

**Epsilon Sigma Phi
MN Pi Chapter
2011-12 Annual Report**

Your Key to Professional Excellence



The Extension Workers Creed

I Believe in people and their hopes, their aspirations, and their faith; in their right to make their own plans and arrive at their own decisions; in their ability and power to enlarge their lives and plan for the happiness of those they love.

I Believe that education, of which Extension is an essential part, is basic in stimulating individual initiative, self-determination, and leadership; that these are the keys to democracy and that people when given facts they understand, will act not only in their self-interest, but also in the interest of society.

I Believe that education is a lifelong process and the greatest university is the home; that my success as a teacher is proportional to those qualities of mind and spirit that give me welcome entrance to the homes of the families I serve.

I Believe in intellectual freedom to search for and present the truth without bias and with courteous tolerance toward the views of others.

I Believe that Extension is a link between the people and the ever-changing discoveries in the laboratories.

I Believe in the public institutions of which I am a part.

I Believe in my own work and in the opportunity I have to make my life useful to humanity.

Because I Believe these things, I am an Extension professional.

The creed was written by W.A. Lloyd in 1922 and adopted by ESP in 1927



2011- 2012 Chapter Officers

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA October 8, 2012

6:05 pm Call to Order

Additions to the agenda

Treasurer's Report

Budget Overview for 2012-2013

Audit Report

Secretary's Report

Election of Officers

Membership Engagement

Committee Updates

Vision for year ahead

ESP Members Memoriam

Awards & Recognition

2011/2012 Officer Installation

Announcements

7:10 pm Adjourn

President: Kia Harries

Extension Educator, Youth Development
Email: kharries@umn.edu

President-Elect: Holli Arp

Regional Director, Worthington
Email: arpxx001@umn.edu

Secretary: Suzanne Driessen

Extension Educator, Food Safety
Email: driessen@umn.edu

Treasurer: Jerry Tesmer

Extension Educator, Ag Production - Fillmore County
Email: tesme001@umn.edu

Past-President: Toni Smith

Education... Association of Minnesota Counties
Email: tonis@umn.edu

Directors:

Tom Hovde (2011-2013)

Retired

Associate Director

Email: marke002@umn.edu

Kim Asche (2010-2012)

Extension Educator, Youth Development
Email: asche008@umn.edu

2011 – 2012 *Standing Committees*

Awards and Recognition:

Tamie Bremseth

Email: brems002@umn.edu

Fundraising:

Becky Harrington

Email: willi107@umn.edu

Legislative:

Jeanne Markell

Email: markel002@umn.edu

Membership:

Eric Vogel

Email: vogel007@umn.edu

Janet Beyer

Email: beyer010@umn.edu

Professional Improvement:

Chuck Schwartau

Email: cschwart@umn.edu

Toni Smith

Email: tonis@umn.edu

Retiree/Life Member:

Gwen Gmeinder

Email: g-gmei@umn.edu

Scholarship:

Rosi Heins

Email: heins002@umn.edu

Members:

Shelia Craig

Eric Vogel

Margo Herman

Colleen Gengler

Internal Committees

Nominating:

Toni Smith

Email: tonis@umn.edu

Audit:

3 positions - To be named

Special Committee

Pi Chapter Newsletter Editor:

Neil Broadwater

Email: broad007@umn.edu

With Assistance from Carol Burtness

**Epsilon Sigma Phi – Pi Chapter
Treasurer’s Report July 30, 2012**

Balance in Checking 8-31-11	\$2,278.80
Balance in Checking 11-11-11	\$7,111.87
Balance in Checking 1-19-12	\$6,712.56
Balance in Checking 03-26-12	\$3,714.61
Balance in Checking 05-10-12	\$3,315.71

Income:	Budget 11-12	Actual 11-12
Membership Dues	\$5,100	\$4,860.00
Life Member Donations	275	145.00
JCEP President’s Workshop	300	
Other Income	0	437.50
U of MN Foundation (MEWS)	200	160.00
General Fund Auction	250	261.50
Total Income	\$6,125	\$5,864.00

