

**KACAA Fall Business Meeting**  
**October 17, 2005**  
**Kansas State University**

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. by President Bill Wood.

**Introduction of Guests**

Chuck Marr, Horticulture Extension State Leader, shared with the group about a website that has presentations developed by Horticulture Agents in the state. About 110 presentations are available. This website was started about one year ago. It is a hidden site on the Oznet network. In order to access the website, Chuck needs your email address so he can put you on the list. Right now, he has about 40 Ag Agents on the list.

Gene Algrim spoke to the group about the crops exhibits at the Kansas State Fair. Gene would like our help as Ag Agents to help increase the number of crop exhibits at the Kansas State Fair. He wants agents to call crop farmers and offer to send in their entry forms and get their exhibits to the state fair.

**Minutes**

Richard reported that the minutes of the previous meeting were emailed out to everyone and also had been posted on the KACAA website. Chuck Otte moved to approve the minutes as posted on the website and emailed out. Motion seconded and carried.

**Communications**

Richard read a thank you letter from Carla Nemecek thanking KACAA for providing her a first timer scholarship to NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference (AM/PIC).

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Chuck Otte, NACAA President Elect**

Chuck extended greetings from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA). He gave a recap of the AM/PIC in Buffalo this past July. There were over 300 hours of professional development offered. Being a National Officer has been more work than Chuck thought, but at the same time has been more rewarding than he imagined.

Chuck also gave an update of the Professional Improvement Account. The money that started this account (\$44,000) was left over when Kansas hosted the national meeting in 1983 at Wichita. From this account first timer scholarships to AM/PIC are paid. First timer scholarships are \$250. This year Carla Nemecek received a first timer scholarship, but since she was also receiving the Achievement Award (AA), the association general account and the professional improvement account split the cost of this. \$150 came out of the professional improvement account and \$100 from the association general account. Chuck explained about the corporation reinstatement fees were incurred this year. He also mentioned that for the 2007 AM/PIC in Grand Rapids, Michigan, KACAA has pledged \$2,000 to help pay for an event. \$1,000 this year and another \$1,000 next year. The balance on September 30 was \$3,200.75.

**Richard Fechter, Secretary/Treasurer, President Elect and Southeast Area Director**

Richard reported there are two new agents in the Southeast Area since our meeting last Fall at Great Bend. They are Johnny Roberts in Sumner County, who started in June of 2005 and Brian Rees of Lyon County, who started in November of 2004. He also mentioned that the Southeast Area would be interviewing three livestock specialist candidates on Monday and Tuesday of next week.

**Keith VanSlike, Vice President and Northwest Area Director**

Keith reported there are two new Ag Agents in the Northwest Area. They are Clint Milliman in the Post Rock District - Osborne Office and Jessica Beebee in Sheridan County. He passed around a sheet for everyone to sign up for the standing committee and professional improvement committee they would like to be on this year. The officers will select the committee members at their board meeting in December.

Keith explained the life insurance program that KACAA has for its members. He also announced he had a few hats for sale.

**Bob Neier, At-Large Director**

New agents/members in what used to be the metro: Dan Lekie of Johnson County; Brian Rees of Lyon County; Emily Nolting; and Jana Beckman of Kansas Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops.

**Andrea Burns, Southwest Area Director**

Andrea introduced the new agents in the Southwest Area: Tanner Gilliam in Clark County, Paige Alexander in Haskell County, Kim Cerny in Kingman County, Mike Dewall in Comanche County and Thomas Roberts in Stevens County. She talked about a criminal threats to ag conference that was held in SW Kansas recently. She passed around a brochure about Agroguard. This is a neighborhood watch program. James Lane is in charge of the program and willing to travel and present it.

**Bill Wood, President and Northeast Area Director**

Bill told the group he appreciated the opportunity to serve as a KACAA director, and move through the officer rotation. He learned a lot about our state and national associations. He noticed that some other states had state newsletters for their members, and started that practice for our membership. He has sent out three newsletters and feels they have been useful.

**Mark Ploger, Past President**

Mark commended the officers for a wonderful job this year as membership has increased. He also told the group that at the 2007 AM/PIC in Grand Rapids, Michigan Chuck Otte will be NACAA President. He encouraged everyone to make every effort to attend and support Chuck.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**MEMBER RESOURCES**

**National Meeting**

Bill Wood reported. We had 37 Kansans at the AM/PIC in New York. Future AM/PICs include Cincinnati Ohio July 23-27, 2006; Grand Rapids Michigan, July 15-19; 2007, North Carolina in 2008, and Oregon in 2009.

We have committed \$2,000 to help sponsor a break or meal in Michigan. We may cooperate with Nebraska in this effort. We will also host a "President's Reception" for Chuck Otte in Michigan, so it would be good for our membership to try to attend that year.

