



A Slice of Pi

Pi Chapter Newsletter

Fall, 2012

In This Issue:

President's Report	1
List of Board members	2
Pi Chapter Annual Mtg	2
2012 Nat'l Conference	2
2012-13 Candidates	3
"How's Retirement?"	4
Morrill Act Discussion	4
Scholarship Reports	5
New Retirees	6
In Memorium	6
Retiree Luncheon	6
President-Elect's Report	7
Annual Silent Auction	8
Awards Applications	9

Upcoming Meetings

2012 Pi Chapter Annual Meeting

Monday, Oct 8, 6:00pm,
Bloomington

National ESP Conference

October 7-10, 2012
Mobile, AL

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Kia Harries



In the book, "Strengths Based Leadership" by Tom Rath & Barry Conchie, the introduction asks you to "Think for a moment about the leaders you respect – whether they lead countries, organizations, communities, or families – who continue to live on because of the way they have shaped your thoughts and beliefs. Even though you may not notice it in the moment, the most effective leaders forever alter the course of your life."

As I think about the leaders I respect, I could cite many of you as ESP members who have influenced me in my leadership, and I hope that after my years in Extension, that there are youth who would name me as an influence as well. Most people set out to make a difference when they step up to work on a committee or in an organization, but they often leave a long lasting impact because of their energy, enthusiasm or passion for what they are doing.

As I've been a part of ESP as a member and now as an officer, I see the energy, enthusiasm and passion exhibited on a regular basis as people want to make a difference. I have enjoyed being a part of this association because of the contributions, commitment and contagious spirit – that I hope is catching on as we invite and welcome new members and look forward to a new year.

I challenge you to think about the leaders you respect – and why. As we approach this upcoming political election season, you'll get a chance to express your vote for those leaders who exemplify what you support and believe in, but I also encourage you to share your leadership with others as you become involved or step up to a new opportunity that comes your way. You never know how those opportunities you say "yes" to can impact others along the way.

I'd like to say a big thank you to all who have served in a leadership role in ESP and have lead organizations in Extension. I can definitely say you have altered the course of my life as examples of leadership and what I hope to share with others.

2012 ESP PI Chapter Annual Meeting

Monday, October 8, 2012, 6:00 pm

[See page 2 for details](#)

PI CHAPTER OFFICERS

President:

Kia Harries

kharries@umn.edu

President-Elect:

Holli Arp

arpxx001@umn.edu

Secretary:

Suzanne Driessen

driessen@umn.edu

Treasurer:

Jerry Tesmer

tesme001@umn.edu

Past President:

Toni Smith

tonis@umn.edu

Directors:

Kim Asche

asche008@umn.edu

Tom Hovde

tkhovde@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Awards and Recognition:

Tamie Bremseth

brems002@umn.edu

Fundraising:

Becky Harrington

willi107@umn.edu

History & Archives:

unfilled

Legislative:

Jeanne Markel

marke002@umn.edu

Membership:

Eric Vogel

vogel007@umn.edu

Janet Beyer

beyer010@umn.edu

Professional Improvement:

Chuck Schwartau

cschwart@umn.edu

Retiree/Life Member:

Gwen Gmeinder

g-gmei@umn.edu

Scholarship:

Rosi Heins

heins002@umn.edu

Newsletter/Website Editor:

Neil Broadwater

broad007@umn.edu

2012 ESP PI Chapter Annual Meeting Notice and Agenda

Monday, October 8, 2012

6:00 pm

at

Hilton Minneapolis/St Paul Airport Mall of America

3800 American Blvd East, Bloomington

The ESP meeting will be held immediately following the Poster Sessions on Monday afternoon. We would like to encourage you to read the committee reports included in this newsletter as we will not be doing full reports during the annual meeting to allow time for some member engagement.

