

The County Agent



A publication of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents

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



President's Corner

Howdy partners!

Saddle Up for an unforgettable adventure in Dallas, Texas, aka the Big D. This vibrant city seamlessly blends modern sophistication with rich cultural heritage, offering a delicious blend of Lone Star charm and cosmopolitan cool. Dallas boasts an iconic skyline, world-class museums, and legendary hospitality. So, whether you're a history buff, a foodie, or an art aficionado, Dallas has something that will lasso your heart.

Immerse Yourself in the History and Culture by walking in the footsteps of President John F. Kennedy at the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza, reliving the events of that fateful day in 1963. Then, let your imagination soar at the world-renowned Dallas Museum of Art or delve into the wonders of science at the Perot Museum.

Tickle Your Taste Buds, Dallas is a culinary melting pot, from classic Texas barbecue joints to upscale farm-to-table restaurants. Don't forget to savor some Tex-Mex cuisine, a local specialty that combines the best of Texan and Mexican flavors, a local fusion that explodes with flavor.

Sport Fans Catch the Spirit, from the city's beloved teams – the Dallas Cowboys at AT&T Stadium, the Mavericks at the American Airlines Center, or the 2023 World Champions Rangers at the Globe Life Field. Immerse yourself in the electric energy and soak in the passion of Texan sports culture.

Join Our Family, at the NACAA AM/PIC, where it's more than just a conference, it's an opportunity to connect, learn, and grow. Feature presentations will inspire you, professional tours will broaden your horizons, and networking opportunities will forge valuable connections.

Celebrate Your Achievements, many of you will be recognized for your outstanding work with awards and presentations. We're thrilled to celebrate your dedication and learn more about your achievements.

Learn and Grow, even if you're not receiving an award, the conference offers a treasure trove of learning opportunities. Share ideas, exchange best practices, and enhance your expertise – this is your chance to refine your skills and become an even more effective Ag Agent. The conference offers a wealth of learning opportunities. This is your chance to refine your skills and become an even more effective Ag Agent.

Bring the Whole Posse, Dallas offers excitement for the whole family! Our youth will enjoy a VIP guided tour of AT&T Stadium, the home of the Dallas Cowboys, and explore Globe Life Field, where the Texas Rangers clinched the 2023 World Series title.



Professional Improvement Tours on Thursday promise exciting opportunities, and the farewell dinner

*2023-2024 NACAA President
Keith Mickler
From visor to cowboy, only in Texas!*

guarantees a Texas-sized treat. Experience the unforgettable warmth and charm of Texas Ag Agent hospitality as you immerse yourself in the vibrant Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, creating lasting memories.

Don't Miss the Stampede, join the Texas Ag Agents for the 2024 NACAA AM/PIC in Dallas, where big things happen with a big dose of Southern charm. Immerse yourself in the warmth of Texas Ag Agent hospitality, explore the vibrant surroundings, and create lasting memories in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Welcome to the Big D, y'all! - Keith



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President: Keith Mickler

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Welcome to Texas



Jo Smith



Jamie Sugg

2024 AM/PIC Co-Chairs

Welcome to the Lone Star State! As the host state for the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) National Meeting 2024, Texas is thrilled to extend a warm Texan welcome to all attendees. With its rich agricultural heritage, vibrant culture, and renowned hospitality, Texas is the perfect setting for this prestigious gathering of agricultural professionals from across the nation.

****Discover the Heart of Texas Agriculture:****

Texas boasts a diverse agricultural landscape, ranging from vast plains and rolling hills to fertile valleys and bustling urban centers. From the cotton fields of the Panhandle to the citrus groves of the Rio Grande Valley, Texas agriculture encompasses a wide array of crops and livestock, making it a true agricultural powerhouse.

****Experience Texas Hospitality at the Hilton Anatole:****

The iconic Hilton Anatole in Dallas serves as the backdrop for the NACAA National Meeting 2024. Situated in the heart of the city, this luxurious hotel offers unparalleled amenities, world-class dining, and state-of-the-art facilities, ensuring a comfortable and memorable stay for all attendees.

****Engage with Texas County Agents and AgriLife Extension Experts:****

Collaborating with the Texas County Agents Association (TCAAA) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the NACAA National Meeting 2024 provides a unique opportunity to engage with local agricultural experts and extension professionals. From innovative research projects to hands-on demonstrations, Texas county agents and AgriLife Extension specialists are eager to share their knowledge and expertise with fellow attendees.

****Explore the Best of Texas:****

Beyond the meeting sessions and workshops, take some time to explore the best of what Texas has to offer. Whether it's savoring authentic Tex-Mex cuisine, experiencing the vibrant arts scene in downtown Dallas, or embarking on a scenic drive through the Texas Hill Country, there's no shortage of adventures to be had in the Lone Star State.

As you gather in Dallas for the NACAA National Meeting 2024, we invite you to immerse yourself in the rich culture, warm hospitality, and boundless opportunities that Texas has to offer. Whether you're here to learn, network, or simply enjoy the sights and sounds of the Lone Star State, we're thrilled to have you join us for this unforgettable experience. Welcome to Texas!

Thank You - NACAA Sponsors/Donors



Science For A Better Life



2024 AM/PIC Speakers

Sunday, July 14, 2024 -

Opening Ceremony

Welcome to Texas and

Introduction of Keynote speaker:

Dr Rick Avery Texas A&M AgriLife

Extension Director

Rick Avery, Ph.D., is the director of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. As director of the largest Extension agency in the nation, Avery oversees agency programming in agriculture and natural resources, Family and Community Health, 4-H and Youth Development, and Community Economic Development.



Avery has an extensive background in both government relations and in government. Avery's Capitol Hill experience includes serving as an assistant for U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen and U.S. Rep. Greg Laughlin. Most recently he served as deputy director of the Brazos Valley Council of Governments. Avery's career in government also includes serving as county relations officer for the Texas Association of Counties, where he worked with elected and appointed county officials in all 254 Texas counties, providing technical support, continuing education and resource guidance to government operations.

At Texas A&M AgriLife, Avery previously served as AgriLife Extension's V.G. Young Institute director and Extension specialist, to provide continuing education to approximately 1,500 county officials annually through Institute schools. While at V.G. Young, Avery spearheaded curriculum development for the popular Commissioners Court Leadership Academy, a two-year program that enhances the leadership skills of participating court members through advanced training and travel to explore innovations in local, state and federal government.

He also led development of the Commissioners Court Advanced Curriculum, a certification between AgriLife

Extension, the County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas, and the Texas Association of Counties. A native of Needville in Fort Bend County, Avery was active in 4-H, FFA, and athletics. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Austin College and a master's degree in political science and doctoral degree in higher education administration from Texas A&M University.

Keynote speaker: Chancellor John Sharp, Texas A&M University

John Sharp was appointed Chancellor of The Texas A&M University System by the Board of Regents in 2011.



As chancellor, Sharp leads one of the largest systems in the country with an annual budget of \$7.8 billion and an enrollment of more than 153,000 students at 11 System universities. Additionally, under the System umbrella, there are eight state agencies.

Sharp earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Texas A&M University in 1972, where he was a member of the Corps staff of the Corps of Cadets, a member of the 1972 rugby team, and he was elected student body president. Upon graduation, Sharp was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve.

In 2018, Sharp was recognized as a Distinguished Alumnus, an honor given to Aggies who have achieved excellence in their professions and made meaningful contributions to Texas A&M and the communities. It is the college's highest honor awarded to former students.

In 1976, Sharp received a master's degree in public administration from Southwest Texas State University while working full-time with the Legislative Budget Board in Austin. In 1978, he opened a one-man real estate firm in Victoria.

Chancellor Sharp brings with him more than three decades of public service. He was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1978, and in 1982, he won a seat in the Texas Senate. Four years later, he was elected to the Texas Railroad Commission, and he was elected state comptroller in 1990 and re-elected in 1994.

Sharp is married to Diana (Atchison) Sharp. They exchanged vows on May 5, 2023. Between them, they have five adult children and six grandchildren.

Monday, July 15, 2024 - General Session

Welcome to Texas and Introduction of Keynote speaker: Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, Associate Professor & Extension Specialist Agricultural Law

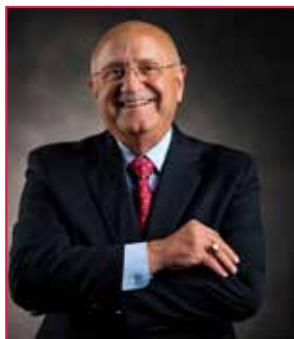
Tiffany Dowell Lashmet is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in Agricultural Law. She is located in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University. Tiffany grew up on a family farm and ranch in Northeastern New Mexico where her family raised sheep, cattle, alfalfa, wheat and milo. Tiffany has a B.S. in Agribusiness Farm and Ranch Management (summa cum laude) from Oklahoma State University and a Juris Doctor (summa cum laude) from the University of New Mexico School of Law. Prior to coming to Texas A&M, she was engaged in private practice, working at a complex litigation firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



Keynote speaker: Dr. Jeffrey W. Savell, Vice Chancellor and Dean for Agricultural and Life Sciences, Texas A&M University

In June 2022, Jeffrey W. Savell, Ph.D., was named by the Board of Regents as the vice chancellor and dean for Agriculture and Life Sciences.

He is a University Distinguished Professor, Regents Professor and E.M. "Manny" Rosenthal Chairholder in the Department of Animal Science at Texas A&M University.



In his long and acclaimed career at Texas A&M, he has taught many thousands of students. He has taught the introductory course in meat science, ANSC 307, teaching over 12,000 Aggies since 1982. He has also taught an undergraduate livestock and meat marketing class, and

a graduate course in carcass composition and quality. He team-teaches a graduate and undergraduate course in the principles of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point, HACCP, and a freshmen class on Texas Barbecue. Savell has chaired or co-chaired over 150 graduate students who have become leaders in academia, industry and government. Recognition of his teaching accomplishments include the Association of Former Students at Texas A&M and the American Meat Science Association.

Savell's research efforts have been recognized by receiving numerous university, regional and national awards for individual and team efforts to solve key issues in the livestock and meat industries. Savell is a past president of the American Meat Science Association, serves on the JBS Advisory Team on Quality and Safety, is a member of the Meat Industry Hall of Fame, and was identified by Stanford University as among the top 2% of most-cited researchers in the world in 2021.

Savell earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Texas A&M in 1975, 1976 and 1978, respectively.

Wednesday, July 17, 2014 - General Session

Julie Fox, Ph.D.: Director of Strategic Initiative and Urban Engagement, Department of Extension, The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural & Environmental Sciences

Fox joined Ohio State in 1998, developing Ohio's direct ag marketing team, and then joined the Ohio State Extension administrative cabinet in 2014. She was one of the first steering committee members for the National Urban Extension Leaders (NUEL) and a member of the Extension Journal Inc. Board of Directors. She is the principal investigator for Ohio State's Urban Ag initiative with the USDA Farm Service Agency. Her background includes working in Africa, Asia, Australia, and Europe. For fun, she managed her 200+ acre tree farm in the rolling hills of southern Ohio.



General Session:

URBAN AG OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXTENSION AGENTS

Expand your perspective on urban ag through an exploration of what we know and what we can do.

See how members of NACAA are uniquely positioned to make Extension and agriculture stronger along the urban-rural continuum.

Administrative Leaders Luncheon

URBAN AG INSIGHTS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERS

Gain insights on into what we know about the urban context of scale, diversity, complexity, and the urban-rural interface. Explore what we can do through urban strategies that focus on positioning, programs, personnel, and partners.

Capstone Speaker: Donnell Brown, RA Brown Ranch

Donnell Brown is the fifth generation to own and manage the R.A. Brown Ranch, a family business since 1895, in Throckmorton, Texas. They raise registered Angus, Red Angus and SimAngus cattle and sell 600 bulls each October.

Donnell is a graduate of Texas Tech University. Prior to that, he served as President of the Texas FFA & as the National FFA President. He has served in a Strategic Planning capacity for four different breed associations as well as the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

He and his wife Kelli are blessed with sons: Tucker, and Lanham. Together they are living their dream of raising cows, kids and Quarter Horses.



Trade Show Sure to Excite!

The Texas County Agricultural Agents Association is looking forward to providing an informative and inspiring display of products and educational materials during your visit to the Lone Star State.



The Trinity Exhibit Hall, which is conveniently located next to the Trinity Ballroom will house the Trade Show starting the afternoon of Sunday, July 14. The Trade Show will be open on Monday, July 15, and concludes the afternoon of Tuesday, July 16.

For more information on the Trade Show, including how to purchase a booth space, please contact Brian Triplett (b-triplett@tamu.edu) or Allen Homann (allen.homann@ag.tamu.edu). See you in Dallas this coming July!

Sunday Welcome Dinner

Enjoy a laid-back Sunday afternoon welcome dinner featuring a Tex Mex Taco Buffet that promises a delightful mix of flavors. Treat yourself to the rich and creamy Chili con Queso, paired with warm tortilla chips for that satisfying crunch.



Explore the light and refreshing Tequila Lime Salad, alongside succulent Beef Barbacoa, flavorful Chicken Tinga, and sizzling Fajita Vegetables. The aromatic Cilantro Rice and hearty Frijoles a la Charra add a comforting touch to your Tex Mex experience.

