

KACAA Spring Business Meeting

May 6, 2005

Garden City

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by President Bill Wood.

Richard reported that the minutes of the previous meeting were emailed out to everyone and also had been posted on the KACAA website. Mark Ploger moved to approve the minutes as posted on the website and emailed out. Seconded and carried.

Richard read thank you notes from Bill Wood, both father and son, for contributions by KACAA to Shirley Wood's memorial. Also, a thank you note was read from Barry Flinchbaugh for paying his life member dues to NACAA.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mike Christian, NACAA North Central Regional Director

Mike talked about representing Kansas as North Central Region Vice Director and Director over the last four years. He has traveled to over 30 states during that time. Kansas is still the best state in terms of organization, programs and strength of organization in North Central Region. Most of the states Extension systems are state controlled and very little if any local control and support. Mike talked about concern of KACAA membership dropping from over 100 a few years ago to in the 80's this year. It is important to contact new agents encouraging them to join and come to a spring workshop.

Mike talked about his handout of NACAA North Central Region Leadership positions. Kansas this year has had 2 out of 11 votes on the National Board. Chuck will be National President in 2007 at Michigan. Vice Chairs are needed in Horticulture and 4-H & Youth. These positions are still open and need to be filled. This is Chuck's responsibility to fill these positions as National Vice President. Oregon will make a bid for 2009 National Meeting in September time frame for AIM/PIC.

Galaxy Conference is 2008. Two positions representing NACAA on the steering committee and the Chairperson of the conference are positions that need to be filled.

Scholarships: Kansas had two \$1,000 scholarships last year. Two out of the 15 total scholarships that were awarded were from Kansas. Mike encouraged people to participate in this program. You can't receive one of these scholarships if you don't apply.

Outstanding Young Farmer program: NACAA is a sponsor as well as John Deere. Last year had 26 national winners, about 18 came from NACAA nominations. Hopefully in the future, NACAA will become the main sponsor. 39 years of age or younger qualify. Application is in the last County Agent magazine and available from the NACAA website.

The NACAA President has initiated a futuring committee. The committee is looking at all aspects of NACAA on how to improve and/or change things to make it better. Mike talked a little bit about Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference (AM/PIC) in Buffalo, NY. Asked for any concerns, comments for the NACAA board. Talked about dates/timing of future AM/PICs.

Chuck Otte, NACAA Vice President

Chuck stated it has been a pleasure to represent NACAA as Vice President this year. Buffalo will be a good meeting. Encouraged people to go. October 1 is deadline for Outstanding Young Farmer award applications.

Chuck will be NACAA President at the 2007 AM/PIC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Extension Systems in the states that Chuck has visited do things differently, but the types of concerns and problems are usually the same. Everything in the national association is being looked at to try and save costs and keep them down so we do not have to increase dues. NACAA is in good financial position at this time. Chuck does not anticipate any talk of increase in dues for several years, if then. National board is very interesting with the mix of agents from all the various states and regions.

Professional Improvement Account: The money in this account was left over when Kansas hosted the national meeting in 1983. The \$44,000 is not touched, just the interest is used. \$380.00 out of this account was used to pay for corporation reinstatement fees of KACAA. The paperwork had to be refiled from previous years in order for KACAA to be recognized as a corporation and non profit status. The ending balance as of April 30 is \$4,336.30. \$2000 has been put aside to help Michigan with the 2007 AM/PIC.

Chuck talked some about AM/PIC format. General sessions will be shorter this year. There will be lots of presented papers by members this year. Discussed the issue of putting tours on Thursday and the banquet on Wednesday. Essentially, switching Wednesday and Thursday on the AIM/PIC schedule. Would not happen for a few years, if at all.

