



Great Lakes Times

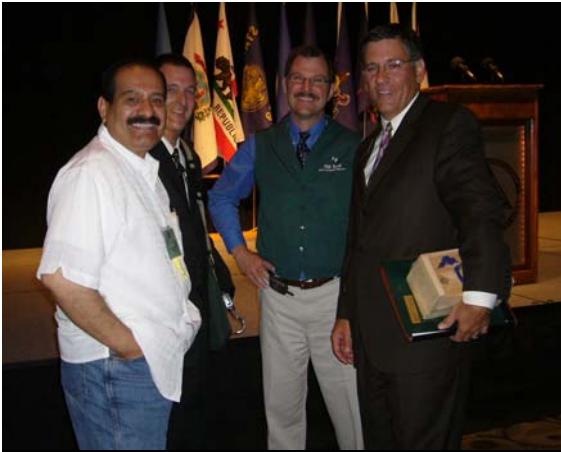
The Voice of the 2007 NACAA Annual Meeting & Professional Improvement Conference

Volume 2, Issue 3

Michigan Association of Extension Agents

Tuesday, July 17, 2007

All Grins at the Opening



We hope everyone was as energized as these guys during the opening session and we hope you will continue to have fun and learn at the conference. Pictured above: Michigan's Juan Martinez, Dale Mutch and Phil Durst, conference chair, thank Dean Jeff Armstrong for addressing future funding issues for the National Land Grant System.

President's Message

Change. It is a hard thing for many of us to deal with. Oh, we are fine when we are helping someone else, like a client in our county, deal with change. But, when I have to change, oh boy, look out—it just becomes personal! Yet as we help producers and residents in our county deal with the issues they have to deal with every day, change is inevitable. Dr. Rick Foster made that point very clear in his keynote address. As society changes we need to change our programs. New needs are emerging and old needs re-emerging. As much as we may not like change, we all have to recognize that it is inevitable. Helping you keep up with change is what NACAA is here to do!

Chuck Otte, NACAA President

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Daily Quote...Ahh!

Catherine and Julia Felter of Florida and Shana Young of North Carolina, survive the Rip Tide at Michigan's Adventure Amusement Park.

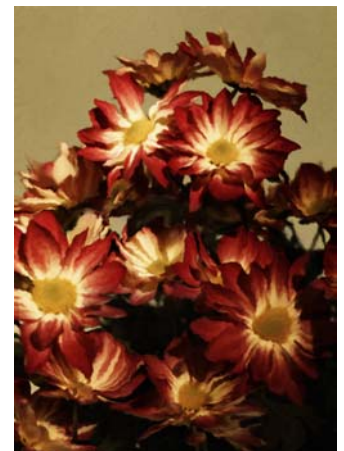
"It was crazy, but we'd do it again, now that we know what to expect," said Julia.



Floral Displays Rooted in Our Agricultural Heritage

The fresh cut mums in the floral displays were grown by 87 year-old Robert Harkema of Holland, Mich. His father Simon Harkema was the Newaygo County MSU agricultural agent from 1917-1919.

He later moved to Holland to start Harkema Greenhouses.



Announcements

- **Spouse Workshop J**—The ticket should read 2-4 p.m. This workshop group will meet in the Ambassador West and walk to the Grand Rapids Public Museum as a group. The show starts at 3 p.m.
- **University Jobs Fair** is open Tuesday 8 a.m., Amway, Vandenberg B. Check out position openings.
- **Educational Lunches**—stop at the registration table to get your free lunch ticket for an educational session. Sessions are held Tuesday and Thursday.
- **Blogging from A to Z**, Wednesday 8:30 a.m. is cancelled.
- **Life Members & Spouse Hospitality Suite**, Amway—Emerald D, will be open from 1-4 p.m.
- **Room Changes**