Add a dash of flavor with accompaniments like vibrant Salsa Verde, fiery Salsa Roja, velvety Sour Cream, creamy Guacamole, and the exquisite Onion Cilantro Relish—all served with wedges of lime for an extra burst of freshness.

Wrap up your Tex Mex feast on a sweet note with delectable Mexican Cinnamon Cookies, bringing a perfect balance to the vibrant and bold flavors that have graced your dinner table.

Welcome to an evening of Tex Mex goodness, where each bite invites you to savor the authentic culinary experience.

Welcome First Timer Attendees

The 2024 NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference (AM/PIC) First Timer Committee and Early Career Development Committee invite you



to attend the 109th NACAA AM/PIC in Dallas, Texas. We are excited about this year's event and confident the program offers considerable learning opportunities to help you be successful in your Extension career. If you are attending the NACAA event for the first time, be sure to attend the First Timer Orientation and First Timer Luncheon.

The First Timer Orientation will be held on Sunday afternoon, July 14, beginning at 3:00 p.m. and is designed to help you meet and get to know each other as well as to answer any questions about the AM/PIC. It will also help you learn more about NACAA and the wide variety of opportunities that NACAA has to offer to help you build your career in Extension.

The First Timer Luncheon is scheduled for Monday, July 15, at 11:45 a.m. Here you will have the opportunity to mix and mingle with fellow first timers from around the country and hear from 2021 NACAA President J Craig Williams (Pennsylvania) and current Professional Improvement Council chair Sherry Beaty-Sullivan (Arkansas).

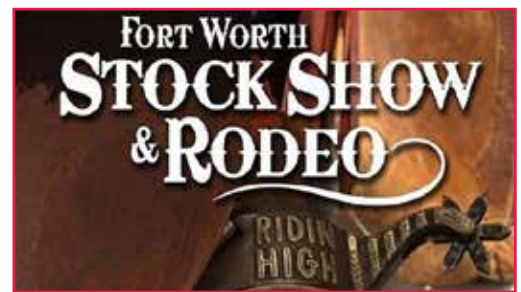
If you have specific questions about Dallas or any of the events that are planned, please contact Sierra Stephens (sierra.stephens@ag.tamu.edu) or Gary Roschetzky (gary.roschetzky@ag.tamu.edu). We hope to make your first AM/PIC a great experience and we are here to help in any way we can!

Monday Texas Dinner/NACAA Scholarship Auction

Join us for an unforgettable evening of Texas hospitality at the Welcome To Texas Dinner, taking place on Monday, July 15, at the iconic Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo grounds.

Indulge in a Texas-style feast featuring delectable home cooked dishes meticulously prepared by our very own Texas Agents. Arrive with an appetite and leave fully satisfied

as you savor our hearty fare. Don't miss the opportunity to gather your state association for the traditional state picture.



The excitement doesn't stop with dinner! Stick around for our thrilling auction, where you can bid on a diverse array of items in both the Silent and Live Auctions. Whether you're seeking a unique souvenir or a special gift, the NACAA Scholarship auction has something for everyone. Bring both your appetite and your wallet for a night of fun and fundraising!

For those opting out of the auction, worry not. Bus transportation will be provided back to the Hilton Anatole. However, make sure not to leave until your state has had its picture taken.

Please be aware that attendees are strongly encouraged to utilize our bus transportation to access the event. While private parking is available for a fee, be prepared for some walking if you choose to drive yourself.

Get ready to experience an evening of Texas charm and entertainment at the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo's Welcome To Texas Dinner!

Tuesday States Night Out

In homage to the revered NACAA tradition, we are delighted to announce the upcoming States Night Out scheduled for Tuesday evening. In the genuine spirit of camaraderie, we extend a heartfelt invitation to each state association to fully immerse themselves in the dynamic culinary scene of Dallas. Take your time to relish the evening, devoted to fostering the strong bonds within our state associations.

May your States Night Out unfold as an indulgent exploration of the finest Texas dining, creating an atmosphere of both joy and unity. We extend our heartfelt wishes for an unforgettable evening, brimming with the distinctive flavors and warm hospitality that epitomize the Texan dining experience. Here's to a night etched in camaraderie, laughter, and the shared pleasure of savoring the best that Texas has to offer.

Distinguished Service Awards Banquet

The annual awards banquet on Wednesday, July 17, will commemorate the enduring work of our Achievement Award and Distinguished Service Award winners. We want to show the gratitude and value that these agents have in their communities, counties, and their state as well as recognizing our national board for their dedication and reveal what is planned for 2025 in Montana. One of our smooth voice county agents will provide us with his acoustic guitar before the ceremony starts. Dinner will feature braised beef short rib to keep with the theme of Texas and our roots in the beef cattle industry.



Educational Breakfast/Luncheon Opportunities

Crop Protection Innovation - Where Does it Begin?

Educational Breakfast sponsored by Bayer CropScience
Monday - July 15
6:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.

Bayer Crop Science is a committed leader in delivering innovative solutions that combine genetics, traits, crop protection chemistries, agronomic recommendations & digital solutions to help our customers manage risk, drive profitability, and deliver food for a growing global population. Our unmatched innovation pipeline is set to drive growth, with more new product launches in the next 10 years across crops, than we've done in the previous 20 years. Today's presentation will highlight Bayer's innovation with a special focus on the early Crop Protection pipeline. Learn how the new process focusses on Profile-driven discovery, how we create entirely new modes of action, how the product solutions developed must be designed for safety and with a strong sustainability criteria, all while utilizing integrated and data-driven systems.



Science For A Better Life

Presenter:

Dr. Jim Hruskoci has been with Bayer CropScience for 10 years, serving as the Technical Service Scientist for the Southern San Joaquin Valley of California. He works with all of the crops

grown in the southern San Joaquin Valley, including Citrus, grapes, tree nuts, tomatoes, cotton, and assorted other fruit, vegetable and broad acre crops.

Prior to this position he was the Technical Service Horticulturist over the western United States for Scotts Miracle-Gro based in Orange County, CA. This follows a 28 year career with Cooperative Extension where his focus was on the broad acre and major horticulture crops. Jim received his B.S., and M.S. degrees in Horticulture and Agronomy from Iowa State University, and his Ph.D from the University of Nebraska.

Latest Trends in Animal Health
Educational Lunch sponsored by Merck Animal Health
Monday - July 15
11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Merck Animal Health produces pharmaceuticals for beef, dairy, equine, swine, goats, poultry, fish, cats and dogs.



Join a representative from Merck Animal Health to learn more about the latest trends and research based initiatives in Animal Health. More information will be posted online with the specific subject matter in the very near future.

Seating is limited to 100 participants.

Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance
Educational Lunch sponsored by Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance
Wednesday - July 17
11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

The Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance (PASA) consists of a team of pipeline operators working in collaboration with NACAA members to help protect the agricultural community, our nation's buried infrastructure, and the environment through safe digging education.



Farming is one of the 10 most dangerous jobs in America. By working with PASA you can help your clients avoid the grievous injury, environmental destruction, and financial ruin that would result from a serious pipeline incident. Hear how agents are already making a difference and learn how you can get involved. For more information on PASA, visit PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com.

Seating is limited to 200 participants.

Additional Luncheon Opportunities

Monday, July 15, 2024 (11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

- Search For Excellence in Crop Production
- Search For Excellence in 4-H & Youth Programming
- Ag Awareness & Appreciation Award Luncheon
- First Timer Luncheon

Tuesday, July 16, 2024 (11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

- Search For Excellence in Consumer or Commercial Horticulture
- Search For Excellence in Livestock Production Luncheon
- Search For Excellence in Young Beginning & Small Farmers Luncheon
- Search For Excellence in Farm and Ranch Business Management

Wednesday, July 17, 2024 (11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

- Search For Excellence in Sustainable Agriculture
- Search For Excellence in Forestry and Natural Resources

Thursday - Tour Day Y'all Come Back Dinner

Join us at the Y'all Come Back Dinner, hosted by the State Fair of Texas! Come together at the Big Tex Complex on the fairgrounds for an unforgettable evening immersed in Southern hospitality.

While Big Tex himself may not be in attendance, his essence of warmth and welcome will be all around! Indulge in a mouth-watering meal expertly prepared by our Texas Agents, ensuring you leave with both a fully satisfied appetite and a heart brimming with Texan hospitality.

Whether you're a first-timer, a visitor, or a returning guest, we extend a warm invitation for you to feel right at home. Come back anytime, y'all – the door is always open!

Transportation will be provided from the Anatole hotel to the Y'all Come Back Dinner. Tours will complete their day at the State Fair Grounds. Buses will return guests to the Anatole on a rotating schedule for the evening.



Registration now open at: urbanfoodsystemssymposium.org

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Travel and Transportation Tips!

***Travelling to Hilton Anatole from the Airport:**

Please note –

Hilton Anatole does NOT provide shuttle service

1. **Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW)**:

- Distance: Approximately 18 miles northwest of the Hilton Anatole.
- Transportation Options:
 - Taxi: Taxis are readily available outside the terminals. Expect a fare of around \$45-\$60, depending on traffic and time of day.
 - Ride-Sharing: Services like Uber and Lyft operate from the airport. Fares may vary but typically range from \$30-\$40.
 - Shuttle Service: Various shuttle companies offer shared or private rides to hotels in the area. Prices vary, so it's advisable to book in advance.

2. **Dallas Love Field Airport (DAL)**: RECOMMENDED

- Distance: Approximately 5 miles northeast of the Hilton Anatole.
- Transportation Options:
 - Taxi: Taxis are available outside the terminals. The fare to the Hilton Anatole is around \$15-\$20.
 - Ride-Sharing: Uber and Lyft operate from Love Field. Fares are generally \$15-\$25.
 - Shuttle Service: Some shuttle companies provide transportation to downtown hotels. Prices vary.

Rental Car Options:

1. **Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW)**:

- Rental Car Companies: All major rental car companies have counters at DFW Airport. These include Hertz, Avis, Enterprise, Budget, and more.
- Location: Rental car facilities are located adjacent to each terminal. Shuttle buses provide transportation to the rental car center.
- Booking: It's advisable to book your rental car in advance to ensure availability and secure the best rates.

2. **Dallas Love Field Airport (DAL)**:

- Rental Car Companies: Similar to DFW Airport, Love Field hosts major rental car companies like Hertz, Avis, Enterprise, Budget, etc.
- Location: Rental car counters are situated near baggage claim in the terminal. The rental car lot is within walking distance from the terminal.
- Advance Booking: As with DFW, booking your rental car ahead of time is recommended to guarantee availability and favorable pricing.

Parking at the Hilton Anatole:

The Hilton Anatole offers both self-parking and valet parking options for guests and visitors:

1. **Self-Parking**:

- Cost: Prices vary depending on the duration of parking.
- Location: The hotel has a dedicated parking garage for self-parking.
- Payment: Guests can pay for parking at kiosks located within the garage or at the hotel's front desk. The contracted parking rate for NACAA is \$11.00/day

2. **Valet Parking**:

- Cost: Valet parking rates are typically higher than self-parking.
- Convenience: Guests can drop off their vehicles at the hotel's main entrance for valet service.
- Payment: Valet charges are added to the hotel bill and settled upon checkout. The contracted parking rate for NACAA is \$25.00/day

It's advisable to check with the Hilton Anatole directly or their website for the most current parking policies.



2024 Pre-Tour Opportunities

Sustainable Ag Pre-Tour



The Sustainable Agriculture Committee has an exciting Pre-Tour planned thanks to support from SARE. **Participant cost is \$100/person.** Lodging is not included - and will be the responsibility of each participant. Please see below for the tentative schedule and note which meals are “on your own”.

Friday morning (July 12, 2024)

(Shuttle from Hilton Anatole AM/PIC Hotel)

8:30 am depart hotel with boxed breakfast

9:00-9:45 am Mockingbird Elementary School Garden (5828 East Mocking Bird Lane Dallas, TX)

- located at Mockingbird Elementary in East Dallas, started as a way to teach children about plants. Today the plot reaches over 20,000 square feet of student grown vegetables, native plant species, a chicken coop, and a greenhouse. The garden acts as a key educational tool for science, community, and gives children a connection to nature. Each year, over 540 students plant and harvest crops – cultivating knowledge, skills, and an understanding of the natural world.

10:15 -11:00 am Eden’s Garden CSA Farm (4710 Pioneer Rd. Balch Springs, TX 75180)

- Just outside downtown Dallas, offers pesticide-free, sustainably raised produce, which Eden farmers call “real food, grown with integrity.” Eden’s farm operations include a Market Day in which visitors can see the farm first hand, an off-site farmer’s market, a CSA program, Dallas area restaurant sales, a separate charitable outreach/community garden, and even provide educational and eco-farm tour programs.

11:30 – 1:15 Paul Quinn WE/Me Farm (Paul Quinn College, 3837 Simpson Stuart Rd, Dallas, TX 75241)

- Began in 2010 when Paul Quinn College converted its football field into an organic farm in order to create a new kind of team. A team that tackles food injustice and insecurity by growing and sharing food within the community. The concept for a farm came when the school learned they were living in a federally recognized food desert. Now We Over Me Farm provides hands-on educational experiences to promote healthy eating, improved food access, and environmental stewardship. Students actively engage in all farm activities, from business planning to marketing, and thus serve as a model of socially and environmentally driven servant leadership and entrepreneurship. The team even has a mascot, Spike The Touchdown Tomato.

