



## Illinois Extension Agricultural Association

### Important Reminder!

All IEAA members planning to attend the 2003 NACAA AM/PIC in Green Bay should plan on participating in a TELENET conference scheduled for June 13, 2003, at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting ID number: 4322

Password: 26742

The teleconference is to finalize plans for the IEAA sponsored Wednesday breakfast.

### President's Report—Dennis Bowman

I hope you are finding time to enjoy spring. It seems like the pace of Extension work keeps speeding up and filling more of the calendar, with less time to catch your breath and plan ahead.

We had a good spring meeting in Decatur on March 7. The legislative updates from Peggy Kaye, Extension Partners and Pam Weber, ILJCEP legislative consultant definitely got every ones attention and their \$20 for membership in Extension Partners. This led to some good discussion at our business meeting. One of the highlights was the formation of a committee to look into Cost Recovery in other states, and to put together an In-Service workshop.

We had a good year for membership with nine new or reinstated members. Make sure you welcome them and include them in district activities.

Elizabeth Wahle, Edwardsville Center  
 Bill Lindenmeier, Ogle  
 Bruce Paulsrud, Campus  
 Greg Clark, Whiteside  
 Steve Ayers, Champaign  
 Dan Jennings, Rockford  
 Larry Paszkiewicz, Perry-Washington  
 Sandy Mason, Champaign  
 Don Frederick, Cumberland-Jasper

Robert Bellm and I attended the Ag Legislative Day in Springfield on March 26. We got to talk with a number of different ag association folks at breakfast. That was followed by a quick trip to the Capital. We stopped in several legislators' offices. It was much more productive than the previous year.

The NACAA Annual Meeting is in Green Bay this year. We will be co-sponsoring the Wednesday breakfast and will need everyone's help hosting that event. I have heard from 20 members and life members that are planning to attend. Robert Bellm and I will be the voting delegates. The decision about whether or not to participate in the Galaxy III conference will be one of the major business items.

The West Central District has plans well underway for our Fall Meeting in Nauvoo and is coordinating with the Cost-Recovery committee.

I have one member, Marion Shier, on the list to receive the 25-year service pin from Illinois Farm Bureau. If there is any one else please let me know.

IEAA will be a co-sponsor of a soils judging contest at this year's *Farm Progress Show*. This will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Farm Progress Show, and Prairie Farmer wanted to add some things to this year's show to make it more like the original shows. Through a contact with Paul Mariman they approached us about coordinating the contest. This year's show will be in Vermilion County, north of Danville, near Henning. The soils contest will be Tuesday, September 23. As the date gets closer we will be looking for volunteers. This will most likely involve a one or two-hour shift at the registration table or at one of the soil pits with plenty of time left to enjoy the show.

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## President-elect's Report—*Marion Shier*

I would like to publicly thank Robert Bellm for taking my place and attending the PILD conference in Arlington, Virginia the first week of May. My doctor thought that I should not fly so soon after sinus surgery, so Robert agreed to adjust his schedule and attend PILD this year instead of next year. (I will attend next year in his place.) I am sure that Robert has many insights and experiences to share concerning this leadership workshop and experience.

Summer is rapidly approaching and the 2003 NACAA AM/PIC meeting will be here before we

know it. Even though the early enrollment deadline of May 15<sup>th</sup> has passed, I encourage everyone to attend and participate if at all possible. The NACAA annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to share, converse with, trade ideas, learn more about the association, attend professional presentations, and share camaraderie with other professionals. This conference helps to further your professional knowledge and “renew the soul” as well. Take advantage of the opportunity, and attend the NACAA Annual Meeting in Wisconsin this year.

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*“Take advantage of the opportunity to attend the NACAA Annual Meeting in Wisconsin this year.”*

## Vice President's Report—*Robert Bellm*

On May 3-7 I had the opportunity to represent IEAA at the *Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference* in Washington D.C. Other staff members representing Illinois' Extension professional associations included: Robin Orr—ESP, Lisa Woessner—IEPYE, and Deb Bartman—IEAFCS.

The purpose of PILD is to promote leadership, communication and cooperation among Extension professionals in the area of Public Issues Education. Our team visited with representatives Manzullo, Shimkus, Johnson, Hastert, and LaHood; and Senators Durbin and Fitzgerald. We shared copies of the *Extension in Action* newsletter, as well as the importance and successes of Extension programs across all of our program areas. Four of the five representatives signed a letter supporting the proposed five percent increase in the CSREES budget, and Mr. LaHood shared that he and three others on the appropriations committee support increasing the Extension budget.

Our team benefited from the fact that a group of 4-H'ers had visited the Hill a couple of weeks earlier representing Illinois Extension. Mr. Shimkus' office thought they were the most impressive visitors of the year. Hearing the importance of Extension work from two separate sources definitely reinforced our message.

