

NOMINATION FOR
Chapter Friend of Extension Recognition
Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Zeta Chapter – Texas



Nominee's Name: Gaye Hammond
Title: Extension Volunteer & Friend of Extension
Address: 5020 Montrose Blvd., 9th Floor
City, State Zip: Houston, TX 77006
E-Mail: gayeh@lpm-triallaw.com
Phone Number: 713-292-2760
Year Initiated into ESP: N/A

Position and Dates of Extension Employment:

Extension Volunteer & Friend of Extension Early 2000s through present

Outstanding Professional Accomplishments:

Gaye Hammond is a Friend of Extension and an extension volunteer in addition to being a consulting rosarian, an international lecturer and writer and past president of the Houston Rose Society. She actively supports Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service by supporting County Extension Agents across the state and Horticultural Extension Specialists. Ms Hammond has been instrumental in the growth of the AgriLife Extension's EarthKind program and she has a special interest in EarthKind Roses. Gaye makes herself available to travel the state to help with EarthKind programs statewide. She oversees the creation and maintenance of three Earth-Kind trial sites in Texas and is involved in Earth-Kind projects at the American Rose Society Headquarters in Shreveport, La. She provides educational extension presentations including "Earth-Kind Roses: The Ultimate In Beautiful, Low-Maintenance Roses" and "Introducing Children to the Joy of Growing Roses."

Gaye also continuously writes articles promoting EarthKind and AgriLife Extension. She has been doing this since 2005 with articles in journals, magazines, and newspapers. Gaye provides critical support for EarthKind conferences, symposium and the National Earth-Kind Summit Meeting

Outstanding Programmatic Accomplishments:

In Gaye's role with The Houston Rose Society, she provided early leadership for the rose society to sponsor an EarthKind™ field trial, This group worked with the city of Pasadena, Texas and utilized the asphalt parking lot of a city building to plant a collection of EarthKind™ roses. Evaluated by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service , this field trial certainly tested the extremes of the EarthKind™ cultivars. The reflective heat of this asphalt parking lot easily reached 120°F during the summer, yet none of the bushes planted at the site showed evidence of heat stress. The Houston Rose Society test garden is the first field trial to implement the EarthKind™ soil management practice of utilizing an organic mulch to sustain plant growth and bloom production. These same types of trials are taking place across the South and are presently under way in New York and Kentucky. Ms Hammond's efforts and educational supports has helped AgriLife Extension's EarthKind program grow into a program with nationwide Extension reach providing personal and environmental benefits.

Support Statement (approximately 75 words):

Gaye Hammond has a passion to share her knowledge and about how to enjoy beautiful roses and protect the environment using EarthKind principles to reduce water and pesticide use. She supports county agents across the state with her presence and involvement at local educational events. I am very honored to submit a nomination naming Gaye for the Chapter Friend of Extension Recognition. This is a well deserved recognition.