Monthly Update
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MACA Monthly News

January 2026

(To use a hyperlink in this document, simply Click on the word showing the "link lines" below)

Contents

WELCOME TO 2026! 2
FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULE 2
Committee Meetings: 2
- Membership & Meeting Committee 2
- Critical Member Issues Committee 2
- Communications & Marketing Committee 2
- Education Committee Meeting 3

Board of Directors Meeting 3
LUNCH & LEARN Series – 2026 Kickoff is January 8 3
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS 4
AGRICULTURE ACADEMY 4
CALENDAR 4
THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH 5

WELCOME TO 2026! MACA is working on several educational programs in 2026 including the Developing Professionals Program, Young Leader Scholarship Program, Ag Academy Grant Program and the Lunch & Learn series which kicks off on January 8th. We will also be launching our Warehouse & Logistics Member Task Force with more to come on this following the February Quarterly Meetings. So read on for the latest information and share it with others in your company who may have an interest in one of the programs.

Go Back to Table of Contents

FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING SCHEDULE

The February quarterly meetings will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams as follows:

Committee Meetings:

- **Membership & Meeting Committee**
  - **Mon., Feb. 9 – 1:30-3:30 pm**
    - Join the meeting now
    - Meeting ID: 289 544 328 814 0
    - Passcode: Sm3Vs7A6

- **Critical Member Issues Committee**
  - **Tues., Feb. 10 – Noon-1:00 pm**
    - **Warehousing & Distribution Guest Speaker**, will be the guest speaker prior to the Critical Members Issues Committee and is open to all members.
      - Join the meeting now
      - Meeting ID: 222 580 362 880 11
      - Passcode: Dq2fQ6sc
    - **1:30 -3:30 pm - Critical Member Issues Committee Meeting**
      - Join the meeting now
      - Meeting ID: 264 965 542 917 94
      - Passcode: oq3yT6b4

- **Communications & Marketing Committee Mtg.**
  - **Wed., Feb. 11 – 9:30-10:30 am**
    - Join the meeting now
    - Meeting ID: 269 693 133 057 70
    - Passcode: h9gz7iL7

- ### Education Committee Meeting
  - **Wed., Feb. 12 – 1:30 -3:30 pm**
    - Join the meeting now
    - Meeting ID: 257 620 233 840 9
    - Passcode: gg7ZU2kf

Board of Directors Meeting

- **February 12, 7:30 – 9:30 am**
  - Join the meeting now
  - Meeting ID: 213 889 821 115 93
  - Passcode: oz96Bm24

All employees of member companies are welcome to attend and participate in the meetings.
Go Back to Table of Contents

LUNCH & LEARN Series – 2026 Kickoff is January 8

The 2026 series begins on January 8, 2026, at noon, Central time with an informative session called ***"What's Happening with the National FFA – Growing the Next Generation of Leaders Who Will Change the World"***. Featured speaker is **Scott Stump, the CEO of the National FFA Organization and Foundation**. Scott leads the National FFA Organization and National FFA Foundation to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

This will be from Noon-1:15 pm Central Time on January 8, 2026. Q&A will follow the presentation.

All MACA member companies are welcome to invite all their employees to join any of the L&L sessions. Make plans to attend and share the invite with others in your company.

To participate via TEAMS, click on this Join the meeting now; ; Meeting ID: 219 878 865 860 56; Passcode: C2Xg9rj9

Then on February 18 make plans to join us for an update from Michael Swanson, Food and Agribusiness Industry Advisor with Wells Fargo, focusing on the 2026 Outlook for Agriculture and Farming.
Go Back to Table of Contents

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As of January 1, membership renewals have been received from 13 member companies. **Members are encouraged to renew their membership by February 15, 2026.** If you need another copy of your membership renewal invoice, just let me know.

Click here to access the MACA website for Membership Information.

Go Back to Table of Contents

AGRICULTURE ACADEMY

The Agriculture Academy is dedicated to educating students from kindergarten through 12th grade about the importance of agriculture. Recognizing the vital role agriculture plays in everyday life, the Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) created the Agriculture Academy to support teachers, schools, and organizations that are committed to agricultural education but may need additional funding.

Through the Agriculture Academy grant program, **MACA is pleased to offer grants of up to $1,000** to help expand and enhance agriculture-focused learning opportunities in classrooms and educational programs.

Applications for the Agriculture Academy grant program will be accepted from January through March 2026. Grant recipients will be notified by May 2026, and awarded funds may be used during the 2026–2027 school year.

To learn more about the Agriculture Academy grant program or to complete an application, visit https://ambassador.maca.org/grant-program/. **Please spread the word by sharing this opportunity with anyone who may be interested, including teachers, schools, students, and organizations.**

Go Back to Table of Contents

CALENDAR

January 13-14	2026 MABA Winter Conference & Trade Show, Lansing, MI
January 12-13	2026 Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic, Wisconsin Dells, WI
January 14	RMAA 2026 Winter Conference, Westminster, CO
January 14-15	SDABA Ag Expo, Sioux Falls, SD
January 20-22	IFCA Winter Convention, Peoria, IL
January 26-28	The Nebraska Agri-Business Exposition, Kearney, NE
January 26-28	OABA Industry Conference, Columbus, Ohio
February 9-11	**MACA Committee Meetings - Virtual**

February 12	**MACA Quarterly Meeting - Virtual**
February 5	Agribusiness Council of Indiana Statehouse Day and Annual Meeting
February 10-11	Agribiz Showcase, Altoona, IA
June 3-4	**MACA Quarterly Meeting, St. Louis, MO**
July 9	MO-AG Annual Summer Meeting, Lake of The Ozarks, MO
July 24	**MACA Board & Committee Chair Meeting - Virtual**
Sept. 8-9-10, 2026	**MACA Annual Meeting, Omaha, NE**

Go Back to Table of Contents

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity."

~ Albert Einstein

Go Back to Table of Contents