

# Epsilon Sigma Phi

## *Pi Chapter*

### Annual Meeting Minutes

**2010 Annual Meeting - October 4, 2010  
Hilton Hotel, Bloomington, MN**

President Marcia Woeste called the meeting to order at 5:20 pm. There were 29 members and 2 retirees present.

There were no additions to the agenda. The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting were read. Nancy Hegland moved and Kay Lovett second the motion to approve the 2009 Annual Meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Jerry Tesmer, Treasurer, provided the Treasurer's Report. For the fiscal year through August 31, 2010 there was total income of \$4570.00 and total expenses of \$4614.21. The balance in the checking account was \$799.32; Savings Account balance was \$3730.68 and CD balance was \$5290.05.

The Extension Professional's Creed video was viewed ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtJ\\_CaIoWvY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtJ_CaIoWvY)).

Marcia Woeste referred members to the President's report in the printed Annual Report. She provided a few highlights including thanking Neil Broadwater and Bruce Schwartau for their work on the ESP web site (<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/mnextweb/esp/index.html> or <http://www.extension.umn.edu/esp>) and acknowledged award winners that will be recognized at national.

**Committee Reports**, printed in the Annual Report, were distributed to members at the meeting. Highlights include:

- Awards and Recognition – Award winners will be announced at the banquet following the meeting. Dorothy McCargo Freeman will receive the National Distinguished Service Ruby Award and the “Partnering for School Success” team will receive the ESP North Central Region Diversity/Multicultural recognition (ESP-PI members: Kathleen Olson, Colleen Gengler & Jo Musich).
- Global/International
- History/Archives
- Legislative and Benefits
- Membership – Kia Harries shared that Pi Chapter currently has 44 active members, 4 associate members and 146 life members for a combined chapter membership of 194.
- Newsletter
- Professional Development – Bob Mugaas indicated an appreciation to hold this annual meeting at the Extension Fall Program Conference. The committee also hopes to offer professional development opportunities for members and retirees at a different time of the year.

- Retiree/Life Member – Gwen Gmeinder shared this committee is working to communicate with retirees through the retiree newsletter. She asked members to forward any email addresses of retirees to her or to share ideas for newsletter articles.
- Scholarship – Phyllis Onstad thanked the committee members. Naomi Freuchte is retiring from the committee, so there is a need for another retiree to serve on the committee. Eleven scholarships totaling \$3633.73 were awarded this past year.
- Fund Raising Committee – Donna Geiser encouraged folks to bid on the silent auction and to bring dollar bills for the dollar auction.

Bruce Schwartau moved and Suzanne Driessen seconded to accept the committee reports. The motion passed.

### **Old Business**

- Chapter web site – Neil encouraged members to go to the web site and look at what is posted. The members thanked Neil for his work on the web site.

### **New Business**

- Nominating Committee Report – Neil Broadwater presented the slate of candidates:
  - ◊ Kim Ache for Active Member Director
  - ◊ Kia Harries for President Elect
  - ◊ Toni Smith will move into the President position and Marcia Woeste will move into the Past President position.
- Election of Officers
  - ◊ Bruce Schwartau moved and Donna Geiser seconded to close nominations for President Elect and cast a unanimous ballot for Kia Harries for President Elect. The motion passed.
  - ◊ Jeanne Markel moved and Kay Lovett seconded to close nominations for the Active Member Director position and cast a unanimous ballot for Kim Asche. The motion carried.
- Audit Report
  - ◊ Neil Broadwater moved and Toni Smith seconded to accept the Audit Committee report as printed in the Annual meeting report. The motion carried.
- Proposed 2010-2011 Pi Chapter Budget
  - ◊ Jerry explained that the 2010-2011 budget was based on 44 members (no associate or life members), and increased the JCEP president's workshop expense by \$400. He thanked Kia for her work with the membership committee. Phyllis Onstad moved and Gwen Gmeinder seconded to accept the 2010-2011 budget. The motion carried.
- New Member Initiation
  - ◊ There were no new members this year. President Marcia encouraged members to recruit new members. A membership brochure is available on the web site.
- Memorial Service
  - ◊ Gwen Gmeinder conducted the memorial service for those who have passed away since the last annual meeting, including Delores Andol, Bud G. Crewdson, Marlin Oscar Johnson, Dorian J. Lind, Shirley A. Ruedebusch and Andrea Ruesch.
- Election Results and Installation
  - ◊ Past President Neil Broadwater conducted the initiation of officers.
  - ◊ President Woeste thanked Toni Smith and Neil Broadwater for their assistance this past year and presented them each with a gift. Toni Smith gave Marcia a gift for her leadership as President this past year.
- Toni Smith facilitated a discussion about the future of the organization, including concern about dwindling membership and what the future holds for this organization. Pi Chapter has over 140 retirees and over 40 active members. We are challenged to think about what members receive when they pay the \$70 dues. The chapter is challenged with the issue of getting people to step to

the table to work and having more than one person on committees. There needs to be a discussion about where is the fit between ESP and MAEE in the future. Toni encourages the November board meeting to be a strategic planning meeting. What are we doing to market to and involved the 140 retirees? A special flyer was sent to retirees to attend this meeting – and only 2 attended. The Dean also holds a retiree reception at a different time of the year where retirees can get together. Discussion from membership included:

- ◇ In some states ESP is the umbrella organization, whereas in MN MAEE is the umbrella organization of the sections.
- ◇ Is ESP looked at as a ‘federal’ watchdog for federal employees? Is the organization a fit for those that are state employees? It was mentioned that the mission of NARFE is to watch the federal benefits whereas ESP is an organization for Extension professionals.
- ◇ One member suggested using a public policy model to consider merging ESP & MAEE.
- ◇ Another member indicated that a merger between ESP & MAEE would allow retirees to meet their interests and relationships among themselves, but also connect retirees to programs. There currently is a retiree option for MAEE, but it isn’t promoted very much.
- ◇ Each section within MAEE also offers a retiree option.
- ◇ Another member indicated that whether ESP and MAEE merges or not, there would be value in having an ESP meeting at the Dean’s retiree luncheon ... perhaps with the retiree board members and possibly the board ... as an opportunity to share ideas and draw on their expertise
- ◇ One member questioned, “What do we do for new employees?” MAEE sends a representative to speak at new employee training. New folks can be an associate member during their first few years of employment and then become a regular member after three years in Extension. Have we really utilized the creed & shared it with new members – as that is what the work is about – to create that emotional connection?
- ◇ Someone shared that the East Coast directors wanted to strengthen their organization so they have travel clubs, etc.
- ◇ A member indicated that Extension has changed and the culture of organizations have changed, especially for young employees, including: the change in the federal benefits, with new employees being hired as state employees; also there are also several retiree-age social groups that now meet across the state – to meet needs that ESP used to meet in the 1970’s.... so the retirees’ social needs are being met elsewhere.
- ◇ One member asked if administrators belong to the organization? Yes, Bev Durgan does belong – but doesn’t attend meetings. The member observed that administrators haven’t been encouraged to be a part of any of the associations. What is being said in the creed? How do we reign administrators into the associations?
- ◇ Another member indicated we have heard a lot about separating public vs. private, so employees aren’t as connected to one another in their working years.
- ◇ Another member agreed that the culture in Extension has changed, we used to have shared experiences in county offices, teams in county offices, now there isn’t a shared experience to create bonds; there are differences among Centers and regional offices.
- ◇ Toni encouraged folks to look at the list of board of directors and committee chairs and to talk to them before the November 8 Board meeting planning session. The meeting will be held on campus.
- Announcements
  - ◇ The Banquet with MAEE this evening will be fun and several ESP awards will be presented.

Adjourn – Kay Lovett moved and Gwen Gmeinder seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Minutes by Secretary Sara Croymans

## 2010 ESP Officers

### **President:**

Toni Smith  
Extension Field Operations Outreach Director &  
Liaison to the Association of MN Counties  
Email: [tonis@umn.edu](mailto:tonis@umn.edu)

### **President-Elect:**

**Kia Harries**  
4-H Youth Development Educator & MN Op-  
eration: Military Kids State Liaison  
Email: [kharries@umn.edu](mailto:kharries@umn.edu)

### **Secretary:**

**Sara Croymans**  
Extension Educator, Family Resource Manage-  
ment  
Email: [croym001@umn.edu](mailto:croym001@umn.edu)

### **Treasurer:**

**Jerry Tesmer**  
Extension Educator, Ag Production - Fillmore/  
Houston Counties  
Email: [tesme001@umn.edu](mailto:tesme001@umn.edu)

### **Past-President:**

**Marcia Woeste**  
Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development  
Email: [woest001@umn.edu](mailto:woest001@umn.edu)

### **Directors:**

**Kim Asche**  
Extension Educator, Educational Design  
Email: [asche008@umn.edu](mailto:asche008@umn.edu)

**Jeanne Markell (2009-2011)**

Email: [marke002@umn.edu](mailto:marke002@umn.edu)

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## Internal Committees

### **Nominating:**

**Marcia Woeste**  
Email: [woest001@umn.edu](mailto:woest001@umn.edu)

### **Audit:**

Three members not on Executive Committee

### **Pi Chapter Newsletter Editor:**

**Neil Broadwater**  
Email: [broad007@umn.edu](mailto:broad007@umn.edu)

## 2010 ESP Committee Chairs

### **Awards and Recognition:**

**Tami Bremseth**  
Email: [bremms002@umn.edu](mailto:bremms002@umn.edu)

### **Fundraising:**

**Donna Geiser**  
Email: [geise004@umn.edu](mailto:geise004@umn.edu)

### **Becky Harrington**

Email: [willi107@umn.edu](mailto:willi107@umn.edu)

### **Global Relations:**

**Tim Dolan**  
Email: [dolan008@umn.edu](mailto:dolan008@umn.edu)

### **History & Archives:**

**Kent Gustafson**  
Email: [kgustaf@umn.edu](mailto:kgustaf@umn.edu)

### **Legislative:**

**Cindy Bigger**  
Email: [cbigger@umn.edu](mailto:cbigger@umn.edu)

### **Membership:**

**Janet Beyer**  
Email: [beyer010@umn.edu](mailto:beyer010@umn.edu)

### **Eric Vogel**

Email: [vogel007@umn.edu](mailto:vogel007@umn.edu)

### **Professional Improvement:**

**Bob Mugaas**  
Email: [mugaa001@umn.edu](mailto:mugaa001@umn.edu)

### **Retiree/Life Member:**

**Gwen Gmeinder**  
Email: [g-gmei@umn.edu](mailto:g-gmei@umn.edu)

### **Scholarship:**

**Phyllis Onstad**  
Email: [onsta003@umn.edu](mailto:onsta003@umn.edu)

### **Members:**

Phyllis Onstad  
Eric Vogel  
Naomi Fruechte  
Patrick Borich  
Colleen Gengler