



# Epsilon Sigma Phi

## Alpha Kappa Chapter

Winter 2013

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University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 40546-0064

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## President's Message

It was good to see a large number of Kentucky Extension folks in Pittsburgh for the Galaxy IV conference. I must admit that it was my first time attending a Galaxy and it was almost overwhelming. There were a little less than 2,900 registered for the conference all the way from county level agents, or educators, as we are known in other states, to the Secretary of the USDA. Admittedly this caused some heartburn as far as motel rooms and some confusion and scheduling conflicts on meeting rooms, but the educational sessions were well worth attending. Maybe next time, more from KY can make the journey to wherever it will be held for number V.

Alpha Kappa received some high honors at the National ESP meeting, which was held under the Galaxy umbrella. In Achievement in Chapter Membership, we earned the Gold Award, and in the Chapter of Merit, we also earned the Gold Award. So thank you Dana for getting the forms filled out and presenting us in such a good light. I hope I can do the same for us next year.

One of the big honors that we had this year was that our very own Commissioner of Agriculture, James R. Comer was the winner of the National Friend of Extension Award for Public Officials. He was given this honor at the annual Ruby Luncheon, the National ESP awards banquet. I want to thank Janet Turley for taking the initiative and doing such a great job of filling out that application.

I also wanted to let you know that Kelli is working on getting the final touches put on the upcoming (in February) state ESP meeting. For those that have not heard, the general plan is for it to be on the afternoon of the Monday before the State Extension Conference starts on Tuesday. So, no extra trip, just come to Lexington a day early. And of course the ESP social event will be that Monday evening.

Going off on another tangent, if you haven't visited our ESP webpage lately, do so. Tyrone is doing a great job of keeping it up to date with the materials he is being provided. If you have something that you think needs to be on the KY ESP webpage, please forward it to Tyrone.

In that same line of thought, have you ever been on the national ESP website? If not check it out sometimes.

Among the things you will find on there are applications for grants, scholarships, etc. Some of these can help pay your way to the National JCEP meeting and/or to PILD in Washington D.C. Oh, and did you know that both of those conferences are open to anyone within Extension that wants to attend? I think many times a lot of Extension personnel think that they are only for the leadership within their professional organizations. So if you have never been to either, consider attending one next year, I think you will be glad you did.

As we move towards the new year, and it does seem like it is approaching rapidly, remember that that next year's ESP dues deadline is coming up fast also. Last year our membership dropped some from the previous year, probably due to the fact that we had to pay them out of pocket. But I do hope that you will again join, and encourage others to join as well. We hear all the time that Extension is the best kept secret in the state. Well, I think that ESP is the best kept secret within Extension itself. It offers so much to those who are willing to put forth a little effort and fill out an application or two.

In closing I want to say it has been an honor to serve as your president for the past year and I want to thank you for the privilege of doing so. It has been fun and educational and a little trying at times, but overall a great experience. I know that I am leaving the reins of the organization in good hands when Natasha takes over as President in February and wish her the very best of luck.

Lyndall Harned  
Alpha Kappa Chapter President

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## You're invited to SAVE THE DATE

for the 2014  
Epsilon Sigma Phi  
Alpha Kappa's Chapter  
Annual Meeting  
on  
Monday,  
February 24, 2014  
2:00 p.m.  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Lexington, KY.

More information will be coming  
soon!

## ESP Membership

Paula Jerrell, Membership Committee Chair

The Membership Committee consists of all of our Area ESP Contacts and others who would like to be part of this committee. Each Area ESP Contact is encouraged to promote ESP at District Staff meetings and encourage all eligible members to join Epsilon Sigma Phi Alpha Kappa Chapter.

Those who have worked three or more years and are in good standing are eligible for Kentucky's Epsilon Sigma Phi Alpha Kappa Chapter and national ESP membership. Each year the membership chairperson receives the list of *newly* eligible extension employees and those will receive a special invitation to join. If you think you are newly eligible and you don't hear from me by mid-November, please feel free to contact me at [pjerrell@uky.edu](mailto:pjerrell@uky.edu). In regard to membership dues, we will have an Early Bird Membership savings of \$5.00 again this year. Sign up by December 2, 2013, for this savings. Absolute deadline is January 10, 2014. Please see the attached form for deadlines and dues amounts.

Hopefully everyone has heard ESP updates and annual meeting dates from your Epsilon Sigma Phi contact(s) from your district at District Staff. We are looking forward to another great year in ESP. Our Annual Meeting will be in conjunction with the 2014 State Extension Conference. We hope everyone will take advantage of this opportunity to attend the Annual Meeting.

## Be Recognized For Your Programming!

Janet Turley, Scholarship, Grants & Recognition Chair

ESP members should consider showcasing their projects and programs by entering in the ESP award and recognition program. The deadline for award submission is Friday, January 10, 2014. A new format will be implemented this year for most of the awards. This format will include an online format located at the National ESP website. Chapter awards not considered for national recognition will be located on Kentucky's ESP website. Agents interested in applying for the following national scholarships and grants should adhere to a strict December 1 deadline: PILD scholarship, Mike McKinney Public Issue's Scholarship, and Professional Development Mini-Grant Program. Other national scholarships will have a March 1 deadline. ESP members should check the Kentucky Epsilon Sigma Phi website for more information on awards, scholarships and grants.