**Policy**

Mark Ploger reported. Those in attendance at the Policy Committee meeting were: Chuck Otte, Carl Garten, Ron Seyfert, Dean Whitehill, Scott Gordon, Rick Miller, Sandra Wick, Dana Belshe, Glenn Newdigger, Mike Christian, Bill Wood, Mark Ploger, Dale Ladd and retiree Gene Algrim.

Mark Ploger opened the committee meeting for business. It was noted that the Policy Committee notebook, which has not been seen for the past several years, has been located.

The first topic of discussion was the collection of KACAA dues. It was mentioned that the NACAA amount (\$50.00) has to be in by March 15<sup>th</sup>. It was suggested that our state association dues need to be turned in to our officers by January 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion centered on some type of incentive that could be offered to collect these dues in a more timely fashion. Glenn Newdigger moved that we bring the following recommendation to the general membership: "At the 2006 Fall KACAA meeting, all members paying their 2007 dues prior to, or during, our business meeting, can have their checks placed into a drawing. A name will be drawn out and the person drawn will have their dues paid by KACAA for the year". The motion was seconded by Chuck Otte and carried.

Chuck reviewed the Professional Improvement account with the group. He reminded everyone of the corporation reinstatement fee that had to be paid last year. This fee had not been paid since 1985 when we became a 501 C3 corporation. This amounts to \$40.00 per year.

Mike Christian suggested that we check with the Annual Conference Committee next year to see if there could be some adjustment to the conference schedule that we are following this year. Being no time left for discussion on this issue, the meeting had to be adjourned so that we could attend the KACAA regular business meeting.

## **PROGRAM RECOGNITION**

### **Extension Programs**

No report

### **4-H & Youth**

Carla Nemecek reported. Members Present: Krista Harding, Delta George, Shannon Blocker, Rodney Wallace, Andrea Burns, Brent Goss, Allen Baker, John Beckman, Joe Leibbrandt, Dale Lanham, Greg McClure, Jim Mengarelli, Carla Nemecek.

Jim read the 4-H Committee minutes from the May 2005 KACAA Spring Meeting. It was agreed that the Kansas Horse curriculum still needs revisions because it eliminates too many kids from participating in district and state horse events. The 4-H Committee of KACAA would welcome suggestions to improve the current status with the horse project.

There was discussion in regard to online registration for state 4-H events. Concern was expressed by several members about potential risk management problems. With confidential and personal information available to agents, there is concern that this information may get into the wrong hands if the website is not secure enough.

The State 4-H Office also should be made aware that most county 4-H newsletters are released the first of each month, and if counties receive information too late in the month, it is not helpful or promoted adequately. It was noted that some of the problem with the "Campference" was that it was to begin on a Friday evening, which is when most youth attend football games.

There was question as to who is managing the Project Action Teams (PAC). Communication in regard to decisions made by advisories or action teams is not adequate for counties. The internet is not working to promote state 4-H events (i.e. painting party at state fairgrounds).

It was recommended that 3-4 individuals from this committee create a meeting to visit with Daryl Buchholz, Fred Cholick, and other administrators to discuss the depth of concerns about the 4-H program in the state. We will request KACAA to allow Jim Mengarelli, Allen Baker & John Beckman (Joe Leibbrandt will assist if needed) to work together to create this meeting.

Finally, there were additional concerns about the 4-H records. KAA's are not an accurate description of project details. Generally, the committee feels it allows for too much exaggeration in details and does not promote good record keeping.

### **Professional Excellence**

Keith VanSlike reported. Keith congratulated Carla Nemecek for receiving the AA and Bill Wood and Rick Snell for receiving the DSA at the AM/PIC in Buffalo. A reminder was given to have AA & DSA applications into Keith by December 15th. DSA must have 10 or more years by March 15, 2006; AA less than 10 years as of March 2006.

### **Communications**

Frannie Miller reported. Mark Schler is now the Regional Vice-Chair of the Communications Committee, therefore Frannie is now chair of the KACAA Communications Committee.

Kansas had 27 entries, North Central region had 120 entries, and there was a national total of 568 entries in the Communications Awards programs.

Awards were handed out to state winners that were not picked up at the AM/PIC. Those included: Sandra Wick, Scott Gordon, Cade Rensink, and Michael Vogt. Bayer Advance was the sponsor of these awards.

### **Scholarship**

Doug Musick reported. The scholarship committee met in room 202 of the KSU Student Union at 1:30pm. Members in attendance were John Stannard, Leane Stevenson, Mike Vogt and Doug Musick.

