MID AMERICA CROPLIFE ASSOCIATION NEWS UPDATE

November 2012

Harvest

In This Issue

Quarterly Meeting
Extra STEP Award
C.A.N.
WATER ISSUES
State News
Short Notes
Calendar

November - What a fall it has been! For those who had a crop to harvest, most were out in the field earlier than normal and things went very well. The leaves are changing colors on the trees and we've had rain in St. Louis. Actually, we've had thunder and lightening - something which we did not have most of the summer. So let's hope the changes of fall bring good things to everyone!

This fall also gave us a choice of things to watch on television - baseball or political debates. While the St. Louis Cardinal's did not make it to the World Series, the early games were exciting. As for the debates - they too were very interesting as each debates offered a different style which made it interesting. While I sometimes get frustrated with the debates, the political ads, fact checking, and political analysis I try and remember that we have the opportunity and responsibility to do all of these things in the U.S. It may not be perfect, but if you consider the options, this is all part of the process that we enjoy. So don't forget - take time to cast your vote on Tuesday, November 6.

We'll have time to talk the election results at the next quarterly MACA meeting November 7and 8. Read on for the details!

NOVEMBER QUARTERLY MEETING NOTICE

2012 MACA MEETING DATES

November 7, 2012
Committee Meetings
St. Louis, MO

November 8, 2012 Board Meeting
St. Louis, MO

Please note the Board of Directors meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. and concludes by noon.

All meetings are open to MACA members.

CALENDAR

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly meetings will be held on **Wednesday, November 7, 2012**, and **Thursday, November 8, 2012**, at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, 10700 Peartree Lane,St. Louis, Missouri.

The committee meetings are on Wednesday with the Board meeting Thursday morning beginning at 7:30 am.

We'll also have **Dr. Jim Budzynski, Managing Principal, MacroGain Partners,** as guest speaker for the Wednesday luncheon. He's share his thoughts on what the future may hold for the CPP industry.

Please plan to join President Jason Paris, and Immediate Past President Matt Wagner for an evening of fellowship Wednesday, November 7. We'll be touring Jacobson Warehouse Facilities to see how they store non-perishable items and end the tour with a reception and dinner at a local restaurant. Again, I think this will be an excellent opportunity to see something new and talk with some other folks.

To register for the meeting and to reserve a place for the warehouse tour go to MACA homepage and select Register Meeting & Events. A complete schedule for the meeting is posted at http://www.maca.org/members/boardmeeting. Please be sure and register by November 1.

Extra STEP Award

MACA is once again sponsoring the "Extra STEP" award with the state associations. The "**Extra STEP"** award is designed to recognize an entity that goes above and beyond the requirements of the respective 13 states. The nominee is already meeting the state and federal laws, but takes the extra step to ensure good stewardship in their community.

This is a great opportunity to recognize someone in your state for their efforts and hopefully generate some positive news about agriculture and the crop protection community. So if you know of someone who should be nominated, please let your state association know and work with them on this award.

The CropLife Ambassador Network program is in full swing. We have so many wonderful classroom opportunities on the website. Make sure you visit

November 7 - MACA Committee Meetings - Airport Marriott Hotel, St. Louis, MO

November 8 - MACA Board of directors Meeting - Airport Marriott Hotel, St. Louis, MO

November 14-15 - Kansas Agri Business Expo, Wichita, KS

November 22- Happy Thanksgiving! (MACA Office Closed)

November 23 - MACA Office Closed

December 24 - MACA Office Closed

December 25 - Merry Christmas (MACA Office Closed)

2013

January 1 - Happy News Year! (MACA Office Closed)

January 30-31 - Nebraska Agri-Business Exposition, Century Link Center, Omaha, NE

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." *John Fitzgerald Kennedy*

the site soon and sign up for one in your area.

The children love what you have to say and the teachers really appreciate the way your presentations reinforce their curriculum. As one of our ambassadors said upon returning from a fourth grade classroom visit, "You just never know what a fourth grader will say!" When notifying another teacher that Dave Junge would be in to talk to her class she said, "Oh we are so glad to have Mr. Junge again! He came and spoke to my class last year and was wonderful!" Those are just a few reasons to get involved in the ambassador program.

