

## The Welcome Mat is Out for You!

In just a few weeks you will be traveling to Tennessee for the 2018 AM/PIC. The Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents and Specialists along with our Extension co-workers across Tennessee are working hard to ensure you have a great and memorable conference.

In order to meet our hotel demand, two additional hotels were added to our list of conference hotels. The Chattanooga is approximately two blocks behind the convention center. You will be able to enter and exit the south end of the Chattanooga Convention Center for easy access to the general assemblies. The Westin Chattanooga is approximately 5 blocks north of the Convention Center and has been open less than a year. All hotels are just a short walk to the Convention Center and Chattanooga Marriott where all activities will take place.

If you plan to ship items to the AM/PIC ahead of your arrival, we suggest you ship directly to the hotel your reservation was submitted (found on your confirmation letter).

Addresses for the hotels are as follows:

Chattanooga Marriott Downtown  
Two Carter Plaza  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Staybridge Suites Chattanooga Downtown  
1300 Carter Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

The Read House  
827 Broad Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Days in by Wyndham Chattanooga –Rivergate  
901 Carter Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

The Chattanooga  
1201 Broad Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

The Westin Chattanooga  
801 Pine Street  
Chattanooga, TN 37402

The 2018 AM/PIC has already had a record 152 first timers registered! If you are a seasoned AM/PIC attendee, please make sure to give a warm welcome to our members attending for the first time.

Tennessee is offering four very popular brown bag educational programs on Monday and Tuesday at lunch. The Monday Partnering to Spread 4R Knowledge session is sponsored by The Fertilizer Institute. In addition, there will be the Collaborative Efforts to Reach Citizens with Consumer Horticulture Information sponsored by The University of Tennessee Extension. Tuesday offers the Tennessee Advanced Master Beef Producer Program sponsored by The University of Tennessee Extension as well as the Tennessee State University College of Agriculture Program Showcase sponsored by Tennessee State University Extension. Limited space is available. Check with Registration once you arrive, if you didn't get a ticket for these informative lunch programs, seating is limited.



Photo Courtesy of: Chattanooga Convention & Visitors Bureau

**NACAA**  
**2018 AM/PIC**

**Cultivate.**  
**Innovate.**  
**Celebrate!**



**Chattanooga, Tennessee**

We look forward to having you visit the Volunteer State and enjoy our southern hospitality. Chattanooga has the welcome mat ready for you. Come on down!

# Anatomy of an NACAA AM/PIC

By: Alan Galloway  
NACAA President

No matter if you are a first timer or a seasoned AM/PIC attendee there is much to see and do at an NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference (AM/PIC). This article attempts to breakdown by day the various functions and highlight the many things attendees can see and learn by participating. Most of these occur every year, however there are often additional/new programs added depending on the location of the AM/PIC. Functions open to all members are in bold.

## FRIDAY and SATURDAY:

prior to beginning of AM/PIC:  
National Board meets to conduct pre AM/PIC board meeting.

**Educational Pre-Tours:** Animal Science, Horticulture, Natural Resources, Sustainable Agriculture, etc. (tours vary depending on interest and location of meeting).

## SUNDAY:

AM/PIC opening day Regional Directors, Vice directors, Committees meet for training and conduct final planning.

State Officers Workshop – all state officers should attend to gain information making their jobs easier and learn ways to help members in their state.

First Timers Orientation – First timers learn of many of the functions of the NACAA programs and what happens at an AM/PIC.

Life member committee meets.

Exhibit Hall opens – many exhibits from industry, sponsors and others – often prizes provided through participating/visiting exhibits. Exhibits only open through Tuesday.

**Welcome to host state dinner** – All registrants enjoy a meal – often highlighting items grown in the host state.

Sons and Daughters program – get acquainted party and explanation of activities for the week.

**Opening Session & Inspiration al Program** – program varies in each state, includes posting of colors, state flag ceremony, welcome from the host state and either an inspirational speaker and/or musical entertainment.

**Ice Cream social and State Pictures** – occurs immediately after the opening session. Check the program book each year to see when your state's picture is to be taken.

**Hospitality Suites** – Officer Candidates and state(s) bidding to host an AM/PIC often hold hospitality suites following the opening session. Check for signs and announcements for locations.

## MONDAY:

Voting delegates' breakfast – delegates learn of items to be handled during the delegate session.

Sons and Daughters are participating in tours and entertaining activities.

**Educational Breakfast(s)** – tickets to an educational sponsored breakfast available through registration.

**General Session** – All attendees are welcomed by host state representatives, hear report to association by President, Sponsors are recognized, KEYNOTE speaker address and recognition of Hall of Fame recipients.

**Trade Talks** – programs presented by sponsors and agriculture industry representatives with updates on current issues, programs and products.

**Various Luncheons** – Luncheon tickets available through registration on different topics and programs.

**Committee Workshops** – All members can attend a committee of their choice to learn more about plans for the year and to share ideas and suggestions for improvement.

Life Members hold business meeting.

**Regional Meetings & Candidate Presentations** – All members divide into sessions according to their region to obtain updates related to their region and hear from officer candidates. Many updates from regional directors and suggestions are shared during regional meetings to be carried back to the national board.

**Monday evening meal** – This meal varies by location. Often a meal is provided or organized by the host state.

**4-H Talent Revue** – All attendees enjoy hearing and seeing the talents of 4-Hers usually from across the host state's region.

**Ice Cream Social and State Pictures** – Check schedule for your state's picture.

**Hospitality Suites** – some hospitality suites will be held on Monday evening, too.

## The County Agent

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President: Alan Galloway

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## **TUESDAY:**

Poster Session, Achievement Award and Life member Breakfasts (by invitation or ticket) are held.

Life members and Spouses are often on tours.

Sons and Daughters are participating in tours and entertaining activities.

**Delegate Session** – voting delegates review finances, approve next year's budget, hear various reports, select host site four years out, elect officers, recognize retiring officers and conduct other business. ALL MEMBERS can attend to learn more about our association and how it works.

**Workshops and Seminars** – members can choose to rotate from room to room if desired to hear a wide variety of presentations delivered by their fellow members.

State Presidents and Vice Presidents luncheon - state officers learn of updates pertaining to them, state are recognized for increases in membership and other special recognitions occur.

**Search for Excellence and Brown Bag luncheons** – ticket available through registration to attend luncheons where awards winners are recognized and/or program presentations are delivered.

Spouses Luncheon is held with a special speaker.

**Professional Improvement Seminars** – members choose to hear from a variety of presentations each committee coordinates on multiple topics.

**States Night Out** – Most state associations coordinate a meal at a local restaurant.

**Scholarship Auction** – an active and fun live and silent auction to raise funds for the scholarship program funded through the NACAA foundation. Typically over \$20,000 in scholarships are awarded each year thanks to the foundation. Members receive credit for donating items based on what the items

brings at the auction. All members can become eligible to apply for scholarships after donating \$40 or donating an item(s) which sells for at least \$40.

## **WEDNESDAY:**

National Committee Members breakfast – retiring committee members are recognized Policy committee meeting – policy committee meets to review and update association policies.

Spouses participate in workshops and seminars.

**General Session** – All members should attend - beginning in 2018 the shorter general session includes brief presentations from Joint Council of Extension Professional and the Outstanding Young Farmers program representatives, recognition of and comments from Service to American/World Agriculture Award and the President elect presents plans for the next year.

**Seminar and Presentations** – Members choose from a new block of member presentations and seminars on a wide variety of topics.

Administrative Leaders luncheon and meeting – administrators from multiple state hold a luncheon and discuss current issues.

**Educational Luncheons** – tickets to a number of luncheons are available through registration.

**Super Seminars** – longer seminars occur in the afternoon – topics vary each year and cover current issues in depth.

DSA, AA and Hall of Fame recipients, Officers and others assembly - prior to annual banquet these individuals receive instructions on procession process for the annual banquet.

**Annual Banquet** – Ticket to the banquets provided through registration. Banquet includes recognition of Distinguished Service Award recipients, recognition of AM/PIC chair(s) and outgoing president

and installation of incoming president.

**Presidents Reception** – Following banquet members are invited to attend a reception by outgoing president. Beverages are often provided.

## **THURSDAY:**

**Professional Improvement Tours** – the host state conducts educational tours including a wide variety of agricultural, cultural and community sites.

**Farewell Dinner** – buses return typically to an off site location for a farewell meal at the conclusion of tours. Shuttle buses carry those back to convention center when finished. Dinner often includes musical entertainment.

## **FRIDAY & SATURDAY:**

after tour day - most members depart for home.

National Board under direction of new president conducts post AM/PIC board meeting to review reports/suggestions from committees, evaluate AM/PIC and make plans for the coming year.

**Summary** – This anatomy of an AM/PIC merely highlights the many functions scheduled each year. There are many more educational opportunities which occur in the hallways, during meals, while riding buses and in other locations as members meet others members from across the country and share ideas and challenges. The work involved by the host state and NACAA board and committees provides many ways for our members to grow in their abilities and learn news and innovative ways to assist their clientele back home. NACAA prides itself on providing a low cost AM/PIC with the most features where members can learn and re-energize for another year. The value of participation is always way above the cost of attending.

# Reflections on Retirement...Life Member Corner



*Don Day Retired MU Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Engineering Specialist, Columbia, MO*

Retirement has been enjoyable in many ways. We try not to miss any activities of our five grandchildren, along with church and community activities.

I am chair of our church's Mission and Outreach team. That has led to four mission trips to El Salvador. I was not really going to attend, at first, but I was told, "you are chair of the mission team--you have to go." Those mission trips led to some incredible experiences. We partner with a group, EnLace, that conducts a community development type program with local churches in El Salvador. EnLace works with local churches by providing a church coach. The church coach works

with local leadership to determine what projects are needed to improve the lives of people in the community.

Projects we have worked on include building homes, eco stoves, chicken houses and composting toilets. These projects help improve the health and income of the people of El Salvador. More importantly, to us, are the friendships we have made. The first project I got to work on was helping to build a house. We called it Gabby's house. Gabby is a young girl who is unable to walk. She, her mother and brother, Christian, lived in one room in Gabby's uncle's house. Christian was twelve at the time we were working on their house. He worked along with us when he got home from school at noon.

On the next trip I made to El Salvador, we got to see the finished house. Christian saw me across the yard and came running and said, "Don Day" and gave me a big hug.



## African Gardener

kidnapped and put on a boat to fish. When he became ill, he was dumped out on shore to die. Someone nursed him back to heal and he was re-united with his family. They became refugees and one day moved to Columbia, Missouri. Since arriving here, they have become citizens, have built a Habitat house and have established three Sushi businesses. Part of their income is sent back to Burma (Myanmar) to help those less fortunate. Their oldest daughter is now a freshman at the University of Missouri.

It has been a very fulfilling experience to become acquainted with the refugees and hear of their stories.

I could never have imagined how fulfilling retirement can be. I didn't go out looking for the projects I have mentioned. They just came along and I was fortunate to be asked to participate in them.

Another church outreach project is our community garden. The garden started in 2007 with 24 garden plots and has grown to about 229 plots with fifty families gardening. More than twenty of these families are refugees. Some of the refugees have shared their stories. One of the Burmese refugee families told me that the father of the family left Burma because the government was going to take their rice crop the next year. He worked in another country and sent money home to his wife. He was



**Gabby in her new home**

# 2017-2018 NACAA REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The NACAA has had an excellent year. Since we left Salt Lake City last July, the NACAA board has managed their duties with efficiency and accuracy throughout the year. Their attention to managing within our budget and expanding professional improvement opportunities for our members has been impressive. Participation by NACAA members in the various awards and recognition programs has been above expectation. The number of entries in our many programs offering recognition, awards and presentation opportunities has been outstanding. Over 173 abstracts were submitted for the poster session, and there has been stiff competition for all categories of the communication awards. Even the Search for Excellence programs saw excellent participation. The 103<sup>rd</sup> NACAA AM/PIC in Chattanooga is shaping up to be a memorable, educational and high energy event.

Changes to the annual meeting and professional improvement (AM/PIC) schedule include the addition of more breakout sessions and providing for longer time slots for each session. Through these changes the committees are able to accommodate more presentations than ever before. NACAA members stepped up and submitted more than enough abstracts for presentations and filled all of the new slots. Having a high level of member participation in our programs makes obtaining and keeping sponsors much easier. We appreciate the duties carried out by our NACAA committee chairs, regional vice-chairs and the state committee chairs. They oversee the submission and judging of a wide range of programs and help NACAA in sharing around \$40,000 in awards each year.

A continued high level of participation is needed each year to provide convincing proof to our donors and sponsors of our awards programs they support are

needed and important to NACAA members. When we can show sponsors there is high interest in our programs they sponsor, it is easier to convince a returning sponsor to continue giving their hard earned money.

