Mid America CropLife Association works to research public issues relating to crop production and to work together to improve the crop lifecycle via health, safety and public education.

April 2016

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2015-2016 OFFICERS

President

Neil Cleveland

neil.cleveland@bayer.com

Vice President

April - You can feel spring some days, then reality hits, that it is almost here but not quite ready. So hopefully, the next few days will mean bright sunny skies and the official start of baseball season.

In the meantime, the MACA office has been busy working on plans for the 2016 MACA Annual Meeting, 2016 Class of Young Leader Scholarship Program recipients, classroom visits by the ambassadors and the quarterly meetings in June. The meetings in June are a great way to bring a co-worker/colleague to the meeting to learn about MACA programs and activities. It's never too early to think about succession planning! Hope to see you at the meetings in June.

Sincerely,

Bonnie McCarvel
Executive Director
Mid America CropLife Association
11327 Gravois Road, Suite 201
314-849-9446/800-625-2767

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly meetings will be held **Wednesday, June 8, 2016 and Thursday, June 9, 2016, at the the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch, 315 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, MO 63102** Make your plans to participate:

1. Register for the meeting by completing the form.
2. The committee meetings will be held Wednesday. Please plan to join us for lunch starting at noon and then the committee meetings

Matt Ewers

mattewers@ieds.net

Secretary/Treasurer

Neil Timmerman

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Immediate Past President

Tom Quade

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CALENDAR

May 30 - Memorial Day - Office Closed

June 8 - MACA Committee

will start, or continue meetings, from 1:15 -3:45 pm.

3. Join the group for the Gateway Arch Riverboat Tour starting at 4:30 pm. We'll look at the arch, as well as other historical and inspiring architecture from aboard a replica nineteenth-century steamboat. During this cruise, the captain or a National Park Service ranger will explain how the river affects and benefits the surrounding city. Concessions are available on the boat for purchase. Dinner will be on your own.
4. The board meeting will begin at 7:30 am on Thursday morning and will conclude by 11:00 am. Please plan your departures after that time.
5. Please extend a personal invite to someone from your company or someone you know in the industry to attend the MACA meetings on Tuesday.
6. Reserve a room at the hotel by calling 888-421-1442 or 402-592-6464. The room rate is $139 plus tax. Be sure and say you are attending the MACA meeting. The room block closes May 10, 2016.
7. The normal meeting fee will be waived for this meeting however there is a charge of $25 per person for the boat ride. MACA will invoice prior to the meeting. (Cancellations must be received in writing by noon, June 1 in order to receive a refund. If a person registers, but does not give proper cancellation notice, the person will be billed accordingly.)

STATE NOTES

MICHIGAN - "The University of Michigan released a report the week of March 21 targeting agriculture's role in Lake Erie Water Quality, presenting a range of "modest to extreme, even unrealistic, scenarios on how to achieve P nutrient reductions," says **Jim Byrum, Michgan Agri-Business Association's President.** A number of scenarios were run through computer models to determine their potential effectiveness in reducing P losses, with two scenarios highlighted as achieving both total P and dissolved reactive P targets. One calls for 30,000 acres of buffer strips, cover crops and only subsurface P application on 50% of land in the Lake Erie basin beyond what is already being done. The second calls for converting 1.5 million acres of row crop agriculture to switchgrass production. The study uses 2001 fertilizer use estimates and assumes every acre receives P applications equal to crop removal.

This study is one of the more egregious

Meetings, St. Louis, MO

June 9 - MACA Board of Directors Meeting, St. Louis, MO

September 6-8 - MACA ANNUAL MEETING, BLOOMINGTON, MN

Class of 2016 YLSP Recipients

Purdue University
Rachel Stowers

Iowa State University
Tony Moellers

Kansas State University
Jessica Bramhall

mischaracterizations of modern nutrient management, ranging from intensive soil testing to variable rate application and other rapidly advancing nutrient source and delivery technologies. An important counterpoint we've been able to provide is survey data we've obtained from Michigan retailers on just how prevalent current practices have become.

This week's activities have been an example of the impact sensational reports can generate, but also the importance of our industry providing sound, science based support for our management

KANSAS - "Last week, the Kansas legislature entered into its first adjournment for the year after passing an omnibus budget and an education budget," says **Randy E. Stookey, esq. Vice President & General Counsel, Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association.** Unfortunately, monthly revenue reports continue to miss revenue estimates, threatening to leave our state ending balance precariously close to negative territory. Because Kansas has a constitutional requirement to have a positive ending balance, budget reductions may be forced upon the executive branch for the remainder of this fiscal year. In the out months, the legislature may again look to increase revenues. If that happens, then the ag sector will once again be forced to defend against a state legislature that continues to lose connection with our industry and way of life, and which sees the agricultural industry as a "cash cow."

Governor Brownback is dedicated to finalizing goals and identifying funding resources for implementation of a 50 Year Water Vision to address concerns of water quantity and quality in Kansas. Federally, the Kansas Congressional delegation requested that specific language be included in the 2017 federal Appropriations bill to prohibit OSHA from enforcing process safety management regulations on ag retailers of anhydrous ammonia during 2017 and each year thereafter. Additionally, KARA intends to submit comment on the USEPA's proposed Risk Management Program regulations, concerning anhydrous ammonia storage facilities, with a comment deadline of May 13, 2016.

Spring was ushered into Kansas with a run of 75 degree weather that brought wheat out of dormancy - always a potential for disaster this early in the year. At the same time, a wildfire which began in Oklahoma, and traveled north into Kansas, quickly spread to over 400,000 acres - the largest wildfire in

Michigan State University
Andrea Rose Williams

University of Minnesota
Dillan Smith

University of Missouri
Carley Esser

University of Missouri
Nora Faris

Kansas state history. Easter Sunday brought us another twist, when a cold front bearing moisture dropped over four inches of snow over a large portion of the state. Such is spring in Kansas.

