

The County Agent

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS

Volume LXXIII No. 1 April, 2012

NACAA - 6584 W. Duroc Road - Maroa, IL 61756 - (217)794-3700



SOUTH CAROLINA

NACAA 2012

It's Finer in South Carolina!

Plan Now for South Carolina

I hope you are making your plans to attend this year's AM/PIC in Charleston, South Carolina. This promises to be a very good meeting with lots of useful information presented. The host committee has been working hard over the last four years to provide you with the best professional improvement opportunity and southern hospitality that you could hope for. There will be something for everyone and we look forward to having you and your family join us this July 15 – 19, 2012.

I have asked committees to prepare workshops that will give you useful information on how to set up and conduct on farm demonstrations and research. This is in response to requests from members as well as this topic being identified as a priority by administrators that attended our meeting in Overland Park last year. Another new venture this year will be a series of "fireside chats". These will be informal gatherings in the evening where agents can share and discuss particular topics. One possible topic that has been mentioned is using smart phones. I envision this session to be a group of agents sitting around discussing ways they use their smart phone to help them conduct their business every day. There are many agents that are wizards when it comes to smart phone use. They could definitely help us technosaurus (technological dinosaurs) utilize our smart phones more effectively. We look forward to your participation in these fireside chats.

Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Cathie Woteki, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics. Dr. Woteki has a sound knowledge of extension work. I know you will enjoy her comments about agriculture and extension in extension's second century of existence. South Carolina Governor, Niki Haley is also scheduled to address NACAA members during the conference.

The host committee has planned a wonderful spouse's, sons and daughters, and life member program as well.

All of this and low country hospitality makes for an unbeatable combination for this year's NACAA AM/PIC in Charleston, South Carolina. I look forward to seeing you there.



Paul Wigley
NACAA President



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Please Come to Charleston, South Carolina



SCACAA President
Trish DeHond

In South Carolina, we are eagerly awaiting your arrival. As you may know, the NACAA AM/PIC has never been held in S.C., so your visit to Charleston in July will really make history. Once known as “Charles Towne,” the city of Charleston is the second largest in South Carolina. It is also sometimes called The Holy City due to the prominence of churches on the low-rise cityscape, lying at the confluence of the Ashley and Cooper rivers, which, as all true natives know, “flow together to form the Atlantic Ocean”.

The Charleston Area Convention Center and host hotel (Embassy Suites) are actually in North Charleston, just minutes from the Charleston International Airport. Free shuttles will be available from the airport and between the CC and hotels during the AM/PIC.

Now that you know how easy it will be to get here, I must tell you that South Carolina’s agriculture is as diverse as our geography. From the mountains to the sea we have 27,000 farms across our state, encompassing close to 5 million acres. Our top livestock commodities include broiler chickens, turkeys, beef and dairy cattle, and laying hens, as well as pigs, goats, sheep and horses. South Carolina farmers grow a wide array of vegetable and fruit crops including peaches, tomatoes, and watermelons, three summer time favorites! South Carolina is a large producer of timber and agronomic crops such as corn, cotton, peanuts, soybeans and tobacco. Tours have been scheduled for you to get a taste of what South Carolina agriculture has to offer.

The South Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents and Clemson University are looking forward to having y’all come visit. We are proud to be South Carolinians and relish the opportunity to share the Palmetto State’s rich agricultural heritage with you! Our “smiling faces and beautiful places” are ready to greet you and your family in Charleston.

I’d like to finish my invitation by singing you a song. Now pack your bags, because what you’ve heard is true. I hope you will be singing along with me real soon.

Please Come to Charleston
[Sung to the tune of “Please Come to Boston”
by Dave Loggins (1974)]

*Please come to Charleston for a good time
I’m stayin’ here with some friends and we’ve got lots of rooms
You could fry an egg on the sidewalk
By a café where I hope you’ll see the crescent moon
Please come to Charleston
We say, let’s go, would you come down and see?*

*And we say, hey agent now, why don’t you get on down
Charleston, it’s your kind of town
It won’t be cold and you’ll get a big glass of iced tea
I’m the number one fan of the grand Palmetto tree*

*Please come to Charleston with your family
We’ll ride on down to the Battery where the waves do pound
And tour islands and marshes down the coastline
And then eat ice cream at night till the suites all close down
Please come to Charleston
Let’s go, hey, would y’all come down and see?*

*Now that agent’s path goes ‘round and ‘round
And I doubt that it’s ever gonna stop
But of all the teams I’ve ever joined
And the tough times that I’ve fought
I’ve found something cool to do
A job that I love, too*

*Please come to Charles Towne on the river
A county agent’s life, you know, is just too hard to live
So come to a place that looks out over the ocean
And there’s some folks that hail from the South
Ready to help and give
Please come to NACAA
We just said go, hey, won’t you come down and see?*

I’m the number one fan of the grand Palmetto tree.

2012 AM/PIC “First Timers” Webinar

Friday, April 13, 2012

3 – 4 PM Eastern Time

Have you ever wondered what really went on at an Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference? Have you ever wondered exactly what do I get for attending an Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference? If you answered yes to either question or just want to make sure you’re getting the best bang for your trip, then this webinar is for you! Information will be shared about the conference, the registration process, and tips and tricks from seasoned attendees to help you get the most out of the AM/PIC.

The South Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents and the NACAA Early Career Development Committee would like to extend an invitation and encourage you to attend the 2012 NACAA AM/PIC in Charleston, SC this July. We are very excited about this year’s event and confident that the program offers something for everyone. AM/PIC is educational, motivating, and very family oriented. Plus, the registration fee for any first timer with less than 10 years of experience is FREE!

The first step you need to take is getting registered. For someone new to AM/PIC, this can be somewhat of a daunting task. There is a very comprehensive schedule to navigate through and numerous decisions that need to be made on what to attend. Well, we’re here to help. The South Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents has teamed up with the National Early Career Development Committee to offer a free webinar that will hopefully make your decision to attend AM/PIC and the registration process much easier.

An hour-long webinar will be held on Friday, April 13, 2012 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. We plan to highlight the benefits of attending AM/PIC, what events and activities first timers can and should attend throughout the week, and, finally, we’ll take you through the steps of the registration process. This will be a live webinar, so if you have any questions, the presenters will be glad to help you out.

Login instructions for Participants

At least 15 minutes before start time:

- 1) Plug-in your headset/microphone or desktop speakers
- 2) Select the following link to gain direct access to this training session:
<http://uga2.wimba.com/launcher.cgi?room=ampic>

Depending on your web browser settings, the next screen you receive may vary slightly.

a) If you receive a message “Pop-up blocked”: click the message, select “Always Allow” Pop-ups from this site, and re-select the login link provided above.

b) If you receive a screen with the Room ID “ampic”: click below this box, type your first_lastname, and select Enter. This will take you directly into the room for this session.

c) If you only receive a screen with Participant and Presenter login buttons: select “Participant Login”, enter your first_lastname and select Enter

d) If prompted, run the Wimba Setup Wizard by selecting “Run Wizard”.

Technical Support:

Please contact your university or institutional Tech Support office if you have any difficulties with the Wizard or accessing the Wimba room.

On the day of the webinar (April 13, 2012) you can enter the room 20 minutes before the scheduled start time of 3:00 PM Eastern Time. For questions beforehand, please contact Laura Griffeth at 229-828-2325 or lgriffet@uga.edu.

Also watch the e-County Agent, NACAA website, and 2012 AM/PIC website. Those sources will have an electronic link to the hosting site as well as the instructions for Wimba.

Welcome “First Timers”

On behalf of the South Carolina Association of County Agricultural Agents, the First Timers Committee would like to extend an invitation and encourage you to attend the 2012 NACAA AM/PIC in Charleston, SC. We are very excited about this year’s event and confident that the program offers something for everyone. This year’s AM/PIC is educational, motivating, and very family oriented. Another perk is that the registration fee for any first timer with less than 10 years of experience is FREE!

For someone new to the AM/PIC registration process, we understand that there are many decisions that must be made. To aid in your registration process, there are various resources available. The County Agent magazine is a great place to start along with the SCACAA’s conference website (<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/nacaa2012/>). Another great resource available to you is a free webinar developed by the National Early Career Development Committee. An hour-long webinar will be held on Friday, April 13, 2012 at 3:00 pm Eastern Time and will highlight the benefits of attending an AM/PIC and what events and activities first timers can and should attend throughout the week. It will also take you through the steps of the registration process. Additional information about the webinar can be found on the previous page of this edition of The County Agent.

If you have specific questions about Charleston, SC or about any of the events that are planned, please feel free to contact a member of the AM/PIC planning committee. Contact information can be found on the SCACAA’s conference website. We hope to make your first AM/PIC a memorable experience and are here to help in any way we can.

We look having you attend your first AM/PIC in Charleston, SC. Your family is encouraged to attend with you as there are many Spouses and Sons & Daughters activities to choose from. Charleston, SC is a wonderful destination with much to offer. Please come experience the beaches, food, history, and Southern hospitality that Charleston is known for. What better destination to attend your first AM/PIC than beautiful Charleston, SC!

Visit the Commercial/Educational Exhibits

Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in this year’s trade show as it promises to be a great one! Charleston’s reputation for great Southern hospitality will be the focus of the show. The trade show floor offers a great social meeting place for casual business and exchanging ideas – be part of the excitement! Swing by for a quick visit and say “hello” to many familiar faces and new ones. A great mixture of business and educational vendors will be on hand to share products and information. Also, be sure to participate in the special drawing for a \$200.00 gift card. Look forward to seeing everyone in July!



Mealtimes - Charleston Style

South Carolina is known for its delicious cuisine and Southern hospitality. Your dining experiences while attending NACAA 2012 will give you the opportunity to experience some of our very best! Charleston, South Carolina is one of the South's favorite destinations with many opportunities to visit historic locations and experience good old southern hospitality.

We have selected menus that appear in some of our finest restaurants that express and represent our Southern traditions. The South Carolina Association of County Agriculture Agents (SCACAA) is hosting the Sunday evening get acquainted supper and a Lowcountry Boil on Thursday following the professional improvement tours. All planned meals are on site for your convenience. Each hotel provides a complimentary breakfast during the conference and there are a variety of family eating places within easy, short walking distance of the convention center.

Tuesday night will be the much anticipated State's Night Out! Your choices of restaurants are abundant and the SCACAA is here to help you make your pick. Whether you're looking for fresh local seafood, waterfront dining, fancy or laid-back, Charleston has it all. You can find out more about dining in Charleston at the NACAA 2012 website: http://www.clemson.edu/extension/nacaa2012/night_out.html

Transportation for State's Night Out is available through our official AM/PIC transportation provider, Charleston Convention and Group Services (www.destinationcharlestonsc.com). They offer a reasonable fee on several different size coaches that will meet your needs. Contact Erin Mellen at 1-800-553-2055; emellen@destinationcharlestonsc.com to arrange transportation services. Other transportation options can be found on the Charleston Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau web site: <http://www.charlestoncvb.com/visitors/> under "Travel Support".

We look forward to seeing you in July and introducing you to one of the greatest culinary destinations in the world. Be sure to bring your appetite!

4-H Talent Revue

Crooning under a Carolina moon – with some of the finest 4-H talent in the Southeast! From South Carolina to Georgia to Louisiana and everywhere in between, you'll hear and see our best and brightest at the 2012 NACAA 4-H Talent Revue. It's going to live up to that old line, "nothing could be finer"!



“Super Seminar” to be held during AM/PIC

The NACAA Ag Economics Committee will be conducting a three hour seminar during the AM/PIC. The seminar, titled “Managing Agricultural Risks under the 2012 Farm Bill” will provide information that includes the use of crop insurance to provide a safety net for agricultural producers. Extension agents attending will gain insight on how to work with agricultural producers in developing risk management strategies under the new farm bill provisions.

Presenters will include Dr. Cole Gustafson, Department Chair of Agribusiness and Applied Economics of North Dakota State University, Dr. Laurence Crane or another representative of the National Crop Insurance Service of Overland Park, Kansas and a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture (invited).

The session is scheduled from 1:30 – 4:30 pm, Wednesday, July 18. All extension agents that provide risk management education to agricultural producers are encouraged to attend.