Heart of Texas Economic Development Tour

Join us for a one-day adventure through McLennan County agriculture and the City of Waco in the heart of Texas. Along the way, we’ll meet good people who’ll share their passion for economic development and show us around their neighborhoods and farms. David and Jodi Jackson will treat us to a tour of their Bentwood Dairy and Brangus farm. The family is proud of being able to make a living while doing what they love to do and producing products people enjoy. We’ll savor lunch at the iconic Tony DeMaria’s BBQ restaurant. Jimmy and Janet Dorrell devoted their lives to lifting people out of poverty and founded Mission Waco. We’ll visit Emily Hills who’ll share the mission’s history and show us around the greenhouse, grocery and café. Next, you’ll cool off with an indoor



visit to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum. Then we’ll explore The Silos at Magnolia, which was developed by Chip and Joanna Gaines, of ‘Fixer Upper’ fame. The Gaines’ attended Baylor University and centered their business and family in Waco. A short drive south will take us to Curtis and Mary Timmons Country Spring Vineyards. The couple planted 3,000 vines themselves and turned a wine making hobby into a thriving sunsetter business. **The tour cost \$50 and is limited to 30 people.** Passenger van transportation is provided. We’ll depart from the Hilton Anatole on **Saturday, July 13 at 7:30 am and return at 8:30 pm.** Be prepared for hot outdoor weather.

2:30 – 3:30 pm Pastured Steps Family Farm (Purdon, TX)

- Founded on January 1, 2019, Pastured Steps Family Farm is a small family-run venture located just a quick 35-minute drive south of Fort Worth and Dallas. Our primary focus revolves around regenerative farming practices, emphasizing natural soil enrichment and the promotion of biodiversity. Our overarching goal is to enhance both animal health and habitat. At Pastured Steps Family Farm, we take pride in raising Belted Galloway cattle that have access to free-choice minerals and salt supplements. Additionally, our poultry products boast the Non-GMO Project Verification, and rigorous testing ensures they are free from harmful chemicals like herbicides. Count on us for clean, high-quality products, free from industrial contaminants, as we continue to uphold our commitment to excellence in farming.

5:00 pm return to Hilton Anatole (Dinner on your own)

Saturday morning (July 13th, 2024):

8:30 am depart hotel with boxed breakfast

10:00 – 11:00 am Born and Raised/ Legends Cattle Co.

- Legends Cattle Co. was started in 2000 by accountant Todd Garrett. Todd was fascinated by the data and knew he could drive improvement of anything he measured. In 2021 his son Colton joined the business with a new vision. With people becoming more food conscious and wanting to know exactly where their food comes from, he decided to embark on a mission to bring farm-raised grass-fed beef directly from farm-to-table. Born & Raised was founded on the belief that consumers should eat local, grass-fed beef that lived a health and free life.

11:40 – 1:40 am Promise of Peace Community Gardens (Mineola Nature Preserve, Mineola, TX)

- A nonprofit organization that creates neighborhood and school food gardens while providing nutritional and environmental educational opportunities for children and their families. Promise of Peace feeds, connects, and empowers local communities.

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm Greer Farm (1444 Co Rd 1125, Daingerfield, TX 75638)

- Our farm has been in continuous operation since the first Anglo settlers arrived in this part of Texas in the mid-1840s. We purchased the farm in 1979 and are the third owners. Our goal is to be a Center of Excellence in Sustainable Agriculture, demonstrating that a family farm can be profitable, practice environmental stewardship, and produce a stable food supply and timber in perpetuity without degrading the natural resources that support the production processes.

6:15 pm – 7:00 pm Kelly Family Farm Burger Stand for dinner (1989 W Lucas Road in Parker TX)

- Our family works together daily to care for the land and cattle that God has given us in Collin County. We strive to provide the healthiest, quality beef possible. Family is important to us, and we pray that our farm will be a small part of bringing other families together around the dinner table.

7:00 pm Arrive Hilton Anatole

Horticulture Pre-Tour

The National Horticulture and Turfgrass Committee welcomes you to join the 2024 Horticulture and Turfgrass Pre-tour highlighting the Dallas area sponsored by Bayer Crop Science and the NACAA Horticulture and Turfgrass Committee. The tour will begin on Friday, July 12 from the Hilton Anatole transported by bus to McKinney, Texas. Our first stop is the McKinney Crape Myrtle World Collection Park home to many varieties of crape myrtles in the World. There will be a speaker on crape myrtle bark scale management. Then we will board the bus to drive to The Star, the World Headquarters of the Dallas Cowboys training and practice facility. We will walk to lunch then back to participate in The Star Tour where we will learn more about the Cowboys and their turf complex. After the tour we will visit Allen Heritage Village where Master Gardeners use Earth-Kind landscaping practices to keep the site looking gorgeous even in the summer heat. Enjoy an evening meal prior to returning to the hotel.

Saturday, July 13 we will load the bus to go to North Haven Garden Center started in 1951 as a small nursery, growing to a landscape firm, then selling retail plants. Lunch will be at their cafe. We then will go to the Dallas



Arboretum and Botanical Garden. We will have a guided tour and time on your own to explore the lovely landscape. Then it is off to Fair Park which is a three in one experience that includes Fair Park, Texas Discovery Gardens, and Big Tex Urban Farms. Texas Discovery Gardens is organically maintained urban oasis filled with natural wonders boasting lush plant trails and exotic butterfly and insect populations. We will have dinner before returning to the hotel.

Sunday, July 14 will offer an optional informal gathering in the hotel lobby to take public transportation to the Dallas Farmers Market for brunch and time to shop the market. You can

spend as much or as little time as you like and return to the hotel.

The registration cost is \$100 per person which includes tours, lunch, and dinner on Friday and Saturday. Overnight lodging is at the Hilton Anatole (the Conference Hotel). Tour participants are responsible for making sure to book extra nights at the Conference Hotel. The cost of lodging is not included in the registration fee. If you are looking for a roommate please indicate that when you register for the conference.

For additional information please join us for our Horticulture Pre-tour 365 Webinar on Wednesday, April 10, 1 pm EST or contact, Cyndi Lauderdale, NACAA Horticulture and Turfgrass Committee chair at cklauder@ncsu.edu.

Be sure to bring sturdy closed-toe shoes, a hat, bug spray, and sunscreen.

Tour stops are subject to change. This tour uses a non-accessible bus, some sites are accessible only by stairs, and tour stops require excessive walking on uneven surfaces.

Animal Science Pre-Tour

Friday, July 12 – Saturday, July 13

Participant cost \$150/person (family members welcome - but each will incur a registration fee for this event).

The 2024 NACAA Animal Science Pre-conference tour will be held on Friday, July 12, 2024 – Saturday, July 13, 2024. This year's tour will take an in-depth look at the immense animal agriculture in the panhandle of Texas. For all of you George Strait fans, haven't you always wanted to see "Amarillo by Morning"? Here's your chance.

The tour will begin in Amarillo, Friday morning and proceed through Lubbock, Texas and down to Dallas, ending at the Hotel Anatole Saturday night (AM/PIC Conference location). **Tour participants will need to fly/travel to Amarillo Thursday, where they will spend the night in the Tru by Hilton Amarillo West.**

Friday, July 12th

Hot breakfast will be provided by Tru Hotel.

Tour Stops:

We will board vans in front of the hotel at 7:00 am.

- #1- Livestock Auction – We will tour this large new sale barn just outside of Amarillo.
- #2- 35,000 head feedlot – Herford, TX
- #3- Lunch - Dakota Steak House – Herford, TX -
- #4- 20,000 head dairy – West of Herford, TX

- #5- Tour and dinner at the National Ranching Heritage Center – Lubbock, TX
- #6- Check into LaQuinta Inn and Suites by Windham, in Lubbock, TX

Saturday, July 13th

Free hot breakfast provided by hotel

Tour Stops:

We will board vans in front of the hotel at 7:00 a.m.

- #7- 6666 Ranch – Legendary American Quarter Horses and black Angus Cattle – Guthrie, TX
- #8- R.A. Brown Ranch – Progressive Family Angus Ranch, Over 1000 head of seed stock cows – Throckmorton, TX
- #9- Lunch, Chuck Wagon Dinner from the Wagon – ribeye steaks and entertainment – Flying Ranch Resort – Bandera TX
- #10- Visit modern Texas Hair Sheep operation.
- #11- Vans will drop everyone off at the Hotel Anatole – Dallas, TX, in time for supper.

Room reservations are the responsibility of each participant. A block of rooms are on hold at the True by Hilton Amarillo West. For reservations click on the following link.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=AMATXRU&groupCode=NACAA&arrivaldate=2024-07-11&departuredate=2024-07-12&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

to reserve a room in the NACAA tour block before **June 11th**, rooms will be \$107 plus tax.

Friday evening will be at the LaQuinta Inn and suites by Windham, Lubbock West Medical Center, at a rate of \$85 plus tax. Call **800-753-3757**, ask for NACAA block of Rooms. Reference Itinerary #513B43616850325 before **June 11, 2024**.

Thanks to the sponsorship from Livestock Marketing Association, NACAA, and Texas SARE. **Registration will be \$150/person** which includes lunch and dinner on Friday, and Chuck wagon dinner on Saturday, snacks on the van, plus van transportation. Thursday evening hotel and Friday hotel are the responsibility of each participant.

If you choose to fly into Dallas rather than Amarillo, two vans will be provided and will be leaving Dallas at noon on Thursday, July 11th, driving directly to Amarillo for the pre-tour on Friday morning. If you choose this option, please contact Mark Nelson before July 1, 2024.

For more information on the pre-tour contact Mark Nelson at mark.nelson@usu.edu, or 435-438-6451.

2024 Super Seminar Opportunities

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

1:30 pm - 4:30 pm (Concurrently)

Reading The Farm – Sustainable Ag Committee (Supported by SARE)

Reading the Farm is a program designed to help Extension agents and other agriculture service providers use a team approach to understand farms as holistic systems better. Addressing a farm's economic, environmental, and social components assists farmers who want to improve the sustainability of their operations. This super seminar will provide a program overview of the farm we plan to visit. On tour day, we will meet the farmers, learn more about their farming operation, and share our observations and ideas with the farmers.



Space is limited to 50 people, and pre-registration for the super seminar and the professional improvement tour on Thursday is required.

A Changing Way of Life: Ambiguous loss and farming Facilitator Training

– Emily Krekelberg, Minnesota

A Changing Way of Life: Ambiguous loss and farming is a workbook from University of Minnesota Extension to help farm families understand and name ambiguous loss, and to provide strategies for moving forward. Designed for Extension educators, public health administrators, social workers, clergy and others who have an interest in helping farm families. This is an interactive workbook that includes questions and activities along the way to increase understanding.

The A Changing Way of Life: Ambiguous loss and farming curriculum includes educational presentations, discussion topics, and additional activities to engage farm families with the workbook more intentionally. In this 4-hour training, participants will learn about ambiguous loss theory, applications to farming and agriculture, resilience strategies, and application of the program as outreach. Participants will experience the curriculum first-hand and leave prepared to offer this curriculum as a part of their Extension work. The training is intended for Extension professionals that work primarily with agriculture and/or family development topics. All participants will receive a workbook and access to the online curriculum suite.

- a. Participants will be able to:
 - i. Identify stressors and crises that are disrupting farm families' life and impacting their well-being.
 - ii. Determine resources that are available to begin addressing disruptions.
 - iii. Describe the physical and psychological losses that farm families experience.
 - iv. Distinguish between the losses that are clear cut and those that are ambiguous.
 - v. Help families find ways to shift gears after an ambiguous loss related to farming.
 - vi. Understand the six areas of resilience strategies and identify which to utilize when.
- b. This work is supported by Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Program award no. 2021-700035-35461 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. All related expenses for this Super Seminar including instructor registration, expenses, travel, lodging, and supplies will be covered by the grant, at no expense to NACAA.

Dealing with Drought in Gardens and Landscapes

Intended audience: All Extension faculty and staff who work with Master Gardeners, the nursery/landscape industry, or homeowners who have questions about avoiding damage from drought in gardens and landscapes.

This seminar will be organized as a panel presentation. There will be a Bartlett's representative, a local researcher from TAMU (to be arranged pending approval) who is familiar with landscape mulches, and an urban horticulture specialist (Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott) who is familiar with science-based approaches to avoiding damage from drought in landscapes and gardens.

Each panelist will provide a short introduction to themselves, their work, and their interest in managing landscapes and gardens for drought resiliency. The panel will then take questions from the attendees, allowing each panelist to weigh in as desired. Attendees will learn what management approaches will help prepare landscape plants for drought stress, and what popular practices and products should be avoided.

Thank you to Bartlett Tree Labs for sponsoring this super seminar.