The committee reviewed this years NACAA scholarship winners. They were Frannie Miller, Leanne Stevenson, and Jonie James. KACAA, NACAA scholarship donations from our spring meeting in May totaled \$340.

We reviewed and distributed the donation records to committee members.

John Stannard moved and Mike Vogt seconded that we provide \$100 of seed money towards a Cabela's gift certificate for our raffle prize at spring meeting. Motion passed.

The committee reviewed donations for tonight's scholarship auction. We have 4 donations and are hoping for more. John Stannard will auctioneer.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **PRIDE (Ask the Administrator, Friend of County Agents)**

Cheri Nelsen reported. Discussed the winners of the awards that will be recognized at the smixer and who will make the presentations. Those to be recognized tonight are:

- Friend of County Agent Within Extension - Ward Upham
- Friend of County Agent Group - Gard-n-Wise of Wichita
- Friend of County Agent Outside Extension - Gary Cottrill

### **Smixer**

Matt Pfeiffer reported. 13 members present. Topics discussed included: Change in location and date of Smixer, billing process, committee structure – need more experienced agents on committee, and schedule of events for Smixer night.

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

### **Administrative Skills Development**

Rick Miller reported that there was not a meeting as he was in another committee meeting during this time. Rick and Richard Fechter attended the Administrative Skills Development Committee meeting at the AM/PIC in Buffalo.

### **Early Career Development**

Darren Hibdon reported. Committee Members Present: Darren Hibdon Chair, Cade Rensik, Rachael Gager. Agent training for newly hired agents was discussed. Mentor agents need an outline as to what information they should cover with new agents. Each area director is handling the training process differently. The committee felt that spending at least one complete week with two different agents was a very beneficial method of training. Darren will make contact with an area director to pass along the committees thoughts.

### **Teaching & Educational Technology**

Phil Sell reported. Two members were present. Feedback from IET Staff was presented indicating ways that they have tried to respond to the Educational Technology Survey conducted through KACAA. A follow up PDIS survey prepared by Ward Upham was presented. KACAA members are encouraged to complete the survey. The KACAA Educational Technology Survey will be used as a pattern for a similar NACAA survey.

The Communications Expo that is part of this year's Annual Conference was discussed. KACAA members are encouraged to attend the expo.

The Horticulture Presentations database was discussed. Ag Agents are encouraged to take advantage of these shared programs. A proposal to develop a similar database in other subject matter areas is under consideration.

## **PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT TEAMS:**

### **Agronomy & Pest Management**

Tom Maxwell reported. 16 members were present. Regarding the KACAA Spring Workshop Early Bird Agronomy Tour, as reported at the spring meeting in Garden City, there will not be an early bird tour at the 2006 Spring Workshop. Richard Fechter indicated that Gary Kilgore, SE Crops and Soils Specialist will be on the program and a couple of the tour stops.

The E-Update Agronomy Newsletter that Jim Schroyer has been emailing to agents on a weekly basis was discussed. The committee was supportive of the newsletter and feel the information is excellent. We recommend that the Agronomy Department continue to send it to the agents first, then to crop consultants, COOP's, etc. Just so the agents receive it first.

The committee would like to recommend that the publications "Wheat Insect and Disease Ratings" and "Foliar Fungicide Use on Wheat" be updated by the Plant Pathology Department.

Committee members commented on the new format for printing and distributing the 2005 Wheat Performance Test booklets via the High Plains Journal. It is a possibility that other crop performance test booklets will be sent in a similar fashion next year. The main complaint we had was the size of the booklet. We feel it is too big. We prefer the previous size of the publication.

### **Ag Economics & Community Development**

Dave Kehler reported. Committee Members Present were: Carl Garten, John Schrock, Dave Kehler, Doug Musick, Brain Rees, Mike Vogt, Rick Miller and Dean Whitehill.

Carl told members about the web site [www.epodunk.com](http://www.epodunk.com). Several agents said they had used it to collect data. Ag Tourism was discussed. The state wide trainings have been excellent. Ben Allen was doing an excellent job assisting agritourism operations or those just wondering about it. The committee was wondering if this was going to become a permanent position. Agents were encouraged to sign up to participate in FLEET to be held in Salina November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pride Committee has been doing an excellent job.

In the area of Ag Economics, agents were encouraged to contact Eldon Thiessen of Kansas Ag Statistics at [www.nass-ks@nass.usda.gov](mailto:www.nass-ks@nass.usda.gov) to encourage them to keep the Bluestem Pasture Report. The committee discussed the open positions in the Ag Economics Department: NW and NE Areas, Ag Policy and Ag Law and what the status might be of them, as well as the new Department Head. Also discussed was the way Ag Econ continues to charge \$300 for the Ag Policy program and other programs when other departments do not.