6:05 pm Call to Order - Kia Harries, ESP President

Additions to the agenda

Treasurer's Report – Jerry Tesmer, ESP Treasurer

Budget Overview for 2012/2013

Audit Report

Secretary's Report – Suzanne Driessen, ESP Secretary

Election of Officers

6:15 pm Member Engagement – Each member will receive a hand held voting machine to vote throughout the meeting on topics and issues related to MN PI chapter.

6:45 pm ESP Memoriam – Gwen Gmeinder, Retiree/Life Member Committee Chair

6:50 pm ESP Awards & Recognition – Tamie Bremseth, Member Recognition Committee Chair

7:05 pm 2012/2013 Officer Installation – Toni Smith, ESP Past President

7:10 pm Meeting Adjourned

2012 ESP National Conference in Mobile, AL

October 7 - 10, 2012

Life Member Phyllis Onstad will be Minnesota's voting delegate to the ESP National Meeting to be held October 7-10, in Mobile, AL. She will be the only Pi Chapter member attending this year as the national meeting is at the same time as Minnesota's Annual Extension Conference.

Each year, the conference provides a number of opportunities for professional growth including educational sessions, a poster session and tours for both Active and Life members. The Distinguished Ruby Lecture also serves as a conference highlight. If you are curious about what goes on at the National Conference, check out the web site: <http://conference2.espnational.org/>.

Next year, the ESP National Conference will be part of the **Galaxy IV Conference** to be held in Pittsburgh, September 15-19. All six Extension professional organization that are members of JCEP will be participating. Those member organizations include National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA), National Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NAEFCS), Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP), National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA), Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP), and National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP).

2012-2013 BOARD MEMBERS

(Following Annual Membership Meeting)

President: Holli Arp

Past President: Kia Harries

Secretary: Suzanne Driessen

ESP Director: Tom Hovde

Pi Chapter Officer Candidates

President-Elect Candidate



Chuck Schwartau

I have been in the University of Minnesota Extension for 27 years in my current stint, had an earlier 6 years, with nearly 7 years between in the private sector. I have served in several different counties in SE MN over that time and am now an educator in the Rochester Regional Office. I am a member of the Dairy program team, with my area of emphasis being workforce development and management.

Over my career I have held a wide range of leadership positions in professional organizations including director and president of MAEE, several offices in MAEAP, treasurer and director of NACAA, director and secretary of ESP, and am currently chairing the steering committee for the 2013 JCEP Galaxy IV.

I agreed to the nomination for the office of President-elect because I believe it is the responsibility of all professionals to fully participate in their respective professional associations, including serving on committees and offices when asked. Everyone has something to offer and the role of leaders is to draw out those talents. I believe I can serve ESP in that manner in the years to come.

Director Candidate



David Werner

I have been employed with Extension for 33 years now and am currently in the position of Assistant Dean and Chief Operations Officer located in Coffey Hall. Beside the C.O.O. role I have had the pleasure to serve in numerous roles in Extension - including 4-Her; 4-H Summer Assistant; 4-H Educator, County Director, Ag Educator, Specialized Livestock Educator, District Director and Director of Field Operations. Over the years I have also served multiple roles in MAEE and the individual sections as well as EFCC, so it was a pleasure to agree to serve in the role of ESP Director.

Treasurer (Board Appointed)



Sara Croymans

Sara has been employed with Extension for 20 years and is currently a Family Resource Management Educator out of the Morris Regional Office. She is an Accredited Financial Counselor. Sara has been an ESP member since 1998 and has served as Secretary 2009-2010 and newsletter co-editor 2005-2008. She looks forward to serving the organization in the role of Treasurer and working with the board and membership.

Epsilon Sigma Phi Conference Call Sharing and Learning

“You Did It...How is Retirement?”



Join colleagues for an informal discussion about the transition to retirement. Learn about topics such as:

- ⇒ What is it like a few months after retirement?
- ⇒ Would you do it differently?
- ⇒ How long did you have to wait for your first retirement check?
- ⇒ Did you and your spouse or partner agree on any changes for your new full time life together?
- ⇒ Hints to make the transition successful.
- ⇒ What would you tell colleagues who are thinking about retiring within the next one to three years?