Richard Fechter, Secretary/Treasurer and Southeast Area Director

Richard went over the breakdown of how your dues dollars are used. \$50 goes to NACAA, \$6 to Kansas Extension Agents Association (KEAA) and \$29 stays with KACAA. The number of AA's and DSA's that a state is allowed to have is determined by the number of paying members as of March 15 of the previous year. The number of paying members as of March 15 of the current year determines the number of voting delegates that a state has. He also talked how dues are actually due to NACAA by January 1, not March 15. We typically use the March 15 date, but NACAA would like to have them by January 1.

Richard attended the Public Issues Leadership Development in Washington D.C. this year. The conference was very good and the Kansas delegation in attendance had the opportunity to meet and visit with three of the six congressman from Kansas. We visited with staff members from the other congressman.

Richard went over the Treasurer's Report from October 1, 2004 until April 30, 2005. He also announced that Carla Nemecek as the new agriculture agent in Allen County.

Keith VanSike, Vice President and Northwest Area Director

KACAA hats are for sale for \$10. Rooks and Phillips counties are forming a district as well as Wallace and Sherman counties. Both districts will begin July 1. Clint Milliman is the new agent in Osborne County. Grant Richardson is still overseas. Joe Liebbrandt has assumed the 4-H & Youth position in Thomas County since Doug Musick has returned. The KACAA Committee list was emailed out.

Andrea Burns, Southwest Area Director

No new members in Southwest. There are vacancies in Clark and Stevens counties. Gary Gold is retiring June 3, 2005. Andrea thanked the southwest area agents and staff at the Southwest Research Center for all of their help with the Spring Workshop.

Bob Neier, At-Large Director

Has worked on getting some of the Horticulture Agents back into the association that may have dropped out over the years. New KACAA members from the metro counties are: Emily Nolting, Brian Rees and Dennis Main. Steve Westfahl will retire October 3, 2005. Bob is professional development chairman for EPSI and

scholarships are available to help pay for registration to the EPSI National Meeting in Colorado. Contact Bob if you are interested.

Bill Wood, President and Northeast Area Director

The only new Ag Agent in the Northeast Area is Dale Lekie in Johnson County.

Bill had the privilege of attending the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) North Central Region workshop February 3-5 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with Richard Fechter. Mike Christian did a nice job of conducting the meeting. Glenn Rogers, our NACAA President, and Chuck Otte, NACAA Vice President, were on hand to share information with us. An interesting part of the meeting was hearing from all the other states in the North-Central Region. Bill was again reminded how glad he is to work in the Kansas Extension system. He did pick up a few ideas, one of which was the recent KACAA newsletter that was sent out.

A couple of keynote speakers that visited with all the JCEP members shared tips on how to work with elected officials to make sure they continue to support Extension programs. Some notes Bill took were:

- Find out what motivates the decision maker/elected official, and then show them you are working on that issue.
- When we use the words, “change people’s lives,” lawmakers think we are social workers. Make sure to tell them we educate families/people.
- Talk about and show outcomes. They want to see “bang for the buck.”
- Connect to research. We don’t deliver services, we are educators of unbiased and objective research backed information.
- Make sure elected officials and their staff know they can call on us as resources.
- Meet face to face with officials and their staff. Invite them to Extension programs and provide them a place to meet citizens.

Please let Bill know if you have topics you would like to see discussed in the KACAA newsletter.

Mark Ploger, Past President

Mark gave a KEAA update. Open door policy of meeting with administrators has continued. Met at spring action conference. Minutes of the meeting were emailed out to everyone in the system.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBER RESOURCES

National Meeting

Bill Wood reported the committee did not meet. He passed around a sheet to sign if you were planning on going to AM/PIC in Buffalo this year. Those planning to attend are: Whitey Whitehill, Ron Seyfert, Rick Snell, Doug Musick, Chuck Otte, Mike Christian, Bob Neier, Gary Cramer, Mark Schuler, Dana Belshe, Carla Nemecek, Milt Krainbill, Richard Fechter, and Bill Wood.

Policy

Mark Ploger reported. Members present were Chuck Otte, Scott Gordon, Ron Seyfert, Dana Belshe, Carl Garten, Mike Christian, and Mark Ploger.