This year each member of the NACAA board was asked to contact at least one new potential sponsor. This effort was coordinated by President elect Fechter and succeeded in obtaining a \$5,000 sponsor for NACAA and a \$5,000 sponsor plus over \$10,000 in like kind support for the host state. Many new potential sponsors now know more about NACAA, and those relationships may develop into new sponsorship in the future.

Speaking of our host state, Tennessee, their success in fund raising enabled them to share and help everyone attending the 2018 AM/PIC. By covering the cost of the Sunday evening meal and portions of the spouses, life members and sons and daughters programs their generosity reduced the registration cost for all attendees. The time and effort invested by the Tennessee Association of Agricultural Agents and Specialists (TAAA&S) members is greatly appreciated and will ensure a successful and memorable conference. The 2018 AM/PIC theme of “Celebrate, Innovate and Cultivate” fits well in defining the many events and functions occurring this year in Chattanooga.

The 2018 NACAA AM/PIC will provide multiple opportunities for members to hear presentations from enthralling speakers and witness the presentation of awards to many of our peers. Everyone enjoys the fun educational parts of an AM/PIC like the

## President

**Alan B. Galloway**

## Tennessee



opening entertainment on Sunday evening, the 4-H talent revue on Monday, the scholarship auction on Tuesday, the DSA banquet on Wednesday and the educational tours on Thursday.

There are some events at the 2018 AM/PIC which should NOT be missed. The two general sessions on Monday and Wednesday will be slightly different from past years. The keynote speaker on Monday morning is one you will want to hear. Dr. James “Pete” McConnell is an individual who grew up on a farm, participated in 4-H, spent his career teaching agriculture and will provide insights relating to who we are and what we do. Also during the Monday general session will be recognition of one life member who has reached a special milestone and the Hall of Fame Awards, where four individuals will receive one of our highest recognitions.

The Wednesday morning general session is half the length of previous years. However, it contains the presentation of the Service to American/World Agriculture award. Hearing the comments of past recipients of this award has often been a highlight of the entire AM/PIC. Learning of their accomplishments and knowledge of agriculture and Extension work is always impressive.

The shortened Wednesday general session provides time for an additional 24 breakout

sessions for member presentations. This change enables a larger number of members the opportunity to be recognized as having presented at a national conference. For members needing documentation for promotion and tenure, the additional presentation slots helps meet that need. Be sure to study the many presentations offered each day for those pertaining to your work and be sure to attend a few outside your normal area to challenge yourself and learn new things. Shortening the general session also reduced expenses and kept registration costs lower.

It is an honor and privilege to serve as the 100<sup>th</sup> President of NACAA. While the process of helping guide our association is at times challenging and time consuming, it is more than outweighed by the positives of being involved. I am forever grateful to the members of TAAA&S for nominating me and to all members of NACAA for the opportunity. The meetings attended and the friends made along the way has expanded my understanding of the challenges of NACAA members across this country and provided experiences of great value. I can only hope my efforts in each position I have

served in part repays the many opportunities received. I look forward serving as the past president and continuing my support of NACAA and participating in the many programs available to all members.

I close with my favorite quote credited to Abraham Lincoln, "Whatever you are, be a good one". May the experiences you have this year take you from being a "good" NACAA member to a "great" one. I look forward to seeing everyone in Chattanooga.

As NACAA President-Elect, it is my privilege to be able to work with Executive Director Scott Hawbaker on securing the many donors and sponsors of NACAA. As the President-Elect changes each year, the one constant in our association is Scott. He provides a consistent link between our donors and NACAA.

Our sponsors and donors are an invaluable component to the success of NACAA each year. Without their support, NACAA would not be able to highlight and recognize the excellent educational efforts of our members and provide the countless hours of professional development that members can receive at the AM/PIC.

A long-term relationship exists between some of our donors and NACAA. We have also had some new donors in the last few years and lost a few as well. In today's business world, agriculture businesses are continuing to consolidate and/or merge. This means there are fewer companies as potential donors. Also, these mergers have sometimes caused the current sponsorship to be reduced or sometimes eliminated. To try and offset some of this happening this year and in the future, President Galloway this year asked each NACAA Board Member to become more involved in the recruitment of potential donors and sponsors. Each board member was asked to contact three or four new businesses about potential NACAA sponsorship. The immediate impacts of this are not completely known at this time, but hopefully some seeds

were planted, and new donors will come on board in future years. I want to recognize one new donor this year in Smithfield Foods. For this year, NACAA will receive over \$132,000 in sponsorships and grants.

You as an NACAA member also have a role to play with donor development. Don't forget that every potential corporate donor decision-maker lives in some county agent's county! I challenge you to identify individuals in your community with whom you might develop a donor relationship with on behalf of NACAA. Don't forget about the financial incentives for NACAA members who are successful in this area. Outstanding donor support from our corporate partners is yet another dimension which sets NACAA apart from other professional organizations.

At the upcoming AM/PIC, please take a few minutes to go by the Exhibits and Trade Show and visit with the donors present in Chattanooga. I hope you take the time to make a new contact, learn something new, and build a stronger network while you are at the NACAA AM/PIC.

In addition to working with donors, this year I had the privilege of working with the NACAA Leadership Scholarship Committee. Other members on the

## President-Elect Richard Fechter Kansas



committee were Past NACAA Presidents Chuck Otte, Cynthia Gregg and Fred Miller. The idea of the NACAA Leadership Scholarship Program came from some Past NACAA Presidents. The committee was charged with laying the framework for this program and then transitioning it to the Leadership and Administrative Skills Committee for full implementation. As part of this program, this year at the AM/PIC, a panel discussion will be held on Sunday, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. titled Growing Leaders - Developing the Leader in You. An excellent panel of leaders is planned to share their thoughts and ideas on leadership.

I have appreciated the opportunity to be part of the leadership team representing NACAA at several conferences this past year including the JCEP Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida and the PILD Conference in Washington D.C. While at the PILD Conference, President Alan Galloway, Vice President Gene McAvoy, Northeast Region Director Craig Williams, and I had the opportunity to meet with several USDA and NIFA agency leaders. Some doors were

opened for potential future work with FSA, NRCS, and others.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the 2018 AM/PIC in Chattanooga. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your President-

Elect this past year and thank you for the trust you have placed in me. Also, thank you to my Kansas colleagues for their support of my service to NACAA. This has been an outstanding year and wonderful experience serving as your NACAA President-Elect.

The opportunity to follow in the footsteps of all the outstanding leaders of NACAA has had, and as your next President, will be a humbling experience, but one I am looking forward to.

Looking back at my term as NACAA Vice-President this past year, some of the lyrics of the Rolling Stones hit tune “Jumping Jack Flash” play in my mind. It was “born in a cross-fire hurricane.” It has been an amazing fast-paced year and it has been a “gas”.

The past year has literally been a whirlwind of activity, as just a few short weeks after returning home from the 2017 AM/PIC in Salt Lake City, Hurricane Irma slammed into Florida running the length of the state, turning things upside down and causing 2.5 billion dollars of agricultural damage to Florida’s farmers and ranchers. This changed our Extension routine to say the least, as we went 3 weeks without power and other essential services and quickly ramped up to serve as a local relief distribution center for food, water and other necessities. Despite this distraction, I was able to fully embrace the duties of NACAA Vice-President. One of the major responsibilities of the office is to provide leadership and coordinate the work of the NACAA’s three councils and 18 standing committees. The Vice President chairs the Executive Program Committee, which is made up of the three council chairs. It has truly been an honor to work with these hard-working and dedicated individuals - Brian Haller of Arkansas, Extension Development Council Chair, Sherri Sanders of Arkansas, Professional Improvement Council Chair, and Keith Mickler of Georgia, Program Recognition Council Chair.

Much of the committee workload begins and ends with the duties of the council chairs. They put in countless hours providing leadership and communicating with their respective committees for the benefit of our association.

I would also be remiss not to extend a great big thank you and recognize efforts of our

18 National Committee Chairs and 62 Regional Vice-Chairs who devote many long hours to ensure that NACAA continues to serve our members. As you know, NACAA committees are the foundation of our organization and account for the bulk of the work the association does on behalf of the membership. It takes a concerted effort by all of these talented professionals to ensure that NACAA continues to meet its mission of providing first-class professional development opportunities tailored specifically for agricultural Extension agents, recognizing and rewarding professional excellence among our peers and providing leadership development opportunities to our members.

Based on feedback from the membership and requests for additional time, President Galloway working with the Executive Program Committee and various committees were able to reconfigure this year’s Annual Meeting program to make additional time for member presentations. These changes have resulted in an additional 12 hours of presentations for 24 additional presentations, substantially increasing the professional improvement opportunities available to members. Based on recommendations from committee, significant changes were also made by the Professional Improvement Committee to make poster submissions and abstracts better conform to the requirements of various universities for promotion.

We were also successful in advertising and promoting a call for nomination for the new JCEP Award for Creative Excellence, which will, recognizes one individual or team from NACAA for their unique contributions and

## Vice President Eugene McAvoy Florida



innovative approach in addressing existing or emerging in an exceptionally creative or novel ways that get results.

I would like take a moment to recognize Sherri Sanders, who is completing her term as Professional Improvement Council Chair. Sherri has been a pleasure to work with and has been a great mentor. Sherri was key in helping update the Committee Handbook this past year. I am truly appreciative of Sherri’s hard work and dedication in helping the Executive Program Committee stay on task while ensuring we all had fun in the process.

We will welcome Bill Burdine from Mississippi as the new Council Chair after the 2018 AM/PIC.

The past year has been a year of professional growth and development. I am grateful for having had the opportunity to be part of the leadership team representing NACAA at several conferences this past year including the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida and the JCEP Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) in Washington D.C. While at PILD, President Galloway, President- Elect Fechter, NE Regional Director Craig Williams, and I had the opportunity to meet with several USDA and NIFA agency leaders.

Many thanks to all the outstanding men and women who stepped up to volunteer for the many committee chair, vice chair and council chair positions to be filled this year. I would also like to express my gratitude to everyone who helped recruit committee leadership for the upcoming year; especially the council chairs and regional directors for their efforts to ensure all of our essential committee positions were filled by competent individuals.

This year at the AM/PIC, we will hold a NACAA National Committee Member Workshop and Luncheon on Sunday along with a NACAA National Committee Recognition Breakfast on Wednesday. If you are currently serving as a State Chair and will be attending the 2018 AM/PIC, mark your calendar for the committee workshops on Monday afternoon. Your input is valuable, and helps insure

we continue to provide our members with relevant high quality presentations, posters, and awards in future years.

If you are not already on a committee at the state or national level, I urge you to consider stepping up and volunteering for a leadership position. The knowledge you will learn from participating on a committee will come back in the form of leadership development and knowledge of the importance of committees to making NACAA work. You will have opportunities to network and hear about Extension programs from other members nationwide. Many successful Extension agents can credit their success to ideas gleaned from programs they learned about through participation in NACAA. The experience and insights gained by involvement on a committee along with the desire to do more

launched most of us currently serving on the NACAA board on our paths.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as NACAA Vice-President this past year and learn from the many dedicated and capable leaders within our organization. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge my tremendous gratitude to my colleagues in Florida for their support and encouragement and the UF/IFAS leadership team for their support of my service to NACAA. It has truly been a privilege and an honor serving as your NACAA Vice-President. Thank you and I look forward to seeing all you all in Chattanooga, Tennessee at the end of July.

This has been my first year serving as the NACAA Secretary, and it has been amazing! I have learned so very much about how much work every NACAA Board member does.

As Secretary of the Association, my primary responsibility is to record minutes of the board meetings and other activities of the association and keep our membership informed through posting the minutes to the NACAA website. The board holds meetings prior to and after the Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference. In addition, a winter and spring board meeting are held as well as monthly video conference calls. During the meetings I take minutes, but I also make audio recordings that I play back to try to capture details I may have missed. Draft minutes are reviewed by the board and then approved at a meeting that is at least 2 weeks after the board members received the draft minutes. After the minutes are approved by the board they are posted on the NACAA website. Links are also established to board documents.

The board decided in 2010 to restrict access to association financial information and so these reports are not available through the website, but can be requested from the NACAA Treasurer.

The Association Secretary serves as the chair of the Internal Publications Committee.

This committee is charged with oversight of the content of the NACAA website, *The County Agent* magazine and the Journal of NACAA. Lee Stivers has been a wonderful editor of the Journal of NACAA since 2015 when she worked with Stephen Brown his last year as the editor to learn more about the role. Lee took over as editor at the 2016 AM/PIC and has continued to do an excellent job. She has worked to keep the list of journal article reviewers current. She updated the article submission instructions and instructions for reviewers.

