

2005  
*ALPHA RHO CHAPTER  
EPSILON SIGMA PHI  
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS*

***President's Report - Marie Blythe***

I appreciated the opportunity to serve the Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi as President. This provided a special insight into the great volunteer leadership that keeps our Chapter strong. It was also an opportunity to become better acquainted with regional and national ESP leadership. When Trudy Rice and I represented our chapter at the North Central JCEP Conference in Milwaukee, WI we learned more about ESP from other chapters as well as from the national leadership team.

I am especially grateful to the officers, council directors, committee chairs and members for the leadership provided this past year. It is that commitment to professionalism that makes the Alpha Rho Chapter the special organization that it is. This will be the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards for ESP as we join the agent associations at the All Associations Awards Banquet during Annual Conference.

With the change to the All Associations Award Banquet, three additional people representing each of the agent associations were added to the Annual Meeting committee. Lois Carlson agreed to co-chair the Retire Action committee along with Les Frazier. Les will continue to provide leadership to Annual Meeting and Manhattan area retiree activities. Lois will survey and begin to plan the possibility of expanding retiree activities to other dates and locations across the state and throughout the year.

Next month, Kansas will have a significant presence at the national ESP conference at The BROADMOOR Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO. We can congratulate and celebrate with Dick Wootton as he

receives the National Distinguished Service Ruby Award! Alpha Rho will receive the gold standard through the ESP Chapter of Merit Recognition. This recognition offered to chapters through the national ESP board recognizes organization/leadership, member services, recruitment and retention, professional development, public issues education, resource development, and global issues involvement in establishing this standard of excellence.

We need to continue sharing information with our colleagues, and especially new hires, about the benefits of ESP membership. ESP is the one organization that has something to offer all Extension professionals, regardless of subject matter or position. Take advantage of the resources on our local and national Websites! Also keep in mind that Stacey Warner's participation on the national Professional Development Committee can increase our understanding of national issues.

Save the date for this year's United Associations Conference, "Coming Together for Kansas Families", March 2-3, 2006. This conference continues to be an excellent opportunity for professional development, as well as the financial benefit to the sponsoring associations. Also plan to mark your calendars for Galaxy III to be held in Indianapolis in 2008. The date will probably be set next week – watch for more information! Galaxy is another great opportunity, not only for professional development but also for networking with colleagues from across the nation within ESP and among the agent associations.

***Vice President - Trudy Rice***

The Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi gives Extension faculty from across the organization a chance to participate in a professional organization with co-workers from a variety of

disciplines. Our entire organization builds upon this chance to be an umbrella organization for professional development.

As your 2005 vice president, I have had the chance to learn more about this wonderful organization and how membership in this organization can be a benefit to all Extension faculty. There is a tremendous amount of dedicated leadership in this organization not only on a local level, but also on the state and national level. You would be proud to be associated with such a wonderful resource.

As one of your representatives at the regional meeting of JCEP (Joint Council of Extension Professionals) I had the opportunity not only to become more familiar with our state chapter, but had an opportunity to learn from the ESP leadership from other states in the North Central Region. This meeting was also attended by state representatives from the other Extension professional organizations and we had an opportunity to interact with many of them. The main theme of the meeting was to learn about the legislative process and how it effects Extension. Along with this we spent a great deal of time learning how to tell our story to the key leaders through impact statements.

As your representative to the PILD (Public Issues Leadership Development) Conference in Washington D.C., I became familiar with how important it is to tell the stories of how we make a difference. It was an honor to be a part of this delegation and to witness the support for Extension from Kansas State University.

The past year has been a great opportunity to learn more on a regional level and I am looking forward to serving as your president in 2006.

#### ***Secretary - Jan Stephens***

Minutes of the annual and board

meetings were written and put on the web. Maintained routine correspondence and completed the annual report with the help of the officers and committee chairs.

#### ***Treasurer - Stacey Warner***

See inserted membership lists.

#### ***Editor - Donna Martinson***

A spring and fall newsletter were compiled. Members for whom an email address was available were notified when the newsletters were posted. A hard copy of the letter was mailed to members for whom we did not have an email address. Information for the letters were provided by officers, committee chairs, and the National ESP organization. The printed program for the All-Associations Awards banquet was also compiled then completed by Gloria Holcombe, KSRE editor.

#### ***Historian - Sandra Wick***

All past and historical records are located in the KSU Hale Library. Any members with historical information or records that you would like to donate to the collection, please contact Sandra.

#### ***Past President - Endowment - Carl Garten***

Balance in the endowment fund is \$6,617.12. There were five grant applications requesting \$8500.

#### ***Member Services***

##### ***Awards Committee- Dan Rogers***

The committee solicited nominations and balloted the nominees to select the award winners. There was some discussion as to what additional action we could take to encourage members to nominate colleagues. There was also some discussion as to whether to open to the early career type awards to non-ESP members as a method of familiarizing new employees to ESP. Several new committee members will need

to be appointed to replace several who have retired or wish to rotate off.

Committee members were: Dan Rogers, Robert Wolf, Tranda Watts, Fran Richmond, Paul Hartman, Lois Carlson, Denise Dias, Marilyn Toellner, Phyllis Kriesel, Linda Walter, Jan Walter, Jan McMahan, and Denise Sullivan.

