Proposal to establish a “CCA-Retired” category

April 15, 2010 the following people had a 50 minute conference call to discuss the need for a CCA-Retired category as well as how it might be implemented: Kim Polizotto, Chair, John Gilmour, Charles Denver, Jim Peck, Allan Romander, Harold Waters, and John Gruber.

It was quickly decided that a CCA-Retired category was needed in the program. Discussion then switched to requirements for “retired” status and how this might be implemented within the existing CCA management structure.

The consensus of the group was that to be eligible for “retired” status, a person had to be a CCA in good standing for 10 or more years and truly retired from his/her place of employment or business. The consensus also was that once a CCA-Retired status is established in the program, it be available to all CCAs who have retired within the previous two (2) years. Application for and approval for CCA-Retired status goes through the local board. Madison will facilitate the process by providing information and forms for “retired” status at the time dues notices are sent out.

We discussed and agreed that if a CCA-Retired decides to become an “active-CCA” again, he/she has 2 years to do so without retaking the international and state/regional exams again. After 2 years, they must retake the exams to become eligible for CCA. We didn’t really discuss needing references again, but I would suggest the requirement for references and past job history be waived in this scenario.

We also discussed and agreed that a CCA-Retired should be able to complete his/her terms on state and international boards as a voting member. Once their terms are up, they should switch to ex-officio members.

We discussed the potential fee structure for “CCA-Retired” based on suggestions from Luther Smith. We suggest a $20.00 fee for the International CCA. We suggest that the local boards have the discretion to set a fee to maintain the “retired’’ CCA in their records. We would suggest and encourage the local boards to waive all fees or significantly reduce their fees for the retired CCA, however. As part of their benefits, a retired CCA would receive all of the normal correspondence from the International and local CCA programs, including Crops and Soils Magazine.

A proposed application form is attached. The way we envision this being implemented would be as follows:

1. On the dues and renewal forms that are mailed out each December a CCA-Retired category be added as an option. If an applicant checks that option they do not send in a check, just the renewal form.
2. Upon receiving a renewal form with the CCA-Retired status checked, the applicant is sent a request form with a letter explaining what the CCA-Retired category is all about and an explanation of fees.
3. The completed form is then sent to the local board for approval. Once approved, Madison then sends out a new dues invoice. We would encourage local boards to set
up a system to expedite the approval of these requests so as not to delay the invoicing process too much. We really don’t anticipate that these requests will be difficult to evaluate. Perhaps the local boards can appoint one person to handle these requests, with the option of calling other board members if they have any difficulty making a decision.

4. The Policies and Procedures Committee will need to add a section to the manual explaining the CCA-Retired category and requirements for application.

This committee also talked about establishing a “CCA-Emeritus” category in the CCA program but decided that that was a job for another committee on another day.