Expenses:	Budget 11-12	Actual 11-12
Dues to National	\$3,600	\$3,165.00
To U of MN Foundation (MEWS)	200	221.50
Organizational Communication	300	199.24
JCEP President's Workshop	750	221.00
ESP National Meeting/Voting Delegates (Adjusted 11-21-11)	300	152.95
Operating Expenses	100	0
Annual Mtg. - State	200	0
PILD Support	150	150.00
National DSA Support	100	0
Committees:		
Scholarship	25	0
Professional Improvement/Global Relations	25	789.31
Awards	400	38.09
Fund Raising, Silent Auction/Dollar Auction	100	0
Membership	100	0
History & Archives	25	0
Retired Extension Workers	25	0
Legislative	0	0
Retiree's Directory	0	0
Memorials	0	0
Transfer to Savings	25	25.00
Transfer to CD	0	0
Undesignated	0	0
Total Expenses	\$6,425	\$4,962.09

Balance in Checking 07-30-12 **\$3,180.71**

Balance in Savings August 31, 2011 **\$3,855.05**

Income

Transfer/Deposits	25.00
Interest	2.89

Total Deposits **\$ 27.89**

Balance in Savings 07/30/2012 **\$3,882.94**

Balance in CD August 31, 2011 **\$5,360.38**

CD Renewed 02/19/2011 **\$5,360.38**
@1.00% for eleven months; next renewal 01/19/2012

The CD was renewed on 1-19-2012 @ .85% for 13 months, next renewal 02-19-2013

Interest paid **\$49.05**

New CD Balance **\$5,409.43**

**Epsilon Sigma Phi - Pi Chapter
Proposed Budget 2012-2013**

Income:	Actual 10-11	Budget 11-12	12-13 Proposal
Membership Dues	\$3,430.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00
Life Member Donations	\$275.00	\$275.00	\$275.00
Nat'l Reim: JCEP President's Workshop	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Nat'l Reim: Voting Delegates Annual Meeting	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Income	\$385.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
U of MN Foundation (MEWS)	\$216.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
General Fund Auction	\$277.00	\$250.00	
Total Income	\$5,083.00	\$6,125.00	\$5,575.00

Expenses:	Actual 10-11	Budget 11-12	12-13 Proposal
Dues to National	\$2,030.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
To U of MN Foundation (MEWS)	\$216.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Organizational Communication	\$98.40	\$300.00	\$125.00
JCEP President's Workshop	\$748.79	\$750.00	\$400.00
Voting Delegates Annual Meeting	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Operating Expenses	\$45.68	\$100.00	\$100.00
Annual Mtg. - State	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$100.00
PILD Support	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
National DSA Support	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

Committees:

Scholarship	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Professional Improvement	\$119.57	\$25.00	\$25.00
Awards	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$200.00
Silent Auction/Dollar Auction	\$25.08	\$100.00	\$50.00
Membership	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
History & Archives	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Retired Extension Workers	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Legislative Efforts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
International	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Retiree's Directory	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Memorials	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer to Savings	\$120.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Transfer to CD	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Undesignated	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$3,603.52	\$6,125.00	\$5,575.00

MINNESOTA “Pi” Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi
Monday, October 3, 2011
Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Mall of America

ESP President Toni Smith called the Minnesota Pi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi to order at 11:45 am on October 3, 2011 at the Hilton Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Mall of America. There were 43 annual members and 4 life members present.

Past President Marcia Woeste added committee sign up to the agenda. A signup sheet was circulated among members to indicate a commitment to serve on a committee.

Treasurer’s Report was given by Jerry Tesmer, ESP Treasurer. For the fiscal year through August 31, 2011 there was total income of \$5,083.00 and total expenses of \$3,603.25. The balance in the checking account was \$2,278.80; savings account balance was \$3,855.96, and CD balance was \$5,360.38. Treasurer Tesmer presented the Budget Overview for 2011/2012. Marcia Woeste moved to accept the proposed budget and Kim Asche seconds the motion. The motion passed.

