



Epsilon Sigma Phi

Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter News

Summer, 2008

Donna Brown,
Editor

Dear ESP Members

Quarterly the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of ESP, OAEP and CES meet with Keith Smith, Linda Kutilek and Ken Martin. This is an opportunity for dialogue and conversation about issues impacting Extension and generates ideas on moving the organization forward on very important issues. At our meeting on June 30 we discussed recruitment and keeping good quality Extension employees; the May 15th Strategic Plan conference and the role of all staff in implementing the plan; and the upcoming Annual Conference. If you have concerns or suggestions for Extension that you would like raised during these quarterly meetings, please share your thoughts with Jerry Thomas (ESP Vice-President) or myself.

The ESP Board is again collaborating with Extension, the Gist Chair in Extension Education and Leadership, the Leadership Center and others to sponsor a Leadership for Tomorrow conference in April 2009. This conference will focus on a timely leadership topic with nationally recognized speakers and practical useful concurrent sessions. More details for the conference will be available in September. The Leadership for Tomorrow Conference will be marketed not only here in Ohio, but we will be marketing it to ESP members and Extension professionals in neighboring states and nationally. Many of you participated in the conference on Ethics in November, 2007. We hope you will take advantage of this great opportunity in April. Watch for details starting in September.

Have a wonderful summer and we look forward to seeing many of you at the Galaxy Conference in September.

Sincerely,
Karen Bruns
Alpha Eta Chapter President,
Epsilon Sigma Phi



Epsilon Sigma Phi ~ Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter
Promoting & Supporting Excellence

Public Issues & Leadership Development Conference

I had the privilege of representing the Ohio ESP Chapter at the Public Issues & Leadership Development Conference (PILD), April 28-30, 2008, in Washington. The theme of the conference was "Connectivity: Community to the Capitol" and was sponsored by JCEP – The Joint Council of Extension Professionals. It was a great growth and learning experience! PILD's Mission – is to provide leadership & advocacy skills to effect public issues.

This is a premier opportunity for Extension professional development in the public issues arena. The conference is also a great opportunity to interact with colleagues and key lay leaders from Ohio and across the nation. Tremendous opportunities exist to learn about the federal Extension system and see how "decisions do matter".

I had a great team building experience with Extension professionals & Extension Lay Leaders from Ohio. We worked together and learned about Extension programming and funding. The visit to Capitol Hill and sharing of OSU Extension's impacts with federal legislators was a highlight of the conference. Great interaction!

Other key highlights were:

- Professional Association officers networked from across the nation.
- Explored acronyms for all Extension organizations - approximately 50 pages!
- Presentations & explanations of complexity of funding and federal farm bill.
- Roundtables with CSREES & USDA Administrators, Program Leaders
- National outlooks for COP & CSREES by Administrator & Chair

I highly recommend this professional development opportunity. I would be glad to visit with anyone interested in the opportunity.

*David Crawford,
4-H Educator, Crawford County
ESP/Public Issues Committee
Member*



2009 ESP National Committee Members

Congratulations to the 2009 ESP national committee members from Ohio.

Rose Fisher Merkwotiz, Global Relations

Treva Williams, Member Services

Karen Bruns, Membership

Recruitment and Retention

Judy Villard, Public Issues

To learn more about the national committees, visit <http://espnational.org/> and click on "national committees".

eXtension – Get involved

The ESP mission: Epsilon Sigma Phi is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional.

One avenue that may provide opportunity for professional development is eXtension. From June 24-27, a group of your OSUE colleagues attended the 2008 National eXtension Community of Practice Conference. Many thanks to Keith Smith who provided ten \$500 awards to support our participation at the conference. Ohio attendees were: Cindy Bond-Zielinski, Dave Boulay, Donna Brown, Jim Chatfield, Linnette Goard, Chris Igodan, Jim Jordan, Niki Nestor McNeely, Sharon Seiling, Christie Welch

and Lingying Zhao. Our group has already met to discuss next steps – ways to encourage greater OSUE participation in this exciting national initiative.

If you want to learn more, there are several web sites you can visit. A good place to start is <http://about.extension.org>. If you haven't already done so, be sure to sign up for an eXtension ID, which will give you greater access to other eXtension pages. Just click the "Get an ID" link on the right side of the page. This site also provides information about:



- how [Cooperative Extension Agents & Educators](#) can contribute on a national level.
- how [Cooperative Extension Faculty & Professional Staff](#) can reach a much broader audience.
- how [University Researchers](#) can access multi-state research projects, practices, tools and technology.
- how your [Business, Government Agency or Organization](#) can partner with eXtension.

Be sure to check out the public eXtension site at <http://extension.org> as well to see how the initiative is already assisting people throughout the country.

N O W
 Save the Date
 Pre-Conference
 and
 Annual
 Conference
 December 16-18
 2008
I S
O U R
T I M E
 at Ramada Plaza
 Hotel & Conference
 Center
 4900 Sinclair Road
 at I-71 and Morse Road

Retiree's Corner

The Ohio State University Retirees Association (OSURA) celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. OSURA's purpose is to enhance the well being of its members through educational and cultural programs and/or experiences. This includes:

- Health, economic and financial condition
- Maintaining a relationship with the university
- Information/assistance for surviving family members

Other pertinent educational, social, and recreational activities.

All university retirees who participated in the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) or Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), including staff, faculty, administrative and professional personnel, as well as spouses and surviving spouses of these individuals are eligible for membership.

OSURA contact is not limited to those who attend meetings. It helps keep members informed about issues through the monthly newsletter and special reports issued occasionally. The web site (<http://hr.osu.edu/osura>) lists links to other resources about retirement life, pensions and benefits, and the university.

The Friendship Committee's motto is, "No retiree shall be forgotten."

Each retiree (faculty and staff) is offered membership in OSURA without dues during his/her first year of retirement. After that, annual dues are \$12 and life membership may be purchased for \$135.

Source: Hamilton, C. (2008, Spring). OSURA Turns 25. *Resources*. [Newsletter of the OSU Office of Human Resources].



Need a gift for an ESP Member who is retiring?

Consider a Life Membership to ESP? It would make a nice presentation at a retirement reception!

Contact: Deanna Tribe, OSU Extension Emeriti.
tribe.1@osu.edu for more information.

Scholarship Update

I wanted to thank ESP for providing scholarship opportunities to members so professional improvement opportunities can be affordable and part of everyone's career. I used my scholarship money to assist in defraying the cost of becoming a certified Real Colors® trainer. There are many personality profile instruments to select from but for the Annie's Project curriculum which I am currently conducting Real Colors® is the recommended program of choice.



My overall objective was to become certified and conduct Real Colors® trainings at the Ohio locations of Annie's Project. Annie's Project is a north central states project that teaches basic farm risk management education in the areas of family communications, human resource topics, financial/record keeping techniques, legal responsibilities, insurance options and grain marketing to farm women so they can become better farm managers and partners. The first session is on personality typing and communicating with farm partners. The project was introduced in two Ohio counties in 2006 and was expanded to six counties in 2008. The Iowa originator has a specified curriculum and

several programs that are essential for the program to be consistent across the region. One recommendation was the Real Colors® program for personality typing. The Real Colors® program has been offered as part of Annie's Project in all six locations (150 women) in Ohio and at least four counties will be added next year. The training has enabled me to be able to offer that portion of the program to any county for only the resource materials fee.

Doris Herringshaw, FCS Educator, Wood County



The Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Board

invites you to attend the
Galaxy III Conference
*in Indianapolis, Indiana,
 September 15-19, 2008.*

Click here to register:

<http://www.conf.purdue.edu/galaxy/>