## Secretary Virginia Rosenkranz Maryland



The instructions include how to upload tables, graphics and pictures plus other tips to make submitting an article almost painless. The Journal of NACAA provides members an avenue to publish in a peer-reviewed journal, and is an opportunity to share program and research results with our membership.

It has been an honor to serve the membership of NACAA and I look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga in July!



I have truly enjoyed serving as your treasurer this past year. It has been challenging, but rewarding at the same time. The position did take me a on a steep learning curve at first. But by jumping in and learning the multiple investment, PayPal, CD, money market, and checking accounts and the complicated NACAA coding scheme for well over a thousand Quick Book transactions we conduct each year, I've leveled out the climb. After my first month or so, things have flown smoothly.

I do assure you that our National Association is in good financial order. We have a wide diversity of accounts that give us stability and the National Board is currently making wise spending decisions. Also, those of us on the Fiscal Committee recently negotiated a new proposed 5 year contract with our Executive Director that will keep him on board to help run our organization on a day-to-day basis for years to come.

Our income sources are steady with strong membership dues, AM/PIC registration

It has been an amazing experience to serve in a leadership role for NACAA the past four years and I thank all of you for giving me this great opportunity. Janet and I met many wonderful people during the past 4 years and we will treasure the wonderful experiences which we have had during this time. Serving in this role has given me an even greater appreciation for the great work that each of you are doing in Extension in your home state. It has also made it possible for me to develop close friendships with many great people. Those friendships are priceless.

Serving the association as western region director and in the presidential rotation has been the most thrilling time in my career. NACAA has so much to offer those who chose to get involved in our association. I am amazed how quickly the time has passed but grateful for the opportunity to experience so many educational, entertaining and once in a life time experiences.

While serving as your Past President this year, I had the privilege to represent

and National Donors/ Sponsor incomes. I have recently managed to secure a new on-going National Sponsor from here in North Carolina, that being Smithfield Foods Inc. I encourage you to seek our other potential National Sponsors in your state. You may be surprised at what you find!

I want to thank my own state association, NCACAA, for their support and encouragement through this process. Also I wish to thank the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Administration and my County Administration for their support. With this, I hope to serve you with continued hard work and integrity in this position for two more years if re-elected.

If you have any questions about NACAA's financial status or questions on our financial

NACAA at several national events. The most rewarding activity was my opportunity to serve as judge for the National Outstanding Young Farmer program and delivering a keynote speech at their annual meeting in Sacramento, California. NACAA plays a vital role in this program by members submitting young farmer nominations from across the nation. I was also able to represent our association at the National SARE Conference, "Our Farms Our Future" held in St. Louis, Missouri in April of this year. This conference is only held once every ten years and over 950 farmers, Extension professionals and others attended the conference. We all learned a lot about how to be more sustainable.

Representing NACAA at the national meetings of other Extension professional

## Treasurer Lenny Rogers North Carolina



operations, look me up at the AM/PIC or e-mail me at [lenny\\_rogers@ncsu.edu](mailto:lenny_rogers@ncsu.edu). I will be glad to be transparent about our finances at any time.

I have truly enjoyed working with the current National Board this past year. This has definitely been a cohesive group that has worked extremely well to accomplish several things that benefit our association. I am eagerly looking forward to reuniting with old friends and serving NACAA at this summer's AM/PIC in Chattanooga!

## Past President Mark Nelson Utah



associations such as ESP in Wilmington, North Carolina and NAE4HA in Indianapolis, Indiana allowed me the opportunity to share information about NACAA with our sister Extension professional associations.

Finally I want to thank Utah State University, USU Cooperative Extension, and my colleagues with the Utah Association of County Agricultural Agents for their continuous support during my tenure on the NACAA Board. I am most grateful to them for putting on a "world-class" NACAA

AM/PIC in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2017. It was a great opportunity to show of our great state. I encourage each of you to seek

opportunities to serve as committee chairs and officers in your state and in NACAA. Remember the more you put into your state

and national associations the more you will get out of them. You truly do get back even more than you put in.

As I write this I'm just wrapping up a fishing experience on the Au Sable River in Grayling, Michigan. The river is referred to by some as the Holy Grail of trout rivers, and we weren't disappointed. The beauty, fishing, and overall experience is sought after by many anglers. But having this kind of top level experience doesn't just happen. Rules (or policies) have helped to keep the river experience sustainable for past, current and future generations. For the section of the river that we were fishing the policies included "fly fishing only" and "catch and release". While these policies may not be popular with every angler, they help to ensure that the "mission" is fulfilled.

Just as the Au Sable River is an exceptional trout stream, I believe that NACAA is an exceptional association with a lot to offer to those that choose to be involved. NACAA's Mission statement includes the important aspects of: furthering professional improvement of its members; furthering communication and cooperation among all Extension educators; providing for enhancement of the image of Extension; and the development of personal growth opportunities for Extension professionals.

Policies are an important part of helping NACAA meet its mission and the goals associated with it. Policies also provide an important framework so that all members can understand how things work within the association, and thereby navigate the waters on sure footing. Each member can expect that they will be treated fairly and have an opportunity to participate fully in the mission of NACAA. Without policies, each decision would be made on a case by case basis with little assurance of what the outcome would be, and it would become an exercise in who or what you know.

The Policy Chair position, along with the Policy Committee, brings a historical perspective to the board as to why the current policies are in place, and their

intended impact. More often than not, policies don't undergo major changes, but procedures may change to match current situations. Procedures are how we carry out the policies. To continue my Au Sable analogy, the policies of fly fishing only, and catch and release are not likely to change, but the opportunity to improve the experience is always on the minds of those managing the river and those experiencing it. GPS technologies help us take full advantage of access points, areas to portage around, and favorite fishing holes. It may also point out areas that you might find yourself taking an unexpected, refreshing swim. The game of choosing just the right fly, for just the right situation continues to advance... making fly shops very happy. Fishing nets have also improved, helping to increase the chance of survival for fish that are released back into the water. Many of these improvements rely on the "fishing community" providing their free input into the "knowledge database".

Back to NACAA. Fulfillment of our mission and goals as an association are important to all members. They help us to become better agents/educators and ultimately benefit our home state universities and our clientele. Through the NACAA website, members have access to learn about and understand the policies that provide a framework for our organization's decision making. To that end, we have recently updated the format of the NACAA policy handbook, as well as the content of chapter 7 "Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference". The handbook now has a table of contents that is linked to each section, so that you can easily navigate your way through the document. If you download the pdf of the handbook, you can also turn on "bookmarks" to allow you to

## Policy Chair Stan Moore Michigan



jump back to the table of contents from wherever you are in the document. Finally, searching for keywords is easy to do through the "edit/find" features of Adobe Acrobat.

Learning about the organizations mission, goals and policies affords each member the opportunity to gain the most from the association, and the opportunity to contribute to its continued success. Members provide critical input to the "knowledge database" that will help NACAA continue to be relevant to the needs of its members. Input can be made through NACAA committees, State leadership, or through National leadership. Your current Policy Committee members are: Fred Miller, Rick Gibson, Phil Pratt, Stan Moore, Paul Wigley, Paul Craig, Henry Dorrough, Mike Hogan, Cynthia Gregg, and Mark Nelson.

We welcome your input into developing policies and the procedures, that might just be the next "best fly" or "best net" ever, to this great National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

As I sit back and reflect on my first year as the North Central Region Director I am humbled with the amount of personal growth and professional opportunities that I have been blessed to be a part of within our organization.

I have had the opportunity to visit with many NACAA members within our region. I have had the privilege of attending, participating, and presenting at the state meetings in Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. I need to thank the Illinois Association for being flexible and allowing me the opportunity to Skype in to attend their meeting electronically. My schedule did not allow time for an actual face-to-face visit this year. Rest assured, I will try hard for a face-to-face visit this year. For all you Minnesotans reading this, I will be visiting with you at the end of June at your summer meeting.

Each state visit was both a unique and rewarding experience as I represented the national association bringing forward information and issues of concern. I strived to make honest and open communication and interacting with our members a very important part of each of my visits. I also spent some time encouraging diversity within our organization not only focusing on gender and race but also encouraging representation from all states within the region. I really enjoyed representing NACAA at each business meeting and being put to work.

I had the pleasure of attending the JCEP Leadership Conference back in February. While there, I was able to visit with many of our state association's leaders. I am hopeful we can continue with open communication and embrace change in a positive light no matter the size of the issue or concern.

In order for our NACAA Association to grow and stay relevant we have to be willing to try new things and accept that change is needed. Robert C. Gallagher stated, "Change is inevitable-except from a vending machine". This change starts with each and every one of us. We as an association need all NACAA members to step out of their comfort zone and participate. Whether that is by submitting an abstract for a presentation or poster, applying for communication or search for excellence awards, serving on the many different NACAA committees both within your State Association or on the National Association level, become a SARE Fellow, attend the National Meeting and pre-tours, utilize those scholarship funds, or write an article for the Journal of NACAA! I have found you get out of this organization what you put into it. So what's stopping you?

## North Central Region Director Connie Strunk South Dakota



I would be remiss if I didn't take the time to thank those who love, support, and encourage me to follow my heart and my passions. I need to extend a huge thank you to my husband David who has been holding down the home-front and doing a wonderful job while I have been gone! I also want to thank my children, Benjamin, Ada, Gunnar, Cora, Weston, and Zachary for your understanding and patience while I have been away. I would also like to express my gratitude to the South Dakota Association and the North Central Region for allowing me this wonderful, once-in-a-career opportunity.

In closing, always remember "If nothing ever changed, there'd be no butterflies". If you ever have any questions, comments, ideas, etc. please feel free to reach out to me. This past year has both been an honor and a privilege. I am looking forward to serving one more year in this role. For those of you who can make it—see you in Chattanooga!!

Greetings from the North East Region. Our region has 240 plus members of very diverse county agent backgrounds. We cover from the mountains and farms of WV to the long, flat fields of Maryland and up through PA and NY. We have diverse agriculture markets in NJ reaching to the mountains again in New England and Maine. Across the area are the extension agents of NACAA. In each state, we see extension programs and county agent activities that benefit our communities. Every state has challenges and has a dedicated county agent association to help with these challenges.

As the regional director, I have the opportunity to visit with each state's members during their home state association activities. Every state that I have visited provided great hospitality. I was very interested to see my colleagues in their local activities and local tours. My state tours included local agriculture and small business operations, seeing educators present individual professional in-service

## North East Region Director J. Craig Williams Pennsylvania



topics; tours of new technology or new farming practices. Each state has a different professional association meeting setting. It

is a great opportunity to learn from each educator on their subject or project.

One of the major benefits of belonging to the NACAA is that you can meet county agents from across your region and across the country. This is a great privilege of attending the February JCEP or the April PILD conferences. Both of these meetings provided excellent speakers on

leadership and topics of national benefit. PILD hosted a great presentation from congressional staffers on how to make Capitol Hill visits and meet your legislators. The PILD conference only happens with an active committee of all the association's leaders.

I encourage all NACAA members to look at any upcoming committee and council

leadership positions as they open in your region.

I want thank my fellow PACAA colleagues for their support as the North East Region director and Penn State Extension in our association activities.

“Time stops for no one” is an old saying that takes on more meaning as we grow older. My kids are becoming adults, retirement is just around the corner and my only hairstyle option left is bald. As I look back, I wonder where the time went. I hope I made enough good memories and helped enough family, friends and clients. I hope I leave NACAA as well or better than I found it.

My time as Southern Region Director is concluding but I've made memories and friends that will stay with me always. One example is some old, decrepit, salty, retired county agents from Texas. I won't mention Warren's or Joe's names, but we became friends years ago at an AM-PIC. Now we follow each other on Facebook to keep up. I mention this friendship because when my flight landed for the Texas state meeting, I was surprised at the airport by these retirees holding a pink welcome sign. Talk about making a person feel special! Retirees are not getting paid to be there. They came because we are friends and that feels good. I realized right then that I've got friends all across our great country. That makes Extension and NACAA special.

NACAA allows us to serve on regional and national committees, present to our peers,

win awards and learn how to serve our clients better and faster using scientifically proven methods. At state meetings I attended, I told our members that it's the little things at AM/PIC that helps me the most. I have never been hit with some great epiphany but I pick up lots of little gold nuggets. Some nuggets deal with how we do things differently (some things work well, some don't). Other nuggets deal with how to advertise or evaluate a program. My most-prized nuggets come from member presentations at AM/PIC when I realize how I can use their experience or idea to create a 'better' program for my clients. These nuggets make me wonder why all Extension agents haven't joined our ranks.

I was honored to represent the Southern Region on the National Board. I voted on policy and procedure. I traveled the Southern U.S. visiting with our membership. Puerto Rican agents welcomed me in and we developed friendships despite the language barrier. I was given kudos from my

## Southern Region Director Bill Burdine Mississippi



administrators for my national service. All of these are nice things but in the end it's the friendships that mean the most. Another saying is “You only get out what you put in”. This is true. I ask you to put some effort into NACAA and you'll be rewarded ten-fold with information and friends.

In closing, I thank MACAA and the Southern Region for giving me this opportunity and I appreciate all our members who make NACAA a family-oriented, professional association that serves to improve our skills. After all, our professional careers are all about serving others.

## Connect with Us for the 2018 AM/PIC (Website/SM Links)

Cultivate your conference experience now by visiting our website and connecting with us on social media for the most up-to-date conference information available. Check out the website for links to things to do and places to eat, including State's Night Out options.

**Website:** <http://naca2018.tennessee.edu/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/naca2018/>

**Twitter:** [https://twitter.com/naca\\_2018](https://twitter.com/naca_2018)

**Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/naca\\_2018/](https://www.instagram.com/naca_2018/)

As I bring my first year on the National Board to a close, I want to first acknowledge my colleagues in Virginia for giving me the opportunity to serve and represent them. I am always amazed by the talents and abilities that are on display when Extension folks gather and work towards a common goal. As much as we hear about all the social ills of our society, Extension reassures me that good people are everywhere.

My wife and I attended our first AM/PIC in 2002 when the Georgia Association hosted in Savannah. From that experience, we realized that we had found another family among NACAA members and spouses; I know that many of you share this experience. My hope is that those of you who are searching for such a family find one with NACAA as well.

It was fitting that my first state visit brought me back to Georgia. I thoroughly enjoyed their 2017 meeting in Columbus and once again, I was inspired by my experience there. I had the privilege of hearing Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, Mr. Gary Black deliver the keynote address at their banquet. Commissioner Black delighted the audience with stories and he shared a great message about the power of words in our daily lives. He stated that he demanded that his employees NEVER use the phrase, "I'm sorry" when speaking to clients. Instead, he directs them to say, "Please forgive me." The difference is that saying "I'm sorry" ends the conversation without

any acknowledgement of the offense nor does it require any action as a result. Asking for forgiveness, empowers the person who is injured. They have an acknowledgement of your empathy and also allows them to act on their feelings in a positive way....a way that moves both of you forward.

I have come to the same conclusion in dealing with the issue of asking agents and specialists to join our State and National organizations. I now ask members to become an active part of NACAA and their State Associations. If we ask others to simply "join" and they do, they have fulfilled their commitment and thus lead them to ask "ok, now what?" By asking others to become an active part of our organizations, their membership is only the first step in their personal journey as an engaged member.

One of my favorite analogies regarding explaining the Extension office and what we do involves a common item that many of you have in your home, office and most likely in your vehicle. What is something that most everyone has in their home that uses has shares the word "extension" in its name? "An extension cord" comes to mind quickly. The Extension office is not

What an honor it has been to serve my two terms as the Western Region Director. When I started my Extension career in 1992, it was unthinkable to me that I would ever be on the NACAA national board. I was told by my first County Extension Director that active participation in NACAA would do great things for my career and that has turned out to be very true.

Over the last two years I have made many new friends and have met some truly amazing up-and-coming future leaders. The diversity of programming I have gotten to witness is unbelievable. Extension really does have a huge impact on people's lives.

I was told that being a Regional Director is the best board position to have and that has turned out to be true. The challenge has been the long distances I must travel when coming from Alaska. A visit to any state almost always starts with a middle of the night flight out of Anchorage (usually between midnight and 3 am.) It could be worse...I could be from Hawaii where the travel distances are even greater.

## Southern Region Director Andy Overbay Virginia



unlike an extension cord. We "extend" the power of research-based information from our Land Grant Universities out into the communities we serve. We empower our clients with the "power" of the University as if they were within reach of the campus itself.

Like an extension cord, Extension offices only work if they are plugged in....plugged into the community and plugged into the University. Likewise, our Association works best when members are plugged in and fully empowered. Please consider this when you are evaluating your involvement in your State Association and NACAA. There are many opportunities to serve and find your family right here in NACAA. You are empowered when you are plugged in as a fully engaged member and our Association is more empowered with the addition your time, talents and leadership.

## Western Region Director Stephen Brown Alaska



I was very fortunate to attend two outstanding association meetings in Wyoming and Utah. You would think an Alaskan would be use to

blizzards, but the one I endured trying to get Wyoming to the Denver airport was one of the fiercest I've ever experienced. In Utah it was really heartening to see the esprit-de-corps exhibited by their association!

The Western Region is the only NACAA region that conducts its own Professional Improvement Conference. This past year's meeting was in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The Professional Improvement Council (PIC) is one of the three Councils that make up the committee structure of NACAA. The purpose of this council is to further the professional improvement of our members. The Council consists of six committees: Agricultural Economics & Community Development, Agronomy & Pest Management, Animal Science, Horticulture & Turfgrass, Natural Resources/Aquaculture and Sustainable Agriculture.

The educational activities consist of presentations, educational tours, and super seminars planned for AM/PIC. One of the greatest attributes of the NACAA AM/PIC is that most of the presentations given are by other agents or specialists from across the country. Not only is this advantageous for promotion in rank for the presenter, it is "real-world" useful information that other participants can take home, modify and use in their own area of work. Between the member led presentations, pre-tours and super seminars planned, everyone will have ample opportunities to experience a wide

variety of topics. The Animal Science, Horticulture and Turfgrass, and Natural Resources committees have planned educational pre-tour opportunities. All six of our committees will offer "top-notch" member led presentations. Please refer to the schedule and plan to earmark the ones that interest you. Our schedule allows you to move from room to room with ease to enjoy a number of presentations in different disciplines. The Agronomy and Pest Management Committee will be conducting a Super Seminar – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems in Hall C, on Wednesday 12:30 to 4:30.

Many kudos go out to the New Mexico Association for conducting an outstanding meeting. The Western PIC is a great alternative to the National AM/PIC and especially for those on a tight budget

I finally got to attend the Joint Council of Extension Professional (JCEP) in Orlando, Florida. It was an outstanding experience that I highly recommend to any Extension

NACAA is an organization with numerous opportunities for professional development and leadership. One method of involvement is through the committee structure, which provides a way for members to share their

professional. There is talk of breaking up the JCEP program and conduct regional JCEP's. We may know more by the time the AM/PIC rolls around.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the Western Region members for their support. It has been an honor to serve you. I hope to see you in Chattanooga!

## Professional Improvement Council Chair Sherri Sanders Arkansas



talents for the benefit of NACAA. This next year, I encourage you to try something new with NACAA, apply for a committee position, participate in a pre-tour, apply to be a presenter, apply for an award or perhaps put your hat in the ring to become a SARE Fellow!

Finally, with sincere gratitude, thank you to the committee chairs, vice chairs and state chairs. I truly appreciate your hard work and dedication. My sincere appreciation is extended to Gene McAvoy for his leadership.

I'm Aaron Esser with Washington State University Extension and the Chair for the Agronomy and Pest Committee and the Western Region representative. Our Southern Region committee member is Robert Goodson, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension, our Eastern Region committee member is Jim Lewis, University of Maryland Extension and our Midwest Region committee member is Ted Wiseman, Ohio State University Extension. This has been a great year for the Agronomy and Pest Committee and we are looking forward to the upcoming 2018 AM/PIC in Chattanooga, TN. We have 25 presentations on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning

over a variety of topics that we are excited about. On Wednesday afternoon we have organized a Super Seminar from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm entitled Drones for Agricultural Users: Risk Management. This seminar will focus on risk-based trainings for current and future commercial users of this emerging technology. The workshop will include presentations on aircraft systems and a workflow demonstration. It will

## Agronomy & Pest Management Chair Aaron Esser Washington



be taught by Dr. James Robbins, University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Extension Specialist and his team.

The Agricultural Economics and Community Development committee is pleased to offer professional improvement opportunities for NACAA members. This year's AM/PIC will include a full day of member presentations on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 when a variety of topics important to Extension professionals will be made. Each presentation will be 20 minutes in length with 5 minutes for questions.

The following presentations are scheduled.

- Katie L. Wantoch, University of Wisconsin Extension; **Supporting Farmers by Educating Agricultural Professionals**
- Caleb M. Carter, University of Wyoming Extension, **Ag Legacy – Helping Agriculture Nurture Its Legacy**
- Jessica Sullivan, University of Florida IFAS Extension, **Protecting the Future of Agriculture Through Conservation Easements**
- Christopher Prevatt, University of Florida, IFAS Extension, **An Economic Assessment of Southern Cow-Calf Producers Wintering the Cowherd**
- Christopher Prevatt, University of Florida, IFAS Extension, **An Economic Analysis of Grazing Cool-Season Annual Forages in the Southern U.S.**
- Hal Pepper, University of Tennessee, **Providing Educational**

### Opportunities for Tennessee Farmers Markets

- Eric E. Barrett & Robert Leeds, Ohio State University Extension, **A New Process for Developing a Customer Service Plan for Direct Agricultural Marketing**
- Daniel L. Welch, Cornell University Extension, **New Farmer Profit Teams for Advanced Beginner Farmers**
- William D. Lantz, University of Maryland Extension, **Improving the Food System Through the Western Maryland Food Council**

In an effort to encourage more applications addressing community development, Jody Gale, Utah State University Extension & Richard Brzozowski, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will facilitate an un-conferencing session (interactive discussion) titled **How Does Community Development Relate to Agricultural Extension?** This presentation is scheduled in the last slot of the day.

The committee hopes you will find all of these presentations interesting and useful in your own Extension efforts.

## Ag Economics & Community Development Chair Richard Brzozowski Maine



**New This Year** - With the help of former committee member, Megan Leffew Marketing Specialist with the University of Tennessee Extension, the committee has planned a special professional development tour scheduled for Thursday, August 2. This day long tour, Tour 26, will focus on concepts, strategies and resources for agents working with farmers on agritourism, direct marketing and value-added agriculture. Three Tennessee farms will be featured.

**Special Thanks** – We are grateful to Dr. Laurence Crane and the National Crop Insurance Services based in Overland Park, Kansas for sponsoring the efforts of this committee.

The members of the Agricultural Economics and Community Development Committee are: National Chair and Northeast Region Vice Chair – Richard Brzozowski, ME; North Central Region Vice Chair – David Bau, MN; Southern Region Vice Chair – Amanda Smith, GA; and Western Region Vice Chair – Jody A Gale, UT.

### Animal Science Committee

Committee Members:

Chair: Jerry Brown, KY

Northeast Region Vice-chair: Elizabeth Claypoole, NY

North Central Region Vice-chair: Chris Penrose, OH

Southern Region Vice-chair: Rex Herring, AR

Western Region Vice-chair: Kellie Chichester, WY

Each year the Animal Science Committee is responsible for planning and conducting the two-day Pre-AM/PIC Animal Science Seminar and Tour. This is a tremendous

## Animal Science Chair Jerry Brown Kentucky



professional improvement opportunity for our members and a great way to network with colleagues from across the country having similar interests.

The 2018 Pre-AM/PIC Animal Science Tour is scheduled for July 26-28 2018. Dr. Jason Smith and several agents from Tennessee have a great tour planned for this year's meeting. The tour will begin in Memphis, travel across the state, and end in Chattanooga. Tour highlights include; Ames Plantation, Tosh Farms, Robert Elliott & Sons Angus, Columbia Livestock Center, Tennessee Livestock Producers, Inc., Sweetwater Valley Farm and several other interesting stops along the way.

This year's tour will have 23 participants from 15 different states. Thanks to all the tour stops and to our sponsors for their vital role in making the tour possible.

In Chattanooga, you will have the opportunity to hear about some successful Extension programs and research being

conducted by your peers. There will be 14 presentations offered during the Animal Science Professional Improvement Seminars on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning of the AM/PIC. Presentations will cover beef cattle, dairy, equine, small ruminant and forage topics. Be sure to review the AM/PIC Program when you arrive in Chattanooga so you can find the time and place of the presentations that interest you. I'm confident you will learn something that can be used in your programs when you return home.

The Animal Science committee has made arrangements with the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) to offer certification exams during the AM/PIC on Wednesday afternoon. Thanks to Karl Hoppe for helping to coordinate this service for our members. Contact any member of the Animal Science Committee for more information. In addition, seven ARPAS continuing education units (CEU's) have been approved for those who attend

Tuesday and Wednesday Animal Science seminars.

Please join us for the Animal Science Committee meeting on Monday afternoon. We will be planning the committee's activities for 2018-2019. Input from NACAA members is critical to insure that committee activities are meeting the membership's needs. We invite you to be part of the planning process by attend the committee meeting.

