From the President…
Connie Hoch, President, Alpha Rho

K-State Research and Extension’s Annual Conference is rapidly approaching and it will be a time to conduct business, present awards, recognize achievements, prepare reports, install officers and welcome new members. Where do you fit into that picture? Have you nominated a colleague for an award? Asked someone to join ESP? Supported the endowment fund silent auction? Stepped forward and volunteered to serve as an officer or on a committee? Applied for a grant? I hope that you can say yes to several of the above questions. If not, there is still time to make it happen.

"Bridging Strengths of People and Nations" is the theme for the National Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina on September 10-15, 2007. Eight Alpha Rho members have indicated that they will be in attendance. If you weren’t able to make the conference this year, now is the time to mark your calendar for Galaxy III Conference, in Indianapolis, IN on September 15-19, 2008.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Business Meeting and Awards Banquet during Annual Conference. A special invitation goes out to all retirees to attend the planned activities.

My term as Alpha Rho Chapter President is nearing an end, I would like to thank all of the officers, council directors, committee chairs, and members for the work you continue to do in support of ESP.

You are the best!

2007 K-State Research and Extension Annual Conference

Mark your calendars! The 2007 K-State Research and Extension Annual Conference will be held October 15-18, 2007 at the K-State Student Union.

The annual Retiree’s Luncheon will be held during the conference on October 17, 2007. The cost is $13.50. The humor fest will be presented by Glenn Busset. Come visit with fellow retirees and catch up on all their activities!

All retirees, and fellow ESP members, are also invited to the ESP banquet on October 16, 2007 at the K-State Alumni Center starting at 6:30 p.m. The cost is $20.00

The Alpha Rho Epsilon Sigma Phi Business meeting will also be held Cottonwood Room on Monday, October 15, 2007 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A box lunch is available for $10.50.
Espen Sigma Phi Endowment Fund News

Epsilon Sigma Phi Endowment Fund Grant Proposals Now Being Accepted
Submitted by Trudy Rice

Do you have an innovative educational program that you always wanted to offer or a great professional development opportunity that you have never had the funds to participate in? If so, here is your opportunity to put your dreams into action for the educational benefit of the residents in Kansas.

All extension agents, specialists, and administrators who are current ESP members are eligible to submit a grant proposal to the Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi Endowment Fund Board. Grant proposals are being accepted for professional development opportunities or innovative educational programs. The application is currently available online at the following website: www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-AlphaRho/welcome.htm. Click on the Endowment button and you will be able to access the application and our history of funding requests.

Applications are due by September 28, 2007. They should be sent electronically to Trudy Rice trice@ksu.edu. You can attach a note of approval from your Board Chair, Area Director or Unit Head in lieu of their signature.

Silent Auction Opportunity at Annual Conference
Submitted by Trudy Rice

The Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi will be hosting a silent auction at our ESP Banquet during Annual Conference this year. At this time we are in need of donations for the silent auction. If you are interested in donating please contact Trudy Rice at trice@ksu.edu. Items can be anything that you think might be interesting to purchase at such an event. If you are not interested in donating an item, please do not forget to attend the silent auction during annual conference and bid on an item or two. This is being sponsored by the ESP Endowment Fund Board and proceeds will support professional development and innovative programming requests from Extension professionals.

Opportunity to Serve Your Organization
Submitted by Trudy Rice

The ESP nominating committee will be meeting soon and we are need of names to fill those positions up for election this year. If you are interested or know someone that is interested in holding an office in ESP please contact Trudy Rice at trice@ksu.edu. We are especially interested in names for President Elect, SW Area Council Director, NW Area Council Director and State Council Director. In addition to this, we need individuals willing to serve on the ESP Endowment Fund Board of Directors.
Nominate Your Colleagues for Awards!
Submitted by Danny Rogers

Even though the summer heat is intense at the moment, there are signs that it will be waning shortly - you know - like school starting, state fair, and of course, nominations for Epsilon Sigma Phi awards.

I am certain we all know colleagues that are providing outstanding service to our clientele. Please take a few moments and nominate one or two for an ESP award. Please submit your nominations via email to drogers@ksu.edu by September 24, 2007.

All previous years winners and the nomination forms can be found at www.oznet.ksu.edu/esp-alpharho/awards/awards.htm. The current members list can also be found on the ESP website. If your nominee is not a member, consider asking them to join!

Please submit your nominations via email to drogers@ksu.edu by September 24, 2007.

Thank you for taking time to nominate a colleague.

2006 Award Winners!
State Friend of Extension - Betty Keener
Team Award - Full Circle...An Aging Expo - 2006 team
County Meritorious Service Award - Eric Otte, Carl Garten
Distinguished Service Award - Elizabeth (Libby) Curry
County Horizon Award - Barbara Ames, Sarah Maass
State Early Career Award - Leanne Stevenson
Retiree Service Award - L. Ann Domsch

National ESP Conference Participants
Submitted by Stacey Warner

The Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi will be represented by eight members at the national conference to be held September 11 to 14 in Charleston, South Carolina. Those attending include Marie Blythe, Jim Lindquist, Raymond Cloyd, Margaret Phillips, Stacey Warner, Dale Fjell, Doug Jardine, and Connie Hoch.

