



Epsilon Sigma Phi

A SLICE OF PI

FALL 2005

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR PI CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Greetings,

I hope each of you are enjoying the last days of summer. One of the advantages of Minnesota is the change in seasons which we will be experiencing very soon. We are fortunate to have beautiful fall days to look forward to.

Bev Durgan, our new Dean and Director, is also a change. Many of you may know Bev from your current or past work in Extension. She has over 20 years experience in the Extension Service. Many retirees may remember her as an Extension Specialist in the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics. I encourage you to welcome Bev to her new role in Extension. We look forward to meeting her during our upcoming fall conference and annual meetings.

The National ESP meeting will be held November 9 – 12 in Colorado Springs. This is another change, since it will be held after our annual meeting. We will be well represented by Janet Beyer and Sheila Craig as our voting delegates and Rod Hamer who will be receiving the DSA award.

We are trying another change this year. On October 12, the day of our Pi Chapter annual meeting, retirees will

have an opportunity to have lunch together, socialize and enjoy a fun program. We are hoping this will encourage more retirees to participate in the annual meeting, afternoon program, silent auction and evening social hour.

You may note a trend in my message—that being “change”. Yes, we continue to go through change, but that is part of life. These changes are nothing compared to what some of our colleagues in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama have experienced. As of this writing several Extension staff in Louisiana and Mississippi are still unaccounted for and many have lost homes and offices. A fund has been set up nationally to help. If you would like to contribute a tax deductible donation please send it to: NASULGC – Katrina Extension Disaster Fund, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges Dept. 0545, Washington, D.C. 20073-0545.

I look forward to seeing everyone again at the annual meeting.

Sincerely,
Cindy M. Petersen
Pi Chapter President
2004-2005

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CANDIDATES	2
RECOMMENDATIONS	
MINNESOTA EXTENSION WORKERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND	3
HELP RAISE (MEWS) FUNDS	4
ESP AWARDS	
FIRE IN THE BONES, CHUCK LOFY	5
MAEE/ESP ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCHEDULE	6
ESP RETIREE/NON MAEE MEMBERS FORM	7
ESP MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM	8

The following Pi Chapter Officer Candidates will be voted on at the Annual Meeting:

President-Elect: Glenice Johnson

Secretary: Andrea Ruesch

Director: Kent Gustafson

Treasurer (Appointed by Board): Sheila Craig

Recommendations by the Board

The Pi Chapter Executive Board met on Thursday, September 1, 2005 and discussed a few items that will be brought before the full membership for a vote at our annual meeting on October 12.

One motion relates to membership and would involve a bylaw change. Janet Beyer suggested we add an *associate membership* for those in Extension from 0 – 3 years. The dues would be state dues only, which is currently \$30. Some of the discussion included getting individuals into ESP early on in their career; the dollars generated would increase our state budget and individuals would have access to the ESP scholarship. Other states have done this for sometime.

The following motion may also involve a bylaw change. It relates to a charge given to the board at our last annual meeting regarding *MAEE and ESP working more closely together*. Shirley Barber moved that Pi Chapter - Epsilon Sigma Phi explore having an ex-officio representative on the MAEE board to help coordinate the annual meeting and several committees including awards and recognition, legislative, professional improvement and employee benefits. This would be a non-voting representative. We shared this motion with the MAEE board at their last meeting and they would like to have a representative from their board sit in on our board meeting also in an ex-officio manner.

Sheila Craig will provide a proposed budget at the annual meeting for membership approval.

Two items were voted on by the board at the September meeting that do not need further action from the membership, but I think is important for you to know about.

The board approved payment of up to \$1000 for the professional development speaker at our annual meeting. The dollars will come out of the MEWS fund. The total cost for this year's presenter, Chuck Lofy, is \$2000.

The board approved a motion that will direct the scholarship committee to set aside MEWS funds for two voting delegates to attend the annual National ESP meeting. The funds may be used for registration, lodging and travel effective for the 2005 national meeting. The sum is to be minus the national reimbursement which is currently \$200. The voting delegates cannot request the national reimbursement, if they did not fulfill their duties as a national delegate.