It has been a privilege for me to be a committee chair and serve the NACAA membership by planning some of this year's professional development opportunities. Thank you to the committee vice-chairs. Each of you contributed during committee discussions and helped guide decisions that will make the 2018 AM/PIC in Chattanooga a great professional development experience for NACAA members. Thanks!

Pat Rector-Woods Committee Chair, Northeast Region, New Jersey  
Todd Lorenz, North Central Region, Vice-Chair, Missouri  
Darren Snyder, Western Region Vice-Chair, Alaska  
Jessica Kate Warren, Southeast Region Vice-Chair, Georgia

The Natural Resources/Aquaculture Committee is looking forward to continuing our work on Invasive Species and moving forward with other focused ideas. We will meet at the AM/PIC on Monday, July 30 from 1:30 – 2:30 PM. We welcome your input, so please check the schedule and plan to join us during our committee workshop. The Natural Resources and Aquaculture Committee is excited about the wonderful selection of presentations coming to Chattanooga this year. We have drought adaptability in the southwest to green

infrastructure in the northeast, Hardwood Plantations in Mississippi and Beekeeping Networks in Kentucky; all in all we have a wonderfully diverse and excellent line-up scheduled for Tuesday afternoon (1:30-4:30) and Wednesday morning (9:30-11:30). Be sure to check out our presentations.

Our Natural Resources Pre-Tour is filled to the brim with NACAA folks and family excited to see what Tennessee and Georgia have to offer. We will be enjoying Tennessee's South Cumberland State Park and several of Georgia's beautiful and

## Natural Resources Aquaculture/ Seagrant Chair Pat Rector Woods New Jersey



educational spots ending with a dinner at Carter's Lake in the Blue Ridge Mountains. If you are interested in learning more about our committee or taking a more active role please join us on Monday July 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. See the conference agenda to find out which room.

## CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE [www.nacaa.com](http://www.nacaa.com)

For the latest news & information regarding NACAA meetings, membership database updates, award submissions/recognition, NACAA Supporters and the list goes on....and on...and on!



Committee Members:

Karla K. Kean, Committee Chair  
Patrick L. Byers, North Central Committee Vice-Chair  
Cyndi K. Lauderdale, Southern Committee Vice-Chair  
William Sciarappa, Northeast Committee Vice-Chair

The Horticulture & Turfgrass committee have joined forces to develop a slate of 17 excellent presentations related to Extension Horticulture programs during the AM/PIC in Chattanooga, TN. There will be four professional improvement sessions offered on July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The topics vary from volunteer management to research and general horticulture.

Additionally, this team as well as Karla Kean and a group of agents from Tennessee have worked hard to prepare the PRE/AM/PIC Horticulture & Turfgrass Pre-Tour which will enable participants to gain insight into horticulture in Tennessee. Thanks to funding by the Tennessee Association of

Agriculture Agents and Specialists, this tour is fully funded for 2018. The tour will begin on Friday, July 27 at 7:00 am with breakfast at the convention center in Chattanooga. The bus will depart Chattanooga at 8:00am.

Stops on the pre-tour include: Tennessee State University, Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center in McMinnville, TN, Wooden’s Apple House in Bledsoe County, UT Turf Research Plots, Lake Shore Park, and Tsali Notch Vineyard.

We cannot thank our sponsors, TAAA&S & Nick Gawel with the Tennessee State University, Otis L. Floyd Nursery Research Center enough for sponsoring this tour. I also want to thank my Tennessee cohorts for jumping in with energy and enthusiasm to highlight some great agriculture in our state.

## Horticulture & Turfgrass Chair Karla Kean Tennessee



Please join us on July 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 -2:30 pm for the Horticulture and Turfgrass Committee meeting where we will discuss horticultural issues, introduce the new committee members and begin planning for 2019. The committee also thanks everyone who has helped make these educational opportunities possible including state chairs and the NACAA leaders and especially Sherri Sanders and Scott Hawbaker who have had to deal with this “newbie” for the past year!

Committee Members:

John Porter, Committee Chair and North Central Region Vice-Chair, Nebraska  
Michelle Infante-Casella, Northeast Regional Vice-Chair, New Jersey  
Matt Palmer, Western Regional Vice-Chair, Utah  
Debbie Roos, Southern Regional Vice-Chair, North Carolina

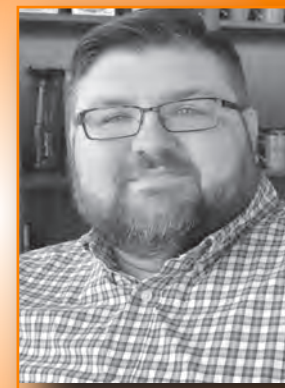
It has been exciting getting started in my first year as a national committee member and national committee chair for the Sustainable Agriculture Committee. It has been both an enjoyment and a learning experience for me personally. I would like to express my appreciation to the vice-chairs, Professional Improvement Council Chair Sherri Sanders, and NACAA Executive Director Scott Hawbaker for their guidance, leadership, and patience.

First, I would like to invite attendees of the AM/PIC in Chattanooga to join us for the Sustainable Agriculture presentation sessions. This year our two sessions are on

different days, making it easier for you to attend sessions without having to pick and choose between sessions. We have a great diverse offering of presentations across multiple facets of agriculture this year. Tuesday afternoon sessions range from food system training, urban producer capacity building, climate scenario planning, beef herd health, and the SARE Fellows program. Wednesday morning sessions include winter honey bee management, breed origin considerations for goat management, GPS assisted grazing management, and leading farm tours for professional and producer development.

Our committee is also charged with the selection of fellows for the NACAA/SARE Fellows program. Speaking as a SARE

## Sustainable Agriculture Chair John Porter Nebraska



Fellow, I can say that this program is one of the most impactful development opportunities I’ve experienced in my nearly ten years in extension. The two-year fellowship involves intensive tours of a vast array of farms and training over four site visits, one in each region. Last year the Fellows program allowed participants to explore sustainable agriculture in Texas and North Dakota. Fourteen applications were received and nine were selected as state

winners and forwarded to consideration by the chairs. We are pleased to welcome these four new fellows to the program that will begin their experience in 2019:

North Central – Claire Strader, Wisconsin  
North East – Nicole Santangelo, Pennsylvania

Southern – Jessica Kelton, Alabama

Western – Kathleen Painter, Idaho

To learn more about the program and meet Fellows past and present, consider attending the SARE Fellows experience session during the Sustainable Agriculture talks on Tuesday afternoon at the AM/PIC. This presentation will feature three of the graduating Fellows and their experiences in four different states (Idaho, West Virginia,

Texas, and North Dakota). We also invite you to consider applying for the program next year.

Our committee will also be offering the “Reading the Farm” super seminar and tour at this year’s AM/PIC. The Reading the Farm method provides a framework for assessing the sustainability of farms and providing valuable feedback to producers to improve production, profitability, and ensure long-term success. The tour for this program will take participants to Flying Turtle Farm, a diversified operation producing beef, pork, and vegetable crops for the owner’s local restaurant chain, Lupi’s Pizza. As part of the program, participants will prepare a report to deliver to the producer and their staff on the current

state of their sustainable practices and areas where they can improve to improve success. Unfortunately, the Sustainable Agriculture pre-tour our committee planned was canceled due to not meeting our registration threshold. We hope more attendees will consider the sustainable agriculture pre-tour in the future.

We always want to thank the SARE (Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education) program and their associate director Kim Kroll for sponsoring the SARE Fellows program, the Reading the Farm seminar and tour, the Sustainable Agriculture professional improvement tours and pre-tours. Much of our work would not be possible without the generous support of SARE.

The Extension Development Council’s (EDC) committees – Leadership and Administrative Skills, Agricultural Issues and Public Relations, Early Career Development, and Teaching and Educational Technologies – help members improve their skills related to the art and science of extension practice. This focus on skills and methodologies to conduct extension work effectively makes NACAA unique from other subject-specific professional organizations.

The Council’s efforts at the 2018 AM/PIC include informational seminars on Tuesday morning, July 31st. The presentations are part of four concurrent sessions featuring 12 hours of training. There are some great and diverse topics that have been accepted. Agricultural Issues and Public Relations has planned a super seminar regarding Hemp, Future of Beekeeping and IR-4 Project. We hope you will join us!

Over the year, educational programming extended beyond AM/PIC through three

webinars. The Early Career Development Committee offered a “First Timers Webinar” in April. Teaching and Educational Technologies offered a “Time-Lapse Photography” and “Decision Making Tools”. These sessions are archived and available for those who missed the live broadcasts (see the NACAA website for the URL).

NACAA is only as good as its committees, so I encourage NACAA members to increase your participation in the Extension Development Council’s activities, and offer guidance and ideas on how we can better to serve your needs. Please share any ideas with your State Committee Chair or Regional Committee Vice-Chair, or attend

### Extension Development Council Chair Brian Haller Arkansas



out Committee Workshops on Monday afternoon, July 30 at the AM/PIC.

I appreciate our committee chairs, regional vice-chairs and state chairs as well as Vice President McAvoy for their individual and collective leadership and guidance during the past year.

**Looking for a different Extension Position?  
DID YOU KNOW ... NACAA has a job postings board  
on our website found at:  
<https://www.nacaa.com/positions/>  
Check it out!**

The Agricultural Issues and Public Relations Committee has been preparing for the 2018 NACAA Conference in Chattanooga, TN. Nine speakers have been invited to speak at our sessions Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. We have a great line-up of speakers who will focus on topics including: local foods, fertilizer applicator certification, contingency planning, building healthy soils, respirator fit test trainings, beef quality assurance, Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, monitoring E. coli, and grazing consolidations. I hope you will join us for these sessions as they are filled with important information relevant to your producers.

The committee has also been preparing a super seminar for Wednesday afternoon of convention. The seminar will focus on three main topics the committee identified as current and public issues. M.L. Robinson,

an Environmental Horticulture Specialist from the University of Nevada, will speak on “Hemp, an Old Crop for a New Time”. The second presenter will be Dr. Keith Delaplane, an entomology professor at the University of Georgia, who will speak on the “Future of Beekeeping”. The final presenter at the super seminar will be Dr. Jerry Baron, Executive Director of the IR-4 Project. The IR-4 Project is national in scope and conducts research at 21 field research farms and five analytical laboratories to facilitate the registration of conventional chemical pesticides.

## Agricultural Issues & Public Relations Chair Craig Askim North Dakota



Finally, I offer my appreciation to the Agricultural Issues and Public Relations Committee members and Brian Haller, our Extension Development Council Chair. They have been incredibly helpful and responsive in our collaborations to organize programs. We look forward to seeing everyone in Chattanooga!

First of all many thanks to the service and leadership of my colleagues on the Early Career Development Committee this past year:

Ed Martin, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension

Nick Simmons, University of Florida Extension

Greg Straight, Penn State Extension

The focus of the Early Career Development Committee is to develop professional improvement opportunities that assist members with early career development. The education provided typically involves tools and resources to help an early to mid-career employee succeed. Presentation at past conferences have included mentoring, promotion, work/life balance, and publishing in Extension and other professional journals.

One of the educational programs developed by the Early Career Development Committee is educational sessions at the 2018 AM/PIC in Chattanooga, TN. Three abstracts from members have been accepted for presentation on Tuesday, July 31 from 8:30 – 11:30 am. These topics are applicable to more than just early career professionals. Following is a list of accepted presentations:

### Top 10 Goals for Educators Within Their First 5 Years

Heidi M. Lindberg, Michigan State University Extension

### You, Too, Can Publish an Article in the Journal of NACAA

Lee Stivers, Penn State Extension

### Utilizing Traditional Newsletters to Aid in the Establishment of Relationship and Program Awareness for Young Agents

Kalyn Waters, University Of Florida Extension

The other main product of the Early Career Development Committee was the NACAA AM/PIC First Timers Webinar held on Monday, April 2, 2018. The purpose of this webinar was to better prepare participants for the 2018 AM/ PIC by reviewing the conference program, logistics, and the registration process. Approximately 35 participated in the live presentation and the presentation was also archived and has had 149 views since posted. We appreciate that the AM/PIC Planning Committee members and First Timer Co-Chairs were an integral part of this webinar. There are plenty of opportunities for First Timers at this year's AM/PIC. The First Timer's

## Early Career Development Chair Emily Adams Ohio



Reception will be held on Sunday, July 29 from 3:00-4:30 pm and the luncheon will be on Monday, July 30 from 11:45 am – 1:15 pm. State Early Career Development Chairs and other parties interested in early career development issues are encouraged to attend the Early Career Development Committee meeting at this year's AM/PIC. Our meeting will be held on Monday, July 30 from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Your ideas will be useful for the development of goals for the 2018 – 2019 year and the 2019 AM/PIC. I hope you will share your thoughts and ideas with one of our committee members.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Early Career Development Committee Chair this year.

