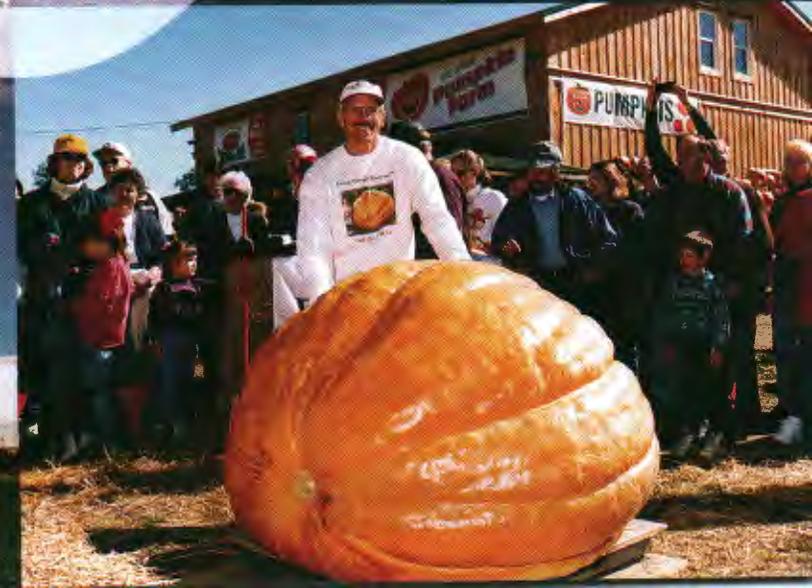
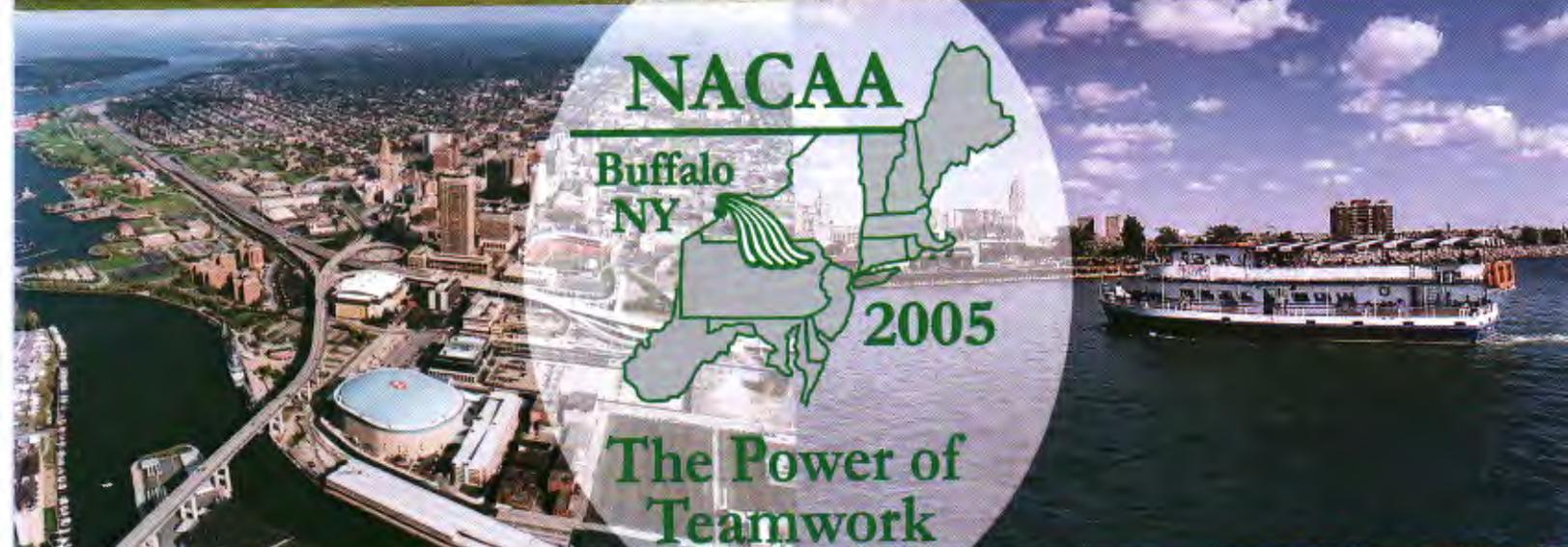


The County Agent

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THE POWER OF TEAMWORK

Welcome to New York, Welcome to the Northeast and welcome to NACAA's 90th Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference. The Northeast Agents Associations, your national Board, and the National Committee Chairs have worked exceptionally hard put together an outstanding professional Improvement Conference. It is loaded with opportunities to learn new ideas, new research and ways to increase your programming back home.

This year the 90th NACAA AM/PIC truly is a show of THE POWER OF TEAMWORK. The entire Northeast Region has pulled together to put on this AM/PIC. The National Association Committee Chairs are teaming up with the Northeast, and each of you to provide the latest and best information from all over the country for the concurrent professional improvement seminars, for Poster sessions, for Pre - AM/PIC tours, for Program Recognition programs and for some great Extension Development opportunities. The National Association has also worked with our federal partners to get CSREES programming to our Association Conference via SARE training and First Detector Training on Soybean Rust. We will be hearing from each of the other Extension Associations via JCEP programming. The National Board, and each of you has the opportunity to meet with the State Extension Administrators at our AM/PIC. Lastly we have "teamed" up with industry to provide a new program entitled "Trade Talks."

Each year you provide us with ways to improve the AM/PIC. Because of



*NACAA President
Glenn F. Rogers*

your input we are shortening up the General Sessions and inserting some concurrent professional Improvement seminars. This format allows you more opportunities to hear the latest research developments via seminars entitled: "Trade Talks". On Monday, July 18th, you will have the opportunity to learn about the latest research from more than 10 companies and associations throughout the U. S. These seminars will be broken down into four "tracks": Animal Science, Agronomy, Horticulture, and Industrial Technologies. You will be able to pick seminars from any of the 4 tracks. John Deere will present information on its latest technological advances in its fleet of equipment and how it will help U. S. and world agriculture increase its production efficiently. For the second year we are fortunate to have Bayer Advanced on board as they present further research on urban pesticide, fertilizer, and other relevant programs. Monsanto, Pioneer, Dow AgroScience, American Alpaca Association are just a few of the names that have stepped forward to offer some great opportunities for us to learn the latest from industry representatives. Back home we often

"TEAM" up with companies and other Associations to provide outstanding programs and here is another example of "TEAMWORK" at its best. Immediately following these seminars you will be given the exclusive opportunity to visit the commercial and educational exhibitors with no other meetings going on. This will allow you exclusive time to focus on learning new items from our sponsors, visiting the NACAA Poster sessions, visiting with the authors, and view and learn from the NACAA Regional and National contest entries.

On July 21st the NACAA General Session will again be shorter to focus on programs that impact YOU. These concurrent sessions will again allow you to pick several programs rather than one. We have the First Detector Network program which will focus on Soybean Rust - a problem that apt to affect all of our agricultural producers one way or another. We also have Public Policy Education programs, training on Transitioning to Organic Production, Small / Limited Resource Farm Educational Workshops, and even an opportunity for you to visit the famous Niagara Falls one last time.

Our featured Guest Speakers emphasize The Power of Teamwork. Steve Tasker, former Buffalo Bills Special Teams player, will share with you some of the successes that occur because of teamwork. Our Capstone Speaker Zach Clements will provide you, and your spouse, some powerful notes on why teamwork works so well. Join us for these inspiring talks, Sunday night and Thursday morning.

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President's Corner cont. from page 2

I haven't mentioned the three highlights of NACAA's Professional Improvement Conference. The Wednesday Professional Improvement Tours, 4-H Talent Review, and the presentation of the Distinguished Service Awards are by far the highest rated programs at the AM/PIC. This year is no exception. Not only have the Northeast Agents have put together an outstanding set of tours for the members, the seminars and tours for the life members, spouses and the Sons & Daughters are ways to get everyone involved. This year's program is hugely packed with opportunities that I recommend everyone participating in. Sign up early.

There are wide arrays of program opportunities for you, your spouse, and the entire family. If you have attended a previous PIC please share those experiences with new agents and how those conferences have uplifted you professionally and improved your programming "back home". The 90th NACAA Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference is beckoning you to attend and participate in The POWER OF TEAMWORK. See you in Buffalo.

Call of the Week

This lady called about controlling bats in her crawl space. She said she had a heating contractor and an electrical contractor on hand who wouldn't proceed until she took care of the bats. Partly due to the fact that she was in her mid 70's, and partly because I had never seen bats in a crawlspace, I drove to her home. I asked the heating contractor about the bats and he told me that I could see one on the far wall if I stuck my head into the crawlspace. The bat didn't seem to scare, so I grabbed a cardboard box and crawled a little closer. It turned out to be a black bird which had become trapped in the crawl space. It had perched there with his wings outstretched before dying. I scooped the dead bird up into the cardboard box, closed the box and crawled back out. The contractor took the closed box and looked through the little gap on top while giving the box a little shake. Since the bird had nothing left but feathers and skin, it was very light weight. It easily slid back and forth in the dark interior of the box, giving the impression it was still alive. He quickly handed the box back. The contractors and homeowner believe to this day that the county agent crawled under the house and captured a live bat.

DAVID J. GOFORTH

*Extension Agent, Agriculture & Horticulture
NC Cooperative Extension, Cabarrus County Center
David_Goforth@ncsu.edu*

Past NACAA Secretary John K. Wells Passes

John K. Wells of North Fairfield, OH died Saturday Feb., 5, 2005 in Fisher-Titus Medical center of a brief illness. John served as NACAA Secretary in 1978. He worked for the Huron County Extension for 30 years - and retired several years ago. He was also a veteran of WWII serving in the U.S. Navy (Asiatic-Pacific Theatre) for 4 years. John was a past president of the Ohio County Extension Agents Association and received the DSA Award from NACAA. John was a coordinator and held many positions with the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and was the Alzheimer's Coordinator since 1996 for 51 chapters of Ohio NARFE. Memorials may be made to the American Alzheimer's Association in care of Audrey J. Eastham, NARFE and can be sent to his wife Emilie at 808 New State Road, South, North Fairfield, OH 44855-9603. Emilie is doing fine - yet would like to hear from those who would like to write.

Electronic Communications Coordinator Vacancy

Laura Watts who has served NACAA as the Electronic Communications Coordinator has announced her retirement from Extension after 25 years. Laura has served diligently in this role and will be sorely missed. As of July 1, 2005 NACAA needs a volunteer to fulfill this special assignment. This assignment requires maintaining NACAA's website, coordinating mailing lists for committees, adding links and responding to inquiries from members and others. A more detailed list of responsibilities is available by contacting the NACAA headquarters at (217) 876-1220 or sending an email to nacaemail@aol.com. Please send a letter of interest to Glenn Rogers, 278 South Main Street, St. Albans, VT 05478, Ph: (802) 524-6501, Fax: (802) 524-6062. email: glenn.rogers@uvm.edu, The Electronic Communications Coordinator receives registration fee reimbursement as well as expenses to attend the Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference.

WELCOME TO BUFFALO

AM/PIC Chair Message

Nate Herendeen

You'll like the weather, you'll like the city, and you'll like the hospitality of the Northeast Agents as we welcome you to the 2005 AM/PIC in Buffalo. The opportunities for professional improvement are unlimited as are the opportunities for fun and entertainment on the Niagara Frontier. Our theme, "The Power of Teamwork" will be demonstrated throughout the conference.

The agricultural diversity in western New York provides the basis for professional improvement tours. Dairy farms are the foundation of the agricultural economy, but they are just the beginning. The diverse professional improvement tours offer commodities from Apples to Zucchini plus forest products and everything in between. The tours will conclude at the Erie County Fairgrounds (home of "Americas Greatest County Fair") with a full menu chicken barbecue served up by the Maryland Agents Association.

As a pre- or post-tour, you will enjoy the scenery and samples of wine and grapes in the world famous Finger Lakes region or Niagara/Lake Erie region. None better in the USA! If you have never been to Niagara Falls, this is your chance. Don't just look at it, but take in the Cave-of-the-Winds Tour, the Maid-of-the Mist Boat Ride and the Niagara Power Vista. If casinos suit your wishes, they are available on both the USA and Canadian sides of the river at Niagara Falls (bring your passport or birth certificate to cross into Canada).

