When I began my career in Extension, it didn’t take long before I became familiar with Epsilon Sigma Phi. Upon learning more about its goals and objectives, I knew I wanted to be a part of a group that aims to grow from within and encourage professional development among its membership to strengthen capacity. As a proud member for several years, I must say that I am honored to serve as your president. Rest assured, I will do my part to uphold our principles, thus making sure that we adhere to responsibilities that focus on the growth of Extension in general.

For those who were not able to attend this year’s annual meeting events, please make it a priority to be present in 2016. I want to sincerely thank Joan Martin and the rest of the professional development committee for a job well done on the meeting and in-service training. I think we all gained meaningful insight on how we can build upon our successes to generate even more impact in the near future. Taking advantage of such opportunities not only helps us individually, but also allows us to be a better resource for our colleagues and the Extension system.

If you want to begin exploring more personal development options, you don’t have to wait until next year. Please consider the 2015 national ESP meeting, which will be held in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho in October. An informative agenda is being planned, full of sessions relevant to your professional needs.

The National Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) conference is another chance to network with and learn from colleagues. Several members attended the national conference in March and returned with a host of useful ideas and practical concepts.

Again, I look forward to this year and know that it will be an exciting one indeed. My assurance comes from having the opportunity to work very closely with our immediate past president, Natasha Lucas. I want to congratulate her on her exceptional role as our leader. Her dedication to our organization was tremendous and she did an outstanding job moving us forward into the “next 100 years of Extension”!

Lastly, thanks to each ESP member for your commitment. Together, not only can we make a difference among ourselves, but also within the Extension organization. I look forward to working with the executive committee, each committee chair and the entire membership of the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Kenneth R. Jones
President
Alpha Kappa Chapter
Epsilon Sigma Phi
Alpha Kappa Past President, Natasha Lucas

Thank you all once again for allowing me to serve as your Alpha Kappa Chapter President! It was a great opportunity for me to serve in this capacity! I would encourage each of you to take advantage of these leadership opportunities and get more involved in this wonderful professional organization. Special thanks to everyone that attended the ESP Annual Meeting and In-service Training at the Signature Club in Lexington, KY. Past Professional Development Chair Joan Martin and committee did a wonderful job planning and hosting the meeting.

As your ESP Past President, I am attending PILD in Washington DC with Dr. Ken Jones representing ESP along with leaders from all of our state professional associations. I also will be working with Sarah Brandl, Chapter Relations Chair and Joe Williams, ESP Life Member to get all of our important historical documents moved from UK’s Scovell Hall to the UK Library. This process will take place this summer. If you are willing to help us with our endeavors, please let us know. In addition to these duties, I plan on updating our historical information for our ESP-Alpha Kappa website.

Hopefully, we will have a large delegation attend the ESP National Conference in Idaho, October 4th-7th, 2015. Hope to see you there!

Professional Development: Lora Lee Frazier Howard, Chair

The ESP Annual Meeting and In-service was held at the Signature Club of Lansdowne in Lexington KY. The committee did an excellent job planning and securing the program for the two days. Thank you to Joan Martin and her committee for an excellent job. The facility was a good fit for our group and the food was delicious.

We had the opportunity to visit retired members of ESP, network with other extension employees from across the state and recognize our award winners.

We are currently in the beginning process of planning next year’s meeting. If you have suggestions for next year’s annual meeting, please let me know or if you would like to join an ESP committee. We are looking for members interested in investing in their own leadership opportunities. Contact one of the committee members listed at the end of this newsletter.

In This Issue

- President’s Message
- Alpha Kappa Past President
- Professional Development
- Scholarships, Grants, & Recognition
- Global Relations
- Marketing
- Chapter Awards

2015-16 Chairs

- Membership – Dana Anderson
- Scholarships, Grants & Recognition – Julie Brown
- Professional Development – Lora Lee Frazier Howard
- Marketing – Edith Lovett
- Website – Tyrone Gentry
- Newsletter – Jessica Ritchie
- Public Issues – Debbie Temple
- Chapter Relations – Sarah Brandl
- Resource Development & Management – Crystal Osborne
- Retirees & Life Membership – Martha Thompson
- Global Relations – Janet Turley
Scholarships, Grants, and Recognition: Janet Turley, Chair

Thank you to all who submitted entries for the ESP Awards and Recognition. We had 34 outstanding entries with several being submitted for national competition. Julie Brown will be the 2015-2016 scholarship and recognition chair. Results include:

Friend of Extension Award

- Quicksand Area- Dean Craft, Hindman, KY;
- Lincoln Trail Area, Senator Dennis Parrett, Elizabethtown, KY (national nominee)

Retiree Scholarship Winner

M. Addison Whitaker, Letcher County

Specialty Awards

- Outstanding Retiree Service Award- Brenda Estes Cook, retired FCS agent-Green County
- Early Career Service Award- Christy Nuetzman, FCS Agent Clinton County (national nominee)
- Mid-Career Service Award and Visionary Leadership- Tyrone Gentry, 4-H Agent, Green County (national nominee)
- Dana Anderson, 4-H Agent, Mercer County (national nominee)
- Administrative Leadership- Rosie Allen, NEP, Northern KY (national nominee)
- Individual Program Achievement Award- Eugenia Wilson, FCS Agent in Martin County
- Team Program- County Award- Linda R. Combs, FCS Agent and Dora Webb, 4-H Agent- Knott County
- Distinguished Team Program- (national nominees)- Lynette Allen, FCS Agent, Alexandria Bryant, 4-H, Carol Hinton, ANR- Breckinridge County