Chuck reviewed the Professional Improvement Account with the group. He noted that the interest rate on the CD’s has almost doubled to 2.47%. There was an expense of \$380.00 for corporation reinstatement fees that

hadn't been taken care of since organization back in the early 1980's.

There was discussion on the Policy Handbook which hasn't been seen for the past 5-6 years. A plea will be issued to try to locate the handbook. If it cannot be found, Mike will try to put together a checklist of responsibilities for officers and directors of KACAA. This could also be put onto our KACAA website. It was suggested that the policy committee meet with the board of directors just prior to our fall business meeting at Annual Conference.

A "first-timer" scholarship was awarded to Carla Nemecek to attend the AM/PIC Conference in Buffalo, New York.

Discussion was held on development of a "donors fund" to be included within our KACAA treasury. This fund would include monies raised above and beyond the amount needed to cover expenses for the Spring Workshop. It would be designated to help with expenses at future events in which adequate funds were not raised. The group decided to use a paper trail for this rather than to develop a separate account.

Chuck told the group that it would not be necessary to have a hospitality room at the National Meeting in Buffalo for him. There are no candidates running against him at the present time. He will develop fliers and business cards himself. The only cost to our Association would be for postage.

The Policy Committee recommended the following proposals for discussion during the business meeting:

1. The Association pay the membership dues for members called into active duty to the Armed Services. This would presently include Doug Musick (retroactive) and Grant Richardson (currently serving).
2. A concern was expressed about our drop in membership. The membership should look into our dues structure. Items to consider would be to check about incorporating dues in with our registration fees, having the Extension Councils help with the dues payments, and to keep a concentrated effort in showing the benefits of membership to our new agents.

PROGRAM RECOGNITION

Extension Programs

David Hallauer reported. Meeting was attended by David Hallauer, Gary Cramer, and Tom Maxwell.

Six applications were submitted for Extension Program Awards for 2004 - three in livestock production, two in crop production, and one in landscape horticulture. Winners were: Livestock Production - Richard Fechter, Elk County, Crop Production - Sandra Wick - Smith County, and Landscape Horticulture - Bob Neier, Sedgewick County. Congratulatory letters will be returned to the applicants along with their comment sheets. A copy of the congratulatory letter is included to pass along to board chairs and one to county directors as appropriate. All applicants were forwarded on to the Regional Vice Chair. The top 50% will be published in the AM/PIC proceedings. Certificates and other recognition ideas were also discussed with no action taken.

Sponsorship of the awards was again discussed. No sponsorship suggestions were made during the past year. Frontier Farm Credit Services will be contacted for the 2005 sponsorship. Other possible sources for funding would be the KCGA, KLA, KCA, Kansas Soybean Assn etc. . . Amounts would be similar to that given for Communication awards. Committee members are encouraged to submit sponsorship ideas.

To encourage applicants, earlier reminders were suggested. A reminder will be sent in the fall (November 15) as well as the traditional reminder in February. The information on the Internet was deemed helpful. With the November notice, nominations from area and state Extension staff will also be solicited, if to do nothing more

than get them to encourage agents. Team applications are also encouraged.

No results from Regional or National judging would be made available until after May 15.

4-H & Youth

Carla Nemecek reported. Members Present: Gary Gold, Carla Nemecek, Brent Goss, Allen Baker, Joe Leibbrandt, John Beckman, Greg McClure, and Andrea Burns.

Gary Gold announced that he will be retiring from Stevens County Extension effective June 3, 2005. Therefore, John Beckman nominated Jim Mengarelli as Chairman, seconded by Joe Leibbrandt. Motion passed unanimously. Joe Leibbrandt nominated Carla Nemecek as Vice-Chair. Greg McClure moved nominations cease and the committee cast a unanimous ballot. Motion passed.