Introduction to Beekeeping for the Cooperative Extension Agent

Fielder, J. Keith, University of Georgia; Vu, Amy Trang, University of Florida; Bammer, Mary, University of Florida; Heck, Ana, Michigan State University

Interest in beekeeping has surged in recent years due to the demand for locally produced foods and increased pollination needs. Technological advances in controlling honey bee diseases and parasites, along with changes in beekeeping methods, have contributed to this trend. Extension agents are facing a dilemma as client inquiries about beekeeping have risen, but only a few agents are well-versed in apicultural matters. Budget constraints have led many land grant universities to reduce extension apicultural programs, creating a gap in information dissemination. The Super Seminar aims to address this by providing a two-hour, four-part framework of basic working information for extension agents with little to no beekeeping knowledge, helping them respond to client requests with research-based information.

Duration: 2 hours

Section One: Rules, Regulations, and Resources

- Overview of state and local regulations related to beekeeping.
- Regulations on bee commerce and trade.
- Identification of resources available for beekeepers (government agencies, local organizations, online platforms, etc.).
- Guidance on accessing and utilizing these resources effectively.

Section Two: Honey Bee Biology

- Basics of honey bee biology: lifecycle, roles within the colony, behavior, and communication.
- Importance of understanding honey bee biology for effective beekeeping practices.
- Discussion on nutrition needs of honey bees and its impact on colony health.

Section Three: Agent Engagement and Common Questions

- Strategies for building relationships with local beekeepers and beekeeping associations.
- Importance of networking and leveraging local expertise.
- Most common questions asked by new beekeepers and how to address them effectively.

Section Four: Advanced Beekeeping Topics

- Challenges faced by beekeepers in the second year and beyond.

- Introduction to managing mite infestations and understanding veterinary drugs for honey bees.
- Overview of new technologies and vaccinations in the beekeeping industry.
- Importance of queen bee management for colony success and productivity.

Each section will involve a combination of presentations, interactive discussions, and Q&A sessions to ensure engagement and understanding among the participants. Handouts and resources will be provided for further reference. Additionally, practical demonstrations or videos may be incorporated to enhance learning where applicable.

Intended Audience: New/early career Extension folks, and those of us who are still learning and want to gain more information and experience with obtaining grant funding. Our Super Seminar would focus on: Getting the Idea, Developing the Plan, Funding the Project, and Reporting Impacts and Results.

How to Obtain Grant Funding

Project/Research Idea Development

Understand how to identify a problem, brainstorm ideas for solutions, and develop the necessary outputs to achieve the desired outcomes (solving the problem/delivering impacts)

Identifying Grant Opportunities

Understand where to look for grants relevant to the project or issue you are trying to address

Writing the Grant

Understand how to read a call for proposals/RFA, how to find collaborators, and how to effectively structure a grant proposal narrative

Evaluation

Understand basic evaluation methods and resources

Panel: Experienced Grant Writers

Understand nuances of grant writing: how to write for what the funders are looking for, how to make proposals easy to read, how to navigate University requirements, and other topics that vary among discipline/state/project type.

Speakers would be NACAA members experienced in obtaining funding as well as grant funding agency speaker(s) if available (SARE, USDA NIFA, etc). The panelists will be extension personnel who represent a variety of backgrounds in successfully obtaining funding.

109th Annual Meeting/Professional Improvement Conference

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JULY 12

8:00 am – Pre-Conference Tours
 8:00 am – 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting

SATURDAY, JULY 13

8:00 am – Pre-Conference Tours
 8:00 am – 5:00 pm NACAA Board Meeting
 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm Registration
 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm Scholarship auction item drop off
 6:30 pm Texas Meeting

SUNDAY, JULY 14

8:00 am – 7:00 pm Registration
 8:00 am – 7:00 pm Scholarship auction item drop off
 8:00 am – 10:00 am NACAA Board Meeting (if needed)
 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Life Member/Spouses Hospitality
 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Commercial Exhibits & NACAA Educational Exhibits, Poster Set Up
 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Scholarship Selection Committee
 10:00 am – Noon Regional Directors/Vice Directors Meeting
 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Past National Board Luncheon
 1:00 pm – 6:30 pm Commercial Exhibit Trade Show and NACAA Poster Session Display
 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm State Officers Workshop
 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm Life and Spouse Member Welcome and Orientation
 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm First Lady's Reception (by invitation)
 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm NACAA Educational Foundation Annual Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting
 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Break (Exhibit Hall)
 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm First Timer Orientation and Reception
 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Welcome to Texas Dinner (Tickets Required)
 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm State President Rehearsal for Flag Ceremony
 6:00 pm – 6:15 pm National Leadership Rehearsal
 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm Parents Orientation for Sons and Daughters Program
 7:00 pm – 8:45 pm Opening Session
 9:15 pm Hospitality Rooms

MONDAY, JULY 15

6:30 am – 5:00 pm Life Member/Spouse Hospitality
 6:30 am – 7:45 am Voting Delegates Breakfast (invite only)
 6:30 am – 7:45 am Bayer CropScience Breakfast (Tickets Required)
 7:30 am - 8:30 am Life Member Breakfast (Life Members Only)
 8:00 am – noon Scholarship auction item drop off
 8:00 am – 5:00 pm Registration
 8:00 am – noon NACAA Poster Judging
 8:00 am – 10:15 am General Session
 9:00 am – 11:00 am Life/Spouse Workshops?
 9:00 am – 4:30 pm Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits Open
 10:15 am – 10:30 am Break
 10:15 am – 10:45 am Meet the Authors Poster Session
 10:30 am – 11:45 am Life Members Business Meeting
 11:45 am – 1:15 pm Agriculture Awareness & Appreciation Award Luncheon (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am – 1:15 pm First Time Attendee Luncheon (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am – 1:15 pm Professional Improvement and Search for Excellence Luncheons: 4-H, Crop Production (Tickets Required)
 11:45 am – 1:15 pm Merck Educational Luncheon Seminar (Tickets Required)
 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm Spouse Luncheon (Spouses Only)
 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm Committee Oral Presentations
 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm Trade Talk Sponsor Sessions
 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm Life/Spouse Activities (offsite)
 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Life/Spouse Workshops
 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm Break (Exhibit Hall)
 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm Regional Meetings and Candidate Presentations
 5:00 pm Load buses for Ft Worth Stock Show and Rodeo/State Pictures
 6:30 pm Welcome to Texas Dinner/Silent Auction and Live Auction Preview
 7:30 pm Live Auction
 9:00 pm Load buses for return to Hilton Anatole
 9:30 pm Hospitality Rooms
 10:00 pm Texas Meeting

TUESDAY, JULY 16

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| 6:30 am – 5:00 pm | Life Member/Spouse Hospitality (light breakfast items and snacks available) |
| 7:00 am – 8:15 am | Achievement Award Recognition Breakfast (invite only) |
| 7:00 am – 5:00 pm | Life/Spouse Activities (Tours) |
| 8:00 am – 2:00 pm | Registration |
| 8:30 am – 11:30 am | Delegate Session |
| 8:30 am – 11:30 am | Committee Oral Presentations: |
| 9:00 am – 3:30 pm | Commercial and NACAA Educational Exhibits Open |
| 9:00 am – 3:30 pm | NACAA Poster Session Open |
| 9:30 am – 11:00 am | Life/Spouse Workshops |
| 10:00 am – 10:30 am | Break |
| 11:45 am – 1:15 pm | Communication/Poster Awards Luncheon (invite only) |
| 11:45 am – 1:15 pm | Search for Excellence Luncheons: Livestock Production, Young, Beginning or Small Farms/ Rancher, Consumer or Commercial Horticulture, Farm and Ranch Business Management (Tickets Required) |
| 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm | Committee Oral Presentations |
| 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm | Leadership Academy |
| 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Life/Spouse Workshops? |
| 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm | Break |
| 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm | Commercial Exhibits close |
| 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm | VIP/Donor Reception (invite only) |
| 6:00 pm | State Night Out |
| 10:00 pm | Texas Meeting |

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 6:30 am – 5:00 pm | Life Member/Spouse Hospitality |
| 6:30 am – 8:00 am | National Committee Members: Breakfast Recognition of Retiring Chairs, Vice Chairs and Special Assignments |
| 8:00 am – 2:00 pm | Registration |
| 8:30 am – 10:00 am | NACAA Policy Meeting |
| 8:30 am – 10:15 am | General Session |
| 9:00 am – 1:30 pm | Life/Spouse Activities (Offsite) |
| 10:15 am – 10:30 am | Break |
| 10:30 am – 11:45 am | Committee Oral Presentations |
| 11:45 am – 1:15 pm | Search For Excellence Luncheons: Forestry/Natural Resources, Sustainable Agriculture (Tickets Required) |

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|--------------------|---|
| 11:45 am – 1:15 pm | Ag Pipeline Alliance Luncheon – (Tickets Required) |
| 11:45 am – 3:00 pm | Administrative Leaders Luncheon and Program (for Extension Directors, Program Leaders with statewide responsibilities) (Tickets Required) |
| 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm | ARPAS Testing |
| 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Super Seminars #1 - Reading the Farm (Sustainable Ag) #2 - A Changing Way of Life: Ambiguous loss and farming Facilitator Training #3- Dealing with Drought in Gardens and Landscapes #4 - Introduction to Beekeeping for the Cooperative Extension Agent #5 - How to Obtain Grant Funding |
| 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm | Committee Oral Presentations |
| 2:00 pm – 3:45 pm | Life/Spouse Workshops |
| 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm | Break |
| 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm | Formal Picture Opportunity |
| 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm | DSA & AA Recipients, Hall of Fame Recipients, NACAA Board Members, Region Directors, Past Officers, Special Assignments, Special Guests, Council Chairs, Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs Assemble for Banquet |
| 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm | Annual Banquet (Tickets Required) |
| 9:15 pm – 11:00 pm | President's Reception |
| 10:00 pm | Texas Meeting |

THURSDAY, JULY 18

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| Tour Day (On-site registration closed) | |
| 6:00 am – 8:45 am | Breakfast (Tickets Required) |
| 6:00 am – 9:00 am | Assemble for Professional Improvement Tours |
| 6:30 am – 6:00 pm | Professional Improvement Tours (Tickets Required) |
| 4:45 pm | Shuttle buses leave hotel for Texas Farewell Dinner for non-tour participants. |
| 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm | Post Tour Dinner at State Fair of Texas |
| 10:00 pm | Texas Meeting |

FRIDAY, JULY 19

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|-------------------|---------------------|
| 8:00 am – 5:00 pm | NACAA Board Meeting |
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2024 NACAA AM/PIC Professional Improvement Tours

Expect light walking on all tours, and potentially sunny and humid/hot conditions. Insect repellent is recommended. Water and snacks will be provided on all buses.

Tour 1: Texas History Through Wine and Whiskey

21+ years of age Required

-Not able to accommodate limited mobility due to walking vineyard and warehouses

-Hidden Hanger Winery: Dennison, TX
-Iron Root Republic Distillery: Dennison, TX

Step into a unique Texan journey as we invite you to uncover the rich history of Hidden Hangar, one of Texas' prestigious estate wineries, paying tribute to the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). Nestled within an expansive 50-acre area of North Texas, this hidden gem boasts a fascinating past as it was once a bustling airport and the home of the Barnstormers from 1928 to the 1950s.



Notably, Hidden Hangar stands as one of the rare eight American Viticultural Areas in the state of Texas, and its claim to fame is its "homegrown" grapes, meticulously nurtured in the vineyards on the estate. These vineyards are a harmonious haven for a rich array of grape varieties including Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Petite Verdot, Riesling, and Syrah. These grapes have consistently crafted award-winning wines over the years.

Prepare to delve deep into the history of this remarkable property, intertwined with the tales of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, while savoring the true essence of Texas in the form of wines crafted with love and expertise. The tour offers a chance to sip and savor the distinctive flavors that tell the story of this exceptional place.

Following this immersive winery experience, we'll journey to Iron Root Republic Distillery in Denison, Texas, aptly named after viticulturist and Denison native, T.V. Munson. Munson's indomitable "iron" rootstock played a



pivotal role in saving the French wine industry. At Iron Root Republic Distillery, high-quality heirloom corn from local farmers becomes the heart and soul of their craft spirits, capturing the genuine spirit of Texas. The Likarish brothers, having honed their craft over two years of international training, return to their Texan roots, blending local heirloom grains with French-inspired techniques to create one-of-a-kind spirits. This visit promises a unique tasting experience that marries tradition and innovation.

Tour 2: Explore Wildlife and Fisheries of East Texas

Gus Engeling WMA: Colony, TX
-Texas Freshwater Fisheries: Athens, TX

Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center (TFFC) is the premier Texas Parks and Wildlife Department freshwater fish hatchery and aquatic education center in Texas. TFFC



plays a vital role in maintaining the quality of fishing in Texas. TFFC is one of five state fish hatcheries and focuses on largemouth bass production producing 3 to 4 million largemouth bass fingerlings annually. By touring the facility participants will receive an overview of freshwater fisheries management in Texas. Participants will see all steps in the process of producing fingerlings from rearing and spawning broodstock, incubating eggs, to stocking.

Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area is a 10,958-acre property managed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a wildlife research and demonstration area for the Post Oak Savannah Ecoregion. Gus Engeling is known for its high-quality wildlife habitat and is an island surrounded by improved nonnative pastures, harvested timberland, and fragmented wildlife habitat. Due to the quality of habitat, Gus Engeling is involved in restoring populations of bobwhite quail, turkey, and Texas Horned Lizard back to east Texas. Participants will view the impact of different management activities such as prescribed fire, grazing, brush control, and hunting has on habitat

and wildlife. An auto tour through the property allows participants a chance to see a variety of unique habitats including Catfish Creek, which has been designated a Natural National Landmark, and sphagnum moss bogs that are home to carnivorous plants.

Tour 3: Northwest Dairy Highlight

Supported by SARE



Limited mobility

- Southwest Dairy Museum: Sulphur Springs, TX 75482
- Still Meadow Dairy: Como, TX
- Sulphur Springs Sale Barn: Sulphur Springs, TX

Tour participants will experience historical artifacts and displays of dairy items and protocols at the Dairy Museum.

Tour participants will experience operational function of tie-stalls and confined dairy cattle, manure management protocols, waste managements of manure, sedimentation ponds, particle separators, carousel milking station, silo bunkers (still meadow dairy) cattle sorting, live cattle, visit with beef marketer to describe local adaptation to market changes (Sulphur Springs sale barn). Tour participants will experience man-made potable water reservoirs storing water resources for urban settings (Lake Hubbard, Sulphur Springs Lake, Lake Fork). Lunch will be provided at the Sulphur Springs sale barn).



Tour 4: Community Gardens and U-Pick

Supported by SARE



- Demases Farm: Boyd, TX
- Goober Bubs: Justin, TX
- Green Valley Gardens: Aubrey, TX

Participants will first stop by the Shiloh Field Community Garden in Denton, Texas. The Shiloh Community Garden was started as a garden by Gene Gumfory in 2011 to feed local hungry people. It grew with additional volunteer support. They went from donating around 13,000 lbs. of vegetables in 2018 to 55700 in 2021. The garden uses both organic and sustainable



methods and is supported by the Denton County Master Gardeners. Volunteers are asked to help in the general vegetable production and are allowed their own bed as well.

The next stop is Goober Bubs. Goober Bubs is a family run uppick farm located between Justin and Ponder Texas. The original name sakes “Goober” and “Bub” took an interest in beekeeping both at the same time and got hives together. Though Goober died soon after, Bub continued raising bees and selling honey under the label “Goober Bub’s Honey”. The farm has now grown to u-pick strawberries, blackberries, and pumpkins with the addition of baked goods and agritourism activities. This farm uses IPM for their pest management, row covers and drip irrigation. The final stop is Green Valley Gardens. Green Valley Gardens is a small U-Pick flower farm located outside Aubrey Texas. Offerings include picking your own flower cup as well as pre-made flower arrangements. We will go there to learn about flower production in Texas and manage a u-pick for flowers.

Tour 5: Urban Wildlife

(Children welcome)

- Dallas Zoo: Dallas, TX
- Dallas World Aquarium: Dallas, TX

“The Dallas Zoo is the oldest and largest zoo in Texas and was founded with only 4 animals in 1888 as the “first zoo in the southwest”. This zoo is home to more than 2,000 animals which represent over 400 species and covers a total of 106 acres. The Dallas Zoo is hosting “Destination Dinosaurs” from 9-5 every day from March – September! This experience allows visitors to take a walk and wander about among over 100 life-sized prehistoric giants and learn about their now living descendants! This exhibit is one of the largest immersive dinosaurs exhibits in the United States. Come be a part of the Dallas Zoo’s mission of engaging people and saving wildlife!



The Dallas World Aquarium opened in 1992 and started in an old warehouse building. This aquarium is home to approximately 500 animals that represent around 250

species and several different exhibits such as the Orinoco Rainforest, Secrets of the River, and Cloud Forest Trek, as well as a “Shark Tunnel” attraction. There are 3 restaurants on site as well as a bookstore and giftshop.

Tour 6: Cavender Ranches: More Than Just a Western Store

(Children Welcome)
Cavender Ranches: Jacksonville, TX

While the Cavender family might be known for their excellent western retail stores across the United States, they are also owner/operators of a Registered Brangus, Ultrablack and Charolais Breeder operations located in East Texas! Participants will experience a tour of the wonderful ranch facilities, discuss management of purebred and commercial cattle as well as bull development and pasture forage management on Cavender Ranch.



<https://cavenderranches.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/CavenderRanches/>

Tour 7: Art & Science Tour of Dallas

(Children welcome) (Admission fees)

- Perot Museum of Nature & Science:
- Walk to Kyle Warren Park:
- Walk to Dallas Art Museum: -Nasher Sculpture Center
- Walk to Crow Museum of Asian Art

The Perot Museum of Nature and Science offers many options for family fun! From racing dinosaurs, to experiencing a simulated earthquake, there are five levels of exploration waiting on you!



Klyde Warren Park is a 5.2-acre park that connects Uptown Dallas to the fantastic Arts District. This park offers free and open to the public educational events as well as a full schedule of activities year-round. There is also a vast

selection of food trucks located right there at the park!

Walking through Klyde Warren Park, you will find yourself adjacent to the Dallas Museum of Art. This museum is located right in the nation’s largest art district. They have several different exhibitions and fun for the whole family!



The Nasher Sculpture Center has works by contemporary and modern artists and includes an outdoor sculpture garden and wonderful lighted gallery. With rotating exhibitions of works, a café and gift shop, this stop is sure to delight all who have an admiration for this 300+ collection of masterpieces.

Within walking distance of the Nasher Sculpture Center, the Crow Museum of Asian Art is a distinguished collection of Asian art which features pieces from China, Korea, India, Japan, and Southeastern Asia. The pieces here range from historical to contemporary and began with Trammell and Margaret Crow’s passion to bridge the cultural gap between the East and West.

Tour 8: Fort Worth’s Green Infrastructure

Fort Worth’s Green Infrastructure:
Children 10+ Welcome

- Limited mobility – lots of walking; primarily outdoors
- City of Fort Worth Tree Farm: Fort Worth, TX 76119
- John Peter Smith Heritage Tree: Fort Worth, TX 76107
- Kimbell Café for lunch
- Fort Worth Botanical Garden and Botanic Research: Fort Worth, TX
- Tarrant Regional Water District Rainscape: Fort Worth, TX 76102

You may know it as Cowtown or even Big D’s Little FW, but Fort Worth has a long history of promoting sound urban forestry practices. In 1873, the city charter declared it illegal to hitch a horse to a tree. The city hired its first arborist in 1920 and established the oldest botanic garden in Texas in 1934. You will learn more about the City of Fort Worth’s efforts to preserve historic trees and to plant more trees in one of the fastest growing cities in the United States. Our tour will start at the City of Fort Worth



Tree Farm, a location with an interesting history of its own, and we will visit a special Heritage Tree, a world class art museum where we will have lunch with a view, and the previously mentioned Fort Worth Botanic Garden and Botanical Research Institute of Texas. We would not be able to enjoy our green infrastructure without significant investment in blue infrastructure, and for our final stop we will tour the Rainscape at the Tarrant Regional Water District Headquarters and learn about watershed protection and functional landscapes.



tours, the John Wayne Experience, the Candy Store and the Cowtown Cattle Pen Maze, the whole family is sure to have a great time on this tour!

Tour 10: Explore the Beauty of Tyler, Texas

Supported by SARE



Children welcome but must stay on walking areas
 -limited mobility – Gardens are wheelchair accessible but will be a lot of walking outdoors
 -There is an indoor meeting room but most of the presentation will be walking tour
 -Tyler Rose Garden: Tyler, TX
 -Tyler Botanical Garden:

Tour 9: Historic Fort Worth Stockyards: "Where Western Heritage Begins"

Historic Fort Worth Stockyards: Fort Worth, TX (This is a self-guided tour - free to roam the grounds at your own pace)

The Fort Worth Stockyards is where Western Heritage comes alive! This National Historic District as a whole tells the true history of the famous livestock industry of Texas. Established in 1849, the Fort Worth Stockyards has long since represented the "last civilized outpost for cowboys" as they drove cattle to market following the famous Chisholm Trail. This legacy has given the Fort Worth its nickname of "Cowtown". From the Cowtown Coliseum, which houses the Texas Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame and the historic Bull Riding Hall of Fame, to the Stockyard Station retail stores, you will have a full day of Texas History, great food, and entertainment galore! The Fort Worth Herd, with their own herd of Texas Longhorns, hosts twice daily cattle drives (weather permitting) through the middle of the stockyards and the herd can be viewed daily in their pens located behind the Livestock Exchange building. Stockyard Station Retail stores include stores such as Wrangler, Old Gringo Boots, Kokopelli Jewelry, The Spice & Tea Exchange, Chief Records, Texas Jake's Trading Company, Leddy's Boots, Kimes Ranch, King Ranch Saddle Shop, Lucchese Boot Makers and so many more! If you're looking for some great dining options, look no further! At the Stockyards you will have your choice from Risky's Steakhouse or BBQ, The Biscuit Bar, H3 Ranch Steakhouse, White Elephant Saloon, Lonesome Dove Western Bistro, and many more. The Fort Worth Stockyards has a lot to offer for the whole family with historic walking



Tour of the Rose Garden – This world-famous Rose Garden features 14 acres, thousands of rose bushes and more than 300 varieties of rose and 600 beds.

History of the first County Agent - Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Smith County has a rich history of serving its citizens. In 1906 W.C. Stallings was hired by the Smith County Commissioners Court as the first county agent in the United States to serve only one county. Today, six agents and three support staff team members serve residents with a diverse offering of educational programs and services.



Tour of the Heritage Garden – The Tyler Rose Garden has many varieties of roses, particularly hybrids with a varied history. The Heritage Garden is part of the Rose Garden with a concentration of old roses which have survived through the years, growing on their own roots without being hybridized and without many of the problems associated with modern roses.

Tour of the IDEA and Shade Garden- Discover backyard setting, much like you might find at any residence. This multipurpose demonstration garden is designed to stimulate ideas for use in your own garden. The 10,000 square foot IDEA Garden offers a tranquil setting, designed for the serious gardener seeking new ideas or for the enjoyment of the gardening techniques that combine the best organic and traditional gardening principles to create a proven horticultural system. Earth Kind uses adapted plants, soil improvement mulching and other water

conserving techniques, composting yard waste, and the encouraging of beneficial insects to reduce reliance on pesticides. The IDEA Garden proves Earth-Kind real-world effectiveness and shows environmental responsibility. Nearly one thought linear feet of paved pathways meanders through a two-acre grove of mature pine and hardwood trees that connects the IDEA and Heritage Rose Garden. Hundreds of azaleas, camellias, and Japanese maple trees showcase the garden and are complimented by an abundance of woody shrubs and herbaceous perennial plants that will survive with minimal sunlight.

Tour 11: Herefords, History & Feed

(Children Welcome)

- Limited Mobility – Lots of walking outdoors, some in pasture/fields, some indoors
- GKB Herefords: Waxahachie, TX
- Boyce Feed & Grain: Waxahachie, TX
- Ellis County Historical Courthouse: Waxahachie, TX

Waxahachie based Boyce Feed and Grain is an industry leader in product innovation and the development of animal feed and grain products. Boyce Feed and Grain is a major grain receipt hub for Ellis County and the Central Texas region. They process over 2.5 million bushels of grain that come through the facility annually. Much of the grain is processed through their fully automated bagging system and distributed to over 270 major retail store fronts throughout the state. Boyce Feed and Grain has been in business for 60 years serving the agricultural producers in the area.

GKB Herefords owned by Gary and Kathy Buckholtz, is a multi-breed beef ranch raising Herefords, Red Angus, Brangus, Red Brangus, and



Brahman genetics. GKB specializes in high quality show cattle that also work for the commercial cattleman. They host numerous bull and replacement female sales annually. The Waxahachie location is the main Hereford show barn.

The 103-year-old historic building has been voted as the number one Courthouse in Texas due to the many architectural features. Best known are the ornate carvings that are found all over the courthouse exterior by three artisans from Europe. Legend has it that one of the three who worked on the carvings fell in love with Mabel Frame, the daughter of the proprietors of a local boarding house where the artisans roomed. Her classic features captured

the imagination of the guest sculptor so much that he carved a likeness of her face into the sandstone blocks where it remains today in an arch of the east entrance. Although the sculptor had fallen in love with her, she was not in love with him. The rejected suitor began carving faces with vengeance. Contorted, grimacing and grotesque faces began to appear in the artwork.

The historic courthouse and surrounding square along with many other Ellis County sites, have become the background location for many movies, television programs and commercials.

Tour 12: The Family Way of Dairy and Orchard Business in the Heart of Comanche County

Children welcome at parent discretion – might be more interesting for older kids

- Limited Mobility – Will be walking facilities and orchard
- Wildcat Dairy: Gustine, TX
- Cullers Orchard: Comanche, TX

Wildcat Dairy is a family run dairy owned and operated by the Volleman family here in Comanche County. The family milks 5000 head and produces a large portion of their own forage supplies. They also process a portion of their milk in returnable



glass bottles under the “Volleman Family Farm” name. The family is extremely innovative and is consistently looking for ways to improve the sustainability of their farming, livestock, and processing operations. They were one of the first dairies to install a rotary milking parlor and were the first dairy in the area to install a cross-vent barn to improve cow health and comfort. They are now the first in the area to install a methane digester to add more value to the manure produced on the dairy and reduce their carbon footprint. Sometimes considered a management challenge on dairy farms, the Volleman’s put a high value on the waste and manure created on their dairy. After recycling the water, manure is used as a nutrient source for farming practices and now as an energy source with very little waste. This is truly an innovative family run dairy farm that strives to create a bright, sustainable future for their farm and family for generations to come.