Years of Service Awards

- 25 Years of Service- Jennifer Bridge, FCS Meade; Jimmy Henning, Associate Dean for Extension; Diane Kelly, 4-H Kenton;
- 30 Years of Service- Sarah Brandl, EFNEP Coordinator; Nellie Buchanan, FCS Morgan; Mary Hixon, FCS Garrard; Gary Palmer, Assistant Director for ANR;
- 35 Years of Service- Glenna Wooten, FCS Perry

Report to the People Winners

Purchase Area- Marshall County
Pennyrile Area- Crittenden County
Green River Area- Ohio County
Mammoth Cave Area- Allen County
Lake Cumberland Area- Pulaski County
Lincoln Trail Area- Grayson County
Louisville Area- Shelby County
Northern Kentucky Area – Boone County
Fort Harrod Area – Boyle County
Bluegrass Area – Scott County
Licking River Area – Morgan County
Northeast Kentucky Area – Lawrence County
Quicksand Area – Breathitt County
Wilderness Trail Area – Whitley County
Global Relations: Janet Turley, Chair

This committee has been charged with the task of collecting information from ESP members who have travelled abroad on Extension business. We are asking that any member who has traveled within the last 5 years to another country to contact Janet Turley, jturley@uky.edu. We need to know where you traveled and the date you traveled. This information will be compiled into a list so that county programs looking for a guest speaker from a particular country could potentially request agents as guest speakers. This is also a national initiative. Special thanks to Debbie Temple, Ballard County FCS Agent for serving as chairman of this committee. The new chairman will be Janet Turley.

Marketing: Edith Lovett, Chair

What a wonderful opportunity Kentucky ESP Members have to attend the 2015 National JCEP Conference that will be held October 4-7 in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. The Conference theme is “Unlocking The Treasurers of Your Future.” If you have never heard about the resort at the Coeur d’Alene, there is something magical about a visit to this site. The Coeur d’Alene is a four star resort, with luxurious accommodations, located on the shores of one of America’s most beautiful lakes.

Plan now to attend the 2015 ESP National Conference In spectacular Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, October 4-7, 2015

Check the ESP website for more information as it becomes available!

To our ESP members, invite your fellow Extension Agents to become a member of the Kentucky ESP Chapter. New members are initiated at our ESP State Meeting, but they can join any time after 3 years of service. Help us to increase our membership. Consider attending a JCEP National Conference.

Save the Date: October 5-7, 2015
ESP Alpha Kappa National Meeting
Coeur d’ Alene Idaho

Keynote speakers Dr. Larry D. Roper Provost for Student Affairs Oregon State University
Dr. Kay Sagmiller Director Center for Teaching and Learning Oregon State University
Dr. Waded Cruzado President Montana State University
ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter Awards
March 2015
Presenting Data Effectively: Amanda Hardy

The 2015 Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Kappa Chapter In-Service Training was led by Stephanie Evergreen. She is an international keynote speaker who uses a research-based approach to discussions concerning program evaluation and presentation design. Her focus is presenting research-based design guidelines for reports, slides, and data visualizations.

She presented effective communication techniques by sharing the message with character fonts that stand out, graphics that are free instead of clip art. Also, how to choose charts can be harder to interpret as well as how to make a map easier to understand. She really put presenting data into perspective.

Some things that I had not previously considered are fonts, colors, do not let design or graphics overwhelm the information you are trying to present. Utilize fact sheets and do not rely on PowerPoint handouts.

Her workshop was very interesting. This would be a great in-service for agents and other Extension personnel.

ESP Annual Meeting Notes: Joan Martin

It was so nice to see co-workers and life members at the annual meeting. Seventy-six members plus 4 guests attended. This number included eighteen life members.

We welcomed five new life members this year – Pat Margolis, Jeanne Davis, Becky Nash, Jack Ewing and Gae Broadwater. We wish them all a happy retirement.

I met a few living legends at the annual meeting. Retirement looks good on them. I’ve heard the stories and now I’ve met the legends.

The ESP Annual Meeting survey will be available until April 15. Please use this link to complete the survey if you haven’t done it yet.

https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_9SHbePbru6DqsVT

It only takes three or four minutes. So far it seems universal that everyone enjoyed meeting at The Signature Club.

The best part of the meeting was talking with colleagues and honoring those who received awards. I hope you will consider applying for awards next year. We accomplish a lot of good in our work and it’s appropriate to recognize our success in improving life in Kentucky.

Congratulations to our award winners.

Thanks to the professional development committee for their work in making the annual meeting a success – Kim Henken, Martha Nall, Julie Brown, Kelli Bonifer, Amanda Hardy and Katie Alexander.
2015-2016 Area Contacts

**Administration**
Anna Smith

**Bluegrass**
Ray Tackett

**Fort Harrod**
Dana Anderson

**Green River**
Lisa Hagman

**Kentucky State**
Louie Rivers

**Lake Cumberland**
Tyrone Gentry

**Licking River**
Tad Campbell

**Lincoln Trail**
David Harrison

**Louisville**
Shelia Fawbush

**Mammoth Cave**
Julie Brown

**Northern KY**
Judy Hetterman

**Northeast**
Eugenia Wilson

**Pennyville**
Nancy Hunt

**Princeton**
*

**Purchase**
Ladawn Hale

**Quicksand**
Anna Hollen

**Specialists**
Sarah Brandl

**Wilderness Trail**
Lora Howard