Gary Gold informed the committee that the 2005 Kansas Jr. Livestock Show will have an upper weight limit of 280 pounds with a 12 pound weigh-back for all Market Hogs. KJLS has also added Natural Colored division for Market Lambs. Finally, Horned and Polled Hereford Heifers will show in the same class. There is still no class for Meat Goats at the Kansas State Fair or KJLS for 2005.

The committee is under the assumption that Julie Voge is still working on materials for a state-wide Livestock Quality Assurance Training Manual.

PQA testing was discussed. It has become a lot more complicated over the past 3 years to certify youth.

Andrea will still check with the KSF about lack of ribbons handed out at the 2004 Fair.

Discussion was held about the Horse Level Certification requirements. The consensus of the committee was that testing is too difficult and the entire system is complicated for youth and volunteers to understand. The 4-H & Youth Committee suggests a re-evaluation of the Horse Certification Curriculum, citing a decline in numbers of entries at the District and State level since the Level Curriculum was adopted.

The committee also has concerns about the lack of leadership in the Shooting Sports project through the State 4-H Office, primarily due to the lack of organization and planning for the 2005 Spring Workshop that was cancelled. This is an important project, and the committee feels agents are not getting support from State 4-H Staff to certify instructors for the various disciplines.

KACAA members should be aware that the 4-H Achievement Pin Applications have been revised for 2005.

Online registration for Discovery Days will be open to any youth in 2006. There is some concern about this. Committee members would prefer for the registration to be restricted to the Extension intranet, and only county Extension offices be allowed to conduct official on-line registration of participants. This will enable Agents to have contact with the youth prior to Discovery Days.

As his last official duty, Gary Gold called the meeting adjourned. The committee expressed their sincere appreciation of his leadership to KACAA.

Professional Excellence

Keith VanSlike reported that Carla Nemecek is the Achievement Award (AA) winner this year and Rick Snell and Bill Wood are Distinguished Service Award (DSA) winners. These three will be recognized in Buffalo at

the AIM/PIC.

Communications

The KACAA Communication committee meeting was held with Mark Schuler Chairman. There was no old business to come before the group. Under new business Mark announced the state, and area communication award winners to be presented at the regular meeting. He also announced his selection from NACAA board to be Regional Vice-Chairman of Communications. Election for new chairman was held and Frannie Miller was elected Chairman of the Communications committee. No further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Winners for the Communications Awards Program were:

Radio Program - Scott Gordon

Published Photo & Caption - Sandra Wick (Regional Finalist)

Slide Set, Transparencies, Computer Generated Presentation - Michael Vogt

Direct Mail Piece - Stacie Edgett-Minson (National Finalist)

Personal Column - Jeff Davidson

Feature Story - Cade Rensink

Newsletter by Individual - Billy Wood

Newsletter by a Group - Sandra Wick

Factsheet - Richard Fechter (Regional Finalist)

Publication - Bob Neier (Regional Finalist)

Scholarship

Doug Musick reported. Present were Mike Vogt, John Stannard, Carl Garten and Doug Musick.

This years raffle was announced to the committee and raffle tickets were distributed to sell. Next years raffle was discussed and we decided to continue with Cabela's but to contact the individual Andrea Burns knows earlier to see if we can get some kind of matching money.

It was decided we would go ahead and do the auction at this years smixer and John Stannard volunteered to be our auctioneer.

It was also announced that Jonie James and Frannie Miller had submitted scholarship applications for this year and that any eligible members still have until June 1 to submit there applications to Doug Musick.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public Relations & Ag Issues

Will Boyer was only member present.

Smixer

Kurt Werth reported. No members of committee were present. Will have a smixer in the fall.

PRIDE (Ask the Administrator, Friend of County Agents)

Larry Crouse reported. The following people and organizations will be recognized at the smixer this fall: Individual in Extension - Ward Upham and Ray Lamond; Individual Outside Extension - Gary Cottril; and Group/Industry - Gard-n-Wise.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Life Members

No members present.

Administrative Skills

Glenn Brunkow and Jeff Davidson were only members present. They didn't meet so there was no report.