This session is sponsored by the National Crop Insurance Services of Overland Park, Kansas.

Keynote speaker to be Dr. Cathie Woteki, Under Secretary of Agriculture for Research, Education, and Economics

Monday morning General Session Keynote speaker for the 2012 NACAA AM/PIC will be Dr. Cathie Woteki - Under Secretary for USDA's Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area, and the Department's Chief Scientist.

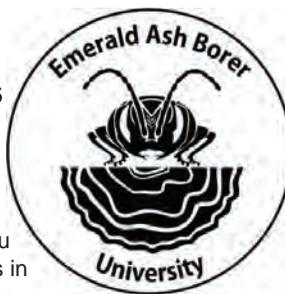
Before joining USDA, Dr. Woteki served as Global Director of Scientific Affairs for Mars, Incorporated, where she managed the company's scientific policy and research on matters of health, nutrition, and food safety.

From 2002-2005, she was Dean of Agriculture and Professor of Human Nutrition at Iowa State University. Dr. Woteki served as the first Under Secretary for Food Safety at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) from 1997-2001, where she oversaw U.S. Government food safety policy development and USDA's continuity of operations planning. Dr. Woteki also served as the Deputy Under Secretary for REE at USDA in 1996.

Prior to going to USDA, Dr. Woteki served in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy as Deputy Associate Director for Science from 1994-1996. Dr. Woteki has also held positions in the National Center for Health Statistics of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (1983-1990), the Human Nutrition Information Service at USDA (1981-1983), and as Director of the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences (1990-1993). In 1999, Dr. Woteki was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, where she has chaired the Food and Nutrition Board (2003-2005). She received her M.S. and Ph.D. in Human Nutrition from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1974). Dr. Woteki received her B.S. in Biology and Chemistry from Mary Washington College (1969).



Keep Up-to-Date on Invasive Forest Pests with Free Webinars from EAB University!



Emerald Ash Borer University is a **series of FREE informational webinars** brought to you by EAB educators from prominent universities in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service.

Our curriculum has recently expanded to include several invasive pests and pathogens that threaten US forests.

All you need to participate is reasonably fast Web access and one hour of your time.

Many live webinars are **eligible for continuing education credits** and all presentations are archived for on-demand viewing.

For more information on how to participate and a schedule of upcoming topics, visit:

www.emeraldashborer.info



97th Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JULY 13

7:00 am - Pre-Conference Livestock & Horticulture Tours
 8:00 am- 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting

SATURDAY, JULY 14

7:00 am - Pre-Conference Livestock & Horticulture Tours
 8:00 am- 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting
 12:00 pm-8:00 pm Registration-Convention Center Lobby
 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Registration for 4-H Talent Revue
 6:00 pm- 9:00 pm 4-H Talent Revue Orientation and Dinner
 5:00 pm Load Buses VIP Supper - Cypress Gardens

SUNDAY, JULY 15

7:30 am- Noon 4-H Talent Revue Rehearsal and Meal
 8:00 am- 7:00 pm Registration - Convention Center Lobby
 9:00 am- 1:00 pm Commercial Exhibits & NACAA - CC Exhibit Hall Educational Exhibits, Poster Set Up - CC Exhibit Hall
 9:00 am- Noon Regional Directors and Vice Directors Workshop
 9:00 am- 5:00 pm Scholarship Selection Committee
 9:00 am- Noon Nominating Committee Meeting
 12:00 pm-2:00 pm Past National Officers and Board Luncheon
 1:00 pm- 6:30 pm Computer Technology Center
 Noon- 2:00 pm National Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Luncheon and Workshop
 1:00 pm-5:00 pm Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room CC Exhibit Hall
 1:00 pm-6:00 pm Commercial Exhibit Trade Show - and NACAA Poster Session Display – Open CC Exhibit Hall
 2:30 pm -3:00 pm Break
 1:30 pm-3:00 pm State Officers Workshop
 1:30 pm-2:40 pm Teaching and Educational Technologies Hands-on Teaching Sessions
 2:50 pm-5:00 pm Teaching and Educational Technologies Hands-on Teaching Sessions
 2:00 pm- 5:00 pm Program Recognition Council Workshop
 2:00 pm- 5:00 pm Extension Development Council Workshop
 2:00 pm- 5:00 pm Professional Improvement Council Workshop
 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm Life Member Committee Meeting
 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm NACAA Educational Foundation Annual Meeting

3:00 pm-4:00 pm First Timer Orientation and Reception
 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm Welcome to South Carolina Dinner - CC Exhibit Hall
 5:30 pm- State President Rehearsal for Flag Ceremony - CC Ballroom
 6:00 pm -6:15 pm National Leadership Rehearsal - CC Ballroom
 6:00 pm-6:45 pm Parents Orientation for Sons and Daughters Program
 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Opening Session and Inspirational Program - CC Ballroom
 8:30 pm-11:00 pm Ice Cream Social - CC Exhibit Hall
 8:30 pm-11:00 pm State Pictures - CC Stairs
 9:30 pm-11:30 pm Hospitality - CC Exhibit Hall
 10:00 pm SC State Meeting

MONDAY, JULY 16

6:30 am-7:45 am Voting Delegates Breakfast
 6:30 am-7:45 am Scotts Miracle-Gro Breakfast
 8:00 am-5:00 pm Registration - Convention Center Lobby
 8:00 pm-5:00 pm Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room
 8:00 am- noon NACAA Poster Judging
 8:30 am -4:30 pm 4-H Talent Revue Rehearsal
 8:00 am-10:00 am General Session - CC Ballroom
 9:00 am-5:00 pm Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits Open - CC Exhibit Hall
 10:00 am-10:30 am Break
 10:30 am-11:40 am Trade Talk Concurrent Sessions
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Agriculture Awareness & Appreciation Award Luncheon (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am -1:15 pm Meet the Authors Poster Session
 11:45 am -1:15 pm First Time Attendee Luncheon (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am -1:15 pm Professional Improvement and Search for Excellence Luncheons (Tickets Required) Crop, Farm and Ranch Management ,Landscape Horticulture
 11:45 am -1:15 pm Excellence in 4-H Programming Luncheon
 11:45 am -1:15 pm Educational Luncheon Seminars
 1:30 pm-2:30 pm Committee Workshops for all NACAA Members
 1:30 pm -3:00 pm Life Members Business Meeting
 1:30 pm-5:00 pm Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leaders Meeting

2:30 pm- 3:00 pm Break
 3:00 pm-5:00 pm Regional Meetings and Candidate Presentations
 5:00 pm -7:00 pm Dinner on Your Own
 7:30 pm-9:00 pm 4-H Talent Revue - CC Ballroom
 9:00 pm-10:00 pm Ice Cream Social - CC Exhibit Hall
 9:00 pm-11:00 pm State Pictures CC Stairs
 9:30 pm-11:30 pm Hospitality Rooms
 10:00 pm SC State Meeting

TUESDAY, JULY 17

6:30 am- 7:45 am Administrators' Breakfast
 6:30 am-7:45 am Poster Session Breakfast
 7:00 am - 8:00 am Achievement Award Recognition Breakfast
 7:00 am- 8:30 am Life Members Breakfast and Program
 8:30 am- 4:30 pm Load buses for Life Member Tours
 8:00 am -5:00 pm Registration CC Lobby
 8:30 am-11:30 am Delegate Session
 8:30 am-11:30 am Excellence in 4-H Program Workshop
 8:30 am- 11:30 am Extension Development Council Seminar
 Administrative Skills
 Early Career Development
 Teaching & Educational Technologies
 Ag Issues & Public Relations
 10:00 am- 10:30 am Break
 9:00 am- 4:00 pm Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits
 Open - CC Exhibit Hall
 9:00 am- 4:00 pm NACAA Poster Session Open - CC Exhibit Hall
 11:45 am-1:15 pm State Presidents and Vice Presidents Luncheon
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Communication Awards Luncheon
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Search for Excellence in Livestock Production
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Search for Excellence in Remote Sensing
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Search for Excellence in Young, Beginning or
 Small Farms/Rancher Program
 11:45 am-1:15 pm Educational Luncheon Seminars (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am-1:15 pm SARE Fellows Luncheon
 1:30 pm- 4:00 pm Professional Improvement Council Seminars
 Agronomy and Pest Management
 Ag Economics
 Animal Science
 Natural Resources/Aquaculture/Sea Grant
 Sustainable Agriculture
 Horticulture and Turf Grass
 2:30 pm-3:20 pm Break
 4:00 pm -6:00 pm Commercial Exhibits close and take down -
 CC Exhibit Hall
 4:30 pm States Night Out

7:00 pm Silent and Live Auction Preview - CC Ballroom
 8:00 pm Live Auction - CC Ballroom
 10:00 pm SC State Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

7:00 am -8:30 am National Committee Members Breakfast
 Recognition of Retiring Chairs, Vice Chairs and
 Special Assignments
 8:00 pm-5:00 pm Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room
 8:30 am- 10:00 am NACAA Policy Meeting
 8:30 am- 10:30 am General Session CC Ballroom
 9:00 am- 5:00 pm Registration CC Lobby
 10:30 am-10:45 am Break
 11:45 am- 1:30 pm Search for Excellence Luncheon-
 Sustainable Agriculture
 11:45am- 1:15 pm Educational Luncheon Seminars (Tickets Required)
 United Soybean Board - Focus on Soybeans
 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm Ag Economics Super Seminar "Managing
 Agricultural Risks under the 2012 Farm Bill"
 1:30 pm -5:00 pm Teaching and Educational Technologies – Hands
 on Teaching Sessions
 4:30 pm-5:00 pm Formal Picture Opportunity
 5:00 pm- 6:30 pm DSA & AA Recipients, Hall of Fame Recipients,
 NACAA Board Members, Region Directors,
 Past Officers, Special Assignments, Special
 Guests, Council Chairs, Committee Chairs and
 Vice Chairs - Assemble for Banquet
 6:30 pm- 9:00 pm Annual Banquet - CC Ballroom
 9:15 pm-11:00 pm President's Reception
 10:00 pm SC State Meeting

THURSDAY, JULY 19

6:30 am- 9:00 am Assemble for Professional Improvement Tours
 CC Exhibit Hall
 (Breakfast at your hotel or on your own)
 8:00 am- 6:00 pm Professional Improvement Tours
 6:00 pm See Ya Next Year Closing Supper -
 SC Lowcountry Boil - CC Exhibit Hall
 10:00 pm SC State Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 20

8:00 am- 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting
 9:00am SC Committee Pack Up and Depart

SATURDAY, JULY 21

8:00 am- 12:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting

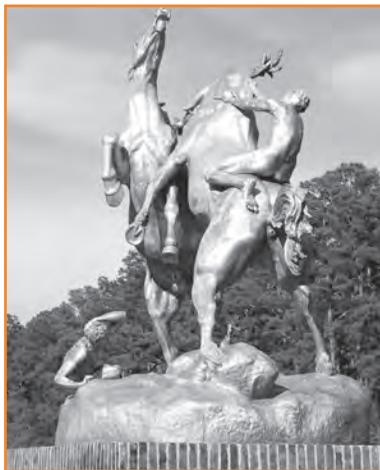
2012 NACAA AM/PIC, Charleston, SC Professional Improvement Tours

Cory Tanner, PI Tours Chair

Educational opportunities await those attending the Professional Improvement Tours on Thursday, July 19. The South Carolina agents have developed a wide range of tour options for the day. Everyone should find a tour of interest. Some degree of walking will be a part of most tours. Keep in mind that on-farm tours may have uneven terrain and July is hot and humid in SC. Please prepare accordingly. Special clothing requirements are listed below as needed. Water and snacks will be provided on busses and lunches will be provided unless otherwise specified. Tours denoted with (H) are considered to be fully handicap accessible. Each tour has a \$20 Tour Fee.