Event	Date	Time	New Location
Great Lakes Shipwrecks	Tuesday (7/17)	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Amway Haldane
Turf Grass Issues & Answers	Tuesday (7/17)	11:45 - 1:15 a.m.	Grand Gallery Overlook F
Prayer Breakfast	Thursday (7/19)	6:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Marriot Courtyard Grand River Room
National Board Meeting	Thursday (7/19)	3:30 p.m.	Pres. Chuck Otte's Suite
National Board Meeting	Friday (7/20)	8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	Amway Vandenberg B
National Board Meeting	Saturday (7/21)	8:00 a.m.— noon	Amway Vandenberg B

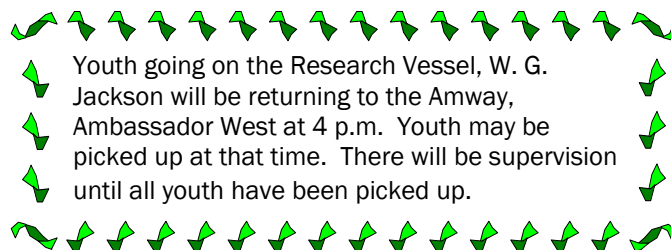
- **Tuesday's Weather Forecast:** There is a 40 percent chance of scattered thunderstorms and an expected high of 79°F. Keep up the positive energy NACAA members and challenge the weather once again to give us a beautiful day.

Lose Something?

Found items can be dropped off at the Michigan Headquarters, Amway Governors Room. Stop by if you have lost something.

Lose a receipt? Check at Registration.

Sons & Daughters News...



Youth going on the Research Vessel, W. G. Jackson will be returning to the Amway, Ambassador West at 4 p.m. Youth may be picked up at that time. There will be supervision until all youth have been picked up.

It's a Small World After All... International Extension Work Symposium

Get into the international groove, Thursday, July 19 from 11:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. In the Amway Cascade Room during the International Extension Work Symposium.

Learn how to build awareness about the issues and realities facing the global food system and about the role of agriculture in developing countries (particularly Africa). Don't miss the chance to listen to a panel of your peers who have extensive international experiences. Pick their brains to expand your international opportunities.

Keeping up with Technology

Technology tools to be discussed in the 8:30 a.m. Teaching and Educational Technologies Workshop will include tablet PC's, hand held wireless devices and web-conferencing. Come join us in DeVos Grand Gallery F.

Look what we have been doing...

The NACAA Horticulture and Turf grass Committee pre-conference tour visited Holland Farmers market, Mechanical Transplanter Company, Schreur Farms (celery), Spring Meadow Nursery, Glass Corner Greenhouse and the Kent Co. MSU Extension Grant Ideas Garden.



Horticulture -Turf grass Committee pre-conference tour visiting Mechanical Transplanter.

Tour Announcements

Tour Registration will end Tuesday at 11 a.m. If you have decided not to attend your tour, please return your ticket as we have waiting lists for some of the tours. If you would like to trade your tickets, see the tour chairman at registration between 11 a.m. and noon Tuesday.

Following breakfast please be in the assembly area, Ballroom C in Devos Place, 30 minutes prior to the departure time listed. Buses will leave at the departure time listed on your ticket. Be on time for your tour or you risk being left at DeVos Place.

Nebraska and Kansas will host a Pancake Breakfast from 6:30-8:30 a.m. in Ballroom B.

Check the back of your ticket for any special foot wear, clothing or special comments for your tour.

Life Members Remember Co-Workers

An important part of the Life Member business meeting is the memorial program for deceased life members. This program pays tribute to Life Members who have passed away during the past year.

Rev. Stephen Dudek Pastor of the Holy Name of Jesus parish in Wyoming, Mich., gave this year's tribute. Pastor Dudek gave tribute to 83 deceased life members from 31 states who have passed away since the 2006 meeting.

He honored the members for their life of service to others and recognized the gifts that they had given through the course of their careers



Rev. Dudek is the brother of Tom Dudek, district Extension and horticulture marketing educator.

