



Epsilon Sigma Phi Alpha Kappa Chapter

Spring 2020

Presidents Message

2020 - 2021 Current Officers

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Dear ESP Members:

Spring is here and we find ourselves in a position that we have never experienced as an association or in Extension. We are working from home and dealing with a very scary situation as a nation and as a world. I have been amazed by the response Kentucky has had to tackling this pandemic as a state. It is also apparent that Extension is as important today as ever. Facebook and YouTube have been flooded with educational research based information from Extension Agents, Specialists and volunteers. Extension has even taken an active volunteer coordination role in PPE (personal protective equipment) production to aid our health care professionals in their time of need.

Our ESP membership just celebrated its state annual meeting and in-service training in March. Thanks to the committee for two outstanding days for our members and guests, along with their ability to adapt "on the fly" to make a virtual meeting possible.

I am honored to serve the Alpha Kappa Chapter as President for the next year and look forward to leading this membership to great accomplishments. I want to see an increase in our membership, strive to build stronger relationships with our life members/retirees, work to cultivate new and emerging leaders for the future and help preserve our rich history. Membership in ESP offers the fantastic opportunity to network with all associations, brings together all program areas, agents and administration under one umbrella. Together we grow and develop as individuals and professionals.

As President, I hope to have an open door to new ideas and innovations. Never hesitate to contact me to provide feedback or make suggestions. Together we can continue to make our wonderful organization even stronger.

In closing, I hope you will consider attending the National ESP Conference in Rochester, New York October 5-8, 2020. Hopefully, this conference can still occur as a face to face opportunity for rich professional development. That would also mean we have made it through the hardest times of our battle against the deadly virus.

Keep fighting the good fight, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Teal, President
Alpha Kappa Chapter
Epsilon Sigma Phi

2020 ESP National Conference**October 5 - October 8, 2020****Hyatt Regency****Rochester, New York****2021 ESP National Conference****October 25 – 28, 2021****Savannah, Georgia**

Congratulations to all award winners!

Mindy McCulley- Scholarship/Grants/Recognition Committee Chair

Awards & Recognition

Friend of Extension – Karen Hill

Karen Hill has been instrumental in the success, appreciation and recognition achieved by programs in Henderson County. She epitomizes the title of a volunteer devoted to Extension and does whatever it takes to promote, educate and make people aware of what we do. She loves UK and we will usually see her in something blue. She truly bleeds blue!

SERVICE AWARDS

Distinguished Service Award – Jennifer Bridge

Throughout her 31 year career, Jennifer Bridge has intertwined Family and Consumer Sciences and Community Development Education to impact the families and communities she serves. Planning and creating built environments helps families bond and increase physical activity. Community recycling efforts create healthier, sustainable environments. Leadership and volunteer development impact local decisions and provide essential skills ensuring both strong families and communities.

Mid-Career Service Award – Steve Musen

Steve Musen currently serves as the County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources in Jessamine County. Over the past 30 years, he has also served as the ANR Agent in Owen County, 4-H Youth Development Agent in Fayette and Pulaski Counties, and as an international community development worker and agriculture trainer in the Philippines.

Visionary Leadership – Amanda Hardy

With countless individuals with health concerns, many Americans want to learn to cook and eat healthier. Offering cooking classes monthly allows participants to practice and learn how easy cooking in the kitchen can be. Our target audience is adults that have little to no cooking experience. We address basic cooking skills and easy recipes that they can adapt at home. Healthy Cooking participants do hands on cooking, get to meet and talk to others about cooking, learn about new recipes and taste the recipes along with a lesson on the topic.

Diversity/Multicultural Individual – Amanda Hardy

The Henderson County Diabetes Coalition conducts diabetes awareness and prevention programs. The group provides diabetes education classes, support group meetings, free screenings, emergency assistance and diabetes preventive counseling. Approximately 4,000 Henderson County residents have diabetes and one fourth of them do not even know that they have it. In 2019 a total of 266 individuals have been screened. Forty-eight individuals that have needed emergency patient assistance at a total cost of \$220.10. Since 2011, \$1,490,792 has been donated in prescriptions for patients suffering with in Henderson County.

Diversity/Multicultural Team – Kay Denniston, Elizabeth Coots, Alex Elswick, Natalie Jones, David Weisenhorn, Kelly May, & Crystal Beitler

Reaching clientele with substance use disorder can be a challenge. Beyond, a program partnership coordinated by the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service (Family and Consumer Sciences) and the 14th Judicial Circuit Drug Court, was created specifically with this target audience in mind. Through this 6 month program, participants in recovery are able to develop a specific set of essential skills to aid in their own recovery efforts.