Minnesota Extension Workers Scholarship Fund

Established June 4, 1990 with the University of Minnesota Foundation

Adaptations May, 2000

Fund Request Changes to the University of Minnesota Foundation September, 2005

Purpose: Provide scholarship award for professional development speaker for Pi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi annual meeting and continuing education to all staff of the University of Minnesota Extension Service and ESP Lifetime members based on application and screening process.

1. What professional opportunities should MEWS support?

- Current graduate education
- Training provided by other organizations
- Other professional conferences
- National Extension annual meetings
- Self-study courses from a variety of sources
- Resource materials
- Time spent with other organizations
- Elderhostels

2. Who should receive support from MEWS?

(Committee assumes that the MEWS funds are supported through silent auction, retirement contributions, and memorials)

Anyone employed by the University of Minnesota Extension Service and Lifetime ESP members.

3. What should be the timeline for receiving MEWS support?

The four deadlines for applying for MEWS support will be April 1, July 1, October 1, and January 1 due to the chair of the Scholarship Committee.

4. How many times can someone request MEWS funds and how much can he/she request?

The scholarship application identifies when and what amount of MEWS funds were received in the past by that individual. Based on that information, the scholarship committee will make a decision based on the application pool. Preference will be given to individuals who have not received the scholarship more than 3 times in the last 5 years for the same professional activity opportunity.

******Support funding for 2 – 3 delegates or official representatives to events such as trainings offered by other organizations, professional conferences, National Extension annual meetings including ESP and time spent with other organizations. Preference will be given to ESP members and Lifetime ESP members*

The amount of money given out will be equal to or less than 90% of the interest accrued in the previous fiscal year.

5. What should MEWS funds cover?

The MEWS funds will be awarded for the opportunities outlined in question 1 based on these priorities:

- Tuition, Registration Fees, Resource Materials
- Transportation expenses
- Housing/Lodging expenses
- MEWS funds should not provide funds for food

6. MEWS funds can be designated for a professional development speaker at the Pi Chapter of ESP Annual Meeting.

7. Funds for 2 voting delegates for the national meeting of ESP. This includes registration, lodging, and travel. This sum is minus the national reimbursement.

Help Raise Funds for the Minnesota Extension Workers Scholarship (MEWS) Fund

Put the Epsilon Sigma Phi Silent Auction on your calendar. It will be held October 12 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Brooklyn Center, in conjunction with the MAEE/ESP Annual Conference following the Fall Program Summit.

All proceeds go to support the Minnesota Extension Workers Scholarship (MEWS) Fund. Scholarships are provided to any Extension employee who has an Extension appointment and wants to pursue graduate studies. There are also scholarships for professional development which are available to all Extension employees and Extension retirees who are life ESP Pi Chapter members.

You can support colleagues and the auction in several ways:

- * Donate an item to the auction. Consider donating as an individual or with a group.
- * Take bids from colleagues who may not be at the event on October 12.
- * Assist people in getting donations to the auction.
- * Volunteer to help with the auction.
- * If you are unable to attend you can make a cash donation to the MEWS Fund. Or, request a list of items and put in a "sealed" bid ahead of time.

To donate, please send your name and address, a brief description of the item, and the fair market value (which is needed for U of MN Foundation purposes) to:

Colleen Gengler
 U of M Extension Service
 1567 McMillan Street, Suite 6
 Worthington MN 56187
cgengler@umn.edu or (507) 372-3907

Thank you for your support.

ESP Awards...not just for others anymore!!!

They are for you too!! Remember that we all have the opportunity to be recognized for the work we do even if we have to step up and tell people about it ourselves!! That is okay. We know more about the work we do more than anyone else, so don't be shy...submit a form today! Please note that the deadline for submitting applications for ESP Awards and Recognition is September 20th 2005. Please help us recognize those that are deserving by submitting an application as a team or put your heads together in your regional office and submit some deserving person or nominate yourself as that deserving person. We can only recognize those we hear about. All ESP members have received the award descriptions and forms. Check your emails. Recognition is given in the following areas:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| * Distinguished Service Award (DSA) | * Early Career Award |
| * Mid-Career Award | * Friend of Extension |
| * Meritorious Support Award | * International Award |
| * Administrative Leadership Award | * Visionary Leadership Award |
| * Team Recognition Award | * Diversity/Multicultural Award |
| * Continued Excellence | * Individual |
| | * Team |

Help us out by taking a bit of time to nominate your colleagues or yourself! The ESP Recognition Event will be at the annual meeting in October. If you have any questions or want to forward an application, email to cbigger@umn.edu.