The NACAA Board and Committee Chairs have speakers and professional improvement sessions that will keep you challenged. We will again have a major session by the National Plant Diagnostic Network with "First Detectors" training and updates. One emphasis this year will be on Soybean Rust, "the" crop challenge for 2005.

Our Sunday inspirational speaker will be Steve Tasker, a special teams star of the famous Buffalo Bills league championship teams in the '90's. His leadership as a football player and as a sports commentator provides the basis for his inspirational talks on team building.

The Spouses Program and Tours are geared to a diversity of interests. Topics are planned that will be of interest to all ages and both genders. Life Members will enjoy a real Northeast Breakfast and a variety of tours from Buffalo's antiques, architecture, gardens, wines, farms and history to Niagara Falls. Visitors on tours to Canada will need a photo identification like a drivers license if they don't have a passport.

This is a family oriented program. The Youth program will be both fun and educational. Experiences range from summer fun at Six Flags Darien Lakes Fun Country, Niagara River JetBoat Ride and Perry's Ice Cream Factory plus education and history at the Niagara Falls Power Vista and the Erie Barge Canal Locks at Lockport.

Our host hotel, the Adams Mark, is comfortable and spacious. They provide a shuttle service from the Buffalo/Niagara International Air-



Nate Herendeen

port. The additional hotel is the Hyatt, an equally first class facility. It will be the headquarters for Life Members. Both are in downtown Buffalo, near fine dining facilities and close to the I-190 Expressway.

This conference is truly a "Northeasterner". Agents from Maine to Maryland are involved in all aspects of the conference. The First Timers session will be carried out by the Maine group. The Sunday evening supper will feature Pennsylvania products sponsored by the Pennsylvania agents. The Wednesday barbecue will be carried out by the Maryland agents with help from all of us plus products from several states. New Jersey has provided the website services. Vermont provides us with Glenn Rogers, the motivator who keeps all of us going. They are also sponsoring an ice cream social plus ice cream products in various places. New York is providing a multitude of products, services and "work horses".

Come to Buffalo and see "The Power of Teamwork" in action.

Sunday Night Inspirational Speaker: Steve Tasker

Steve Tasker is widely considered to be the National Football League's greatest special teams player of all-time, quite a feat for a 5'9" man who played in the ultimate big man's game. He is the only true special teams player to be selected as the NFL Pro Bowl's Most Valuable Player when he did so in the 1993 game. He was selected by his peers and by coaches of the NFL to represent the American Football Conference as their special teams player in the 1988, '91, '92, '93, '94, '95 and '96 Pro Bowls.

Steve is currently in his 8th year with the CBS Television Network as an NFL Color Analyst. He is also on staff with the Buffalo Bills as a community liaison. He appears regularly on several local and national radio and television programs. He is also an active public speaker giving inspirational and motivational speeches in the western New York area and across the country.

Steve is most well known for his role as the special teams captain of the Buffalo Bills during the teams four

consecutive trips to the Super Bowl. What is not as widely known is that Steve, together with his family, has made appearances on behalf of the NFL, the United Way, the American Red Cross, the March of Dimes and numerous other charity organizations. He is also an annual guest of the Variety Club Telethon in the greater Buffalo area helping to raise money for crippled children. His commitment to children is further evident in his involvement with school lunch and reading programs as well as his work for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.



Dr. Zach Clements Slated as Capstone Speaker

Zach Clements' work has put him in the company of such speakers as President Gerald Ford, Jesse Jackson, Dan Rather, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Henry Kissinger, and Barbara Walters. Yet this respected, sought-after speaker endured a depression-era childhood as an orphan in an African-American and Italian ghetto. He's been through it all—poor performance at public schools, trouble with the law, and the constant lure of easy money from rackets that flourished openly in his neighborhood.



Zach's indomitable will to succeed was nourished by love and wisdom from his immigrant grandparents, and inspiration and help from his teachers, who started him on the road to respect for learning. He has earned Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of New York at Albany, and a doctorate from the University of Buffalo. He is the author of several books.

A full professor at the University of Vermont for 13 years and a veteran of many more teaching posts, Zach has also been a cook, lifeguard, camp director, football coach, laborer, truck driver, insurance salesman, U.S. Marine, and a musician appearing on American Bandstand and The Ed Sullivan Show in 1960.

Much of the impact, emotion, and honesty of Zach's message is rooted in his inspiring upward journey from ghetto to public acclaim - energized by an avid hold on life, tempered by old-world values and warmed by a teacher's love of people.

4-H TALENT REVUE

The 4-H Talent Revue will be held at the Adams Mark on Monday evening. The committee has put together a program to entertain and enlighten on Monday evening, July 18. This highlight of the conference will include performers from across the Northeast. You will see "The Power of Teamwork" demonstrated in their collective numbers plus their combined opening number and grand finale.



The contagious enthusiasm of our youthful performers will lift your spirits. Look for instrumental, vocal, dance and group acts.

Performers will arrive on Saturday and begin working with our choreographer and emcee at the Buffalo State College Performing Arts Center. It won't be all work as they prepare, time has been included for a trip to Niagara Falls.

For more details contact Larry Hulle, 4-H Talent Revue Chair, CCE Orange County, 1 Ashley Avenue, Middletown NY 10940 or e-mail: lrh6@cornell.edu.

LIFE MEMBERS PROGRAM

Life Members will be welcomed in Buffalo, the City of Lights, for the NACAA 2005 AM/PIC. The Hyatt will be the Life member headquarters hotel. The Hyatt is a short shuttle ride from the Adams Mark, the general meeting headquarters hotel or a short 10 minute walk for those wanting to work off breakfast, lunch or snacks. A Life Member /Spouses hospitality room will be available at both the Hyatt and Adams Mark hotels. The Life Member business meeting will be held on Monday afternoon July 18th at the Hyatt.

Tuesday July 19th starts with a full Northeast breakfast and short humorous presentation by Cornell Professor Emeritus George Conneman. Full and half day tours will depart after breakfast allowing you to view Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Western, NY. Tours have been planned to give Life Members a feel for Buffalo's and Western NY's rich heritage in history, agriculture, or experience Niagara Falls, one of the "Seven Wonders of the World". Be sure to bring your passport or Birth certificate and photo ID if you plan to sign up for a Niagara Falls tour. You'll need to show your ID to board the buses to Canada.

- Tour 1 Transportation, Naval and Historic Tour
- Tour 2 Antiques and Architecture Tour
- Tour 3 Botanical Garden and Shrine tour - Half Day
- Tour 4 Lake Erie Agricultural Diversity & Wine Tour
- Tour 5 Lake Ontario Agriculture, Power Plant & Wine Tour
- Tour 6 Niagara Falls, Canada Tour
- Tour 7 Charter Fishing - Lake Erie \$75-\$100.

Walking will be easy to moderate depending on your interests. Handicap accessible buses will be provided on some tours. If you have special needs for assistance please inform Reservations when you register prior to the conference.

If fishing is your view of retirement, then Buffalo on Lake Erie is the place to be. Lake Erie has great fishing for Bass, Pike, and Salmon. We've arranged for charters at a nominal fee.

We look forward to Teaming up with you in Buffalo 2005.

David Weaver - Life Member Chair

LIFE TOURS July 19, 2005

*Tour Contact person:
David E. Weaver
11071 Fairview Dr. Lancaster, NY 14086
Phone 716-681-8250 e-mail: Weavers@cnyti.com*

Tour costs include lunch unless indicated "on your own".

Life Member Tour #1 Lake Erie Farms and Winery

This tour will show you the variety of agriculture made possible by the influence of the Great Lakes plus the impact of glaciers on Western New York soils. You'll visit the fertile, well-drained Eden Valley on an ancient Lake Erie shore.



At Agle Farms, see vegetable production plus greenhouses for flowers. Their products are marketed through their farm market plus Eden Valley Cooperative. Then visit Awalt's fruit farm, where Blueberries and Raspberries will be in you-pick season. The Phillips Family Dairy Farm features a parallel parlor and a freestall barn over slotted floors. The Phillip's host thousands of school children each year. Round out the tour with a visit to a Vineyard and Winery in Chautauqua County on the shores of Lake Erie. This tour will include moderate standing and walking. Cost \$10.00.

Life Member Tour #2 Niagara Farms and Falls

Visit the Lake plain area of New York south of Lake Ontario. The first stop will be McCollums, a commercial dairy and vegetable farm. They milk about 800 cows, and produce processing vegetables (snap beans, peas) plus dry corn and soybeans. Then visit Singer Farms to see cherries in harvest season. They also produce fruit wines, have a farm market and restaurant, Mar-Jim Manor, where you will dine. At Niagara Falls, tour the Cave of the Winds and feel the majestic power of the American Falls. This tour includes moderate walking, standing and steps but can be handicap accessible. Cost \$15.00

**Life Member Tour #3
Antiques and Architecture**

Experience the beauty of the Tiffany windows at Baker Memorial UMC in historic East Aurora and stroll the quaint restored Roycroft Inn and antique shops. The former Book Bindery now serves as the of-



ices of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County. You'll tour the facilities, meet staff and enjoy a catered lunch. Then shop at one of Western New York's largest Antique malls. This tour will include moderate standing and walking. Cost \$10.00.

**Life Member Tour #4
Niagara Falls, Canada**

You will visit Niagara Falls, one of the "Seven Wonders of the World". You will view the falls from the Canadian side, where you obtain the best view of the falls. To take this tour, you



will need two forms of identification, such as a passport or birth certificate plus another photo ID such as a driver's license. The Tour will include an overlook stop at Niagara Falls plus a Maid of the Mist boat ride. Lunch will be on your own. We'll visit the beautiful Floral Clock. You'll see the lower Niagara River rapids, Whirlpool and the Spanish Aerial car. You'll also see the Ontario horticultural and topiary gardens.

Walking will be moderate. Cost \$20.00

**Life Member Tour #5
Naval, Transportation and History**

You will see the naval facilities and tour a WW II submarine, the destroyer USS Sullivan and the cruiser USS Little Rock. Next it's the Pierce Arrow Museum and dine in 1900's ambiance. Then you'll tour the Frank Lloyd

Wright designed Darwin Martin house. You will learn about the 1900 Buffalo - City of Lights Worlds Fair. You'll learn details of President McKinley's death. Walking will be moderate with lots of stairs to climb. This tour is NOT handicap accessible. Cost \$20.00



**Life Member Half-Day Tour #6
Botanical Gardens and Basilica**

Visit the renovated Erie County Botanical Gardens. These gardens specialize in tropical, desert, and orchid plantings plus seasonal and outdoor gardens. Just up the street, visit Our Lady of Victory Basilica and National Shrine, fashioned after St. Peters in Rome. The painted ceilings and sculptures have been recently restored to their original beauty. Lunch will be on your own after this half-day tour. There will be some standing and walking. Cost \$5.00



**Life Member Tour #7
Lake Erie Fishing**

How about a day of fishing? Lake Erie is famous for it's Small Mouth Bass fishing in July. Cost \$125.00 per person maximum 4 people per charter.



SONS' AND DAUGHTERS' ACTIVITIES

There are two divisions for activities at the conference: **Junior** suggested for 6-12 year olds (6 and 7 year olds need to be accompanied by parent or guardian except for during the banquet on Thursday evening) **Senior** suggested 13-19 years old.

Note: Both groups will do many of the same activities but at different times.

Sunday, July 17th

The parents will have two chances for orientation, once at registration and also at Front Park during the cook-out. Sons and daughters will have a chance to practice throwing and catching their new flying discs.

Monday, July 18th

Our Junior group will start the day by going to Perry's Ice Cream in Akron, NY. Try www.perrysicecream.com for more information. We then will take a 1-hour cruise on the historic Erie Canal in Lockport. To learn more about our boat ride try, www.lockportlocks.com. After lunch, we will go back to Buffalo and spend the afternoon at the Buffalo Museum of Science. Their website is www.sciencebuff.org



Our Senior group will start the day with a 2-hour cruise on the Erie Canal. Look at the Lockport Locks website above to learn more. After lunch, we will spend the afternoon at the Buffalo Museum of Science before returning to the Adams Mark at 5:00 PM. Both groups will have lunch at the Locks Park.

