



Epsilon Sigma Phi Alpha Kappa Chapter

Fall 2020

Presidents Message

2020 - 2021 Current Officers

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Dear ESP Members,

Hello to everyone! Fall is here and 2020 has been a very interesting year thus far to say the least. It has been great to hear of all the Extension successes across the state and the vital roles we have been playing in our communities.

We have just recently completed the National ESP Conference via Zoom. I want to take a minute to recognize our wonderful chapter for all of our successes and accomplishments. Thirty-four Alpha Kappa Chapter members attended the National Meeting, making us the largest delegation in attendance. Our Kentucky Chapter was recognized for being a Platinum Chapter, which means we received the highest level of chapter involvement and activity for our members. We were also recognized for being a Gold Level Chapter of Merit. Congratulations to Jennifer Bridge, Meade County FCS Agent, for being awarded the Distinguished Service Award for the Southern Region.

I highly recommend you attend a National ESP Conference in the future. Hopefully, next year we can meet safely together again, face to face, in time to travel to beautiful Savannah, Georgia. The dates for the 2021 Conference are October 25-28.

Please save the date for our 2021 Alpha Kappa Chapter Annual Meeting and In-Service, which will be held March 29-30 virtually. The committee is working hard to present a wonderful program. The annual meeting will be on the 29th with the in-service on the 30th. More exciting details to come in the future!

Please read the articles submitted by other officers and committee chairman in this newsletter. Take note of dues, awards, meetings and mark your calendars for all of the wonderful future opportunities available to us. Our Kentucky chapter is one of the best there is and together we will keep it that way in 2021 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Teal, President
Alpha Kappa Chapter
Epsilon Sigma Phi



2021 ESP National Conference
Historic Savannah Desoto Hotel
Savannah, Georgia
October 25 - 28, 2021



2021 ESP National Conference

Abbie Salmon and Allie Griner, Georgia / Alpha Beta Chapter

In many ways, 2020 has pushed us outside our comfort zones. Many of us who typically shopped at the grocery store now use a convenient pick-up method. Some of us may have even attempted to learn a new skill or master a new hobby. Also, our ability to adapt as Extension Professionals has never been so apparent. Instead of attending face to face conferences and meetings, we have now become experts at virtual conferencing along with still serving our clientele with a smile, either behind a mask or computer screen. However, we are looking forward to returning to an in-person conference for 2021 in Savannah, Georgia.

John A. Shedd said, "A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for." As Extension Professionals, we have certainly had to sail in stormy seas recently, often encountering both challenges and opportunities. At our National Epsilon Sigma Phi Annual Conference, our professional society provides resources to help you navigate these uncharted waters. We invite you to join us for a ***Sea of Opportunity Anchored in Extension***, October 25-28, 2021 to chart your course for the future.

2022 ESP National Conference
Branson, MO
September 26 – 29, 2022

Put this date on your calendar and visit [ESP Georgia 2021](#) for more information.

Excerpt from national news

Mindy McCulley-
Scholarship/Grants/Recognition Committee
Chair

Awards, Grants and Scholarships, oh my!

Through your Epsilon Sigma Phi membership, you are eligible for many awards, grants and scholarships. The deadline is quickly approaching for national grants and scholarships (PILD Scholarship, Angus Professional Development Scholarship, Professional Development Programming Grant and the Rita T. Wood Grant). The deadline to apply for these funding opportunities is December 1. You must submit your application online and all require letters of support. So, allow yourself plenty of time to review the necessary documents that must be submitted with the application. Visit <https://espnational.org/> and click on the appropriate grant or scholarship under the Upcoming deadlines block to complete your application.

Various programming and achievement awards are granted by ESP each year. ESP recognizes members who consistently display excellence in programming, leadership and/or administration at various terms of service throughout one's career. In addition to service awards, various other awards are granted including recognition for Diversity/Multicultural, Administrative Leadership, Visionary Leadership and the Ruby Award. You may go online to complete these awards and submit by February 15, 2021. Additionally, the Alpha Chapter (Kentucky) of ESP is pleased to provide recognition through various chapter awards. Hopefully, as you

plan, prepare, and present programs, you are considering whether they are award worthy programs. It is now time to submit those programs (both individual and team efforts) for ESP awards. Visit the ESP website for a complete listing of awards and to access the awards packet for 2021. All Program Achievement awards should be submitted to Mindy McCulley (mindy.mcculley@uky.edu) by **February 15, 2021**. Tenure Awards (30, 35, & 40 years) are due by March 1st, also to Mindy. Finally, Wilderness Trail, Fort Harrod and Northern KY Areas are eligible to submit Friends of Extension this year. Please work together to determine a deserving recipient for your area.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out! Email is great or call 859.218.1544 and leave me a message!

Please note! Apart from the Friend of Extension award, only current ESP members are eligible for ESP Awards.

Past President's Message

ESP Officer Election ~ The ESP chapter according to the by-laws, rotate the office of President in all programmatic areas. For the year 2021-2022 President-Elect will be elected from the Agricultural/Natural Resources agent subject area. Serving in leadership roles can be one of the most rewarding experiences in your Extension career. If you are interested in this position please feel free to reach out to me at smineer@uky.edu I will be more than happy to explain the office and requirements.

Sally Mineer, Past President

Treasurer's Update:

It's that time of year, to pay your dues again for ESP. Here are a few reminders:

1. On **October 1**, you should have received an email about renewing national and chapter dues. The invoice can be paid by check or credit card. Payment is due by **December 31**. Members whose payment is not received by February 1, 2021 will lose active member status.

2. Remember, County Extension Agents may use county Professional Improvement funds to pay their ESP dues. Please be sure to request approval from your district director via email. You should then attach a copy of the email request and approval to the payment voucher before submitting to your county fiscal coordinator.

The National office will send reminders to members again in November. If you forget to pay dues prior to February 1, in March you will receive notice from the National office that your membership has "lapsed". Lapsed members will be able to re-activate their status by paying current year's dues.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, at sara.talbott@uky.edu

Sara Talbott, Treasurer

Extension Workers' Creed

I believe in people and their hopes, their aspirations, and their faith; in their right to make their own plans and arrive at their own decisions; in their ability and power to enlarge their lives and plan for the happiness of those they love.

I believe that education, of which Extension work is an essential part, is basic in stimulating individual initiative, self-determination, and leadership; that these are the keys to democracy and that people when given facts they understand, will act not only in their self-interest, but also in the interest of society.

I believe that education is a lifelong process and the greatest university is the home; that my success as a teacher is proportional to those qualities of mind and spirit that give me welcome entrance to the homes of the families I serve.

I believe in intellectual freedom to search for and present the truth without bias and with courteous tolerance toward the views of others.

I believe that the Extension Service is a link between the people and the ever-changing discoveries in the laboratories.

I believe in public institutions of which I am a part.

I believe in my own work and in the opportunity I have to make my life useful to humanity.

Because I believe these things, I am an Extension worker.