



2008
ALPHO RHO CHAPTER
EPSILON SIGMA PHI
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE
REPORTS

President's Report - Eric Otte

I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi as President for the 2008 Year. It has been a pleasure to serve with the other officers and council members during the year. Margaret Phillips and I represented our chapter at the combined North Central and Western Region JCEP Conference at San Diego in February. The theme of the conference was, "Reaching Diverse Generations Through Your Extension Effort". The sessions focused on the challenges of dealing with all the generations that extension is reaching out to and how technology can be a tool to accomplish that task.

I say a, "BIG THANK YOU", to the leadership team of officers, council directors, and committee chairs that provided the leadership necessary for our chapter to earn the Platinum Chapter of Merit Award at the Galaxy Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana in September. This is the highest recognition given to chapters for its work in organization/leadership, member services, recruitment and retention, professional development, public issues education, resource development and global issues.

As we all know membership is always a concern, and it is important that we continue to share information with our colleagues about the benefits of ESP. These benefits are here for all Extension professionals. Do share with your

colleagues about the benefit you have received from ESP.

As we look towards 2009, be ready to work with the committees you serve on, and consider attending the National ESP meeting in Fargo, North Dakota Sept. 14-16. If you have the opportunity through this association or other professional association consider the JCEP Regional workshop Feb. 18-20, 2009 in San Diego, PILD Workshop April 27 - 29 in Arlington Virginia as well as your Agent Association National Conference.

As 2009 approaches, I look forward to serving on the Endowment Board and I will miss the leadership and friendship of Connie Hoch. I believe the Alpha Rho chapter will miss Connie but will continue to offer professional development opportunities to its members. Let's continue to do our part to make it one of the best chapters in the association.

President Elect - Margaret Phillips

Coordinating committees was a discovered role for President-elect. As a result, the task of giving new clarity to the roles of committees was undertaken. New committee descriptions have been completed and posted to the ESP website.

Updating the website seemed even more important as work was being done on committee descriptions. Along with Stacey Warner, Marie Blythe and Martha Monihen a new website will be available by annual conference time. Ongoing updates will continue to occur.

As President Elect, I attended JCEP (Joint Council of Extension Professionals) conference in February 2008 and PILD (Public Issues Leadership Development) conference which is sponsored by JCEP.

The JCEP conference theme was “Reaching Diverse Generations Through Your Extension Efforts.” Speakers reinforced the theme through presentations, and “Emerging Technology and its Use in Reaching Extension’s Diverse Generational Audiences.” It reinforces my work to stay current with today’s technology.

The most beneficial sessions for me were the regional meeting. I learned more about member benefits, including recognition. We were able to prepare several nominations and submit before the March 1 deadline.

The PILD theme was Connectivity: Community in Our Capitol. We heard much about eXtension as a valuable resource. One of the most interesting speakers talked about “What’s Happening in Washington?” Ilona Nickels, a Congressional Scholar and Public Policy Analyst shared some of the interesting mysteries of the policy making process. It reinforced just how complex our government is. Members of the Kansas PILD delegation met with our Kansas congressional members and their staff.

I received the Mike McKinney scholarship to attend this conference.

I also attended Galaxy III as a voting delegate. This included attending the regional meeting in which I introduced the Kansas members in attendance. I also attended the ESP Council meeting.

Our chapter was the recipient of the 2008 Platinum Level Chapter of Merit. We received the Certificate of Achievement for Membership participation at or above 10% in the ESP Development Campaign. These certificates will be presented to the Historian during Annual Meeting.

This has been an energizing year with a big learning curve. Many thanks to those with experience and knowledge for guiding me through this year, in preparation to serve as Alpha Rho President.

Secretary – Andrea Schmidt

Minutes of the annual and board meetings were written and placed on the web. The annual report was completed with the help of officers and committee chairs.

Treasurer – Stacey Warner

See attached membership lists.