Raymond Cloyd, an Extension Specialist in Entomology, recently transferred to the Alpha Rho Chapter from the Alpha Nu Chapter at the University of Illinois. He will be recognized with the “North Central Region Early Career Award.”

Connie Hoch and Margaret Phillips will be voting delegates and Jim Lindquist, Margaret Phillips and Stacey Warner will be presenting a concurrent session on "Board Leadership: Building Capacity in Local Extension Leaders."
National Dues Increase in 2008
Submitted by Stacey Warner

Delegates to the 2006 National ESP Council voted to increase national ESP dues in 2008 from the current $30 to $40 per member. Thus the Alpha Rho Chapter board is proposing a corresponding $10 increase in member dues for 2008. The dues increase will be voted on at the business meeting to be held on Monday, October 15.

If passed, the Alpha Rho Chapter dues would go from the current $50 per active member to $60 per active member ($40 to the national organization and $20 to the Alpha Rho Chapter). Dues would remain at $20 for associate members (those with less than five years extension tenure as of January 1, 2008).

ESP–Alpha Rho Foundation Account with KSU Foundation
Submitted by Dave Schafer

An initial goal of $100,000 was envisioned for an ESP-AR Foundation account to support innovative Extension program grants or professional growth of Extension professionals. Your ESP-AR leadership has become aware that the goal has still not been reached, so conversations were begun to re-open the effort.

At the last ESP Board meeting on August 21, an ESP-AR Fundraising committee was appointed to make a renewed effort to: 1) define a current goal, 2) identify broader uses for proceeds, and 3) develop and implement a campaign to reach short term and long term goals.

Gifts in the KSU Foundation account are around $86,000. Investment returns have enhanced the balance over time. Annual awards from proceeds have been made to individual/team ESP-AR Extension members to conduct selected competitive innovative program grant proposals. No professional improvement grants or loans are currently being made by the chapter. Dr. Daryl Buchholz, through a 3-year grant, has made a short term financial commitment to support staff professional improvement.

Please consider making a commitment to enhance the long term viability of Extension programs and professional development. Retirees, if you consider the Extension mission an important aspect of our society, you can help. If you are 70.5 years of age or older, there is a special tax provision (thru Dec. 31, 2007) to help your gift go much further.

Contact the committee for more details. Members are: Jodi Besthorn, Fred Delano, Ann Domsch, Carl Garten, Connie Hoch, Jim Lindquist, Diane Mack, Trudy Rice, and Dave Schafer.

For more information about the KSU Foundation, see their web site at www.found.ksu.edu/.
ESP Loan Program and Travel Study Grants Available
Submitted by Sandra Wick

Considering working on an advanced degree or doing a travel study project? Financial assistance is available!

One loan in the amount of $1500 will be provided by the Alpha Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi. Priority is for professional study toward an advanced degree. No interest is charged on the loan during the period of study, but begins at 5 percent the date study ends.

Travel study grants are also available to members of Epsilon sigma Phi. A maximum of $500 is available to an individual for informal study that involves travel. An individual can receive a Travel Study Grant only one time. If more than one applicant qualifies, up to two $250 grants can be provided. Funds will not be awarded until 30 days before travel study starts. The applicants travel study plan must be approved by his/her immediate supervisor. Travel study must start within one year after the award has been approved. Once the travel is completed by the recipient, a report must be given to the Professionalism Committee and Epsilon Sigma Phi President within 30 days of completion.

Applications for both the Loan and Travel Study Grant are due by September 15, 2007 to Sandra L Wick, Professionalism committee chairperson. The guidelines and applications for both programs were emailed to all members of ESP. If you have more questions you can contact Sandra Wick at the Smith County Extension Office (785-282-6823 or swick@oznet.ksu.edu).

United Associations Conference Scheduled
Submitted by Jan Stephens

Hold the Date!

United Associations Conference (which includes Epsilon Sigma Phi, Kansas Extension Association of Family Consumer Science, Kansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and the Kansas Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences) will be February 28-29, 2008 in Wichita at the Sedgwick County Extension facility. Sessions are being planned for all professionals who work with Kansas families to help improve the quality of their lives in many ways. Hold the date and plan to attend, registration materials will be available around the end of December. If you would like to be involved in helping plan the conference, contact Connie Hoch (choch@ksu.edu), Nadine Sigle (nsigle@ksu.edu), or Jan Stephens (jstephen@ksu.edu).

Win a Free ESP Membership!

The name of one lucky ESP member will be drawn to receive a free year of ESP membership. To be eligible, plan to pay 2008 dues at the business meeting to be held 11:45 am to 1:00 pm on Monday, October 15 in the K-State Union.
Come to Galaxy III!

