

**NYSACAA Board Meeting**  
**March 8, 2002**  
**Albany Regional Office**  
**Albany, NY**  
**(Recovered Notes from BOD Meeting 3/8/02)**

**Present:** John Ameroso, Karen Baase, Ken Carnes, Anita Deming, Steve Hadcock, Larry Hulle, Beth Spaugh, and Bruce Tillapaugh. Invited guests in attendance were Charlie Kruzansky and legislative aid Talya Dubobe from CCE Albany Regional Office, Bob Hokanson, Deputy Program Director with the Senate Democrats, and Andrew Hupp, analyst with the Assembly Ways & Means Committee.

In the absence of President Paul Westfall, Vice President Larry Hulle called the meeting to order at 10:05. Larry outlined the day's agenda.

Steve reported on the upcoming ACCEE conference in Ithaca and the work that Monika is putting in to arrange for conference tours.

Charlie Kruzansky and his assistant, Talya Dubobe, reported on the status of legislative initiatives related to CCE and agricultural extension programming. Compared to a few months ago and given the state's economic downturn in the aftermath of September 11<sup>th</sup>, there has recently been more interest and favorable discussion among legislators relating to the Ag System Initiative. This is especially so on the Senate side, with Senate Majority Leader Bruno reiterating his support for ASI. Other points he made:

- The Governor & the Senate, especially, are becoming more convinced that what CU and CCE do is very important in job creation and retention.
- CU and CCE can use its skills to facilitate discussion about what other industries and states have done to create & retain jobs.
- We need to tress that CU's federal research grant of \$330 million creates & retain jobs.
- CCE needs to step up our "local" efforts in agricultural counties that are "in trouble."
- The Governor's plan to establish "Centers of Excellence" in NYS similar to what's been done in Texas, North Carolina, and Massachusetts.

Beth Spaugh reviewed the Treasurer report, which is attached. An audit committee will convene soon. She asked for advice on how to account for the Poisonous Plants book. Steve H. moved that we add \$50 to the Miscellaneous Income line to account for this added income. Seconded by Anita. Approved.

Under membership, Beth S. reported that NYSACAA currently has 58 paid memberships, including 5 new members. She asked how to classify new members who are community educators and part of CCE's new classification system, and if this change will necessitate a bylaw change for NYSACAA. Currently, we have only 3 "affiliates". Our final membership report has to be in to NACAA by March 15, 2002. Beth S. also distributed copies of NYSACAA's new brochure. Our association's new address is 365 Roberts Hall, CU, Ithaca, NY 14853. We discussed who on campus should be given free copies of *The County Agent* magazine. John Ameroso reported that his wife, who is a P/T Urban IPM Educator, would join NYSACAA. Beth S. distributed a membership list from 2001 to help us recruit new members. Anita D. moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. Seconded by Ken C. Approved.

Steve H. moved that Tom Parmenter and Erika Flushing be included as regular member of NYSACAA. Seconded by John. Approved.

Larry H. reported that he still has no report from the Dean Henry's Advisory Committee, though they should be starting the nominating process soon. Paul W. will be meeting with Dean Henry regarding

financial assistance for the 2005 AM/PIC Conference. Paul W. feels we may need around \$10,000. Larry suggests we use a promotion video from the 2004 conference to leverage this kind of request.

Other issues that will be presented to Dean Henry at our next meeting on May 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002 include:

- questions relating to the soil test lab; will it be privatized?
- what is the status of Northern NY agricultural research?

There were no district reports.

Steve H. urged that we as a Board seriously consider participating in the ACCEE conference to be held in October 2002. We can make our presence known by sponsoring a workshop(s), tours, doing a poster or presentation. He wondered if maybe we could hold NYSACCA's annual meeting at the conference.

Ken Carnes offered his resignation from the board, since he has accepted another position and will be leaving CCE on March 20, 2002. AWCP and INVEST, which Ken has worked with, will continue on a contractual basis.

During lunch, we met with Bob Hokanson and Andrew Hupp. These were some of the topics/issues raised in that discussion:

- With ASI, there will be a larger pool of ag specialists.
- Under CAFO rules, monitoring rainfall will be required.
- Under EQIP, there is no money designated for engineering or construction.
- Assemblyman Magee is sponsoring the development of Agri-development Zones.
- Developing new products & markets for ag products, especially in dairy.
- Economic viability of farms.
- Cell phone towers.
- The State Senate's position on increased Certified Applicator's fees vs. the plan put forth by the Governor i.e. \$75/year for all categories (private & commercial) and \$25 each additional category. Change in certification time – from 6 yrs. To 5 yrs.
- Recycling chemicals containers.
- Rendering/composting animal carcasses.
- Farm-to-School program – advocating that school cafeterias “buy local.”
- Labeling laws.
- The issue of Farmland Protection Implementation (Mrktg, PDR, etc.) in a contingency state budget.

