



A monthly update from Bonnie McCarvel,  
Executive Director of MACA

## FEBRUARY 2020

**February** - It's a new decade and it seems as if everyone is off and running...trying to catch up on all the things they want to accomplish! I hope you take a few minutes and make a list of the top 10 things you want to accomplish. Then take three deep breaths and start to pursue your list. Hopefully, one of those things will include attending a MACA quarterly meeting! The next opportunity is February 19 and 20th. You'll find the meeting includes industry information, connections to assist you in your business, a chance to give back to the industry and lifelong friends.

Since it is February, have a heart! Give back to the industry and see what it does for you....just remember take three deep breaths and enjoy the new decade.



**Bonnie McCarvel**  
Executive Director  
[Bonnie@maca.org](mailto:Bonnie@maca.org)

## FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING NOTICE

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly meetings will be held **February 19-20 2020 at the Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134.** To participate please do the following:

1. **EVENTS:** Register for the meeting(s) by completing the form on the website by clicking [here](#). There are three different events scheduled as follows:
  - **Committee meetings** - Wednesday, February 19 - check start time for respective committee.
    - Join the group for lunch starting at noon.
      - National Corn Growers' Association - featured speaker!
    - First time attendees - special welcome at 1:15 pm Wednesday afternoon.
  - **Off Site event** - Wednesday evening. Details to be determined.
  - **Board meeting** - begins at 7:30 a.m. on **Thursday** morning and will conclude

by 11:00. Please plan your departures after that time.

## CROP LIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK



Our CropLife Ambassador Network (CAN) spring semester is off to a great start. We are placing our ambassadors in elementary, middle and high schools to teach about the benefits of crop protection and modern day agriculture. We

are busy filling the many requests.

If you aren't an ambassador and would like to join us, then please do! We are always in need of more ambassadors. Please sign up and talk to a friend or colleague about becoming an ambassador too. Everyone can sign up online and learn more about the program: <http://ambassador.maca.org/> or email me at [michelle@maca.org](mailto:michelle@maca.org).

And, if you know of schools that might benefit from our presentations please pass along our website so they can sign up to have an ambassador at their school.



From Dr. Deanna  
Smith, MFA



Find us on [Facebook](#) - search -  
CropLife Ambassador Network- CAN

**Michelle Kilper**  
[Michelle@maca.org](mailto:Michelle@maca.org)  
Program Coordinator  
CropLife Ambassador Network  
and Young Leader Scholarship Program  
A program of Mid America CropLife Association



Phone: (314) 849-9446 or (800) 625-2767

Monday: 8 am - 2 pm

Wednesday: 8 am - 2 pm

Thursday: 8 am - 12 noon

## YOUNG LEADER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

We have received the applications for our next group of leaders! We hope to pick winners at our February quarterly meeting. You can help us with this program by helping us find company sponsors for our Young Leadership Scholarship Program.

The YLSP brings up to 13 future leaders from the ag industry to the MACA annual meeting and helps spread the word of MACA at 14 different universities. All contributions are tax deductible and very much appreciated and your company will be recognized in various ways through MACA.

To learn more about this important program, please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

To get started please, contact Bonnie at [Bonnie@maca.org](mailto:Bonnie@maca.org) or 314-849-9446.

Thank you to our current sponsors: **Wright Distribution, Valent USA, Syngenta, Nutrien Ag Solutions, Nufarm, Morris Bixby, KALO, IEDS, GROWMARK, GreenLeaf, Corteva, Bayer, AMVAC, Aceto.**

## STATE UPDATES



**KANSAS** - "There are a couple of things in Kansas related to agricultural chemicals," reports **Randy Stookey, JD, Sr. VP, General Counsel, Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA)**. First, the Pesticide Waste Disposal Program.

This week, the House Committee on Agriculture held a hearing on [House Bill 2432](#). The bill amends the agricultural chemical remediation fund to allow up to \$50,000 from the fund each year to be used to fund a Pesticide Waste Disposal Program managed by the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture. The agricultural chemical remediation fund is funded, in part, by annual agricultural chemical product registration fees. Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association views this program as good industry stewardship and supports the measure.