Tuesday, July 19th

This is an action packed day for both groups! Both groups will start the day by enjoying a jetboat ride on the mighty Niagara River. Please make sure to bring a change of clothes for after the trip. Everybody will get wet! Look at www.whirlpooljet.com to learn more. Then both groups will visit the Niagara Power Project's Power Vista. The observation deck some 350 feet above the Niagara River Gorge is a great place to spot other thrill seekers "jetboating" up and down the Niagara



River. Inside there are many interactive displays about electricity and hydropower. This is also our lunch stop. To learn more about the Power Vista, visit www.nypa.gov/vc/niagara.htm



Next it is upstream to the world famous Niagara Falls. Our Junior group will board the Maid of the Mist www.maidofthemist.com for their second boat ride of the day! Our Senior group will go to the Cave of the Winds and experience the base of the American Falls up close and personal! For some photos of the Cave of the Winds go to www.niagarafallsstatepark.com. Both groups will get a great view despite the mist. We will finish the day with some free time on Goat Island (between the American Falls and the Horseshoe Falls).



Wednesday, July 20th

Enjoy the tours with your family!

Thursday, July 21st

The Senior Group will get an early start so that they can visit Perry's Ice Cream. Then both groups head out to Six Flags-Darien Lake for a fun-filled day at the area's largest amusement park! Bring your swimsuit and towel for the waterpark. Remember to bring some spending money for the arcades. For more information, peruse www.sixflags.com/parks/darienlake/index.asp



After a day at Darien Lake we will make a pit stop back at the Adam's Mark. Parents can then prepare to go to the Annual Banquet. At 6:00 PM we will travel to the Buffalo Zoo. We have the entire Zoo to ourselves for a private party! We will have a traditional Buffalo dinner of pizza and Buffalo wings. To whet your appetite, go to www.buffalozoo.org



SPOUSES' PROGRAM

CLASSES / WORKSHOPS

The problem will be choosing among the variety of classes offered on Tuesday and Thursday! You'll meet experts and authors representing the best of Western New York, and have a chance to experience, learn, and laugh together. Note that each morning offers two lecture time slots unless an extended session is indicated; afternoon choices vary in length. Some authors' books are available between sessions. The off-site tour departure points will be posted at registration. Enjoy!

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Full morning sessions:

9:00 - 12:00

(A) Medical Experts Panel

The Buffalo area boasts world-renowned medical experts, hospitals, and research centers. This open forum provides short presentations, time for questions, and opens the doors to cutting-edge information. Topics/experts: Managing breast cancer, Living with Alzheimer's, Long term health, Understanding hospice, and Managing your health for optimum quality of life.

9:00 - 12:00

(B) Flower Arranging Workshop

Learn the principles of centerpiece design, and what flowers work best - from professional florist Pat Woysheiner and Division 8 NYS Garden Club experts. This hands-on workshop will produce the flower arrangements to be used for today's Spouse's luncheon... So help, enjoy, and share in the pride!

Shorter sessions:

9:00 - 10:30

(C) Dragonflies and Underwater Monsters

Dr. Wayne Gall (Entomologist, NYS Dept. of Health) fascinates audiences with pictures and facts about amazing aquatic insects. Did you know that dragonflies use "jet propulsion"? Or that the blackflies and mosquitoes are essential fish food? And giant water bugs may be buzzing your deck lights? You will leave with new respect and insights about the beauty and wonders of our six-legged neighbors.

(D) The Incredible Architecture of Buffalo

From Victorian mansions to Pan American exposition buildings, from the Erie Canal to Frank Lloyd Wright, world-class cathedrals, and an entire network of Olmsted Parks, Buffalo's past and present is rich with architectural treasures. Slide presentation by Dean Gowan, Landscape Architect, will present a rare view of this architectural heritage.

(E) Investment Choices and Secure Retirements

Whether you are investing for your offspring, planning a retirement (or already in one), or if your will is adequate to protect loved ones, this discussion will provide sage, unbiased advice and a perspective on how to make choices. Time will be available for individual consultation with Patrick Sgroi, Sgroi Financial Services (PatS@sgroifinancial.com)

(F) "Got A Story? Gotta Tell It!"

Join in the fun of participatory story telling. As "story-telling helpers" you'll laugh, smile, chant, draw, sing, and maybe even dance along with the queen of stories, Karima Amin. This

session is for story lovers of ALL ages, and you may take the spirit and techniques home with you!

(G) American Cooking History, Traditions, and Customs

From Tex-Mex to Soul Food, California to Cajun to old-fashioned New England comfort food - America is rich in regional cuisines. Sandy Starks, Field Editor of Taste of Home Magazine, and co-founder of Slow Food Buffalo, will guide us through unique food choices - tasting included!

11:00 - Noon

(H) A Wander Through English Gardens

This light-hearted romp with breathtaking slides and narrated with that famous "Brit" humor, will show you both famous and private gardens of the UK. Your host is Mike Shadrack, retired London "Bobby," Tour guide to English Gardens and London, and internationally popular lecturer - also co-author of the new Encyclopedia of Hostas.

(I) Lawn Care Made Easy

Professional landscape designer, arborist, and horticulture lecturer Rochelle Smith is famous in these parts as a dynamic speaker and to-the-point teacher of everything you need to know to have a great lawn and landscape. The focus will be on lawns, but you're welcome to bring your landscape and garden concerns to the session - guaranteed to surprise you with how much fun lawns can be.

(J) Send in the Clouds (Photography)

This is down-to-earth instruction for photographing scenery, people, your garden, or even birds, guided by wildlife photographer Deanne

Cunningham ("Wings and Things Nature Photography") Deanne will cover equipment, lighting conditions and other obstacles, and methods of dealing with broad views and specific angles.

**(K) The Tricks of the Trade
(Real Estate)**

Buying or selling a home - or thinking about it? This realtor has 25 years and a lot of wisdom to share, no matter where you live. Rich with insights from the broker and agents' viewpoint, this talk includes what everyone should know before making the biggest investment decisions of their life. It's presented with straight talk and a quick wit. Brendan Cunningham, author of *Tricks of the Trade*, will be available for individual questions.

**LUNCHEON - 12:15 - 2:15 -
"Laughing All the Way"**

The traditional spouses' luncheon will offer a chance to visit with friends you may see just once a year - and you'll make new ones during this special event. After lunch, relax and laugh along with our featured speaker, humorist Rita Ganim. This professional speaker and consultant, owner of "Humor Happens," will share secrets of finding and sharing what's funny in everyday life - no matter what weight we carry on our shoulders. (Cost included, but please register for luncheon)

2:30 - 4:00

**(L) Threats to National Security
- Agriculture Pests and
Invasive Species**

How can insects or tree and crop diseases have impact on America? The State Coordinator for the Coordinated Agricultural Pest Survey, former Extension Agent and NYSACAA officer, Ken Carnes, will

enlighten - and perhaps alarm - us with serious problems that have passed through our borders. Focus is on recognition and understanding of problem insects, diseases, weeds, and what we can do about it.

(M) Herbs of the Civil War

Take a step back into nineteenth century America where apothecaries and "granny women" were as reliable as physicians and yarrow, comfrey, teas, and tinctures were safer than patented drugs. Maggie Smith, consultant or director to regional medicinal gardens, will enlighten us, and we may appreciate the local pharmacist a bit more.

**(N) A New Perspective on
Art: How to Look!**

There isn't a "correct" way to view art — just the right way for you. Marcia Eames-Sheavely, instructor in the Art of Horticulture courses at Cornell, helps students learn how to look at, feel, and interpret art in a very personal way, and overcome their own intimidation about fine art. This short tour to the Albright-Knox Art Gallery (world-renowned collection of modern art) will offer you some new angles; we'll provide a list of ways to view art with new eyes, exploring such things as visual elements, emotional response, ideas, and cultural contexts. (Short Bus ride; departs hotel.)

**(O) Hostas - America's Most
Popular Perennial**

England's "Hostaman" tells why Hostas are the royalty of perennials (for shade as well as sun, from miniatures to giants). Professional photographer, tour guide, and co-author of the "Encyclopedia of Hostas," Mike Shadrack will introduce you to the best of these plants or expand your grasp of the joys of Hostas. (Slide presentation; books available)

**(P) The Slow Food Movement
(Tour)**

Take a bus to nearby Wegman's Food Center for a kitchen tour and presentation about Slow Food, provided by Wegman's staff and food expert/ editor / guide Sandy Starks. Slow Food isn't just the opposite of "fast", but a whole new approach to enjoying the process of feeding our families and friends - from selection to prep, from presentation to the dining experience.

**(Q) How Do They Brew It?
(Brewery Tour)**

Get on a bus for a 10-minute ride to the Flying Bison micro-brewery. Enjoy the how-to of brewing, how an important local business has found its niche... and there will surely be a sample or two. Host: Tim Herzog (www.flyingbisonbrewing.com)

THURSDAY, JULY 21

9:00 to 11:30

**(1) Learning to Look
(Walking Tour)**

Marcia Eames-Sheavely of Cornell University instructs a class on seeing art, and she will provide some new insights, even for the artistically under-confident. This is a walking tour to a downtown art gallery, a few blocks away. So wear your walking shoes and bring your eyes - whether or not you are accustomed to seeing and thinking about art. (Shopping and lunch places are available in this vicinity.)

9:00 to 10:30

**(2) Spiritual Places and
Hauntings**

Author Mason Winfield is both researcher and storyteller, and will share fascinating tales of the haunted places of Western New York. Neither dispelling the myths nor claim-

ing them as truths, Mason shares what has been reported, what is known, and what is not known about some of the super-natural and interesting phenomena in this spiritually rich area. Mason is author of "Beyond the Western Door, Haunted Places of Western New York", and many more. (Books available between programs).

(3) Flower Arranging Demo

Florist Pat Woysheiner shares the unusual props, plants, and styling that result in her lavish and original designs using flowers and natural elements. Owner of the Christmas Shoppe and the largest florist in Western New York, Pat has lots to teach. But most people really want to know about her 16 years in floral design at the White House!

(4) Boosting the Buffalo Bills

The Buffalo Bills are nationally known for some meteoric rises, and some highly memorable losses. Learn from a long-time Bills Booster the inside story, and enjoy highlights, tales, and football talk.

(5) The Junior Master Gardener Program

Learn about this superb curriculum - available to teachers, parents, grandparents, Master Gardeners, or 4H leaders - that involves elementary kids in the joy of plant-related activity. In a hands-on workshop, participants will experience a few of the actual activities from the program, and take home ready-to-go units of fun and learning. Master Gardener Joanne Tanner coordinates the Junior Master Gardening program at Buffalo's Botanical Gardens.

(6) Quilting History and Techniques

Program detail in development, to follow.

(11) Emergency Pet First-Aid

Do you know what to do when Fido cuts his paw, Fluffy looks glass-eyed and is panting, or when any beloved pet stops eating and drinking water? Pets are not the same as people, and our common sense and home remedies may not always be correct - so learn from the experts what to do in emergencies, and recognize when help is needed Now! Veterinarians and associates will provide practical dos and don'ts and where to get more information on pet first aid.

11:00 - Noon

(7) Eating Your Flowers

Extension Educator Ginny Rosenkranz (Maryland) adds some zest to your table with edible flowers. Learn which flowers to use (and not to use), and how to present them for pretty, tasty, zany, and unusual meals. (Ginny is also Secretary of the NACAA committee for this conference).

(8) The Eclectic Garden

Extension Educator David Chinery (Rensselaer County) is beloved by gardening audiences in our region, who have chuckled or appreciate the whimsy in gardening décor. We had to share it with you, and know you'll enjoy the lighter side of gardening - what people choose as ornaments, accents, and how each makes a personal statement.

(9) The Under-appreciated Cash Crop

Ginseng is a native American plant that earns big bucks in the health store - yet so few people try growing it. Bob Beyfuss, New York Extension Educator (Greene County), wrote the book on Ginseng and will discuss this unusual plant, its' claims for longevity, and how to grow it (and even make tea).

(10) Native American History

Details to follow on website.

(11) Bugs in the House...