I would encourage everyone to make the opportunity to visit Washington at some time in their careers, in order to gain an appreciation for how our legislative process works. Although the budget process can be frustrating, rest assured that our elected officials work hard. The legislative office buildings are about as busy as your local fairgrounds office during the height of the 4-H show. One congressional staffer commented that it was not uncommon to see legislators working until 11:00 p.m. The legislative staffers as a whole are very young, fresh out of college, idealistic, enthusiastic, and definitely willing to help you if they can.

In addition to legislator visits, we participated in several workshops outlining the overall legislative process, especially as it is affected by the current partisan make-up of Congress and the Senate.

NACAA also met to discuss current issues facing our organization. One of the items that will be voted on during the 2003 AM/PIC in Green Bay will be whether or not NACAA will fully participate in the proposed *2008 Galaxy Conference*. Opinions on this issue tend to fall along regional lines, with the Southern Region the least in favor of this proposal. If IEAA members have any strong feelings regarding this issue, please let Dennis Bowman and Marion Shier know, since they will be your voting delegates at this summer's AM/PIC.



Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C.



## Ballard Receives CAPE Award—*Jim Endress & Dave Robson*

As Extension's CAP (Council of Academic Professionals) representatives, it's an honor for us to announce that a fellow Extension colleague and IEAA member has received the *Chancellor's Academic Professional Excellence* award this year.

Ed Ballard, Animal Systems Educator with the Effingham Center, is one of the six recipients this year, and was recognized Thursday, April 3 at a reception sponsored by Chancellor Cantor. Ed was recognized for his state and national contribution to pasture management and rotational grazing, as well as general service to livestock producers and the community.

Considering that there are more than 3300 Academic Professionals based at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign campus, this is a considerable honor.

Extension has been fortunate to have had many winners of this top University of Illinois Academic Professional award in the past 5 years.

Please join us in congratulating Ed.



Ed Ballard—2003 CAPE Award Recipient

## J. Eldon Coplan Passes Away

J. Eldon Coplan, life member of IEAA and NACAA, passed away at Barton W. Stone Christian Home in Jacksonville. He was 88 years old.

Eldie served as Agricultural Extension Adviser for Mercer County for 16 years from 1967 until retiring in 1983, and was previously Extension Adviser in Schuyler County from 1961-1967.

He is survived by his wife Bernice, a son, Ben and a daughter, Jane (Mrs. Tom) Lashmett and several grandchildren.

Memorials are suggested to Aledo United Methodist Church or Mercer County Senior Citizens.



J. Eldon Coplan

## Charles "Ike" Leeper Retires

The Southern District IEAA met on April 4th to celebrate the retirement of Ike Leeper, Unit Leader—Clinton County. There were approximately 14 active and life members in attendance.

A cookout was held at Lake Carlyle, and the weather cooperated by actually having some sunshine while the festivities were going on!

Ike was presented a pewter belt-buckle by Mike Plumer in recognition of his years of service to IEAA.



Ike Leeper is led "unwillingly" into retirement by Weis, Hambleton, and Cornwell.



Speechless for the first time in his career!



Larry Casey checks for quality control on the fried fish.



Pike and Bellm play "dueling cookers."



Kind of like hogs at the trough?



Ike provides a little fatherly advice to Lynn Weis, his interim replacement as Unit Leader.

## IEAA Fall Association Meeting Update—*Mike Roegge*

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2003 IEAA Fall Association Meeting on September 16-17 at Nauvoo, Illinois.

Tentative Agenda:

Sept. 16th

10:00 am—Noon

Cost Recovery PDO. Nauvoo Firehouse meeting room.

Noon—1:30 pm

Buffet lunch. Nauvoo Family Inn and Suites, 1875 Mulholland Rd. (Rt. 96) on the east edge of Nauvoo.

1:30—4:30 pm

Tours of Historic Nauvoo. Sites include Browning Gun Works, blacksmith shop, wheelwright, etc. There are many sites in which to visit, 39 of them which have church members that provide narrative at the stop. Jerry Baker is organizing this activity. We will not have time to visit all sites.

4:30—5:00

Nauvoo Winery for partaking and purchase of spirits and blue cheese.

6:30 pm

Dinner buffet at Hotel Nauvoo. Evening entertainment available, including river boat at Fort Madison, IA (short 20 minute trip). We're also working on a location in which to "unwind" prior to dinner.

Sept. 17th

7:30—8:30 am

Breakfast buffet at Nauvoo Family Inn and Suites

9:00—Noon

IEAA Business Meeting. Nauvoo Firehouse meeting room.