“Fire in the Bones: Igniting Your Vitality A Conversation in Three Parts”

Chuck Lofy will be the keynote presenter for this year’s MAEE/ESP Annual Conference. His presentations will be in two parts: Wednesday, October 12 from 1:30 – 4:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 13 from 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. You are invited to attend one or both parts of the presentation. (See the entire conference schedule on page 6.)

“Vitality is about enhancing (one’s) ‘life force,’ its dynamism and flexibility.” As Extension has gone through major changes in the past 3 years, this program is intended to help foster appreciation for what vitality is and how it exists in personal and professional realms, and to help participants gain insight and be refreshed as people *and* as professionals.

The three parts of the conversation are:

- Vitality: The Dynamic Interplay of Form and Spirit
- Change: The Difficult Road, and
- The Courage to Create New Forms

This program will address the questions of how to align one’s outer world with one’s inner self so as to live a more open, truthful, and spirited life. As time permits, Chuck will explore seven pathways into vitality that can transform our everyday existence, both personally and professionally.

Chuck first began working with Extension during the farm crisis in the early 1980’s and has been a friend of Extension’s ever since. Over the years he has worked with Extension Educators all over the state of Minnesota and in twenty-five other states across the country. He and his wife, Mary Mead Lofy, are partners in organizational consulting and have worked with school districts, government agencies at every level, small and large businesses, and numerous churches and universities. Together, with their son John Lofy, they are the authors of the book Vitality: Igniting Your Organization’s Spirit. Chuck’s special life interest has been the study of spiritual experience through the lenses of the scriptures, depth psychology, mythology, literature, the arts, and his own life transitions. In his work as a teacher, administrator, counselor, consultant, and spiritual guide, he has created space in which people feel safe to value and give voice to their own experiences. He can be reached at info@lofyassociates.com or by phone at 612-922-7588.

Retiree/Life Members Booklet

The Retirees committee is updating the retiree’s list, including email addresses. The goal is to distribute the booklet this fall. Retirees who would like their email address included are asked to email Beth Russell at chrussell@charter.net.

Epsilon Sigma Phi



Epsilon Sigma Phi – Form III
National Honorary Extension Fraternity
Pi Chapter – University of Minnesota Extension Service

2006 Membership Renewal – Due October 12, 2005

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Office Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Office Phone #: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Dues & Contributions:

Yearly Membership	\$ 60.00	\$ _____
Initiation Fee – New Member Only	\$ 7.00	\$ _____
National Life Membership-Retirees only- one time payment	\$175.00	\$ _____
Life Member Pi Chapter Annual Voluntary Contribution		\$ _____
Donation to MN Extension Workers Scholarship (MEWS) Fund		\$ _____
	Total Due	\$ _____

Note: ESP membership is open to all Extension Professionals who have held full or part time employment for three (3) or more years.

Please return this copy with your membership dues **by October 12th**. Make check payable to **Epsilon Sigma Phi Pi Chapter**. Mail to: **Diane Damerow, ESP Membership Co-Chairman, 905 Spicer Road, Albert Lea, MN 56007**

Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt.

Remember to also complete the **MAEE /ESP Conference Registration – Form I**. For the conference make check payable to MAEE and mail to: Tim Arlt, MAEE Treasurer, U of M Extension Service, 2360 Crossroads Blvd., Albert Lea, MN 56007-4001.

(Note: Form II is not included as it is for MAEE membership.)

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Rochester, MN 55904-4915
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Epsilon Sigma Phi



Attention ESP Members:

Help save Epsilon Sigma Phi money! If you receive this newsletter via postal mail, but have an email account, please let us know! We can email you the newsletter and save printing and postage costs. Thank you to those who have done so.

Send a message to Melissa Instenes—mminsten@umn.edu—with your email address. Also, if your address has changed or changes in the future please let us know. Thanks!

Epsilon Sigma Phi A Slice of PI

Newsletter Editors: Kathleen Olson & Sara Croymans with assistance of Melissa Instenes & Julie Larson, Regional Support Staff.

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