The previous year’s budget was reviewed by the Audit Committee of Kay Lovett, Chuck Schwartau, and LuAnn Hiniker. Chuck directed members to the audit report printed in the handout materials distributed at the meeting. He moved to accept the audit report. No second was needed. The motion passed

Secretary Sara Croymans directed members to the minutes from the October 4, 2010 Annual Meeting printed in the packet of materials. She moved to accept the minutes as printed. Phyllis Onstad second the motion. The motion passed.

Membership committee co-chair, Eric Vogel reported the organization had several new members including Eleanor Burkett, Connie Burns, Brad Carlson, Jennifer Garbow, Becky Hagen Jokela, Eli Sager, Jim Salfer, and Deb Zak. Those that have paid their life membership dues include Kathleen Olson, Dorothy Rosemeier, Toni Smith, with several others indicating their intention to pay life membership dues as a result of upcoming retirements.

Past President Marcia Woeste introduced the slate of officers including Holli Arp for President Elect, Suzanne Driessen for Secretary, and Tom Hovde for Director for Retirees. Toni Smith thanked those that will be leaving the board.

As a candidate for president elect Holli Arp said a few words about herself. Cindy Bigger moved to close nominations for president elect & cast a unanimous ballot. Nancy Hegland seconds the motion. The motion passed.

As a candidate for secretary Suzanne Driessen said a few words about herself. Cindy Bigger moved to cease nominations for the office of secretary and cast a unanimous ballot. Cindy Petersen seconds the motion. The motion passed.

President Toni Smith asked for additional nominations for the office of Director for Retirees. Cindy Petersen moved to cease nominations for this office and cast a unanimous ballot. Chuck Schwartau seconds the motion. Motion passed.

Using hand held voting devices President Elect Kia Harries engaged those in attendance in an exercise which highlighted committee work and ideas for future ESP program emphasis. Topics included awards and previous award winners, MEWS Scholarship, retirees, fund raising, upcoming fall staff development event, marketing, membership, and ESP goals. Using the voting machines those in attendance indicated that membership was a top priority goal for 2011/2012.

Becky Harrington spoke on behalf of the Fundraising Committee and Phyllis Onstad spoke for the Scholarship Committee. From the Professional Improvement Committee Bob Mugaas directed everyone's attention to the flyer for the **Extra Special** Fall Event scheduled for October 21, 2011 at the U of MN Landscape Arboretum. Registrations are due October 7.

President Elect Kia Harries challenged ESP members to have **E**nthusiasm, to **S**peculate on the possibilities, and to **P**ursue opportunities.
Toni recognized the outgoing board members.

Gwen Gmeinder, Retiree/Life Member Committee Chair, recognized those who passed away this past year, including John Edward Becker, Evelyn M. Falkoski, Leonard B. Hertz, Kathleen M. Mangum, Stanley R. Meinen, Verna Mikesh, and Clara "Pat" Pogalz.

President Toni Smith recognized the individuals who have worked on the proposed changes of Extension membership organizations this past year, including committee chairs Kay Lovett and Jeanne Markell and the committee members.

ESP Past President Marcia Woeste conducted the installation of officers:

Past president – Toni Smith
President- Kia Harries
President Elect – Holli Arp
Treasurer – Jerry Tesmer
Secretary - Suzanne Driessen
Director for Active Members – Kim Asche
Director for Retired Members - Tom Hovde

Toni Smith shared a few words thanking the membership for the opportunity to serve as President this past year. She turned the meeting back over to the new President Kia Harries

Tamie Bremseth invited people to the joint MAEE/ESP awards banquet this evening. Kim Asche thanked Neil Broadwater, "the newsletter man," for all of his work on the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned by President Kia Harries.