Culler Pecan Orchard is a family run orchard consisting of over 1500 acres of irrigated and improved variety pecan trees. Pecan production has a long history in the county and is still very important to the county’s economy. To

increase productivity and competitiveness in the highly competitive pecan industry, the family has added facilities to store and further process their pecans. These additions have helped to increase marketing opportunities



not only in the U.S., but also abroad. Will Cullers has been an active member of state and national pecan producer associations and boards. While serving on these boards, he has traveled around the world promoting pecans. The family works diligently to grow quality pecans efficiently by using the latest irrigation technology and horticultural practices. The Culler family is committed to the Texas pecan industry and to sustainable farming practices that will allow them to efficiently preserve their soil, conserve their water, and produce quality pecans.

Tour 13: Aerial Agriculture at a Glance

(Children Welcome)

-Limited Mobility – will be walking factory type area
Air Tractor -Olney,

At Air Tractor, attendees will be greeted with a 1.5-2-hour tour of the factory where aerial ag. Applicator planes are manufactured and assembled. The tour will go into detail about not only the history of Air Tractor but also new and innovative advances in technology, engineering development of new aircraft and possibly test flight dispersion and drift mitigation (weather dependent). This type of manufacturing is not only unique to state of Texas but also the United States as Air Tractor serves clientele all over the globe.



Tour 14: Farming in the City

Supported by SARE



(Children Welcome)

-Limited Mobility – will be walking garden areas outdoors
-Dallas County Urban Farm: Garland, TX
-Profound Foods Farm: Lucas, TX
-Dallas AgriLife Research Center: Dallas, TX

What does an urban farm look like in Dallas, Texas? What kinds of agricultural research is taking place in the Dallas metroplex? Join us for a tour of the Dallas County Urban Farm on the east side of the county to experience

a vineyard, an orchard, a vegetable donation garden, native gardens, and a turf demonstration garden. For lunch, we will drive north to Profound Micro farms to have lunch and listen to the farm's owner talk about farming in a metropolitan area. On our way back to Dallas, we will stop at the Dallas Research Center to learn about the various research projects taking place at this state-of-the-art facility.



Tour 15: Small Town, Big Business

Children welcome

-Limited Mobility – will be walking factories; primarily indoors
-Nokona Ball Glove: Nocona, TX
-American Hat Company: Bowie, TX
-Fenoglio Boots: Nocona, TX
-Tales N' Trails Museum: Nocona, TX



Nokona is founded on top-quality, handcrafted leather goods, starting in 1926 making small carry items and making our first ball gloves a few years later. These are the only American made ball gloves built in the rural town of Nocona, TX. Custom-made to your liking or just buy one off the shelf. If you like the smell of leather, this is for you. (Limit 30 persons). Hand-crafted in Bowie, TX. Quality, tradition, and classic style... It doesn't matter if you're talking about saddles, boots, or cowboy hats when they're handmade in Texas, these are the things you've come to expect. For over 100 years, American Hat Company has been committed to producing the finest quality, handmade cowboy hats in the world. We start with the finest hand selected skins sourced from around the world from exotics to the more traditional leathers. The Fenoglio Boot is built traditionally, in the time-honored way. All leather out soles, insoles, stacked heels, and lemon-wood peg construction is done right here in Nocona, TX. We offer customization in design like our array of leathers, preferred toe construction, stitching patterns, and heel design. Our boots are hand constructed with laborious strict quality control standards. The Tales N' Trails Museum opened its doors in 2010 after fifteen years of planning and fundraising. Funded primarily by local donations, the Museum was built on land donated

by the heirs of Joe Benton, an early pillar of the community. The Museum houses hundreds of Native American artifacts and European trade goods from the vast collection of Texana of the Joe Benton family. Mr. Benton amassed the largest regional collection of Indian artifacts in the U.S., and only a fraction of that collection can be on display at any given time. In addition to temporary exhibits which are continually rotated throughout the year, the Museum focuses on five separate topics which are instrumental to the history of this area.

Tour 16: Hiking and Conservation Go Hand-in-Hand

Children are welcome at parents' discretion as this is a hike with an age preference of 12+
 -Limited Mobility – This is a guided HIKE; not able to accommodate
 -Great Trinity Forest/Texas Buckeye Trail Guided Hike: Dallas, TX
 -Bonton Farms Tour & Lunch: Dallas, TX
 -Trinity Forest Audubon Center: Dallas, TX

Discover the treasures of the Great Trinity Forest, which is the largest urban forest in the USA. At more than 6000 acres, the forest boasts diverse habitats from bottomland hardwood and limestone piedmont to flooded wetland, meadow, and dense swamp. We will begin the day hiking the Texas Buckeye Trail in the bottomland forest. Tours will be led by North Texas Master Naturalists and



attendees will have the opportunity to view flood control levee systems, bottomland hardwood forest with sea oats and Virginia ryegrass, old growth oak, ash and elm, and a large buckeye grove understory topped by cedar elm. Educational opportunities abound with chances to observe invasive species control efforts in action as well as discovering the results of decades of public / nonprofit negotiations to preserve this great resource. After the buckeye hike, we will enjoy a brief tour of Bonton Farms and then lunch at their restaurant. Bonton Farms is an organization that operates a farmers' market, café, and restaurant in an effort to serve the underserved east Dallas community and offer residents opportunities to excel in

their local environment. After Bonton Farms, the tour will travel to the Trinity Forest Audubon Center for tours of the interpretive center and educational talks on wetlands, bird habitat and urban environmental transformation."

Tour 17: Forage and Beef Cattle, What More Could You Want?! Supported by SARE



Children are welcome at parents' discretion
 -Limited Mobility – will be walking fields/pastures
 -Rafer D Hay Company: Denison, TX
 -MaxLock Cattle Company: Savoy, TX
 -Melissa Feeders: Melissa, TX



Rafer D Hay Company is one of the premier bermudagrass hay producers in North Texas. Rafer D is owned by one of the owners of the Texas Rangers Baseball Team.

MaxLock Cattle Company is a premier seedstock Angus and Red Angus producer. MaxLock is a cooperator with the R.A. Brown Ranch in Throckmorton, Texas. Featured in this tour stop will include Donnell Brown, Owner of R.A. Brown Ranch, and world renown semen companies. Highlighted Seedstock Bulls in Stud will be on display at this tour. MaxLock Cattle Company will be the stop where we will feed Ribeye Steaks.

Melissa Feeders is a 12,000 head capacity feedlot stationed right in the heart of the ever growing and changing metroplex. This feedlot faces challenges daily with the expansion of the population that is not used to agriculture."

Tour 18: The Star of Texas's Agricultural Mechanics and Equipment

Children 13+ welcome
 -Sturdy, closed toe shoes are required – no flip flops or sandals.
 -Anyone with a surgically implanted pacemaker or defibrillator cannot enter any part of the production area.
 -Participants must be able to walk at a leisurely pace in an industrial environment for 1-2 hours.
 -Production environment includes strobe like flashes of light.
 -Priefert will provide safety glasses and head protection. Prescription glasses are allowed in place of safety glasses.

Sunglasses are not allowed in the production area.
 -Exposure to industrial noise levels - we provide radio headsets that enhance listening to the tour leader.
 -Priefert Manufacturing: Mt. Pleasant, TX
 -Diamond C: Mt. Pleasant, TX

Priefert- America's #1 Name in Ranch & Rodeo for over 50 years. Priefert Manufacturing is considered the leading innovator in the livestock handling industry developing equipment that is safe and durable for



both the animal and operator. Located on the outskirts of Mt. Pleasant, Texas, the family's ranch is the first proving ground for the vast majority of Priefert products. Take a behind the scenes tour of facilities and production located in Mount Pleasant, Texas.

Diamond C-A family owned and operated company that offers a lineup of premium trailers and other heavy-duty equipment that is distributed to over 100 dealer partners throughout North America. Get a behind the scenes tour of Diamond C Trailers located in Mount Pleasant, Texas.

Tour 19: It's the Ag Variety Tour!

Children 13+ welcome
 -Limited Mobility – will do a lot of walking, possibly in pasture area on 2nd stop
 -Williams Gin & Grain: Frost, TX
 -Agrivoltics: Barry, TX
 -Navarro County Expo Center: For Agrivoltics Presentation
 -Collin Street Bakery: Corsicana, TX (Must Sign Photo release per CSB)

Come on the variety ag tour! We are making stops at a Cotton Gin to learn about the dryland cotton industry in the Blacklands of Texas with a tour of the cotton gin and possibly feed mixing facility. We will be making stops to



learn about Agrivoltics and how solar and grazing livestock make a dynamic duo. Last but certainly not least will be stopping for a tour of the world-famous Collin Street Bakery for lunch and tour the facilities with time to purchase some fantastic baked goods from the bakery!"

Tour 20: SARE/Reading the Farm

Supported by SARE



Participation in the Reading the Farm Tour requires participation in the Reading the Farm Super Seminar (held on Wednesday afternoon, July 17th). The super seminar will provide the program overview, a profile of the farm, and time to prepare for our visit. On tour day, we will visit Pastured Steps.

Pastured Steps was initially started in Midlothian, TX, to fulfill its values of regenerative agriculture, humane animal welfare, raising healthy food, and dedication to customer service. In 2021, the family purchased 240 acres near Corsicana, TX, and has slowly been moving and growing the farming operation. The Walters raise broilers, layers, turkeys, pigs, and cattle. They mix the feed for the farm's chickens, turkeys, and pigs. The animals are raised on pasture in movement-based systems tailored to the specific species to ensure animal well-being and adequate growth.



Life Member & Spouse/Guest Program

NACAA and Texas wish a special welcome to life members, spouses, and other guests. Again this year, the Life Members and Spouses Programs will participate together in a shared hospitality room, workshops, and tours.

Sunday, July 14, 2024

- Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room (8 am to 5 pm)
- Life Member and Spouse Welcome & Orientation (2:00 pm - 2:45 pm)

Monday, July 15, 2024

- Morning Group Exercise (6:30 – 7:30 am)
Start your day with our strength training class! The benefits of strength training are increased muscle mass and strength, improved bone density, reduced risk for diabetes, heart disease, depression, and improved self-confidence, and sleep. This class is designed for mid-life and older adults and include resistance training, balance training, and flexibility exercises. We will provide dumbbells, ankle weights, and mats.
- Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room (7:00 am to 5 pm)
- Life Member Breakfast (Life Members Only) (7:30 – 8:30 am)
- Life Members Business Meeting (10:30 – 11:45 am)
- Spouse Luncheon (Spouses Only) (12:00 – 1:15 pm)

On-site workshops:

Healthy Texas

(9:00 am – 11:00 am)

Healthy Texas is a comprehensive effort by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas A&M University Health Science Center to reduce preventable diseases and their consequences. Healthy Texas aims to improve both health education and health outcomes. Learn more about this program and participate in some hands on activities.



HEALTHY TEXAS

Go Texan

(2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

The GO TEXAN program is a Texas Department of Agriculture initiative dedicated to identifying and supporting Texas-based businesses and connecting them with customers across the Lone Star State and around the world. Come learn about some of the success stories and participate in some hands on activities.



GO TEXAN.

Activity 1: The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

One of the saddest days in American history occurred in downtown Dallas with the assassination of John F. Kennedy. We will visit the 6th floor of the School Book depository where a world class museum memorializes the tragic day of Nov. 22, 1963. From there, we are within walking distance to the West End for shopping and restaurants. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.



Activity 2: Perot Museum of Nature and Science 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

The Perot Museum of Nature and Science is a natural history and science museum in Victory Park located in downtown Dallas. The building itself is a work of art as it is designed as a large cube floating over a landscaped plinth. From there, we will walk to Pioneer Plaza which is the largest public open space for restaurants in the Dallas Central business district. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.



Tuesday, July 16, 2024

- Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room (6:30 am to 5 pm)

Activity 1: National Cowgirl Hall of Fame and Fort Worth Stockyards 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

The National Cowgirl Hall of Fame is a place where you can kick your spurs off and stay awhile. It is the only museum in the world dedicated to honoring women of the West, and from around the world who have displayed

extraordinary courage and pioneer spirit in the trailblazing efforts. From there we will go to the world famous Stockyards



where nothing embodies Western heritage better than this historic district. From the original brick walkways to the wooden corrals, every inch of the Stockyards tells the true history of Texas's livestock industry. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

Activity 2: Walking Wine Tour and the Revolver Brewery
7:00 am – 5:00 pm

This full day tour will start out to Americana, Granbury, where we will have a walking wine tour. We will stop on the square at the Ketzler's Biergarten. Lunch will then follow. As we head back to the Anatole, we will stop by the Revolver Brewery for one more. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.