Editor – Karen Blakeslee

Spring and Fall newsletters were prepared and emailed to all members and mailed to retirees. The newsletters are posted on the Alpha Rho ESP website at <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho/news/newsletter.htm>

Annalyst/Historian – Sandra Wick

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

Past President & Endowment

2007 Extension Endowment Fund Grants:
Healthy Lifestyles - \$500 – Jodi Besthorn & Andrea Schmidt
4-H Cloverbud Afterschool Program - \$500 – Angela Abts
ESP Members Galaxy Workshop - \$1,600 – Laurie Chandler, Marie Blythe & Stacey Warner
2007 Career Fair - \$1,000 – Nadine Sigle
Food Preservation Update Training – \$1,400 - Karen Blakeslee

Council Directors –

Northeast – Dale Fjell – no action to report
Northwest – Carla Morrical-Frederking – no action to report
Southeast – Jan Stephens – no action to report
Southwest – Belinda Oldham – no action to report
State –
Retirees – Lindy Lindquist – no action to report

Standing Committee Reports: Member Services ~

Awards – Gayle Price

Promotion was conducted to achieve award nominations and applications for annual awards. Twenty-one applications were received for 2008 awards. Award information was placed in the Tuesday Letter (4 editions), KSRE website and the spring edition of the ESP newsletter. A sub-committee was appointed to review national awards and make recommendations regarding updates to Alpha Rho awards. A sub-committee was appointed to review award applications and select 2008 recipients.

Professionalism – Beth Drescher

No action to report.

Recognition – Crystal Coffman

The following K-State Research & Extension professionals will be recognized at the 2008 Annual Epsilon Sigma Phi Banquet and Awards night for years of service:

10 Years

Andrea Schmidt, Riley County Agent
Robert Wilson, Assistant, Agricultural Economics

20 Years

Bryan Manny, Agricultural Economist, South Central Farm Management
Mahbub Alam, Specialist, Southwest Area
Gayle Price, Specialist, Southeast Area

25 Years

Joe Harner, Agricultural Engineer
Janice McMahon, Sedgwick County Agent
Carla Morriscal-Frederking, Ellis County Agent
Pamela VanHorn, State Specialist

30 Years

Carl Garten, Central Kansas District Director
Nancy Nelson, Meadowlark District Agent
Danny Rogers, Agricultural Engineer
Jo Ellen Arnold, Franklin County Agent

35 Years

Marsha Weaver, Dickinson County Agent
Rodney Buchele, Specialist Southwest Area

Memorial – Mark Ploger

Hallie Lee Clonts - passed away Thursday, May 1, 2008. Dr. Clonts worked in Missouri Extension from 1949 to 1955, when she went to Minnesota Extension. She came to Kansas Extension in 1973, as an Associate State Leader, Limited Resources Programs. She retired from Kansas State University in 1978 as an Extension Specialist, Programs.

Lester “Les” Depew - passed away June 21, 2008. Mr. DePew was hired by the Department of Entomology in 1954 as a research entomologist. Initially he cooperated with a USDA entomologist to study the biology and control of the brown wheat mite on winter wheat. Later his studies branched out to include insects attacking corn, sorghum, sunflowers, and alfalfa. He retired in 1989 after 35 years of service with the academic rank of Professor Emeritus.

Harry G. Duckers, Jr. was appointed as County Club Agent, in Wyandotte County on May 19, 1943. He moved to Jackson County, County Club Agent on November 25, 1944. Mr. Duckers returned to Wyandotte County, February 5, 1948, as County Agent. He was named Wyandotte County Extension Director July 1, 1967 and retired from the Wyandotte County Extension Office on June 30, 1977. He passed away on January 7, 2008.

Otis Griggs passed away on December 3, 2007. He was an Extension agent in Stevens county beginning in June 1951. He also served in Reno county, Osborne county, and Finney county where he retired in 1983. Mr. Griggs also served as a livestock specialist in the KSU/AID agricultural project in Nigeria.