DATE: Tuesday, September 25, 2012

TIME: 1:30 P.M. To 2:30 P.M.

Conference Call #: Call 661-673-8600 and when prompted enter this passcode 420092#. You are responsible for your long distance charges.

If you have questions about the conference call please contact Toni Smith at tonis@umn.edu or Chuck Schwartau at cschwart@umn.edu

Extension's Public Purposes and Value in Troubled Times

In-person event / webinar

Wednesday, September 19 — 4:00 to 5:30 P.M.

at Continuing Education and Conference Center, Room 42, St. Paul Campus, UM

Scott J. Peters, professor at Syracuse University and co-director, Imagining America will discuss the following questions with Richard Senese, Senior Associate Dean, Extension as we celebrate UMN Land Grant 150th Anniversary of the Morrill Act - legislation that laid the groundwork for the land-grant research university.

- ⇒ What is Extension?
- ⇒ What are its public purposes and value in troubled times like ours?
- ⇒ And, what does it offer to the urgent work of renewing and sustaining our economy, our environment, and our democracy?

These questions and others will be taken up in conversation, drawing lessons from forgotten aspects of Extension history, and from contemporary work in Minnesota and elsewhere.

Please register to attend in person or online at: <http://jcsept19.eventbrite.com>

Sponsored by the University of Minnesota Jandris Center for Innovative Higher Education and Extension. Refreshments provided by the Office for Public Engagement

MEWS Scholarship Recipient Reports

by Rosemary Heins, Scholarship Committee Chair

Jerrold Tesmer and Connie Burns have received MEWS scholarship funds in recent months. Their \$500 scholarships helped them attend conferences in Washington, DC. Jerry attended the April 2012 Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference as the representative for ESP. Connie attended and presented at the July 2012 Conference of the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior (SNEB). Both acknowledged appreciation for the financial support from ESP members.

[Jerry shared the following in his report about the PILD Conference:](#)

“The first two days were training to prepare us for the Day on Capitol Hill. We learned how USDA relates to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), and how the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) functions. This provided us with background information and the opportunity to think about our *elevator* speeches. I personally had two basic items to discuss; support for the Smith-Lever funding at USDA, and the need for youth to be able to continue to work on farms. My personal quote for Smith-Lever was something to the affect of, ‘As a local educator, I’m totally funded by the counties, but I need people in St Paul to do the research and provide me with information when local citizens have questions or concerns that I cannot answer. We are their connection to the University of Minnesota.’

My second concern, youth working on farms, was actually brought up first by various legislative aides and Senator Franken. This related to the impact of the Department of Labor re-writing the regulations for youth working on farms. They are not yet in effect, but have received much publicity. The legislator’s offices are very aware of concerns related to the proposed new regulations as they have received over 19,000 letters on this one subject. Jill Grams, representing 4-H, would tag-team concerns she had heard from the youth development perspective. “

Jerry went on to acknowledge the strength of the Minnesota delegation was the diversity by geography and program content area. He considers the PILD Conference a wonderful experience and would recommend that all Extension employees participate at some time during their career.

[Among the information Connie Burns shared in her report is the following:](#)

“I was selected by SNEB to co-present with Claudia Mincemoyer, PhD, Penn State Cooperative Extension on the topic ‘*Using Technology to Access Professional Development Resources from the Cooperative Extension System*’. My presentation focused on the online nutrition course for Community Nutrition Educators that I designed, facilitated and assessed from 2008-10. I also spoke on the importance of social presence in a learner centered online environment. There were approximately 80 people in attendance for my presentation.”

Besides presenting, Connie attended many conference sessions. Among them were: Opening Plenary Session: Synergy in Nutrition Education- From Policy to Practice; Sam Kass, the White House Assistant Chet/Senior Policy Advisory for Healthy Food Initiatives, led a panel of three others in a discussion on the importance of nutrition educators advocating with local, regional, and national stakeholders for strong policies and programs; Expanding Community Nutrition Education to Include Environmental Change; Jamie Dollahite, PhD/RD of Cornell, led a skill building workshop that focused on the relevance of environmental influences on nutrition education’s success. MN SNAP-ED is changing towards more of an ecological approach, so this workshop was very helpful, and also very interactive.

