



NewsUpdate

December 2013

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December - Merry Christmas to you and your family! May you all find peace and happiness this holiday season. Take time to enjoy those close to you and celebrate the wonderful events in your life and MACA. I am sure that we all have much to celebrate. From the MACA staff - Diane, Jean and I wish you a holiday filled with laughter and fond memories of those close to you.



NOVEMBER MEETING

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly meetings were held on Wednesday, November 6, 2013, and Thursday, November 7, 2013, at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, 10700 Peartree Lane, St. Louis, Missouri.

Key items from the Board of Directors meeting are as follows:

CALENDAR

December 3 & 4 - North Dakota Ag Expo, Fargo Dome, Fargo, ND

December 3-5 - Ag Retailer Association Annual Conference, Miami, FL

December 10-12 - 2013 CPM Short Course and MCPR Trade Show, Minneapolis Convention Center and Minneapolis Hilton Hotel.

December 24-25 - **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**
MACA Office closed.

2014

January 1 - **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** MACA office closed.

January 13-16 - MABA Winter Conference & Trade Show, Lansing Center, Lansing, MI

January 14-16 - Wisconsin Crop Management Conference & Agri-Industry Showcase, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, Wisconsin

January 14-16 - 2014 *Winter Conference, Rocky Mountain Agribusiness Association*

January 15-16 - AG EXPO, Sioux Falls Convention Center, Sioux Falls, SD

January 20-22 - IFCA Convention, Peoria Civic

- Approved **Norm Wagoner, Agrilead**, for a one year At-Large position and **Matthew Likens, Helena Chemical Company** to serve a two year At-Large term on the Executive committee.
- Heard an update on the **Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC)** from ACRC Chairman Jim Jenkins.
- Approved two new members - **Arysta Life Sciences** as a basic member and **Farm MarketID** as an allied member.
- Set the **2014 meeting dates** as follows:
 - February 12, 2014 - Committee Meetings, St. Louis, MO
 - February 13, 2014 - Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
 - June 18, 2014 - Committee Meetings, St. Louis, MO
 - June 19, 2014 - Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
 - August 1, 2014 - 9:00 AM (Central) Conference call with Board
 - September 2-3-4, 2014 - MACA Annual Meeting, The Alexander Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana
 - September 4, 2014 - 7:30 a.m., MACA Annual Business Meeting - Indianapolis, Indiana
 - November 5, 2014 - Committee Meetings, St. Louis, MO
 - November 5, 2014 - Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
- **2013 Financial Review** - accepted the proposal Filla & Filla to complete the work.
- **2014 Committee Goals:** [View document.](#)
- **2014 Budget** was approved.
- **Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs** as follows:
 - Annual Meeting- Don Bradley, Chair; Steve Koziolk, Vice Chair & Paul Edsten, Vice Chair/Golf
 - Crop Production Committee -Tim Riley, Chair & Neil Cleveland- Vice Chair
 - Distribution & Environment - Matt Ewers, Chair & Jeff Frederick, Vice Chair
 - Industry Communications & CAN Task Force - Doug Mertens, Chair & Tom Quade, Vice Chair
 - Regulatory & Environmental Issues - David Flakne, Chair & Duane Simpson, Vice Chair

Standing Committees:

Executive Committee - Greg Reigh,

Center, Peoria, IL

January 27-29 - Nebraska Agri-Business Exposition, CenturyLink Center and Hilton Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska

February 11-12 - Agribusiness Association of Iowa and Agribusiness Showcase, Varied Industries Building on the Iowa State Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA

September 2-4 - MACA Annual Meeting, the Alexander Hotel, Indianapolis, IN

MACA OFFICERS

2013-2014

President

Greg Reigh

Vice President

Tom Quade

Secretary/Treasurer

Phil Harms

Immediate Past President

Jason Paris

THOUGHT FOR THE

Chair & Tom Quade, Vice Chair
Nominating - Jason Paris, Chair
Personnel - Jason Paris, Chair
Strategic Planning Task Force - Tom Quade, Chair

- **Next Meeting:** Thursday, February 13, 2014
7:30 a.m. Central Time. St. Louis.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Thanks to **MFA Inc.** for being the first to renew their 2014 membership and include donation for the Young Leader Scholarship Program. The 2014 membership invoice was mailed the end of October. Be sure and look for it!



CROPLIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK

This has been a wonderful fall for CAN. Below are just a few outstanding presentations I am looking to fill. You will see the list is very short and that is because our ambassadors have been exceptionally wonderful about responding to my emails and getting the incoming request filled. I thank you very much as this makes my job so much easier and gets YOU into the classroom where you are really WANTED!!!! We are headed toward some very good numbers for the end of the year. We should easily top last year's numbers. Currently we are working on a new mailer to hit post offices and schools in the spring. Something new and fresh to catch teacher's eye!