Connie Hoch, Extension Associate, Community Development and PRIDE Programs, passed away September 26, 2008. She began her career in Extension in 1991 as Barber County Extension Agent. In 2000, she moved to Lyon County Extension as the Family and Consumer Sciences agent. Connie began her current position as an Extension Associate in Community Development and PRIDE Programs in 2005.

Richard S. Kubik, Sr. was the Thomas County Agricultural Extension Agent from 1949 until his retirement in 1988. Mr. Kubik graduated from Kansas State University in 1949, with a degree in animal husbandry. He was a U.S. veteran, serving during World War II. He passed away May 12, 2008.

Vernon “Bryce” Orr passed away August 23, 2008. He began his Extension career in 1953 in Coffey County. In 1970, he moved to Stafford County, and in 1973, he became the County Extension Director and Agricultural Agent in Sedgwick County until his retirement in 1987.

Harold A. Roberts retired in 1994 and was a dairy specialist in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. He taught dairy processing courses and managed the dairy processing laboratory and dairy sales counter, earning the nickname, "Mr. Ice Cream." During his career at Kansas State University, he developed the formula for Call Hall Ice Cream and coordinated several cheese festivals and dairy industry conferences. He was also the coach of the dairy products judging team. He passed away on April 25, 2008.

John B. Sjo passed away May 21, 2008. Dr. Sjo was a professor in Agricultural Economics for 40 years retiring in 1989. He also worked for the State Department for 2 years stationed in Copenhagen, Denmark, and while teaching at Kansas State University he went to Nigeria, Africa to establish the Agricultural Economics Department Ahmadu Bello University from 1964 to 1966.

Kenneth E. Thomas started a career at Kansas State in 1953 as a Manager of the KSAC radio station. In 1961, he became the State Leader and Director, Extension Information and Division of University Communications and continued in that position until his retirement in 1976. Dr. Thomas passed away on February 17, 2008.

William G. “Bill” Willis passed away June 20, 2008. Dr. Willis was employed in 1950 as a County Extension Agent, Agriculture, serving in Neosho, Ellsworth, Harper, and Sumner counties until his appointment in 1967 as an Extension Specialist, Plant Pathology. He retired as Extension State Leader, Plant Pathology on November 30, 1989.

Retirement Equity – Glenda Keller
No action to report.

Public Issues Committee – Carl Garten

Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy and Procedures have been updated. A vote to the update to the Constitution and Bylaws will occur at the annual meeting.

Recruitment & Retention Committee – Sharolyn Flaming Jackson
No Report Received

Global Relations Committee – Mary Sullivan

Donna Martinson will be taking over this position and is working on a budget to encourage members to have an “International experience”. The Educational Study tour of Mexico, that Donna and I shared, is being offered again in 2009.

Kansas to Kenya

Nine K-State Research & Extension faculty members and two spouses participated in the first K-State Research & Extension Kansas to Kenya program May 31 - June 15. While in Kenya the K-State team met with administrators

of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, the university designated to establish an extension service in Kenya, and conducted educational workshops in the community of Maai Mahiu through collaboration with Comfort the Children, International. Extension workshops focused on community gardening, nutrition for HIV patients and disabled children, sewing and business entrepreneurship, youth environmental education, and sustainability for a children's home.

Team members were: Bill Hargrove, team coordinator, Hershel and Carol George, Ann and Mark Religa, Denise Dias, Sandy Proctor, Mary Meck Higgins, Tonya Bronleewe, Laslo Kulscar, and Donna Martinson.

Professional Development Committee – Marie Blythe

Using the Endowment grant received to award scholarships to cover Galaxy III Early Bird registration, four applicants were selected. Preference was given for first time attendees to a national Epsilon Sigma Phi conference. The scholarship application form noted that those selected were expected to attend ESP workshops, ESP regional meeting, other ESP functions that were part of Galaxy III, and to write an educational article for the Spring 2009 Alpha Rho ESP newsletter.

