

Annual Celebrations and New Faces Coming to Corpus Christi Next Week!

A week from today, the annual TACC co-op trifecta event will take place in Corpus Christi --- Third Annual Co-op South Texas Board Chairmen's Conference, Shrimp Boil, and the one-day TACC South Texas Cooperative Leadership Conference. The Board Chairmen's Conference will once again be held in the conference room at Gulf Compress (201 N. 19th Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78403 - 361-882-5489). The Shrimp Boil and the Leadership Conference will again be held at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel (361-887-1600).

Schedule for the TACC Co-op Trifecta

Wednesday, October 31, 2018

TACC South Texas Board Chairmen's Conference - Gulf Compress, Corpus Christi, Texas
 10:00 a.m. Registration
 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Conference Program
 6:30 p.m. Annual Shrimp Boil (*Bayview Room, Omni Corpus Christi Hotel*)

Program features for the TACC South Texas Board Chairmen's Conference:

- ◆ "Leadership & the Law of Unintended Consequences" --- **Keith Hughey**, San Antonio
- ◆ "My Expectations of the Model Co-op Chair" --- **John McClelland**, Garden City, Kansas
- ◆ "Simplifying the General Manager Evaluation and Compensation Process" --- **Cindy Bertram**, Enid, Oklahoma
- ◆ "The On-Demand Training Initiative: Self-Help at its Best" --- **Dr. John Park**, College Station and **Tommy Engelke**, Austin
- ◆ "For My Eyes Only: The Co-op Board Chair" --- **Gary McLaren**, Lubbock

Thursday November 1, 2018

TACC South Texas Cooperative Leadership Conference --- Omni Corpus Christi Hotel
 8:00 a.m. Registration
 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Conference Program

Program highlights for the TACC South Texas Cooperative Leadership Conference:

- ◆ "Trade Agreements, Tariffs, and Disputes: The New Norm in Ag Marketing?" --- **Kevin Brinkley**, Lubbock
- ◆ "Agriculture: Struggling to Appeal to the New Producer" (*Panel Discussion*)
- ◆ "Surviving an OSHA Inspection --- We Found a Diamond in the Rough" --- **Dale Kerstetter**, Santa Rosa
- ◆ "Planes, Trains, Automobiles, and Taxes: A View from the Co-op and Farmer Level" --- **Greg Taylor**, Lubbock
- ◆ "Capturing the Catch-22 in Co-op Law" --- **Gary McLaren**, Lubbock
- ◆ "Walking the Talk --- Moving Your Co-op from Good to Great" --- **Keith Hughey**, San Antonio

There is still time to register for the upcoming conference, or walk-ins are welcomed and encouraged! If you have any questions about the conference, please contact TACC (512-450-0555).

**TEXAS AGRICULTURAL
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TACC-PAC Newsletter / Early Voting

Every two years over the past 18, TACC has produced the TACC-PAC Newsletter leading up to the November General Election. This year, it is being made available electronically, in addition to mailing hard copies.

Early voting for the November 6th General Election began October 22nd and continues through Friday, November 2nd.

New Name, New Conference Programming, Same HIGH *Expectations* --- A.C.E Program

After 15 years, TACC is revamping the once popular “TACC Young Couples Conference” with the TACC Academy of Cooperative Excellence (A.C.E) Program this coming January 25-27, 2019! This conference is set to be held at the Westin Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio, Texas.

Target audience for this conference are those up and coming, emerging leaders within the co-op industry around Texas who have a long-term impact in their communities. This may include but not limited to: younger or emerging farmers, mid-level / newer employees that are newer to the co-op business model, and potential directors.

The purpose of the program is to begin connecting the dots with the newer generation of farm families and introducing them to alternative business structures; specifically, the cooperative.

Program features: panel discussions, local tour, roundtable discussions etc.

More information on this conference coming soon!



TACC Adds New *Technology* Wrinkle: On Demand Training

As the workforce changes, so does the approach to keeping them “trained”. Over the years, TACC has attempted to adjust with the times by having conferences, then specialized notebooks, next targeted conferences, followed by tweaks in presentation styles, and the latest being one – on – one outreach meetings with co-op boards of directors; along with co-op attorney **Gary McLaren**.

TACC debuted September 1, “on demand training”, whereby co-ops can pay the Council a fee of \$375 and have access to more than 400 training videos anytime of the day, any day of the week. The videos are executive level in their approach and cover such topics as time management, overcoming the challenges at being a new director, board effectiveness, being a first - time manager of people, people skills, and many more.

TACCs **Tommy Engelke** says of the program, “This is a real break – through for us and a tremendous opportunity for all levels of people in the co-op to stay current on their responsibilities, however the real long - term benefit will be when we can develop our own in-house training programs targeting specialized topics that only pertain to a co-op!”

For those interested in further engaging in this process, please contact **Christy Lewis** at TACC for a complete walk through of all the training programs available and a description of the ease of the process.



TACCs Joint Cooperative Meeting *Keynote* Line-up Doesn't MISS a BEAT!

