

ASABE Quad City Section Newsletter

ASABE - The Society for Engineering in Agricultural, Food, and Biological Systems

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Fall

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From the Chair Hello fellow ASABE Quad City Section members. I am so excited to have the opportunity to serve you as this year's Chair! Mark Bowers and previous Section Chairs have set the bar very high for this very involved Section. I intend to continue that tradition this year by working with the Executive Committee and members to provide excellent activities for the Section. This year is lining up to be an excellent year much like years past.

We are already half way into November and our Section has already been challenged with some unfortunate obstacles. Currently we are looking for a new Chair-Elect for the Section because Ed Farwell unfortunately had to step down because of unforeseen outside factors. The Executive Committee is currently working diligently to find a replacement for Ed. If you or anyone you know would be willing, please let the Nominating Committee or myself know. We are always looking for people to get involved. We also were unable to fill the open position of Continuing Education Chair so, with the help of Joel Werling, we were able to get a great Continuing Ed Seminar set up for the

18th of November. The Seminar will be on "HALT" – highly accelerated life testing. It should prove to be an excellent seminar. Remember that the Continuing Education Seminars provide CE credits.

Even though we have been faced with our fair share of obstacles this year, we have had some great events already this year. The River Bandits game this summer was a great success and we had an excellent Fall Meeting with over 40 people in attendance. We do have a very exciting opportunity this year planning to pair up with QCESC for a fund raising event. I would like to give a big thank you to all the participants that made it out to the Fall Meeting and to all the folks who made the meeting go so well. Our Program Committee did an excellent job securing speakers and setting up the venue for our Fall Meeting. Our Winter Meeting in January is lining up to be yet another excellent event. Please try and make it out if you have time. I know these days everyone isn't looking for more to do with their spare time, but try to make time in your busy schedules to support your local Section. Our Executive Committee and members put a lot of time and energy into creating superb events for the Section. It is a real compliment when we are able to have well attended events.

As always, if you have a friend, neighbor, or family member who is interested in our meetings or ASABE in general, invite them along! If you have any ideas for speakers, themes, or new projects, please let us know. The Executive Committee and I try to serve as your voice for the Section. We are always striving to provide topics and events that meet your needs. We are always interested in thoughts and ideas from our Section members.

Thanks! - Eric Windeknecht, 2009-2010 Section Chair

Fall Meeting Review The 2009 ASABE Quad City Section Fall Meeting was held at the Viking Club in Moline on October 13th with 43 in attendance. The meeting began with two concurrent technical sessions.

One tech session was devoted to new products and technologies. Kyle Seibold, Operator Station Engineer with the John Deere Waterloo Works, discussed The Design and Development of the John Deere 8R/8RT Tractors. These tractors are the latest in Deere's 8000 series originally introduced in 1994 and replace the 8x30 models – see http://www.deere.com/en_US/ProductCatalog/FR/series/tractors/8r_series/8r_series.html New on both the 8R (wheeled) and 8RT (tracked) models is the CommandView II cab, a new design providing increased interior volume and visibility, improved lighting a buddy seat, a new HVAC system, a redesigned ROPS and enhanced arm rest controls. An Air Cushion suspension is now available on the 8RT tracked models as well as easier tread width adjustment and the availability of the IVT transmission.

Russ Linhart, Product Specialist with the Agriculture Division of Trimble Navigation, described the technology used on the GreenSeeker (see <http://www.ntechindustries.com/greenseeker-home.html>) which uses optical sensing to assess crop nitrogen needs and apply appropriate additional fertilizer in a single field pass. This device is primarily oriented towards controlling liquid nitrogen application by high clearance sprayers in corn, wheat, cotton, milo and canola. Operating independently of the ambient lighting, infrared and near infrared sensors are used to assess the “health” of the biomass being sensed compared to a reference crop condition. The NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) is calculated by an onboard computer which then sends out a spray command signal at one second intervals.