Nozella Brown, Donna Martinson, Emily Morehouse, and Gayle Price received the \$395 Early Bird Registrations. Reasons they expressed for wanting to attend Galaxy III included getting “outside” of their subject matter, enhancing their Extension network, increasing understanding of the interrelationships among the participating associations, and increasing capacity to become Alpha Rho committee chair.

After the conference they shared some thoughts about what they gained:

- understanding about the Extension organization and the professional organizations

that it comprises;

- the opportunity to network with Extension professionals across county, state, regional, and national lines;
- resources to improve, expand, and focus my effectiveness, especially the session on program evaluation;
- the social capital at this conference was so energizing, especially as I complete my annual reports and look forward to next year;
- excitement about the variety and diversity of programming that is occurring across the nation, as well as encouraged about what we are doing in Kansas and our county;
- synergy created by the wide range of extension perspectives.

It was especially beneficial to share the Galaxy III conference experience with extension administrators, state staff and specialists, agents, coordinators, and associates and have opportunities to network and share program ideas and resources outside of my own subject area that will strengthen my experiences and those that will benefit our clientele.

Resource Management Committee – Phil Sloderbeck

Our committee met by telephone conference on September 4, 2008 and discussed the status of our checking and savings accounts. We approved a motion to make a motion at the ESP business meeting to transfer \$10,000 to the ESP Endowment fund. We are planning to have another meeting on October 1, 2008 to review budget requests and approve a proposed budget.

Retiree Action Committee – Marcia McFarland

During the spring of this year, the Committee on Committees refined the descriptions for the duties of ESP Committees. This report addresses the Retiree Committee's response to the guidelines for our committee.

The following ESP members served on the Retirement Committee this year; Steve Fisher

(chair elect); Lindy Lindquist; Emily Mark; and Bob Davis and Marcia McFarland (chair).

A request for information from retirees regarding their current activities was placed in the summer newsletter and into the ESP web page. It is hoped that there will be sufficient response to mount an ongoing newsletter column and web page presence, "What are They Doing Now?", for retirees. The goal of this effort is to provide avenues of communication that will help retirees stay connected to one another and to the rest of the ESP membership.

A strategy to determine the ways in which ESP can meet the membership expectations of retirees and thus engage more retirees in the organization will be launched with a survey and feedback session during the 2008 Extension Annual Conference Retiree Luncheon. The information gained from that exercise will determine the fellowship events for retirees, life members and spouses that will be offered in 2009 and will form the basis for the work of the retiree committee in 2008/2009.

An invitation to attend the Extension Annual Conference Retiree luncheon was extended in September through the ESP newsletter, Internet and postal mail. Encouragement to attend the ESP Banquet during the Annual Extension Conference was included in that mailing as was registration and parking information.

Nomination Committee – Eric Otte

Nominations were received for the following offices:

President Elect – Laurie Chandler

Secretary – Andrea Schmidt

Newsletter Editor – Karen Blakeslee

Treasurer – Stacey Warner

Annalist/Historian – Jennifer Wilson

Northeast Council Director – Dale Fjell

Southeast Council Director – Linda Mirt

State Council Director – Emily Nolting

Annual Meeting Committee – Steve Fisher

The committee met by email in late spring to poll site locations and catering preferences. Majority responding favored the Alumni Center and Brookville Hotel as the caterer. I signed contracts for Banquet to be held Tuesday night, Oct. 21 in one half of the Alumni Center Ballroom. Room was reserved from 5-10pm, with banquet to begin at 6:30pm. I added two more tables for auction items in addition to what was requested last year. Meal contract was also signed with Brookville Hotel for their chicken dinner with sides, drinks and ice cream. I volunteered to do the table decorations again this year.

Mid-summer I emailed other committee chairs reminding them to get their copy together to submit to Karen Blakeslee so she can put the program together in a timely manner. Ann Domsch is chairing the auction component again this year to raise funds for the Endowment.

I submitted my copy for the newsletter with Banquet details to Karen, and registration information to Debbie Hagenmeier in the Conference Office. Evelyn Neier, chair-elect is collecting a folder of all the emails as a way to create a file to pass on to the next chair.