Tour 1: Sculpture, Horticulture and Mushrooms

This tour will travel north to Georgetown County to visit Brookgreen Gardens and Parsons Nursery. Brookgreen Gardens (www.brookgreen.org) is a National Historic Landmark with the most significant collection of figurative sculpture in an outdoor setting by American artists in the world. The family owned



Parsons Nursery (www.parsonsnursery.com) is an industry leader in container plant production and plant distribution, servicing landscape professionals, retail garden centers, and landscape distributors throughout the Carolinas and Mid-Atlantic states. On the return trip to Charleston the tour will stop at Mepkin Abbey (www.mepkinabbey.org/) in Moncks Corner, SC. See how this community of Trappist Monks cultivates white oyster mushrooms and supplies a wide range of restaurants and grocery stores in the Charleston area.

Tour 2: Lowcountry Conservation Forestry

This tour will visit Norfolk Southern's Brosnan Forest and the National Audubon Society's Francis Biedler Forest (www.beidlerforest.org). At Brosnan Forest, you will learn the history of the property and see how a corporate outdoor

recreational facility operates while sustainably managing a longleaf pine forest. At Biedler Forest, we will view the



nation's oldest virgin baldcypress-tupelo swamp forest and learn how the preservation effort has evolved to include traditional agriculture, forestry and wildlife land uses in the SC Lowcountry through the Ashepoo, Combahee and South Edisto (ACE) Basin initiative. (H)

Tour 3: Growing Green(s) in the Sandhills

South Carolina is the second largest producer of leafy brassica greens in the U.S., with the majority of that production



centered in the Sandhills region of Lexington County. This SARE sponsored tour will visit two premier vegetable growers; Walter P. Rawl & Sons, Inc. (www.rawl.net) and Clayton Rawl Farms, Inc. (www.rawlfarms.com). Both of these mechanized, high-volume vegetable farms produce high-quality leafy brassica greens and a variety of other vegetables. Tour participants will be exposed to various operations including harvesting, packing, shipping, and production of 'ready-to-eat, fresh-cut' products. Additionally, successful IPM programs for caterpillar control, attracting beneficial insects, GAPs food safety programs/trace back, and other efforts to move existing systems towards sustainability will be featured. (SARE Sponsored)

Tour 4: Orangeburg County Horticulture

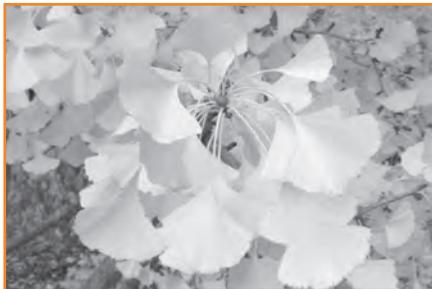
Ornamental crops are big business in S.C. Tour one of the South's largest sod producers and one of its largest tree nurseries, both of which call Orangeburg County home. SuperSod (www.supersod.com/orangeburg-sod-seed.html), a division of Patten Seed Company, grows and distributes acres of high-quality sod at its Orangeburg location. Shady Grove Plantation & Nursery (www.supersod.com/orangeburg-sod-seed.html) is a pioneer in field-grown tree production and specializes in large, specimen trees. Shady Grove has introduced several industry standard cultivars, headlined by the southern magnolia, 'Claudia Wannamaker'. The tour will also visit Edisto Memorial Gardens, an officially sanctioned All-America Rose Selections test garden that displays past and current AARS award winning roses.



This tour will visit Garnay Inc., a company that harvests and dries the leaves from Ginkgo biloba trees grown on a 1200 acre plantation. The dried leaves are exported to extraction plants in Ireland and Germany where they are further processed to obtain the raw material used for the pharmaceutical Ginkgo biloba extract EGb 761. Ginkgo is used primarily for memory enhancement and other conditions. The next stop will be Swan Lake Iris Gardens in downtown Sumter. The black waters of Swan Lake are dotted with colorful islands and abundant wildlife. It is the only public park in the US to feature all eight swan species and is also home to some of the nation's most intensive plantings of Japanese iris, which bloom yearly from mid to late May through the beginning of June. The final stop will be to Flowers Farms, a large scale vegetable producer in Summerton, SC.

Tour 5: Farming Pharmaceuticals, Swans & Irises and Vegetable Crops

Journey up to Sumter, SC, a city named for Revolutionary War General Thomas Sumter, known as "The Carolina Gamecock", who resided in the area. This tour will visit



Garnay Inc., a company that harvests and dries the leaves from Ginkgo biloba trees grown on a 1200 acre plantation. The dried leaves are exported to extraction plants in Ireland and Germany where they are further processed to obtain the raw material used for the pharmaceutical Ginkgo biloba extract EGb 761. Ginkgo is used primarily for memory enhancement and other conditions. The next stop will be Swan Lake Iris Gardens in downtown Sumter. The black waters of Swan Lake are dotted with colorful islands and abundant wildlife. It is the only public park in the US to feature all eight swan species and is also home to some of the nation's most intensive plantings of Japanese iris, which bloom yearly from mid to late May through the beginning of June. The final stop will be to Flowers Farms, a large scale vegetable producer in Summerton, SC.

Tour 6: Tobacco Past & Present

Tobacco has been one of S.C.'s most important cash crops for 100 years. And most of it is grown in the northeast corner of the state, an area



known as the Pee Dee region. This tour through tobacco country will feature current tobacco research at Clemson University's Pee Dee Research and Education Center in Florence. Later visit the SC Tobacco Museum and the Carolina Tobacco Exchange, both in Mullins. Get an historical perspective at the L. W. Paul Living History Farm in Conway, SC. The Horry County Museum has recreated this "one horse family farm" of the early 1900's that will allow you to watch as well as participate in the daily farm activities of times gone by. Another stop will be to an operating tobacco farm near Conway to see how farmers put today's technology to use.

Tour 7: Farming on The Ridge

Situated between the state capital, Columbia, and the Savannah River, the area known as "The Ridge" is



steeped in history and rich in agricultural production. Today it is also the heart of S.C.'s peach industry and was once a center of S.C. asparagus production, which waned after World War II with the exception of a few growers. Visit Titan Farms in Ridge Spring, SC, one of the largest peach farms in North America. Titan Farms is a diversified operation with a number of vegetable crops in addition to peaches. Tour their operations which include growing, harvesting, cooling and grading, packing, and shipping. Afterwards, the tour will continue to an innovative Saluda County livestock operation, and a 4th generation asparagus farm.

Tour 8: Gardens of Charleston

Tour around Charleston to visit several important gardens. The first stop will be Hampton Park, the largest public park on the Charleston peninsula. This historic park is bordered by The Citadel to the west and boasts the most extensive floral displays of any park in the city. Next, see the Carolina Yard Living Classroom Demonstration Garden at the Charleston Exchange Park (home of the Coastal Carolina Fair). It is a partnership between the Tri-County Master Gardener program, the Ashley Cooper Stormwater Education Consortium and Clemson University's Carolina Clear Program. Finally you will visit Cypress Gardens (www.cypressgardens.info), one of Charleston's most historic and scenic gardens, where you can enjoy their butterfly house, swamp boat tours, walking trails and more! (H)



Tour 9: Georgetown Plantations River Cruise

Step back two centuries into a majestic time when rice and indigo were South Carolina's leading cash crops, Georgetown was the wealthiest county in the nation, and the Swamp Fox, Francis Marion, roamed the black waters of the South Carolina Lowcountry. All aboard Captain Rod's (www.lowcountrytours.com) 60 passenger vessel as he teaches you about the natural and cultural history of the Lower Pee Dee River and Winyah Bay, the third largest estuary system on the east coast. Also see how humans have altered the waterscape on this leisurely boat ride through historical plantations, vast freshwater impoundments, and thousands of miles of hand dug canals and dykes. As an added plus, you will be joined by a wetlands specialist who will discuss how the 200 year old impoundments are currently managed to create some of the most productive waterfowl hunting in the Atlantic flyway.



Tour 10: Pee Dee Gardens

Travel northeast of Charleston to see two unique gardens in SC's Pee Dee region, a traditional row crops stronghold. You will first visit Moore Farms and Garden (mooreplants.com), a horticulturally sophisticated, 30 acre botanical garden created from the vestiges of the Moore family tobacco farm. The gardens surround the family's private residence and are open only a couple of times each year. This is a rare opportunity to tour the novel gardens, greenhouse and green roof. After lunch in Lake City you will visit Pearl Fryar's world-renowned topiary garden (www.pearlfryar.com), a three acre park of horticulture art in Bishopville, SC. Featured in the acclaimed documentary [A Man Named Pearl](#), come experience the man and his incredible living creations.



Tour 11: Live Oaks, Sweet Tea and Muscadine Wine

It doesn't get any more Southern than this! Travel south to Wadmalaw Island for three unique experiences. In the morning you will explore the ancient boughs of The Angel Oak (www.angeloaktree.org). At more than 1,500 years old it is believed to be the oldest living thing east of the Rocky Mountains. Then continue to the Charleston Tea Plantation (www.charlestonteaplantation.com), America's only tea garden. You will experience the 127 acre farm by trolley, allowing you an up close view of the 320 plus varieties of tea plants in cultivation. You will also get to tour the tea processing facility where you will learn how tea goes from the field to the cup. Finally, the tour will stop at Irvin-House vineyard (charlestonwine.com), a 48 acre muscadine grape vineyard and winery. There you will have the opportunity to sample distinctively southern wines bottled on site. (H)



Tour 12: Blackville and Denmark

Travel scenic US Highway 78 deep into the heart of the S.C. Lowcountry. This tour will visit Clemson University's Edisto Research and Education Center in Blackville, SC. Edisto REC (www.clemson.edu/public/rec/edisto/) encompasses 2,354 acres of prime agricultural land where Clemson researchers conduct a vast array of agricultural research, supporting S.C. farmers. Innovative projects in watermelon, soybean, and livestock production will be featured on the tour. The tour will continue to nearby Sandifer Farms, a diversified vegetable operation, and on the return trip attendees will stop at the Jim Harrison Art Gallery (jimharrison.com) in Denmark, SC. Meet the artist well-known for his paintings of rural southern landscapes and see the town that inspired his craft. (Closed-toe shoes recommended.)



Tour 13: Southern Goodness in a Can

Southerners love seasoned veggies and nobody does them better than McCall Farms (www.margaretholmes.com) in Effingham, SC. Tour this family-run operation that was founded as a farm in 1838 and added vegetable processing in 1954. Since then their cannery has grown into one of the largest in the South through their famed Margaret Holmes brand of canned vegetables. The tour will conclude at the National Bean Market Museum in Lake City, SC. In 1936 Lake City claimed the largest bean market in the world and the Workers Progress Administration (WPA) built structure now houses the museum and includes exhibits and displays depicting early farm life in the Pee Dee area. (Closed-toe shoes required.)



Tour 14: Paddle the Edisto

The Edisto River is the United State's longest free-flowing blackwater river and encompasses twelve counties, including much of the Midlands and Lowcountry areas of South Carolina. "Blackwater" refers to the tannic acids from the trees and vegetation around the river. Quiet paddlers are often rewarded with sightings of wildlife such as egrets, great blue herons, or a variety of ducks. The peaceful rate of flow makes the Edisto ideal for paddling enthusiasts of all skill levels. The tour will be guided by members of the Edisto River Canoe and Kayak Trail Commission. (Dress appropriately including water shoes, a hat and sunscreen. The river trip will be approximately 3 to 4 hours. Guides will give brief instruction on canoeing and kayaking. Trip subject to change due to weather conditions.)



Tour 15: Cotton Bales and Peanut Shells

This tour will travel west from Charleston to the Palmetto Peanut buying station in Cameron, SC. We will visit Haigler Farms, where tradition has given way to innovation, and vegetables and green peanuts are a part of the farm vocabulary. The next stop will be the Ellore Heritage Museum & Cultural Center (www.elloremuseum.org) for an historical review of cotton production and use in S.C. and beyond. Calhoun County has more irrigated crop land than any county in SC and we will see plenty of it in action. We will stop at several farms along the way, some of which have been in the same family since the King's Grant of colonial days.