Teaching & Educational Technology

Chip Miller reported. Members present were DeWayne Craghead, Dave Kehler, Bob Neier, and Chip Miller. Greater than 1/3 of the respondents to the technology needs survey that was emailed out indicated a need for technology training at our Spring Workshop and Annual Conference. This year's training at Spring Workshop by Gerry Snyder was well received and should be repeated at future meetings. The committee recommends that we continue with some type of technology training at the Spring Workshop.

Further recommendations/training topics and projects:

- < Develop a database/library of PowerPoint presentations modeled on the Horticulture program sharing website with each contribution including thorough speaker's notes. Bring and share next time.
- < Training in creating a personal database for word processing and spreadsheets.
- < Web design training.

Early Career Development

No meeting

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT TEAMS:

Agronomy & Pest Management

Tom Maxwell reported. Items discussed by the committee included incorporating the early bird agronomy educational tour as part of the regular Thursday tours at the 2006 Spring Workshop. Members of the group expressed appreciation for the timely information presented by Southwest Area Agronomist Curt Thompson and suggested that the Southeast Area Agronomist, Gary Kilgore, give a similar presentation at the 2006 Spring Workshop.

Members would like to see Plant Pathology, Entomology, and Agronomy Departments keep the agents alerted on insect, disease and agronomic problems in a timely fashion as they may occur. In light of the current interest in applying fungicides on wheat it was recommended that Plant Pathology update the publication written by Bob Bowden titled "*Foliar Fungicide Use on Wheat.*"

Gary Cramer mentioned an excellent website on cereal diseases and will send the site address out to the ag agent list serve.

Ag Economics & Community Development

Carl Garten reported. Members attending were Carl Garten, Richard Fechter, Andrea Burns, Scott Gordon, David Kehler, Doug Musick, Mark Schuler, Amy Taylor, Mike Vogt, Dean Whitehill.

Concerns of the committee:

- < Bluestem Pasture Report. Eldon Thiessen said to contact legislatures directly and tell them the importance of the report. The report is important to other areas, not just the Flint Hills.
- < The lease survey needs to be simplified to one page or a postcard so it can be completed in 5 minutes or

less by producers. The Iowa State lease survey is much simpler than 6 pages that the Eastern half of Kansas used last fall.

- < Custom Rates handbook is important to agents and producers. Counties are paying the bill for copies and distribution.
- < Counties are providing the Weekly Crop Report to Kansas Agricultural Statistics, so maybe there needs to be discussion between K-State Research and Extension and Kansas Agricultural Statistics about working together better.
- < Ag Econ Department charging \$300 for some of their meetings. They are the only department that is operating this way.
- < The following positions are open or will be open in the near future. The committee wondered when and/or if these positions would be replaced or filled. Northeast Area Ag Economist - Brad Lubben, taking job in Nebraska; Ag Policy - Barry Flinchbaugh, retired; Ag Law - Roger McEowen, took job at Iowa State; and Ag Econ Department Head - Dan Bernardo, may be leaving for Dean of Agriculture job at Washington State University.

As for community development, the committee discussed Dan Kahl and the PRIDE program; Ben Allen and his Agritourism efforts this year while he is on sabbatical leave; John Leatherman and the reports he sends out to each counties commissioners; and the reports generated by David Darling.

Animal Science

David Hallauer reported. Meeting was attended by Bill Wood, Carla Nemecek, Cade Rensink, David Hallauer, John Stannard, Ron Seyfert, Andrea Burns, Glenn Brunkow, DeWayne Craghead, and Melissa Warren.

Concerns expressed were similar to the previous meeting - Electronic ID, Johne's Disease, Foreign Animal Disease, and Goat resources.

The committee thought that biosecurity issues may need more of a push to address animal diseases like BVD and Johne's. Questions were raised about whether we need to be cooperating with other agencies/groups (Farm Bureau, etc. . .) to address biosecurity and electronic ID issues. It was suggested that discussion be initiated with these groups about electronic ID programs, the possibility of getting RFID tags donated for 4-H weigh-ins, who we can work with on a producer education level. The group felt that Dr. Blasi should be included in the discussion from ASI.