We look forward to seeing you in Chattanooga!

Leadership is the action of leading a group of people or an organization. Administrative skills are the skills required for success in administration, such as communicating, computing, organizing, planning, scheduling, or staffing. The work and educational topics of the Leadership & Administrative Skills Committee can cover a number of topics and in a number of different directions.

I find the title of this committee exciting and the work of this committee valuable for the membership of NACAA. We have opportunities for the first year member and for the veteran Extension Educator or Extension Agent.

Most of us have a degree and training in our disciplines and work to increase our technical skills. Our degree, training, and technical skills are integral for our success working in the Cooperative Extension System. However, I think that it is imperative for everyone to work on their development

of leadership and administrative skills.

I have been working for the University of Minnesota Extension for over 13 years and recently moved from an Extension Educator position into a supervision role. In my opinion, Extension Educators and Extension Agents that have leadership and administrative skills are the most likely to be successful working in the Cooperative Extension System. Success can mean many things, but to me it means that you are able to engage their community, develop high quality programs that have positive outcomes and impacts, and maintain sustainable funding.

Our committee will be working with the leadership of NACAA to support the

## Leadership & Administrative Skills Chair Nathan Winter Minnesota



membership with leadership development. Let me know if you would like to work more closely with this committee and to assist in the development of leadership and administrative skills for the membership of NACAA.

This year at our Tuesday morning session, we will feature five presentations in the Leadership & Administrative Skills room and two presentations in the Early Career Development room.

The purpose of the Teaching & Educational Technologies Committee is to share new and innovative ways of using technologies and tools in teaching/reaching our Extension audiences. Our committee members have sought to bring value to our membership both at the upcoming AM-PIC and in the months outside of the AM-PIC.

One way we've worked outside of the AM-PIC is in hosting webinars. On April 9<sup>th</sup>, Justin McMechan from Nebraska and John Tyson from Penn State co-presented on "Using Time-Lapse Photography". On May 7<sup>th</sup>, Bridger Feuz from Wyoming and Tyler Williams from Nebraska co-presented on "Extension Decision-Making Tools". Both webinars were recorded and can be found at: <https://www.nacaa.com/prof-dev/Webinars.php>.

Our committee also worked hard in seeking presentation abstracts for the upcoming AM-PIC and appreciate the state committee chairs for your help. Thank you to all who applied! We will have two rooms this year on Tuesday morning with a total of 10 presentations. We also invite anyone interested to join us for our committee meeting at the AM-PIC on Monday at 1:30 p.m.

A special thank you to the committee serving you! The regional vice-chairs are: Stan McKee (Pennsylvania) Northeast

## Teaching & Educational Technologies Chair Jennifer Rees Nebraska



Region; Matt Lollar (Florida), Southern Region; Jenny Rees (Nebraska) North Central Region. Also thanks to Ashley Garrelts (formerly from Wyoming), who served the Western Region prior to leaving Extension for another opportunity.

**Want to see Award Winning Abstracts for 2018 and previous years....**

**all you have to do is check out the winners list - found at:**

**[https://www.nacaa.com/awards/apps/all\\_award\\_winners.php](https://www.nacaa.com/awards/apps/all_award_winners.php)**

The Program Recognition Council is one of three Councils which makes up the committee structure for NACAA. The Program Recognition Council consists of seven committees:

- 4-H and Youth chaired by JJ Jones from Oklahoma
- Communications chaired by David Marrison from Ohio
- Professional Excellence chaired by Mike Haberland from New Jersey
- Public Relations chaired by Kathryn Hopkins from Maine
- Recognition & Awards chaired by Stephen Hadcock from New York
- Scholarship chaired by Donna Hamlin Beliech from Mississippi
- Search for Excellence chaired by Amy-Lynn Albertson from North Carolina.

The Program Recognition Council provides the engine to recognize the professionalism, performance, and outstanding programs by members while our sponsors provide the monetary support.

Program Recognition Council committees recognize the outstanding work of our members in their respective states and regions. Each year the committees reviews numerous entries to determine state, regional and national winners. The committees worked hard to recognize NACAA members for their outstanding efforts. During the AM/PIC, Program Recognition Council committees will award nearly \$36,000 to members.

The NACAA Communications Committee is pleased to report that BioAdvanced (formerly Bayer Advanced) will sponsor the Communications Awards Program once again in 2018. Their support of this awards program is very much appreciated!

Our committee continued to work this year on expediting the judging of all entries in a timely fashion and updated the “Frequently Asked Question” help sheet to help state chairman answer questions from their

The activities of this council focus on special recognition (DSA, AA, and Hall of Fame), presentations, programs, posters, communication methods, and other forms of recognition during the AM/PIC. During this year’s AM/PIC in July there will be a wide variety of presentations in Chattanooga, Tennessee. I encourage you to attend sessions with the goal of networking along with identifying programs and methods for use or adaptation.

This is my second year of a three year term as council chair; I am very proud to have the opportunity to serve as your Program Recognition Council Chair. This opportunity is a true challenge along with being a blessing in that it allows one to grow both professionally and personally. My role would be an impossible task if not for the excellent group of men and women who are chairs and vice chairs. They have worked hard putting in many hours fulfilling the duties of the Program Recognition Council. Thank you to each member for their time, hard work, and dedication to NACAA.

**Below are Program Recognition Council award programs along with the number of entries received:**

- 4-H & Youth total number of entries - 22
- Communications: total numbers of entries for all categories – 824

membership. Judges for this year’s national contest were also able to enter their judging results on-line using Qualtrics.

We continue to see large numbers of entries in the fourteen communication award categories. The caliber

**Program Recognition Council Chair  
Keith Mickler  
Georgia**



- Posters: total numbers of entries for both categories - 173
- Search for Excellence total number of entries for all categories - 89
- Public Relations total number of entries – 23
- AA, DSA, and Hall of Fame total number - 129

**Joining a Committee**

Each year the challenge to fill vacancies within the national committee structure gets a little more daunting. I encourage all members, regardless of how long you have been a member to consider applying for committee membership. If anyone is interested or curious about the time commitment, I encourage you to speak to with a current committee member along with attend a committee meetings during the AM/PIC. I think you will find that the benefit of committee membership and work far outweighs the time commitment. Hope we see you in Chattanooga, TN.

**Communications Chair  
David L. Marrison  
Ohio**



of award entries is outstanding. Our members are producing excellent materials and are to be commended for the quality of their submissions. As a whole, the competition for the national winner and national finalists in each category was extremely close.

In total, 824 total entries (up from 810 in 2017 and 586 in 2016) were submitted by NACAA members from across the nation. The Southern Region led the way with 459 entries submitted followed by the North Central Region with 234 entries, the Northeast Region with 69, and the West Region with 62. Congratulations to the Florida Association for have the most entries as a state with 95 total applications. Florida was followed in the top five by Ohio and Tennessee who both had 58 applications, Georgia with 49, and North Carolina with 48.

The following is a summary of the entries made in each category.

- Audio recording had 47 entries
- Published Photo and Caption had 47 entries

- Computer Generated Graphics had 48 entries
- Promotional Piece had 123 entries
- Personal Column had 85 entries
- Feature Story had 78 entries
- Individual Newsletter had 71 entries
- Team Newsletter had 28 entries
- Video Presentation had 69 entries
- Fact Sheet had 73 entries
- Publication had 63 entries
- Web Site had 54 entries
- Learning Module had 23 entries
- Bound Book had 15 entries

New this year, the National Winner for each category will not be announced until the NACAA Communications Award

Luncheon scheduled for Tuesday, July 31, 2018. The National Finalists and Regional Finalists will also be recognized at this luncheon.

I am appreciative of the work of the National Region Vice-Chairs for the communication committee. The regional vice-chairs are: North Central Region Chair – Heather Gessner (South Dakota), North East Region Chair - Marjorie Peronto (Maine), Southern Region Chair – Brittany Council (Virginia) and West Region Chair – Mark D. Heitstuman (Washington). A special thank you is extended to all the State Communication Chairs for their diligence and timeliness in conducting their state contests.

I would also like to thank Keith Mickler, NACAA Program Recognition Council Chair and Scott Hawbaker, NACAA Executive Director for their assistance throughout the year with questions and concerns. If you have any suggestions for improving the NACAA Communications Contest, please contact David Marrison at [marrison.2@osu.edu](mailto:marrison.2@osu.edu) or call 440-576-9008.

The current Search for Excellence (SFE) committee is comprised of four regional vice chairs and myself. The regional vice chairs include: Linda McClanahan from Kentucky, Steve Van Vleet from Washington, Jennifer Schutter-Barnes from Missouri, and Dwane Miller from Pennsylvania.

The committee held an organizational meeting by Zoom/conference call in December 2017. We discussed procedures for promoting SFE entry submissions and for scoring the entries to be received. The committee voted to have the category SFE in Forestry, and Natural Resources name changed to Search for Excellence in Environmental Quality, Forestry, and Natural Resources as discussed at the 2017 AM/PIC. During the conference call, we also confirmed the division of responsibilities regarding the SFE categories that each would lead, and preside over at the 2018 NACAA AM/PIC. They were as follows

- Consumer or Commercial Horticulture- Jennifer Schutter-Barnes
- Crop Production- Amy-Lynn Albertson
- Environmental Quality, Forestry, and Natural Resources- Jennifer Schutter-Barnes
- Farm Health and Safety- Dwane Miller
- Farm & Ranch Financial Management- Steve Van Vleet
- Livestock Production – Linda McClanahan

## Search For Excellence Chair Amy-Lynn Albertson North Carolina



- Sustainable Agriculture- Amy-Lynn Albertson
- Young, Beginning, or Small Rancher/Farmer – Steve Van Vleet

Each regional vice chair was responsible for organizing a team of judges for each respective category, judging the entries and reporting the results to me by May 1, 2018. All the entries forwarded by the states were judges by the end of April, and national

winners, finalists, and state winners were notified of their placing by May 5th.

The number of completed entries per category is as follows:

- Consumer or Commercial Horticulture - 19
- Crop Production – 12
- Environmental Quality, Forestry and Natural Resources – 11
- Farm and Ranch Financial Management – 7
- Farm Health and Safety – 5

- Livestock Production – 15
- Sustainable Agriculture – 10
- Young, Beginning or Small Farmers/Ranchers – 10

The total number of entries received in 2018 was 89, a decrease of 14 over last year. There is a lot of opportunities for more members to participate by submitting entries in SFE. The entries are easy to prepare and submit, and the program provides an excellent opportunity for individual and team recognition. Our 2018 winners and finalists will be recognized during their respective SFE luncheons at the upcoming

AM/PIC. The committee will continue to promote SFE awards program and encourage more applications next year. Thanks to each state chair for their efforts in promoting SFE to their membership, and selecting state winners. Thanks to each regional vice chair for all their efforts to facilitate the judging of the entries and other associated tasks of the committee. Thanks to Program Recognition Council Chair Keith Mickler for his assistance and support during the year. Thanks to NACAA Board for their support of the Search for Excellence program. Thanks to NACAA Executive Director, Scott Hawbaker for his support and assistance.

The 4-H and Youth committee is responsible for reviewing and judging the Search for Excellence in 4-H and Youth Programming Award as well as reviewing and choosing presenters for the Excellence in 4-H and Youth programming seminars. Each year the membership makes it extremely difficult to choose the award winners and seminar presenters and this year was no different.

For the Search for Excellence in 4-H and Youth Programs, there were 22 entries from all four regions. Judging was very difficult and the scores were extremely close.

This year the committee was allowed more presentation time. This allowed the committee to increase the number of presentations to 10. Even with more spots

the applications for presenters was extremely competitive. Each year the committee has to make difficult decisions on who to invite to present at the AM/PIC meeting.

I would like to encourage the membership to continue to make this process difficult on the committee. If you applied this year and were not chosen, apply again next year. In some cases, the scores were separated by less than five points. If you have not applied, please do. The committee knows that our membership is doing some outstanding

The Professional Excellence committee is responsible for organizing and conducting the poster session before and during the AM/PIC. Presenting a poster is a great way for members to showcase their work in Extension Education or Applied Research, generate discussion during the conference “Meet the Authors” sessions, and get their abstract published in the Conference Proceedings. It takes a lot of dedication and work to make this happen and without the regional vice-chairs and state chairs, the poster session would not be possible. Current regional vice-chairs are: North Central Region, Gary Gao (OH); North East Region, Steven Yergeau

(NJ); Southern Region, Shawn Banks (NC); and Western Region, Bonnie Hopkins (NM).