Tour 16: Lowcountry History and Beef Cattle

This tour will travel north to Georgetown County to visit Hobcaw Barony. The 17,500-acre Hobcaw Barony (www.hobcawbarony.org) offers



research opportunities for Clemson University faculty and students in an ecological reserve of forests, high-salinity marsh estuaries, and brackish and freshwater marshes. Hobcaw also offers visitors a chance to go back in time and see the history of waterfront living and plantation life. The tour will continue to Front Street in the historic waterfront town of Georgetown. Participants will explore Harborwalk and get an upfront view of commercial fishing and waterfront shops. Returning to Charleston the tour will stop at Driftwood Plantation in Awendaw, S.C. Driftwood Belted Galloways (www.driftwoodplantation.com) is devoted to raising quality, performance-tested beef cattle. The herd, consisting of approximately 200 head of registered Belted Galloways, grazes 300 acres of land abutting a salt marsh. The ultimate goal of the operation is to encourage industry acceptance of the Belted Galloway breed by emphasizing and enhancing its positive traits: calving ease, strong maternal traits, smaller frame scores, and greater natural immunity; and strong carcass traits like large ribeye area and high marbling scores.

Tour 17: Pastured Livestock and Organic Grains

This tour will explore local food systems in Calhoun County. The tour will visit Caw Caw Creek (cawcawcreek.com), a farm that produces gourmet, pastured pork. Heritage breed pigs are raised in what farm owner, Emile DeFelice, calls a ‘managed wild setting.’ Tour participants will also see the grass-fed beef and pastured lamb operations of TruBlue Farms (www.trublufarms.com). Finally, learn how wheat, buckwheat, and field peas are produced organically on Tris Waystack’s farm. (SARE sponsored)



Tour 18: Johns Island Sustainable Agriculture Tour

The Lowcountry of South Carolina is home to a number of innovative Sustainable Agriculture operations. This full-day tour highlights a variety of vegetable and livestock producers in the Johns Island area. The tour begins at the Clemson Experimental Station that also hosts the Lowcountry Local First Incubator Farm. Next, the group will visit Jeremiah Farm and Goat Dairy, a three-acre residential farm producing vegetables, herbs, flowers, eggs, and certified goat milk. Following this farm will be Rosebank Farm, a 70+ acre diversified vegetable farm with large chicken tractors and farm stand. Legare Farms is a more than 100 acres of livestock, vegetables, sod, and agritourism. The last stop will be on Joseph Fields Farm, a Certified Organic farm with over 50 acres of diversified vegetables, a NRCS high tunnel, and hoop houses. (SARE sponsored)



Tour 19: Historic Charleston’s Patriots & Pirates

This tour of Charleston will take you past the lovely homes along the Battery, 18th century Rainbow Row, magnificent public buildings and churches, and many other points of interest. You will not only learn about her Revolutionary heroes but also about those infamous villains who preyed upon the city in the early 1700’s. Included in this tour will be a visit to the Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon where the British imprisoned Revolutionary leaders. After your tour have lunch on your own at one of our fine restaurants and spend some time shopping and browsing in the Old City Market. (H)



Tour 20: The Civil War in Charleston & The Confederate Submarine, The Hunley

Begin your day with a tour of Charleston's historic district rich in Civil War History. As you travel streets filled with beautiful old homes, magnificent



churches and public buildings your guide will bring to life Charleston's role in the War Between the States. Included in the tour is a visit to the Confederate Submarine, H.L. Hunley. On February 17, 1864 the H. L. Hunley sank to the bottom of the Atlantic after successfully sinking the Union warship, the Housatonic, becoming the first submarine to sink an enemy vessel. On August 8, 2000 the Hunley was successfully raised. Today you will have the opportunity to view this 19th century marvel. After touring have lunch on your own and spend some time shopping and browsing in the Old City Market.

Tour 21: Coastal Plain Agriculture

Travel scenic back roads into the heart of the S.C.



Lowcountry and visit Clemson University's Edisto Research and Education Center in Blackville, SC. Edisto REC (www.clemson.edu/public/rec/edisto/) encompasses 2,354 acres of prime agricultural land where Clemson researchers conduct a vast array of agricultural research, supporting S.C. farmers. Innovative projects in watermelon, soybean, and beef cattle production will be featured. The tour will continue to nearby Creek Plantation (creekplantation.com), a diversified beef cattle and cutting horse operation. It consists of 14,000 acres with a 2200 head commercial beef operation plus horses and timber production. Creek Plantation is famous for cutting horses and has hosted the services of outstanding trainers, including Larry Reeder, Bill Riddle, David Stewart and Phil Rapp. Creek's breeding program has produced numerous NCHA winners, including Splash of Gin, Wheeling Peppy, Miss Smooth Splash, Judge Tanquary, Shes Pretty Smooth, Gincoe and others. Creek has produced numerous winners by Tanquary Gin, an Equi-Stat All-Time Leading Cutting Sire. (Closed-toe shoes recommended.)

Tour 22: Charleston On Your Own

Explore historic downtown Charleston at your own pace. You will be dropped-off at the Charleston Visitor Center on Meeting Street. From there the



prime attractions of the "Holy City" are within easy walking distance. Directly across Meeting Street is America's oldest museum, The Charleston Museum, founded in 1773. Be transported back through time, viewing objects from ancient fossils and an enormous whale skeleton to elegant costumes and Civil War artifacts. Follow Meeting Street down to the Old City Market; built in 1841, it features small shops, restaurants and a flea market with everything from produce to antiques. Hear the lilting dialect of Gullah ladies as they weave and sell handmade sweetgrass baskets. Other attractions include the South Carolina Aquarium, Rainbow Row and The Battery, the outstanding fashion and antique shops of King Street, and numerous historic houses, churches and cemeteries. Have lunch on your own at your choice of world-class restaurants. The helpful folks at the Visitor Center can help you make the most of your time. Buses will depart the Visitor Center at regular intervals throughout the day for return trips to the Convention Center.

Tour 23: Green Revolution in Southeast Forestry

As we enter the 21st Century, a green revolution is sweeping the forestry industry in the Southeastern United States. Sixty years of research into loblolly pine



genetics has produced trees that can grow as much as 60% more volume on better quality trees than unimproved stock. Come ramble in the Lowcountry woods and view the results of ArborGen's (www.arborgen.us) research in tree improvement. Learn about tree breeding and the effort to enhance tree genetics; Eucalyptus development in the Southeastern USA; Mass Control Pollination in southern pines and what it means for wood production in the Southeast; and see how forestry is being revolutionized through the management of enhanced tree genetics.

Tour 24: Agronomic Innovation and Experimentation

The Pee Dee region of S.C. is home to more than 50% of the agronomic crop production in S.C. This tour will demonstrate how innovation is key to the success of any farming operation. The first stop will be Southern States Cooperative in Alcolu, the local distributor for Specialty Fertilizer Products (SFP). Southern States agronomists will give a tour of Avail and NutriSphere-N demonstrations, both SFP products, on nearby farms and will be available for additional questions at lunch. The next stop will be at Steve Gamble and



Sons Farms, a diverse farming operation in Sardinia. The Gambles use precision agriculture practices extensively, including yield mapping and site specific lime and fertilizer application, in their production of row crops. They also grow seed wheat and soybeans and operate a seed cleaning facility, have added improvements such as tile drainage and irrigation to increase productivity, and host a multi-crop demonstration site for Monsanto. After a lunch, sponsored by SFP, you will visit Naturally Advanced Technologies (NAT) fiber flax processing facility in Kingstree. This Canadian company developed a new process known as CRAiLAR® that turns tough flax fiber into a fiber that looks and feels just like cotton, spins like cotton, and blends well with cotton. The cotton/flax blend wicks moisture like synthetic products, but has all the desirable characteristics of cotton alone. In its first growing season in S.C., NAT plans to increase production in 2012 to meet the strong demand for its product.

Past National President D'Armond Passes

Reymond Houston D'Armond, a retired County Agent of the Livingston Cooperative Extension Service with 38 years of service all in Livingston Parish, died March 3, 2012 at his home . He was 87, a native of Baywood and a resident of Denham Springs. He graduated from Pride High School, LSU, with a bachelor degree in Animal Science and a Master's degree in Extension Education. Visitation will be held at First Baptist Church in Denham Springs on Monday, March 5, 2012 from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM and again on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 from 8:00 AM until religious services at 10:00 AM conducted by Rev. Danny Henderson, Rev. Leo Miller and Tommy Hayes. Internment will be in the Denham Springs Memorial Cemetery.



He is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, Ronnie and Linda D'Armond, Randy and Dianne D'Armond and son Dave D'Armond; grandchildren, Chad D'Armond and wife Shelly and Kelly Landry and husband Elliot, Neal D'Armond and Katie D'Armond. He is also survived by great-grandchildren, Ryan and Riley D'Armond, Austin and Antonia Danna, Madison D'Armond, Yvonne Landry, Jace Landry, Kaden Cazes and Courtenie D'Armond and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Evelyn Smith D'Armond; parents, Josh and Regina Lea D'Armond; six brothers, Velfort, Maple, Virgil, Willie, Maurice and Stanley and one sister, Lorena Randolph.

He was a member of First Baptist Church of Denham Springs since 1949 where he served as a deacon, Sunday School worker and Baptist Training Union leader and many committees.

He was president of the Louisiana County Agricultural Agents Association, president of National Association of County Agricultural Agents, president of Epsilon Sigma Phi (national honorary extension fraternity), member of Alpha Zeta honor fraternity, president of Denham Springs Kiwanis club, selected as Kiwanian of the year, Layman of the year, received Humanitarian award from Denham Springs Chamber of Commerce. He served in the army air force during World War II with duty in Italy. Pallbearers will be J.L. Allen, Robert Stack, Dale Cambre, Jewell Davis, Craig Harris, Steve Hughes, Kenny Sharp and Dr. Bobby Welch. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to First Baptist Church, 308 River Road North, Denham Springs, LA 70726 or a charity of your choice.

LIFE MEMBER PROGRAM

LIFE MEMBER BREAKFAST

Tuesday, July 17th – Life Member Plated Breakfast and Entertainment: Jimmy “Big Jim” Tyler; “Good Country Humor.”

A native of Dillon County, SC, Jimmy now lives in Darlington County. He was employed by Coker Pedigree Seed Company as a farm manager for 13 years and as a Public Relations and Sales Manager for four years. He was also employed by South Hartsville Farms for seven years and is presently the owner and operator of Tyler Trucking Company, specializing in general commodities.

He and his wife have a large combined family of 18. Together, they often entertain for family meals and holidays with his famous chicken bog and her homemade bread. Jimmy has traveled from Florida to Virginia entertaining at Farm City week events, Crop Promotional Banquets, Business Meetings and Conventions, Civic Clubs and Church Groups.

NACAA 2012 LIFE MEMBER TOURS

Life Member Tour 1: Patriot’s Point Naval and Maritime Museum

Patriot’s Point offers a unique opportunity to learn about some of our Country’s finest moments. Understand the patriotism, honor, and character that defines all



the sacrifices made for our country. Pay tribute to our nation’s heroes aboard the U.S.S. Yorktown with a visit to the Medal of Honor Museum, with interactive exhibits that tell the stories of brave Americans who displayed remarkable courage such as Audie Murphy, Sergeant Alvin York, and Jimmy Doolittle.

The Yorktown was commissioned in 1943 and participated in the Pacific Offensive until the end of WWII. She saw duty in Vietnam and was decommissioned in 1970, and in 1975 was moved to Charleston to become the center piece of Patriot’s Point.

The Yorktown is home to the largest collection of military aircraft in the United States. View some of the earliest naval aircraft to some of the most modern fighters aboard the Yorktown. While on board we will eat lunch in the CPO Galley.

Hear firsthand stories from veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the War on Terror. The U.S.S. Laffey, a World War II destroyer, the U.S.S. Clamagore, a Cold War Submarine memorial, and the only Vietnam Support Base Camp in the U.S. are also located at Patriot’s Point. Light to moderate walking required. The Yorktown has an elevator for special needs guests.

Life Member Tour 2: Carolina Coastal Marine Education Program

Experience historic Charleston Harbor, where the Ashley and Cooper Rivers meet the Atlantic Ocean, aboard the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Education Vessel Discovery.