We have 20 rooms being held until July 16 at the Nauvoo Family Inn and Suites (217-453-6527). Cost is \$60 for single or \$65 for double (two queen beds).



Jonathan Browning Home and gun shop—Nauvoo, IL.



Brigham Young Home, Nauvoo, IL.

## IEAA Communications Awards Winners—*Mike Roegge*

Congratulations to the following NACAA Communication Award state winners for 2003!

Radio—Stu Ellis\*

Published Photo and Caption—Rhonda Ferree

Slide Set/Computer Graphics—Dennis Bowman

Direct Mail—Rhonda Ferree

Personal Column—Stu Ellis\*

Feature Story—Rhonda Ferree\*

Individual Newsletter—Stu Ellis

Group Newsletter—Jim Morrison, Dave Feltes\*

Fact Sheet—Dean Oswald

Publication—David Robson\*

Web Page—Susan Meeker\*

Learning Module/Notebook—David Robson\*

There were 34 total entries, at least one entry for every category except Video/TV.

\* indicates selection as regional finalists for the NACAA Communication Awards from the North Central Region.

## Robson Wins NACAA/RISE Horticulture Study Tour

Congratulations to Dave Robson, Extension educator-Horticulture at the Springfield Center, who was selected as one of 20 finalists for the NACAA/RISE Horticulture/Turfgrass Study Tour.

This tour is sponsored by RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), a national association representing the specialty pesticide industry.

Dave will have all transportation, lodging, and meals covered while on a one-week educational tour in the west region this October.

Tour participants will have the opportunity to interact, study and gather valuable information about integrated pest management, urban pest control options, ornamental horticulture, turfgrass management, and related technologies.



## Illinois Wheat Association Report—*Tim Laatsch*

The IWA Board met on March 5, 2003 in Vandalia. Their membership is up slightly this year, going from 240 in 2002 to 245 in 2003. The membership voted to increase membership dues for 2004 from \$25 to \$50 in order to meet ongoing expenses.

Important Dates:

### 2003 Wheat Crop Evaluation Tour - May 22

IWA Members and guests will independently conduct tiller counts and assess wheat crop condition over a broad area of southern Illinois, then meet at Austin's Restaurant in Salem, IL for de-

briefing and report. Suzanne Bissonnette and Tim Laatsch will be doing counts in Effingham County. For more info or to participate, contact IWA Executive Director Jim Quinton at 618-692-6612 or Quintons@charter.net

**2003 August Wheat Forum - Aug 20** at the KC Hall in Highland, IL

**2004 February Wheat Forum** at the Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn - Feb 16 (1st choice), Feb 19 (2nd choice)

## Scholarship Reminder—*Rhonda Ferree*

The application deadline for the IEAA and NACAA scholarships is July 1st.

Don't miss this opportunity!

Application forms are available on the IEAA website at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/ieaa/>

## Northern District News—*Jim Morrison*

The IEAA Northern District active and life members met on April 4 in Oregon.

These are the retirees, spouses, and one grand child that attended. Dick Weller is "hiding" somewhere in the picture.



Retired IEAA life members and their families.



## *Illinois Extension Agricultural Association*

### **Officers:**

President	- Dennis Bowman
President Elect	- Marion Shier
Vice President	- Robert Bellm
Secretary	- Mike Roegge
Treasurer	- Rhonda Ferree
Past President	- James Morrison

### **District Directors:**

North	- Jeff West - Russ Higgins
West Central	- Mike Roegge - Aaron Duffelmeier
East Central	- Tim Laatsch - Ellen Trainor
Southern	- Mark Hoard - John Pike

**Newsletter Editor** - Robert Bellm

## Benefits of Joining IEAA

- Participate in defining the future of your profession
- Opportunities to become better acquainted with other NACAA members and staff on regional and national levels
- Recognition from colleagues for your educational programs and other activities
- Direct input into Extension policy that may affect your future
- Satisfaction of doing your part in the advancement of your profession
- Improvement of professional skills and abilities through Association activities

IEAA on The Web

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/ieaa/>

## Goals of IEAA

### **The Pursuit of excellence in Extension Education by professionals interested in agriculture.**

#### *Objectives:*

- To encourage the pursuit of professional improvement activities by IEAA members.
- To provide leadership opportunities for IEAA members.
- To recognize members for professional excellence.
- To provide professional improvement opportunities for IEAA members.
- To promote professional improvement by IEAA members.

### **Protect, enhance and promote the interests of Extension Professionals.**

#### *Objectives:*

- To encourage participation in IEAA activities.
- To build coalitions with other Extension organizations in the advocacy of and in response to University administration, legislators, and other officials on matters impacting Extension professionals.
- To serve as a conduit between field staff members and administration.
- To provide a means for program development in all facets of agriculture .