TACC has finalized the headline speakers for the Joint Cooperative meeting to be held March 10-12, 2019 at the Horseshoe Bay Resort, Horseshoe, Texas --- **Michael Graczyk** and **Michael Benfante!**



For 34 years, Michael Graczyk has made a living watching people die. He is a veteran Associated Press journalist assigned to witness his first execution in March of 1984. He estimates that he has witnessed over 400 executions — which means he's seen more of these ceremonies than anyone else in the country. Graczyk will join us to share his fascinating story and the impacts and conclusions he witnessed.

Michael Benfante became a national hero for his actions on 9/11, when he and a co-worker carried a disabled woman in a wheelchair down sixty-eight flights of stairs and out of the World Trade Center North Tower to safety, just minutes before the tower imploded. He is the recipient of a host of honors and international recognition, and has testified at a US Senatorial special hearing about his 9/11 experience. Benfante is a 1987 Brown University graduate. He currently lives with his wife and son in Bloomfield, New Jersey and recently appeared on a two-hour TV documentary.



As was reported earlier, these two speakers will be joined by television celebrity **Anita Renfro**, who will address the Spouses Program on Monday.

You won't want to miss these speakers!

TACC: OUT & ABOUT (since August 23, 2018)

- ✓ Prepared the 2018 – 2019 TACC budget for approval at the Fall board of directors meeting.
- ✓ Partnered with FranklinCovey to provide members with unlimited access to over 400 online, “**on-demand training courses**” designed to positively impact performance across your business.
- ✓ Conducted a strategic plan, along with **Gary McLaren**, for Central Rolling Plains Co-op in Sweetwater September 20 – 21 and a half-day training seminar for the regional co-op COBA / Select Sires of Columbus, Ohio in Amarillo on October 16.
- ✓ Attended AgBenefits Annual meeting in Lubbock on September 6.
- ✓ Participated in a Central Filing meeting in Lubbock on September 27 and again, in Austin on October 10.
- ✓ Attended the “Celebrate Cotton” activities on September 15 weekend in Lubbock.
- ✓ Hosted an Ag Legislative Outreach Dinner in Ft. Worth on October 4, along with other ag groups, and assisted in several election campaigns in the Fall.
- ✓ Participated in several AgBenefits board of directors meetings.
- ✓ Taught the co-op business model and began the 10th year of the co-op internship program with visits to college classes: October 1 at Tarleton State University, October 10 at Angelo State University, October 16 at West Texas A&M University, and Texas Tech University on October 17.

Will Be:

- ◇ Conducting TACC South Texas Board Chairmen Conference and TACC Cooperative Leadership Conference in Corpus Christi on October 31 – November 1.
- ◇ Preparing for the TACC annual audit November 6 – 7.
- ◇ Hosting a “Texas Rural Symposium” for over 350 people in College Station on November 12-13, along with other ag groups in conjunction with the annual ag commodity group retreat.
- ◇ Teaching the co-op business model and summer co-op internship program on November 28 at Texas A&M University.
- ◇ Participating in a FranklinCovey event in Austin November 29.
- ◇ Preparing and solicitating attendees for the upcoming TACC Academy of Cooperative Excellence Program.
- ◇ Addressing a group of ag science instructors about ag advocacy at the State Capitol on November 20.
- ◇ Facilitating a strategic plan for the Texas Cotton Gin Museum in Burton on November 8.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

October

Oct 31 – Nov 1

TACC South Texas Leadership Conference -
Corpus Christi

November

4

Daylight Savings Time Ends

6-7

TACC Audit

12

PYCO Industries, Inc. Annual Meeting - Lubbock

22-23

TACC Thanksgiving Holidays

30

Texas Cotton Producers Board Meeting - Lubbock

December

1-3

Texas Farm Bureau State Convention – Corpus
Christi

18

TACC Executive Committee Meeting – Lubbock

24-25

TACC Christmas Holidays

January

1

TACC New Years Holiday

8-10

Beltwide Cotton Conference – New Orleans, LA

25-27

TACC Academy of Cooperative Excellence
Program - San Antonio

February

4

TACC Director Development Program – Amarillo

7

TACC Director Development Program – Lubbock

8-10

National Cotton Council Annual Meeting –
San Antonio

13-15

National Co-op Convention – Scottsdale, AZ

March

10-12

TACC Joint Cooperative Meeting – Horseshoe Bay

Summer Co-op Internship Program Embarks on 10th Year!

TACC has entered its tenth year of visiting with classes at ag universities over the past month, reaching as many as 750 students from 11 classes so far (*Tarleton State University, Angelo State University, West Texas A&M University, and Texas Tech University*), with one more university to meet with in November (*Texas A&M University*).

While visiting with each class, not only are the students learning about the internship opportunity, TACC is also taking the time to teach the students about the co-op business model.

If any of our co-op members have family members or friends currently attending college and are interested in participating in the co-op summer internship program, please have them submit a cover letter and resume to **Whitney Curry** at whitney@texas.coop.