Minutes by Sara Croymans, Secretary

(as of Oct 5, 2011)

2011 ESP Officers

President:

Kia Harries

4-H Youth Development Educator & MN

Operation: Military Kids State Liaison

kharries@umn.edu

President-Elect:

Holli Arp

Regional Director

arpxx001@umn.edu

Secretary:

Suzanne Driessen (2012 – 2013)

Extension Educator, Food Science

driessen@umn.edu

Treasurer:

Jerry Tesmer

Extension Educator, Ag Production -
Fillmore County

tesme001@umn.edu

Past-President:

Toni Smith

Extension Field Operations Outreach
Director & Liaison to AMC

tonis@umn.edu

Directors:

Annual Membership Director

Kim Asche (2011 – 2012)

Extension Educator, YD Educational
Design

asche008@umn.edu

Lifetime Membership Director

Tom Hovde (2012 -2013)

Retiree

Email: TKHovde@gmail.com

2010 ESP Committee Chairs

Awards and Recognition:

Tamie Bremseth

brems002@umn.edu

Members:

Marcia Woeste

Fundraising:

Becky Harrington

willi107@umn.edu

Members:

Ellie McCann

Kim Asche

Global Relations:

Chuck Schwartz

cschwart@umn.edu

History & Archives:

None at this time

Legislative:

Jeanne Markel

marke002@umn.edu

Membership:

Eric Vogel

vogel007@umn.edu

Members:

Janet Beyer

Nancy Hegland

Professional Improvement:

None at this time

Retiree/Life Member:

Gwen Gmeinder

g-gmei@umn.edu

Member:

Shirley Anderson Porisch

Scholarship:

Rosi Heins

heins002@umn.edu

Members:

Eric Vogel

Colleen Gengler

Margo Herman

Internal Committees

Nominating:

Toni Smith

tonis@umn.edu

Audit:

Three members not on Executive Committee

Pi Chapter Newsletter / Website Editor:

Neil Broadwater

Extension Educator – Dairy

broad007@umn.edu

ESP COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit Committee Report

The new Treasurer will work with the Audit committee as the transition occurs following the annual meeting.

Awards Committee Report

by Tamie Bremseth, Chair

During Extension's 2011 Program Conference, ESP joined with MAEE to host a recognition banquet. The exciting event included dinner, awards, and an Extension version of "Hollywood Squares" recognizing our retirees.

Epsilon Sigma Phi-Pi Chapter recognized the following individuals:

1. Distinguished Service - *Cindy Peterson*
2. Mid-Career - *Kim Asche*
3. Early Career - *Angela Gupta*
4. Continued Excellence - *Kathleen Olson*
5. Visionary Leadership - *Phyllis Onstad*
6. Administrative Leadership - *David Werner*
7. Distinguished Team Award - *Local Pesticide Applicator Training Team including Krishona Martinson, Bob Mugaas, Bob Olen, Gary Wyatt, Mary kay Ferguson, Michelle Grabowski, Jeff Hahn, Tana Haugen-Brown, Dean Herzfeld, Randy Nelson, and Kathy Zuzek.*
8. International Service - (No Award)
9. Diversity/Multicultural Recognition - individual and team (No Award)
10. Meritorious Support Service - (No Award)
11. Retiree Service - *Jeanne Markell*
12. 25 years of Service - *Deb Botzek-Linn; Phyllis Onstad*
13. Friend of Extension - *President Robert Bruininks (a collaborative effort with Dean Durgan)*

Of these award recipients, four individuals were also selected to receive recognition as the North Central regional winners. These individuals include: *Cindy Peterson, Kim Asche, Angela Gupta, and Phyllis Onstad*. A brief description of the contribution made by each of the state and regional winners is included on the ESP webpage: <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/mnextweb/esp/awards.html>

This year Epsilon Sigma Phi-Pi Chapter will celebrate the accomplishments of our members during the 2012 annual meeting. Thanks to the individuals who nominated their colleagues! 2012 award recipients will be listed in next year's report.

Marcia Woeste has agreed to chair the awards and recognition process for the organization during 2012-2013.

Membership Committee Report

by Eric Vogel and Janet Beyer, Co-Chairs

Our membership this year includes 48 members, 141 life members with 6 of our members being new in 2012. We have a fine-tuned system for tracking members and held some discussion about how and when to connect in with potential members. Another question for the membership committee (with support from ESP members) to keep working on is: What can we do to maintain contact information for our retired members? Retirees move or for other reasons change email addresses and may not think to keep ESP apprised changes. How do we best maintain current life member information?