Indianapolis, IN is the site for Galaxy III in September 15-19, 2008. The theme for this event is “Celebrating the Extension System: Strengths, Diversity, and Unique Qualities.”

The mission of Galaxy III is “to present ourselves as a unified group of extension professionals who are a viable and responsive force dealing with people’s needs, opportunities and challenges in the 21st century.”

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Farrah Gray, Biography Celebrity Entrepreneur, Philanthropist, Bestselling Author and Syndicated Columnist. He has been named as one of the most influential black men in America by the National Urban League. He was raised in the poor South side of Chicago and at age 14 became a self-made millionaire. Dr. Gray is passionate about values such as leadership, integrity and scholarship. Learn more about Dr. Gray at www.drfarrahgray.com.

The capnote speaker will be Dr. Will Miller, psychotherapist, campus minister, and comedian. He has been an analyst on popular culture on Nick-at-Nite. He is a stand-up comic with four graduate degrees. Learn more about Dr. Miller at www.drwill.com.

Purdue University is the official host for Galaxy III. Details, including the conference schedule, seminars, tours, special events, and registration, can be found at http://tinyurl.com/3dvfl3.

Upcoming Events!

September 10-15, 2007
National ESP Conference
Charleston, SC

February 20-22, 2008
Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP)
San Diego, CA

February 28-29, 2008
United Associations Conference
Wichita, KS

April 28-30, 2008
Public Issues Leadership Development Conference
Arlington, VA

September 15-19, 2008
Galaxy III
Indianapolis, IN

Tenure Award Winners for 2007

25 years - Dale Fjell, Gary Gerhard, Chuck Otte, Eric Otte, Dean Whitehill

30 years - Paul Hartman, Kathy Lupfer-Nielsen, Ann Sparke, Marilyn Toellner

35 years - Crystal Coffman, Sherrie Mahoney, Tranda Watts

Congratulations!
Life Members – as of June 11, 2007

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<td>Mae K. Weaver</td>
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<td>Ray H. Mann</td>
<td>Francis M. Wolfe</td>
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### Annual and Associate Members - as of August 8, 2007

#### Northeast Area
- Angela Abts
- Stephen Brown
- Will Boyer
- Laurie Chandler
- Michael Christian
- Robin Eubank**
- Dale Fjell
- Sharolyn Flaming-Jackson
- Carl Garten
- Patricia Gerhardt
- Glenda Keller
- Ginger Kopfer
- Susan Latta
- Lisa Long**
- Sarah Maass**
- Diane Mack
- Sherrie Mahoney
- Bryan Manny
- Donna Martinson
- Gregory McClure
- Nancy Nelson
- Mary Lou Odle
- Charles Otte
- Trudy Rice
- Andrea Schmidt
- Mark Schwarzentraub
- Ann Sparke
- Denise Sullivan
- Kathy Tharman**
- Deanna Turner
- Michael Vogt
- Marsha Weaver
- Jennifer Wilson

#### Northwest Area
- Connie Bretz
- Libby Curry
- David Dunn
- Diann Gerstner
- Kathryn Lupfer-Nielsen
- Carla Morrical-Frederking
- Anna Muir
- Nadine Sigle
- Deanna Sweat
- Keith Van Skike
- Deryl Waldren
- Tranda Watts
- Sandra Wick

#### Southwest Area
- Mahbub Alam
- Debra Bolton**
- Rodney Buchele
- Andrea Burns
- Jean Clarkson-Frisbie
- Stephanie Einspahr
- Doris Farris
- Paul Hartman
- Belinda Oldham
- Mark Ploger
- Ethel Schneweis
- Phil Sloderbeck
- Mary Sullivan
- Becky Wallace
- Linda Walter
- Dean Whitehill

#### State
- James Adams
- Carolyn Andres**
- Karen Blakeslee
- Carolyn Blocksme**
- Marie Blythe
- Daryl Buchholz
- Raymond Cloyd
- Joel DeRouche
- L. Ann Domsch
- Carol Fink
- Gary Gerhard
- Joe Harner
- Mary Higgins
- Connie Hoch
- Duane Hund
- Douglas Jardine
- Elaine Johannes
- Megan Kennelly**
- Jack Lindquist
- James Lindquist
- Pat McNally
- Pat Murphy
- Evelyn Neier
- Emily Nolting
- Charlotte Shoup
- Olsen
- Paula Peters
- Nancy Peterson
- Margaret Phillips
- Danny Rogers
- Debra Sellers**
- Roger Terry
- Pam Van Horn
- Stacey Warner

** Associate Members

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**ESP Mission Statement**

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

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**We've Grown!**

Thanks to many members who actively recruited new members to Epsilon Sigma Phi, the Alpha chapter increased in membership in 2007.

The Active and Associate membership increased from 107 in 2006 to 119 in 2007. There are currently 110 life members.