President’s Message

Where has 2012 gone? Time has seemed to fly by quicker and quicker every year. This last year has been a prosperous year of ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter. The chapter is only as strong as its membership and I will say we are doing very well. 2012 we have 150 members and 133 life members in ESP.

Our Chapter was well represented at National Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference in Mobile, Alabama in October with 13 members in attendance. Kentucky continues to play a key role on the National level: Laura Wilson finished her term as Southern Region Vice President and Chair of the Public Issues Committee and served on the Chapter Relations Committee. Under her leadership she has been an advocate for Cooperative Extension Service and Epsilon Sigma Phi Organization. In addition, Peggy Powell, Montgomery County Family Consumer Sciences Agent presented a poster session about Retirement Updates for ESP Life Members. We also have several members serve on National Committees: Anna Smith on the Membership Recruitment & Retention Committee, Louise Moore on the Resource Development & Management Committee, Debbie Temple on Marketing Committee and Gae Broadwater on the Professional Development Committee.

I was honored on behalf of Alpha Kappa Chapter to accept receive three awards during the state chapter recognition breakfast:
♦ Achievement in Chapter Membership-Gold Award
♦ Chapter of Merit – Platinum Award (Highest level)
♦ ESP Key Level Contributor Award (Donations to the ESP National Endowment)

Greatly appreciate the leadership of Past President Chuck Stamper who did excellent job in completing Chapter Reports last year. Kentucky was also the only chapter to receive three chapter awards.

As 2013 membership drive is underway, please encourage your colleagues to join ESP. New members are always welcome whether they are Extension Agents, administrators, and state specialists. Active members must have three years of experience with Cooperative Extension, and must meet satisfactory performance standards. ESP provides a great networking for all agents across our state and across program areas to discuss issues relevant and pertinent to us all. In no way do I minimize the importance of meeting with peers in one’s expertise; there is, however, no shortage of value in gathering in a multi-disciplinary setting.

ESP is looking for a productive new year of great opportunities for our members and retirees. We look forward to our upcoming state meeting and professional development in-service in March.

On behalf of the Board, Committees and Area Representatives, we want to wish a prosperous New Year. With all that we have to accomplish this year, be sure you make time for yourself and for your family.

Dana Anderson
Alpha Kappa Chapter President
Proposal: Invitation to ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter to co-sponsor a Professional Development In-service Opportunity

What: A 60-90 minute in-service webinar as professional development for Kentucky Extension agents and specialists to learn ways to engage in scholarship.

When: July 30 or 31, 2013

Rationale: Gae Broadwater and Jeanne Davis attended a session at the 2012 national ESP conference, which was titled “Engaging in Scholarship: A Look at Opportunities in the 21st Century.” After the session they compared notes and realized this session would be of great value to Kentucky Extension professionals. They are developing a professional development in-service in a webinar format. Because of the focus on Extension scholarship, professional development, and the tie to ESP, they are proposing this webinar be co-sponsored by ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter. This is in keeping with the mission of ESP and would demonstrate a value of ESP to Kentucky.

Webinar Title: Engaging in Scholarship Activities for Extension

Brief Description: "Scholarship is creative work that is validated by peers and communicated" (Weiser, 1996). Extension professionals are expected to create and conduct scholarly work. In the case of Extension, that includes program activities that can be validated by our peers and our university systems. How do we as Extension professionals pursue scholarship when there are competing demands for our time as an educator, community facilitator, and leader? How can we achieve scholarly work? Where do we begin? This webinar will provide you with examples of Extension scholarship and outline steps that make it easier to achieve your scholarship goals.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define Extension scholarship
2. Provide examples of Extension scholarship
3. Outline key considerations in producing scholarship
4. Identify opportunities for including scholarship

Who:

Gae Broadwater: State Specialist for Program & Staff Development - Kentucky State University
Jeanne Davis: Regional Program & Development Coordinator - University of Kentucky

Cost: No cost to participate. All costs are provided in-kind by the partner universities.

Action Requested:
1. Approval to proceed and list ESP Alpha Kappa Chapter
2. Names of two-three ESP members to serve as peer reviewers in the development phase
CSRS and FERS Benefits - Did You Know?: Martha Perkins, Public Issues Chair

If a FERS-covered employee over age 62 has worked for at least 10 years and dies while still employed, his/her surviving spouse would receive the following: the Basic Employee Death Benefit; a FERS surviving annuity equal to 50% of the deceased employee’s FERS gross annuity calculated as of the day of the employee’s death; the deceased employee’s TSP account assuming the spouse was named as the TSP beneficiary; the deceased employee FEGLI life insurance proceeds (if the employee had this benefit and the spouse was the beneficiary); a $255 death benefit payment from Social Security; and a widow benefit from Social Security that can start when the surviving spouse is age 60.