WISCONSIN - "The State Assembly closed out their session for the year on February 18," writes **Tom Bressner, executive director, Wisconsin Agri-Business Association**. "The Senate went home on March 15. They are done until January 2017 when they return to start working on another two-year budget."

We had hoped to do some modification on regulations pertaining to high capacity wells, but no action was taken. We continue to work on some Department of Agriculture regulations dealing with the Ag Chemical Cleanup Fund and Feed and Fertilizer tonnage fees. Work on this will not be completed until late summer and will not become effective until 2017.

As for spring, Bresnner says they are still getting some snow, but it gets followed up by a 45 degree day to make it all melt quickly. Field conditions are too wet for field work.

CROPLIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK

Happy spring! We are enjoying all the blooming trees here in St. Louis. I hope spring is just as pretty in your neck of the woods.

We are still receiving a lot of classroom requests for our wonderful ambassadors. Please be sure to check the website to see if you can help out - ambassador.maca.org.

Ambassadors tell me often how much they enjoy going to classrooms to speak and spread the word about modern day agriculture. Here is one recent comment from an ambassador in Ohio, "I was really impressed with how easy it was to prepare and deliver the content. This was also a very rewarding experience for me to share my personal experience in Agriculture and to help educate the future generation". That's what we like to hear!

Join in on the fun! Reach out to me if you have questions about getting started or want to know if there are any presentations in your certain area. You can reach me at michelle@maca.org. Let's add your colleagues in on the fun and have them join as an ambassador.

And as always be sure to like us on

University of Nebraska
Jennifer Myers

North Dakota State University
Taylor Kemper

South Dakota State University
Kyla Mauk

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As I write this, 51 members have renewed their 2016 membership. Thank you!

MACA is also conducting a survey of the membership to determine what members value and what, if anything, they think MACA could do to better serve you, the member. MACA has retained the services of John Mattingly, AgMetrics Research & Consulting, to conduct the survey. The email was sent out on March 25 and will take 15 - 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire. The survey will help guide MACA to provide the services,

Facebook! Search for CropLife Ambassador Network - CAN.

Michelle Kipler
CropLife Ambassador Program Manager
michelle@maca.org
Phone: (314)849-9446 or (800)625-2767
Monday and Wednesday - 8 am-2:30 pm
Thursday - 8 am-noon

WATER ISSUES

"EPA and USGS have released a new technical report for States to consider when determining water quality standards," reports **Steve Taylor, MACA Water Consultant.** EPA states the report is 'nonprescriptive' but of course EPA approves the States' water quality standards. The report can be found HERE.

EPA wants States to give more consideration to water flow and quantity so that "changes to the natural flow regime shall not impair the ability of a stream to support characteristic fish populations." Similar to what was done in the WOTUS rule, EPA is now arguing a 'connectivity' between water quality, water quantity, flow, and farm fields. The report states "the alteration of natural land cover for agricultural use can modify the amount and timing of runoff" and that "agricultural drainage systems (drainage tile) can reduce base flow, particularly when drainage lowers the water table and decreases groundwater recharge."

Just like WOTUS, EPA thinks it can use past Supreme Court rulings. EPA cites a 1994 Supreme Court case in which the court found that "the distinction between water quality and water quantity is artificial" and that "reduced stream flow can constitute water pollution,"

EPA references historical philosophers to justify this approach. It is an extensive reference with over 14,000 words. Apparently, EPA is full of people with philosophy degrees.

SHORT NOTES

- **Michael Boden, Syngenta; Ben Kaehler, Dow AgroSciences;** and **Mike Swanson, Wells Fargo** are just some of the speakers for the **2016 Annual Meeting September 6-8 in Bloomington, Minnesota.**
- Sympathy is extended to the family of **Ken Adkinson**, the **1997-1998 MACA President.** Ken and his wife, Marsha, lived

you the member, desire. To those who receive the survey, please take time to complete it.

QUICK LINKS

MACA Website

MACA Facebook

MACA 2016 Meeting Dates

C.A.N. Website

C.A.N. Facebook

2016 MACA Annual Meeting
September 6-8, 2016
Bloomington, MN

Send to a Colleague

near Eudora, Kansas. Ken passed away on March 17. Ken worked as an Agricultural Chemical Sales Specialist and also owned and operated Mid States from 1976-1984. He later worked for United Suppliers as a Territory Manager. Cards can be sent to his family at 2358 N. 1500th Rd., Eudora, KS 66025-9293.

- Congratulations to **Jim Lehman**, the 2008-2009 MACA President! He's now VP with **Rosen's Inc.** Previously he had been with AMVAC. The new **AMVAC** VP is **Scott Hendrix**, formerly their Southern Region Manager. Scott has been with AMVAC about 6 years and before that many years with Syngenta.
- Look out for **MACA VP Matt Ewers** the next time you see him! He's competing in various triathlons as he plans to compete in a Half Ironman Race the end of June. For those of you wondering what a Half Ironman Race is - The "70.3" refers to the total distance in miles (113.0 km) covered in the race, consisting of a 1.2-mile (1.9 km) swim, a 56-mile (90 km) bike ride, and a 13.1-mile (21.1 km) run. Each distance of the swim, bike, and run segments is *half* the distance of that segment in an Ironman triathlon.
- Congratulations to **Immediate Past President Tom Quade** on becoming a sexagenarian on April 9!

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."

~Margaret Atwood

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