

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.vaaea.org.vt.edu](http://www.vaaea.org.vt.edu)

# Virginia Association of

# Agricultural Extension Agents



VAAEA Newsletter

Late Winter 2004 / 05

## From the President's Desk

Wow what a year. It is hard to believe this is the third quarter of the year.

I must say for those of you who missed the Annual Meeting of VAAEA in December missed a good meeting. We had several award winners recognized from last year's NACAA AM/PIC. Congratulations to everyone DSA, AA and Communication winners. You all do a great job!!!

The following persons deserve congratulations: Bill Seay of Amherst and Carl Stafford, our Distinguished Service Award Winners, and our Achievement Award winners Andy Overbay of Wytheville and Scott Baker of Bedford. Congratulations to you. (see story, page 2) Congratulations also to our Wall of Fame honorees. Be sure to stop by the wall the next time you are in Blacksburg. It is located on the first floor of Hutcheson Hall, where potential future extension employees (and our current administration) can walk by every day.

Do not forget to let Steve Hopkins know if you can help out with the Beef Expo. It is April 16-17. (see story, page 3)

As several of you may know this Year's VESA/VCE Conference will be held April 18-20 at the Hotel Roanoke, for retired members please mark your calendars! We would like to have you attend. The reasons are two fold. The Association meeting will be on Monday. The Boards of the various Associations will meet from 11 am- 1 pm. The VAAEA will meet from 4 -5:30 pm. The silent auction will be held on Tuesday. We need items as well as folks interested in bidding. It should be great fun. (see related story, page 3) The possibility of establishing a life member extension group is also being explored. Several of VAAEA Life Members may want to check this out as well. Registration will be coming out soon. Be on the look out for it.

Wow April is busy!!

There are many good things happening in VAAEA and NACAA. Please, let me or any of the Board members know what we can do to help us as members. It is important to have a strong Association. There are many opportunities to assist you in the Association: officers (state, regional, and national), professional development and recognition just to name a few. We are only as good as all of us and thanks to Andy and everyone we now have 125 members that is a 12.6% increase! Your membership offers you opportunity. Please have a chance to take a few. You will be glad you did.

Thank you for all you do and see you in April at Beef Expo and VESA.



### **President**

Cynthia Gregg  
Brunswick County  
434-848-2151  
[clgregg@vt.edu](mailto:clgregg@vt.edu)

### **President-Elect**

Keith Dickinson  
Culpeper County  
540-727-3435  
[keithd@vt.edu](mailto:keithd@vt.edu)

### **Vice President**

Scott Baker  
Bedford County  
540-586-7675  
[scbaker@vt.edu](mailto:scbaker@vt.edu)

### **Treasurer**

Andy Overbay  
Wythe County  
276-223-6040  
[aoverbay@vt.edu](mailto:aoverbay@vt.edu)

### **Secretary**

Regina Prunty  
King George  
County  
540-775-3062  
[rprunty@vt.edu](mailto:rprunty@vt.edu)

### **Past President**

Brad Jarvis  
Madison County  
540-948-6881  
[bjarvis@vt.edu](mailto:bjarvis@vt.edu)

### **Registered**

#### **Agent**

Steve Hopkins  
Orange County  
540-672-1361  
[hoppy@vt.edu](mailto:hoppy@vt.edu)

## Congratulations to the 2004 Virginia Award Winners!

### AA & DSA Awards

Once again the National Association of County Agricultural Extension Agents and the Virginia Association of Agricultural Extension Agents presented service awards to deserving members of the Association who have been nominated by their peers and selected by the state awards committee. More information

#### Achievement Award Winners

The Achievement Award recognizes agents with less than 10 years of professional experience for excellent service to their extension service and association.

- Andy Overbay, Area Dairy Agent, Wythe County
- Scott Baker, Animal Science Extension Agent, Bedford County

#### Distinguished Service Award Winners

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes agents with more than 10 years of professional experience for excellent service to their extension service and association.

- Carl Stafford, Animal Science Extension Agent, Culpeper County
- Bill Seay, Animal Science Extension Agent, Amherst County

Corey Childs—Awards Committee Chair

### Communications Awards

The Virginia Association of Agricultural Extension Agents' Communications Awards Committee would like to congratulate VAAEA members Cynthia Greg, Dan Goerlich, Regina Prunty, and Adam Downing for their submissions and participation in the 2004 NACAA Communications Contest. These four individuals were state winners in seven different categories. Cynthia Gregg, Daniel Goerlich, and Regina Prunty were recognized as Southern Regional Finalists for the slide set, direct mail piece, and published photo they submitted. As Southern Regional Finalists, they qualified for consideration and judging as National Finalists.

The Virginia Association of Agricultural Extension Agents' Communications Awards Committee would like to thank and commend Cynthia, Dan, Regina, and Adam for their work in promoting and communicating their Extension work and educational programs effectively and professionally.

For agents who would like to participate in this year's contest, submissions for the 2005 NACAA Communications Awards program are due to Eric Bendfeldt by March 15, 2005. Details and instructions for the program are in the January 2005 Issue of the County Agent.