If a CSRS retiree has an annuity for his/her spouse, and the spouse dies first, the annuitant can revert to a self only annuity. The annuitant should send a certified death certificate to the OPM Retirement Office. Any prior deductions from the annuitant’s annuity check for the cost of the survivor annuity would not be refunded.

Membership: Paula Jerrell

In Kentucky, the Alpha Kappa Chapter of ESP meets annually at a one day meeting preceded by an optional professional development event. ESP is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Extension Professionals. It is the only Extension professional organization where Agents and Specialists from all program areas can join together.

Sign up for membership as soon as possible!

Membership requirements:
• 3 years as an Extension employee
• Satisfactory performance standards
• Dues $55.00 per year, plus $5 initiation fee for new member.

For information on joining visit us on the web at es.ca.uky.edu/epsilonmomphi/

Undergraduate Scholarship Opportunity: Jennifer Berschet Klee

Attention Extension workers! Do you have a student at UK? Take advantage of this scholarship opportunity!! The ESP Retirees established a scholarship fund several years ago after hosting numerous silent auctions at our spring annual meetings. The $500 one time award is offered each year. Other qualifying applicants include students from Extension volunteers and supporters. Check out the application on the Alpha Kappa website found at: http://ces.ca.uky.edu/epsilonmomphi/lifetime The deadline is February 1, 2013 with forms due to Anna Lucas, 9430 KY HWY 1247, Waynesburg, KY 40489
Outstanding Retiree Service Award: Henry Duncan

The Lifetime Activity Committee of Epsilon Sigma Phi encourages you to nominate a retired extension person to be considered for the Outstanding Retiree Service Award.

Nominee must have contributed significantly to community or chapter since retirement.

This honor is intended for living persons rather than as a memorial to those deceased. Recognition will be given at the annual meeting of the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Individual must be a retired Kentucky Extension Agent, Specialist or Administrator.
- Be nominated for their contributions to society after retirement and not for the things accomplished while an employee of the Cooperative Extension Service.
- Efforts as Ag Alumni
- Church activities
- Civic responsibilities
- Active in Epsilon Sigma Phi retiree’s meetings
- Work with senior citizens groups
- etc......
- Continued support of the University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University and their programs.
- Must be a life member of Epsilon Sigma Phi.
- Applicants not previously selected/recognized may re-apply

Send applications by February 1, 2013 to: Henry Duncan. 190 Birch Drive, Versailles, KY 40383

jhduncan2@aol.com

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NOMINATION FORM
OUTSTANDING RETIREE SERVICE AWARD
EPSILON SIGMA PHI

I wish to nominate _________________________________________
(Nominee’s name)

_________________________________________
(Address)

_________________________________________
(City, State, and zip code)

for the Outstanding Retiree Service Award.

● Submit a brief biographical sketch (limit to 1 page, typewritten, one side only)

● Present a list and explanation of activities and contributions of the nominee to the local community, state, or nation since retirement.

● Send two or three support letters, outlining why this nominee is deserving of this recognition. Up to three additional pages, one side only, of supplemental materials such as media articles, brochures, photos, etc., may be included. Any materials beyond these limits will not be considered.

● See page 2 for further judging criteria.

_________________________________________
(name of nominator)

_________________________________________
(address of nominator)

_________________________________________
(city, state, and zip code)

Send this form and nomination packet to:

Henry Duncan, 190 Birch Drive, Versailles, KY 40383

Due Date: February 1, 2013
Scholarships, Grants & Recognition Committee Chair: Janet Turley

The Scholarships, Grants, and Recognition Committee have begun making plans for this year’s recognition program. Look at the ESP website for award information application forms at [http://ces.ca.uky.edu/epsilonsigmaphi/awards_recognition](http://ces.ca.uky.edu/epsilonsigmaphi/awards_recognition). Applications are due by January 27, 2013 to the following address: Janet Turley, 3132 Nashville Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101. These can also be emailed to me at jturley@uky.edu. Members who have questions can contact me at 270-842-1681.