Don't forget to visit the ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter website:

<http://ces.ca.uky.edu/epsilonsigmaphi/>



## Alpha Kappa Chapter Epsilon Sigma Phi New Member, Lifetime and Dues Renewal Form 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator \_\_\_\_ Specialist \_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_

County Ext. Agent: ANR \_\_\_\_ 4-H \_\_\_\_ FCS \_\_\_\_ Hort \_\_\_\_ Fine Arts \_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Area \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Has any of the following information changed in the last year? Please check:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone numbers \_\_\_\_\_

If checked: please add corrections below:

**Email: (please print clearly)** \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one:**

New member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member \_\_\_\_\_ New Lifetime member (must be retired) \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues:**

New Member: \$60. (Initiation fee is \$5.00 + 55.) \_\_\_\_\_

National and Chapter Dues for renewing members: \$55. \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: deduct \$5.00 if paid before December 2, 2013**

New Lifetime Member: \$210 (retirees only) \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions to Scholarship Funds (all voluntary)**

Contribution to National Endowment \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to Retirees Scholarship Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to T.R. Bryant Scholarship Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Dues must be received by January 10, 2014.**

Mail this form and your check to ESP:

Reva Mitchell, 3341 Hwy 351E, Henderson, KY 42420-9202

## KY Commissioner Receives National Award

### Janet Turley, Scholarship, Grants & Recognition Chair

Each year the National Epsilon Sigma Phi organization selects 3-4 nominee's from across the United States to receive the National Friend of Extension Award. The award is presented during the Ruby Luncheon where agents across the nation are recognized for outstanding efforts. This year, Kentucky was among the ranks of having one of the four national recipients. We are very proud and honored that Commissioner of Agriculture James R. Comer received this once in a lifetime award.

Commissioner Comer has been a dedicated "friend" for most of his life. He got his start in Extension when he began a 4-H Beef Project in Monroe County and his love for extension grew from there. He became active in his community, was a member of the Monroe County Extension Council and went on to become a KY legislator at just 27 years old. He was a key legislator in getting Extension money for the Career Ladder, played a vital role in implementing the 4-H Capitol Experience, and in his first year as Commissioner of Agriculture he implemented the Ag License Plate program where 4-H received one third of the donations.

Commissioner James R. Comer is a true Friend of Extension. Join me in congratulating him!



Pictured here is Kentucky Commissioner for Agriculture James R. Comer receiving the National Friend of Extension Award at the Ruby Luncheon at National ESP in Pittsburgh. With him are Kentucky Extension agents and staff who attended the luncheon.

## Galaxy VI- A New Era in Extension in Pittsburgh



During this year's Galaxy Conference, Extension professionals from across Kentucky enjoyed each other's company and seeing the sights of Pittsburgh!

### ESP Notes...

-**JCEP Leadership Conference proposals are due Oct 31.** This year's JCEP Leadership Conference Planning Committee invites Extension Educators and Specialists alike to share their strengths, expertise, and programs regarding leadership development. More info at <http://www.jcep.org/leadership-conference/concurrent-session-rfp-submission>

-On the recommendation from the Scholarship, Grants and Recognition committee, the national board approved **December 1 as the deadline for PILD scholarships, McKinney scholarships, and Professional Development grants** (formerly called mini-grants). The updated information for the Professional Development grants can be found online.

-It is the year in the cycle for us to **elect a Southern Region vice-president in 2014.** The deadline for applying for this position has been moved up this year to the spring due to electronic voting in May. So if you would like to make a run for this office, keep checking the national website for when the application is posted.

-The Joint Council of Extension Professionals have instituted a new award available to members of the JCEP member organizations titled **"Professional of the Year."** Given annually, the award hopes to recognize individuals who demonstrate successful interdisciplinary partnerships across many program areas with colleagues and stakeholders for consistent programs of excellence for a significant part of their extension career. Impact at the local, regional, state or national level is essential. One award of \$1000 and one plaque will be presented to an extension professional from each JCEP organizations (ANREP, ESP, NACDEP, NACAA, NAE4-HA, and NEAFCS) with a maximum of six (6) awards per calendar year. Nominations for the award are due January 15, 2014. For further information and a nomination form, see the JCEP website: <http://www.jcep.org>.

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Tyrone Gentry

### **Northern KY**

Judy Hetterman

### **Quicksand**

Glenna Wooten

### **Bluegrass**

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### **Licking River**

Jeff Smith

### **Northeast**

Eugenia Wilson

### **Specialists**

Sarah Brandl

### **Fort Harrod**

Jenny Cocanougher

### **Lincoln Trail**

Jack Ewing

### **Pennyrile**

Nancy Hunt

### **Wilderness Trail**

Lora Howard

### **Green River**

Lisa Hagman

### **Louisville**

Shelia Fawbush

### **Princeton**

\*

### **Kentucky State**

Louie Rivers

### **Mammoth Cave**

Julie Brown

### **Purchase**

Ladawn Hale