Are there flies, wasps, ants, beetles, bugs, and spiders living with you, sometimes unwanted? Cornell Entomologist Carolyn Klass, Senior Extension Associate, reviews the common insects that we all see and few understand. Learn which ones need immediate attention, which are simply passing by, and how to minimize and manage their presence in our homes - presented with fun and practical advice.

Lunch On Your Own

(Directions and suggestions provided for the area)

2:30 - 4:00

Based on history, we know that class attendance declines for this afternoon. Therefore we are offering two broad, general topics, and will repeat one of the classes above if we find registration so demands.

(12) Wines of New York

New York State's unique climate depends upon the Great Lakes as well as the Finger Lakes, and there are growing niches for great grapes, in Niagara and Chatauqua counties, as well as around the Finger Lakes. Learn about the fruits of the vine, New York style, and taste some of our best reds as well as white wines.

(13) Pack Your Bags!

Interested in travel? Here are expert tips, trips and tours from the AAA, to help you choose destinations, pack wisely, and stay sharp on personal security and exchanging money. Whether it's USA road-trips, air, or ocean voyages, this workshop gets you ready.

SPOUSES' TOURS

The wide variety of tours represent the highlights of the diverse region - from natural wonders to culture and history. Note that lunch is included in all tours except where "Lunch surcharge" or "On your own" is indicated. Difficulty in walking and bus rides over 1/2 hour are noted. All tours are full day - departures and hours to be reported at registration - except for those indicated.

PLEASE SELECT CAREFULLY AND HONOR YOUR CHOICE OF TOUR, BECAUSE OTHERS WILL BE TURNED DOWN BASED ON THESE COMMITMENTS.

REMINDER: Those going to Canada must carry photo ID, and passport or birth certificate.

TOUR #1 WALK AMONG GIANTS (ZOAR VALLEY)

Nature lovers will love this tour to a national treasure: the virgin old-growth forest and canyons of Zoar Valley, where you will witness the untouched majesty of the tallest hardwood forest on the continent ("the Gallery of Giants"). Picnic on rock terraces at "skinny dip beech," surrounded by 430-foot cliffs, where author/naturalist Dr. Bruce



Kershner (national authority on old-growth forests) guarantees you will be dazzled. Photographers welcome!

Note: Difficulty/requirements/ facilities: This is the most vigorous tour for outdoor-lovers. Hikers will climb up and down steady inclines, crossing shallow creeks; Wear sturdy walking shoes (no sandals), and bring "creek shoes" such as sneakers. There is a "rain plan" for an equally memorable adventure. Restroom stops are planned before and after the hike, but there are no facilities in the woods except Mother Nature's. Ride approximately 45 minutes, scenic.

TOUR #2 BERRIES & WINE, HOSTAS & RARE TREES

Follow the shore of Lake Erie going south to fruit country, to visit Farmer John's (cherries, berries, and the family farm) and tour Willow Creek Winery. Enjoy a picnic lunch in the Willow Creek pavilion and picnic grove, where you may enjoy the paddleboats,



fishing in the country pond, or a walk on the trails. The trip includes a rare visit with a nationally-known Hosta hybridizer, Ran Lydell (Eagle Bay Hostas), where you can browse the vast displays of specimen trees and thousands of Hostas - or you may prefer this expert's presentation about Hostas and unusual conifers. (Shopping is available - both modestly priced and rare selections.) (Details: No difficult walking; 40 minute bus time each way)

TOUR #3 FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT AND THE ROYCROFTERS

If you are interested in Arts and Crafts style in arts or philosophy, or the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, this is your tour! Start at Graycliff on the scenic shore of Lake Erie, the Darwin Martin



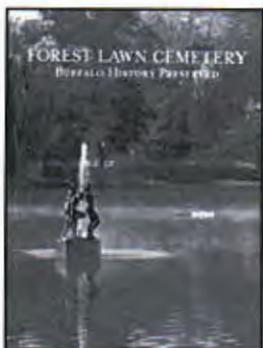
family's summer home designed by Wright - now a landmark in the final stages of restoration. Then head for an elegant lunch at the unforgettable Roycroft Inn, a national landmark fully restored in Arts & Crafts style. Artists at work may be seen. Day includes afternoon exploration of the shops or historical destinations of East Aurora, including Fisher Price toys, Vidler's famous Five and Dime, and Main Street boutiques, ice cream parlor, gift and art shops.

(Details: No difficulty, moderate walking; approximately 40 minute ride in 3 legs of the triangle. Roycroft luncheon and admissions surcharge: \$20.)

TOUR #4 ARCHITECTURE, ART, AND OLMSTED PARKS

This tour keeps moving, with lots to see that combines art, history, architecture, ancient trees, and grand parks. Start with a tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's design for Darwin Martin (a multi-million dollar restoration), then a guided bus tour through Forest Lawn Cemetery, a 27-acre park/cemetery featuring a range of ancient specimen trees, mausoleum and graves of Millard Fillmore and other notable literary, arts, and political figures. Next stop is St. Paul's Cathedral (a Richard Upjohn design, Victorian Gothic style, built in 1851, featuring Tiffany stained glass windows). Then a style change: the Rococco, elaborate marble and gold carvings of the Basilica, which stuns visitors. Professional tour guide. Lunch will be at an art gallery location.

(Level of difficulty: None; short stops. Please note that some stops subject to change while cultural organization availability is in progress.)



TOUR # 5 NIAGARA FALLS (CANADA), BUTTERFLIES, HORTICULTURE

Have you been to Canada? Experience Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens and the Ontario School of Horticulture located along the Niagara River near the Falls. Horticulture experts will provide a tour of the gardens, then a visit to the Butterfly Conservatory - the second largest in North America. After lunch at the Queenston Heights Restaurant (on top of the Niagara Escarpment), take the unforgettable Maid of the Mist boat trip (established 1846) to the base of the American Falls and the basin of the Canadian Horseshoe Falls. This is a breathtaking once-in-a-lifetime experience.



Details: No unusual difficulty. Bring a sweater since Falls mists are chilly. Cover-ups provided for boat. YOU MUST BRING PASSPORT OR BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND PHOTO ID. Travel from hotel about 25 minutes, plus any border checkpoint time.

SURCHARGE: \$20 for multiple higher-priced admissions and luncheon.

TOUR #6 GARDENERS' CARAVAN

If you love gardens and gardening, choose this trip to great garden centers and the world-class Victorian Lord-and-Burnham glass house conservatory of the Botanical Gardens. Located in the Olmsted-designed South Park, the garden features great shrub and perennial gardens for strolling, and specimen trees (guided tour). The inner conservatory is in reconstruction;



tropicals/palm house tours undetermined at this time. The caravan then moves to visit 4 of Western New York's best garden center/ nurseries, with brief talks by experts if you wish to sit, and shopping time in each one. Variety includes cutting-edge container annuals, perennials, grasses, shrubs, specimen trees, water gardening, ornaments, props, and garden art to take home - and room in the bus to do so. Lunch will be in a tour-worthy specialty Hosta display garden.

(Detail: no difficulty; average 12-minutes between stops.)

TOUR # 7 NIAGARA WINE COUNTRY & LAKE ONTARIO

Enjoy the countryside as we travel northeast to the shores of Lake Ontario's grape and apple country. Visit two wineries for wine tasting and folklore, a unique local nursery and farmers' market, and then stroll on the shore of Lake Ontario and browse quaint country stores. Lunch is at the Wilson Boathouse Restaurant. Finally tour Murphy's Orchard, with its piece of history - an underground railroad hideout from the Civil War. Homemade jams and jellies, wines and fruits are some of the treasures you may carry back with you.

(Drive time approximately 35 minutes; no difficulty).

TOUR # 8 BUFFALO OF THE PAST - SHIPS, CARS, AND SKYSCRAPERS



Glimpse Buffalo's historically important waterfront, in a tour of the Naval Park, including USS Little Rock (cruiser), USS Croaker (sub), and USS The Sullivans (destroyer). Then explore the Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Museum, with memorabilia and cars, motorcycles, bikes and trucks - and learn about women's influence in early transportation. After lunch tour Buffalo's Marina and gardens, with designer Stan Swisher, including the All-America selections beds and dramatic displays of newer annuals and container plants. Finish the day with a guided tour of City Hall with a tremendous view of the city from 330 feet up. (There is a medium to high difficulty level, with narrow stairways on Naval ships, stairs at City Hall.)

TOUR # 9 Morning: Half-Day Walking Tour of Downtown Architecture and History (MAY BE COMBINED WITH TOUR #10)

Professional Guide Peter Filim will reveal one of Buffalo's best little secrets - the architecture and its turn of the century history. From the mid-1800s to the turn of the 20th century, Buffalo was one of the wealthiest cities in the nation, rich with inventions and wonderful buildings. Starting with the view from the top of the art deco City Hall, you'll learn of the building of the



Erie Barge Canal, view the Buffalo River and its grain elevators (steam powered grain elevators were invented here by Joseph Dart). Tour will include the monuments of Buffalo's two Presidents, Millard Fillmore and Grover Cleveland, the Olmsted-designed Niagara Square, St. Joseph's and St. Paul's Cathedrals, the Guaranty Building (the world's first skyscraper) and the Ellicott Square Building, the world's largest office building in its time. You will be introduced to Mr. Statler's first hotel, and learn about the influence of Mr. Larkin and Frank Lloyd Wright on Buffalo.

(Difficulty: Med-High for lots of walking; wear sneakers or walking shoes; some stairs at City Hall (optional). Restroom facilities available at City Hall and one or two stops are planned along the route.

TOUR # 10 Half-Day - Lunch and shopping on the Elmwood Strip (MAY BE COMBINED WITH TOUR #9)

Elmwood is an animated Avenue of restaurants, shops, cafes and galleries, which await your half-day exploration. The Elmwood Village has something to offer for everyone, whether you are seeking art of world class magnitude, or shopping in over 250 unique and eclectic shops from antiques to objects of art, gift shops, leather goods, books, chic clothing, music, pastries, chocolates, and finely crafted decorators masterworks. There is a huge variety of choices for lunch (on your own), menus to satisfy any craving. It is a stimulating destination for those seeking browsing and free time (Detail: Low difficulty; walk as much as you wish; Buses will make a rotating loop for multiple stops. Maps and restaurant guide provided.)



The Power of Teamwork

REGISTRATION FORM

NACAA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE

July 17 - July 21, 2005

Registration forms must be postmarked on or before May 16, 2005: Late fee is \$50

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 Adams Mark.**

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

IMPORTANT - All registration forms and materials must be returned by May 16, 2005 in order to avoid a late fee. 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. SEND FORMS AND PAYMENT TO:

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

NACAA AM/PIC 2005 Registration
252 N. Park Street
Decatur, IL 62523
Fax: 217-877-5382 Phone: 217-876-1220 E-mail: nacaemail@aol.com

PARTICIPANT'S NAME

(Last) (First)
(Preferred first name on tag) _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____
PHONE - daytime (____) _____ - _____
E-mail address _____

All confirmations will be mailed starting June 7, 2005 - hotel confirmations will be sent by hotel directly to email or fax.
Check your region: NC NE W S

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS can be made on request for those having special menu or accessibility needs during the meeting. Please contact the registration office at the above address two weeks prior to the event to make a request.

AIR TRAVEL PLANS

The Adams Mark does have a shuttle service available. Please go to the shuttle kiosk at the airport and contact the hotel directly upon gathering your luggage. If you are staying at the Hyatt - a shuttle is not provided - you will have to take a taxi or use ITA Shuttle service which leaves on the hour from the airport and travels to all downtown hotels.

Arrival date _____ Arrival time _____
Airline Flight No. (if known) _____
Departure date _____ Time of departure _____

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

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME: _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES (if attending):

Name _____ Age _____
Name _____ Age _____
Name _____ Age _____
Name _____ Age _____

GUEST'S NAME (if attending with you);

(Last) (First)

HAVE YOU WORKED LESS THAN 5-YEARS?
NACAA members attending for the first time, and employed after 7/1/2000 will have fees waived.
Complete the following:

Date of Employment _____
Supervisor's Signature _____

The First-Timer's Luncheon/Pride Reconciliation is provided for first time attendees on Monday, July 18, 2005. Your Spouse/Guest is welcome.

