



A monthly update from Bonnie McCarvel,  
Executive Director of MACA

## JANUARY 2020

**January** - Happy 2020! As we start a new decade, I hope you'll re-commit your energy and support to MACA. The respective committees are planning for 2020 and have identified several ideas for the year ahead. If you have ideas or suggestions, make plans to attend the quarterly meetings in February. The quarterly meetings offer information, work on industry issues, as well as networking with industry members and an opportunity to learn more about the industry. It's time well spent.

We'll continue to do our best to provide you the information you need to do your job as well as provide insights on issues impacting the industry. We also say thank you to several MACA leaders who are retiring from the industry.

Here's wishing you a productive 2020 and one in which you are seen at various MACA events. Cheers!



Bonnie McCarvel  
**Executive  
Director**

[Bonnie@maca.org](mailto:Bonnie@maca.org)

## FEBRUARY QUARTERLY MEETING NOTICE

The Mid America CropLife Association (MACA) quarterly meetings will be held **February 19-20 2020 at the Renaissance Airport Hotel, 9801 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63134.** To participate please do the following:

1. **EVENTS:** Register for the meeting(s) by completing the form on the website by clicking [here](#). There are three different events scheduled as follows:
  1. **Committee meetings** -Wednesday, February 19 - check start time for respective committee.
    1. Join the group for lunch starting at noon.
    2. First time attendees - special welcome at 1:15 pm Wednesday

afternoon.

2. **Off Site event** - Wednesday evening. Details to be determined.
3. **Board meeting** - begins at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday morning and will conclude by 11:00. Please plan your departures after that time.

2. **HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** click here for your online reservation link <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1576181804852&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

1. **Room** - The rate is **\$210 USD per night plus tax** and includes complimentary parking and airport shuttle.
2. Last day to book is **January 27, 2020!**

## CROP LIFE AMBASSADOR NETWORK



Happy New Year! Welcome 2020! As we say goodbye to 2019, I would like to thank all our ambassadors who were able to make presentations to our youth this past year to help spread the word about America's safe and

abundant food supply. We are looking forward to reaching students again this upcoming year.

If you have time to send me a list of area schools or school districts I can make sure they are on our mailing list and send them a mailer about signing up for the program. Feel free to let friends know about us by sending them our website <http://ambassador.maca.org/>.

And as always please send us new ambassador suggestions! We are in need of more ambassadors for all the presentation requests. They can email me at [michelle@maca.org](mailto:michelle@maca.org) to sign up or go online: <http://ambassador.maca.org/>.

Best Wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous 2020!



Find us on [Facebook](#) - search - CropLife Ambassador Network-CAN

**Michelle Kilper**  
[Michelle@maca.org](mailto:Michelle@maca.org)  
Program Coordinator  
CropLife Ambassador Network  
and Young Leader Scholarship Program  
A program of Mid America CropLife Association  
Phone: (314) 849-9446 or (800) 625-2767  
Monday: 8 am - 2 pm  
Wednesday: 8 am - 2 pm



Thursday: 8 am - 12 noon

## YOUNG LEADER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Applications are starting to come in for our next group of young leaders! We will pick winners at our February quarterly meeting in St. Louis, MO.

***How can you be part of this program?*** You can help us by getting your company to sponsor a donation to the Young Leadership Scholarship Program. We will take any contribution level but looking for at least \$1,000 from different companies to show support of the program and our future leaders.

The YLSP brings 13 future leaders from the Ag industry to the MACA annual meeting and helps spread the word of MACA at 13 different universities. All contributions are tax deductible and ***very much appreciated*** and your company will be recognized in various ways through MACA.

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To learn more about this important program, please visit our website by clicking [here](#).

To get started please, contact Bonnie at [Bonnie@maca.org](mailto:Bonnie@maca.org) or 314-849-9446.

Thank you to our 2020 sponsors: **Valent USA, Syngenta, Nutrien Ag Solutions, Nufarm, Morris Bixby, KALO, IEDS, GROWMARK, GreenLeaf, Corteva, Bayer, AMVAC, Aceto.**

## STATE UPDATES



**KANSAS** - "The top 2020 priority for KARA will be working on legislation to create a state pesticide waste disposal fund and program," reports **Randy Stookey, JD, Sr. VP, General Counsel, Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA)**. We will also be working on legislation on the following

issues: adoption of reportable quantities of hazardous chemical spills; opposing additional requirements or limitations on herbicide products or applications; supporting passage of the next 10-year transportation plan; creating a statutory cap on non-economic damages (pain and suffering) in personal injury cases; opposing the imposition of a sales tax on agricultural services; and, extending the life of the state's underground petroleum storage tank fund and program.

While the AgriBusiness Expo was held in November there was a great turnout for two of our speakers this year: (1) KS Highway patrol discussed weight limits and other relevant regulations, and (2) a presentation on workforce development by a person from the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture.



