



Epsilon Sigma Phi

WINTER 2004 NEWSLETTER XI CHAPTER

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Epsilon Sigma Phi's strength is in its members

*A message from
Xi Chapter President Carolyn Langley*

Happy New Year!
Epsilon Sigma Phi's Xi Chapter is gearing up for a great year in 2004.

I hope you were at the chapter's annual meeting in November in Raleigh. We were fortunate to hear from three retired Extension employees — **Drs. Chester Black, Edgar Boone and Carlton Blalock** — who helped shape Extension at both the state and national levels. We are grateful that, in celebration of ESP's 75th anniversary, they shared their "Reflections on and Visions for Cooperative Extension." We also celebrated the achievements of a very deserving group of individuals who won

2003 ESP awards. Congratulations!

Recently, I returned home from attending the Joint Council of Extension Professionals' Southern Regional Leadership Workshop in Atlanta. I am pleased to say that North Carolina's Xi Chapter looked strong compared to many of the chapters across the South, but we have a lot of things we can do to improve our chapter:

Don't forget to send in your dues. We need you! Help us, too, by keeping your information up-to-date.

Are you retiring? ESP offers a lifetime

membership for just a \$200 one-time fee.

Get involved. We need your input and support to be strong. Be willing to serve in a leadership role at the district or state level. Apply for scholarships and awards. Attend the annual meetings. Participate in the national ESP professional development meeting, and offer to help with ESP projects.

And please let me know how the chapter can best help you meet your professional development goals.

ESP's strength is in its members — and that is you!

IN THIS ISSUE

Invest in ESP's future	2
2004 public issues conference set for May 2-5 in Washington	2
Annual meeting set for Nov. 19	2
Watts scholarship to support youth development study tour	3
2003 winners honored at banquet	3
Membership news & notes	4-5
Midwest Magic on the Mississippi: 2004 national meeting	6
News in brief	6
Life member news, survey	7
2004 Epsilon Sigma Phi calendar	8



Invest in ESP's Future

There's still time to contribute to Epsilon Sigma Phi's Endowment Campaign.

During the first year, more than \$100,000 in pledges and more than \$80,000 in real dollars have been contributed from more than 400 people across the nation.

The final goal is to reach \$500,000, which will allow \$25,000 to be awarded annually to help ensure that Extension professionals remain the educational leaders of tomorrow.

So far, 11 people from North Carolina have contributed \$1,700.

To make your contribution, please use the ESP Development Fund Campaign Pledge Card at esnational.org/RevCampaignBrochure04.PDF.

Remember, North Carolina is among the top five chapters for the number of active members.

— Larry Bass,
N.C. ESP Endowment Campaign Leader

Annual meeting set for Nov. 19

Make plans now to attend the state Epsilon Sigma Phi meeting on Nov. 19. The time and place haven't been set, but the Xi Chapter's Board of Directors is committed to holding the annual ESP meeting on the third Friday of every November.

Changes in the State Extension Conference have made it impossible for Epsilon Sigma Phi to count on being able to hold its meeting in conjunction with the conference.

To make this a successful event, I need your help. Please email me at dee_shore@ncsu.edu if you have ideas for possible meeting themes, activities, speakers or workshop presenters or if you'd be willing to help with planning and carrying out the event. Thank you.

— Dee Shore,
Vice President



From County to Congress: **2004 public issues conference set for May 2-5 in Washington**

Take advantage of this opportunity for Extension professionals, from field staff to administrators from across the United States, to gather to learn what makes Washington tick and connect with national leaders and Congressional delegates.

Through the Public Issues Leadership Development Conference, Extension professionals also learn how to more effectively work with county and state decision makers.

The next conference will be held May 2-5 and is sponsored by the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP). JCEP is composed of national officers of the three agent associations (4-H, FCS and agriculture) along with ESP. For more information, see www.jcep.org.

