A monthly update from Bonnie McCarvel,
Executive Director of MACA

March 2017

March - We're busy and moving forward. The MACA quarterly meetings in February were productive. Be sure and check out the summary below. As a result of the meeting, there are lots of things underway - including the 2017 MACA annual meeting set for September 5-7 in Kansas City, Missouri. I hope you'll make plans to attend as plans are underway for some great speakers who will make you think, inform and challenge you on what you can do to help the crop protection industry!

The 2017 Young Leader Scholarship Program recipients have been selected and the HAZMAT kit has been updated and will be available on-line shortly. So take a few minutes to read about the latest MACA initiatives.

May the luck of the Irish be with you!

Bonnie McCarvel,
Executive Director
Bonnie@MACA.org

MEETING SUMMARY

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) Board of Directors met on Thursday, February 2, 2017, and took the following actions:

- Approved the minutes of the November 3, 2016 meeting.
- Reviewed and approved the financial reports as presented.
- Annual Meeting Committee presented plans for the 2017 meeting in Kansas City, MO.
- Selected the 2018 annual meeting hotel as the Marriott hotel in downtown Des Moines and the golf tournament to be held at Albaugh's golf course.
- D&E Committee had met and accepted Jeff Frederick's resignation as vice chair and elected Bill Morgan, Bayer Crop Science, as the vice chair.

- HAZMAT video kits are nearly ready to download from the website with a cost of $250 for non-members for the 2017 calendar year and free to MACA members.
- Approved the 2017 Young Leader Scholarship Program applications for the following 11 applicants:

  Indiana - Andrew Chupp
  Iowa - Josie Burgett
  Kansas - Sarah Zerger
  Michigan - Madison Heath
  Minnesota - Alexis Larson
  Missouri - Hannah Boatright
  Nebraska - Moriah Heerten
  North Dakota - John Baldwin
  Ohio State - Katerina Sharp
  South Dakota - Jordanne Howe
  Wisconsin - Claire Gietzel

- Accepted the committee name Production and Environmental Stewardship (PES) Committee for the newly combined Crop Production Issues Committee and the Regulatory and Environmental Issues Committee as part of the transition. This committee's goal is to work to drive good value for members' participation and will focus on ag stewardship such as water, nutrients, pesticides, drones, big ag, etc.
- Heard MACA Water Consultant Steve Taylor provide a short update on key water issues - WOTUS; numeric nutrient lawsuit and the Des Moines Waterworks.
- Claire Terry, Dow AgroSciences, and a member of CLA-RISE Label Workgroup, provided a brief update on First Aid Statement and EPA Smart Labels.
- Industry Communications Committee has formed a YLSP subcommittee with Tim Riley, Shelbi Reed and Rodney Schmidt.
- Approved Green Leaf as an allied member with Matt Wagner as the contact.
- Michelle Kilper, CropLife Ambassador Network Coordinator, provided an update on the program regarding mailings, presentations, ambassadors and students reached. Currently there are 166 ambassadors who have made 39 presentations to 2,867 students.
- Jay Morris reported the Industry Communications committee had discussed and identified potential new members and dues structure and that Rick Welder was named chair of the membership subcommittee with Rodney Schmidt, vice chair. They will work to have a message developed by March 30 and then have it revised and refined by September 1, 2017.
- Long Range Planning committee will meet June 13 in St. Louis.
- Set the next board meeting for Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 7:30 a.m. CST in St. Louis, MO.

STATE NOTES

INDIANA - TheAgribusiness Council of Indiana (ACI) announced new staff leadership

changes. After seven years as President of ACI, Beth Bechdol has stepped down to concentrate on other food and agriculture related initiatives through her position at Ice Miller LLP. The ACI Board of Directors' new leadership and management structure includes support from KAW Management, Ice Miller LLP and Bose Public Affairs. **Amy Cornell**, **Bose Public Affairs**, assumed the role of President beginning on February 1, 2017. Cornell formerly served as Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs for the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), and a Policy Advisor and Counsel for Indiana Farm Bureau. She currently serves as Second Vice President at Bose Public Affairs and will devote a significant amount of her time to this role of ACI President.

MICHIGAN - "The major fight is in the House over eliminating our state income tax. The Speaker lost, and even lost about a dozen of his caucus members in the final vote, setting up a contentious and difficult legislature for the next couple years. Neither the Senate nor Governor were on board with the proposal," reports **Jim Byrum**, **President**, **Michigan Agri-Business Association**.

As for regulations there are some taxation questions (facilities) and permits requirements for ag buildings, but major worry is the delay and elongated process for permits, etc.

As for when spring will arrive, Byrum says, "I thought it was here...but does look like an early spring...there is NO ice on the Great Lakes, except Superior and northern reaches of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron."