Silent Action

Don't miss this year's silent and live scholarship auction featuring:

- A Texas Deer Hunt
- A 14 karat gold free-form necklace
- A crystal paperweight
- Assorted Jack Daniel items
- Many other unique items

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for a chance to win one of the five \$100 prizes or the \$1,000 top prize.

The silent auction starts tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Amway, Ambassador Ballroom with the live auction starting at 8 p.m.

DSA, AA, Hall of Fame, National Committee & Past Nat. Officers. . .

PLEASE come to Ball Room C at 5:30 p.m. Thursday evening prior to the Annual Banquet. You will be organized into groups, in preparation for entering the banquet at 6:30 p.m. sharp. Come early as there are many people attending. Congratulations and thanks for helping us provide the recognition you deserve.

Shake it to the left...Shake it to the right...Shake that Cherry Tree

Michigan grows about 75 percent of the U.S. crop of tart cherries, around 250 million pounds and hosts the national Cherry Festival in Traverse City the second week of July.

Spouse Program News!

Another busy day is on the schedule for NACAA AM/PIC spouses. Several workshops are scheduled for the morning and afternoon and the Spouses Luncheon will be held in the Pantlind Ballroom in the Amway Grand Plaza.

The featured speaker at the luncheon will be Terry Pepper, the foremost expert on Great Lakes lighthouses. Mr. Pepper is also the executive director of the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association. His presentation will include an audio-visual tour of some of the best lighthouses around the Michigan shoreline. All spouse events require a ticket, so be sure to have yours with you.

NASS Prize Drawings

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service is holding a daily drawing for visitors to their booth. The Monday's winners are:

- Randy Knapp, WI
- Stephen Dudek, MI
- Karisha Devlin, MO
- Sandy Macnab, OR
- Brett Batchelor, TX
- Kim Woods, NC
- Warren Schauer, MI
- Bruce Beck, MO

Stop by booth 23 to pick-up your prize.



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Hosting the nation's Extension agents in 2007!

*We would love to hear from you,
e-mail me at:
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"The purposes of an Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference are to provide professional improvement opportunities to members as they strive to improve the effectiveness of their respective programs, to encourage high standards of professional performance, provide stimuli and incentives to help members to develop new methods, new approaches and new projects."

NACAA Policy Handbook, 2005

Send your announcements, articles,
stories and pictures for
Great Lakes Times to
thelen22@msu.edu

Or the GLT's Press Room, located in the Governors Room.
Must be received by 5 p.m. to appear in next day's issue.

Quick Reference...

- Tuesday Registration, Amway Center Concourse, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.
- University Job Fair, Vandenburg B, 8 a.m.—5 p.m.
- Commercial & Education Exhibits, DeVos Place—Ballroom B,C,D, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- Awards, Recognition & Educational Displays Poster Display, DeVos Place—Ballroom B, C, D, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Computer Lab, Vandenberg A. Sunday, 7a.m. - 7 p.m.
- MI Headquarters, Governors Room, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

NACAA Shuttle service from the Gerald R. Ford International Airport:

- Friday, July 20—FREE
from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel shuttle service offered daily, every 30 minutes, 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. outside of Gate B. Cost is \$15

Taxi—Metro Cab, call 616-827-6500

Amway, Devos and Applause Catering

Great Partners for going Green!

From the first conversation until the last detail, the personnel at the Amway and DeVos Convention Center were enthusiastic partners in helping us "green up" our conference. The Amway has been working toward recycling and waste reduction for the last six months and will undergo a complete environmental audit this fall to reduce energy consumption and improve recycling efforts.

At DeVos, they are discussing full-time recycling options to recover cardboard and office paper for their operations and were ready to lend a hand to help us follow through on our own recycling goals.

When approached with the idea of an all compostable BBQ, not only did Applause Catering know what we were talking about but wanted to compost after every meal they catered for the conference. Logistics being to much to handle this time around for our committee, they are eager to help recover all the waste generated at Frederick Meijer Gardens on Wednesday and help us get it to IB Composting in West Olive, Mich.

Thanks to all our great partners!