The Xi Chapter proudly coordinates Congressional office visits from representatives of the state's Extension professional associations. Cheryl Lloyd, the county Extension director in Durham County, has agreed to help set up meetings with Congressional staff, but she needs assistance from a chapter member interested in traveling to Washington and participating in the conference.

If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Langley at carolyn_langley@ncsu.edu. Carolyn has participated in the conference and can give you details.

The Xi Chapter's newsletter will be published two times this year; submit news to dee_shore@ncsu.edu.



Bernadette Watts, left, awards a professional improvement scholarship to Peggie Lewis, Spring Williams and Robert Furr. (Photo by Sheri Thomas, NC State University Department of Communication Services)

Watts scholarship to support youth development study tour

Three Cooperative Extension professionals planning a study trip to Europe have won the Xi Chapter's 2003 Bernadette Watts Professional Development Scholarship.

Scholarship winners are Spring Williams, Burke County extension director; Peggie Lewis, 4-H agent in Rockingham County; and Robert Furr, 4-H agent in Rowan County.

The three will participate in a European study tour of non-formal youth development organizations. They will visit Germany, England, France and Switzerland to study various youth development organizations. When they return, they will develop a detailed thesis paper outlining their findings.

The Bernadette Watts Scholarships are awarded through the Xi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, an honor society for extension professionals.

The annual professional improvement award was established in honor of Watts, who worked in professional development for North Carolina Cooperative Extension and was an Epsilon Sigma Phi leader at the state and national levels before her retirement.

In addition to receiving the scholarship, the winners will be honored with a listing on a plaque in Ricks Hall at N.C. State University.

— Adapted from a news release by Natalie Hampton

2003 winners honored at banquet

Cooperative Extension professionals from across the state were honored Nov. 21 during Epsilon Sigma Phi's awards banquet.

- ❑ Visionary Leadership Award: **David Monks**, specialist, N.C. State University Department of Horticultural Science.
- ❑ Team Award: **Beaufort County Farm Safety Day Camp** (Ann Darkow, Rod Gurganus, Gaylon Ambrose, Louise Hinsley, Susan Chase, Pam Allen, Gladys Barnes, Barbara Campbell, Teresa Taylor, Angie Best, Jennifer Everette and Laurel MacKenzie).
- ❑ State Meritorious Support Award: **Sandy Kanupp**, administrative secretary, Southwest District, Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center; **Linda Kimbrough**, customer services coordinator, N.C. State University Department of Communication Services; and **Carol Norden**, youth horticulture, Wake County.
- ❑ State Early Career Award: **Wayne Buhler**, pesticide education specialist, N.C. State Horticultural Science Department; **Matthew Martin**, turfgrass area specialized agent, Brunswick County center; and **Karee Teague**, 4-H agent, Watauga County center.
- ❑ State Mid-Career Award: **Carolyn Dunn**, specialist, N.C. State Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; **Dee Furlough**, family and consumer sciences agent, Tyrrell County; and **Sue Counts**, county Extension director, Watauga.
- ❑ International Award: **Columbus County agriculture and natural resources/community and rural development team** (Jacqueline Roseboro, Michael Shaw, Dalton Dockery, Milton Parker, Larry Wright and Phyllis Creech).
- ❑ Friend of Extension: **J. Paul Murphy**, professor, N.C. State Department of Crop Science.
- ❑ County Performance Awards: West District, **Yancey**; North Central District, **Granville**; Northeast District, **Northampton**; Southwest District, **Burke**; Northwest District, **Davidson**; South Central District, **Lee**; Southeast District, **Greene**.

For more about award recipients, see this Web site: www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/esp/awards2003/index.shtml

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & NOTES

*from Barbara Dunn Swanson,
State Membership Chair*

Welcome, new members!