Participants will learn about the estuarine ecology of the low country, and experience firsthand the wonders of where the rivers meet the sea. The Discovery will pull a miniature shrimp trawl and crew members will interpret the diverse array of animals seldom seen beneath the water’s surface. The Discovery will travel close to a seabird nesting island where we will have a chance to view a seabird colony during prime nesting season. Emphasis will also be placed on the historic landmarks visible in the harbor including Fort Sumter, Castle Pinkney, the U.S.S. Yorktown, and the Charleston Battery. Upon returning to shore we will board the bus and proceed to downtown Charleston for lunch and sightseeing. This tour is limited to 35 people and closed toed shoes are required. Light walking is required.

**Life Member Tour 3:
Charleston Tea Plantation
& Historic Charleston**

Begin your day with a visit to the Charleston Tea Plantation. As you cross beautiful marshlands and travel lovely live oak canopied roads you will be treated



to the history of the large plantations which once occupied these islands and stories of the unique culture and language of the sea island black people who worked these plantations. The highlight of the tour will be a stop at the Charleston Tea Plantation, the only tea plantation in the United States. Over 100 years ago, tea planters brought their finest tea bushes from China, India, and Ceylon to the South Carolina Lowcountry. On your way back to Charleston drive by the Angel Oak, an amazing 1400 year old live oak tree. Complete your day with a tour of Charleston, one of the most beautiful and historic cities in the south. A box lunch is provided at the Charleston Tea Plantation. Light to moderate walking is required. There will be transportation for the on-site tour at the Charleston Tea Plantation.

**Life Member Tour 4:
The Civil War in Charleston
and Fort Sumter**

Begin your day with a tour of Charleston's historic district. As you travel her streets filled with beautiful old homes, magnificent churches, and grand public buildings, your guide will bring to life Charleston's role in the War Between the States. You will see the Battery, which was fortified during the war, St. Michael's Church where they painted the steeple black to escape the union bombardment, the site of the building where the Ordinance of Secession was signed, the Confederate Museum which houses artifacts from the war and the old Citadel.



your guide will bring to life Charleston's role in the War Between the States. You will see the Battery, which was fortified during the war, St. Michael's Church where they painted the steeple black to escape the union bombardment, the site of the building where the Ordinance of Secession was signed, the Confederate Museum which houses artifacts from the war and the old Citadel.

After touring the city, step back in time to the 1860's as you travel by boat to Fort Sumter where the Civil War began. As you cruise through Charleston's beautiful harbor, view the elegant homes along the battery, the U.S.S. Yorktown aircraft carrier at Patriot's Point and the sea gulls and dolphins play in the harbor. Upon arrival at Fort Sumter your guide, well versed in Civil War History, will take you on an informative tour of this famous bastion and its marvelous museum. A boxed lunch is included on the Fort Sumter tour. Light walking is required.

**Life Member Tour 5:
Charleston On Your Own**

Come visit Charleston, one of the most beautiful and historic cities in the south. Her stately homes with their lovely gardens, magnificent public buildings and majestic churches will enchant you. Participants will be



shuttled to the downtown Charleston Visitors Bureau. From there you can choose to walk the downtown area on your own or through the Charleston Visitors Bureau you can book a guided tour. Downtown attractions include College of Charleston, Harleston Village (one of the early suburbs of the city), the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, and the Old City Market, and of course the famous Battery. Moderate walking is required depending on what you want to see. Lunch will be on your own.



SPOUSES' / GUEST PROGRAM

Monday, July 16, 2012
Spouses' Tours

The South Carolina agents have planned a variety of tour experiences for you and your and spouse's enjoyment. From history and heritage to nature and art, our guests will have fun touring the Palmetto State. All tours are within 20 miles of the Convention Center; professional tour guides and/or escorts are provided by Charleston Convention and Group Services. Water, snacks and lunch will be provided on each tour (except for #4, which will have water/snacks and lunch on your own). All tours will depart between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. and return between 3:45 and 4:30 p.m. Departure times are subject to change.

= Handicapped/wheelchair accessible/baby stroller friendly

E = Easy (minimal walking, seating available)

M = Moderate (some walking and/or standing, relatively level). Wear comfortable shoes!

= Gift shop/shopping available

Spouses' Tour 1 – Boone Hall Plantation & Charleston's Lowcountry Cuisine



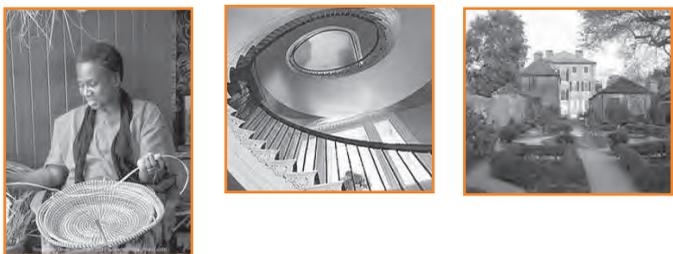
The world-famous Avenue of Oaks leads to America's most photographed plantation house and gardens. Enjoy a tractor tour of the working farm and its variety of wildlife. A tour of the colonial revival plantation house is followed by the Gullah Show, depicting African-American life on the plantation through stories and song. Lowcountry delicacies can be sampled at the tasting at Boone Hall Farms, featuring plantation-grown fruits and vegetables. A delicious lunch buffet at Gullah Cuisine is included. www.boonehallplantation.com **M**

Spouses' Tour 2 – Magnolia Gardens & Drayton Hall (The Drayton Family Legacy)



Our visit to two of the finest plantations in the lowcountry begins at the early 19th century Magnolia Gardens. Board the Nature Train for a tour of the Audubon Swamp Garden with its large collection of azaleas and camellias, sixty unique acres of blackwater cypress and tupelo swamp, the home of local and exotic species of plants and animals, including alligators and abundant birds. The tour includes restored slave cabins and interpretation of African-American life on the plantation. www.magnoliaplantation.com Continue on to pre-Revolutionary Drayton Hall, the finest Georgian Palladian plantation house in the south. The house's amazing architecture and craftsmanship tell the story of the Drayton Family and its community over two centuries. <http://www.draytonhall.org/> Box lunch in the conservatory at Magnolia Gardens is included. **M**

Spouses' Tour 3 – Grand Houses and Old City Market



View the lovely antebellum homes along the Battery, eighteenth century Rainbow Row and the magnificent public buildings in Charleston's beautiful old historic district. Tour two of Charleston's finest grand houses, both with an outstanding collection of Charleston-made furniture. First, visit the Heyward-Washington House, built in 1772 and its original kitchen house furnished as it would have been in the late 1700s. www.charlestonmuseum.org/heyward-washington-house Next, tour the Nathaniel Russell House, a grand Federal townhouse set amid spacious formal gardens, featuring a spiraling cantilevered staircase. www.historiccharleston.org/experience/nrh/ Numerous architecturally significant homes and exquisite gardens will be pointed out by your expert guide along the way. After the tour, lunch will

be provided at A.W. Shucks or Gilligans, then spend some time browsing in the Old City Market. This 200-year old brick market building features local artisans with sweetgrass baskets, chinaberry jewelry, souvenirs and more. **M** 

Spouses' Tour 4 – A Day at the Beach: Isle of Palms



This family friendly county park features 600 feet of ocean frontage, dunes, boardwalk, showers, restrooms, lifeguards, playground, sand volleyball court, chair & umbrella rentals, retail area and vending. Beachcombers love the variety of seashells found here, from sand dollars to whelks, to olives and angel wings. Osprey nests can be spied, pelicans soar and dive for their dinner, dolphins frolic, and giant loggerhead sea turtles come ashore to lay their eggs. You can also cast your own line and fish from the beach.* Lunch on your own – lots of restaurants nearby. BYO shell bag and sunscreen! **E** 

<http://www.ccprc.com/index.aspx?nid=60>
* SC Fishing licenses available at www.dnr.sc.gov

Spouses' Tour 5 - Fine Arts & Artists of Charleston Walking Tour



Over twenty-five commercial and institutional art galleries are within walking distance of each other in downtown Charleston. The walking tour is all within a four block radius, with short walks between air-conditioned stops. First, we visit Charleston City Hall Council Chambers which houses one of the finest collections of portrait art in the country. <http://www.charleston-sc.gov/dept/content.aspx?nid=471> Next, we visit the Birds I View Gallery to see the work of Anne Worsham Richardson, official painter of the S.C. state butterfly, bird and flower. <http://www.annedorshamrichardson.com/> Opened in 1905, the Gibbes Museum of Art houses a collection of over 10,000 paintings, prints and drawings, principally American with a Charleston or Southern connection from

the 18th century to the present. www.gibbesmuseum.org After the tour, lunch will be provided at A.W. Shucks or Gilligans, then spend some time browsing in the Old City Market. This 200-year old brick market building features local artisans with sweetgrass baskets, chinaberry jewelry, souvenirs and more. **M** 

Wednesday, July 18, 2012 – Spouses' Workshops and Luncheon

“Taste the Lowcountry”



Our featured speaker will be a local Charleston chef and cookbook author participating in the Fresh on the Menu program administered by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Participating chefs agree to prepare menus that include at least 25% Certified South Carolina Grown foods and products in season and feature the Fresh on the Menu brand. These chefs recognize the value in supporting local foods not only their bottom lines, but also for the difference South Carolina local products and produce make on the taste of food.

AM/PIC Spouses' Workshops

Wednesday, July 18 - Morning Workshops

Spouses' Workshop 1M – Sweetgrass Baskets

Learn how to make a coiled sweetgrass basket, a historically significant example of African cultural heritage typical of the Mount Pleasant area just north of Charleston. These hand-crafted baskets, made of palm fronds, native sweetgrass and pine needles, require a great deal of patience and creativity and are the official state handcraft of South Carolina.

Spouses' Workshop 2M – Knitting

Knitting experts will join us for a beginning lesson: how to cast on, knit, purl, and cast off. Needles and yarn will be supplied, or bring your own favorites for a fun workshop that will have you in stitches!

Spouses' Workshop 3M – Ghosts and Legends of Charleston

Local historian and acclaimed tour guide will share tales of the Holy City's spectral past, including Sue Howard's

Ghost, The Whistling Doctor, Gullah Superstitions, Hidden Cemeteries and the Bloody Alley. This is your chance to find out first-hand why “Charles Towne” is a city wrapped in wonder and superstition.

Spouses’ Workshop 4M – Learn to Shag

The Official State Dance of South Carolina is based on a swing dance called “The Big Apple.” The Carolina Shag is danced to “beach music” tunes with 4/4 “blues shuffle” structure and moderate/fast tempo, such as the Embers (“I Love Beach Music”), General Johnson (“Carolina Girls”) and the Original Drifters (“Under the Boardwalk”). Put on your loafers and slide across the hardwood floor with the expert shaggers!

Spouses’ Workshop 5M – Local and Lo-Cal : Healthy Low Country Cooking

Fresh, local ingredients. Light, delicious fare. Learn how the two CAN be combined into a satisfying meal, based on traditional recipes of the Carolina Low Country (low lying areas along the coast), such as unique ways to prepare vegetables, grains, and seafood.

Spouses’ Workshop 6M – Embroidery Charleston Style

Learn some new embroidery stitches from a local needlework expert, and create a lasting memory of your trip to Charleston with a special hand-made (by you!) souvenir.

Spouses’ Workshop 7M – Longer-lasting Flower Arrangements

Local garden club members will help you create a beautiful floral design using materials common to the Carolina low country landscape. We will also learn how to condition cut flowers so they will last longer in your arrangements.

Spouses’ Workshop 8M – Wine Pairings

Develop or expand your knowledge of “What wine goes with that meal?” from a sommelier, or wine steward, from a local fine restaurant. This trained and knowledgeable professional specializes in all aspects of wine service as well as wine and food matching.

Spouses’ Workshop 9M - Woodworking Demonstration

Doorknobs, bowls, and fine writing instruments can all be turned on a wood turning lathe. Here’s your chance to learn about turning wood into objects that will turn heads.

