



NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT CROP CONSULTANTS

A Professional Society Representing the Nation's Crop Production, Research Consultants and Quality Assurance Professionals

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

NAICC in Washington, DC

By Clark Poppert

March is a busy time for NAICC with its yearly trip to Washington, DC, for visits to Capitol Hill, USDA, and EPA. Each year, the Government Affairs Committee and the Executive Board venture to our nation's capital to visit our Representatives, Senators, Agency policy-makers, and the commodity groups in the DC area.

I will be the first to admit that I was not the most excited person in the world to venture to DC to lobby on behalf of agriculture. Not that I did not believe in what we stood for in agriculture, but more so the word "lobby." At the time I

envisioned the word lobby meant that you would travel to “The Hill” and state your position to people that already had made their decision. “Money Talks” was another phrase that I heard from others when I discussed spending time in DC. My opinion was that we were wasting our time and that we were too small and insignificant to weigh in on the decision that affected us and our clients. This attitude persisted until I met with my first Senator in 2018.

As I was setting up meetings with the delegation from Nebraska, a sense of dread was hanging over my head. This feeling was prevalent until I met with Senator Fischer from my home state of Nebraska. We spoke with her Legislative Aid for 10 minutes until the Senator arrived. After a short time, I realized that we were not actually lobbying, we were teaching. Not only teaching but exchanging ideas, views and information. My attitude changed dramatically, 180 degrees to be exact. I found Senator Fischer as down to earth, thoughtful, and willing to listen and learn.

I also found that it is improbable if not impossible for a Senator or Member of Congress to know every detail of all the bills that are presented or voted upon. I was very impressed with the knowledge the Congressional aids and staffers possess and the reasoning they have for advising the Representatives the way they do. They are truly knowledgeable and do not receive the accolades they deserve. I have been in meetings with Representatives from other states that were not familiar with our positions as the voice of consultants, researchers, and QAs. The Legislative Aid explained our position to them in a very detailed way and then explained the Representatives’ position, and why they were positioned the way they are. It was at this time I understood that it takes far more than one person to come to a consensus and vote a certain way.

As I reflect on our 2023 visit to Washington, DC, I am excited to have represented our industry and our positions to our elected leaders. Teaching, not lobbying, is our focus and I am proud that I will be in Washington, DC to assist in educating our elected leaders on the needs of agriculture.

C2023 Crawfish Boil on the Hill

Crawfish Boil on the Hill

Members of the Executive Board along with members of the Governmental Affairs Committee are at it again. The week was filled with meetings with Representatives, Senators, and Agency personnel to discuss important issues to our industry, ending the week with the much-anticipated Crawfish Boil.

[Click here for photos of the week](#)

NAICC New Hire

NAICC Contracts Technology and Administration Manager

We are excited to announce that Hope Jones has officially joined the NAICC administrative team. We plan to utilize Hope's educational background in political science along with her technology expertise to bring a fresh and youthful outlook to our social media platforms. She has already hit the ground running by accompanying the DC team on their Hill visits and the Crawfish Boil on the Hill. She will be seated on the Marketing Committee and assist in the day-to-day operations of NAICC as tasks are appointed by Chrystal Johnson, our Director of Member Services.

NAICC on Social Media

You Can Now Find Us on Instagram

In addition to our other social platforms, you can now find NAICC on Instagram.

Get Social with us!



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Welcome New Member Dr. Ned French

by Laurie Bennett

As with many other NAICC members, Ned French's connection with agriculture rooted from his family farm and ranch in Oklahoma. A spark for agricultural-related work started from working on the family ranch during summer months and during college. As Ned stated, "My grandmother helped me connect the dots to pair science and agriculture." This passion has led to involvement with product development and eventually to a career as an Independent Consultant with AgroBionics Consulting Service in Little Rock, Arkansas. Ned stated, "One challenging aspect of my job is to get clients to listen to their customers/farmers." Ned understands the importance of helping clients realize their needs and develops positive ways to help them succeed.



NAICC ACADEMY WEBINARS

Click on the links below or go to <https://naicc.org/naicc-academy> to sign up!

2022 On-Demand Webinars

[Basic GLP Training](#) – \$125

[Carbon Markets 101](#) – \$75

[Inside Out – What Goes on Inside the Mind of an Auditor?](#) – \$75

[New Technologies in Agriculture](#) – \$75

Free Videos

Worker Protection Standards:

[How to Comply](#)

[WPS Training Videos](#)

2021 On-Demand Webinars

[2021 Hot Topics in Midsouth Ag](#) – \$25

[2021 Hot Topics in Midwest Ag](#) - \$25

[Efficacy Research Workshop](#) – \$100

[GAIAC Presents: Fall Armyworm/Precision Ag/Business Management](#)– \$75

[Nutrient and Carbon Trading](#) – \$25

[Virtual Auditing – Sponsor and CRO Perspective](#) – \$50

[What's the Deal with GLP Equipment?](#) – \$50

Become an NAICC Academy Sponsor

NAICC is looking for 2022 Academy Sponsors. Gain exposure for your business by having the opportunity to showcase your Company's name and products/services in front of over 700 independent crop, researcher, and quality assurance consultants. This is a great way to make the most of your advertising dollars while giving back to our organization and allowing members alike to further educate themselves on our great industry other professional development topics.

Sponsorship Information



TRIVIA QUESTION

Answer the following question for a chance to win a \$50 Visa Gift Card:

What was America's first national park?



Last Month's Answer:

Grady Coburn



Congratulations

Charlie Southworth

Submit your answer [HERE](#)

You are the winner of a
\$50 VISA Gift Card!

Thank you to the Newsletter Committee for putting this issue together:

Karla Jensen, *Chair*, Jo Gillilan, *Co-Chair*,

Laurie Bennett, Amalia Easton, Rachel Lighfoot, Walter Albeldano

If you would like to submit an article or have a suggestion for the *NAICC News*, please
contact [Karla Jensen](#) or [Allison Jones](#).

NAICC

**Your professional society representing the nation's crop production,
research consultants and quality assurance professionals.**

National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants
700 Wood Duck Drive, Vonore, TN 37885
Phone: 423-884-3580 Email: AllisonJones@naicc.org

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