Wednesday, July 17, 2024

- Morning Group Exercise (6:30 – 7:30 am)
- Life Member and Spouses Hospitality Room (7:00 am to 5 pm)

Activity 1: The Star
9:00 am – 1:30 pm

The Star is the 91-acre campus of the Dallas Cowboys World Headquarters and practice facility located just north of the Anatole. The Star was developed as a



first-of-its-kind partnership between the city and Frisco ISD. Each year in the fall, the school district has the amazing

opportunity to use these athletic facilities. The Star gives fans the opportunity to connect with the Cowboys in ways they have never imagined. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

Activity 2: Legacy West
9:00 am – 1:30 pm

Legacy West is a lifestyle center, open-air shopping mall just north of the Anatole. It contains 415,000 sq ft of retail, restaurant and office space, a 55,000 sq ft food hall, over 1,300 residential units and a 303-room hotel of its' own. All of the restaurants and retailers are located on tree-lined Windrose Avenue, which will make for a great half day of endless fun, food and shopping. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.



On-site workshops:
Art at the Anatole
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

The Hilton Anatole is home to over a thousand rare and unusual treasures from the collections of Trammell and Margaret Crow.



One-of-a-kind works of art, many that once graced the royal palaces of kings, emperors, and czars from Japan, China, India, and Southeast Asia—dating back as far as the fifth century BCE—now adorn the hotel's entryways and embellish its walls. Participate in this walking tour and learn a little about these pieces which are part of one of the largest and most beautiful private collections in America. Wear comfortable shoes.

Cuisine at the Anatole
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

The Hilton Anatole is home to world class cuisine and is rated Four Diamonds by AAA Travel. Since becoming a Hilton, the Crow Holdings have invested over \$185 million in enhancements to the hotel including new restaurants and bars. Come join us and one of their chefs as you learn just how they grill some of the finest quality beef in Texas with a grilling demonstration.



Sons and Daughters Program



Monday, July 15, 2024

Day with Dallas Cowboys (approximately 20 miles, 30 minutes one way) Youth will be taking a VIP Guided Tour of AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington, TX. Tour includes Cowboys locker room, cheerleader locker rooms and other stadium facts, figures and history (1 ½ hrs). Youth will also be able to participate in a Cowboy Skill Challenge on the field of AT&T Stadium (1 ½ hrs). Lunch will be provided. We will return to the hotel after lunch.

Tuesday, July 16, 2024



“Texas 4-H Day” at the Dallas AgriLife Center (approximately 20 miles, 30-40 minutes one way) Spend a day at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center in Dallas participating in a hands-on Food Challenge Contest learning about food and nutrition and 4-H. After lunch, we will spend the day learning about natural resources at various interactive stations such as entomology and water education.

Wednesday, July 17, 2024



Fort Worth Science & History Museum (approximately 40 miles, 50 minutes one way) Museum includes Charlie May Noble Planetarium which allows you to see more than 7,000 stars. The Museum’s permanent exhibitions include: DinoLabs & DinoDig, Energy Blast, Fort Worth Children’s Museum, Innovation Studios and the Cattle Raisers Museum, a “museum within a museum”. They will provide us with a box lunch.

We will return and host the farewell dinner (no travel) at the Hilton with a pizza party and games.



REGISTRATION FORM

NACAA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE

July 14-18, 2024 - Dallas, Texas

Registration forms must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2024: Late fee is \$100 - **Return ALL forms together.**

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

On-site Registration will be in the Hilton Anatole.

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

SEND FORMS AND PAYMENT TO:
NACAA
6584 W. Duroc Road
Maroa, IL 61756
Phone: 217-794-3700 Fax: 217-794-5901 E-mail: exec-dir@nacaa.com

PARTICIPANT'S NAME

(Last) (First)
(Preferred first name on tag if different from above)

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE - daytime () -

Cell Phone () -

(for emergency conference contact)

E-mail address

Confirmations will be sent electronically for everyone (unless you are without e-mail - it will then be mailed via U.S. Mail) - by no later than June 15, 2024.

Are you an NACAA Member (Active or Life) NO

Check your region: NC NE W S

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

- Accessibility needs during the meeting
- Dietary (Please contact the registration office at the above address prior to June 1st to make request or send a note with this registration).

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

SPOUSE NAME: (Last) (First)

GUEST'S NAME (Last) (First)

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES (if attending):

Name Age

Name Age

Name Age

Name Age

LIFE MEMBER & SPOUSE/GUEST ACTIVITIES

MONDAY - July 15, 2024

Life Member Breakfast (Life Members Only)
(7:30 am to 8:30 am) # Plan To Attend

Spouse Luncheon (Spouses Only)
(12:00 noon to 1:15 pm) # Plan To Attend

- ON SITE WORKSHOPS**
- Workshop 1: Healthy Texas**
(9:00 am to 11:00 am) # Plan To Attend
- Workshop 2: Go Texan**
(2:00 pm to 4:00 pm) # Plan To Attend

- OFF SITE ACTIVITIES**
- Activity 1: The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza**
(2:00 pm to 4:30 pm) # Plan To Attend
- Activity 2: Perot Museum of Nature and Science**
(2:00 pm to 4:30 pm) # Plan To Attend

TUESDAY - July 16, 2024

- OFF SITE ACTIVITIES**
- Activity 1: National Cowgirl Hall of Fame and Forth Worth Stockyards**
(7:00 am to 5:00 pm) # Plan To Attend
- Activity 2: Walking Wine Tour and the Revolver Brewery**
(7:00 am to 5:00 pm) # Plan To Attend

WEDNESDAY - July 17, 2024

- OFF SITE ACTIVITIES**
- Activity 1: The Star**
(9:00 am to 1:30 pm) # Plan To Attend
- Activity 2: Legacy West**
(9:00 am to 1:30 pm) # Plan To Attend

- ON SITE WORKSHOPS**
- Workshop 1: Art at the Anatole**
(2:00 pm to 2:45 pm) # Plan To Attend
- Workshop 2: Cuisine at the Anatole**
(3:00 pm to 3:45 pm) # Plan To Attend

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 <small>(5 yrs. or less) employed after 7/1/2019</small> | (\$285.00 x _____) | + | (\$335.00 x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| Regular Member | (\$535.00 x _____) | + | (\$335.00 x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| Life Member | (\$335.00 x _____) | + | (\$335.00 x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| OTHERS | | | | | |
| Sons & Daughters | (\$335.00 x _____) | | <i>(participating in activities)</i> | = | \$ _____ |
| Visitor | (\$535.00 x _____) | + | (\$335.00 x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| Univ. or USDA Administrator | (\$535.00 x _____) | + | (\$335.00 x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| Guest of NACAA President | (Waived x _____) | + | (Waived x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| National Donor/Exhibitors | (Waived x _____) | + | (Waived x _____) | = | \$ _____ |
| Past National Board Luncheon (\$40 x Number of People _____) | | | | = | \$ _____ |
| Ag Economics Waco Pre-Tour (\$50 x Number of People _____) | | | | = | \$ _____ |
| Sustainable Ag Pre-Tour (\$100 x Number of People _____) | | | | = | \$ _____ |
| Horticulture & Turfgrass Pre-Tour (\$100 x Number of People _____) | | | | = | \$ _____ |
| Animal Science Pre-Tour (\$150 x Number of People _____) | | | | = | \$ _____ |
| PART-TIME ATTENDANCE | | | | | |
| Number Attending Each Day: Sun____; Mon____; Tues____; Wed____; Thurs____ | Daily Fee (\$300 x Number of Days____x Number of People____) | | | | = \$ _____ |
| Attending only Wednesday Night Banquet: (\$85 x Number of People____) | (Cost is already included in full registration - this is only for non-registrants or daily registrants) | | | | = \$ _____ |
| Late Fee: Applies to all registrants listed above whose registration form and fees are postmarked after May 15, 2024 - \$100 per individual) | | | | | = \$ _____ |
| Facilities Fee (FOR ALL ACTIVE AND LIFE MEMBERS): NACAA has initiated a facilities fee for this Conference. | | | | | = \$ _____ |
| <small>If you are an Active or Life Member and do not plan to stay at the Hilton Anatole, a \$250 fee will be administered. On the Lodging form - please indicate your hotel confirmation number from the Hilton Anatole.</small> | | | | | |
| 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.

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

Card Number _____; (List all numbers 16 digits - 15 for AMEX)

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

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Signature _____

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

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

There shall be a **75%** refund of registration fee when a request is made before June 29 (no later than 16 days before the AM/PIC begins). Between June 20 and July 13 (prior to the start of the AM/PIC) there shall be a **25%** refund. No refunds will be given if a request is made after the beginning of the AM/PIC. Appeals due to emergency will be handled on a case by case basis by the NACAA Board with a maximum of 90% reimbursed. **Requests must be made in writing** to NACAA, Attn: Scott Hawbaker, 6584 W. Duroc Road, Maroa, IL 61756 or e-mail to: nacaemail@aol.com. Refund for part-time attendance is the same, except there will be no refund for the banquet. Members and guests eligible for fee waivers will be refunded upon verification by the National Board of Directors.

SUPER SEMINARS

WEDNESDAY, July 17 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

A CHANGING WAY OF LIFE: AMBIGUOUS LOSS AND FARMING FACILITATOR TRAINING

Do you wish to register for this Super Seminar?
___ Yes How many people ___

DEALING WITH DROUGHT IN GARDENS AND LANDSCAPES

Do you wish to register for this Super Seminar?
___ Yes How many people ___

INTRODUCTION TO BEEKEEPING FOR THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AGENT

Do you wish to register for this Super Seminar?
___ Yes How many people ___

HOW TO OBTAIN GRANT FUNDING

Do you wish to register for this Super Seminar?
___ Yes How many people ___

READING THE FARM – SUSTAINABLE AG COMMITTEE (SUPPORTED BY SARE)

Do you wish to register for this Super Seminar? You will also need to register for Tour 20 on Tour Day as this Seminar relates directly to that Tour.
___ Yes How many people ___

PRE-TOURS

HEART OF TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOUR - WACO TX

(Cost \$50 - lodging not included)
(How many people plan to attend ___)
Name(s): _____

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRE-TOUR (Cost \$100 - lodging not included)

(How many people plan to attend ___)
Name(s): _____

HORTICULTURE/TURFGRASS PRE-TOUR (Cost \$100 - lodging not included)

Name(s): _____

ANIMAL SCIENCE PRE-TOUR (Cost \$150- lodging not included)

(How many people plan to attend ___)
Name(s): _____

Application for Pre-Tours:

On a separate paper - please answer the following questions and submit with your registration forms:

Include:

1. Why you wish to attend the Pre-Tour.
2. How you intend to use the tour information in your educational programs.
3. Describe your major program emphasis within Extension.

Many of the rural locations being visited during Pre-Tours may require substantial walking along uneven terrains, and may not be ADA compliant. Individuals with mobility issues are encouraged to discuss participation with your physician prior to registering.



First Timer Orientation

Sunday - July 14, 2023 - 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Do you plan to attend: Yes No

Award Luncheons/Educational Seminars

Several luncheon opportunities are listed for your consideration.

Box lunches will be provided by NACAA (and sponsors) for Award related luncheons on Monday-Wednesday. **You must register for a meal related event in order to eat.** Those not attending award luncheons or other educational meal functions, will be on their own. **Seating is limited at each of the functions.** Other Ag Industry sponsored luncheons are also listed but will be on a first come/first served basis. Tickets are limited to each function based on sponsorship funding. See below for available functions. **Since seating is limited, and on-line registration is also taking place, it's possible the functions will be full for those submitting a hard copy registration.**

MEALS/EVENTS

Registration includes meal tickets, however tickets must be requested or will not be provided in your registration packet or available on-site. Tickets are not available for non-registrants.

- Sunday Evening - Welcome to Texas _____ #
- Monday Evening - We're Heading to the Ft Worth Stock Show and Rodeo _____
- Thursday Breakfast _____
- Thursday Farewell Evening Meal (Tours take direct to site) _____

ANNUAL BANQUET

Wednesday Evening July 17. Full Registrations include a ticket (but you still need to register for it - one will not be given to you unless you register) Daily registrations DO NOT include a banquet ticket - must be purchased separately - extra tickets for this event are available for purchase - see payment form.

Do you plan to attend: Yes No

Other Meal Functions

Sunday, July 14 (11:45 am - 1:15 pm)

___ Past National Board Luncheon (\$40/person - fee on main registration page)
Which office did you hold: President Treasurer Secretary Director

Monday, July 15 (11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

___ Crop Protection Innovation - Where Does it Begin?

Breakfast (6:30 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.)
(sponsored by Bayer CropScience)

- ___ SFE in 4-H & Youth Programming Luncheon (11:45 a.m - 1:15 p.m.)
- ___ Latest Trends in Animal Health Luncheon (sponsored by Merck Animal Health)
- ___ SFE Crop Production Luncheon
- ___ Ag Awareness & Appreciation Award Luncheon
- ___ First Timer Luncheon (Spouses of First Timers are welcome)

Tuesday, July 16 (11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

- ___ SFE Consumer or Commercial Horticulture Luncheon
- ___ SFE Livestock Production Luncheon
- ___ SFE Young Beginning & Small Farmers Luncheon
- ___ SFE Farm and Ranch Business Mgmt. Luncheon (11:45 a.m - 1:15 p.m.)