History & Archives Annual Report

Over the past year we have received information about where resources are stored and have contact names for the University Archives.

Legislative committee report

by Jeanne Markell

The goal of this committee is to monitor and communicate to members any significant local, state and federal legislative activities that have an impact on Extension and/ or ESP members.

Actions:

- Committee chair holds NARFE membership to keep abreast of federal retiree advocacy efforts and ways ESP members can participate
- Reports to membership the pending and final legislation that impacts Extension funding and state or federal retiree benefits
- Encourages ESP members to be part of the public policy agenda, as informed citizens, voters, and advocates when appropriate

Federal activity in 2012:

- NARFE served as watchdog and advocacy organization for all federal employees as the various stages of the federal health care bill played out in late 2011 and throughout 2012.
- After several years of no COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment), federal retirement annuities were increased in January 2012. CSRS retirees received a 3.5 increase to their annuities and FERS retirees received 2.6 percent. It appears there could be a slight increase again for FY13, but not the size of 2012.
- Current and retired Extension staff are encouraged to sign up for this free on-line newsletter: My Federal Retirement <newsletter@myfederalretirement.com> This is an excellent source of current information for future and current federal retirees.

State activity in 2012:

- Overall, the U of M fared better than expected in the 2012 legislative session, especially after adjustments made in special session; therefore Extension was not asked to take the level of cuts that have been experienced in several recent budget years

Fund Raising Committee Report

by Becky Harrington, Chair

Upon recommendation by the Pi Chapter Board, the committee planned a silent auction and dollar auction in 2011. ESP members were encouraged to donate an item that reflects their interests and passion. During the Extension Fall Conference, 18 silent auction items netted \$348.50 for the MEWS Fund to support Extension worker/retirees scholarships for graduate study and staff development. The Dollar Auction, with four items, earned \$200 for the general fund. Plans are to hold the silent auction during Extension Program Conference on Monday, October 8, 2012. A dollar auction was not planned because of a different schedule that did not include a banquet (the event where the dollar auction had been held in the past). Ellie McCann also served on the committee.

MEWS FUND Scholarship Committee Report

By Rosi Heins, Chair

The 2011/2012 MEWS Scholarship Committee members are: Sheila Craig and Colleen Gengler - retirees, Eric Vogel, Margo Herman and Rosemary K. Heins – currently employed members.

- Between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012 five people were awarded MEWS scholarships totaling \$1754.34 to ESP members for professional development purposes. MEWS Scholarship recipients were: Rebecca Hagen-Jokela, Rosemary Heins, Kia Harries, and Jerrold Tessmer. In addition, Holli Arp received MEWS fund support to represent ESP at the JCEP conference in San Antonio, TX. Total expenses paid out in FY 2012 were \$1,754.34.
- The scholarship fund uses 4.5 percent of the spendable amount earned in a fiscal year. This amount will be verified on a month –by-month basis with Madonna Monette following the annual meeting.
- The MEWS Fund’s Total Fund Balance July 1, 2011 was \$ 106,217.73 and on June 30, 2012 was \$103,490.24. \$4,000 was transferred to pay fund scholarship disbursements in June 2012.
- This year the scholarship committee recommended to the board the maximum scholarship amount be raised to \$500. This was approved by the ESP Board in January 2012.

Visit the Pi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi website (<http://www.extension.umn.edu/esp>) to find the scholarship guidelines and a copy of the scholarship application form. Scholarship applications are looked at quarterly and the deadlines for scholarships are April 1, July 1, October 1 and January 1.

Newsletter & Website Report

Neil Broadwater served as the newsletter and website editor. The link to our website is:

www.extension.umn.edu/esp

Professional Improvement Committee Report

by Chuck Schwartau

Toni Smith and Chuck Schwartau arranged a conference call in which recent retirees could share their recent experiences with taking retirement and negotiating some of the hurdles that go with being newly retired. It was felt this could of help and support to those retirees as well as impress upon those looking at retirement in the not too distant future the need for planning and what resources they should be aware of to help them make the transition. Kathy Murphy was also on the call to help answer any questions.