Allen Receives ESP Mid-Career Award Southern Region

Rosie Allen, Gallatin County Extension Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences was recognized at National Meeting as recipient of Epsilon Sigma Phi Mid-Career Award Southern Region. As a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi for 15 years, Rosie Allen has continued to exceed expectations and excel in the area of Family & Consumer Sciences. Professional involvements and leadership roles indicate Allen's accomplishments as a professional in her career. Rosie continues to conduct high quality Extension educational programs through effective use of volunteers, strong committee/task force structure and collaborative efforts. As a member of the HEEL Men's Activity Project planning committee, Rosie helped develop a program called, All Star D.A.D.s (Daily Active Dads), which is a physical activity campaign to promote parents being active with their children. Gallatin County participated as one of four counties in the pilot test. All Star D.A.D.s in part came to life after Allen attended a Social Marketing Field School with support from the Epsilon Sigma Phi Richard Angus Professional Development scholarship.

Cockerham Receives National ESP Distinguished Service Award

Brenda Cockerham, Johnson County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences, was recognized at National meeting as recipient of Epsilon Sigma Phi Distinguished Service Award Southern Region. With 26 years of service, Brenda has played a significant role in the progress and development of not only Johnson County, but also east Kentucky. Brenda has been instrumental in revitalizing and preserving historic sites in Johnson County and has a passion for economic and tourism development. She has been recognized for her work with SEKTDA (Southeast Kentucky Tourism Development Association) from Congressman Hal Rogers in 2004 and 2007. Brenda also received the Governor’s Award for Get Healthy Kentucky in 2007. Among her greatest accomplishments to Johnson County has been the preservation of the Oil Springs School in which Brenda, community leaders and volunteers worked together to establish the Oil Springs Cultural Arts and Recreation Center, (OSCAR).

Mark your calendar! March 26-27, 2013 Kelli Bonifer

The 2013 Professional Development Conference will be conducted on Tuesday, March 26th. One of our guest speakers will be Dr. Douglas Steele, Director, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Dr. Henning’s office is able to provide generous support for our conference so that we may experience this great presenter.

♦Tuesday, March 26, 2013 join us that evening for a Fine Arts dinner and Cabaret Event from 6:00-9:30pm ET. The event will be held in The VUE Restaurant & Lounge located in Chase Tower in downtown Lexington, the 15th floor.

♦Wednesday, March 27, 2013 is the date for ESP Alpha Kappa’s Annual meeting.

The location for both events will be at the Fasig-Tipton, 2400 Newtown Pike, Lexington, Ky. A block of rooms is being held for guests at the Marriott Griffin Gate. When registering the group code is ESP at the discounted rate of $100.00 for single or double accommodations for the dates of March 25-March 26, 2013. Reservations need to be made by March 4th. Reservations can be made at the hotel directly by calling 1-877-901-6632 or using the link below.

https://resweb.passkey.com/go/e2bd980f More information is coming soon.
Notes From the President

Benefits of ESP Membership

- Scholarships for individual professional development opportunities including Advanced Degrees
- Professional Development Mini-Grants for Chapters
- Chapter and national recognition programs for member individuals and teams
- National Conference provides an opportunity to give peer reviewed scholarly presentations
- Involvement in public issues and activities,
- ESP Connection newsletter and ESP Communiqué provide communication with members
- Numerous and varied professional development opportunities
- Chapter and national leadership opportunities
- Network of Extension professionals united across disciplines and program areas
- Mentoring opportunities
- Chapter officer/member training support
- Involvement in Global & International Opportunities
- Partnerships with Joint Council of Extension Professionals and National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) - USDA

Galaxy IV Conference
September 16-20, 2013
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Galaxy IV Conference provides a unique opportunity to work together on a joint conference while celebrating the diversity of the individual organizations. Every five years the Joint Council of Extension Professionals sponsors and

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SILENT AUCTION NOTICE

One highlight of the annual meeting is the silent auction. Items are being donated from across the state. Come with your check book in hand—and plan to leave with some treasures!

Presenters needed for Galaxy IV

Announcing RFP solicitation for concurrent session presentations at Galaxy 4. If you are interested in giving a presentation at Galaxy 4 next September in Pittsburgh then this message is for you. The site is now accepting proposals for concurrent sessions. To go to the submission site, first go to the JCEP website at jecp.org and you will find instructions and a link to the submission site. Just remember that the more ESP members who enter concurrent session proposals the more we get. If an organization enters 10% of the proposals - that organization gets 10% of the total number of slots available.
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