Animal bioterrorism plans were also discussed with some confusion yet about what the role of Extension Agents is in formulating/carrying out these plans.

The committee also encouraged coordination of those working with goat production in the state to put together informational resources for agents.

Natural Resources

Greg McClure reported. Member present were: Greg McClure, Will Boyer, Rick Snell, Mike Christian, Keith VanSlike, and Jeff Davidson.

The committee first noted that Mike Christian needs to be added to the secretary's official committee membership list (on the Natural Resources committee) and made a note to ask Keith VanSlike to make that addition. Committee members discussed the water quality specialist positions and the availability of the rainfall simulator (through Joe Harner) for animal waste management demonstrations. It was also noted that the membership should be reminded that they can contact our water quality specialists for assistance when working

with producers expanding or building new livestock facilities.

A discussion of “Natural Resources” that might fall under the committee’s responsibilities led to discussions about: Oil & Gas, Wind Energy, Timber/Forestry, and Biodiesel/Ethanol. The meeting adjourned with out any specific recommendations, no plans for future training sessions, and no suggestions of letters for the secretary to write on our behalf.

Horticulture

Larry Crouse reported. The committee wanted to remind everyone that the State Horticultural Contest will be August 27th in Manhattan. Agents should inform their people in horticulture projects of this change.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS

Carl Garten talked about funds available from Jana Beckman’s office for professional development at AIM/PIC or other meetings. This money is from Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) funds.

NEW BUSINESS

John Stannard moved KACAA pay members dues who are serving in the military. Motion seconded and carried.

Discussion about dues structure took place. The Area Directors are looking at Extension Councils being able to legally pay agent association dues. Part of the registration fee at Spring Workshops are now being used to help offset the dues lost to fewer members. Mike Christian talked about some creative financing on dues such as lowering dues and increasing workshop registration to a higher level to offset the difference as well as a few other ideas.

Scott Gordon talked with Eldon Thiessen of Kansas Agricultural Statistics about the Bluestem Pasture Report being discontinued this year. A letter from our association would be helpful in showing support for the report and hopefully getting it reestablished. Scott moved KACAA send a letter to Kansas Agricultural Statistics in support of reestablishing the Bluestem Pasture Report. Motion seconded and carried.

Bill Wood announced that Annual Conference will be October 17-19, 2005 at Manhattan.

Election of officers: Bill Wood talked about the rotation of officers and that Richard Fechter will move to President, Keith VanSlike will move to Secretary/Treasurer and President Elect after the Fall Business Meeting. We need to elect a Vice President. Bob Neier nominated Andrea Burns for Vice President and move everyone up in rotation. Motion seconded and carried.

Bill Wood announced that the Northeast Area Director starting this fall will be Mike Vogt.

Richard Fechter talked about the Southeast Area hosting the Spring Workshop in 2006. The two possible locations are Flint Oak and Independence. He indicated the dates would probably be earlier in April. More information will be given at the Fall Business Meeting.

Bill Wood thanked the Southwest Area agents for hosting the 2005 Spring Workshop and Allen Baker for his good work in taking over the KACAA website.

Gary Gold was recognized for his years of service to Kansas Extension and wished well in his retirement in June 2005.

Bob Frisbie moved KACAA adopt policy that further consolidation of administrative areas needs to be looked at very carefully and proceed slowly and if a committee is developed to look at this issue, KACAA be represented on the committee. Motion seconded and carried. A letter stating this will be sent to administration.

Scholarship raffle drawing was held. There were \$340 in ticket sales. A \$120 gift certificate to Cabelas was won by Kurt Werth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Voting delegates at the 2005 AM/PIC will be Bill Wood, Richard Fechter, and Bob Neier.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was declared adjourned at 11:45 a.m.