE Livestock Production
- ___ SFE Remote Sensing and Precision Agriculture
- ___ SFE Young Beginning & Small Farmers
- ___ SARE Organic Agriculture Primer
- ___ Specialty Fertilizer Products - Maximizing Fertilizer Efficiency
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: Southwest Dairy Farmers - Educating the Public on Today's Modern Dairy Industry
- ___ Ed. Luncheon: Johnson County Extension Master Gardeners - Our Success Story
- ___ SARE Fellows Luncheon

Thursday, August 11, 2011

- ___ Bioenergy Super Seminar - Community Preparedness: Understanding the Issues and Opportunities Associated with Bioenergy Development
- ___ United Soybean Board - Focus on Soybeans
- ___ SARE - Sustainable Grazing Strategies for the Great Plains Region
- ___ SARE - Search for Excellence Luncheon

PAST NATIONAL BOARD LUNCHEON

Monday, August 8, 2011 at 12:00 noon. Your Spouse/Guest is welcome. Meal cost is \$28/person (tax/gratuity included). (If you check yes, you will be asked to pay even if you do not attend). Monies to be collected at luncheon or on-line. Do you plan to attend?

Yes _____ No _____ If Yes, Number attending _____

Which office did you hold?

- President Treasurer Secretary Director

LIFE MEMBER'S & LIFE MEMBER'S SPOUSES ACTIVITIES

LIFE MEMBER'S BREAKFAST - Tuesday, August 9, 2011 (7:00 am - 8:30 a.m.) Number Attending _____

LIFE MEMBER'S & SPOUSE/GUEST TOURS - Tuesday, August 9, 2011 (8:30 am to 4:30 pm) (See Life Members Program for details)

	Tour No.	# on Tour
1 st Choice	_____	_____
2 nd Choice	_____	_____
3 rd Choice	_____	_____
4 th Choice	_____	_____

SPOUSE/GUEST ACTIVITIES

Spouse/Guest Name _____

SPOUSE/GUEST TOURS - Monday, August 8, 2011 (See Spouses Program for details including any additional fees which will be payable at on-site registration.)

	Tours #1-7	# of people on Tour
1 st Choice	_____	_____
2 nd Choice	_____	_____
3 rd Choice	_____	_____
4 th Choice	_____	_____
5 th Choice	_____	_____

SPOUSE/GUEST LUNCHEON - Tuesday, August 9, 2011 (Spouse/Guest Only) I Plan To Attend ___Yes ___No

SPOUSE/GUEST WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

	Morning Workshop #	Afternoon Workshop #
1 st Choice	_____	1 st Choice _____
2 nd Choice	_____	2 nd Choice _____
3 rd Choice	_____	3 rd Choice _____
4 th Choice	_____	4 th Choice _____
5 th Choice	_____	5 th Choice _____

SPOUSE/GUEST SHOPPING TRIP

Thursday, August 11, 2011

Yes - I plan to attend and will be riding a shuttle bus

SON'S AND DAUGHTER'S PROGRAMS
See Program for Details

PARTICIPANT'S Name _____
Last Name **First Name** Agent or Life Members name if not the same Last Name

Son's and daughter's registration will be held at the main registration desk at the Convention Center. Activities will begin with the orientation meeting Sunday, August 7, at 6:00pm. Adult chaperones must be registered for the meeting. This year's program is designed for youth ages 8 - 18. Youth 7 and under may participate only if accompanied by a parent or guardian that is registered for the events. All costs are included in the registration fee, including lunch. NACAA is unable to provide day care services for children.

PLEASE LIST THE NAME, AGE, AND T-SHIRT SIZE (DESIGNATE YOUTH OR ADULT SIZE) OF YOUR CHILDREN ATTENDING THE PROGRAMS. A = Adult, Y = Youth; XL = extra large, L = large, M = medium, S = small, XS = extra small. Extra large is only available in adults and extra small only in youth. If your child needs a youth large t-shirt, write YL in the space provided.

		T-Shirt					T-Shirt		
(Name)	Age	Size	Height		(Name)	Age	Size	Height	
Child # 1 _____	_____	_____	_____		Child # 3 _____	_____	_____	_____	
Child # 2 _____	_____	_____	_____		Child # 4 _____	_____	_____	_____	

NOTE: Adults are welcome to attend and will be asked to assist as chaperones. Adults must accompany their children ages 7 and under on any activity. Please list any adults who will chaperone. Only sons & daughters and adult chaperones will be eligible for a T-Shirt.

		T-Shirt					T-Shirt		
(Name)	Age	Size	Height		(Name)	Age	Size	Height	
Adult # 1 _____	_____	_____	_____		Adult # 2 _____	_____	_____	_____	

Please indicate the child and adult number from the above list that will be attending Son's & Daughter's Program.

	# Youth	# Adults	Youth & Adult's Name (s)
<u>SUNDAY, AUGUST 7</u> Get Acquainted and Registration	_____	_____	_____
<u>MONDAY, AUGUST 8</u> Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead & Schlitterbahn Water Park	_____	_____	_____
<u>TUESDAY, AUGUST 9</u> World's of Fun	_____	_____	_____
<u>THURSDAY, AUGUST 11</u> Shawnee Mission Park and Moon Marble Company	_____	_____	_____
Farewell Party	_____	_____	_____

SON'S & DAUGHTER'S MEDICAL RELEASE FORM: Medical release forms will be required for all youth participants. These forms are available at <http://www.2011ampic.com/SonsandDaughters.html>

American ag experts bring knowledge, skills to Afghanistan

By Karoline Scott, Foreign Agricultural Service Public Affairs Specialist

On any given day, roughly 60 American agricultural experts apply modern technologies to help grow stronger, more abundant crops and ensure the health and proper care of livestock. What sets these 60 men and women apart from the millions of other Americans who live and work in the agricultural sector every day is that they apply their knowledge and skills in rural Afghanistan.