Following lunch, the group divided into groups to meet with various state senators, assemblymen, or their legislative staff. Bruce Tillapaugh moved that we adjourn at 1:00 PM. Seconded by Anita D. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Baase  
NYSACAA Secretary

### 3/6/02 Treasurer/Membership Report/Agenda for March 8 NYSACAA Board Meeting

1. Membership: As of 3/6/02 we have 51 paid members. List is maintained on the website <http://www.cce.cornell.edu/organizations/nysacaa/members.html> daily as checks come in.
  - a. Membership renewal promotion was emailed to listserv in January 24.
  - b. In late February I went down the web list of members and sent a message to each person who had not yet paid. Got good results.
  - c. Have tried to keep membership committee up to date on who has paid, and encourage district recruitment.
  - d. Membership promo was sent to AgUpbeat February 22, and resent as a test of the AgUpbeat list. Well, actually Ed has a policy against such promotional use of AgBeat so we toned it down to an informational piece. No response from nonmembers.
  - e. Paul sent letters and brochures to Executive Directors and DELs.
  - f. Membership brochure was updated. Franklin County printed our brochure on their color copier for us. I plan to have them with me Friday for folks to take.
  - g. Ya'll got the email about the importance of personal contacts to member retention and satisfaction.
  - h. I need to send membership list and check postmarked by March 15, though we can conceivably add a few stragglers before the April 11 NACAA Board meeting.
2. Treasurer:
  - a. Andy Dufresne has balanced the books through December 31, 2001 and sent me the Quicken file, checkbook, and 2002 bank statements. We added my name to the account at the Credit Union last November during Production Ag Week. I have asked the Credit Union to start sending me the statements and receipts.
  - b. I will bring printed Treasurer's Reports to the meeting. Basically,
    - i. Poisonous plants book: Income \$1300, expenses to date \$840.31, expecting another bill when the CDs come.
    - ii. Received \$500 from administration for first timer stipends to 2001 AM/PIC.
    - iii. Andy paid NACAA for those who had paid dues before the end of the year. Since January 1 we have received \$1470 dues, of which \$920 will go to NACAA.
  - c. Books were in Quicken 2002. My 2001 Quicken would not read the 2002 files. I was able to get 2002 Basic with my TurboTax rebate so there is no cost to the Association.
  - d. Will be ordering new checks. The old check style is big business style that won't even fit in a standard file cabinet. Can/shall we use a Roberts Hall address as the permanent address?

#### Treasurer/Membership Chair Questions for the NYSACAA Board:

1. Continue paid subscription for Mann Library? One person has said yes.
2. Who gets 3 complimentary copies of County Agent? Dean, Director, Associate Director Helene Dillard (Associate Director Ed Harwood is a paid member of NYSACAA). Maybe Bill Fry for additional \$10?

3. What is requirement for membership vs affiliate membership? I asked this because we had a membership form and \$40 new member dues from Erica Fleischman, listing herself as a program assistant. One person responded to treat her the same as Tom Parmenter, who is a regular member. Someone else said treat her as an affiliate member. With new minimum “educator” requirements and minimum salaries, some counties are moving away from “educators” toward program assistants of community educators. What does this mean for us and for their professional development? **My suggestion for the short term is to accept Erica and Tom, and others who are willing to pay the higher dues, as regular members, and address/clarify this issue before our next membership round.**
- a. NACAA membership requirements, from the state officers handbook on the website, refer to “Extension Service workers” and says that each state association shall determine the eligibility and qualifications of the individual members:
    - i. One Association of professional Cooperative Extension Service workers per state (“state” means individual states including Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, and District of Columbia which hereafter shall be referred to as “state”) may become a member of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (hereafter referred to as NACAA) upon application and acceptance by the Board of Directors. To maintain membership, the State Association must pay the annual dues for each member as set forth in Article II, Section 1.
    - ii. State Associations of Cooperative Extension Service workers shall constitute the membership of NACAA. Each State Association shall determine the eligibility and qualifications of the individual members.
  - b. NYSCAA ByLaws, ARTICLE III – Membership state that the following shall be eligible for membership:
    - i. Active members: Cooperative Extension Educators in agriculture or related fields, Cooperative Extension Specialists in agriculture or related fields
    - ii. Reserve members: Former members of this Association may become reserve members without voting power.
    - iii. Associate members: Regular member of the New York State Association of Extension Home Economists, the New York State Association of 4-H Agents and the New York State Association of Coastal Extension Professionals may become associate members. Associate members have all the privileges of membership except holding state office.
    - iv. Affiliate members: Any extension employee who conducts educational programs or performs diagnostic services in agriculture or a related field who is not eligible to be a member of NYSACAA, NYSAE4HA or NYSACHEA. This includes program aids, assistants, technicians, diagnosticians, horticulturists or any other so called "para professionals". Also included are university staff with less than 50% extension responsibility. Employees may be part time or full time.
  - c. Other stuff:
    - i. A link to the NYSACAA web page is on [http://www.cce.cornell.edu/cce\\_at\\_cornell.cfm](http://www.cce.cornell.edu/cce_at_cornell.cfm). I have asked Ed to put a link on the CCE Ag web page, and when they get their web skills up they will probably do that.