This year we will have had an excellent number of poster abstracts submitted with a total of 173 (65 Research and 108 Extension Education) for judging and/or display in Chattanooga. For 2018 we will use pre-AM/PIC regional judging of state winners to select the 24 National Finalist posters (three from each

work and that work needs to be shared with others. The committee would like to thank the NACAA board for allowing us this opportunity and we look forward to the future.

## 4-H & Youth Chair JJ Jones Oklahoma



## Professional Excellence Chair Mike Haberland New Jersey



region for both categories). This will allow more efficient use of the volunteer judge's time during the AM/PIC. Two teams of four judges, comprised of a NACAA peer

member from each region, will judge the posters during the AM/PIC to determine the National 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place award winners. Judging criteria is found on the NACAA website, and can be reviewed to prepare for next year's posters.

Posters are to be in place no later than 5:00 p.m. Sunday, July 29 and stay through 4 p.m.

Tuesday, July 31, 2018. "Meet the Author's Poster Sessions" will be from 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. during the breaks on Monday, July 30 and Tuesday, July 31.

National winners and finalists will be formally recognized during the poster session awards breakfast to be held on Tuesday, July 31 starting at 6:30 a.m. The

Professional Excellence Committee would like to thank Syngenta for once again sponsoring the poster session awards and breakfast at the 2018 AM/PIC.

The Public Relations and Agricultural Awareness Committee is responsible for conducting the Agriculture Awareness and Appreciation Awards (A4) program. The Ag Awareness and Appreciation program is a great way for NACAA members to highlight educational programs that demonstrate the public relations component of Extension work. It is also an opportunity to showcase how Extension agents and educators enrich the public's understanding of agriculture in their communities. This year the Ag Awareness and Appreciation award program had 23 examples of outstanding public relations work. There is a tremendous amount of great Extension work that many educators and agents are doing and this outreach makes an excellent entry in the Ag Awareness and Appreciation award program. Think about writing up your work for 2019!

Congratulations to Katie Wantoch from Wisconsin, who is the Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award National Winner for 2018. Katie will present her winning entry during the Ag Awareness and Appreciation Recognition Luncheon on Monday in Chattanooga. Her topic will be the Chippewa Valley Farm-City Day. Congratulations also

go National Finalists Jennifer Rhodes from Maryland, Minda Daughtry from North Carolina, and Susan Kerr from Washington.

State winners include: Phil Kaatz from Michigan, Michael Estadt from Ohio, Judith Wright from New York, Ken Kelley and Max Runge from Alabama, Jennifer Caraway from Arkansas, Deanna Thompson from Florida, Bryce Roberts from Kentucky, Christine Coker from Mississippi, Mallory Dailey from South Carolina, Lindsay Stephenson Griffin and Jake Mallard from Tennessee, Michael Hiller from Texas, Jennifer Ligon from Virginia, and Leigh Ann Marez from New Mexico.

I want to send a sincere thank you to all of the hard-working judges, Public Relations and Ag Awareness Committee Regional Vice Chairs and state chairs for their commitment to the difficult work of judging the excellent entries this year.

During the 2017-18 NACAA year, the national leadership of the Recognized and Awards Committee was composed of Vice Chairs Sherry Beaty, Joni Harper, Amber Yutzy, and Donna Hoffman continued to serve as Vice-chairs for their respective regions. As the "old pros," these ladies have provided great leadership in their respective regions. I have had the honor of serving on this committee for the last four years and will be handing the reigns to the incoming chair at the end of the AM/PIC.

Making our jobs easier are the many state Recognition and Awards State Chairs. The state chairs helped to make our jobs easier this year with the cooperation and adherence to deadlines set by our committee. On behalf of the National Committee, I extend our sincere thanks to them.

## Public Relations & Agricultural Awareness Chair Kathryn Hopkins Maine



The Public Relations and Ag Awareness Committee appreciated having entries from all of the four regions in 2018 and challenges everyone in NACAA to submit an entry in one of the NACAA awards programs and especially in the Ag Awareness and Appreciation Award program in 2019. Your work makes a difference! We would like to send a sincere and special thank you to Bayer CropScience for sponsoring the Agriculture Awareness and Appreciation Award this year. It has been my pleasure to serve as the National Chair. I have enjoyed working with our Regional Vice Chairs and reviewing all of the great programming our agents and educators are doing across the country on behalf of the agricultural industry.

## Recognition & Awards Chair Stephen Hadcock New York





On Tuesday morning, 61 Achievement Award recipients will receive their awards at a breakfast in their honor. This is the 44th year that NACAA has presented this award to this year's recipients joining 2,172 fellow Achievement Awards winners. The 2018 Achievement Award winners have demonstrated their ability to conduct high-quality educational programs for their clientele and gain the respect of co-workers for their work. Achievement Award recipients have accomplished this in less than 10 years. A special thank you goes to NACAA President Alan Galloway and American Income Life's Bill Viar, who will assist with the awards presentation on Tuesday morning.

This is the 80th year our national professional organization has recognized fellow Educators with the Distinguished Service Award. These members were chosen by their respective states to receive one of the most prestigious awards given by NACAA. This year's recipients will be recognized during the Annual Banquet on Wednesday evening. The Distinguished Service Award will be presented to 62 NACAA members from across the country and join 7,333 past

recipients. These DSA recipients are being recognized for providing outstanding educational programming, are respected by their clientele and co-workers, and have worked for more than ten years.

The Committee also is fortunate to facilitate the selection of Hall of Fame recipients each year. This is the 13th year for this prestigious award. Four outstanding Hall of Fame winners will receive their awards at Monday's general session. Recipients of this award are recognized for their outstanding work as an Extension Educator and for being involved in their communities. They have provided leadership for professional organizations, churches, and humanitarian service organizations. This year's inductees make one proud to be a member of NACAA.

Committee leadership appreciates that the NACAA Board gave careful consideration and approved a change in policy to allow deceased NACAA members to receive the Hall of Fame Award posthumously. This year, Dan Kluckinski will be recognized for the work he performed and devotion he had

for the Association and for the residents of New Jersey.

The committee wishes to thank the Ag Pipeline Alliance for continuing their financial support for the Hall of Fame award. The committee expresses our appreciation for the continued support of the Achievement Awards Breakfast by American Income Life Insurance Company for 45 years and they have provided sponsorship for 63 years overall to NACAA programs. Altria Client Services is the sponsor of the Awards Booklet and the committee wishes to say thank you for your continued support of the Annual Banquet.

Finally, I want to say what an honor and privilege it has been to be Chair of this committee. I consider it one of the highlights of my Extension career. One cannot but feel pride and the sense of accomplishment when reading the abstracts of this year's recipients. They all are entitled to this recognition and the committee is proud to do what we can to make it happen.

The Scholarship Committee is comprised of four regional Vice-Chairs and myself. They are Sandra Barraza (West) from New Mexico, David T. Handley (Northeast) from Maine, Travis Harper (North Central) from Missouri and Libbie Johnson (Southern) from Florida. Life Member representative, Charles Moody, also joins the committee to share his years of experience and wisdom during the selection process at the annual AM/PIC. The committee works with the NACAA Educational Foundation to award scholarships for professional development to NACAA members.

The Scholarship Committee is responsible for promoting the program by obtaining funds from NACAA members, friends of NACAA, and others interested in the scholarship effort. Primary activities include: promotion, review, and awarding of scholarships; administering the live and silent auction at the AM/PIC; and soliciting donations to the scholarship program. I would also like to recognize the NACAA

Educational Foundation for their help and support of the scholarship program. Through their guidance and stewardship of the investments, we continue to be able to provide funding for outstanding professional development activities.

The Scholarship Committee works with state scholarship chairs to encourage donations to the scholarship program. Between May 15, 2017 and May 15, 2018, NACAA members and friends contributed \$16,042 to the scholarship program. The scholarship auction at our 2017 AM/PIC in Utah raised a little more than half the amount, \$8,232. Thank you for your generous support! This past year, 8 individual and 3 group scholarships (42 agents total) were awarded \$28,250 for continuing education and

professional development efforts.

The Scholarship Committee would like to recognize the following members for reaching designated contribution levels to the NACAA Scholarship Program during the period of May 15, 2017 through May 15, 2018. Certificates of Appreciation will be awarded to these members during their regional meetings at the Chattanooga AM/PIC:

## Scholarship Chair

**Donna Hamlin Beliech**  
**Mississippi**



### **\$100 - \$249**

North Central Region: Richard Hentschel, Nathan R. Crane, Larry Tranel, John Otte, Ron Lenth, John Lawrence, Charles Brown, Phil Kaatz, Joni Ross Harper, Patrick L. Byers, John Porter, Dan Lima and Mark Allen Badertscher

Northeast Region: Christina Yoder Becker  
Southern Region: Tinsley H. Gregg, Michael D. Reeves, Daniel J. Griffin, Justin Chlapecka, Sheila Dunning, Shawn Banks and Albert Sutherland

West Region: Andrea Kawabata

### **\$250 - \$499**

North Central Region: Mark Ploger and Jennifer Rees

Northeast Region: Elizabeth Claypoole and Emelie Swackhamer

Southern Region: Craig Roussel

West Region: Dave McManus, Roland K. Patterson, W.F. "Frank" Hendrix and Sheila L. Gray

### **\$500 - \$999**

North Central Region: Heather Gessner

Northeast Region: Dwane L. Miller

Southern Region: Lenny Rogers and C.P. Chihasz

West Region: Mark Nelson

### **\$1,500 - \$1,999**

Southern Region: Alan B. Galloway

### **\$2,000 - \$2,499**

Northeast Region: Glenn Rogers

### **\$3,000 - \$3,499**

Southern Region: Keith Mickler

### **\$4,000 - \$4,499**

North Central Region: Charles Otte

### **\$23,500 - \$23,999**

Southern Region: Eddie R. Holland

Scholarship applications can be submitted any time after this years AM/PIC (Aug. 3, 2018), but before the June 1, 2019 deadline. The funds can be used for members' professional improvement, i.e. advanced degrees, tours, seminars, research, or other specialized training. Specifically, funds go toward reimbursement of registration or certification fees, travel, food and hotel accommodations.

- The on-line application is located on the NACAA website. It must be filled out and submitted electronically.

- In order to be eligible for up to \$1,000 in awards, members need to be vested at \$40 in the scholarship program. Members need to be vested at \$100 to be eligible for up to \$2,000 in awards. No monetary award can be over \$1,000 in any one year. This contribution must be made before the end of the AM/PIC to qualify for future scholarships (i.e. a contribution must be received by the end of the 2018 AM/PIC to apply for an educational scholarship in 2019).

- Other criteria can be found at the NACAA website under the "Awards" tab.

Vestment in the scholarship program can occur in a variety of ways. Here are some possibilities:

- Bring items for the AM/PIC silent and live auction. You receive credit for the amount the item sells for.
- Purchase tickets (\$20 each) for a special cash drawing held during the AM/PIC auction. Non-winning tickets receive credit for a donation to the scholarship program. It's a WIN-WIN chance!
- Some states have auctions or other fundraisers, and designate the proceeds toward the NACAA Scholarship Program under an individual Extension Agent name.
- Direct donations online with a credit card! Simply visit the NACAA website and scroll to the middle of the page. Click on "Donate to the NACAA Educational Foundation – SCHOLARSHIP".

Applications submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup>, and approved by their state and regional chairs are reviewed by the Scholarship Committee at the 2018 AM/PIC in Chattanooga. Awardees will be notified via e-mail in a timely manner and given instructions on the dispersal of funds process.

**Schedule an early States Night Out dinner and bring an item or two for this year's auction!**

The Life Member Committee Regional Vice Chairs for 2017-18 have been Eddie Holland, Texas; Paul Craig, Pennsylvania; Dave Phillips, Montana; and Melvin Brees, Missouri. With Dave Phillips and Melvin Brees having served two year terms following this year's AM/PIC, Milt Green of Wyoming and Dave Stenberg of Nebraska will be filling those slots for the 2018-2020 term.

Why does NACAA have a Life Member Committee? According the by-laws of NACAA the purpose is to serve as a liaison between Life Members and members of NACAA and the Board of Directors; to

actively seek resources for the Scholarship Fund and to encourage state program committees to develop programs that will enhance the Cooperative Extension Service. With nearly 3,000 Life members the committee is committed to working on behalf of those members to advise the NACAA Board on life member activities and offer assistance when needed.

## **Life Member Chair Neil Broadwater Minnesota**



The NACAA web site has a Life Member page that has been in existence over a year and a half now to provide information to life members across the country. Please check

out the page at <http://www.nacaa.com/committees/LifeMemberInformation.php>. Let us know how we can make it better and more meaningful.

