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Virginia  
Association of

Agricultural Extension Agents



VAAEA Newsletter

Spring 2005

## Details for the 2005 AM / PIC in Buffalo, NY



Plan to attend the NACAA Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference July 17 – 21 in Buffalo, NY! There is something for everyone at the national meeting. There will be seminars, poster sessions, and field tours of excellent extension work from around the country in every field of interest you could imagine being associated with agriculture & natural resources (and probably a few that you'd never thought of!). 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. Registration details can be found in your April issue of "The County Agent" or check out the 2005 AMPIC website: <http://buffalo2005.rutgers.edu/>. Remember, if you are in the first five years of your employment with extension, your registration fee is waived. (a \$215 value) See you in Buffalo!

### Travel Funding for Attending National Meeting

In case you missed it, the following explanation of travel funding for professional association national meetings was found in a recent issue of the "Partners in Excellence" newsletter:

*"Each agent is allocated \$300 per year to attend his or her national professional association meeting. This includes national meetings of the .... the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA). Training agents have an additional \$200 allocation that can be used for a national meeting or any other staff development opportunity. To access this funding, send completed travel vouchers to Human Resources, or call Melissa Breen at (540) 231-6751 with any questions."*

### State's Night Out in Buffalo

*Cynthia Gregg, State's Night Out Chair*

Amazingly enough NACAA AM/PIC in Buffalo is just around the corner. This letter is being sent to get the information about States Night Out to everyone going to New York.

Finding to good eat in Buffalo is not an easy feat from a few states away. Hopefully, we have found something appealing to most of you and your family members.

States Night Out will be Tuesday, July 19, 5-7:30 pm at The Pearl Street Grill and Brewery, 76 Pearl Street, Buffalo, New York. It is approximately 2 blocks from the Adams Mark. We need to plan to meet in front of the Restaurant between 5-5:15 p.m.

The cost for adults will be \$33.00 per person. This includes the meal, dessert, coffee, tea or soda bar, tax and gratuity. The meal and dessert are buffet style, so it is all you can eat. This does not include adult beverages, those you will have to purchase on your own.

Dinner Menu is the Taste of Pearl Street: Beer Braised Pot Roast, Canal Street Chicken, Baked Whitefish with Lemon & Seasoned Bread Crumbs, Six Cheese Bowtie Pasta, Seasonal Vegetable Medley & Roasted Red Potatoes.

Youth, 5 years and younger the dinner cost is free. The youth menu is the same as above.

We will eat in the Cellar Bar of Pearl Street Grill and Brewery as a group. We will have a private room for our group, so we can plan accordingly. The Cellar Bar has two pool tables and a very nice atmosphere for a group our size.

Please RSVP by July 1, 2005 to Andy Overbay, VAAEA Treasurer, 13279 Friendship Road, Chilhowie, VA 24319-3021. Include the number you have attending States Night Out with your check made out to VAAEA and in the memo section include the number coming from your family.

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## Association Fund-Raising and Outreach Efforts Successful

### Beef Expo

The 2005 Beef Expo was another success this year. For the first time in several years, we had sufficient help throughout the event, which made the event more enjoyable for all. We cooked and served 1,000 ribeye steak sandwiches for lunch on Friday and Saturday, and served samples of beef products to over 500 hungry folks at the event Friday night. Thanks to all who took time out of their busy schedules to help out.

### Silent Auction

The Silent Auction conducted during the VCE / VESA Conference in Roanoke on April 19th was successful in raising nearly \$1600 for VAAEA. The total estimated value of the items that were donated to the auction was \$2,200.

Thanks to all of the hard work put in by members of the Silent Auction committee (Cynthia Gregg, Andy Overbay, Regina Prunty, and Glen Slade), and to the individual members and friends of our organization who obtained such an impressive array of items for the auction.

## VAAEA Members and Life Members Receive Recognition

### VAAEA Members Receive ESP Awards at VCE / VESA Conference

#### Outstanding Individual Awards

VAAEA Members **Eric Eberly** of Appomattox and **Rexford Cotton** of Suffolk were named Outstanding Individuals in Virginia Cooperative Extension.

#### Outstanding Team Awards:

For On-Farm Replicated Grain Research for Eastern Virginia, VAAEA Keith Balderson of Essex County, Glenn Chappell II of Prince George County, Paul Davis of New Kent County, Sam Johnson of Westmoreland County, Watson Lawrence of Chesapeake County, Matthew Lewis of Northumberland and Lancaster counties, and David Moore of Middlesex County received an outstanding team award.

For the 4-H Virtual Forest Development Team which also won the Natural Resources and Environmental Management Flagship Award, VAAEA member Dan Goerlich of Halifax County was awarded as part of an outstanding team award.

#### State Retiree Service Award:

Michael L. Henry, retired ANR agent from Amelia County received the state retiree service award.

## Thomas W. Covey Honored with Emeritus Status

Thomas W. Covey III, of Radford, Va., senior Virginia Cooperative Extension agent based in Christiansburg, Va., was conferred with the title "Senior Extension Agent Emeritus" by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors during the board's quarterly meeting Monday, March 14.

The title of emeritus may be conferred on retired professors and associate professors, administrative officers, librarians, and exceptional staff members who have given exemplary service to the university and who are specially recommended to the board of visitors by Virginia Tech President Charles W. Steger. Nominated individuals who are approved by the board of visitors receive an emeritus certificate from the university.

A member of the Virginia Tech faculty in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Virginia Cooperative Extension since 1975, Covey served the educational needs of Virginians in the areas of farm security, cattle marketing options, farm recordkeeping, estate planning, farm safety, fencing laws, farm tax laws, farm profitability and farm leasing. He also serves as the Extension representative for the Virginia Tech Farm and Family Showcase.

Covey held the positions of president, president-elect, vice president, treasurer, and secretary of the Virginia Association of Agricultural Extension Agents. He received numerous awards during his career, including the highest rank of senior Extension agent.