The second technical session focused on agronomic developments and their implications for future machinery. Tom Eickhoff, Manager, Monsanto Learning Center, Monmouth,

IL, talked about Monsanto's plan to double the yield of three core crops (corn, soybeans, and cotton) by 2030. The current corn yield trend line will reach a U.S. average yield of 200 bu./ac. by 2030, so Monsanto will need to add another 100 to double the current U.S. average. Their approach is to continue to find and incorporate genetic material that will allow higher planting density, since the yield per plant has not changed much over modern history. Narrower row spacing and higher yields will provide plenty of opportunity for creative engineering solutions.

Fritz Behr, Vice President of Research, Wyffels Hybrids, Geneseo, IL, discussed their expectations for future corn culture. Breeding will add drought tolerance, improved nitrogen use efficiency, insect and herbicide tolerance, and higher yield, with the possibility of eliminating the need for refuge planting (non-GMO rows planted to avoid developing insect resistance). His list of machinery implications also included narrower rows, more starter fertilizer, precision application of greater amounts of fertilizer, higher value seed (can't afford to waste it on double planting), more crop residue (with the need to remove it from the planting row for earlier soil warm-up), larger farms, and less available farm labor.

The after-dinner speaker, Adam Neilsen, Director of National Legislation & Policy Development for the Illinois Farm Bureau, reviewed the economic impact of H. R. 2454 on U. S. production agriculture (see <http://www.ilfb.org/viewdocument.asp?did=17273>). This bill seeks a 17% reduction in green house gas (GHG) emissions by 2020 and an 83% reduction by 2050. The Illinois Farm Bureau opposes this legislation (yet to be considered in the Senate) because of its projected cost increases for farmers, creation of a major hole in our energy supply and its proposed retiring of land from production.

AETC 2010 - Orlando, Florida – January 10-13, 2010 – Note this annual conference, sponsored by ASABE's Power and Machinery Division, is moving to a new date and location. This year's AETC will be held in conjunction with the new Ag Connect Expo global trade show (January 13-15) (see <http://www.agconnect.com/>) being sponsored by

AEM (Association of Equipment Manufacturers) in the Orange County Convention Center. The AETC will again feature technical tours, continuing education seminars, technical committee meetings and plenty of opportunities for networking with colleagues in the machinery industry. The 2010 AE-50 awards will also be presented at this event. See <http://www.asabe.org/meetings/aetc2010/index.htm>

AE-50 Recipients – The AE-50 recognition program of ASABE’s Resource magazine annually honors up to 50 of the most innovative products in the industries served by ASABE. This year’s AE50 are listed in the June issue of Resource (see <http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/index.html>) and include six products related to the Quad City Section:

CNH 88 Series Axial-Flow Combines
(<http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/ae500924a.pdf>)

John Deere Self-Leveling Cleaning Shoe
(<http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/ae500920.pdf>)

John Deere 600D Series Draper
(<http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/ae500925.pdf>)

John Deere Central Insecticide System
(<http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/ae500907.pdf>)

John Deere RowCommand Individual Row Control System
(<http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/ae500918a.pdf>)

John Deere 1720 CCS Stack-Fold Planter
(<http://www.asabe.org/resource/ae5009/ae500925a.pdf>)

Congratulations to all those involved with the introduction of these innovative products.

Section Scholarships – The Quad City Section will again be offering two \$ 500 scholarships this year. Scholarship applications are available on the

Section's website at <http://www.qcesc.org/ASAE/Awards.htm>. High school seniors as well as college students are eligible to apply. Alumni, be sure that your alma mater is represented by sending a copy of the application (or the link) to the Preprofessional branch at your school. The scholarship winners will be invited to our Quad City Section meeting on March 23rd. Remember, applications are preferred in Word format and must be postmarked by March 11, 2010.

One of the Section’s 2009 Scholarship recipients, Stephen Corban, helped lead the University of Illinois ¼ Scale Tractor Competition Team to its first national championship – see <http://abe.illinois.edu/QSTractor2009> – Cody Freehill, Scholarship Chair.

Note: The Section offers its thanks to Bruce Coers who has led the Section’s Scholarship program for the past several years. Also our thanks to Cody Freehill who has volunteered to replace Bruce in this position.

Annual Meeting Notes – Three Quad City Section members were recognized at the ASABE Annual International Meeting in Reno, Nevada.

