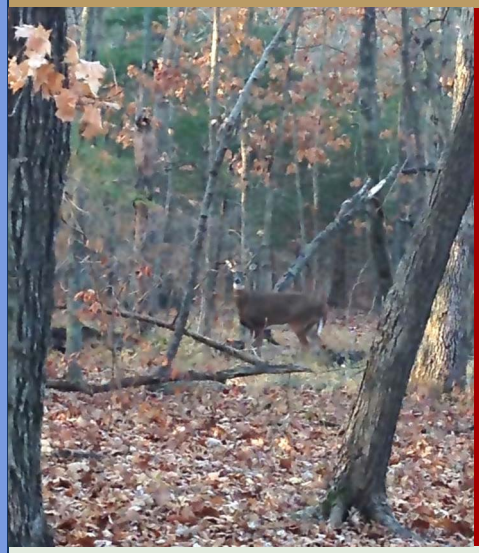
MID AMERICA CROPLIFE ASSOCIATION NEWS UPDATE

December 2012



Wishing you health, happiness and comfort this holiday season.

In This Issue

November Quarterly Meeting

Extra STEP Award

C.A.N.

WATER ISSUES

State News

Membership Matters

Short Notes

Calendar

December - The harvest is wrapped up, the election is wrapped up, thanksgiving is wrapped up and so it appears that we are wrapping up 2012. It's been a year filled with many different experiences - some that are so fun and others that you want to forget quickly. Here's wishing you all the best that 2013 can bring. Here's your chance to set the tone for what you want 2013 to be - we hope that you will include some of your time and energy for MACA. After the quarterly meetings in November, I can't help but believe that members are enthused and excited about the future of Midwestern agriculture.

Jean and Diane join me in wishing each of you a wonderful holiday season! May it be filled with family, friends, and laughter as you celebrate the holidays.

NOVEMBER QUARTERLY MEETING NOTICE

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) board met Thursday, November 8, 2012, at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. The following actions were taken:

2013 MACA MEETING DATES

February 6, 2013
Committee Meetings
St. Louis, MO

February 7, 2013
Board Meeting
St. Louis, MO

June 5, 2013
Committee Meetings
St. Louis, MO

June 6, 2013
Board Meeting
St. Louis, MO

August 2, 2013
Conference call with

- Approved the Secretary and Treasurer's Report:
- Approved Neil Cleveland, Bayer CropScience, for two year term as an at-large member of the executive committee.

- Accepted Crop Production Issues (CPI) Committee proposal to develop "MACA Young Leader Program" to recognize a student from each of the 13 land-grant universities. The committee will be working to finalize the scholarship criteria and activities.
- The Regulatory and Environmental Issues Committee Chair Dan Vest had Water Consultant Steve Taylor to provide a brief overview of the issues which he has been working on behalf of MACA and their impact plus Dave Phenicie who is assisting with the water consulting contract to provide an update on the Great Lakes water initiatives.

- Set the 2013 Meeting dates as follows:
    - February 6, 2013 - Committee Meetings, St. Louis, MO
    - February 7, 2013 - Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
    - June 5, 2013 - Committee Meetings, St. Louis, MO
    - June 6, 2013 - Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
    - August 2, 2013 - Conference call with Board
    - September 3-4-5, 2013 - MACA Annual Meeting, Omni Interlocken Resort, Broomfield, Colorado
    - September 5, 2013 - 7:30 a.m., MACA Annual Business Meeting - Broomfield, Colorado
    - November 6, 2013 - Committee meetings, St. Louis, MO
    - November 7, 2013 - Board meeting, St. Louis, MO

Board of Directors meeting begin at 7:30 a.m. and conclude by noon.

- Accepted the 2012 Financial Review proposal from Filla & Filla, CPAs to conduct the 2012 financial

Board

September 3-4-5, 2013
MACA Annual Meeting
Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, CO

September 5, 2013
7:30 a.m.
MACA Annual Business Meeting
Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, CO

November 6, 2013
Committee Meetings
St. Louis, MO

November 7, 2013
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

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

review and prepare tax returns.
- Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs - Paris reported the following have agreed to serve as chair/vice chair for the 2012-2013 year:

Program Committees:

- Annual Meeting - Don Bradley, Chair; Steve Koziolek, Vice Chair, and Paul Edsten, Vice Chair/Golf
- Crop Production Committee - Phil Harms, Chair, and Tim Riley, Vice Chair
- Distribution & Environment - Matt Ewers, Chair, and Jeff Frederick - Vice Chair
- Industry Communications & CAN Task Force - Doug Mertens, Chair, and Tom Quade, Vice Chair
- Regulatory & Environmental Issues (REI) - Dan Vest, Chair, and Duane Simpson, Vice Chair