Wednesday, July 18 - Afternoon Workshops

(Repeat of Morning Workshops)

- Spouses’ Workshop 1A – Sweetgrass Baskets
- Spouses’ Workshop 2A – Knitting
- Spouses’ Workshop 3A –
Ghosts and Legends of Charleston
- Spouses’ Workshop 4A – Learn to Shag
- Spouses’ Workshop 5A – Local and Lo-Cal : Healthy
Low Country Cooking
- Spouses’ Workshop 6A – Embroidery Charleston Style
- Spouses’ Workshop 7A – Longer-lasting Flower
Arrangements
- Spouses’ Workshop 8A – Wine Pairings
- Spouses’ Workshop 9A - Woodworking Demonstration

For all spouses’ tours and workshops, Professional Improvement Credits for public school teachers will be applied for through the South Carolina Dept. of Education.



It's Finer in South Carolina!

SONS & DAUGHTERS PROGRAM

Summertime in Charleston, South Carolina is something from the story books. We can't wait to share our family friendly Southern hospitality with you as we visit local landmarks and national treasures around one of the South's most visited and the world's most haunted cities. The Sons and Daughters Program stops will include a water park, a fun park, a WWII maritime museum, an aquarium, a dungeon, a pirate and his parrot, and a harbor cruise. Some educational, but all fun packed, these tours are geared to please youth of all ages, with different interest, and from all over the United States. (All youth under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult). Join us as we proudly show you why it's finer in South Carolina.



Link: http://www.clemson.edu/extension/nacaa2012/sons_daughters.html

Sunday, July 15: Welcome to South Carolina

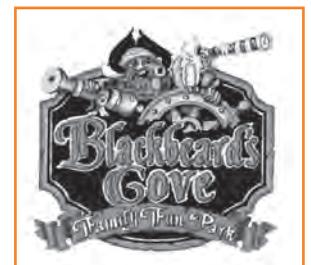
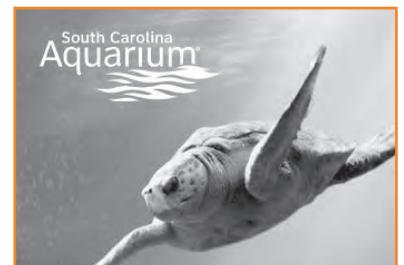
Registration – Look for the S&D registration table next to the main registration tables in the Conference Center. We will be checking health forms and distributing hospitality bags.

Orientation – Parents and youth are encouraged to attend orientation at 6:00 pm. We will go over the weeks activities, agenda, emergency contact information, program staff, and address other information as needed. Orientation should last about an hour.

Get Acquainted Party – After Orientation, youth can get to know other S&D Program participants at the Get Acquainted Party. There will be activities for youth of all ages.

Monday, July 16: Fish and Fun

We'll start the day with a tour of the South Carolina Aquarium and 4D Theater, home to local reptiles and amphibians from the SC coast to the mountains. We'll be moved in more ways than one as we experience interactive seating and waves of special effects such as gusts of wind, splashes of water, and movement under our feet, all synchronized to favorite family films in the 4D Theater. Next we'll travel to Blackbeard's Cove Fun Park for lunch and an afternoon of go carts, rock climbing, putt-putt, and arcade games. Make sure to wear appropriate shoes and attire.



SC Aquarium: <http://scaquarium.org/default.aspx>
Blackbeard's Cove Fun Park: http://blackbeardscove.net/index_home

Tuesday, July 17: Wet and Wild

We'll spend the day at Whirlin' Waters Adventure Waterpark with gallons of fun for all ages on 15 acres of island style play, lunch included. Wear your swimsuit and bring your towel, water shoes, and sunscreen. It's going to be a wet and wild day.



Whirlin' Waters Adventure Park: <http://www.ccprc.com/index.aspx?nid=95>

Wednesday, July 18: Ships, Subs, and So Long

Wednesday promises to be educational, exciting, and memorable. We'll visit Patriot's Point, home of the USS Yorktown and Maritime Museum, for a history and science tour of the ship, planes, and submarines as well as lunch on board in the CPO Galley. We will conclude the day with our Farewell Party aboard the Carolina Belle on a sunset cruise of the Charleston Harbor. The meal will be a local favorite with entertainment from a magician.



Patriot's Point:
<http://www.patriotspoint.org/>

Charleston Harbor Tours: <http://charlestonharbortours.com/>

Thursday, July 19: Dungeons and Pirates

Many of you will have a blast joining your parents on the Professional Improvement Tours. Others will enjoy spending the day at local area attractions. Some of you will be lucky enough to get a seat on the one and only youth only tour. This tour will take youth participants, ages 8 to 19, to the Old Exchange and Provost



Dungeon for the Patriot's Day Tour, waterfront park for lunch, and on an historical downtown tour with Eric the Pirate and Captain Bob, his colorful Macaw. Before

signing up for this swashbuckling good time, keep in mind these tours are outdoor walking tours. Wear appropriate attire for the lovely SC summer weather.



Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon: <http://oldexchange.org/>
Charleston Pirate Tours: <http://charlestonpiratetour.com/default.aspx>

Alternative Suggestions for Thursday:

Charleston Visitor's Bureau:
<http://www.charlestoncvb.com/visitors/>

Charleston.com: <http://www.charleston.com/>

Charleston's Finest:
<http://www.charlestonsfinest.com/sc/plantations.htm>

Plantations, Gardens, Sports, Museums, Art, Architecture, Beaches, Shopping, Golf, etc.



Airport Transportation

The South Carolina Association of County Agriculture Agents are excited and looking forward to your arrival at the 2012 Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Charleston, SC. Those arriving by air will be flying into the Charleston International Airport (CHS). The airport is located approximately 2.5 miles from the Charleston Area Convention Center and the North Charleston Embassy Suites, our headquarters hotel.

All hotels providing lodging for the 2012 AM/PIC have complementary shuttle service from Charleston International Airport. Those arriving by air will need to contact their assigned hotel and arrange their own shuttle transportation upon arrival in Charleston. The Hilton Garden Inn and Homewood Suites have courtesy phone in the baggage claim area of CHS. Other hotels can be contacted directly at the following numbers:

Embassy Suites: 843-747-1882
 Sheraton: 843-747-1900
 Holiday Inn: 843-576-0300

The airport information desk, located between baggage claim and ticketing, is open from 5:00 am until 11:00 pm daily and can help you contact your hotel. If you prefer, taxi fare from the airport to host hotels is approximately \$10 to \$15.

We look forward to greeting you in Charleston, SC as we showcase why "It's Finer in South Carolina"!

Shuttles During the AM/PIC

During the AM/PIC there will be shuttle service for conference attendees. The shuttles will run between each host hotel and the Convention Center from 6:00 am until 11:00 pm, Sunday through Thursday. Each hotel will have a dedicated shuttle that will go to and from the convention center. Plan on utilizing this service during your stay.

Award Luncheons/ Educational Seminars

On the following registration form pages (and within on-line registration), several luncheon opportunities are listed for your consideration. Additional luncheon opportunities are being coordinated by NACAA and depending upon finalization of these luncheons - tickets will be available on-site for your choosing on a first come/first served basis.

Preference will be given to Award Winners for final seating at each of the Award Luncheons. Limited seating is available for each of these functions, and your registration may be modified in order to make room for award winners.

Final notification of luncheon registrations will be identified on your AM/PIC registration confirmation no later than June 15, 2012. This confirmation will be sent to you electronically (mailed if you don't have an e-mail address).

NACAA Commemorative Knives Available

The NACAA Educational Foundation and the Scholarship Committee have just under 80 limited edition NACAA Case Knives available for purchase.



The knife, a three bladed medium stockman, has a green Jade Bone handle. The three blades, a clip, spey and sheepfoot have the NACAA logo in color etched onto the largest blade. The medium stockman measures 3⁵/₈ inches closed and weighs 2.5 oz. The knife is in a commemorative tin with the NACAA logo printed on the lid.

These fine knives can be purchased by contacting Scott Hawbaker at the NACAA office and he can send one to you. The price including shipping is \$50 per knife.

The money raised from the selling of these knives will go to the foundation to fund travel scholarships.

These knives will make great Birthday and Holiday presents as well as a good retirement gift for agents. Don't miss this opportunity to own a collectible Case knife. If you have any questions about these knives Scott Hawbaker at the NACAA headquarters at (217) 794-3700.

REGISTRATION FORM

NACAA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE

July 15-19, 2012

Registration forms must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2012: Late fee is \$100 - Return ALL forms together

Please fill out all forms completely. Enclose proper payment where needed.

Detailed information about activities is available in other parts of this publication.

Registration will be in the Charleston Area Convention Center

ON-LINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT WWW.NACAA.COM - SECURE SITE - NEW SITE - EASY TO USE

**For Insurance Liability reasons -
Name Tags will be required at ALL
EVENTS (meal functions, bus trips,
conference sessions - everything).
NO EXCEPTIONS**

SEND FORMS AND PAYMENT TO:

NACAA

6584 W. Duroc Road

Maroa, IL 61756

Phone: 217-794-3700 Fax: 217-794-5901 E-mail: nacaemail@aol.com

PARTICIPANT'S NAME

(Last)

(First)

(Preferred first name on tag) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE - daytime (_____) _____ - _____

Cell Phone (_____) _____ - _____

(for emergency conference contact)

E-mail address _____

**Confirmations will be sent electronically for everyone
(unless you are without email - it will then be mailed via
U.S. Mail) - by no later than June 15, 2012.**

Are you an NACAA Member (Active or Life) YES NO

Check your region: NC NE W S

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS - Please check below if you need special assistance during the meeting.

- Accessibility needs during the meeting
- Dietary (Please contact the registration office at the above address two weeks prior to the event to make request)

ANNUAL BANQUET

Wednesday Evening July 18, 2012; 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are required. 1 ticket per registrant is already included in the price of **full** registration (daily registrations do not include a banquet ticket - must be purchased separately). Tickets will be in registration packet...**IF YOU SELECT THE "YES" BOX BELOW.**

Do you plan to attend: Yes No

Number planning to attend _____

- 2012 DSA - Please check if you are a Distinguished Service Award Winner for 2012. **You need to sign up for the Annual Banquet above...to reserve a ticket.**
- 2012 AA - Please check if you are an Achievement Award Winner for 2012. Make AA Breakfast reservations with National Committee Chair. Annual Banquet ticket must also be selected above if you plan to attend (not required for AA award).

If your spouse, child(ren), and/or guest is attending the conference, please complete:

SPOUSE NAME: _____
(Last) (First)

GUEST'S NAME _____
(Last) (First)

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES (if attending):

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

FIRST-TIMER'S

Is this your first NACAA AM/PIC? Yes No

If so, please pick up your registration packet at the regular registration area (Convention Center) then stop at the information table to learn more about the conference.

First time and worked less than 10 years? Yes No

NACAA members attending for the first time and employed after 7/1/2002 will have registration fees waived.

Complete the following:

Date of Employment _____

The First-Timer's Luncheon is provided for first-time attendees on Monday, July 16, 2012. Your Spouse/Guest is welcome.

Number planning to attend? _____

(This event takes place at the same time as the Spouse Tours; please select one or the other).

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REGISTRATION FEE INFORMATION

Check ALL Blocks That Apply to You

Participant's Name _____

Last Name _____ **First Name** _____

NACAA Member **Agent Fee # Attending** **Spouse/Guest Fee # Attending** **Total Fees to be Paid**

First Time Attending (Waived x _____) + (\$225.00 x _____) = \$ _____
employed after 7/1/2002

Regular Member (\$300.00 x _____) + (\$225.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Life Member (\$275.00 x _____) + (\$225.00 x _____) = \$ _____

OTHERS

Sons & Daughters (*participating in activities*) (\$225.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Visitor (\$300.00 x _____) + (\$225.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Univ. or USDA Administrator (\$300.00 x _____) + (\$225.00 x _____) = \$ _____

Guest of NACAA President (Waived x _____) + (Waived x _____) = \$ _____

National Donor/Exhibitors (Waived x _____) + (Waived x _____) = \$ _____

Tour Add-on Fee (All Professional Improvement Tours have a \$20 fee)
 (Tour fees are non-refundable unless tour is canceled and you do not select another tour) = \$ _____

Past National Board Luncheon (\$30 Fee) = \$ _____

PART-TIME ATTENDANCE

Number Attending Each Day: Sun____; Mon____; Tues____; Wed____; Thurs____
 Daily Fee (\$150 x Number of Days____ x Number of People____) = \$ _____

Attending only Thursday Night Banquet: (\$50 x Number of People____) = \$ _____

Late Fee: Applies to all registrants listed above whose registration form and fees are postmarked after May 15, 2012 - \$100 per individual = \$ _____

Facilities Fee (FOR ALL ACTIVE AND LIFE MEMBERS):

NACAA has initiated a facilities fee for this Conference. = \$ _____

If you do not plan to stay at one of the approved hotels listed on this registration form - a \$250 fee will be administered. The lodging form must be completed with reservation information- or the fee will be added to your total registration cost.