Epsilon Sigma Phi is pleased to recognize the following individuals who have been inducted recently into the North Carolina Xi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi:

2001–2002

Geissler Baker
Christine C. Barrier
Sandra Compton
Karen DeBord
John Dornier IV
Robert B. Furr
Kathy Kuhlman
Donna Murphy
Barry Nash
Barclay Poling
Cliff Ruth
Doris Sargent
Crystal Smith
Ann Simmons
Debra Stroud
Harrison Walser
Margaret Allsbrook
Devona Beard
Regenia Bell
Jeffrey Boyles
Denise Brown
Wayne Buhler
Debbie Cox
Mary Cox
Nancy Creamer
Tommy Grandy
W. Michael Gray

Rod Gurganus
Lori S. Ivey
Sarah D. Kirby
Cameron S. Lowe
Kathy Miller
Carol S. Mitchell
Terri Scruggs
Dee. M Shore
Celia Whitt
Kent Wooten

2002–2003

Nakoma Simmons
Paul Smith
Natalie Hampton
Amy Damrow
Donna Hanusik
Sandra Conner
Susan Garkalns
Carol Norden
Todd See
Margaret Ruff
Felicia Joyce
Ronnie Heiniger
Janice Latour
Star Jackson
Lillie Tunstall
Gloria Artis

Feb. 26 is 2004 dues deadline

The Xi Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence among all Extension professionals and developing our profession. Membership benefits include state and national awards programs, scholarships, mini-grants and professional conferences.

If you haven't done so, please make arrangements to submit your dues before Thursday, Feb. 26.

If you are a member, send your check for \$40 to Xi Chapter Treasurer Stan Dixon, 229 Kingold Blvd., Suite E, Snow Hill, NC 28580. Make the check payable to Xi Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Phi.

If you have three or more years of service with Extension and aren't a member, I hope you will consider joining and, thus, add to ESP's collective wisdom. Dues for first-time members are \$40, plus a \$10 initiation fee.

The new member application form is also available on the Web at www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/esp/

If you work in an N.C. State University department that pays association dues, it should be simple for your bookkeeper to follow through, since Epsilon Sigma Phi is on the university's vendor list. The membership renewal form, also available on the Web at www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/esp/, provides all the information your bookkeeper will need.

Throughout this newsletter, you'll find the answers to some of our most frequently asked membership questions. If you need further clarification, please let me know. I'll do my best to help.

— Barbara Dunn Swanson
(barbara_swanson@ncsu.edu)

MEMBERSHIP FAQ: I was a member in the past but had not renewed in several years. I am interested in re-joining in 2004. Must I pay the additional \$10 initiation fee?

ANSWER: No. Just mail your registration fee of \$40.

Understanding Epsilon Sigma Phi

The Cooperative Extension System links education and research resources of 74 land-grant institutions, 3,150 counties and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Cooperative Extension has 32,000 employees who help clientele transform “research into reality.”

For 75 years, Epsilon Sigma Phi has been part of that reality, bringing together educators, scientists and support staff to address issues of Extension professionalism. ESP involves more than 4,000 Extension professionals and 4,300 retirees who maintain membership in ESP, supporting their colleagues through contributions of money and service.

ESP rewards excellence in performance among professionals through team and individual awards. It provides leadership development and professional development opportunities to its membership by sponsoring regional and national conferences, newsletters, publications and more. And it provides scholarships and honorariums to members to participate in ESP-sponsored activities.

ESP is dedicated to fostering standards of excellence in the Extension System and developing the Extension profession and professional. Upon review of the ESP handbook, one can find some significant historical achievements:

- ❑ ESP had input into a decision by the Civil Service Commission that Extension agents were federal employees eligible for federal retirement, group life, health and disability programs.
- ❑ ESP also helped to delay mandatory Social Security, which would strip Extension professionals of their Federal retirement privileges.
- ❑ ESP helped in achieving academic status for Extension professionals through their universities.
- ❑ ESP obtained for Extension the availability of U.S. federal stores, excess federal property, and the right to occupy federal office space.

Today, ESP continues to help Extension professionals in their work, enthusiastically supporting the viability of the Extension system as it faces the future.