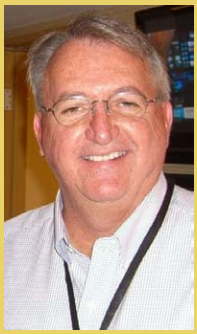
Standing Committees:

Executive Committee
Jason Paris - Chair
Greg Reigh - Vice Chair
Tom Quade- Secretary/Treasurer
Matt Wagner - Immediate Past President
Matt Miner - At-Large term (2013)
Neil Cleveland - At-Large (2014)

Nominating Committee
Matt Wagner - Chair
Dave Flakne, Tim Stoehr, and John McKinney

Personnel Committee
Matt Wagner - Chair
Strategic Planning Task Force
Greg Reigh - Chair

- Accepted the 2013 Budget as presented.
- Set next meeting for Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 7:30 am Central Time.



Thanks to Dr. Jim Budzynski, Managi ng Principal, MacroGain Partners, as guest speaker for the Wednesday luncheon. He shared his thoughts on what the future may hold for the CPP industry.

Agri-Business Exposition, Century Link Center, Omaha, NE

September 3-4-5, 2013
MACA Annual Meeting
Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, CO

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

"One resolution I have made, and try always to keep, is this: To rise above the little things."

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

Like us on Facebook

Forward this email

Special thanks to Doug Den Adel, Jacobson Warehouse for the tour of their two warehouses.

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. **Illinois** and **Nebraska** are both planning to participate!

CropLife AMBASSADOR Network

Ambassadors Tom Rutherford, Sarah Miller, Roger Henderson and Jeremy Wilson have been extremely busy this past month. Thanks for all your hard work!!

It is shaping up to be a busy month of December! Over 18 presentations are planned and more working on details to get their presentation dates hammered out. There are three presentations in Wisconsin that I have had a particularly difficult time trying to fill. If there is anyone traveling that way and would like to stop in to visit a classroom please let

me know. They are in Wauwatosa, Stoughton and Racine.

A few requests for after the first of the year have started rolling in, so be sure to check the website often http://ambassador@maca.org.

A recent teacher comment: Our Ambassador and "his presentation were absolutely terrific. I am so thankful for the opportunity to have him visit my class. I truly look forward to the opportunity to have his visit each year."

Between work, shopping, wrapping, baking and partying with friends I hope each and everyone one of you finds time to enjoy the holidays. Thank you for giving the gift of your time to the CAN program.

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WATER ISSUES

As I have mentioned in previous updates, MACA has joined the effort to intervene in a lawsuit filed by environmental groups against the EPA. The lawsuit is an attempt to force EPA to set numerical nutrient criteria for nutrients in water runoff in all states within the Mississippi River basin. The environmental groups just recently filed their briefs to the court. Nothing in their briefs were surprising. EPA's response is due January 18th and a response by interveners is due March 4th. If we are not successful in court, we could see increases in regulation that could dramatically effect all of production agriculture.

Steve Taylor
MACA's Water Consultant

In a related matter, the state of Iowa released a proposed strategy that addresses both point and nonpoint sources of nitrogen and phosphorus. The plan calls for reducing nitrogen releases from nonpoint sources by 41 percent and reducing phosphorus releases by 29 percent. From point sources, the state would aim to reduce nitrogen releases by 4 percent and phosphorus by 16 percent. Bill Northey, secretary of agriculture for Iowa, said that the nonpoint source recommendations are based on the most up-to-date scientific information available to the state's 90,000 farmers. The plan would cost about $1.5 billion over 20 years.

More information on Iowa's plan can be found at: http://www.nutrientstrategy.iastate.edu/. EPA is calling on all states in the Mississippi River basin to develop a

reduction strategy.

Finally, the EPA filed a motion Nov. 16th to dismiss a lawsuit filed by environmental groups challenging pesticide registrations for violations of the Endangered Species Act. The original lawsuit, filed in January 2011, alleges that more than 300 pesticides, including atrazine, were not subjected to proper analysis required under the ESA. A coalition of industry groups, including CropLife America, also filed a Nov. 16 motion to intervene.

STATE NEWS

ILLINOIS - "The biggest legislative accomplishment was privatization of our nutrient research program to protect the tonnage fees from being swept by the state and enduring sustainable funding for nutrient stewardship and crop production programs," reports **Jean Payne, President, Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association (IFCA)**. Another significant accomplishment is opening of the Asmark Agricenter in Bloomington IL. This facility is like no other in the U.S. and offers hands on training programs for the industry on pesticide application, anhydrous ammonia safety and grain operations safety.

Unfinished business remains trying to find ways to help Illinois out of its downward fiscal spiral in a way that helps grow our economy rather through job growth rather than more taxation and spending. This is huge challenge for Illinois.