TOTAL FEES PAYABLE WITH REGISTRATION: (Make checks payable to NACAA) = \$ _____

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED IF FEES ARE NOT PAID AT THE TIME OF REGISTERING (I.E. WAITING FOR SECONDARY FUNDING). IF A PERSONAL CHECK/COUNTY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION IS NOT SENT WITH THE REGISTRATION - YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE PLACED ON HOLD UNTIL THE MONIES ARE RECEIVED.

IF PAID BY CREDIT CARD:

___ MasterCard ___ VISA ___ Discover Card - No other cards will be accepted.

Person's Name on Credit Card _____; Expiration Date _____

Card Number _____; (List all numbers 16 digits)

Address of Credit Card Billing Statement if different than address given on Personal Information

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature _____

(IF CARD INFORMATION IS INCORRECT OR NOT ACCEPTED DURING THE CARD APPROVAL PROCESS, YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE DELAYED)

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

There shall be a 90% refund of registration fee when a request is made 30 days or sooner before the start of the AM/PIC (June 15). There shall be a 75% refund of registration fee if request is made from 15-29 days before the AM/PIC (June 14-July 30). There shall be a 50% refund of registration fee if a request is made less than 15 days and prior to the end of the AM/PIC (July 1 - July 19). No refunds will be given if a request is made after the close of the AM/PIC (July 19). Appeals due to emergency will be handled on a case by case basis by the NACAA Board. **Requests must be made in writing** to NACAA, Attn: Scott Hawbaker, 6584 W. Duroc Road, Maroa, IL 61756 or email to: nacaemail@aol.com. Refund for part-time attendance is the same, except there will be no refund for the banquet. Members and guests eligible for fee waivers will be refunded upon verification by the National Board of Directors. Registration Form page 2 of 7

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT TOURS

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Participant's Name _____
Last Name **First Name**

NOTE: If the spouse and children are participating in the same tour as the agent, please list the total number under the agent.

AGENT	Tour No.	# of people on Tour	SPOUSE/GUEST	Tour No.	# of people on Tour
			(If different from Agent)		
1 st Choice	_____	_____	1 st Choice	_____	_____
2 nd Choice	_____	_____	2 nd Choice	_____	_____
3 rd Choice	_____	_____	3 rd Choice	_____	_____
4 th Choice	_____	_____	4 th Choice	_____	_____

Reminder - there is a \$20/person for each Professional Improvement Tour - don't forget this on the payment form.

Agents have the opportunity to pre-register for the following Educational & Award Luncheons. **Preference will be given to award winners** - but non-award winners are welcome to register for available tickets. Family members are encouraged to attend Award Functions - so please indicate if family members will be attending. Please place a 1, 2 or 3 for your first, second, third choices on days you wish to attend a luncheon.

Sunday, July 15, 2012 (11:45 am - 1:15 pm)

___ National Committee Chairs & Vice Chairs Luncheon/Workshop

Monday, July 16, 2012 (11:45 am - 1:15 pm)

___ The new face of Scotts Miracle-Gro, New technologies, new products, new innovations (Breakfast 6:30 am - 7:45 am)

___ SFE Crop Production

___ SFE Farm and Ranch Financial Management

___ SFE Landscape Horticulture

___ Excellence in 4-H Awards Luncheon

___ First Timers Luncheon

Tuesday, July 17, 2012 (11:45 am - 1:15 pm)

___ Poster Session Awards Breakfast (6:30 am - 7:45 am)

___ SFE Livestock Production

___ SFE Remote Sensing and Precision Agriculture

___ SFE Young Beginning & Small Farmers

___ Specialty Fertilizer Products - Maximizing Fertilizer Efficiency

___ SARE Fellows Luncheon

___ State Presidents and Vice Presidents Luncheon

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

___ National Committee Members Breakfast

___ SARE - Search for Excellence Luncheon

Note: Achievement Award Breakfast, Communications Award Luncheon, Agricultural Awareness & Appreciation Award - reservations are all handled by the National Committee Chairs - by invitation.

PAST NATIONAL BOARD LUNCHEON

Sunday, July 15 at 12:00 noon. Your Spouse/Guest is welcome. Meal cost is \$30/person (tax/gratuity included). (If you check yes, you will be asked to pay even if you do not attend). Monies to be paid on registration form or on-line. Do you plan to attend?

Yes _____ No _____ If Yes, Number attending _____

Which office did you hold?

President Treasurer Secretary Director

LIFE MEMBER'S & LIFE MEMBER'S

SPOUSES ACTIVITIES

LIFE MEMBER'S BREAKFAST - Tuesday, July 17, 2012

(7:00 am - 8:30 a.m.) Number Attending _____

LIFE MEMBER'S & SPOUSE/GUEST TOURS - Tuesday, July 17, 2012

(8:30 am to 4:30 pm) (See Life Members Program for details)

Tour No.	# on Tour
-----------------	------------------

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

4th Choice _____

SPOUSE/GUEST ACTIVITIES

Spouse/Guest Name _____

SPOUSE/GUEST TOURS - Monday, July 16, 2012

(See Spouses Program for details including any additional fees which will be payable at on-site registration.)

Tours #1-5	# of people on Tour
-------------------	----------------------------

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

4th Choice _____

5th Choice _____

SPOUSE/GUEST LUNCHEON - Wednesday, July 18, 2012

(Spouse/Guest Only) I Plan To Attend ___ Yes ___ No

SPOUSE/GUEST WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Morning Workshop #	Afternoon Workshop #
---------------------------	-----------------------------

1st Choice _____ 1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____ 3rd Choice _____

4th Choice _____ 4th Choice _____

5th Choice _____ 5th Choice _____

REGISTRATION

SON'S AND DAUGHTER'S PROGRAMS

See Program for Details

PARTICIPANT'S Name _____

Last Name First Name Agent or Life Members name if not the same Last Name

Son's and daughter's registration will be held at the main registration desk at the Convention Center. Activities will begin with the orientation meeting Sunday, July 15, at 6:00pm. Adult chaperones must be registered for the meeting. This year's program is designed for youth ages 8 - 18. Youth 7 and under may participate only if accompanied by a parent or guardian that is registered for the events. All costs are included in the registration fee, including lunch. NACAA is unable to provide day care services for children.

PLEASE LIST THE NAME, AGE, AND T-SHIRT SIZE (DESIGNATE YOUTH OR ADULT SIZE) OF YOUR CHILDREN ATTENDING THE PROGRAMS. A = Adult, Y = Youth; XL = extra large, L = large, M = medium, S = small, XS = extra small. Extra large is only available in adults and extra small only in youth. If your child needs a youth large T-shirt, write YL in the space provided.

		T-Shirt			T-Shirt
(Name)	Age	Size	Height	(Name)	Age
Child # 1 _____	_____	_____	_____	Child # 3 _____	_____
Child # 2 _____	_____	_____	_____	Child # 4 _____	_____

NOTE: Adults are welcome to attend and will be asked to assist as chaperones. Adults must accompany their children ages 7 and under on any activity. Please list any adults who will chaperone. Only sons & daughters and adult chaperones will be eligible for a T-Shirt.

	T-Shirt		T-Shirt
(Name)	Size	(Name)	Size
Adult # 1 _____	_____	Adult # 2 _____	_____

Please indicate the child and adult number from the above list that will be attending Son's & Daughter's Program.

	# Youth	# Adults	Youth & Adult's Name (s)
<u>SUNDAY, JULY 15</u>			
Get Acquainted and Registration	_____	_____	_____
<u>MONDAY, JULY 16</u>			
Fish & Fun	_____	_____	_____
<u>TUESDAY, JULY 17</u>			
Wet & Wild	_____	_____	_____
<u>WEDNESDAY, JULY 18</u>			
Ships, Subs & So Long	_____	_____	_____
Farewell Party	_____	_____	_____
<u>THURSDAY, JULY 19</u>			
Dungeons & Pirates	_____	_____	_____
(Alternative to Professional Improvement Tours)			_____

SON'S & DAUGHTER'S MEDICAL RELEASE FORM: Medical release forms will be required for all youth participants. Please complete the following 2 pages and submit **ONLY THE RELEASE FORMS** to Alana West at the address provided or e-mail to: awillin@clemsun.edu.



2012 NACAA AM/PIC Sons & Daughters Release Form

This form must be completed in its entirety prior to youth participating in any 2012 NACAA AM/PIC Sons & Daughters Programs. Upon completion this form should be mailed directly to: 2012 NACAA AM/PIC S&D, c/o Alana West, PO Box 160, Newberry SC 29108 no later than June 30, 2012. Forms will also be accepted via e-mail - send to: awillin@clmson.edu . Please print.

REGISTRATION

PARTICIPANTS NAME: _____ AGE: _____

I. MEDICAL INFORMATION

KNOWN ALLERGIES (food, drugs, insects, etc.): _____

SPECIAL MEDICAL CONCERNS OR CONDITIONS (contagious illnesses, epilepsy, asthma, diabetes, previous injuries, etc.): _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: _____

MEDICATIONS CURRENTLY BEING TAKEN: _____

FAMILY PHYSICIAN: _____

PHONE: _____ ADDRESS: _____

If you are a person with disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in the Sons & Daughters activities, please contact Alana West, 2012 Sons & Daughters Chair at 803-276-1091 x111 or awillin@clmson.edu to discuss accommodations no later than June 29, 2012.

II. INSURANCE INFORMATION

The NACAA purchases insurance for Son & Daughters activities and events. In some cases, this coverage may not cover some medical expenses and it may be necessary to bill the family or your insurance company.

HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY: _____

COMPANY ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____ POLICY #: _____

III. INFORMED CONSENT FOR TREATMENT

In the event that a participant needs minor medical care from AM/PIC Sons & Daughters program staff or more significant medical care from a qualified health care provider, including in rare cases possible hospitalization and/or surgery, the parent/guardian is asked to sign the informed consent form below. In case of serious medical condition, program staff will make every effort to notify the parent/guardian, but the first priority may be providing care to the participant.

I, _____, of _____ (City, State), am the custodial parent/guardian of _____, a minor child, age _____, date of birth _____. I authorize any adult(s) acting as agents of the 2012 AM/PIC Sons & Daughters Program and in whose care the minor child has been entrusted, to do any acts which may be necessary or proper to provide for the health care of the minor child, including, but not limited to, the power (i) to provide for such health care at any hospital or other health care institution, or the employing of any physician, dentist, nurse, or other person for such health care, and (ii) to consent to and authorize health care, including administration of anesthesia, X-ray examination, performance of operation, and other procedures by physicians, dentists, and other medical personnel except the withholding or withdrawal of life sustaining procedures.

This consent shall be effective for the duration of the 2012 NACAA AM/PIC.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

IV. PHOTOGRAPHIC, VIDEO, AND OPTIONAL PUBLICITY RELEASE:

I DO _____ or DO NOT _____ give permission to NACAA, through the 2012 AM/PIC Sons & Daughters Program to take photographs and/or video and/or audio or otherwise record images and likenesses of my child to use for NACAA educational, promotional, and/or marketing materials. I further consent that my name and identity may be revealed therein or by descriptive text or commentary.

I expressly release NACAA and the 2012 Sons & Daughters Program staff from any and all claims which I may have for invasion of privacy, right of publicity, defamation, copyright infringement, or any other causes of action arising out of the use, adaptation, reproduction, distribution, broadcast, or exhibition of such recordings of my child's image, voice, or likeness.

I understand this permission is entirely option, and that participants who do not give permission will remain eligible for Sons & Daughters program services, benefits, and privileges the same as those who do give permission.