Number planning to attend? _____

ANNUAL BANQUET

Thursday Evening July 21, 2005; 6:30 p.m.
Tickets are required. 1 ticket per registrant is already included in the price of full registration. Pick up tickets when registering. Do you plan to attend: Yes No
Number planning to attend _____

PAST NATIONAL BOARD MEMBER'S LUNCHEON

Sunday, July 17, 2005 at 12:00 noon. Your Spouse/Guest is welcome. Dutch Treat! (If you check yes, you will be asked to pay your share even if you do not attend) Do you plan to attend the Past National Board Member's Luncheon?

Yes _____ No _____ If Yes, Number attending _____
Which office did you hold?

- President If you served in more than 1
- Treasurer capacity - please check all that
- Secretary apply (or which ribbon(s) you
- Director prefer with your nametag).

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 employed after 7/1/2000	(Waived x _____)	+	(\$170.00 x _____)	=	\$ _____
Regular Member	(\$215.00 x _____)	+	(\$170.00 x _____)	=	\$ _____
Life Member	(\$215.00 x _____)	+	(\$170.00 x _____)	=	\$ _____
OTHERS					
Sons & Daughters (6 & Over)	(\$120.00 x _____)			=	\$ _____
Visitor	(\$215.00 x _____)	+	(\$170.00 x _____)	=	\$ _____
University or USDA Administrator	(\$215.00 x _____)	+	(\$170.00 x _____)	=	\$ _____
Guest of NACAA President	(Waived x _____)	+	(Waived x _____)	=	\$ _____
National Donor	(Waived x _____)	+	(Waived x _____)	=	\$ _____

PART-TIME ATTENDANCE:

Number Attending Each Day: Sun ___; Mon ___; Tues ___; Wed ___; Thurs ___
 Daily Fee (\$90 x Number of Days ___ x Number of People ___) = \$ _____

Attending only Thursday Night Banquet: (\$40 x Number of People ___) = \$ _____

Late Fee: Applies to all registrants listed above whose registration form and fees are postmarked after May 16, 2005 - \$50 per individual = \$ _____

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 ___ American Express

No other cards will be accepted.

Name on Credit Card _____; **Number** _____; **Expiration Date** _____
 (List all numbers)

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 AM/PIC (June 17 or before). There shall be a 75% refund of registration fee if request is made from 15-29 days before the AM/PIC (June 18 -July 2). 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 3 - July 21). No refunds will be given if a request is made after the close of the AM/PIC (July 21). Appeals due to emergency will be handled on a case by case basis by the NACAA Board. Requests must be made in writing to the NACAA 2005 Registration, Scott Hawbaker, 252 N. Park Street, Decatur, IL 62523. 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 President.

NACAA ANNUAL MEETING PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT TOURS

Diversity is common in New York agriculture. Our professional improvement tours will display that diversity and provide educational experience as you visit. We have done our best to keep tours to no more than two hours of travel one-way out of Buffalo. Tours that may have longer rides are indicated in the write-ups. On tours that visit farms with animals, you will need to wear foot protection for bio-security, which will be provided. Also, all buses are rest room equipped and will have water and beverages on-board. All agricultural tours involve some walking so comfortable shoes are recommended.

Tour 1 Tree and Shrub Production in Western New York

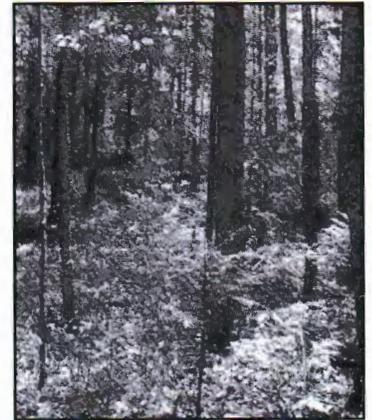
This tour will visit several large and innovative tree and shrub producers. You will see diverse production and marketing strategies. Schichtels produces over 1500 acres of field grown stock. They have an established arboretum on-site and have worked with Cornell University on the BioPlex product used to prevent transplant shock on bare root material. Lilac Creek nursery is known for their extensive line of lilacs. They have a tissue culture lab for their unique varieties of lilacs. Concord Nursery is a 750-acre wholesale grower featuring over 400 varieties of deciduous trees, shrubs and small fruits. They sell over 500,000 grape vines annually. Turnbull's Nursery developed efficient methods of harvesting and plant movement. They have 200 acres of stock and run the entire operation with only 8 people. They use a one-of-a-kind harvester for bare root material. Cooper Ridge nursery specializes in container production on 60 acres. During the fall they cover 110 houses for over-wintering their material. Walking - moderate, no open-toed shoes



Tour 2 Exploring Private Forest Production

Explore private forest production in the Southern Tier hardwood forest area. Visit a demonstration forest owned by Cornell Cooperative Extension. This 100-acre

woodlot has used different harvest techniques to illustrate impacts on hardwood regrowth. You will also see cultivated ginseng. Then visit the Slocums to see forest management for the production of maple sap including a tubing system for sap collection. Moore's Sugar Shak will prepare lunch at their seasonal pancake house and show us the maple production process. Potter Lumber Company, a family owned and operated primary lumber mill, uses state of the art sawing and drying practices. Learn how forest investment property is managed to build a family retirement fund, using a consulting forester and deer hunting leases. This is a long ride tour. Significant walking, including in the woods - comfortable shoes a must.



Tour 3 Lake Erie Grapes, From Cuttings to Glass

New York has the largest grape growing areas east of the Rocky Mountains. The concentration along Lake Erie includes all aspects of the grape industry from propagation to fine wine in your glass. First, you will tour Walkers' Fruit Basket to learn about processing grapes and supplying grape juice for winemakers. Then, visit Double A Vineyards to see grapevines in the nursery as well as mature vineyards. We will drive through the heart of the Lake Erie Grape Belt to Pennsylvania for lunch. Three local wineries are on our agenda for the afternoon. For more information try these websites:



www.doublevineyards.com

www.piwine.com

www.mazzawines.com

www.johnsonwinery.com

www.arrowheadwine.com

Cost \$11.00 per person

Tour 4 Direct Marketing in Rural New York

Visit the rolling hills of New York's rural Southern Tier. Child's Blueberry Farm grows and markets berries and blueberry products at several farmer's markets plus u-pick. Their products include, berries, blueberry/maple syrup, wine and baked goods. Canticle Farm, a community supported organic farm, initiated by the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, provides fresh seasonal produce to 190 local shareholder families, local shelters and community feeding programs. Sprague's Maple Farm, Pancake House and Restaurant will host the group for lunch followed by a tour of their sugarbush and facilities for maple production plus sales of maple equipment. A visit to the Franklinville Farmers Market shows a cooperative of 25 small farms that provide market opportunities in four communities. The Village of Franklinville is an example of how citizen input can preserve the character of a rural community following an upgrade to a state highway.



Coast super market chains. Lockwood's Greenhouse produces vegetables and greenhouse flowers plus they have an outstanding farm market on site.

Tour 6 Manure Alternatives that Add Value and/or Reduce Odor

This tour will feature ways of handling animal manure in areas with large rural populations. The farms on this tour have learned to add value, be environmentally responsible and/or eliminate odor complaints. First stop will be a large poultry farm where manure is composted and either pelleted or sold bulk. Composted manure is marketed to organic and conventional growers plus pelleted product is sold to the lawn and garden market. Next visit a large hog producer, who injects all manure, primarily using a soft hose dragline system. Neighbor complaints are gone as are purchased fertilizer expenses. The tour will also visit a dairy processing facility to hear and see how a cooperative facility balances out among fluid, soft cheese and alternative milk based products. Final stop will be a dairy that is successfully using anaerobic digestion to eliminate odor complaints and generate electricity for the farm.



The tour will also visit a dairy processing facility to hear and see how a cooperative facility balances out among fluid, soft cheese and alternative milk based products. Final stop will be a dairy that is successfully using anaerobic digestion to eliminate odor complaints and generate electricity for the farm.

Tour 5 Greenhouse and Fresh Market Vegetables

This tour to the fertile well-drained Eden Valley stops at greenhouse operations, vegetable farms and a vegetable marketing cooperative. W. D. Henry and Sons operate a market vegetable farm plus greenhouses for flowers and vegetable transplants. Amos Zittel & Sons produce fresh market vegetables and flowers and transplants for field production. Both farms start their earliest sweet corn under plastic and use plastic covered raised beds and trickle irrigation to minimize water and fertilizer use. Vacco Farms Inc. grow snap beans for processing into frozen packs plus producing grapes for juice. Both snap beans and grapes are machine harvested. Eden Valley Growers Cooperative has a state of the art Hydro cooler and Vacuum coolers. They sell fresh market vegetables for members to local as well as East



Tour 7 Muckland Crops, Wildlife Habitat, and Machinery Manufacture

This tour starts with a visit to the Iroquois Wildlife Refuge, home to migratory geese and ducks during their annual north and south flights. It is also the year round home to hundreds of birds and mammals including bald eagles.



Then visit the wetlands that were converted to farmland nearly 100 years ago. See onion production on these organic soils plus warehousing and marketing. Next we will visit OxBo Industries, where sweet corn, red beet, snap bean and pea harvesters are built. They also manufacture dump carts, rock pickers and windrow merg-

ers. Finally you'll tour a Bird's Eye Foods processing plant where peas, table beets, snap beans and sweet corn are processed. Moderate walking

Tour 8 Food Processing - Farm to Supermarket

This tour will feature food processing and distribution businesses in western NY. The first stop will be one of the processing plants of the farmer cooperative PRO-



Fac. They grow for the BirdsEye Foods label; processing peas, snap beans, sweet corn and carrots grown on member farms. We will visit one of the large vegetable production farms where harvesting should be underway for either peas or snap beans. Next visit a state of the art food distribution center that supplies supermarkets all across New York State. Significant walking, some wet floors. No open-toed shoes.

Tour 9 Processing Vegetables and the Machines that Harvest Them

During July, Western New York is a major vegetable production center. See peas, snap beans, sweet corn and red beets go from raw product to frozen



or canned foods. This tour will visit OxBo Industries where pea, snap bean, beet and sweet corn harvesters are manufactured. We will include a stop at one of the largest processing vegetable farms and see the pea harvest operation in process - "The Pod Squad". We will also learn how they use IPM methods in production and market for an IPM supermarket label. Snap bean harvest may be started and harvesting operations can be seen. Moderate walking on farms, no open toed shoes.

Tour 10 Tree Fruits, Fruit Processing and Fruit of the Vine

Start this tour with a visit to one of the leading fruit storage and packing companies in the area. Their emphasis is quality as they store and market Lake Ontario apples for local and export markets.



Then move on to cherry processing and see tart cherries being pitted, packed and frozen for storage. Next visit Singer Farms to see the tart cherries being harvested. We will stop for a quick look at sweet cherries being picked (and you-pick). Next we will have lunch at the Singer Farms newest addition, Mar-Jim Estate Winery. While we are at Mar-Jim, we will hear about Atwater Foods, the only fruit drying facility in New York to learn how apples, cherries and cranberries are dried to fill this niche market (and sample them). Last stop on the way to the Barbecue will be a producer of quality apples for the fresh market.

Tour 11 Tree Fruits - Production, Storage and Marketing

Apple and cherry production will be the highlight on this tour as we visit large and small-scale farms. Next, the tour will visit a large-scale storage, packing and marketing operation. This company packs and ships apples



year round and ships many apples overseas. We will also visit a local estate winery that buys, processes and markets top quality wines at their own facility plus upscale restaurants in Buffalo. Lunch at the winery.

Tour 12 Dairy Farming and Milk Processing

Visit a farmer cooperative dairy processing plant that makes yogurt, chip and "veggie" dip and other soft dairy products. The next stop will be Mammoser Dairy milking 800 cows on the urban fringe. They compost manure and animal



mortalities. Lunch will be at Holland Willows restaurant. Kramer Brothers Dairy Farm uses pasture for their 420 cows in summer to optimize profit. Palmer Dairy has 800 cows in a state of the art facility with computerized milk recording, automated gates to cut cows into the hospital area, and many other innovative features.

