

MACC COOPERATOR

News from the Mid America Cooperative Council

We hope your cooperative has started 2025 strong and is looking forward to another outstanding year. We're excited to share updates, programs, and professional development from the Mid America Cooperative Council.



MACC Board of Directors holds in-person meeting in Columbus, Ohio



Pictured from left: John Marihugh (United Producers, Inc.), Emory Lewis (CoBank), Chuck Squires (Co-op Elevator Co.) and Brock Burcham (Farm Credit Mid-America).

The MACC Board of Directors and their guests recently gathered on the Columbus, Ohio, campus of The Ohio State University to review 2024 activities and think strategically about MACC's future.

Veronica Hairston, Strategy Consultant with Nationwide, helped the group look at MACC's strategic vision with an eye toward how the Council can continue empowering cooperatives to succeed now and into the future.

Following the business meeting, directors enjoyed touring historic Ohio Stadium.

Register for February online trainings:

“Welcome to Co-ops” & “Welcome to the Board”

Thursday, February 20, 2025
9:30-11:30 a.m. Eastern

Welcome to Co-ops Online: This interactive, online training introduces participants to the co-op business model, explores co-op principles, dives into the roles and responsibilities of member-owners and directors, and encourages employees to consider themselves ambassadors for their co-op and the larger co-op community.

This training is designed for new and early-tenure co-op team members and team members ready to learn more about the co-op difference.

Thursday, February 27, 2025
9:00-11:00 a.m. Eastern

Welcome to the Board Online: Participants will learn about the co-op board's role, responsibilities of directors, crucial skills directors use as they lead their co-ops, and resources they can use to continue their learning journey.

This training is designed for future board members, newly elected directors, early-tenure directors, and leaders ready to learn more about the co-op model!

Learn more and register online!

Online events are hosted by the CFAES Center for Cooperatives at Ohio State via Zoom. Participants can join via the Zoom application on a computer or mobile device or by telephone. Unless otherwise noted, events will not be recorded. Registrants will receive Zoom connection details via email prior to the event. Events will be presented with automated closed captions. If you wish to request traditional CART services or other accommodations such as interpretation, please contact Hannah Scott at scott.1220@osu.edu or 614-247-9705. Requests made two weeks in advance will generally allow us to provide seamless access, but the university will make every effort to meet requests made after this date.

***Info about MACC programs and news
in your inbox!***




Changes to your membership contact info?

MACC membership renews on a rolling calendar basis, and many members have been invited to renew for 2025! Membership renewal invitations were sent via email and mailed to the current contact on file for membership.

As your cooperative renews membership in MACC, please complete the included 2025 Membership Renewal Form, so we ensure that we have an accurate point of contact for your organization's membership. If the person who handles your MACC membership has changed, please let us know by providing an updated contact person, email, and address.

Membership in MACC is open to cooperatives, organizations and associations made up of cooperatives, and any person who is supportive of the Council's mission.

Contact Hannah Scott, program director for the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences Center for Cooperatives at The Ohio State University, with any questions or concerns at scott.1220@osu.edu.



MID★AMERICA
Cooperative Council

**To Promote
Foster and
Enhance
the values of co-ops**

The Mid America Cooperative Council, Inc. (MACC) is a multi-state, non-profit trade association founded in 2003.

MACC members include cooperatives in agriculture, financial services, utilities, and more, as well as organizations and associations made up of cooperatives, and others who support the Council's mission across the heartland of America.

Led by a member-elected board of directors, the Council is focused on empowering cooperatives to succeed by growing their people.



Join or renew your membership!

On demand learning available at macc.coop!

MACC hosts virtual roundtables throughout the year on various special and emerging issues for cooperatives. Visit our website at macc.coop to access the growing library of recorded roundtables.

- **Managing You Cooperative's Equity** - Dr. Brian Briggeman, Dr. Keri Jacobs, and Dr. Phil Kenkel discussed current issues and trends in cooperative equity management.
- **Rising Costs of Carry for Grain Elevators** - Tanner Ehmke, Lead Economist - Grains & Oilseeds with CoBank's Knowledge Exchange Division explored the rising cost of carry for co-op grain elevators and its impacts in late 2023.
- **Co-op Board Development: Where to start and how to grow** - Richard Fagerlin, President of Peak Solutions & Co-Founder of Build



Better Boards, shared insights about equipping cooperative boards to lead with momentum toward the future.

Do you have an idea or are you interested in leading a roundtable? MACC is always open to suggestions on roundtable topics that would be beneficial for members. Please connect with Hannah Scott at scott.1220@osu.edu.

To stay up-to-date on upcoming roundtables, subscribe to MACC's email list by [clicking here](#).

Online roundtable focused on employee retention will feature Shawn Miller on April 17

On Thursday, April 17, guest Shawn Miler with S. Miller Consulting, will share insights on employee retention strategies for cooperatives as a part of MACC's Online Co-op Roundtable series.

Retaining the best employees is a key to success, but it can be a challenging task. In this roundtable, we'll be exploring the reasons people leave, the reasons they stay, and some high level strategies to create an organization where people want to commit long term.

Miller provides senior level Human Resources support, connecting people to processes to achieve alignment and higher performance. Shawn has extensive experience in Human Resources and senior operations leadership for companies with diverse product lines and structures.

The free online event will take place from 1-2 p.m. Eastern, is open to the public, and hosted by MACC and College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) Center for Cooperatives at Ohio State.



Mr. Shawn Miller,
S. Miller Consulting

Find details and
register at
macc.coop

Save the date: 2025 MACC annual meeting

Watch for details coming soon about the upcoming 2025 MACC Annual Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, April 10 from Noon – 1 p.m. Eastern, via Zoom.

As a member-driven organization, we look forward to this opportunity to connect with member co-ops, review key initiatives and gather member input. More details to come - we hope to see you there!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



MID★AMERICA
Cooperative Council

Mid America Cooperative Council, Inc. is managed by the Center for Cooperatives in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University. Learn more about the [CFAES Center for Cooperatives at Ohio State](#).

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu. For an accessible format of this publication, visit cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility.