



2009
ALPHO RHO CHAPTER
EPSILON SIGMA PHI
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE
REPORTS

*President's Report - Margaret
Phillips*

It has been another good year for Alpha Rho Chapter. Thank you for the privilege of serving ESP the past two years. As this year comes to an end, I'm reflecting on the experience and what I've learned about Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Chapter events and accomplishments include:

- Officer and committee descriptions
- Engagement of committees (see individual committee reports)
- 15 members and spouses at ESP National Conference
- Kansas Extension Professional Association/Professional Development Meetings with officers of all associations
- Chapter award recipients nominated for national awards
- Jim Lindquist as the first Ruby Distinguished Service recipient from Kansas
- Two auction items contributed by Marie Blythe and Jim Lindquist for the National ESP auction
- Two new scholarships in the Endowment, Connie Hoch Leadership Scholarship and Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship
- Chapter of Merit award and gift certificate for completing the Achievement in Member application.
- Chapter council meetings used conferencing and Adobe Connect

- National mini-grant of \$1000 for professional development
- Electronic submission of all forms for grants, awards and scholarship
- 4 members appointed to national committees, Trudy Rice - Resource Development & Management Committee, Doug Jardine - Scholarships, Grants and Recognition, Marie Blythe - Professional Development Committee, Jim Lindquist - Public Issues Committee
- 80th anniversary of Alpha Rho Chapter celebration being planned

President Elect - Laurie Chandler

One of the responsibilities as President-Elect is to work closely with the President to learn and prepare for the next year. I have enjoyed working closely with Margaret and appreciate her efforts to involve me in all phases of the organization.

In February, Margaret Phillips and I attended the Joint Council of Extension Professionals Conference " Ethics in Today's Extension World" in San Diego. This was a great opportunity to connect with representatives from the other Kansas extension agent associations, and with chapters from across the country.

As your representative to the Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) in Washington, D.C., I had the opportunity to network with other Extension professionals, connect with the National Program Leaders to learn about current and emerging program priorities and enhance my skills in public policy education. I also appreciated the opportunity to visit with our members of Congress and their staff about Extension and the impact our programs have across Kansas.

An especially valuable session that I attended while at PILD was "Addressing Controversial Public Issues with Confidence" presented by Lanny Hass, Associate Director of Personal and Organizational Development with North Carolina Cooperative Extension. Lanny shared that the key to communication success is anticipation, preparation, and practice. As part of the session, participants were asked to craft a response to the question, "Why is Extension Relevant Today?"

This past year has been a great opportunity to learn more about ESP and I look forward to serving as your President next year.

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.ksre.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho>. Annual Recognition Event program was also prepared and will be available at Annual Conference.

Annalist/Historian – Jennifer Wilson

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. ESP will celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2010. The Historian is chair of the 80th anniversary celebration committee that is planning a celebration in conjunction with the 2010 Annual Extension Conference.

Past President & Endowment – Eric Otte

Endowment Fund Grants:

2008 – "Cultivating Community Leadership Development," Robert Wilson, Debra Bolton, and Sherry Davis, \$1,200

2008 – "National Volunteer Forum," Deryl Waldren, Rod Buchele, Diane Mack and Beth Hinshaw, \$1,200

2009 – "Engaging Volunteers in Extension Districts," Rod Buchele and Diane Mack, \$1,500

Endowment Fund Scholarships:

Karen Blakeslee and Nozella Brown, Connie Hoch Leadership Scholarship for ESP National Meeting

Trudy Rice, Jim Lindquist Administrative Leadership Scholarship for Professional Development

Travel Study Grants:

Denise Dias, \$500, Kenya

Jennifer Wilson, \$500, KARL

Debra Bolton, \$500, National Council on Family Relations

Council Directors –

Northeast – Dale Fjell – no action to report

Northwest – Carla Morrical-Frederking – no action to report

Southeast – Linda Mirt – no action to report

Southwest – Belinda Oldham – no action to report

State – Emily Nolting – no action to report

Retirees – Dave Schafer – no action to report

Standing Committee Reports:

Annual Banquet Committee – Evelyn Neier

The committee met in the spring by email to determine site location and catering preferences for the banquet. The majority responded favorably to holding the banquet at the Alumni

Center, with Brookville Hotel catering the meal. After consulting with the ESP leadership I signed contracts for one half of the Alumni Center ballroom for Tuesday, October 20, 2009. A meal contract was signed with Brookville for their traditional chicken dinner with sides, drinks and ice cream. By summer the Annual Conference schedule had been altered which eliminated the time required for full banquet. I canceled the contracts with the Alumni Center and Brookville Hotel both verbally and by letter on June 22.