I would like to welcome a few new ambassadors to our CAN family!

April Riley of Riley Farms has been referred to us by her husband **Tim**. Thank you Tim and April! April is already scheduled for her first presentation and has taken a few mailers to drop off at other area schools. Thank you for your support!!!

John Mohr of Gowan Company has joined us in

MONTH

As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same.

-- Donald E. Westlake

conference.

Katie Boston at Lincoln Land Community College stepped in to do a presentation for her professor who is one of our ambassadors. The kids loved Katie and left them wanting more. Awesome job Katie! Her trick.....a pop quiz at the end rewarded by a sweet treat! They were begging to answer more questions and show her what they learned!

Erin Jones of Monsanto joined us this fall as well. I am currently working on putting her out in the classroom for her first presentation.

Mackenzie Dickson and Ashley Greff, students at Iowa State University, both are ag majors that love talking to kids.

Rodney Schmidt, Bayer CropScience, was an active ambassador for many years, moved to North Carolina and has recently relocated in Indiana. Glad to have you back! So welcome to all of our new ambassadors I hope to keep you busy in the months to come.

Also if you have not been to the website to check out the new [Agriculture's Abundance](#) Power Point, please do so. I think you will be pleased with the updated information and the new graphics. I would also like to thank Jean Jocum, MACA's office assistant, for her help with citing some of the information, helping me find the right photos and my many technical difficulties while revising the presentation.

As you prepare for the holidays keep in mind you are busy shopping and wrapping because you have so many loved ones. You are busy attending parties and gatherings because you are loved! Happy Holidays!

Outstanding Presentations-Look for one near you

Indiana - Webster Elementary in Plymouth

Michigan - St. Mary School in Pinckney

Minnesota - Lafayette Charter School in Lafayette

Missouri - Saul Mirowitz-Jewish Community School in St. Louis



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Contact Diane Orf at the MACA office on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday if you have any questions.

WATER ISSUES

"The EPA and the Corps of Engineers continue to move forward," reports Steve Taylor, MACA Water Consultant, "with their plans to bring more waters under federal regulations through classification as 'Waters of the U.S.'" The new regulations could call a dry farm ditch a 'water.' A study, called the 'connectivity study' is closely aligned with this effort and is expected to be used by EPA to support its draft rule. The Federal Water Quality Coalition (FWQC), in which MACA is a member, has submitted comments to the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) regarding this study.

Our comments point out the foundational point that EPA lacks the constitutional authority to take the action it proposes. We state that "in evaluating EPA and Corps jurisdiction, it is important to understand that Congress has enacted the Clean Water Act in reliance on the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution, and Congress has applied the Act only to navigable waters. Accordingly, under the Act, EPA and the Corps can regulate only water-quality related activities that have an impact on interstate commerce and that directly affect navigable waters."

Using this as the foundation of its opinion, our comments pointed out that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled "water must have a "significant nexus" to traditional navigable water" and that "if, as a result of hydrologic connectivity, pollutants may be carried from upstream surface water to downstream navigable waters, then hydrologic connectivity may be relevant to a determination whether upstream surface water has a significant nexus to downstream navigable waters. However, studies related to the flow of water alone are not relevant to Clean Water Act goals. Water is not a pollutant"

Also related to these matters, EPA has released a "importance of water" report that attempts to tie water quality to the economy. The report states that "water is absolutely fundamental to the U.S. economy" and that "food production and water supply account for 94 percent of withdrawal from the nation's groundwater, streams, rivers and lakes." EPA could be using this to help monetize environmental benefits of regulatory actions.

Finally, in the last update, I mentioned EPA was working on revisions to the Water Quality Standards Regulation and I stated that the comment deadline was December 3rd. The comment period has been pushed back until January 2nd.

MACA will continue to monitor the increasing number of water issues and keep you informed!



SHORT NOTES

- Please join me in welcoming **Phyllis Lanier, Syngenta**, to the D&E Committee. She replaces **Fay Stanley, Syngenta's Distribution Lead NA Logistics**. Fayretired the end of November and was a long time member of the D&E Committee.
- Congratulations to **Jim Blome, president and CEO of Bayer CropScience**, for receiving the Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Science's Henry A. Wallace Award. The award is in recognition of outstanding leadership and service to the field of agriculture. He's a 1985 grad of ISU and was a speaker at the 2013 MACA annual meeting.
- **Richard "Dick" Murphy**, founding member and the first president of **United Suppliers** died this November. Murphy led the business for nearly 30 years, and remembered as a man with big dreams and confidence that the business would work and succeed. Our sympathies to his family and friends.
- CropLife Canada has a new president and CEO Ted Menzies. He is an Alberta farmer and former Member of Parliament.

Sincerely,

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2014 MACA Annual Meeting
September 2-3-4, 2014
The Alexander, Indianapolis, Indiana