***Professionalism Committee - Sandra Wick***

There were no applications received for the Loan Program or the Travel Grant.

***Recognition Committee - Mary Lou Odle***

The following will be recognized at the ESP banquet:

25 years -

Jodi Besthorn  
Darly Buchholz  
Carol Fink  
Douglas Jardine  
Mark Schwarzentraub

30 years -

Elizabeth Curry  
Fran Richmond  
Jean Rowland

35 years -

Steve Westfahl

40 years -

Glenda Keller

***Memorial Committee - Eric Otte***

Information on the passing of nine former Extension workers was received and will be listed in the "in memorium" page of the ESP Award Program book. They are: Arnold V. Barber, Frank G. Bieberly, Oletha Yates Blevins, Harvey E. Goertz, Lee M. Jorgensen, Kathryn Peterman Sughrue, Ralph B. Rector, Beverly D. Stage, and Keith O. Zoellner. Condolences were sent to the families.

The committee is continuing to send sympathy notes to Extension staff who lose family members during the year.

***Resource Management Committee - Roger Terry***

The budget was reviewed for the coming year and the treasurer's books were given to Fred Delano for the annual audit.

(report of sub-committee on recommended uses of fund received from co-sponsoring United Associations Conference - Fred DeLano, Chair)

Issue: ESP has co-sponsored a number of United Associations Conferences. Registration fees are collected to pay for all conference expenditures. The profits (excess of receipts over expenditures) are divided among the co-sponsoring associations after each conference. The amounts received for 2004 and 2005 are \$1,575.76 and \$1,568.46, respectively. The issue raised by the ESP Board and assigned to this sub-committee by President Marie is how best to utilize these funds.

Committee Considerations:

- The source of the funds are from Alpha Rho members actively cooperating in the co-sponsorship of the UAC.
- Excluding the UAC funds and Educational Loan repayments received in 2004 and 2005, the total cash receipts were \$7,237 and \$7,120 respectively.
- Total adjusted cash receipts less total adjusted cash expenditures (not including UAC funds or educational loan funds) for 2004 and 2005 are \$271 and \$948 respectively.

Committee Recommendation:

- The sub-committee recommends the UAC funds remain in the Alpha Rho Chapter account general budget to offset operating expenditures and help to maintain current dues structure
- It is recommended that the annual receipt of UAC funds not be anticipated and that these funds not be included in expected (budgeted) receipts.
- It is recommended that any other use of

future excess accumulation of UAC funds be considered on a year by year case and that no future obligations of such funds be pre-determined.

### ***Retiree Committee - Les Frasier***

The Manhattan area Extension Retirees group meets annually in September with 50 - 60 in attendance. Jack Stroade is the chair and Chet Unruh is the secretary. This year's meeting was September 29 with a program of a vocal quartet which included two Extension retirees, Jack Stroade and Dick Jepsen.

### ***Nominating Committee - Laurie Chandler***

The following members have been identified to fill vacancies in officers, directors and Endowment Fund Board of Trustees and the slate will be presented at the chapter business meeting.

President-Elect - Trudy Rice  
Vice-President - Connie Hoch  
Secretary - Jan Stephens  
Treasurer - Stacey Warner  
Editor - Karen Blakeslee  
Annalist/Historian - Sandra Wick  
NW Director - Keith VanSlike  
Metro Director - Mary Lou Odle  
State mbr Director - Danny Rogers  
Endowment Bd - Jodi Besthorn

### ***Global Relations - Charlotte Shoup Olsen***

To "think globally", committee members have given presentations of international/cross-cultural Extension work and will publish a detailed report in a future newsletter.

### ***Mentoring - Jim Lindquist***

The Epsilon Sigma Phi Mentoring Committee met by conference call on Friday, October 7. Committee members are Jim Lindquist, Andrea Schmidt, Diane Mack, Nancy Nelson, Bryan Manny, Eugene Lanham, Gary Kilgore, Chiquita

Miller, Carla Morriscal-Frederking. The committee charge has been to encourage quality mentoring experiences for new Extension employees.

The committee reviewed current mentoring practices for Extension agents and specialists. Much of the mentoring experience for Extension specialists is coordinated by the Department Heads. Extension agents are assigned one or more mentors by the Area Extension Director. The mentors and new agents are provided a booklet, "Welcome to K-State Research and Extension - A Guide for New Extension Agents and their Mentors". In addition to the normal opportunities for learning through observation during this shadowing experience, the booklet provides a template for discussion between the mentor and new agent.

Committee members discussed that one of the important areas for discussion between mentors and new agents should be the area of professionalism, including the importance of professional development and professional association membership. Various strategies were discussed for accomplishing this objective. One suggestion was to have an approved list of mentor agents that would be positive role models regarding professionalism, professional development and professional association membership. This group could be trained by Extension Administration, provided a set of guidelines for being a mentor, and then mentors from this list would be assigned to new agents.

The committee also suggested a survey of mentors and new agents to learn more about their mentoring experience and to gain ideas for improving the mentoring program. These suggestions will be given to Extension Administration for their consideration.