# **Our Mission**

The objectives of the association are to:

- Encourage excellence and professionalism by county and area Extension agents;
- Improve effectiveness of Extension programs;
- Provide assistance for agents to seek and participate in professional improvement opportunities;
- Recognize and promote superior achievement;
- Provide opportunities for exchange of program ideas;
- Encourage qualified people to make Extension a career;
- Bring attention to individuals and organizations who give assistance and leadership to county Extension programs and the Association; and
- To continually work for improving conditions of work, salaries, and benefits for all Extension workers.

For more information:

http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wacaa



**COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS** 

"Dedicated to Excellence in Our Profession"

## **ORGANIZATION**

The Wisconsin Association of County Agricultural Agents (WACAA) is an organization open to county and area Extension professionals and retirees.

Representatives are elected from within the membership to form a Board of Directors.

Membership dues are collected by February 1 each year.

An annual meeting is held during the conference of all Wisconsin Extension Professional organizations convened under the banner of Joint Council of Extension Professionals-WI (JCEP-WI).

WACAA is an affiliate of the **National Association of County Agricultural Agents** (NACAA).



http://www.nacaa.com

# WACAA Structure and Committee Functions

#### **Professional Improvement:**

WACAA encourages members to seek opportunities for professional improvement in the areas of Agronomy/Pest Management, Ag Economics, Animal Science, Forestry/Natural Resources, Horticulture/Turfgrass and Aquaculture. Member participation is encouraged at tours, seminars and workshops held in conjunction with the annual NACAA meeting and professional improvement conference.

#### **Extension Development:**

WACAA encourages development of extension programs by fostering teaching, communication, and leadership skill development with early career program opportunities and through participation in public relations and agriculture issues forums.

### **Program Recognition & Awards:**

WACAA annually recognizes extension work by members with a number of awards in several categories that demonstrate excellence in applied research, communications, agricultural extension programming, programs and service to 4-H, communities and clientele. The association also makes an effort to recognize Extension Specialists with the Second Mile award and to individuals and organizations who provide support and assistance to county based extension programs through the Friend of the County Agent awards.

## **Standing Committees:**

The **Life Members Program** ensures that all retired members of WACAA are aware of the benefits of life membership and invited to participate in life members' activities. This committee also recognizes the retirement of members in good standing with a commemorative "W" blanket.

**Policy & Procedures** is an ad hoc committee that may be appointed by the WACAA President to study association policy, make recommendations for change and update the association's policy and procedures manual.

Resolutions Committee receives, reviews and makes recommendations for action on all resolutions presented to the association membership. Resolutions may be submitted by officers, committees or individual members of WACAA within the timeframe guidelines provided by association by-laws.

Scholarship Committee administers scholarship applications for WACAA and NACAA scholarships, and organizes activities to raise funds for support of the NACAA Scholarship fund.

## **Awards Committees:**

**Professional Excellence:** Encourages development of outstanding poster presentations that describe applied research and Extension education programs conducted by association members.

Public Relations: Assists association members in efforts to recognize and express appreciation of support by UW Extension Specialists with the Second Mile award. Individuals, agencies or organizations that provide exceptional cooperation and support to Extension programs are recognized by association members with the "Friend of the County Agent" award. This committee also recognize association members for excellence in Public Relations in Daily Efforts (PRIDE award) and provides public relations support to other WACAA Standing Committees.

Recognition & Awards: Recognizes association members for excellence in Extension programming and service with the Achievement, Distinguished Service, and 25 Years of Service awards.