Tour 13 Horse Industry in Western NY

This tour will visit outstanding horse farms. The Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Center works with handicapped children to improve their self-confidence through horse riding. Greendale Farm boards horses and operates a riding academy for 4-H and other riders. A catered lunch is planned at the historic Roycroft print shop that now serves as the Erie County Cooperative Extension Center. Strawberry Banks Arabian Breeding Farm specializes in embryo transplant work. This is a state of the art facility with outstanding quarter horses raised for use as polo competitors. When this tour arrives back at the Erie County Fairgrounds, they will have a behind the scene view of The Buffalo Raceway.



Tour 14 Ag Environmental Management

New York farmers have been under major environmental restrictions since 2000. Learn what these farms have done to comply with CAFO and AFO regulations. The first will be a 3500 head dairy that features a rotary parlor, manure separation, manure irrigation (with miles of buried pipe) and excellent heifer raising facilities. This farm also grows processing vegetables and trades land with vegetable growers. Next, we will visit a smaller dairy farm where AEM practices have been implemented to keep soil and nutrients on site. We will end up at a large dairy farm that has implemented an anaerobic digestion facility to generate electricity and minimize manure odor complaints.



Tour 15 Grass Based Livestock - Holsteins and Beef

With an abundance of forages and located close to large populations, NY livestock producers are perfectly situated to take competitive advantage.

The opportunity for value-added products gives these producers the ability to market using grass-based production. The first stop is a high quality registered Simmental herd, Lady Bug Farm operated by Ken and Mary Gumaer. Next is a commercial grazer, Oakhill Land and Cattle, operated by Brad and Eric Bentley, who carefully manage grass to optimize rate of gain. Then the tour moves to a large Red Angus herd that utilizes previously idle land to maximize profit on grass. After lunch visit Baskin Livestock, a large heifer grazing operation. They have 1000 Holsteins on pasture and supplement with by-products. Our final stop is at Don and Robin Swartz's sheep production facility. They use several different breeds and maintain them all on grass.



Tour 16 The Falls, Hay Production, Direct Marketing and Estate Winery

Start this tour with a visit to one of the natural wonders of the world - Niagara Falls. Enjoy the view of the American Falls and feel the mist on your face at Goat Island. Next visit Niagara Frontier

farms. Milleville Family Farms are dry hay specialists who market hay up and down the east coast. They also operate a high producing small dairy farm. Lunch will be served at the farm, featuring the local tradition of Beef on Kummelweck rolls with locally processed Miller's horseradish. Then visit Wagner's Farm Market to see how a diversified fruit, vegetable and plant marketer competes by catering to client's needs. Next on to Niagara's oldest estate winery, Niagara Landing. The micro-climate and glacial till soils of the Niagara Escarpment provide an excellent environment for rais-



ing fine wine grapes that you will be able to sample. On our way back to the barbecue, we will stop at an alpaca farm.

Tour 17 Retail Horticulture Tour

Visit some of the outstanding retail marketers and producers in the Erie and Niagara area. Menne Nursery markets to suburban gardeners featuring quality and variety.



Russell's Tree & Shrub Farm features a wide variety and offers installation/landscaping services. Faery's Nursery raises trees, shrubs and bedding plants and is a wholesale supplier. Their production is located in the Niagara Lake Ridge area. They also have a retail outlet in Lockport. Next stop will be Adams Nurseries as the group returns to Buffalo. Majeski's will be the last stop before reaching the Erie County Fairgrounds.

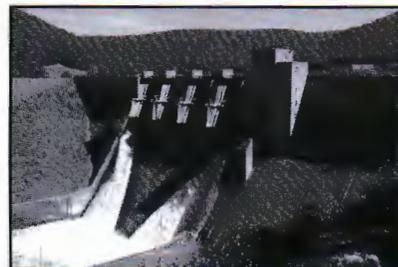
Tour 18 Rural/Urban Linkages: Surviving Development Pressure

This tour will visit the Rochester area starting at Green Acres Farm Market a pick-your-own plus direct marketing farm. Next stop will be Powers Farm Market in the upscale Town of Pittsford. This operation features the farm market, purchase of development rights to preserve farmland plus niche marketing. Next stop will be Wegmans Pittsford Superstore where you will see what keeps a modern supermarket operating efficiently. Lunch will be at Wegmans. In the afternoon, visit Gro-Moore Farms market, greenhouse and vegetable production. See how they use themes to bring parents to the market with their kids. Last stop will be Stokoe Tree Farm with features of Christmas trees (unique marketing) and pumpkins plus a large grain farming operation.



Tour 19 Allegheny National Forest Tour and Kinzua Dam

This long ride tour will leave Buffalo early to visit the Bradford U.S. Forest Ranger Station that oversees 500,000 acres of forest in four northwestern Pennsylvania counties. The



Forest Management Specialists will acquaint you with the "Land of Many Uses". You will learn about the management challenges in wood, watershed, wildlife, recreation and minerals. Millions of dollars are generated mainly by timber harvesting of a renewable resource, managed for multiple benefits. Then visit Kinzua Dam that was completed in 1965 and is managed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. It impounds the 12,080-acre Allegheny Reservoir with nearly two-thirds of this area within Pennsylvania. It is a multiple use facility - flood control, recreation and power generation. The tour includes descending 245 steps in the interior of the dam structure to its base (You will be picked up at the base). At the base of the dam is an unusual system of power generation. At night, water is pumped up the adjacent hill to a 100-acre holding reservoir. During the day the stored water is released down massive tubes. The pumps become turbines and the electric motors become generators.

Tour 20 Tools for Protecting Farmland and Open Space

This tour demonstrates land use protection tools and interagency cooperation. The scenic vistas and architectural preservation will attract all members of the family. First stop is at the Roycroft Campus in East Aurora where mis-



sion-style furniture got its start. In the same village, visit a technologically progressive NRCS-USDA office that assists landowners, local governments and organizations with land use planning, environmental issues and engineering decisions. Lunch will be at the Extension Center, formerly the home of the printing business on the Roycroft campus. Next, see how collaboration by the

town with a land trust protects the Kenneglenn natural area and gorge for future generations. Visit with a farmer who led the Town of Marilla in its' purchase of development rights under New York's farmland protection program. Travel to protected farmland in the Town to see where Farmland Protection grants have worked. Visit the Town of Amherst, a township of over 116,000 people - with a 1000-acre natural area for which establishment of a conservation easement is underway - and a host of public policy issues associated with the process! Other stops as time permits.

Tour 21 Beef Production

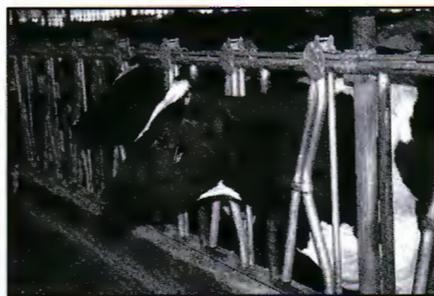
This tour will feature two outstanding cow-calf producers in the morning. These are typical of the purebred and commercial cow-calf farm operations in western New York.



One has registered Angus cattle, the other a Limousin herd. Following lunch there will be a visit to a small feedlot and slaughterhouse business with a well-established freezer trade customer base.

Tour 22 Dairy Grazing Tour

If rotational grazing and dairy cows are your interest this is the tour to take. Our first stop is at Peter and Lynn Swendsen, an 80 cow dairy that has family-based alter-



native enterprises. Then we move on to Paul Tillotson's Cottonwood Farm, with over 300 acres of pasture plus purchase of all their other forages. Then after lunch the tour moves to Ron Franklin Jr. with 65 cows. This is a certified organic dairy and hires their crops custom harvested. They also practice Homeopathic medicine. The final stop is a larger scale grazer, John Kramer that practices low in-put dairying.

Tour 23 Large and Unique Dairy Producers in New York

Are you interested in unique and successful alternative methods of management, grazing systems, manure systems on large dairies? If so, this is the tour for you. The first stop



we will visit a facility with an anaerobic digester and a manager that oversees eight other large dairy operations in western New York. Next, we will visit a 2500-cow herd that has adopted a new way to remove and reuse 80% of the sand in their sand-laden manure. In addition, we will view their 68 stall rotary parlor and discuss the positive aspects of switching from a traditional pit parlor. We will stop at York, New York for a great BBQ meal made by the local community. The last stop of the day will be at the largest grazing herd in New York. This producer utilizes a double-25 swing milking parlor and manages his cows for the grass. Join us for an interactive day that involves learning new and unique ways of dairying on large farms.

Tour 24 Horticulture Production & Public Gardens

This tour will have stops that offer the participants a tour of the gardens of the Ontario School of Horticulture, the nearby Butterfly Conservatory a stop



at Niagara Falls with lunch, and a tour of a major greenhouse production facility in Ontario, Canada. You need to have a passport or two forms of identification for travel to Canada.

Tour 25 Farm supplies and Custom Services

This tour will feature a wholesale commodity distribution center that handles feed ingredients and makes feeds on one side plus crop inputs on the other side. The afternoon stops will visit several operations that provide custom services to farmers. These range from single operations like planting to the entire production of forage crops and delivering them into the feed storage facilities of dairy farms.

**Tour 26 NY Ag Experiment Station
Tour, Fruit and Wine**

A Focus on NY Agriculture Research and Extension. This long ride tour will leave Buffalo early and travel to the NYS Agriculture Experiment Station at Geneva. The Station is



one of the premier horticulture research and extension institutes in the world. Tour the Northeast Center for Food Entrepreneurship, the Vinification & Brewing Center, the NYS Wine Analytical Laboratory, the Integrated Pest Management Department, and the Entomology Department. A catered lunch will be served in the Station's outdoor pavilion. The afternoon starts off at Red Jacket Orchards, originally planted in 1917. The Nicholson Family has spent nearly 50 years mastering the art and science of quality fresh fruit and juice production. Crops include apricots, sweet and sour cherries, peaches, plums, raspberries, rhubarb, strawberries, and over 20 varieties of apples. Last stop before heading back to the Barbecue is Amberg Wine Cellars. This family owned and operated business has worked closely with the NYS Agriculture Experiment Station to develop new varieties suitable for NY's colder climate. The Ambergs are experienced in grape growing, grafting, and grape selection. The group will be able to sample some of the fine wines made by the Ambergs, plus keep a souvenir wine glass.

**Tour 27 Southern Tier Diversified
Small Farms**

Visit Western New York diversified small farms. Maple Glen Sugar House aggressively markets their products using a variety of means including the Internet and a cooperative "Maple Weekend" campaign.



Dixieland Tree Farm grows and sells Christmas trees. Their customers experience the country when they either "you-cut" or select from pre-cut trees. Five Sisters Farm markets grass-fed meats including beef and lamb

grown using rotationally grazed grass and corn. Hickory Haven Green House and Farmer's Market, operated by husband and wife team, Ron and Cheryl Chase, grow and market bedding plants and vegetables. Ron also operates a high producing 80-cow dairy with his father and sister that maximizes the use of quality forages.

**Tour 28 Agriculture Best
Management Practices
and Water Quality**

Visit farms that are implementing best management practices as part of the Conesus Lake water quality monitoring and watershed management



project. This project involves three area colleges doing water and aquatic weed monitoring, local agricultural agencies doing design work and Cornell Cooperative Extension doing education and outreach for the project. In addition to being a residential area and recreational lake, Conesus Lake is used as the water supply for five municipalities. The tour will have lunch at Long Lake Park where the cooperating agencies will explain their part in the project and how it has made a positive impact.

If more information on specific tours is needed, contact Nate Herendeen at nrh3@cornell.edu or surface mail at 4487 Lake Avenue, Lockport NY 14094.



