



# PI CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEMO

AUGUST, 2012

from Kia Harries, Pi Chapter President

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### **President's Pen**

When I was in elementary school, I can remember my grandparents commenting on how fast time goes the older you get. It sure didn't seem the days went fast when I was that age - my birthday and Christmas never came fast enough! As I've gotten older, I now understand what they meant about how quickly time passes! I'm hopeful you are finding the time, or taking the time, to enjoy and celebrate summer and the many sights and sounds and celebrations that Minnesota has to offer. Knowing how quickly time flies, I would encourage you to do that soon before the weather changes and we find ourselves wishing it was warm and sunny outside!

I would encourage you to check out the National ESP website at <http://espnational.org/> where you'll see on the homepage the list of 2012 Award Recipients, which includes some Minnesota Pi Chapter members. Congratulations to the North Central Region winners from MN, including:

**Cindy Petersen**, Distinguished Service

**Kim Asche**, Mid Career

**Angela Gupta**, Early Career

**Phyllis Onstad**, Visionary Leadership

It is that time of year again to nominate and recognize your colleagues for their work and accomplishments within Extension. Please consider nominating someone or encouraging them to apply for awards. A message will be sent soon from the ESP Awards Chair, or send a note to me and I will work with you on the nomination.

Enjoy these beautiful summer days!

Sincerely,

Kia Harries, MN Pi Chapter President

### **Recognition of 150 Years of the Morrill Act**

National ESP has some videos on their website that were submitted by Universities in celebration of the 150 years of the signing of the Morrill Act. Click on this link to see more!

<http://espnational.org/about-us/morrill-act-150th-anniversary.html>

Check the Pi Chapter website often. [www.extension.umn.edu/esp](http://www.extension.umn.edu/esp)

## ESP MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

by Toni Smith, Past-President

In this edition of the “ESP Membership Spotlight” we are featuring several current and retired Extension staff. Take a moment and catch up with Jodi Horntvedt, Tom Hovde, Tim Dolan and Sheila Craig. If you would like to be featured or recommend another Extension person to be featured in an upcoming issue please contact Toni Smith at [tonis@umn.edu](mailto:tonis@umn.edu)



### Jodi Horntvedt

Jodi’s career in Extension started on September 20, 1982 as the secretary in the Lake of the Woods County Extension Office. At the time, Otto Lee was the County Agent covering all programs (Ag, 4H, Homemakers) and it didn't take long for the County Extension Committee to set up a contract with Jodi (in addition to the secretarial work) to do Home Economics programming. Since January 1990 she has worked as a County Agent in Lake of the Woods County and throughout Cluster 5. She also had special assignments as Cluster Program Leader, Extension Administrative Intern, and others. She started working as a program coordinator for the Red River Valley Emerging Leadership Program (ELP) in 1995 -- a role which she continues today.

In 1998 she started facilitating watershed issues in the Red River Basin (following the major 1997 flood) which transitioned into a regional position as a Project Team Facilitator and then to the position of Extension Educator in the Center for Community Vitality. Her position is focused on Leadership and Civic Engagement in the northwest region of the state (11 counties). Some of her current work includes; 1) research on social capital and teaching that concept both locally and nationally, 2) teaching and networking with the ELP participants and alumni, 3) teaching civic engagement and leadership skills to a variety of audiences, and 4) adopting new technologies to broaden the reach of Extension.

When she is not traveling, she looks forward to being at their rural Baudette farm with her husband, Ken, who retired this year after 25 years with the USDA FSA. They raise wheat and soybeans on the land his grandparents homesteaded, and manage a woodlot on about half of their farm. Their daughter, Rachel, is in Minneapolis -- working, but looking for a job in her career field, Architecture. Jodi loves gardening, relaxing and quilting in the winter. She has hosted a book club monthly at their home for 7+ years, loves entertaining, and keeping herself busy with volunteer activities in the community. She says, “life is full”!