The committee met again by email to make plans for the recognition event. It was determined to hold a dessert reception following the Poster Session on Tuesday, October 20. I worked with Debbie Hagenmaier in the Conference Office to select a menu, set a price (\$10), and include the information on the conference registration site.

Chartwells catered the event. They provided tea, coffee, water and a variety of desserts. They also provided the mirrors, globes and bowls for the tables. The committee purchased candles and silk flowers to accent the tables.

It was determined the best time for the Silent Auction would be during the Poster Session. Jennifer Wilson chaired the Silent Auction that raised over \$500 for the Endowment Fund. The committee will need to determine the best time to hold the Silent Auction if KSRE continues to use this year's conference schedule.

Approximately 120 people attended the 2009 Recognition Event, which appears to be a modest increase in attendees over previous years. This may be due in part to A) holding the event on the same day as the retiree's events, and B) a lower ticket price which may be more appealing to the membership. The committee will need to consider these factors in planning future events.

Awards – Gayle Price

A committee meeting was conducted on January 7, 2009. It was determined to proceed with

having the recognition application process available via electronic submission. An awards review and selection sub-committee was also identified. Awards Committee discussed and determined that for the 2009 recognitions that certificates as well as a \$20 Gift Certificate (1 per Award only) will be requested.

The committee agreed to nominate three Alpha Rho members for national recognition. Dr. Jim Lindquist was selected as the National ESP Distinguished Service Ruby Award recipient and will be honored at the 2009 National ESP Meeting in Fargo, ND.

The committee members also decided to recommend to the Chapter Board and members at the October 2009 board and business meetings, that we add additional Chapter Recognitions that are available from national that the chapter currently does not recognize. The additional recognitions are: Administrative Leadership, Visionary Leadership, and Diversity/Multicultural.

The awards committee received 11 applications for the 2009 recognitions. Nine Chapter recognitions will be presented at the ESP- Alpha Rho Event on October 20, 2009. A ballot for the awards was developed and distributed to the awards selection sub committee to use upon reviewing the applications.

Committee member, Nancy Peterson reviewed all the applications of the 2009 award recipients and wrote brief summaries for each for the 2009 Recognition Program. These summaries were sent to appropriate people by September 8, 2009.

Letters of "congratulations" were sent to all those individuals receiving recognition and contact was made with individuals that made nominations to confirm their willingness to present the recognition at the Oct. 20 event. Recognition Certificates were printed and ESP official seals were ordered for the 2009 Alpha Rho Recognition Certificates (32 certificates). Framed recognition certificates and gift

certificates (\$20) per award will be presented at the October 20 Chapter Recognition Ceremony.

Board Question/ Action Item:

2009 Award Committee would recommend we include the following National ESP Recognitions to the existing Chapter recognitions beginning in 2010, Administrative Leadership, Visionary Leadership, and Diversity/Multicultural. With board approval, these additional recognitions would be added to the current Chapter Recognition form and the application process would follow current guidelines for chapter recognition. This would potentially increase the budget requested by the Awards/Recognition Committee in future years.

Budget & Audit Committee – Diane Burnett
No report.

Constitution & Bylaws – Mary Higgins
No action to report.

Global Relations Committee – Donna Martinson

The Epsilon Sigma Phi board is supportive of members who participate in international opportunities. Funds for travel and study grants to support international travel and other global opportunities have been requested. Applications will be received by the professionalism committee August 15 and February 15 each year.