Quad City Section Member Mike Horejsi and former Section Members Tracy Archer, Jesse Orsborn and Kevin Richman were honored as part of the CNH team developing the Module Express 625 Cotton Picker which received the 2009 Rain Bird Engineering Concept of the Year Award. This innovative machine includes an innovative on-board packing system for the harvested cotton – see http://www1.caseih.com/northamerica/Products/Harvesting/ModuleExpressCottonPicker/Documents/CIH9250604_brochure.pdf

Along with three co-authors, Section Member Carol Plouffe received an ASABE Superior Paper award for the paper “Development and Field Evaluation of a Field-Ready Soil Compaction Profile Sensor for Real-Time Applications” that appeared in ASABE’s peer reviewed journal Applied Engineering in Agriculture (see <http://asae.frymulti.com/azdez.asp?JID=3&AID=25362&v=24&i=6&CID=aeaj2008&T=1>). Less than

2 % (just 9 this year) of the peer-reviewed and published ASABE papers receive this recognition each year.

Section Member Barrie Smith received an ASABE Presidential Citation “for his many years of commitment to and guidance of the Society’s Standards Program. His dedicated and exceptional leadership was instrumental in the development and marketing of a standards database that helps manufacturers identify and apply standards to their projects.”

In addition, Section Member and Past Chair Shannon Brockmann began a two year term on the ASABE Board of Trustees starting at the Reno Meeting.

If you have a suggestion for a Section member (including yourself!) to nominate for an ASABE national award, please contact David Smith at dave.smith8633@sbcglobal.net A listing of ASABE’s national awards is available at <http://www.asabe.org/awards/award.html> A listing of Quad City Section members who’ve received these awards is given at <http://www.qcesc.org/ASAE/NationalRecognition5.pdf>

In addition to nominating members for ASABE national awards, the Section presents a Young Member of the Year, a Member of the Year and an Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award annually at its Awards Meeting in March. Nomination forms for these awards are now available at the Section’s web site at <http://www.qcesc.org/ASAE/Awards.htm> with a due date of March 1.

Closing Notes – Congratulations to Lyle Stephens who received the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at the University of Illinois on April 19 – see http://abe.illinois.edu/alumni/distinguished_alum_2009

Please welcome Lindsey Dietz, Thomas Maull, Jay Schroeder, Nicolas VanDerLeest, Joseph Dunn, Lawrence Knott, Tyler Larson, Jarod Murdock and

Matthew Whyte as new members of the Quad City Section.

As of October 13th, the Section had balances of \$ 2,005.94 in its checking account (with one \$ 500 scholarship check still outstanding), \$ 442.41 in its savings account and two certificate of deposit’s valued at a total of \$ 4,573.17. Plans are being made for a joint fund raising event early next year with the QSESC possibly involving an engineering related Comedy Sportz night.

Upcoming Events - Check the Section’s web site at <http://www.qcesc.org/ASAE> for the most recent information on the Section and the following events:

November 18, 2009

Quad City Section Continuing Education Seminar – see <http://www.qcesc.org/ASAE/ASABE%20Continuing%20Ed%2018Nov09%20FLYER%20091102.pdf>

January 10-13, 2010

ASABE Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference, Orlando, Florida – see <http://www.asabe.org/meetings/aetc2010/index.htm>

January 17-19, 2010

Quad City Farm Equipment Show, QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island. See http://www.tmqc4.info/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=20&Itemid=33

January 21, 2010

Quad City Section Winter Meeting

March 1, 2010

Deadline for Quad City Section local award nominations.

March 11, 2010

Deadline for Quad City Section scholarship applications

March 17-20, 2010

Gathering of the Green (John Deere enthusiasts), River Center, Davenport. See <http://www.gatheringofthegreen.com/>

March 23, 2010

Quad City Section Awards Meeting

April 20, 2010

Quad City Section Spring Tour

May 3-5, 2010

Agricultural Machinery Conference, Crowne Plaza Five Seasons Hotel, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. See <http://www.amc-online.org/>

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Our thanks to Clifford Pim for organizing this support activity.

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Social Hour Sponsors

The following sponsors generously provided the beverages for the social hours at our meetings this year.

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