This has been the third year that the Life Member Committee has set up a rotating schedule by region to submit an interesting article for a Life Member page in each *The County Agent* magazine publication. We hope you have read them and enjoyed learning about some of the things Life Members are doing after retirement. We plan to continue this series of articles for the 2018-19 year as well. If you are a life member and have an interesting story to tell and would like to submit an article you are welcome to contact your Life Member Regional Vice Chair.

The life members hold an annual business meeting each year during AM/PIC. At

that meeting a memorial service is held to honor all NACAA members who have passed away during the past year. Names are gathered by the Regional Vice Chairs with the cooperation of state life member contacts. Two challenges we continue to face each year is to make sure we have a life member contact in each state and then, for them to be able to find or be aware of the individuals who have left us so we can be provided with the information needed for the "In Remembrance" publication and memorial service. We ask for each state's cooperation in this effort.

In your particular state, if your association is having an event or activity, keep in mind the life members so they can participate and/or stay connected. Life members often like to hear what is going on in your state, appreciate having the opportunity to be part of the association meeting or

going on that tour or visit you have planned for educational purposes. So think about contacting a life member near you when something is being planned.

This is my second and final year as the NACAA Life Member Committee Chair. Dave Phillips of Montana will be taking over the chair position for the 2018-2020 two year term. I ask that you give him your full support. I wish to thank the NACAA Board for always making sure Life Members are part of the association's plans for AM/PIC. I also wish to thank the Tennessee Life Member Committee for helping set up a great Life Member program that include speakers, tours and activities at this year's AM/PIC. AM/PIC allows life members to be able to renew acquaintances, see old friends and make new ones during the many activities scheduled. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

The purpose of the Journal of NACAA is to provide members with opportunities to publish in a nationally recognized peer reviewed journal; to share scholarly work in Extension; and to become more knowledgeable Extension professionals. The Journal publishes scholarly works in the field of Extension, including discipline-based research as well as works describing important aspects of Extension practices and processes. Honoring the wide variety of scholarly activities undertaken by Extension agents and educators, the Journal welcomes submissions of original research, applied research, survey results, needs assessments, demonstrations, case studies, literature reviews, and innovative techniques and approaches to programming.

The Journal publishes on June 1 and December 1 each year. Submissions must be electronically submitted by March 15 for the June edition, and September 15 for the December edition. We received sixteen submissions for the December 2017 issue; thirteen papers were published. For the June 2018 issue, we received twenty-four submissions.

This winter I met with a small group of peer reviewers to develop a set of guidelines for peer reviewers, similar to our submission

guidelines for authors. We are beta-testing the new peer reviewer guidelines with the June 2018 issue, and plan to have this posted online soon. We currently have sixty-one peer reviewers, with a wide range of interests and expertise. Our peer reviewer pool is a real strength of our journal, and we sincerely appreciate their service to NACAA and its members.

I welcome comments and questions from authors and reviewers, both prospective and experienced. And we can always use additional peer reviewers. Please drop me an email at [ljs32@psu.edu](mailto:ljs32@psu.edu).

***Thanks to 2017/2018 Journal of the NACAA National Peer Reviewers***

Nicole Anderson  
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If you want to get reenergized, just get involved with the Outstanding Young Farmer program. Having been involved with this program a little with nominating two past top ten applicants I was somewhat aware of its existence. But little did I realize just how wide spread this program is. The Outstanding Farmers of America Organization is made up of past nominees of the program. It is designed to facilitate an exchange of ideas and friendship that encourages excellence and involvement in agriculture and the local, state, and national community. There are approximately 1,500 members across the nation who utilizes their connections with each other in a strong networking format to assist farmers and promote the importance of America's farming community.

The National Outstanding Young Farmers program is administered by the Outstanding Farmers of America and supported by NACAA, John Deere and the United States Junior Chamber. Applicants must be between the ages of 21 and 40, deriving a minimum of two-thirds of their income

from farming. They are judged on progress in agricultural career, extent of soil and water conservation practices, and contributions to the well-being of the community, state and nation.

Seeing these young people interact and become friends is inspiring. They all come from different backgrounds but have a common cause in deriving their livelihood from agriculture. They share heartaches and triumphs alike. They listen to the older alumni and learn from them. It's like a big family.

At the 2018 62<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Congress, held in Sacramento California in February, 15 of the 30 nominations were made by NACAA agents from across the country, which resulted in 4 in the top 10. Each of these candidates thanked their Extension Agents for their help in getting nominated.

## National Outstanding Farmers of America Liaison Ray Hicks Georgia



The nominee from Arkansas was submitted by Jenny Ross and they were named one of the top four finalist. NACAA is doing an outstanding job of recognizing these young farmers but we need to keep on encouraging these to fill out the nomination forms. The 2019 Congress will be held in Bettendorf, IA., February 7-10, 2019. Applications for the program are due August 1 and be found at <http://ofafaternity.org>.

For more info please feel free to contact me at Ray Hicks, [rhicks@uga.edu](mailto:rhicks@uga.edu), (912) 682-8670.

### Extension Journal Inc.

Melody Rose  
Tennessee

Many thanks and appreciation is extended to the NACAA officers and board for their support of me representing our association on the Extension Journal, Inc. (EJI) board. This has been an exciting year in developing the special issue on innovation that will launch this fall!

### Journal of Extension

*JOE* is a scholarly, double-blind, peer-reviewed online journal representing the best of Cooperative Extension from across the nation. All *JOE* submissions are peer reviewed with high editorial standards and scholarly rigor expected from all papers

## Extension Journal, Inc. Melody Rose Tennessee



submitted and from the reviewers. Should your paper be published in *JOE*, consider that a huge achievement!

The Journal of Extension remains a rigorous, refereed journal for Extension professionals. Well over a million visited the *JOE* site during 2017, along with 282 submissions received for publication. For more on the numbers, please visit: <https://www.joe.org/website-statistics/index.php>

You can also find the top 50 most read articles for 2017 at: <https://www.joe.org/website-statistics/top-articles-2017.php>. Tracking of the top 50 most read articles goes back to 2005. If you are interested in being a reviewer and have breadth across several areas as well as depth of expertise, please visit *JOE*: <https://www.joe.org/for-reviewers.php>.

You can apply to become a *JOE* reviewer by sending the name and e-mail address of a reference who can speak to your ability to serve as a reviewer and a file containing

your curriculum vitae to Robert Ricard at: [robert.ricard@uconn.edu](mailto:robert.ricard@uconn.edu).

### 2018 AT A GLANCE...

- The proposed release date for the special *Innovation Issue* is September 13, 2018.
- The *JOE* (Job Bank) website has a new look! Make sure to visit the site to see the new changes, which have made the website more user friendly.
- A new *Trending Articles* section has been added to the homepage for an easier glance at new and relevant articles.
- Marketing items (bookmarks), along with a booth display have been created (and are set-up and distributed at national meetings).

### National Job Bank

Extension Journal, Inc.'s additional product

is the National Job Bank <http://jobs.joe.org/>. The National Job Bank provides access to a broad range of faculty positions in teaching, research, extension and outreach along with the professional positions involving education, research and/or outreach missions.

The National Job Bank allows the job seekers free registration and accounts, quick access to employers that are ready to hire, ability to communicate to employers online, and alerts when a relevant job becomes available. Employers can search through and find key individuals for positions they wish to fill.

### SPECIAL THANKS

Since joining the EJI Board in January 2016, it has been a wonderful experience and a great opportunity to serve with other members of the Extension family from across our nation. The friendships and contacts I have made are priceless. Serving as the NACAA representative on the EJI board has truly been an honor and privilege.

Twenty years ago, the delegates of the 1998 San Antonio AM/PIC, voted to approve the budget and creation of the Executive Director position for NACAA. I'm thankful that the board of directors selected me for the job, and have continued to allow me the opportunity to serve.

Over the years, the position has evolved to include additional responsibilities with sponsor recruitment, web-based application maintenance, AM/PIC registration, and much more. As technology has become more prevalent, NACAA's online presence has evolved as well by offering a wide variety of member services/information on the world wide web.

This year marks the 16th year I have handled the AM/PIC online registration process. The AM/PIC is ultimately like having 4 mini-conferences in one (Active, Life, Spouse, Sons & Daughters programs). As time continues, we'll continue to work on

modifying the process to make it more user friendly for everyone.

It's been an honor to get to know NACAA members from across the country, and a pleasure to call many of you close friends. For some, we may only talk a few times a year, but it's always enjoyable to do what I can to make NACAA a more efficient and viable organization.

As the future I'm sure will bring more challenges to NACAA, I encourage you to stand strong with YOUR organization and do what you can to get involved and gain the most out of what NACAA can offer. Whether it's professional improvement, program recognition or Extension development - the opportunities are readily

## Executive Director Scott Hawbaker Illinois



available to each and everyone of you.

As always, feel free to give me a call or send me an e-mail with questions or concerns t (217) 794-3700 or [nacaemail@aol.com](mailto:nacaemail@aol.com). It's my pleasure to assist in any way possible.

# Pesticide Stewardship Brochures

NACAA has partnered with Syngenta on eight general pesticide stewardship brochures and two flyers to assist with pesticide educational efforts. These brochures are not specific to any geography, target site, pest, product, or company. These brochures are available to NACAA members FREE of charge for your use in programming efforts. Enter the number of copies you are interested in next the specific brochure/flyer and submit to the address listed below. Your supply will be sent at no charge.



- \_\_\_1) 50 Ways to Treat Your Pesticide - English edition
- \_\_\_2) 50 Ways to Treat Your Pesticide - Spanish edition
- \_\_\_3) 50 Ways to Treat Your Pesticide - Aerial Applicator edition
- \_\_\_4) 50 Ways to Treat Your Pesticide - Pest Management Professional edition - *(for commercial, licensed or certified applicators and technicians under their supervision, for treating in and around structures)*
- \_\_\_5) The Value of Buffers for Pesticide Stewardship and Much More
- \_\_\_6) Pollinators and Pesticide Stewardship
- \_\_\_7) Dress for Success! Some Things to Know About Personal Protective Equipment BEFORE You Handle a Pesticide
- \_\_\_8) For Pesticide Mixers, Loaders, and Applicators - Some Things to Know About Personal Protective Equipment BEFORE You Handle a Pesticide (English, 2 pages, 8<sup>th</sup> gr. reading level)
- \_\_\_9) For Pesticide Mixers, Loaders, and Applicators - Some Things to Know About Personal Protective Equipment BEFORE You Handle a Pesticide (Spanish, 2-pages, 8<sup>th</sup> gr. reading level)
- \_\_\_10) An Ounce of Prevention! Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Schools and Child Care Facilities – *(discussing all aspects of IPM, including safe pesticide use)*

## Available Formats:

Quantities of the actual brochures that will be “well-used” can be ordered free of charge from [carol.somody@syngenta.com](mailto:carol.somody@syngenta.com) by emailing this order form or a short note. No PO boxes, please! A copy of this form is also available at: <http://www.nacaa.com/countyagent/PesticideStewardship.php>

PDF versions of the brochures can be viewed or downloaded from the Pesticide Environmental Stewardship (PES) website at <http://pesticidestewardship.org/Pages/Resources.aspx> or from any of the partner websites. Any organization is also welcome to post these brochures on their own website.

Word versions of the brochures can be requested by any organization desiring to modify or extract content. E-mail [carol.somody@syngenta.com](mailto:carol.somody@syngenta.com) to discuss logo swaps with or without content changes. Artwork and photos can be used if conditions of use are met. PowerPoint presentations to go with the brochures are also available upon request.

Pesticide educators are also welcome to use or adapt any content that appears directly on the PES website – it is not copyrighted. Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of pesticide safety and stewardship education!

# Thank You - NACAA Sponsors/Donors



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# 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

2018 <b>Chattanooga, Tennessee.....July 29-Aug. 2</b>	2020 <b>Virginia Beach, Virginia....July 19-24</b>
2019 <b>Fort Wayne, Indiana .....September 8-12</b>	2021 <b>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania....July 4-8</b>

## Upcoming Issues of The County Agent Magazine

October, 2018

December, 2018

April, 2019

Committee/Awards Directory

Committee/Awards Directory

AM/PIC Registration Edition

Deadline for Articles: September 5, 2018

Deadline for Articles: December 5, 2018

Deadline for Articles: March 1, 2019

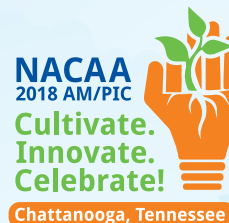
Mail Date: September 25, 2018

Mail Date: December 30, 2018

Mail Date: April 20, 2019

# Get Involved!

## Visit PASA at



The Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance (PASA) is a dedicated group of pipeline companies working with the NACAA to help prevent damage to buried utilities while keeping your clients and the environment safe.

You can help farmers and ranchers dig safely by utilizing the free tools PASA offers at [PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com](http://PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com)



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.



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