Since 2003, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service has sent more than 100 agricultural experts from a wide range of backgrounds, including farmers, veterinarians, agricultural economists, extension agents, educators and more, on assignment to Afghanistan.

Their purpose is to help Afghanistan revitalize its agricultural sector through a variety of activities. The ultimate goal is to strengthen the capacity of the Afghan government, rebuild agricultural markets and improve the management of natural resources.

Wes Harris, who is a county agent with the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service and has served as a public policy educator with the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development, is among those who have volunteered to lend his skills toward the betterment of Afghan agriculture.

"It was apparent to me that the knowledge, methods, skills and abilities of extension agents would be absolutely invaluable on a PRT (provincial reconstruction team)," he said. "Extension agents have a unique combination of quality needs assessment experience and the ability to adapt to changing situations and the strong skills necessary to communicate with everyone from farmers to government officials and tribal leaders."

Harris applied for a job with USDA in Afghanistan in July 2009 and was accepted in August of the same year. Because of the unique cultural environment and security challenges in Afghanistan, all USDA employees are required to attend intensive training before they set foot in country.

"The training was extraordinarily valuable in all phases," said Harris. "I was quite impressed with the Foreign Service Institute classes pertaining to operations, culture, politics,



history, language and economics. The security training provided was exceptional and increased my confidence in remaining safe throughout the tour."

When Harris arrived in Afghanistan in December 2009, he began his nearly year-long appointed role as the agricultural advisor for the Regional Command Southwest at Camp Leath-erneck in the Helmand Province.

"My role was to provide the U.S. Marine Commanding General and principal staff with advice on agricultural issues," he said. "I also coordinated the activities of USDA advisors on the PRT and DSTs (district stabilization teams)."

Harris worked in the field assessing and reporting on the agricultural environment, worked side-by-side with leaders from the Afghan Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) and helped educate Afghan farmers.

Harris' experience is similar to those of the dozens of USDA representatives who have or are currently serving in Afghanistan. USDA representatives have performed a wide range of missions to include helping install windmills to pump water for irrigation, training Afghan veterinarians, establishing nurseries in reforested areas, rehabilitating degraded orchards, mentoring Afghan agricultural extension workers, providing key technical education to help control animal disease and much more.

USDA's efforts in Afghanistan are making a difference. Results of a USDA survey from April-December 2010, for example, show that USDA-assisted activities helped create 107,000 temporary and 14,000 permanent jobs, trained 800 MAIL of-

ficials who, in turn, trained 60,000 Afghan farmers and nearly 34,000 Afghan farmers have used improved techniques as demonstrated by U.S. –Afghan extension teams.

Despite these successes, there is still a need for ongoing USDA assistance to the reconstruction of the agricultural sector in Afghanistan. The Afghan countryside and farmland has been devastated by 30 years of ongoing conflict, yet 80 percent of the population is still involved in farming or herding. Most of their equipment, technology and educational resources are scarce or outdated, which stifles the growth and expansion of the agricultural sector.

USDA currently has 77 slots for agricultural experts in Afghanistan and is looking for men and women with diverse agricultural backgrounds who are willing to commit to medium and long-term assignments, which can range from six months to over a year in country. USDA representatives can help further the development of the capacity of the MAIL so they can, in turn, help their own Afghan farmers.

Jim Butler, a senior coordinating director for agriculture who is currently deployed working with MAIL, knows firsthand the criteria USDA seeks in agricultural professionals to perform the challenging and important missions in Afghanistan.

“General knowledge of agriculture, understanding communities, working with local constituents and education experience are exactly the skills we’re seeking to assist with agricultural development,” said Butler. “People who fit these criteria will not only help shape the future of Afghanistan’s agricultural sector, but will help shape the future of the entire country.”

For Harris, the opportunity to help make a difference in Afghanistan was well worth the challenge. “The work in Afghanistan is very arduous, but exceptionally rewarding,” he said. “I believe that any extension professional looking to expand their career portfolio and serve their country and fellow man should seriously consider this opportunity. I would unequivocally recommend this lifetime challenge to agents and specialists.

“I would go again in a heartbeat,” he said. “I could not create another opportunity for service and learning to compare with the deployment.”



For more information about opportunities with USDA in Afghanistan, visit <http://www.fas.usda.gov/country/Afghanistan/us-afghanistan.asp>.

(photos courtesy of David Cook, Deputy Director of Communications for USDA)



The County Agent

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
The County Agent - NACAA, 6584 W. Duroc Rd.,
Maroa, IL 61756 - Attn: Scott Hawbaker

ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE DATES

2011

Overland Park, Kansas..... August 7-11

2012

Charleston, South Carolina.....July 15-19

2013

Pittsburgh, PA (Galaxy IV).....Sept. 15-22

2014

Mobile, Alabama.....July 20-24