Retiree/Life Member Committee

by Gwen Gmeinder, Chair

Retiree Updates

Welcome to the new retirees who retired from October 2011 to October 2012

Rose Allen, Extension educator in family relations. For 26 years, her contributions centered on helping families during major transitions in their lives, teaching parents the impact of divorce and new family strategies through educational tools, such as We Agree: Creating a Parenting Plan.

Shirley Anderson-Porisch retired after a 39-year career in family resource management education that included developing curriculum and training to address the issue of financial literacy. Her ground-breaking work with addicted gamblers and their families is being used across the country.

Neil Broadwater, Extension educator in livestock and dairy education, served the people of Waseca, Winona and Houston counties for 36 years of dedicated service. Throughout his Extension career, he contributed to numerous local, state and national organizations through his leadership and expertise.

James Carlson, Extension regional director, 35 years of service. In addition to leadership in Morrison County and Brainerd regional office, he held educator positions in agriculture and 4-H youth development.

Rita Colchin, Community Nutrition Educator, Dakota County, provided 14 years of service for the Simply Good Eating East Metro Program.

Shirley Doering, regional Extension educator, 4-H Youth Development, worked 28 years starting in Blue Earth County and continued as a regional educator and co-authored “Operation Military Kids” and “Self-Care for Kids” curricula to name a few.

Timothy Dolan, Extension educator who worked in Sibley County for 21 years and provided leadership for food, agriculture and natural resources and community development programs.

Mary Duncomb, Extension education, provided 40 years of service and leadership to the 4-H youth development programs on the county, regional and state levels, working to assure young people had opportunities to learn.

Kendall Dykhuis, Extension educator in St. Louis County, worked 24 years with agricultural production systems and horticulture, addressing landfill problems and increasing the productivity for the area.

Nancy Frosaker Johnson served as an Extension regional director in Moorhead and Fergus Falls in addition to roles as an educator in family development and county Extension director in Clay County, retired with 32 years of service to Extension.

Colleen Gengler, Extension educator, family relations, with 38 years of service in Cottonwood, Nobles, Murray Counties and as regional educator in Worthington where she provided online teaching for families with teens as well as in areas of family and nutritional needs.

Janene Hodges Gilman, worked 32 years as an extension educator in family resource management, and focused on communities, families, new immigrants, unemployed and youth.

Elaine Greenfield, associate administrator for Extension, providing support for 46 years to all aspects of Extension administration from unit directors to information technology.

Kent Gustafson, community vitality, Extension educator in Tourism Center, was passionate about educating people about the world of events, the opportunities for agri-tourism and community leadership.

Jayne Hager Dee, Extension regional director for the Regional Office in Farmington, provided 13 years of building strong relationships with county officials to meet community needs.

Robert Hursh, Extension information technology specialist, with 33 years of service beginning as a programmer and concluding with central system support as database administrator.

James Linn, Extension Specialist and former department head in Animal Science, was nationally known for extensive educational programs in dairy cattle nutrition, feeding management, and replacement heifer nutrition and management.

Rae Montgomery, Extension professor and technology literacy coordinator, through her 29-year career she created distance education technology, online resources, and helped communities integrate technology advances.

Patricia Morreim served Extension for 32 years starting as 4-H agent in Anoka County and moving into leadership roles as a County Extension Director and most recently as the regional director in Andover.

Robert Mugaas, regional Extension educator, 33 years of contributions to education in turf management, weed control, integrated pest management, pesticide education and all aspects of the Master Gardner Program.

Maxine Norman retired September 7 after eight years of contributions to Extension's leadership and civic engagement programs, focusing on adult education, curriculum and evaluation. She helped communities face change by engaging them in technology adoption, leadership development, and poverty reduction.

Robert Olen, Extension educator, St. Louis County, 35 years of research-based education and contributions in fields of consumer and commercial horticulture; his cold-climate horticultural field research helped increase productivity and profitability.

Kathleen Olson, Extension educator, 40 years of service starting with Goodhue County and concluding as a regional educator centering on educational programs in family relations, teaching parents the skills to raise their children in a complex world.