**MINNESOTA** - "The number one legislative issue the Minnesota Crop Production Retailers (MCPR) will be working on in 2020 is keeping large cities in MN from regulating pesticides within their boundaries and keeping MN Ag Superfund Account paid by ag industry fees to fund only ag industry cleanup rather than adding in all private and public wells," stated **Bill Bond, MCPR, Executive Director**.

The MCPR annual trade show was held December 10-12, 2019 with the two hot topics being the ag economy and sustainability -

use of cover crops.



**SOUTH DAKOTA** - "The South Dakota Department of Agriculture (SDDA) is looking to increase funding for its regulatory and recycling programs with across the board increases in fees including pesticide registration fees, pesticide dealer licenses and private applicator license," reports **Kathy Zander, Executive Director, South Dakota Agri-Business (SDABA)**

**Association.** SDABA is working close with SDDA to ensure fees are needed and shared by all those that benefit from these programs. It will get interesting since farm groups don't want any increases and Governor Noem doesn't want any "tax" increases and is looking for state agencies to cut 10% from their budgets.

Hot topics for the SDABA annual conference will focus on "Bridging the Gap between Farmers and Consumers", "Weathering the Storm in Agriculture" and "It Starts with Attitude."



**WISCONSIN** - "The top legislative issue for the Wisconsin Agri-Business association is working with the Speaker's Task Force on Water Quality, making sure the legislature is educated on the good management practices already employed by the retail agronomy and plant protection industry," says **Tom Bressner, Executive Director, Wisconsin Agri-Business Association**.

This year's conference scheduled for later this month has 57 educational breakout session topics being presented. The top two in my mind are "Industrial Hemp Research (Grain, Fiber and CBD) in Wisconsin - Lessons from Year 1" and "Operating Your Business during Economically Challenging Times".

## MEMBERSHIP NOTES

The 2020 membership dues invoices were sent out via email the end of October. Renewals continue to come in. Don't forget, you have until February 15, 2020 to renew to avoid a late fee.

## SHORT NOTES

- Look for the MACA Water Update in mid-January! MACA's **Water Consultant Steve Taylor** will get into more details at times on water issues and the impact they have on the MACA region.
- MACA signed onto a letter the end of November with the Ag Nutrient Policy Council (ANPC) which was submitted to the US EPA regarding water quality trading. **Water Consultant Steve Taylor** reviewed the letter and participates in the ANPC for MACA and says, "Water quality trading is a concept I have followed for years and I think it is good that EPA is trying to make it work."
- Vincent Restucci, one of the panel speakers at the MACA Annual Meeting who was with RD Offutt Farms, started a new job at Calyxt, Inc. based in Roseville, Minnesota. Restucci is the VP of Agronomic Services. The agbiotech company focuses on developing crops with healthier characteristics. Jim Blome, former President & CEO of Bayer CropScience LP is the CEO of Calyxt.
- The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) has name Corey Rosenbusch as its new President and CEO. Rosenbusch, who currently serves as President and CEO of the Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA), starts work at TFI on February 6, 2020. Rosenbusch replaces Chris Jahn, who left TFI in October to lead the American Chemistry Council.
- **Doug Goff, Helena Agr-Enterprises**, officially retired December 31, 2019 after more than 40 years of work in the industry. Doug was the 2019 Industry Vision of the Year award recipient. Best wishes to Doug!
- Congratulations and best wishes to **Jerry Miller, Albaugh LLC** on his retirement effective December 31, 2019! Jerry's new email address is [Jerrydmiller.1971@gmail.com](mailto:Jerrydmiller.1971@gmail.com). Our thanks to his service to many for many years.

## CALENDAR

### 2020

January 13-15 - MABA's 87th Annual Winter Conference & Trade Show, Lansing

Center, Lansing, MI

**January 14-16 -**

Wisconsin Agribusiness Classic, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

**January 15-16 -** Ag Expo, Sioux Falls, SD [www.agexpo-sd.org](http://www.agexpo-sd.org)

**January 21-23 -** IFCA Annual Convention 7 Trade Show, Peoria Civic Center, Peoria, IL

**January 28-29 -** Nebraska Agri-Business Expo, Embassy Suites Convention Center, LaVista, NE

**January 29-31 -** [2020 OABA Industry Conference](#), Renaissance Columbus Westerville - Polaris Hotel - Westerville, OH

**February 4-6 -** The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX

**February 11-12 -** Agribusiness Showcase & Conference, Des Moines, IA

**February 17 -** MACA offices closed for Presidents' Day

**February 18-19 -** MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO

**June 17-18 -** MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO

**July 31 -** Board of Directors Conference Call

**September 8-10 -** MACA Annual Meeting, St. Louis, MO

**November 11-12 -** MACA Quarterly Meetings, St. Louis, MO

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

***"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."***

~ C.J. Lewis



## QUICK LINKS

[MACA Website](#)

[MACA Facebook](#)

[MACA LinkedIn](#)

[MACA 2020 Meeting Dates](#)

[C.A.N. Website](#)

[C.A.N. Facebook](#)

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