To date we have ten completed, twenty-eight scheduled and fourteen unfilled/unscheduled presentations. So check the website, one of those fourteen might be in your area! If you notice several in your area, you might mention our program to a co-worker. I will walk them through the presentations and help them so they can walk into a classroom with confidence.

Finally, Happy Thanksgiving to each of you. Enjoy the holiday, as we all have so much to be thankful.

Please contact Diane Orf at the MACA office on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday if you have any questions.

Like us on Facebook Follow us on twitter

WATER ISSUES

"The water issues I follow generally pertain to the quality of water," says **MACA's Water Consultant Steve Taylor**. However, broader discussions are taking place. The Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) is an organization looking at sustainable water use. CDP recently released its 2012 Global Water Report. A general finding of the report is that that the demand for water will exceed supply by 40% by 2030 and that this could cost as much as $60 billion/year for the next twenty years.

Agriculture and some MACA member companies were highlighted in the report. The report discussed exposure to water-related issues within the agricultural supply chain and highlighted effort to produce plant varieties

News, Events and Photos are posted on the MACA Facebook page.

Like us on Facebook

Fall in South St. Louis County, Missouri

that are more drought tolerant, have higher yields and require less fertilizer and water. The report also noted the 'Field to Market' effort which is a consortium of agricultural companies, grower groups, and government agencies committed to improving the sustainability of production agriculture. More information on the CDP report can be found at the website: https://www.cdproject.net

Along these lines, the EPA is con ducting a study of "The Importance of Water to the U.S. Economy". Last month, EPA held a technical meeting in DC which will be followed by a public meeting on December 4th. It's not clear where this might be heading. But, it would not be unreasonable to be concerned that EPA could use this tie the importance of water to the economy to the need for more costly rules and guidance such as the waters of the U.S. guidance. More information on this EPA effort can be found at: http://water.epa.gov/action/importanceofwater/index.cfm

STATE NEWS

Michigan - "Yields for corn in Michigan range from 0-250, and soybeans from 0-90 bushels per acre," reports **Jim Byrum, President of the Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA**). Generally, the further north in the state, the less severe the drought, and where it rained, farmers are harvesting phenomenal yields. As for the fall tillage, it is on track with average, though rain this past week slowed all field work

When asked about the Presidential election, Byrum says "There will be a president elected who will serve the next four years."

Byrum expects Obama will carry Michigan and Senator Debbie Stabenow (D) will win reelection overwhelmingly and there are at least two Congressional seats held by republicans that are closer than one might have thought that they would be.

Minnesota - "In Minnesota, the fall harvest is primarily over and corn production was down a little from last year and soybeans are seeing surprisingly good yields," says **Bill Bond, Executive Director, Minnesota Crop Production Retailers (MCPR)**.Much needed rain is delaying fall tillage a little and most of MN is very, very dry.

As for the presidential election, Bond says it will be Romney.

In Minnesota, Bond predicts the Senate will likely be

controlled by Democrats but the House will remain in Republican control as compared to the current control of both the Senate and House by Republicans.

South Dakota - "The harvest is DONE!" stated **Kathy Zander, Executive Director, South Dakota Agri0Business Association (SDABA)**. "We have lots of grain piled on the ground in the northeast part of the state due to an early harvest, larger yields than expected and trains were ordered for October-November, not September. In the southeast corner of the state, yields were less than 50% of average or worse. There's been no fall tillage as it is too dry.

Zander's prediction for the November election is Republican's all the way - including president. In addition, the Republican's will continue to maintain a majority in the House and Senate under our Republican Governor.

SHORT NOTES

- **Monsanto** will be joining forces with "Invest An Acres" a charity focused on addressing rural hunger in America. They will be in partnership with the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Feeding America and Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM). The Invest an Acre program is the first effort of its kind to mobilize farmers, agri-business and a nonprofit on a national scale to support rural hunger relief. Through the program, participating farmers can go to an ADM elevator to invest a portion of the proceeds from their harvest to support their local food bank connected with Feeding America.
- **Wilbur-Ellis' Agribusiness Division** is the largest family-owned agricultural retail distribution business in the United States with approximately $2 billion in annual sales revenue.

Bonnie McCarvel, Executive Director
Mid America CropLife Association
11327 Gravois Road, Suite 201
St. Louis, MO 63218
314-849-9446 or 800-625-2767

Forward email