Connie also shared the SNEB leadership role she has taken on. “I will be representing the Healthy Aging Division of SNEB for the next two years on the Membership Committee. SNEB Membership has increased in the last several years, so the goal is now to stabilize those numbers, and to continue to work on ways to streamline the membership process.”

Congratulations to Jerrold and Connie!

Retiree/Life Member Report

by Gwen Gmeinder, Retiree/Life Member Chair

Welcome New Retirees

Maxine Norman retires in September 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.

In Memoriam - Retirees who passed away March – August 2012

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.

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.

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.

Extension Retiree Lunch with Dean Durgan

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. There was a variety of retirees, from those who retired 30 years or more ago, to those who just retired in the last year. The room was buzzing with conversations about the diversity of projects and hobbies (as well as jobs) our retirees engage in after they retire.

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. Other components of the program included: Matt Musel was thanked for his service to Extension, in August he moves on to work for a political campaign; Sadie Schroeder, one of this year’s student development interns, shared her experience as a student development intern; and Colleen Gengler gave a plug for joining ESP.

The President-Elect's Report

by Holli Arp

Recently Kevin Eikenberry wrote a blog about ways to “really” engage people. As President-Elect I found myself thinking about engagement in our organization. How do we as individuals engage in ESP? How does the ESP organization engage nationally? As we begin to set goals and priorities for another year I am sharing some of Kevin’s ideas about engagement and posing questions for all of us to consider. I look forward to hearing your feedback about ESP goals and priorities at our upcoming annual meeting.

Meaning. People want to be a part of something useful, valuable, and bigger than themselves. Help people see how what they do makes a difference for others, for the community, the world or whatever.

Question to consider: Is ESP providing you the meaningful experiences you hoped for? If so, what? If not, how should we shift our focus?

Expectations. People want to know what is expected of them and what behaviors are valued. When people know what is really expected, they work with less stress and higher confidence and productivity.

Question to consider: What do you as members expect of ESP leadership? Are we serving the organization as you had hoped?

Targets. People are naturally competitive (if only with themselves), so help them compete by giving them (or helping them create) goals.

Question to consider: What do you see as priority goals for ESP in 2013?

Relationships. Human beings want to feel connected to other people, and work is a logical place to have that need met – after all we spend more waking hours at work than in any other activity.

Question to consider: Is ESP offering the right opportunities to connect with others? If not, what do you feel would be beneficial?

Input. The people who do the work have a valuable perspective. They have ideas, and they’d like to share them. You don’t need to implement every idea, or accept every solution suggested; but if you openly ask for and value those ideas, some will make a difference. And the process of asking will engage people in powerful ways.

ESP leadership needs to hear from you about what is important to you, what you might be willing to contribute to ESP, and how you think we can partner with Extension to build connections, please share your thoughts with us anytime!

Belief. People want to be around people who believe in them. We will do our best work when we know that those around us want the best for us and believe we can achieve the best.

One of the reasons I joined ESP was because of the high quality Extension leaders and mentors that I saw join this organization. There is still so much I have to learn from all of you and I am looking forward to it!

Adapted from Kevin Eikenberry. See full article at:

<http://blog.kevineikenberry.com/leadership/seven-ways-to-really-engage-people/>

Seeking Silent Auction Items to Support MEWS Fund

by Becky Harrington, Fundraising Committee Chair

Plan to show your support for ESP at the 2012 Extension Program Conference by donating an item that reflects your passion to the Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) Silent Auction. Do you like to golf? Paint? Go to your cabin? Think about donating a basket of golf equipment, a masterpiece you've created, or perhaps a week-end use of your cabin. All proceeds for the Silent Auction go to the MEWS Fund which supports Extension worker scholarships for graduate study and staff development. Extension retirees who are Life members may also qualify for scholarships.

