



Texas ESP Connection 2012

Quarterly Newsletter

January - March

July - September

April - June

October - December

ESP Texas Connection Is Now on
our new Website <http://www.texasesp.org>

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

State:

Spring Board Meeting
Brownwood, Texas
May 1 & 2, 2012

National:

PILD Information &
registration is available on the
JCEP website

RFP's for Concurrent Sessions
& Poster Sessions for 2012
ESP National Conference are
due March 15th 2012.

Greetings

I hope you all had a good holiday season. 2011 has ended, we have closed our Texas Reports and are going full force on 2012 programming efforts. Agents are at Stock Shows, some are doing their Performance Appraisals with DEA's and all of us are looking to see how we can make an impact in our county.

ESP is looking for a productive new year of great opportunities for our members and retirees. We look forward to displaying our new professional development programs for the State in the near future.

On behalf of the Board, Committees and District Representatives, we want to wish a prosperous New Year. With all that we have to accomplish this year, be sure you make time for yourself and for your family.

Lindy Tefteller
ESP State Alpha Zeta Chapter President
Midland County



Winter Board Meeting

The board was very busy at the Winter Board meeting this year. Tonya Poncik, ESP State Treasurer balanced our budget, resolved our banking problems and developed our 2012 ESP State Budget. We elected new officers, committee chairs and judged our State Award Recognition. (see below positions and recipients) At this meeting we aligned our recognition deadline to correspond with the Winter and Spring Board Meetings and set a course to highlight ESP members, professional development programs and spotlighting ESP awards recognition.

Extension is looking toward the future to save us money, time, and our sanity when it comes to our Program Area State Association Conferences. Having assisted with 2 State Association Conferences, I personally know how difficult and time consuming it is to put together a successful conference. All five State Associations and Administration, are working together to find the best solution for this venture to happen in the near future by holding a collective state conference every 3 to 4 years. We have pro's and con's for doing this, regardless, how will this positively impact our county, sponsors, vendors and our families. Here are a few points to consider: Budget cuts across the country could effort our sponsor and vendors funding any association, counties maximizing their dollars, being able to be at home more.

Since ESP is a professional development association without a State Conference, we elected to support other Extension Association Conferences with offering our services by sponsoring and providing one of the breakout sessions for Professional Development. Topics we are working on are "How to Make Your Awards Application Stand Out" and "Identity, Emotions and Language in Conflict over Public Issues: How successful we are at dealing with conflict". We will be asking for ESP members to volunteer to help with this project after more development is made.

Another positive collaboration is that the ESP State Awards Recognition will be presented at either 4-H, Ag, Specialist or FCS State Conferences this summer. Since our venue in College Station is no longer available, each association graciously allowed us to present our awards at their State Meeting sitting more positive exposure for our members. Each recipient will decide which association conference they will attend and a board representative will proudly do the honors of the presentation to our members.



Check out our **NEW WEB SITE**: Retiree Chair - **Billy Warrick** has rebuilt the ESP web site and the new address is <http://www.texasesp.org/> Don't forget to save this to your favorites for future reference. Thanks Billy for your hard work.

If you have any questions, please contact the respective agent regarding your question or concern:

New 2012 State Board

President - Lindy Tefteller
President-Elect - Deana Sageser
Past-President - Marilyn Simmons
Secretary - Vincent Mannino
Treasurer - Tonya Poncik
V.P. Membership - Julie Massey

New 2012 Standing ESP Committees

Awards Recognition - Starla Garlick
Global Relations - Marilyn Simmons
Life Members & Retirees - Billy Warrick
Marketing - All Board Members
Member Recruitment and Retention - Julie Massey
Newsletter - Lindy Tefteller
Nomination - Marilyn Simmons
Professional Development (Scholarships & Grants) - Starla Garlick
Public Issues - All Board Members
Resource Development & Management (audit) - Jay Yates & Stan Bevers
Website Management - Billy Warrick

