



Epsilon Sigma Phi

Ohio Alpha Eta Chapter

News

Spring 2009
Beth Flynn, Editor

Dear ESP Members

We are off to a busy start to the new year! In what will be a transitional year for OSU Extension, the ESP Board and membership are preparing to play a leadership role. The Board met in February and brainstormed initial ideas on ways to work with Extension professionals, the other associations, and administration to make a positive impact on the transition process. The Association Presidents and Vice-Presidents (ESP, OAEP, & CES) have our first meeting with Administrative Cabinet's executive committee in March and will move ahead with the process. Please feel free to share any ideas, concerns, or suggestions with David Crawford (ESP Vice-President), any board member, or me. We will share more information via the ESP list serve and newsletter.

ESP is again co-sponsoring the *Leadership for Tomorrow* conference in April. Ohio ESP members are eligible for a \$50 discount if they register for the entire conference. This is a great opportunity to attend a national conference without leaving Ohio. And an excellent chance to learn new leadership methods and trends. More information is available at:

www.leadershipfortomorrow.osu.edu. Early bird registration ends on March 28, so please take a few minutes now to register. County directors who are ESP members need to be sure to select the ESP & county director registration option.

Thanks for all of your help and support!

Sincerely,

Jerry Thomas

Alpha Eta Chapter President

Epsilon Sigma Phi

**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.

Retiree Report

Primarily due to family illness, I was unable to attend ESP Board meetings this year. Nonetheless, some work was accomplished. This report reflects the progress and/or actions taken on the items that were described in the 2007 ESP Retiree Report that I identified to be addressed in this second year of the term.

Meeting materials (accumulated during this term) and an ESP Life Member list have been incorporated into a notebook-file to pass on to the next Retiree ESP Board Member.

Working with the ESP Membership Chair, a brochure was designed especially for ESP members at retirement to describe and encourage Life Membership in ESP. A congratulatory letter and invitation to consider life membership was prepared to accompany this brochure. Another letter to accompany the brochure was designed for the host of a reception or event recognizing the retiree's Extension service and career – to consider a gift of ESP Life Membership as a way to honor the retiree.

The ESP Membership Chair and the Retiree Board Member talked briefly about ESP at the Extension FCS/HE Reunion on June 17, 2008, focusing on Life Membership, financial contributions through ESP, and other selected programs and projects. The Retiree Board Member also attended the Extension Retirees Picnic in September where ESP President Karen Bruns presented summary highlights of work and accomplishments through the Alpha Eta Chapter.

A simple, small survey (convenience sample population) was conducted with retirees, half of whom are ESP Life Members and half are not. The purpose of the survey was to gain insight into why Extension retirees do or do not become Life Members of ESP, to gather suggestions or ideas for the Retiree ESP Board Member's role, and to learn what expectations Extension Retirees (especially Life Members) might have of the Alpha Eta Chapter of ESP. A composite of the results of the survey were prepared and shared with the ESP President, the Membership Chair, and the Retiree ESP Board Member.

Deanna L. Tribe, OSU Extension Community Development Specialist (Retired)

ESP Board 2009

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Graham Cochran
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Epsilon Sigma Phi - Scholarship Recipient Report

International Camping Congress – Quebec, City - Canada

During the first part of October, I had the privilege of traveling to Quebec City, Quebec, Canada to attend the 8th International Camping Congress. This year Quebec marked its 400th anniversary and it was evident in the festive atmosphere and historical charm throughout the city. The International Camping Congress (ICC) happens every 4 years and was filled with an amazing diversity of organizations, agencies, and individuals from around the world who value camping for young people. There were over 600 participants from more than 40 countries. 200 workshops and seminars were offered by presenters from over 20 countries. In addition to being a delegate from the US, I had the honor of presenting a workshop session highlighting my experience working with diverse groups of youth in camping. Participants in my session were from over 10 countries and had many questions which demonstrated the global commitment to camping. It was fascinating to learn about similarities and differences of how “camp” operates on a global scale.

The Congress was a unique international event, which afforded me opportunities to exchange ideas and create networks with camp representatives from various cultures and countries. I enjoyed discovering and exchanging ideas on new trends, developments, and other subjects affecting camping on a local and global scale. I got to network and explore partnerships with organizations located in other parts of the world, so that Ohio 4-H can benefit in the future and will be able to become even richer in our diversity.

I express my sincere appreciation to the membership of ESP for the generous support for my attending this wonderfully rich conference.

Steve Brady – Warren County

Upcoming Events:

April:

22 Board Meeting

27-29 JCEP - PILD Conference

28-30 Leadership for Tomorrow Conference:
Exploring New Approaches

May:

20 Board meeting

June:

24 Board Meeting

September:

20 Excellence in Extension Nominations Due



ESP Mission

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