The ESP Silent Auction will be open **Monday afternoon, October 8, closing at 6 pm that evening**. The ending time coincides with the conclusion of the poster sessions and the start of the ESP meeting.

To show your support of MEWS:

- ⇒ Donate an item to the silent auction as an individual or with a group.
- ⇒ Take bids from colleagues who are unable to attend.
- ⇒ Assist others with getting donations for the auction.
- ⇒ Volunteer to help with setting up the Silent Auction (contact Becky Harrington, willi107@umn.edu or Ellie McCann, mccan023@umn.edu, if you would like to help.)
- ⇒ Make a cash donation to MEWS if you are unable to attend the auction.

To register a donation for the Silent Auction:

Please send the following information to Becky Harrington, willi107@umn.edu or Ellie McCann, mccan023@umn.edu by **Wednesday, October 3**. Of course, items will be graciously accepted after this date, as well!

1. NAME of Donor
2. ADDRESS of Donor
3. EMAIL of Donor
4. ITEM DESCRIPTION (20 words or less)
5. ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET DOLLAR VALUE OF ITEM

Bring donated items(s) to the 2012 Extension Program Conference Registration Area upon arriving at the conference on Monday, October 8. (Note: there will not be a dollar auction this year.)

Silent Auction



Source: Google Images

Applications for ESP-Pi Chapter Recognition

by Tamie Bremseth, Awards and Recognition Committee Chair

Applications are due **Wednesday, September 26, 2012**

One of the benefits of ESP membership is the opportunity for chapter and regional recognition. Sometimes, however, we get so caught up in the work that we fail to take a moment in our busy lives to celebrate our own accomplishments or to recognize the contributions of our colleagues. Now is your chance!

Please pause to consider:

- ⇒ Which contribution have I made this year as an employee or retiree that fits within the categories for ESP recognition?
- ⇒ Which of my colleagues have made a contribution this year, or over their career, that I believe is deserving of recognition?
- ⇒ Which of the individuals or groups with whom I work have helped to advance the overall mission and vision of Extension?

Applications for ESP recognition are due on **Wednesday, September 26, 2012**. To nominate yourself, another deserving colleague (active or retired), or a friend of Extension for ESP recognition, please review the descriptions of the member recognition categories and application process on the ESP- Pi Chapter website, awards page:

<http://blog.lib.umn.edu/mnextweb/esp/awards.html>

Awards available and the individuals recognized by ESP-Pi Chapter in 2011 include the following chapter and regional winners:

1. Distinguished Service - *Cindy Peterson (Regional Winner)*
2. Mid-Career - *Kim Asche (Regional Winner)*
3. Early Career - *Angela Gupta (Regional Winner)*
4. Continued Excellence - *Kathleen Olson*
5. Visionary Leadership - *Phyllis Onstad (Regional Winner)*
6. Administrative Leadership - *David Werner*
7. Distinguished Team Award - *Local Pesticide Applicator Training Team*
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)*

The presentation of the 2012 ESP-Pi Chapter awards will occur during the ESP meeting at the Extension program conference. Chapter winners in categories 1-9, listed above, will automatically be nominated for regional awards using the online application required for chapter recognition. With the Dean of Extension's support, the Friend of Extension nominee will also be forwarded.

Please submit an application and allow ESP-Pi Chapter to celebrate the many contributions employee, retirees, and friends make every day on behalf of the mission of the University of Minnesota Extension!

Nominate Yourself or a Colleague

Pi Chapter Newsletter

A Slice of Pi!

University of Minnesota
Worthington Regional Office
1527 Prairie Drive
Worthington, MN 56187
Phone: (507) 372-3900
Fax: (507) 372-3911



Pi Chapter web site

www.extension.umn.edu/esp

ESP is the Cooperative Extension Professionals' Organization

ESP Mission Statement

Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension system and developing the Extension profession and professional.