SIGNATURE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF I, II, III, AND IV

PARTICIPANT NAME: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN PHONE #S: HOME: (____) _____ WORK: (____) _____ CELL: (____) _____

LODGING INFORMATION
THIS MUST BE RETURNED WITH REGISTRATION FORM

PARTICIPANT'S Name _____
Last Name **First Name**

HOUSING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Reservations will be made in the order received - but will be prioritized by number of room nights needed and availability.
2. A Facilities fee for all Active and Life members is in force for this year's AM/PIC. For those not making a hotel reservation through this lodging form - a \$250 fee will be added to your registration.
3. All reservations must be made with this housing form. You **WILL NOT** be allowed to make reservations directly with the contracted facility - all reservations must accompany a NACAA AM/PIC Registration Form and will be submitted to the hotels by NACAA.
4. Room rates do not include tax which is 12.5% (subject to change).
5. Rooms will be held using a credit card - or with a check (first night's deposit). (Checks should be made to NACAA - not the hotel)
6. The registration form must be postmarked before May 15, 2012 to guarantee accommodations.

Please **NUMBER (1,2)** your preference in each box (majority of rooms are at Embassy Suites)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embassy Suites Airport/Convention Center (Headquarters Hotel) -

<input type="checkbox"/> Hilton Garden Inn Charleston Airport (Life Member Hotel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sheraton North
<input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Inn Airport/Convention Center
<input type="checkbox"/> Homewood Suites | Rates \$139 - Single/Double Occupancy,
\$149 Triple Occupancy, \$159 Quad Occupancy

\$139 King Bed, \$139 Double/Double
\$139 Single/Double Occupancy, \$154 Triple/Quad
\$139 king or Double Queen
\$149 Single or Double/Double |
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Room Reservation should be made in the following name:
Please give Billing Address below for the Credit Card you plan to use to Guarantee Room. This address must match where your credit card billing statement is mailed to (home, office, etc.)

Name _____
(Last) (First)
 Company Affiliation _____
 Address _____
 City/State/ZIP _____

If you are sharing a room with other adults (other than spouse) you must list name in order for their name to be on the room as well. It is strongly recommended to send in your reservation forms together in order for the lodging reservations to be made correctly.

Sharing Room With: _____

Do you need a roommate? Yes No (Male Female)
 NACAA will make every attempt to find you a roommate, however you are encouraged to find your own roommate as it may be difficult to determine roommate availability until late June, 2012.

Credit Card to Guarantee Room and Used at Checkout

Master Card _____ VISA _____ Discover _____
 Person's name as it appears on card: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ ' _ _ _ _ ' _ _ _ _ ' _ _ _ _ ' _ _ _ _
 Expiration Date: _____
 Signature _____

Special Notes to Registration Committee:

Arrival Date: _____ Time _____ AM/PM
 Departure Date: _____ Time _____ AM/PM

Requested Room Type
 _____ 2 Beds _____ Handicap
 _____ Queen/King (depends on hotel) _____ Smoking
 _____ First Available _____ Non-Smoking
 _____ Roll away (add. charges may apply) _____ Crib
 _____ Other (please describe)

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Benefits of NACAA - *Hiking the Appalachian Trail with a Bu*

Mickey Cummings, Fred Miller, Stan Moore and Henry Dorough

I began working for Georgia Cooperative Extension in 1982. Early on my co-workers advised that joining GACAA and NACAA would assist me with my long term career goals and help me get promoted. By providing numerous professional improvement opportunities specifically designed for agricultural agents, GACAA and NACAA soon became an integral part of my professional improvement plan. A few years later further encouragement triggered me to become even more involved with NACAA by joining a committee and attending the AM/PIC. This was the first of many

NACAA leadership opportunities that helped develop skills I did not know I had. The above are part of the “advertised “NACAA package. Now that I have retired, new unanticipated benefits are exposing more of the NACAA story.

Upon retirement I worried about losing touch with my NACAA friends and the organization that meant so much to me. But it turned out these worries were unfounded and these NACAA friendships allowed me to do more than stay in touch. Having friends from all across the country



unch of Antiques

have provided unforeseen benefits. For example, I have hunted White-tailed deer in Texas, canoed in Florida, visited with friends during various bowl games, and even hiked the Appalachian Trail with friends I met while attending NACAA AM/PIC's.

A couple of years ago, Fred Miller and I began talking about getting some past (and current) NACAA officers together to hike the Appalachian Trail (A. T.) Our goal was to begin at the southern terminus of the A. T. on Springer Mountain and hike 20-30 miles per year. The first year we hiked from Springer Mountain to Neel's Gap, a distance of 30 miles, during a tropical storm which dumped 7 inches

of rain over the North Georgia Mountains during a 4 day period. We had a good time and for NACAA members who have at times said we were "all wet"; in this case it was certainly true!

Henry Dorough, Fred Miller, Stan Moore and I gathered at the Cummings house last September to walk from Neel's Gap to Trey Mountain Gap, 25 miles. Leaving Neel's Gap on a bright, sunny morning we were soon headed north on the Appalachian Trail. Given the weather challenges on the last hike, we couldn't have asked for better weather. Since Stan was the "newbie" on this trip, we gave him credit for the improved weather and the trail name, "Mister Sunshine". (Editors note: The rest of the group also have trail names but were deemed unsuitable for publication). The only obstacle to be overcome was making an NACAA conference call at 3 PM. Three of us were due to make reports during the call and President Wigley would not be happy if those reports were not made.

When we left Neel's Gap our packs weighed in at an average of 45 pounds. After walking 3.7 miles, we came to Wolf Laurel Top a place the Cherokee view as sacred. We stood in awe of the view and left the mountain believing it was a truly sacred place. Stan also began to understand I volunteered to carry the first day's evening meal rather than the second day!

At mile number 5.0 our group of "antique" NACAA Officers came to a place called Cow Rock Mountain. This mountain has a rock outcrop with a southern view of the Town Creek Gorge. The top of the mountain registers at 3,842 feet and the view is spectacular. To the east Wildcat Mountain is visible as was the damage caused by the tornadoes of May 2011. At mile 6.0 we walked into Tesnatee Gap and after another mile to Hog Pen Gap and the Richard Russell Highway. This was the only place around where we would have cell phone reception and we were anxious to find out about reception so we hurried down into the gap to look at our phones.

We had good coverage and the phone conference came off without a hitch. Hog Pen Gap is on a stretch of a major highway and there is a nice parking lot where the A. T. crosses the highway. During the conference 4 carloads of tourists stopped to take photographs of the "antiques" and the view from the gap. One curious tourist came up to us during our conference call and said, "This is a nice place to have a conference call". An hour later we were once more on our way north on the A. T.

This section of trail was the only place in the area where the oak trees had any acorns. Friends who lived nearby had forewarned me of this fact a couple of weeks before our trip. During September when you can find a concentrated area where there are acorns you can be

assured of one thing, bears. We had been talking about bears and seeing bear sign (scat) all day and secretly hoped to see one. All but Stan who may have been a little apprehensive. I don't know why. Could it have been my stories about getting treed by a bear? Or maybe it was Fred's story about his brother being chased by a bear in the Smokies or Henry's tale about bears stealing his food.

A ½ mile after leaving Hog Pen Gap we were walking through a grove of oak trees and as we rounded a bend we all heard the sound of bark falling. To our right we watched as a bear slid down the trunk of a tree and took off down the mountain. I think he was more afraid of us than we were of him but come to think of it I did not think to check the trail afterwards to see if there was any "Stan" sign.

Just before dark and at mile 10.5 we arrived at Low Gap Shelter. After supper we washed up and prepared for bed. I believe Stan Moore can sleep anywhere. His head hit the pillow and he was asleep before we turned off our flashlights. It was an eventful night but Stan missed it all.

The shelter consisted of a wooden floor with a roof and an open face toward the south. Just prior to turning out the lights, I heard Henry groan and point toward the ceiling. He had discovered bats roosting in the shelter just above his sleeping bag. The shelter was full so there was not an option for Henry to move his sleeping bag. Thus all night long you could hear Henry softly swear as another bat dropping landed on his sleeping bag.

I was still chuckling about Henry's good fortune and about asleep when a mouse ran up my arm and across my face. Not long after that we were visited by a barn owl – after the mouse I guess. About the time things were settling down a bit from the owl, a military plane swooped down the valley practicing flying below the radar. It sounded close enough we were afraid it was crashing. At least I got a few hours of sleep; I don't think Henry slept all night.

Coffee tasted particularly good the next morning as we ate breakfast. Our goal for the day was to hike to Unicoi Gap - approximately 11 miles away with a 750 feet gain



in elevation. It was a steady climb punctuated by brief descents with a final steep and very rocky drop to the gap. For our lunch break, we stopped at the headwaters of the Chattahoochee River and sang a few lines from the song by Alan Jackson. By this time, we were all beginning to feel the strain caused by lack of sleep the night before, carrying heavy packs up and down steep inclines, and the rocky terrain. When we loaded back up to head north, our pace slowed to allow our "worn out" antique bodies some recovery time. Unfortunately our slower pace put us behind schedule and it was a great relief to finally bottom out at Unicoi Gap with less than 30 minutes of daylight. Imagine our surprise when we discovered there were no suitable camping areas anywhere close to the gap. The terrain leading to and from the gap was too steep to safely set up a tent except for immediately beside the road. Our options were limited to camping beside the road and hearing cars all night and worrying about getting mugged or hiking in the dark at least 2 more miles uphill to the top of Rocky Mountain before we could find a campsite and a source of water. Fortunately we had all received training in cell phone technology and came to the realization that we could call my wife, Lauren and have her pick us up. We could then spend the night in a nice warm bed, get up the next morning, and finish our hike to Tray Gap. It was a no-brainer even for a NACAA officer! I think the clincher was when Fred mentioned the possibility of some good barbecue and banana pudding versus the freeze dried food we had in our packs! So that was what we did and I must admit that barbecue tasted pretty good.

As planned we got up the next morning and drove to the gap and finished hiking to Tray Gap where we had left the

rest of our vehicles. It turned out that the day's hike was relatively easy after the initial climb up Rocky Mountain. Of course, purging our packs of tents, sleeping bags and other items we no longer needed may have helped.

We all left Tray Gap with a feeling of personal accomplishment (and soreness) as well as a renewed appreciation for the friendships and experiences that we had gained through our involvement with NACAA. However, the NACAA A.T. story is not over and we are all looking forward to our next trip when we finish hiking the A.T. in Georgia and continue our trek northward through the mountains of western North Carolina.



Upcoming Issues of The County Agent Magazine

June, 2012

Open Topic Issue

Deadline for Articles: May 20, 2012

Mail Date: June 15, 2012

October, 2012

Post AM/PIC Edition

Deadline for Articles: September 15, 2012

Mail Date: October 5, 2012

December, 2012

Awards/Committee Directory

Deadline for articles: December 1, 2012

Mail Date: December 28, 2012

Recognition of Pennsylvania Extension

Active and Life members of the PA Association of County Agricultural Agents are joined by Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences Dean Bruce McPherson, Director of Cooperative Extension Dr. Dennis Calvin and PA Department of Agriculture Secretary George Greig at the dedication of a historical marker recognizing the beginning of Cooperative Extension in PA and the first county agent in PA, A. B. Ross. A. B. Ross was assigned to Bedford County, PA in 1910. The dedication occurred during the 96th annual Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg, PA. The PA Farm Show hosts nearly 6,000 animal exhibits, 10,000 family living and youth exhibits and 290 commercial exhibits. Annually more than 400,000 visitors attend this event.



Special thanks to Life member Duane Duncan and agent Tom McCarty for their leadership on this effort. The PA association provided funding for the marker. The marker will be placed along Rt. 30, in Schellsburg, Bedford County, near the location of A. B. Ross' original office.

The County Agent

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:
The County Agent - NACAA, 6584 W. Duroc Rd.,
Maroa, IL 61756 - Attn: Scott Hawbaker

ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE DATES

2012

Charleston, South Carolina.....July 15-19

2014

Mobile, Alabama.....July 20-24

2013

Pittsburgh, PA (Galaxy IV).....Sept. 16-20

2015

Sioux Falls, South Dakota.....July 12-16