WISCONSIN -"The 2017-19 budget will be the big topic this session, especially the transportation portion of the budget," says **Tom Bressner**, **executive director**, **Wisconsin Agribusiness Association**. "There will be a lot of debate on whether we should raise taxes to take care of all road projects, or keep taxes the same and prioritize the projects. Also in the budget is a proposal, which WABA supports, to revamp the Ag Chemical Cleanup Program in the state."

There has been a bill introduced to change Department of Natural Resources regulations on permitting High Capacity Wells for large dairy farms and crop irrigators. It would make it easier to replace and repair wells, but no change on putting in new wells.

On February 22nd, Madison set a new all-time winter record of 67 degrees. On February 24 heavy snow was expected. So with that in mind, Tom says, "you want me to predict when spring will arrive? Good luck on that one."

CROPLIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK

They say March comes in like a lion and I think it means the presentation requests and new ambassadors! I sent out an email to schools letting them know about the presentations and they did not disappoint with returning the requests! Which means I had to send an email to our ambassadors asking to help fill the requests and help find more ambassadors and you did not disappoint either! **THANK YOU!**

I would like to welcome the following new ambassadors:

- Troy Christenson - Tilth Agronomy Group
- Brad Gunnink - **Valent USA**
- Tyson Heusser - Growers Ag Service
- Scott Janes - **Crop Production Services**
- Dave Kirschbaum - **Monsanto Company**
- Krista Lottinville - Burrus Seed
- John Rice - **Bayer Crop Science**
- Stephanie Wedryk - **WinField Solutions, LLC**
- Jamie Zbinden - **Valent USA**

Jane Hanson, **Dow AgroSciences**, giving a presentation to students about Farming and the Water Cycle.

Michelle Kilper
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

"This month I traveled to Washington D.C. where I and others discussed a wide-range of issues with policymakers," reports Steve Taylor, MACA Water Consultant. I have to admit that I had low expectations. Years ago, I went to D.C. right after a big election and I remember it was a very chaotic experience as members and staff were finding their offices and finding their way on the issues. This time I was pleased with the level of attention given to our issues. I went wearing my two hats, my Missouri Agribusiness Association (MO-AG) hat and my MACA water consultant hat. As MO-AG, I joined with my state counterparts as part of a 'fly-in'. My 'fly-in' group included Jeff Blackwood of BASF and Keith Flick of MFA. Jeff, Keith, and I hit many issues in our visits and many were issues that are very important to MACA members. One such issue is the EPA Pesticide General Permit. This permit is required for pesticide applicators for applications near Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS). This permit was put into place after a 2009 court ruling and places a high level of regulatory and financial requirements unto the pesticide industry.

I will be providing more details about our visits on this and other issues in the upcoming MACA newsletter.

Steve Taylor
MACA
Water Consultant

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership renewals for 2017 continue to come in. As of today, February 28, payment has been received from 40 members. Thank you!

SHORT NOTES

- Checked in with one of MACA's long time members - **Henry Estes** from **Nickey Warehouse** in Memphis, TN. He's 82 and still at the warehouse every day and strong as ever. Several years ago, Henry gave me a tour of the warehouse and we discussed MACA history. These days **Charlie Andrews** is the person attending the MACA D&E Committee meetings...but I am sure that Henry is reviewing everything from MACA!
- Congratulations to **Kevin Greene**, **DuPont**, on his 38th work anniversary! Kevin has been a long time member of the MACA D&E Committee and we thank him for his help and assistance.
- A special thanks to **Jeff Frederick**, **Monsanto**, for serving as the D&E vice-chair for several years. Congratulations to **Bill Morgan**, **Bayer CropScience**,

on his election as the D&E vice-chair. Both have helped the D&E Committee greatly.

- MACA leaders toured Bass Pro on February 1 to learn about fishing. **Lindsey Jackson**, **Dow AgroSciences**, was just one of the people to participate in the tour while **Jason Paris**, **MFA**; **Susan Macy**, **Valent**; and **Paul Edsten**, **DuPont**; weren't intimidated by the bear!

Lindsey Jackson, Dow AgroSciences

Jason Paris, MFA, Susan Macy, Valent, USA and **Paul Edsten, DuPon**t

CALENDAR

June 13 - MACA Long Range Planning Meeting - St. Louis, MO.

June 14 - MACA Committee Meetings - St. Louis, MO.

June 15 - MACA Board of Directors Meeting - St. Louis, MO.

September 5-7 - MACA Annual Meeting, The Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, MO.

November 15 - 16 -Kansas Agri Business Expo, Century II Convention Center,

Wichita, KS.

November 28 - 30 - ARA Conference & Expo, Arizona Biltmore Hotel, Phoenix, AZ.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"To succeed in life, you need three things:
a wishbone, a backbone and a funny bone"

~ Reba McEntire

QUICK LINKS

MACA Website
MACA Facebook
MACA 2017 Meeting Dates
C.A.N. Website
C.A.N. Facebook

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