**The Power of
Teamwork**

Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference TENTATIVE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JULY 5

8:00 am - 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting
7:00 am - 9:00 pm Pre AM/PIC Livestock Seminar & Tour

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Welcome to the Northeast - Get Acquainted Dinner, Front Park - Buffalo
Host: Pennsylvania Association of County Agricultural Agents

SATURDAY, JULY 16

7:30 am - 8:30 pm Pre AM/PIC Horticulture Workshop & Tour
8:00 am - 6:00 pm Pre AM/PIC Livestock Seminar & Tour
8:00 am - 3:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Registration
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Poster Set Up
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm VIP Dinner (Invitation Only) - Assemble 5:00 p.m.
Host: Northeast Associations of County Agricultural Agents

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Opening Session and Evening Inspirational Program

8:30 pm - 10:30 pm

State Pictures

10:00 pm -

Northeast Host Committee Meeting

SUNDAY, JULY 17

8:00 am - 7:00 pm Registration & Information
9:00 am - Noon Pre AM/PIC Horticulture Workshop & Tour
9:00 am - Noon Regional Directors & Vice Directors Workshop
9:00 am - 1:00 pm Poster Set-up
9:00 am - 5:00 pm Scholarship Selection Committee
10:30 am - Noon Nomination Committee Meeting
12:00 Noon - 2:00 pm Past National Board Luncheon
12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm National Committee Chair & Vice Chair Luncheon & Workshop
12:00 Noon - 4:00 pm Spouse/Life Member Hospitality
1:00 - 7:00 pm Commercial & Educational Exhibits
12:00 Noon - 6:00 pm Technology Lab Open
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm State Officer Workshop
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Poster Session
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm NACAA Educational Foundation Annual Meeting/ Board Meeting
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Youth Get Acquainted Party
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm First Timer Orientation/ Reception
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm State President Rehearsal for Opening Ceremony

MONDAY, JULY 18

7:00 am - 8:30 am

Voting Delegate Breakfast

7:00 am - 8:30 am

Life Members Breakfast

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Spouses Tours

8:30 am - 7:00 pm

Technology Lab Open

7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Registration & Information

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Sons & Daughters Tours

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Commercial Exhibits Open

8:30 am - 10:00 am

General Session, Keynote Address

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Poster Session

10:15 am - 11:45 am

Trade Talk seminars
Animal Science
Agronomy
Horticulture
Industry
Technology updates
SARE

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

First Timer/PRIDE Recognition Luncheon

11:45 am - 1:00 pm

Search for Excellence Luncheon Seminars

11:45 am - 1:15 pm

Lunch in the Commercial and Educational Exhibit area

11:45 am - 1:15 pm

Meet the Poster Authors

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Agriculture & Natural Resource Program Leaders Meeting

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Life Members Business Meeting

1:15 pm - 3:00 pm

Committee meetings (for all State Chairs & Committee Members and Association Members)

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Meet the Poster Authors

3:15 pm - 4:45 pm

Regional Meetings

4:00 pm

Commercial Exhibits Close

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

4-H Talent Revue

National Association of County Agricultural Agents July 17, 2005 - July 21, 2005 BUFFALO, NEW YORK

9:15 pm - 11:00 pm State Pictures
10:00 pm Northeast Host Committee Meeting

TUESDAY, JULY 19

7:00 am - 8:30 am AA Recognition Breakfast
7:00 am - 8:30 am Administrators Breakfast
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration & Information
8:00 am - 4:00 pm Commercial Exhibits Open
8:30 am - 6:30 pm Technology Lab Open
8:30 am - 11:45 am Extension Development Council Seminars
8:30 am - 11:45 am 4-H Youth Development Workshop & Awards
8:30 am - 4:30 pm Sons & Daughters Tours
9:00 am - 4:00 pm Poster Session
8:30 am - 5:00 pm Life Member Tours
8:30 am - 11:30 am Delegate Session
9:00 am - 12:00 noon Spouses Workshops
11:30 am - 1:15pm Communication Awards Luncheon
11:45 am - 1:00 pm Poster Session Awards Luncheon
11:45 am - 1:00 pm State Presidents & Vice Presidents Luncheon
11:45 am - 1:00 pm Search for Excellence Luncheon Seminars
11:45 am - 1:00 pm Brown Bag luncheon Seminars
12:15 pm - 2:15 pm Spouses Luncheon
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Professional Improvement Seminars
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Spouses Workshops
5:00 pm States Night Out Dinner
7:30 pm Silent Auction Starts
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Live Scholarship Auction
10:00 pm Northeast Host Committee Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

7:00 am Breakfast/Professional Improvement Tours -
Registration area closed for Tour day
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm Barbeque - Erie County Fairgrounds - Hosts: Maryland Agents Association

10:00 pm - Northeast Host Committee Meeting

THURSDAY, JULY 21

7:00 am - 8:30 am Committee Members Breakfast
8:00 am - 9:00 pm Sons & Daughters Tours and Farewell Party
8:00 am - 12:00 pm Registration & Information
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
9:00 am - 12:00 noon Spouses Workshop
8:30 am - 10:15 am NACAA General Session, NACAA Pinnacle Award
Service to America/World Agriculture
Capstone Speaker
Breakout sessions
10:30 am - 3:00 pm Introduction to Public Policy Education
10:30 am - 11:45 am
11:45 am - 3:00 pm Public Policy Issues Education Luncheons & Workshops
10:30 am - 3:00 pm First Detector Network Training - focusing on Soybean Rust
10:30 am - 1:00 pm Small/Limited Resource Farm Educational Workshops
1:00 pm - 3:30 pm Transitioning to Organic Agriculture Workshops
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Optional members tours to Niagara Falls
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Association Policy Committee Meeting
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Spouses Workshops
5:00 pm DSA Recipients Assemble
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm Annual DSA Banquet
9:00 - 10:00 pm Incoming/Outgoing President's reception
10:00 pm Northeast Host Committee Meeting

FRIDAY, JULY 22

8:00 am - 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting

SATURDAY, JULY 23

8:00 am - Noon NACAA Board Meeting

JOURNAL OF EXTENSION FLOURISHES WHILE THE NATIONAL JOB BANK GAINS MOMENTUM

I attended the Journal of Extension (JOE) Board Meeting on January 10 & 11, 2005 in Orlando, FL. It was nice to go to a warm place to meet with fellow board members. We spent a day and half discussing JOE business and the National Job Bank. I currently chair the Marketing and Public Relations for JOE. It was a very productive meeting. I am very happy to report that JOE continues to receive more and more manuscripts and the National Job Bank brings in advertisement revenues for sustaining JOE.



Gary Gao, Ph.D.
Journal of Extension
Representative for NACAA
and
County Chair, Horticulture
Extension Agent and
Associate Professor
Ohio State University
Extension-Clermont County

JOE continues to received more and more manuscripts. In 2004, there were 279 submissions to the journal, 23 submissions more than last year's all-time high of 256. The breakdown is as follows:

- 11 Commentaries;
- 88 Features;
- 85 Research in Briefs;
- 49 Ideas at Work;
- 46 Tools of the Trade.

JOE editor Laura Hoelscher reviews all submissions initially, then sends some back for adjustments, and rejects some. She also reviewed 252 articles for revisions. These articles get three blind reviews, and one blind review for Ideas At Work. If major revisions are required for articles, then articles are considered as not accepted.

The 2004 peer-review rates as of 12/15/2004 are:

- * 1.06% rejected
- * 39.36% major revision required
- * 38.29% minor revision required
- * 21.27% no revision required

Articles Published in 2004 by Category:

176 articles in total:
13 Commentaries, 43 Features, 44 Research in Briefs,
35 Ideas at Work, 41 Tools of the Trade

The provisional 2004 acceptance rate as of 12/15/04 was 47%. JOE board members feel very good about this rate. One of the missions of JOE is to help our authors improve their writing. Since JOE is the official refereed journal for the cooperative extension system, we feel obligated to provide additional attention to our authors.

JOE used to solely depend on the subscription assessments for its income. Due to budgetary challenges, revenues have not kept with our expenses. JOE board took over the National Job Bank from USDA as an additional source of revenue. We are very happy to report to you that JOE is now solvent again.

There were a total of 378 postings at the National Job Bank (<http://jobs.joe.org/>) in 2004. Jobs Posted by Region is as follows:

0 of 13 northeast states; 8 of 12 southern states; 12 of 12 north central states; and 13 of 13 western states.

If you have any positions to post, please consider the National Job Bank, it is very cost-effective and fully automated. Posting job there also satisfies EEO requirements. Last but not least, you contribute to the continued growth of our Journal of Extension.

JOE continues to attract excellent readership each year. Yearly statistics for pages views and estimated visitors from 1998 through December 31, 2004 is as follows:

- 2004: 1,055,639
- 2003: 776,333
- 2002: 562,774
- 2001: 412,405
- 2000: 275,769
- 1999: 79,505
- 1998: 87,318

For our stats system, a "Visitor" is defined as a series of hits from any particular computer's "address." If any two hits from a single computer are separated by 30 minutes or more, two visitors are counted. "Visitors" represents an extrapolated number, because we really have no way of tracking who is viewing our website.

The 50 Universities Accessing JOE Most Frequently (7/1/2004 to 12/31/2004)

According to estimates based on our readers' Internet domain names, the following represents the top 50 educational institutions accessing JOE. (This list does not take into account readers who may access JOE from an Internet service provider apart from their affiliated institution's domain.)

1. North Carolina State University
2. Purdue
3. Pennsylvania State University
4. The Ohio State University
5. University of Minnesota

6. Texas A&M University
7. University of Florida
8. Iowa State University
9. Virginia Tech
10. Michigan State University
11. University of Connecticut
12. Washington State University
13. Mississippi State University
14. University of Illinois - U/C
15. Oregon State University
16. University of Wisconsin-Madison
17. University of Maine
18. Colorado State University
19. New Mexico State University
20. Cornell University
21. University of Washington
22. University of Georgia
23. North Dakota State University
24. University of Nebraska-Lincoln
25. Oklahoma State University
26. University of Kentucky
27. Clemson University
28. University of Missouri-Columbia
29. Kansas State University
30. Utah State University
31. University of Idaho
32. West Virginia University
33. Louisiana State University
34. University of New Hampshire

35. University of Tennessee
36. Rutgers University
37. University of Michigan
38. University of Maryland
39. University of Arizona
40. Auburn University
41. University of California-Davis
42. Ohio University
43. City University of New York
44. University of Nevada-Reno
45. University of North Carolina
46. Montana State University
47. University of Delaware
48. Indiana University
49. Columbia University
50. Harvard University

If you have not visited JOE web site for a while. Now is a great time to do that. You can get all kinds of great ideas for your program. In addition, you should also join the discussion forum for articles in the Commentary category to share your comments/opinions with others. I know you all have a lot of them.

Our next JOE board meeting will be held in Cincinnati on June 29-30, 2005. This is great for me since Cincinnati is in my backyard. I would like to thank NACAA leadership and the board for their strong support of my participation on JOE Board. See you in Buffalo!

HAVE YOU BEEN RECEIVING EMAILS FROM NACAA?

Have you been receiving electronic notification about the "E-County Agent" from NACAA? If not...there's a good chance that either your University server is considering our email notification as spam or we have an incorrect email address for you. If your email address has changed within the last year and your state association hasn't been able to update it with NACAA's master database, please go to <http://www.nacaa.com> - scroll down to the bottom of the 1st page and you'll find a notice stating "Update Your Email Address". It's that simple to update it! The two possible email addresses used by NACAA are nacaaemail@aol.com or nacaa@sbcglobal.net - please add these to your address book so any important messages from NACAA will not be considered spam by your system administrator. We don't want you to miss important notifications regarding NACAA.

The County Agent

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National Outstanding Young Farmer Congress

February 9 - 12, 2005

By: Chuck Schwartau, NACAA Treasurer

I had the good fortune to represent NACAA at the National Outstanding Young Farmers' Congress (NOYF) in Modesto, California. As a sponsoring organization, we have the opportunity to present recognition awards to the state winners from around the country as well as keynote one session of the congress.

The 2005 congress was extended by a day from its normal schedule in order to take in the World Ag Expo at Tulare, California. This is one of the largest agricultural showcases in the world, and is a destination for around 100,000 visitors each February. NOYF delegates were guests of John Deere at the show with a police escort through traffic to the gate, a special program at the John Deere exhibit and a wine tasting reception in the afternoon. The Expo offered NOYF delegates the opportunity to see agriculture unlike what many are accustomed to seeing in their home states. With California growing and exporting some 200 different crops plus livestock products, the diversity of agricultural equipment and supplies was nearly as diverse.

A full day was spent learning about the businesses of two previous NOYF national winners located in the Modesto-Central Valley area. Dino Cortopassi has led Stanislaus Foods to become the leader in fresh-pack tomato products for the institutional market in the country. Cortopassi brought along several of his key managers to describe their operation and the philosophy of their business. This program was followed by a lunch hour tour of their central base of operations at the Cortopassi home.