### **Animal Science**

Leanne Stevenson reported. There were 16 members in attendance. Leanne Stevenson chaired the meeting. Concerns and Discussions:

1. Goat Interests:
  - a. Wishes are to stay in line with the Kansas Meat Goat Association
  - b. More production oriented meetings are needed
  - c. Would like to see an educator from Langston University
  - d. Would like to have an educator spend 4 days in the state presenting at 4 locations scattered around the state with topics of :
    - i. Nutrition
    - ii. Health
    - iii. Production Mgmt
    - iv. Marketing
  - e. Combine with a tour at each location
  - f. Possible locations:
    - i. Russell
    - ii. Coffey County
    - iii. Pottawatomie County
    - iv. Ford or Finney County
    - v. Salina

\*\* Leanne is to contact Cliff Spaeth to try to get something setup. She will email the group after the contact has been made to let everyone know what is being done.
2. Animal eID – there will be a 4-H pilot program for 2006 for 6 counties. Contact Dave Kehler for more information.
3. FAD plans: Less than 30 approved in the state. Tetratex has been hired as a consulting firm to help counties with their plans. The State is very concerned. Extension needs to play a role in the education that having plans in place is very important.

### **Natural Resources**

Mike Christian reported. The main topic of discussion centered on agent training needs. Tentative dates of May 2-3 in Emporia and May 4-5 in Great Bend or Larned have been set to focus on Water Quality. Agenda items were solicited. More time is needed for committee meetings.

### **Horticulture**

Larry Crouse reiterated about the Horticulture Presentations that are available to Ag Agents that Chuck Marr spoke to the group about. He also mentioned the Chuck Marr will be retiring in July 2006.

### **UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS**

Chuck Otte named and recognized the Regional Vice Chairs from Kansas that took office at Buffalo in July:

Mike Christian (4-H), Richard Fechter (Administrative Skills), Mark Schuler (Communications). Gary Cramer was already serving as the Agronomy Regional Vice Chair

Bill Wood talked about the change in the smixer location and why members are paying \$12 for their ticket and non-members tickets are \$20.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Richard went over the treasurer's report for 2004 - 2005 and the proposed budget for 2005 - 2006. Scott Gordon moved to accept the treasurer's report and proposed budget.

Mark Ploger moved that at the 2006 Fall KACAA meeting, all members paying their 2007 dues prior to, or during, our business meeting, have their name placed into a drawing. The person drawn will have their dues paid by KACAA. Motion seconded and carried.

Jim Mengarelli moved a sub committee of the 4-H & Youth KACAA committee meet and visit with the State 4-H Office and/or administration about issues that are of concern to this committee. Much discussion and questions took place. Motion seconded and carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Richard Fechter invited everyone to the Spring Workshop at Flint Oak April 19-21, 2006. He handed out brochures that told about Flint Oak. He highlighted some of the events and activities already planned. Wednesday evening, April 19<sup>th</sup>, working on a technology training session; maybe related to GPS and a tour of Flint Oak. There will be four different tours on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Some things we are going to be touring are horses, goats, subsurface irrigation, Southeast Kansas soils, wind farm, cattle ranches, agritourism destinations, etc. Gary Kilgore, SE Area Crops and Soils Specialist will give a presentation on crop conditions in the area on Thursday morning and be a part of two of the tours that afternoon. Also, Jeff Davidson on Thursday morning will tell a "History of the Flint Hills." We will have some of the usual things at a Spring Workshop and also have a few things planned with a bit of a different twist than what we are used to.

Fred Cholick and Daryl Buchholz spoke to the group. They fielded questions about oznet password changes, accomplishment reports, and the rhetoric system. Daryl talked about that in the near future the general public may be only one or two clicks away on the K-State Research and Extension website to gain access to our accomplishment reports.

Bill Wood passed the gavel to Richard Fechter. Richard presented Bill with a plaque on behalf of the KACAA members for appreciation of serving as President of the association this past year. The following directors took office as well: Keith VanSlike - Secretary/Treasurer and President Elect, Andrea Burns - Vice President, At Large Director - Bob Neier, Northeast Director - Michael Vogt and Past President - Bill Wood.

Richard had several announcements for the group:

-  KACAA dues are needed by December 1 so Keith can get the information to NACAA by January 1.
-  If anyone has any thoughts about hats and coats for KACAA, please tell one of the officers or directors. At the board meeting in December, the directors will decide where and what to order as our supply is just about gone.
-  Ask the Administrator session is in the Big 12 room from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
-  Be sure and sign up on the committee sheet if you have a preference of what committee you would like to be on.
-  Those of you who gave committee reports today, be sure to email or snail mail a report to Richard asap.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was declared adjourned at 3:55 p.m.