Phyllis Onstad retired after 26 years as an Extension educator in family development. Her work led to the development of educational programs for, immigrants, and children experiencing their parents' divorce and those impacted by disaster.

Barbara Piehl, Extension educator, retired after 34 years providing leadership to the 4-H Youth Development Program on the county, regional and state levels, providing contributions to volunteer and partnership development

G. Lee Raeth, director of field operations, contributed in many areas of Extension for 38 years serving as a county agent to district director, lastly developing the regional director team and field operations.

Willa Reed, executive office and administrative specialist, worked in several units of Extension including the Center for Community Vitality, Farmer Lender Mediation program, operations and communications teams and dean's office.

June Rhoads, principal office and administrative specialist for 19 years, provided support for many functions, most recently assisting the many clients in Extension's research development unit.

Barbara (Bobbie) Roberts, executive office and administrative specialist, worked for 35 years to support many administrative functions for Extension, including district operations, human resources and coordinating HR data systems.

Dorothy Rosemeier, executive director, West Central Sustainable Development Partnership, retired after 33 years in community development and civic engagement. She started her Extension career as an educator in Swift County and it evolved to leadership, dedication to sustainability and active citizen leadership.

Byron Schneider, associate professor, youth development, retired after 30 years of service to the University, teaching, research and leadership in both national and international contexts for understanding youth development.

Wayne Seidel, Extension educator for Lake County, serving 29 years, teaching natural resource education, storm water management and erosion control and bringing University resources to the region.

Russell Severson, Extension educator, 38 years of dedication to agriculture and the Northwest Minnesota community; his career included work as a research scientist, county and regional educator, with contributions to educational programs in crop improvement and soil and water conservation.

Carol Skelly, community program associate, 39 years of working with 4-H youth development programming and contributing to Cloverbud educational materials used across the state and county.

Jaelyn Smith, 24 years of service as a Master Gardener volunteer and coordinator, programs in Carver and Scott Counties grew, meeting community needs with horticulture and environmental education.

Toni Smith, field operations outreach director & liaison to Association of Minnesota Counties, 35 years of contributions from an educator in Murray, Pope, Wabasha Counties to Extension director to outreach director for field and government relations. She served in leadership positions for many community, state and national organizations.

Barbara Sorensen, Extension educator, volunteer and partnership development, 32 years of leadership to 4-H youth development programs at the county, regional and state level. Resource to colleagues in volunteer and partnership development.

Minnell Tralle, Extension educator, family relations for over 36 years, served as a 4-H youth development agent in Washington County, home economist agent in Sherburne County and program leader and regional educator in family relations.

Joyce Walker, Extension professor and assistant director, Extension Center for Youth Development, 28 years of service to youth development, created critical and innovative programs bridging research and practice in youth work.

William Wilke, Extension specialist, developed a regionally renowned and nationally-recognized program on the post-harvest handling of crops, including grain drying and storage. His programs have widespread use by grain farmers throughout the state.

In Memoriam October 2011-October 2012

Gwendolyn M. Bacheller, 90, of Roseville died February 9. Her career started in Wisconsin as a County 4-H Club Agent. She joined the University of Minnesota State 4-H Club staff in 1948, working until 1957. Gwen was a member of the Minnesota State Home Economics Association since 1948 and was president in 1975-76. She was named Twin City Home Economist in Business in 1986-87 and Minnesota Home Economist of the Year in 1990.

Jean Warner Bauer, an Extension specialist in family development and family resource management, passed away on July 23, age 67. She led outreach and education programs including the development of "Dollar Works," a nationally recognized curriculum. In 2011 she received the President's Award for Distinguished Service to the University of Minnesota.

Harvey Bjerke, 93, passed away in West Concord, on September 1. Harvey earned his degree in business administration from the University; he retired from Extension as an associate professor after 25 years. Harvey managed the Citizens State Bank in Mantorville for 10 years. He was co-founder of Trinity Lutheran Church of West Concord and served on the school board and town council.