John Kautz has built Ironstone Wineries from a ranch on the mountain into a showplace winery offering a wide range of entertainment venues to compliment its fine wines. Ironstone has become not only a winery of distinction, but a regional tourism and entertainment destination in the historic gold mining region. Ironstone boasts an amphitheater for staging big name entertainment and one of the most elegant classic car shows in the country. It employs 4 chefs to cater to weddings and other gatherings in its many venues on grounds. A museum, jewelry store and ever-changing gardens and floral displays attract visitors to the winery as readily as its wine cellar. The Kautz's hosted one evening banquet

at the winery to celebrate the congress' visit to the area. Besides recognizing twenty-two young farmers for their accomplishments in the field of agriculture, a special recognition was given this year to Orion Samuelson for his 40 years of emceeing the awards banquet at the congress.

I was honored to give the keynote address at the Saturday morning awards banquet where all the state winners received their awards. I based my presentation around the fact that even though all those present had been successful in their farming careers, their true measure of success was not just in how large or how fast they grew their agricultural business, but rather in how they handled the adversities that beset nearly every business at some time, and how they use their success to benefit others around them - their families and their communities. Based on the 'thanks' and warm greetings received after the presentation, it was apparently a message many needed to hear. Our own members may be in that same group.

Having participated in this NOYF Congress, it is easy to be enthused about submitting nominees in the future. This represents a great opportunity to recognize young farmers in our communities, and to give them a chance to enter a fantastic network of people enthused about agriculture. Hanging around with optimists and leaders breeds more optimists and leaders. This Congress creates that atmosphere. The attendees believe in helping each other and thinking about how they can help make the agricultural community a better and stronger place to live and work.

By all means, get in touch with local Jaycee chapters and maybe even find out about some past OYF recipients to touch base. They can be an asset to your programs and program planning, and we can help build their role as leaders of our communities.

Look for a display at the AM/PIC and feel free to drop me a line or call with questions you might have about our role in the National Outstanding Young Farmer program. The next 7 pages in this magazine contain the application which should be used for submission. I encourage you to make copies and hand them to an outstanding farmer you know. Help them become recognized for their achievements in agriculture.

Revised 7/04



THE UNITED STATES JUNIOR CHAMBER® Outstanding Young Farmer Nomination Form Instructions



JOHN DEERE

The purpose of the Outstanding Young Farmer (OYF) program is to foster better urban-rural relations through contact between Jaycees and farmers, by creating a greater public interest in, and understanding of, today's farmer and his or her challenges. Sponsored by John Deere, administered by The United States Junior Chamber, and supported by the Outstanding Farmers of America (OFA) Fraternity and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA), the OYF program has recognized farmers for their outstanding achievement for more than 40 years.

All nominees are welcome to attend the National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Congress; from all the state winners the top 25 state finalists along with their husband or wife will receive an all-inclusive trip to the OYF Awards Congress. From the top 25 state finalists, the Four National Winners are honored at the National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Banquet.

This Awards Congress consists of educational lectures, speakers and forums, which conclude with a black tie banquet and ceremony, which might not be suitable for small children. A list of local caregivers has been provided by the Convention and Visitors Bureau and available upon request.

JUDGING CRITERIA

National winners are determined based on personal contributions in the following categories:

- A. Progress in agricultural career (50 percent)
- B. Extent of soil and water conservation practices (25 percent)
- C. Contributions to the well-being of the community, state, and nation (25 percent)

NOTE: Although we recognize the farm family, we ask that all information on this form be based only on the nominee's involvement in the farming operation.

STATE COMPETITION

- A. The young person selected as your community's Outstanding Young Farmer will receive local recognition and will become a nominee in your state OYF finals.
- B. In preparation for the state OYF finals, have your local winner fill out this form; **the financial statement is optional for the local and state competitions, but required for the national competition.**

NATIONAL COMPETITION

- A. All state winners entering national competition must sub-

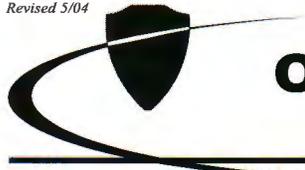
mit the Outstanding Young Farmer Nomination Form **post-marked before October 1.**

- B. All information on the nomination form, including financial information, must be completed (financial information will be kept in strict confidence).
- C. Nomination forms may not be handwritten. This form may be photocopied. All information must be contained within the pages of this form.
- D. To qualify:
 - 1. Nominees must be certified winners of valid state competition.
 - 2. Nominees must be aged 21 through 39, not becoming 40 prior to January 1st before the National OYF Awards Congress.
 - 3. Nominees must be actual farm operators, deriving a minimum of two-thirds of their income from their farming.
- E. Submit three (3) 8"x10" prints. (1 picture head-and-shoulders shot of the nominee, and 2 pictures of the nominee and husband or wife only). Label the backs of all pictures/CD with the nominees name along with description.
- F. **Individual Pictures:** Submit five (5) candid close up shots of nominee at work, including chores, paperwork, etc. **Family Pictures:** Five (5) 8"x10" prints of the farm family together. **Farm Pictures:** Thirty-Forty (30-40) overall prints of the farm & operation. Aerial shots if you already have them. Livestock & crops at different stages of growth. Any unusual equipment, especially if designed by nominee. Water and land conservation projects too. The nominee should be in most of these pictures. These photos will be used to create a video presentation to highlight the nominee's achievements and will not be used for judging purposes.
- G. Mail the completed nomination form and all the required pictures to the below noted address.

Additional nomination forms and information about the National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Congress can be obtained by contacting:

The United States Junior Chamber
7447 S. Lewis Ave. • Tulsa, OK 74136
918.584.2481 • fax 918.584.2487
e-mail oyf@usjaycees.org

Revised 5/04



THE UNITED STATES JUNIOR CHAMBER®
**Outstanding Young Farmer
NOMINATION FORM**



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Nominee's name _____

Present age _____ Birth date _____

Mailing address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Shipping address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Fax _____ E-mail address _____

Social Security number _____ Type of farm operation _____

Marital status: Single Married (Spouse's name) _____

Children (names and ages) _____

Schools attended (schools, academic honors, etc.) _____

MEDIA CONTACTS (include name, address, and city)

Newspapers _____

TV Stations _____

Radio Stations _____

Farm Publications _____

FOR THE NOMINEE: For, and in consideration of value received, receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby give The United States Junior Chamber the absolute right and permission to copyright and/or publish photographic portraits or pictures of me, in which I may be included in whole or in part, for art, advertising, trade, or any other lawful purpose whatsoever. I hereby waive any right that I may have to inspect and/or approve the finished product or the advertising copy that may be used in connection therewith, or the use to which it may be applied.

I hereby release, discharge, and agree to save and hold The United States Junior Chamber harmless from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the making of said pictures, or in any processing tending toward the finished products.

All facts included in this information form are true and can be used for publication (EXCEPT SECTION 4, WHICH WILL BE KEPT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE). My signature constitutes acceptance of any award on local, state, and national levels of competition. My signature also attests that I will attend the National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards Congress if chosen as one of the twenty-five national finalists.

Signature of nominee _____ Date _____

FOR THE STATE JAYCEE PRESIDENT or COUNTY AG AGENT:

I certify the above is the duly selected nominee for the _____ state OYF Finals.

State Jaycee President Signature _____ Date _____

County Ag Agent Signature _____ Date _____

Other Signature _____ Title _____ Date _____

1. PROGRESS IN AGRICULTURAL CAREER

GENERAL INFORMATION

Number of years as a farm operator _____ Percentage of total income earned from farming _____

Total annual income earned from farming GROSS \$ _____ NET \$ _____

Number of days spent in "off-farm" employment _____ What is the "off-farm" employment _____

Is Nominee: Sole Proprietor Partner Salaried Manager Other (please list) _____

If other than sole proprietor, what percentage of policy and management decisions do you make? _____

Indicate the total number of acres operated _____ Tillable _____ Grazing or non-tillable _____

Of the above total, indicate the number of acres:

Owned individually _____ Owned in partnership _____ Percentage owned in partnership _____

Rented individually _____ Rented in partnership _____ Percentage rented in partnership _____

1. How and when did nominee get started?

2. What challenges has nominee faced and overcome?

3. What help has nominee received, including inheritances, gifts, family partnerships, etc?

None of this information may be continued on another page.

4. Has nominee experimented with new production practices or developed new machinery? If so, describe.

5. What farm records are kept and how are they used in management analysis?

6. Why did nominee enter farming and what were his or her goals? What are they now?

7. What is the nominee's spouse's occupation and/or contribution to the farm operation?

None of this information may be continued on another page.

2. EXTENT OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES

Comment on each of the following as they may pertain to soil type and topography of nominee's operation.

A. SOIL IMPROVEMENT (soil testing, fertilizer practices, soil structure, green manure, weed control, grazing practices)

B. EROSION CONTROL (wind and water)

C. WATER MANAGEMENT (irrigation, drainage, waterways, ponds)

D. REFORESTATION, WOODLAND IMPROVEMENT, WILDLIFE, AND RECREATION LAND USES

E. HOME AND FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENTS

None of this information may be continued on another page.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

NOTE: This form is required for national competition and is optional for local or state competition. For national competition, the nominee may choose to copy this form on a white 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper placing five copies in separate envelopes to be opened only by the judges.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION HISTORY *(total of operation, partnership included)*

ITEM	YEAR STARTED <i>(as a full time operator)</i>			CURRENT YEAR <i>(or last three-year average)</i>		
	Acres	Yield/Acre	Total \$ Sales	Acres	Yield/Acre	Total \$ Sales
Crops						
Livestock <i>(types and breeds)</i>	Number	Production per Unit	Total \$ Sales	Number	Production per Unit	Total \$ Sales
Total Crops and Livestock						
Describe what changes of production and/or marketing techniques occurred and why:						

PROGRESS IN NET WORTH — STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL Judges are not looking for the wealthiest farmer, but for the one whom has successfully increased net worth through good farm practices and management. All figures should reflect the increase today as against the time the nominee started farming. *Financial statement should reflect the nominee's share only.*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT		Year started as full-time operator _____		Current Year _____	
		Original Cost to Operator	Then Market Value	Original Cost Basis to Nominee	Current Market Value
Liquid Assets	Cash in Banks			(not applicable)	
	Stocks & Securities				
	Accounts Receivable			(not applicable)	
	Crops & Livestock <i>(to be sold in one year)</i>			(not applicable)	
	Farm Supplies on Hand				
Fixed Assets	Farmland & Buildings <i>(acres)</i>				
	Non-Agricultural Real Estate				
	Trees/Vines/Dairy cows/ Breeding Stock, etc.				
	Farm Machinery				
TOTAL ASSETS		(not applicable)		(not applicable)	
		Lender's Name	Original Loan Amount	Orig. Amount of Current Loans	Current Unpaid Portion
Short Term Debt	Operating Loans				
	Accounts Payable	(not applicable)		(not applicable)	
	Payments on Notes due in 1 year	(not applicable)		(not applicable)	
Long Term Debt	Loans on Farmland & Buildings				
	Loans on Non-Ag Real Estate				
	Loans on Farm Machinery				
TOTAL LIABILITIES		(not applicable)		(not applicable)	
NET WORTH OF NOMINEE		(not applicable)		(not applicable)	

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MUST be certified by nominee's banker, accountant, or financial management service. REQUIRED OF STATE WINNERS. Name _____ Title _____

New Horticulture Videos Now Available

University of Nebraska Extension has created a new series of Horticulture Videos available for purchase. Horticultural videos can be used as training tools for the commercial horticulture industry or as educational tools. Topics include: Plants for Problem Places (New in 2005), Annuals and Perennials, Making Every Drop Count - Irrigation Efficiency, Lawn Establishment and Renovation - Off to a Good Start, Using Small Trees in the Landscape, Seasonal Rose Care - Essential Maintenance Practices. For more information or a copy of the order form please contact NACAA member John Fech at (402) 444-7804.



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**ANNUAL MEETING AND
PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE DATES**

2005

North East
Buffalo, New York . . . July 17-21

2007

Grand Rapids, MI . . . July 15-19

2006

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky . . . July 23-27

2008

Greensboro, NC . . . July 13-17

The County Agent

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

The County Agent - NACAA, 252 N. Park Street
Decatur, IL 62523 - Attn: Scott Hawbaker