The second issue is the Kansas Attorney General "Public Litigation Coordination Act." This week, the House Judiciary Committee held a hearing on [House Bill 2461](#), a bill requested by Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt. The bill would require local units of government to coordinate with the Attorney General before entering into a contract for legal services on a contingency fee basis. The bill would allow for the state to exercise greater control over large product litigation suits where both the state and local units of government may become plaintiffs, rather than allowing each subordinate unit of government to enter into independent lawsuits. The bill represents good public policy for both the state and for the agricultural industry in that product litigation law would now be consolidated into one action at the state level, rather than hundreds of individual suits within the state.



**MINNESOTA** - "The Minnesota legislature convenes for 2020 on February 11 for the regular session which will meet through mid May," stated **Bill Bond, Executive Director, Minnesota Crop Production Retailers**. However, a pre-session meeting was held by the MN House Agriculture and Food Finance and Policy Division and focused on responding to a changing climate: Agriculture best practices and what is being done. A joint presentation was made by MN Department of Agriculture, MN Board of Soil and Water Resources, and MN Pollution Control

Agency, and committee members reviewed an optional soil sample demonstration, looked more specifically at alternatives for moving forward by discussing a research update by University of Minnesota Extension, and finally evaluated how farmers are looking at new practices to adapt to challenges associated with and contribute to solutions to a changing climate.



**WISCONSIN** - "In 2019, the Assembly Speaker set up a bipartisan Speaker's Task Force on Water Quality," says **Tom Bressner, Executive Director, Wisconsin Agri-Business Association**. After many hearings around the state and lots of input, the Task Force has proposed numerous bills to help address the issues. These bills are just beginning to work their way through committee work. Some of the recommendations will most likely become law, others will not. Currently, we do not see anything being proposed that will be a major issue for agronomy

companies. This story will be continued for several more weeks.

In the Governor's State of the State Address last week, he announced several new initiatives to help with challenging economic times for farmers. Some of the ideas are good and will probably get implemented. However, his proposals call for additional spending of \$8.6 million and the creation of 35 new jobs. A conservative Republican controlled legislature will not approve that much growth of government and governmental spending. This too will be interesting to monitor in the coming days.

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

The 2020 membership renewals are coming in. Thus far 30 have renewed! Don't forget, you have until February 15, 2020 to renew to avoid a late fee.

## SHORT NOTES

- Congratulations and best wishes to **Craig Mussleman, Albaugh, LLC** on his upcoming retirement from Albaugh, LLC. His last day is April 30th. Craig attended many MACA annual meetings over the years.
- Welcome to **Keith Miller** who is joining **Albaugh, LLC** as the Midwest Manager. He was formerly with ADAMA. He will be taking over **Jerry Miller's** position with Jerry's retirement.
- **Ron Farrell**, President of Farrell Growth Group and the 1992-1993 MACA President, passed away January 21.



**Ron Farrell**

- **MACA VP Lindsey Jackson** will be presenting at the TPSA Annual Conference in San Antonio. She'll be providing an update on the Disposition Flow Chart. Check out the program [here](#).
- **Secretary Treasurer Rodney Schmidt's wife Diane** has a green thumb! She planted the seeds from the 'Sustainability Forum' in November and they are growing. Check out the photo.



- The family of **James (Jim) Gray** invites Jim's friends and family to a celebration of life service. The service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 15th at 1701 American Royal Court, Kansas City, Missouri, 64102. The service and a memorial fellowship reception will be held on the second floor of the building. Jim passed away November 23. He served as President of Gray Executive Direction, LLC and Executive Director of the Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data, a position he had held since 2007. For further details, click [here](#).

## CALENDAR

## **2020**

**February 4-6** - The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX

**February 11-12** - Agribusiness Showcase & Conference, Des Moines, IA

**February 17** - MACA offices closed for Presidents' Day

**February 19-20** - MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO

**June 17-18** - MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO - ***note the date change!***

**July 31** - Board of Directors Conference Call

**September 8-10** - **MACA Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO**

**November 11-12** - MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO

## **THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH**

**"If you want to be happy, be."**

~ Leo Tolstoy



## **QUICK LINKS**

[MACA Website](#)  
[MACA Facebook](#)  
[MACA LinkedIn](#)

[MACA 2020 Meeting Dates](#)

[C.A.N. Website](#)

[C.A.N. Facebook](#)

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