Distinguished Team – Nicole Gwishiri, Robert Amburgey, Terence Clemons, Michele Johnson, Kay Wells, Gloria Metz, Laykin Smith-Butcher, & Diane Brunson

The Power of Produce Program is a fun program of learning, fitness, and interactions at the farmers market for kids to participate in. The Extension Office, in partnership with the local schools and library, host this program at the farmers market to get kids acquainted with local farmers, to give parents a chance to interact with their kids in a fun and meaningful way, and to teach kids sustainability and healthy lifestyle habits.

Chapter Awards

Program Achievement Award (Individual) – Vicki Wynn

Program Title: Gardening Options for Everyone - The Grace Garden has been a successful outreach to families in the Calvert City Community. The addition of raised beds and container gardens has provided opportunities for those who may have found gardening difficult or even impossible. Participants now feel more confident to harvest and safely preserve excess produce for future use and are more aware of a variety of methods to prepare nutritious meals for their families.

Program Achievement (Team) – Anne Stephens and Lora Pullin

Program Title: Artisan Market Series: Holiday, Spring, and Summer - This has been an important partner program between Fine Arts and Family and Consumer Sciences because of the connections to “shop local” and the focus on community economic development. The Homemakers expanded their audience from Cultural Arts to other artisans and crafters in the community who are not a part of Homemakers. The products were varied because of the promotion from the FA program outside of Homemakers. Each group brought their own connections to the customer pool which promoted everyone.

LIFEMEMBER AWARDS and SCHOLARSHIPS *See retiree and Life Member report

Tenure in Service Recognition

25 Years	30 Years	35 Years	40 Years
Keith Hackworth	Jennifer Bridge	Nellie Buchanan	Novella Froman
Ted Johnson	Diane Kelley	Diane Kelley	Owen Prim



Past President's Message

Thank you to the officers and chairman that served this past year and worked so hard to make our Alpha Kappa Chapter a meritorious chapter to serve in. I want to especially recognize: Sara Talbott, Amanda Dame, Linda Combs and Dr. Ken Jones for all the extra work that went into planning the meeting and in-service. I am grateful to the membership for the flexibility of adapting a few days prior to our meeting and attending a virtual conference. I really missed seeing faces and the personal satisfaction of recognizing members for accomplishments, but so happy to be able to continue the business of the chapter. It a pleasure to serve the chapter and I wish Jeremy Teal a wonderful term as President and look forward to a great year.

Sally Mineer, Past President

Notes to Retiree and Life Members

Rita Smart – Retiree and Life Member Chair

LIFEMEMBER AWARDS and SCHOLARSHIPS

Retiree Service Award

Many professionals take the service part of our Ky Extension Service name to heart. This years' ESP Retiree Service Winner, Curtis Absher did in his 35 Year career and continues now in his retirement. As a 20 year retiree service has been his mission.

Curtis works to insure that those who are food insecure may have something to eat thru his service with the Jessamine County Food Pantry. He works for the best education of students thru his service to the Jessamine County Education Foundation. He helps beef producers provide the very best product with his involvement with the Jessamine County and Kentucky Beef Cattle Association. He also is strongly involved in the objectives of the 4Kids Leadership Academy, Friendship International, international Farm Youth Exchange, and Natalie's Sisters as well as his active participation in his church. Curtis Absher's servant leadership style is evident in all of his service projects.

ESP Retiree Scholarship Winner

Haley Anderson is a senior from Harrodsburg, Kentucky studying Animal Sciences at the University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, with a minor in biology on the pre-veterinary track. Haley is doing Equine Parasitology research in the Gluck Equine Research Center. Her studies have focused on alternative anthelmintic drugs and the natural seasonality of equine parasites. She is a Student Ambassador for the college and served as the Ky State 4-H President in the years 2016-2017. Following graduation, Haley hopes to attend veterinary school in the Fall of 2020 to fulfill her dream of becoming a mixed animal practitioner.

Lynnette Allen- Membership Chair

ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter welcomes and congratulates the 2020 initiates. Twenty-four new members joined our local membership to continue excellence in programming and professional development. Please join us in congratulating these new members to our Kentucky chapter!

Mandi Broderick

Keith Center

Heather Cheek

Ruth Chowning

Sarah Congleton

William Mason Crawford

Karen Denniston

Anna Caroline Durr

Lorin Macy Fawns

Keith Hackwort

Jill Harris

Linda Hieneman

Karlie Jessie

Peggy Jones

Carla Jordan

Katherine Jury

Turquoise Brown-Patterson

Melody Nall

Lora Pullin

Laura Rogers

Amy Singleton

Robert Smith

Gidgett Sweazy

Ashley White