In spring 2009 a mid-year call for travel applications was approved and Denise Dias was awarded ESP financial support to participate in the second Kansas to Kenya program. A wide array of global relations opportunities are listed at the ESP website
www.espnational.org/GoGlobal/index.htm.

Membership Recruitment & Retention Committee – Sharolyn Flaming Jackson

Invitation letters and e-mail reminders were sent out to all KSRE employees who joined our system in 2009. Approximately 150 additional invitation letters were sent to non-members employed by KSRE.

As of September 29, six new members have responded to the invitation and are listed below. New members will be introduced and initiated during the awards reception at Annual Extension Conference.

Associate Members

Kathy Bloom, Seward County FCS
Debra Wood, Ft. Riley FCS
Kylie Ludwig, Labette County FCS
Jamie Rathbun, Ellsworth County FCS
Kaitlyn Peine, Johnson County 4-H
Sarah Laib, Shawnee County 4-H

Memorial – Beverly Dunning

Robert Bohannon - passed away June 25, 2009, in Knoxville, Tenn. He was a former director of the Kansas Cooperative Extension Service.

Merle Eyestone - passed away November 1, 2008, in Manhattan, Kan. His final position was served at the Kansas 4-H Foundation, retiring in 1987 as the executive director.

Gerald Keith Fish - passed away December 13, 2008, in Concordia, Kan. In 1960, he became an area economist with the Kansas Farm Management Association #1 until his retirement in 1981.

Jereldine Howe - passed away January 21, 2009, in Blue Springs, Mo. She began her K-State Research and Extension career in 1965 as an Extension specialist, clothing and textiles, continuing in this position until her retirement in 1988.

Kenneth E. McGinness - passed away July 7, 2009, in Olathe, Kan. He became the Johnson County Extension director in 1973, continuing in that position until his retirement in 1986.

Wilton B. Thomas - passed away on November 15, 2008 in Manhattan, Kan. He then served as an Extension specialist in farm management, retiring in 1974.

Nomination Committee – Eric Otte

Nominations were received for the following offices:

President Elect –

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

Professionalism – Fran Richmond

Information regarding the chapter travel study grants was placed on the Alpha Rho Chapter website. In addition, the due dates and electronic application process was made consistent with other chapter awards.

Three travel study grants of \$500.00 each were presented to Denise Dias, Jennifer Wilson, and Debra Bolton.

Retiree – Steve Fisher

The major work of the Retiree committee this year was follow-up to the survey and recommendations from the 2008 Retiree committee. In an effort to encourage more retirees to attend Annual Conference activities, we examined ways to reduce costs and plan for the retiree events and the Banquet to be on the same day.

We met these goals when Dean and Director Cholick agreed to invite retirees to the Awards Luncheon and the Annual Conference committee worked within the new shortened schedule to plan the ESP Recognition event for the same evening. We have also planned for an informal sharing time between the lunch and the Poster session.

A letter was sent or emailed to all retirees informing them of these changes and inviting them to attend and also to participate in the auction for the ESP Endowment fund.

Tenure Recognition – David Dunn

The following K-State Research & Extension professionals will be recognized at the 2009 Annual Epsilon Sigma Phi Awards night for years of service:

5 Years

Barbara Ames, Montgomery County

Sarah Maass, Central KS District

Melissa Thimesch, Butler County

10 Years

Carolyn Andres, Human Nutrition

Will Boyer, KCARE

Raymond Cloyd, Entomology

Mary Meck Higgins, Human Nutrition

Anna Muir, Phillips-Rooks District

Emily Nolting, Field Operations

Ethel Schneweis, Ford County

Mary Sullivan, Grant County

Kathryn Tharman, Doniphan County

15 Years

Charlotte Olsen, Family Studies and Human Services

20 Years

Belinda Oldham, Wichita County

Deanna Sweat, Post Rock District

Sandra Wick, Smith County

30 Years

Linda Beech, Finney County

Robert Neier, Sedgwick County

35 Years

Jim Lindquist, Field Operations

Mary Lou Odle, Central Kansas District

45 Years

Beverly Dunning, Sedgwick County