Wednesday, July 17

- ___ National Committee Members **Breakfast** (Current and Incoming - 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.)
- ___ SFE - Sustainable Ag- Luncheon (11:45 a.m - 1:15 p.m.)
- ___ SFE - Forestry & Natural Resources Luncheon
- ___ Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance Educational Luncheon (11:45 a.m - 1:15 p.m.)
- ___ Administrative Leaders Luncheon and Meeting (11:45 am - 3:00 pm for State Program Leaders, Extension Directors, Dean)

Note: Achievement Award Breakfast (Tuesday), Communications Award/Poster Winner Luncheon* (Tuesday), Voting Delegates Breakfast (Monday) - reservations are all handled by the National Committee Chairs/Officers - by invitation. If you are attending one of these functions - please do not register for concurrent events listed above.

Mode of Transportation to AM/PIC

In order for NACAA to better plan, please let us know whether you plan to drive or fly to Dallas.

Drive Fly

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT TOURS

Thursday, July 17, 2024

Participant's Name _____

Last Name

First Name

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

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

LODGING INFORMATION

1. Reservations will be made directly with the Hilton Anatole.

[HTTPS://BOOK.PASSKEY.COM/E/50739906](https://book.passkey.com/e/50739906)

GROUP CODE: NAC

**IF YOU PREFER TO CALL THE HILTON TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION -
PLEASE CALL: 1-800-955-4281 WITH THE CODE: NAC**

**The group rooms available at the NACAA group rate of \$199/night
will no longer be available after June 19, 2024.**

2. Active and Life Members will be required to have a reservation for a minimum of 1 night. If no hotel reservation is submitted - a **Facilities Fee of \$250** will be charged to each Active and Life Member with no reservation. If registering on-line, you will have an option to list which agent you are rooming with - and will need to include a Hilton Anatole confirmation number in order to continue the registration process.

3. A credit card will be required during the hotel reservation process in order to secure a room

Hilton Anatole \$199 (single/double) \$209 (triple/quad) , the sales tax rate is 8.25%, and the hotel occupancy tax rate is 13%, plus 2% tourism public improvement district fee and \$2.26 State Cost-Recovery Fee. Taxes and fees subject to change without notice. \$11/day self parking or \$25/day Valet Parking (subject to change)

Resort Fee: (Optional) In order to access the Jade Waters Water Park (including Leisure Cove Outdoor pool), registrants will have to purchase a \$25/day (plus tax) Resort Fee - per room (not person). Additional benefits/discounts will be offered to you at check-in. Access to the indoor pool is at no additional charge.

If you are an Active or Life Member and you are sharing a room with another NACAA member - you must list the name for who the reservation is made under - and provide their confirmation number:

Are you an Active/Life Member and sharing a room with another member?

Yes No If yes - who's name is the room in? _____

Active/Life Members - Please Verify on this form your Hilton Anatole Confirmation Number: _____

Since reservations are being made direct with the hotel - if you are looking for a roommate - please indicate this below - and following the May 15 deadline, NACAA will reach out to you with a list of other agents also looking. You can then make arrangements directly with the hotel, once a pairing is made (or you can go ahead and secure a room - then if a roommate is found - one of you can cancel one of the reservations.

Do you need assistance in finding a roommate? Yes No

(Male Female)

Special Notes to Registration Committee:

SON'S AND DAUGHTER'S PROGRAMS

See Program for Details

PARTICIPANT'S Name _____
Last Name First Name *Agent or Life Members name if not the same Last Name*

Son's and daughter's registration will be held at the main registration desk at the Iowa Events Center. Activities will begin with the orientation meeting prior to the Opening Ceremonies Sunday, July 14. Adult chaperones must be registered for the meeting. This year's program is designed for youth ages 8 - 18. Youth 7 and under may participate only if accompanied by a parent or guardian that is registered for the events. All costs are included in the registration fee, including lunch. NACAA is unable to provide day care services for children.

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

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

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

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

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

| <u>SUNDAY, JULY 14</u> | # Youth | # Adults | Youth & Adult's Name (s) |
|--|---------|----------|--------------------------|
| Orientation | _____ | _____ | _____ _____ |
| <u>MONDAY, JULY 15</u> | | | |
| Day with Dallas Cowboys | _____ | _____ | _____ _____ |
| <u>TUESDAY, JULY 16</u> | | | |
| Texas 4-H Day | _____ | _____ | _____ _____ |
| <u>WEDNESDAY, JULY 17</u> | | | |
| Fort Worth Science & History Museum | _____ | _____ | _____ _____ |
| Farewell Party (Includes Evening Meal) | _____ | _____ | _____ _____ |
| (NOT ATTENDING DSA BANQUET) | _____ | _____ | _____ |

SON'S & DAUGHTER'S MEDICAL RELEASE FORM: Medical release forms will be required for all youth participants. Please complete the document found online at: <https://www.nacaa.com/uploads/userfiles/files/2024%20NACAA%20Sons%20and%20Daughters%20Forms.pdf> WITH THIS REGISTRATION FORM - OR E-MAIL TO: STEVEN.BARINGER@AG.TAMU.EDU

IF YOU NEED ANY TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM OR HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PHYSICAL ACCESS PROVIDED, PLEASE CONTACT STEVEN BARINGER AT 940-349-2884 OR STEVEN.BARINGER@AG.TAMU.EDU BY JULY 1, 2024.

LIFE MEMBER CORNER

NACAA Helped to Make Me a Better County Agent/Extension Educator

Larry Howard, NACAA Life Member - Nebraska

My Extension career began in 1985, following a 5-year career teaching Vocational Agriculture/FFA. I started that new agriculture program in a small community, and we had a very successful youth FFA Chapter and an adult Young Farmer program that ended up being the top in the state before I left. While teaching, I took UNL summer classes and night classes during the school year (driving to campus as at that time there were no online classes) and received my master's degree which was required for a position in Extension.



We moved 15 miles to begin my career in Nebraska Extension in Cuming County and worked there for 35 years before retiring in 2020. Cuming county is Nebraska's top livestock county and top 10 nationally. It was also one of the best 4-H livestock programs, so it fit my skill set well. Over the years, my adult program centered on issues related to all species of livestock production and had a focus on environmental regulations for feedlot producers and agrosecurity issues for production agriculture. Our generation was able to field questions covering many topics from livestock, field crops, home horticulture/lawn care, as well as managing a well-rounded 4-H program and working with the volunteers that supported us. In my final five years, UNL added nine other counties to my workload dealing with livestock issues.

Several experienced agents encouraged me to join NACAA after I began working. I had participated in some of the NACAA livestock award trips and state committee work, but it wasn't until 1990 when another County Agent saw what I was doing with my programming and encouraged me to apply for the Search for Excellence-Livestock award. I was selected as a regional winner and was able to present at the AM/PIC in Seattle. It was the first AM/PIC that I had attended, and I was hooked. At that meeting, I met another young agent from Pennsylvania (who later moved

to Michigan) who was also presenting. He and his family became friends with our family for the past 34 years. And since that meeting, I have attended and participated in 31 AM/PIC's only missing them due to conflicts with my local county fair. My wife, Mary, and I have many friends that we have met over the years that we enjoy seeing each year.

NACAA helped to make me a better County Agent/Extension Educator, because I chose to get involved in the many opportunities that it provides. In addition to participating in the AM/PIC's, I applied for numerous awards, presentations, posters and participated in many workshops and tours that are offered. This gave me a chance to meet individuals from across the country to learn about agriculture and make connections and share ideas on issues that my area also faced. I found that to be extremely valuable professionally for my job serving local clientele as well as personally for myself.

I also chose to get involved in the leadership opportunities of the organization. I served as state Secretary, Vice President, and President, served on state committees, and continue to serve on our state Ag Section Foundation. I have served four terms as Regional Vice Chair for three different NACAA committees, and currently I am serving on the Life Member committee. I was a voting delegate six times and I also helped and chaired committees for four AM/PIC's including Omaha that Nebraska hosted in 1999. But the time that I spent as the North Central Vice Chair and Director on the NACAA Board of Directors was one of the highlights of my service to NACAA as it gave me a chance to visit our regional states and meet the outstanding membership and be the link between them and the National Board. I also had the honor of being awarded the NACAA Hall of Fame award this past year and I will cherish that forever. I appreciate my peers in Nebraska for their nomination and support.

Getting outside my comfort zone and being involved in NACAA helped me with time management, broadened my horizons and allowed me to see the value of serving others.

Since retirement, I have chosen to spend my time working on projects, volunteering locally, grandparenting and traveling. During my entire working career, my programs relied on volunteers to help accomplish the many successes that I enjoyed. I continue to be involved and I now volunteer for Meals on Wheels, Food Bank, the Red Cross, our Community Theater (which is run totally by volunteers), our City Parks and I serve on the Cuming County 4-H Foundation. Traveling is also important to us, so with two

other retired Extension Educators and our spouses, we have traveled together overseas the past two years and plan to continue to do so in the future. Mary and I spend as much time as we can with our three grown children, four grandchildren and our aging parents. Retirement has been great.

The NACAA Life Member committee and the host state do a great job of offering interesting workshops and tours of the area and of course a chance to catch up with the many friends that have made throughout your career. As a Life Member committee Vice Chair, I encourage Life Members to plan to attend the NACAA AM/PIC and stay involved.

I also encourage Active members to take advantage of all the NACAA opportunities. You will gain many friends in NACAA and learn along the way. Get involved, participate and NACAA can also help to make you a better County Agent/Extension Educator.

My Walk with Extension

John Campbell, NACAA Life Member - Tennessee

Greetings from Lewisburg, Marshall County, Tennessee, the home of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association and the credited origin of the fainting (Myotonic) goat. My 35-year career with Extension began as a 4-H Agent (in two counties), then spending 26 plus years as an Area Farm Management Specialist. Working with farmers doing financial planning along with Extension paperwork made the transition to doing volunteer work with two organizations a comfortable change. The State Insurance Information Program (SHIP) uses volunteers to work with Medicare recipients. Mainly, I assist them in selecting a least cost Medicare Part D drug plan. I also volunteer during income tax season with Volunteers in Tax Assistance (VITA). VITA provides free income tax preparation for low to moderate income individuals and families, but no farm returns. I am also approaching 45 years as a Lion, having been sponsored by my first county director, the late Bill Hall.



February 15, 1978 was my first day in Extension in Tennessee as a 4-H Agent in a 3-agent county. My starting

salary was \$11,500. A few days after I started, the previously mentioned Mr. Hall came to me and encouraged me to join the "County Agents Association." Dues at the time were \$20.00 (\$15.00 NACAA and \$5.00 Tennessee). I thought of many other ways to spend \$20.00 since I was just out of graduate school and had not received my first paycheck. My economist training was also kicking in as I knew nothing about NACAA. I have also been labeled a tight wad by many of my friends and family. However, I did not want to get on Mr. Hall's bad side. I did join and it turned out to be one of most beneficial decisions I made to further my career.

Mr. Hall was active in the Tennessee association, having served as state president and received several awards in the Communication Awards Program. He encouraged me and helped me with my entries. I was a state and Southern Region winner in communications early in my career. I went on from there with more success in a variety of programs and served as a state committee chair. Then I served as a region vice-chair, national chair and council chair with NACAA. I participated in scholarship tours and other educational trips offered by NACAA and its sponsors. By attending AM/PICs, I have traveled to many places and experienced many things. Iowa was my 32nd AM/PIC. I have met agents from across the United States and developed relationships that I would not have if I had not been to an AM/PIC. I have seen dry land dairies in New Mexico, greenhouse plants in North Carolina, the salt flats in Utah, cherry harvest in New York, and sugar cane in Florida. I could go on, but I think you get the point. Side trips on the way to or coming from an AM/PIC included Niagara Falls, Mount St. Helens, the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and many others.

All of this began when Bill Hall asked me to join NACAA. He did not just ask me to join but encouraged me to become active. I may have become active on my own, but I will never know that. I made a point to reach out to new agents during my career to encourage them to become active in the state association and NACAA. Some became active and some did not. NACAA has existed as an organization for over 100 years due to existing agents encouraging and mentoring new agents. Have you encouraged a co-worker today?

The County Agent

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

ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE DATES



2024

Dallas, Texas.....July 14-18

2025

Billings, Montana.....June 29-July 2

2026

Denver, Colorado.....July 8-12

2027

St. Paul, Minnesota.....September 12-17

Upcoming Issues of The County Agent Magazine

June, 2024

Open Topic

Deadline for articles: June 1, 2024

Mail Date: June 30, 2024

October, 2024

AM/PIC Recap

Deadline for articles: September 15, 2024

Mail Date: October 10, 2024

December, 2024

Awards/Committee Edition

Deadline for articles: November 20, 2024

Mail Date: December 28, 2024



Planning for Safe AG Operations

Planning should start as early as possible and involves:

- When employing outside labor, consulting with equipment operators or general contractors
- Identifying the nature and condition of the ground/work environment
- Selecting the right equipment
- Contacting all governmental or environmental agencies for permitting, when required
- Consulting with any utility companies that could potentially be impacted by the ground disturbance

Contact us for FREE Safety Guides or a speaker at your next event.



More resources at PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com