— ESP Handbook, www.espnational.org

Extension Professionals' Creed

I believe in people and their hopes, their aspirations, and their faith; in their right to make their own plans and arrive at their own decisions; in their ability and power to enlarge their lives and plan for the happiness of those they love.

I believe, that education, of which Extension is an essential part, is basic in stimulating individual initiative, self determination, and leadership; that these are the keys to democracy and that people when given facts they understand, will act not only in their self interest, but also in the interest of society.

I believe that education is a lifelong process and the greatest university is the home; that my success as a teacher is proportional to those qualities of mind and spirit that give me welcome entrance to the homes of the families I serve.

I believe in intellectual freedom to search for and present the truth without bias and with courteous tolerance toward the views of others.

I believe that Extension is a link between the people and the ever-changing discoveries in the laboratories.

I believe in the public institutions of which I am a part.

I believe in my own work and in the opportunity I have to make my life useful to humanity.

Because I believe those things, I am an Extension professional.

MEMBERSHIP FAQ: I will have three years of Extension employment in June 2004. Am I eligible to join this year?

ANSWER: No, you must wait one more year. If your start date with Extension is before Feb. 26, 2001, you would indeed be eligible for membership. If your start date with Extension is after Feb. 26, 2001, you must wait one more year to be eligible for membership.

Mark your calendars

Midwest Magic on the Mississippi River



Epsilon Sigma Phi's national conference will take place Sept. 15-18, 2004, in Moline, Illinois. The conference, open to all ESP members, is a quality professional development opportunity featuring nationally known speakers and presentations by Extension professionals.

Seminars feature a range of professional development, personal development and organizational development topics. Regional and national recognition are presented and the Distinguished Service Ruby Lecture is delivered.

If you'd like to share your successes and ideas with your national Extension colleagues, consider submitting a proposal for a concurrent session. Proposals are due by Feb. 28. For the guidelines, see the national conference Web site at www.espnational.org/04conf.htm.

For conference and registration details, keep your eye on the 'ESP Connection' newsletter and ESP's Web site.

Pay your dues by Feb. 26 to be eligible for 2004 awards

MEMBERSHIP FAQ: When must my dues be paid for me to be eligible for **AWARD RECOGNITION** in Epsilon Sigma Phi?

ANSWER: Stan Dixon, treasurer, sends the state membership report and dues to the national office on March 1. So that means to be eligible to receive an award in ESP in 2004, your dues must be included in the amount he sends to national. Therefore, submit your dues by Feb. 26, and you will be eligible to receive awards in 2004.

NEWS IN BRIEF

DISTRICT EXTENSION CONFERENCES

Are you willing to help get an Epsilon Sigma Phi display to the upcoming Extension Conference in your district? These district conferences provide a good venue for raising the ESP's visibility among Cooperative Extension faculty and staff of all ranks. If you can help, please contact Carolyn Langley (carolyn_langley@ncsu.edu).

Here's a list of dates and places: March 17: South Central District, Cooperative Extension Center, Moore County; March 18: Southeast District, Sampson County Civic/Ag center, Clinton; March 29: Northeast District, Vernon James Center; March 30: North Central District, Cooperative Extension Center, Wilson County; March 31: Northwest District, Cooperative Extension Center, Forsyth County; April 1: Southwest District, Cooperative Extension Center, Iredell County; and April 2: West District, AB Tech., Enka Campus.

ESP BOARD MEETINGS District and state ESP officers and committee chairs should plan to participate in upcoming ESP board meetings. The meetings are held in 308 Ricks Hall at N.C. State University with a video connection to Fletcher. The meetings take place from 10 a.m. to noon April 23, Sept. 10 and Friday, Oct. 22.