Norman A. Brown passed away on September 25, at age 73. He received his BS, MA and PhD. from Michigan State University and was an honorary recipient of the Dr. of Laws Degree at the University of Natal in South Africa. He was one of the original founders of EARTH University in Costa Rica. His distinguished academic career included faculty and administrative positions at Michigan State University, State Director of Michigan 4-H, Dean and Director of Minnesota Extension, President Emeritus of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation as well as leadership positions with many national boards and foundations.

Evelyn H. Dose, 93, passed away on May 28, after a long and distinguished career in Extension. Evelyn received a degree in home economics education in 1942 and pursued her goal to become a 4-H club agent in Wadena County; a few years later she moved into a state 4-H position. From 1970-1984, Evelyn was a supervisor for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNP) in Ramsey County. Evelyn also served as a Goldstein Gallery volunteer, earned the National Association of Extension Home Economists Distinguished Service Award and chaired the Minnesota Home Economics Association History Committee.

James L. Edman died January 31 in Benson. He began his Extension career as a Swift County Extension Director in 1953 and retired in 1984. He served as Secretary and President of the Minnesota County Agriculture Agents Association and wrote weekly columns for the Swift County Monitor News and the West Central Tribune. He died at age 87.

Jay Eugene Ellis, age 94, formerly of Buffalo and Litchfield, died on December 14. He started his Extension career in Sioux County, Iowa. He worked for University of Minnesota Extension as a county soils agent in Wright County from 1954 to 1967. From 1967 to his retirement in 1982 he worked as an area soils specialist in six counties with an office in Meeker County at Litchfield.

Susanne G. Fisher passed away on October 15, age 70. She was an inspirational leader, innovator, and tireless advocate for 4-H. Her contributions and impacts to the 4-H movement reached from county to state to national to international levels and she was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame in 2005. Her career spanned over four decades and she held numerous leadership positions.

Myrna Johnson, 98, of Redwood Falls, died May 10. She graduated from the University of Minnesota Agricultural School in 1937. Myrna returned to Slayton where she worked with USDA and other federal entities, and later with Minnesota Extension as a 4-H club leader. She was named Redwood County Outstanding Senior Citizen in 2001.

Jane Price McKinnon, 91, died October 25, in spring, Texas after a long and accomplished life which included service during WWII in Burma and India in the American Red Cross and a master's degree in horticulture science. She was a faculty member in University's Horticultural Science Department, where she was an influential teacher and mentor for students and colleagues across the State.

Harriet E. Meldahl, 97, of Duluth passed away May 26. In 1962, Harriet began her work as an Extension home economist in rehabilitation and taught classes in five northern Minnesota counties until her retirement in 1980. She produced a series of videos "Ability Not Disability" and won a Chicago International Film Festival Award. She was very involved in the American and Minnesota Home Economics Associations.

William A. Milbrath passed away on June 10 in Minneapolis. Bill's first Extension job was in Pine County in 1950. His positions included serving on the MN State 4-H staff in 1963 and director of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program, and he finished his career as Extension's Human Resource Director. In 1986 he became the National Secretary of ESP Epsilon Sigma Phi retiring in 1990.

Paulene Mims, 84, died January 12 in St. Paul. An Alabama native, Paulene moved to Minnesota in 1968. She worked as an agricultural assistant in the Ramsey County Extension Office where she had the opportunity to utilize her passion for cooking, sewing, and gardening. Paulene's employment was also community-based working with youth in 4-H programs and families as a nutrition economist. Her service to community continued long after retirement as a Master Gardener and numerous positions on committees, advisory councils and clubs.

Ed Plissey, the first regional agricultural extension potato specialist in the Red River Valley, passed away on November 14, age 77. He held a joint position with North Dakota State, making research in the Valley more practical and useful. As a national expert on potato production, he continued involvement in the potato industry well beyond his retirement.

Retiree Events:

On July 19, 72 Extension retirees came together at the Midland Hills Country Club, Roseville, for the annual Extension Retiree Luncheon with Dean Bev Durgan. During the luncheon, Julie Weisenhorn, State Director, Extension Master Gardener Program, shared highlights from the Master Gardener (MG) program, which is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year. With Julie were four of the original MGs from the very first class of 1977.