### Tim Dolan

Tim grew up on a dairy farm in Swift County near the small town of Danvers. His first experience with Extension came in 1959 when he enrolled in 4-H and showed a dairy calf. That became an annual event until he graduated from Benson High School. Tim went on to the U of MN Morris. Tim’s first experience with the work of extension was in Brazil with the Peace Corps in areas of Agriculture and Economic Development.

Tim’s career experience with MN Extension started in November, 1990. He was hired as the County Agent for Sibley County. The position description changed over the years but Tim worked in Sibley County up until his retirement on January 11, 2012. Tim continues to work part time for Sibley County as their Economic Development Director.

In April of 2012, Tim was ordained a Deacon of the Catholic Church at the Church of St. Mary’s in Sleepy Eye. Tim plans a retirement which will focus on helping others in the role of pastoral care. Tim also continues to farm and does work part time for the Minnesota Corn Growers Association.

Tim and his wife Debbie have 3 children and 2 grandchildren who they spend lots of time with and help them with their clover bud exhibits for the Sibley County Fair. Debbie is staff Pharmacist at Mayo Health Systems in Mankato.

Tim continues to consult in the dairy development area with several countries in Southern Africa.

SPOTLIGHT continues on next page



### **Tom Hovde**

Tom was raised on a farm in Brown County, graduated from St. James High School and received both his BS in Ag Education and Masters of Education from the University of Minnesota. He started his Extension career early serving as a 4-H Summer Assistant during two summers, one in Olmsted County and another summer in Martin County. Tom was Assistant and later Associate County Extension Agent in Freeborn County from April 1966 to June 1974.

His career took a different path during a 16 year leave of absence from Extension. He and his wife owned and operated The Stables Supper Club in Albert Lea for 13 ½ years. During that time Tom served 6 years on the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Restaurant Association, and was an organizing board member of the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Convention and Visitor's Bureau. He was also a full time Realtor in the Albert Lea area until returning to Extension in Wadena County in January, 1991.

Tom served as Cluster Program Leader for Cluster 9 (Eagle's View Cluster) and was County Extension Director for Sherburne and Wright Counties from July, 2002 to December 31, 2003. The last few months in Extension found Tom in the role as the St. Cloud Regional Director from January 1, 2004 until his retirement on July 1, 2004.

Tom has served the Pi Chapter as the membership chairman, vice president, president, and is currently serving as the Life Member Director on the Board. This is Tom's 46<sup>th</sup> year judging 4-H'ers at county fairs and at the State Fair. Tom and his wife Karen are enjoying being grandparents to two boys (1 and 3 years old), traveling and spending their winter in Sun City West, Arizona.



### **Sheila Craig**

Sheila grew up on a dairy farm in rural Decorah, Iowa. As a 4-H member she learned about the Home Economic Education degree at Iowa State University in Ames. That became her goal, earning her BS degree in 1971. The journey included two summers as a 4-H Summer Assistant in Winneshiek County, Iowa. At college she attended one of the first computer matching events hosted by the Engineering College at ISU and found Norm, her husband of now almost 43 years. They have two sons Andy (Tara), an ethanol plant operator in Preston and beef farmer renting Norm and Sheila's farm; and Lee (Teresa), a Minnesota OSHA inspector out of St. Cloud.

Sheila worked for Extension in the Fillmore County Extension Office for 28 ½ years retiring in 2003. She served in several positions including Home Economist, Extension Educator, County Director, Cluster Educator, etc. and retiring as a Regional Extension Educator in Leadership and Civic Engagement. During her Extension career she earned her MEd at the University of Minnesota in 1987. Since retirement she has been working for the SE MN Water Resources Board and the Cannon River Watershed Partnership as a Community Sewage Treatment Facilitator on a federal 319 Clear Water Partnership grant helping small communities solve their wastewater issues.

Other activities that keep her busy include working as a hostess at a local supper club, giving presentations entitled "Remembering the Apron" utilizing her extensive apron collection, selling sewing and needlework items at local craft venues, volunteering with the local historical society, serving on the Regional Partnership Board, and various other volunteer boards and church committees.

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### **ESP National Meeting**

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.