Eric Bendfelt - Communications Committee Chair

**(More information on award programs is available online at [www.vaaea.org.vt.edu](http://www.vaaea.org.vt.edu))**

---

## NACAA National Meeting – Buffalo, NY

Plan to attend the NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference July 17 – 21 in Buffalo, NY! The theme for this year's AMPIC is "The Power of Teamwork". If you have not ever attended a National Meeting, be sure to ask one who has. They will tell you that it is a rewarding experience, well worth the time and effort. You will meet agents, young and old, from across the nation, with whom you can share fun stories and professional advise, and vice-versa. You will learn about how some of the same issues we face daily as agents have been successfully addressed by others around the country, select from dozens of tour options, and possibly even win an opportunity for an advanced learning opportunity. Be sure to pay close attention to your upcoming issues of "The County Agent" for registration details, or check out the 2005 AMPIC website: <http://buffalo2005.rutgers.edu/>



# Opportunities to Get Involved with VAAEA

## Volunteers Needed For Beef Expo

VAAEA will serve meals at the Virginia Beef Expo on Friday April 15, **including the Friday night "Beef-Fest"**, and Saturday April 16. We will need **at least** 25 agents to help during the day on Friday, and at least 35 that evening, and at least 20 on Saturday. If you can help, please let Tom Stanley know by April 1. Tom will be sending an e-mail out requesting help in a couple of weeks. Indicate what days you can help. We will need help on Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. and Saturday between 9:00 a.m and 3:00 p.m. If you can only help at certain times, please indicate that. We will need the full work force on both days between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and Friday evening from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. After we have the list of people who can help we will send out a work schedule so everyone has a chance to see the Beef Expo. The last two years we have be short handed on Saturday. Help on Saturday would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your help to make VAAEA stronger. This event is not only a fund raiser, but a time to get to know your fellow agents and recent retirees better. It is also good PR with the beef industry.

Steve Hopkins—Finance Committee

---

## **Donations Needed: Silent Auction @ the VESA / VCE Conference**

*Cynthia Gregg, Silent Auction Committee Chair*

As many of you know this year's VESA/VCE Conference will be held April 18-20, 2005 at the Hotel Roanoke. The opportunity has arisen to once again hold the Silent Auction Fund Raiser.

The previous silent auctions in 2000 and 2001 raised over \$700 and \$1100 respectively for VAAEA. As in the past, we are looking for items for the silent auction. Please note the item may be anything that would appeal to all Virginia Cooperative Extension faculty and staff. I would like for you to provide a description and value estimate of your item (s).

I am pleased to announce Jim Riddell donated our first item, Virginia's *Cattle Story, The First Four Centuries* book, which is valued at \$50. Thank you, Jim.

Please get item information to me by April 11th, and I will try to have most of the forms filled out. This will make check in of the items a little easier for everyone at the conference..

The VESA Board has also asked to share the room as a hospitality room during the silent auction. Hopefully this will increase the number of persons bidding as well as promote fellowship among all the Agents and Specialist.

If you have any questions please call me at 434.848.2151 or email at [clgregg@vt.edu](mailto:clgregg@vt.edu). You may also contact the other Silent Auction Committee members: Andy Overbay phone 276.223.6040 or email [aoverbay@vt.edu](mailto:aoverbay@vt.edu); Regina Prunty phone 540.775.3062 or email [rprunty@vt.edu](mailto:rprunty@vt.edu); and Glenn Slade phone 757.294.5215 or [gslade@vt.edu](mailto:gslade@vt.edu).

Thank you for your support of VAAEA, I know together we can make the 2005 Silent Auction fun and a SUCCESS!



# VAAEA

Virginia Association of Agricultural Extension Agents

## VAAEA Calendar:

### February:

17-19: Southern Region JCEP Leadership Conference, Nashville

### March:

15: Deadline for NACAA Professional Improvement & Communications Awards Entries (see the January 2005 issue of The County Agent

### April:

15-16: Virginia Beef Expo  
17-20: PILD Conference, Washington, DC  
18-20: VCE / VESA Meeting, Roanoke

### July:

17-21: NACAA Annual Meeting & Professional Improvement Conference, Buffalo, NY

## **Constitution and By-Laws Amended**

*Scott M. Baker, VAAEA Vice-President*

A committee comprised of the senior district directors and I was appointed by Cynthia at the September 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting to review the Constitution and By-Laws of VAAEA to determine if any changes were needed. The last revision of this document occurred in 1999. The committee solicited input from the membership and compiled a list of proposed amendments to be considered at the Annual Meeting. As required, members were sent notification of the proposed changes prior to the meeting. The following were discussed, voted on and passed by the membership at the Annual Meeting held December 9, 2004 at Holiday Lake 4-H Center:

- A special membership exception was added to ARTICLE III of the Constitution to allow an active member that changes appointment to administrative faculty with VCE while serving as a state, regional and/or national officer will be permitted to maintain membership in VAAEA until the term of the office expires.
- The date by which dues must be paid was changed from January 30 to December 31 to align VAAEA with NACAA dues timeline (ARTICLE III - Constitution)
- A description of officer terms was moved from Section 3, ARTICLE III and added as Section 4, ARTICLE IV (Constitution)
- The words ...by the membership...were added to Section 2, ARTICLE VI of the Constitution.
- The destination of VAAEA assets in the event of dissolution was changed from the VPI & SU Education Foundation to the Agriculture Extension Leadership Development Fund (ARTICLE VI – By-laws).

The amendment that would have created an Associate Member status was defeated. The revised Constitution and By-Laws can be accessed through the association web site. I extend my thanks to all those who assisted and participated in this process.