NEW AWARDS Be on the lookout for the call for nominations for the 2004 ESP awards program. In the future, state Distinguished Service Award winners will be recognized at ESP's national awards ceremony. And the chapter will offer three new awards:

- Administrative Leadership**, for an individual with 10+ years of outstanding leadership at the county, regional, state, program, department or national level.
- Diversity**, for a team and individual whose innovative programming reinforces the organization's commitment to reaching diverse audiences. Teams must include at least 50 percent ESP members with programs implemented in the past three years.
- Continued Excellence**, recognizing an Extension professional with 20+ years of leadership; members are eligible for nomination five years after receiving the chapter DSA recognition.

LIFE MEMBER NEWS

*from Larry Bass,
Life Member Chair*



It was great to see so many retirees at the Xi Chapter's annual meeting last November. I hope we can remain in touch. Xi Chapter values your support and your wisdom, and we would like to remain in immediate contact with you.

I am the chapter's new life member contact, and I'd like to hear your ideas for encouraging increased involvement from life members.

Please fill out and return the short survey on the back of this page. Also, let me know if you would consider serving as an officer, a committee chair or a committee member.

Life members encouraged to lend wisdom, leadership to ESP

Nationwide, Epsilon Sigma Phi benefits greatly from the continued involvement of retired Extension professionals. They lend their wisdom and their time to advancing Cooperative Extension through ESP.

In North Carolina, in addition to our annual meeting, there are many other opportunities for retirees who want to remain active in the chapter's activities. Retirees who are interested in serving as district and state officers and on district or state committees are encouraged to contact Life Member Chair Larry Bass or Chapter President Carolyn Langley (see contact information on page 1).

The chapter also offers an annual award to an Extension retiree who continues to contribute to the mission and programs of Extension. Please look around at those you know who are still working and serving their community and consider nominating them for this important award. Details about the application process will be distributed later this year.

Life Member Survey

Life Members are encouraged to fill out this form and return it to Larry at the address below. Thank you!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL INFORMATION

My email address is: _____ I do not have email.

WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE EPSILON SIGMA PHI LEADERSHIP

I would be willing to serve as (please check all those that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a state chapter officer | <input type="checkbox"/> a state chapter committee chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> a state chapter committee member | <input type="checkbox"/> district committee member or chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> national committee member | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |

INTEREST IN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER LIFE MEMBERS

- I am interested in taking a bus trip to Biltmore Gardens and Estate in Asheville, NC.
 I am interested in taking a bus trip to Atlantic City, New Jersey.
 I am interested in taking a bus trip to another destination: (please list) _____

**Please return this survey to Larry Bass, 5108 Marwood Drive, Raleigh, NC 27604-5810
or send your responses via email to larry_bass@ncsu.edu. Phone: 919.872.3997
email: larry_bass@ncsu.edu**

2004 ESP CALENDAR

Feb. 26: Deadline for submitting 2004 membership dues. Meet the deadline if you want to take part in ESP's annual awards and recognition program. Renewal form: www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/esp/dues03.pdf
New member application: www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/esp/duesnew.pdf

Feb. 28: Deadline for concurrent session proposals for 2004 ESP national conference. Guidelines are at www.espnational.org/04conf.htm

March 1: Deadline for national Richard R. Angus Professional Development Scholarships. Up to four \$500 scholarships will be awarded to encourage, stimulate and support professional development through participation in courses, seminars or workshops. Applicants must be current ESP members.

March 1: Deadline for national committee appointment and re-appointment. National committees are global relations, member services, membership recruitment and retention, professional develop-

ment, public issues and resource development and management. For information contact Carolyn Langley (carolyn_langley@ncsu.edu).

March 1: Deadline for \$500 Administrative Leadership Scholarship, which provides \$500 for a unit administrator who is an ESP member to attend the national ESP conference. Information and application forms are available through the national ESP Web site www.espnational.org.

April: National ESP Conference registration open.

June 15: Announcement of national award and scholarship recipients.

Sept. 14-19: Epsilon Sigma Phi National Conference, Quad Cities, Illinois

Nov. 19: State ESP Annual Meeting. Details to be announced.

Epsilon Sigma Phi, Xi Chapter

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