MINNESOTA - The election of MCPR board members will take place on the trade show floor on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 between 4:30-5 PM reports **Bill Bond, Executive Director, Minnesota Crop Production Retailers Association.** Five of 13 seats are up for election.

Join us for your annual meeting and elections. Not yet registered for the CPM Short Course and MCPR Trade Show? Not a problem!! You can still review the program, register on-line for the program, and book your hotel room by clicking here: www.mcpr-cca.org. Pre-registration ends at the end of the business day on December 5th! However, walk-in registrations are welcome!

Fiscal Cliff Talks Continue and Solution Remains Elusive - For agriculture, enactment of a five-year Farm Bill - and its $25-35 billion in savings - is the top priority, while action to repeal the estate tax or prevent rates/exemptions from

returning to Clinton era levels are also high on the list, as is avoiding an increase in capital gains tax rates from 15% to 23.8% should no fiscal cliff deal get done. Reports surfaced that producers are accelerating land sales to get deals completed before the end of the year should Congress fail to act on the capital gains fix. President Obama said the deal will likely include a six-month extension to the deadline for mandatory Budget Control Act 8% across-the-board federal spending reductions, a down payment of spending cuts and revenue raisers to reduce the deficit - with a commitment to pony up the rest of the reductions by a date certain - while "tweaking" the expiring Bush Administration personal and corporate tax rates. The ag priorities notwithstanding, group after group, union after union, in Washington, DC is listed programs they contend must be spared the budget knife, with the list ranging from endangered species to the exclusion of all military spending. (NGFA)

Minnesota Department of Agriculture Releases a Request for Proposals (RFP) Research to quantify agricultural conservation practice effectiveness related to nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorus) source reduction, off-movement, and interception treatment in the state of Minnesota. Applications must be submitted using the format prescribed in the proposal instructions. To request proposal instructions and to receive application materials, please call, e-mail, or write for the full RFP, which will be sent free of charge to interested parties. Joshua Stamper, Nutrient BMP/TMDL Technical Coordinator, Phone: 651-201-6322 , Email: Joshua.Stamper@state.mn.us. Please note: Other Minnesota Department of Agriculture personnel are not authorized to discuss this request for proposal with responders before the proposal submission deadline (1/18/2013). Contact Joshua Stamper only.

Over 365 agronomists have participated in a comprehensive CRP training program. The path to becoming an NRCS certified CRP Technical Service Provider (TSP) is now easier than ever with new online training options and access to local mentors. Participants complete an online Core Training, develop a CRP plan with a mentor and have access to a suite of online, in-person and hybrid supplemental courses. Participants who complete the FREE online Core Training are eligible for the mentorship and supplemental courses at no additional charge. Supplemental courses are available for a fee to all other participants. Training info. Please visit their website FacesofCRP.info for an overview of the entire program including training availability, benefits and continuing education units (CEUs).

WISCONSIN - "Our biggest accomplishment was obviously our merger of the Wisconsin Agri-Service Association and the Wisconsin Crop Production Association to form our new Wisconsin Agri-Business Association," says **Tom Bressner, Executive Director, Wisconsin Crop Production Association (WABA)**. Under one roof, we now represent virtually all of the agri-business industries in the state.

Because of the merger, we are in a year of transition from two cultures to one, from two conventions to one, etc Every day is a new day of laying the foundation for the future. So that is the "unfinished business for 2012."

The November elections have produced possibly the best pro-business legislature that Wisconsin has ever seen. We look forward to what may happen over the next two years.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Invoices for 2013 were mailed out the end of October. A special thanks to **United Suppliers** for their prompt payment! They were the first to renew on November 5. At this time, **20** have renewed their membership**.** Thanks!

SHORT NOTES

- Congratulations to **MACA's Jean Jochum** on her first grandchild born on Halloween! John Garrison Jochum weighed in at 9 pounds 9 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long. Grandmother Jean is doing very well.
- Our sympathy to **Al Strohmaier, CropLife Media,** on the loss of his Mom on November 5.
- The **Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST)**, a nonprofit organization that specializes in assembling and communicating science-based agricultural information to a broad audience, has named Linda Chimenti Executive Vice President. She is the current Chief Operating Officer (COO) of CAST, and will replace Dr. John Bonner, current Executive Vice President/Chief Executive Officer (EVP/CEO)who will be leaving that position at the end of January, 2013, to pursue other interests. Chimenti assumes the role of EVP effective February 1, 2013.
- **Don Paulson** provided an update on the American

Agronomic Stewardship Alliance (AASA) and the Bulk Storage for Ag Chemicals. In addition, **Kevin Greene, DuPont,** provided an update on the agricultural hours of service exemption.

- The Missouri deer hunters were out for the hunt! **Steve Taylor, MoAg** and **MACA President Jason Paris** were both dressed in their hunter orange so the deer and other hunters could see them.....be sure and ask Steve about his experience.

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