2012 ESP District Representatives

Prairie View Campus - Jacquelyn White
College Station Campus - Dean McCorkle
District 1 - Megan Becking
District 2 - Mary Collier
District 3 - vacant (contact Julie Massey)
District 4 - Dotty Woodson
District 5 - vacant (contact Julie Massey)
District 6 - Lindy Tefteller
District 7 - Wade Hibler & Marilyn Hale
District 8 - Cheryl Walker
District 9 - Starla Garlick, Aaron Sumrall
District 10 - Daphne Richards & Nelda Speller
District 11 - Stephen Biles
District 12 - Barbara Storz

Important Dates:

*JCEP - Joint Council Extension Professional Conference, February 7-9, 2012
in San Antonio, Texas*



*PILD - Public Issues Leadership Development Conference, April 15-18, 2012 in Westin
Alexandria, Virginia*

NESP - National ESP Conference o October 6-9, 2012 in Mobile, Alabama

Galaxy IV 2014 in Pittsburg, PA o September 15-19, 2013

*54th Annual County Judges & Commissioners Continuing Education Conference - College
Station, February 7-9, 2012*

90th Annual Judges & Commissioners Assoc. of Texas, San Marcos, Oct. 1-3, 2012



ESP State Awards Recipients

*At the Winter Board Meeting, applications were judged for the 2011 Awards. It was a great year for judging with outstanding applications to review. I wish we could have given all who applied. These are the recipients of the State Awards. Those with an * asterisk are being sent to Nationals. Congratulations to all:*

Administrative Leadership Recognition

**Vincent Mannino, D9, Fort Bend County*

Continued Excellence Recognition

**Dale Fritz, D9, DEA*

Distinguished Service Recognition

**Elizabeth Trejo, D9, Harris County*

Deborah Watt, D9 Travis County

Diversity/Multicultural Individual Recognition

**Caroline Cruz, D9, Montgomery County*

Early Career Recognition

**Caroline Cruz, D9, Montgomery County*

Lindy Tefteller, D6, Midland County

Meritorious Support Service Recognition

Ruthie Huddlen, D9, Brazos County

Carrie Huntzinger, D10, Bexar County

Mid-Career Recognition

**Amy Ressler, D9, Burleson County*

Terrie Looney, D9, Jefferson County

Retiree Service Recognition

**Billy Warrick, D7, Retired*

Team Recognition

**Jones / Yates Team*

Jay Yates, Lubbock County

DeDe Jones, Potter County

The National ESP Conference in New York was amazing. 15 people from Texas were able to attend to support our National Award Recognition Recipients and benefit from the educational presentations. Kicking off the National Conference, members elected to take tours to Niagara Falls or Wine Tasting Tours, then round table discussions with illuminating sharing sessions from chapters across the U.S. Thanks to Paul Treadwell of Cornell Extension, on the National Website, we have a video blog that contains the presentations of the four Keynote Speakers. Many of the Concurrent Sessions and Poster Sessions are also available on National Website to access the presentations and materials submitted by the presenters.



Texas ESP, Alpha Zeta Chapter received the 2011 Chapter Merit -Platinum Award at the National Conference. "The Chapter of Merit Program serves as a guide of things that successful chapters to involve their members and to provide leadership that will make the experience at the chapter level a good one". (National ESP Handbook)



The "Ruby Award" is the highest honor that is bestowed upon a member of Epsilon Sigma Phi. The recipient this year was our very own Dr. Edward Smith, Director, Texas AgriLife Extension. Dr. Smith has served as a county agent, Extension Specialist and as an Extension Administrator. One might say he has "done it all!" His lecture was entitled, "EXTENSION." Mingled with his Texas humor, Dr. Smith's message was one that made you proud to be a part of the Extension System

with apologies to no one for the work that we do for our clientele. Dr. Smith's message was a powerful one. If you haven't yet, go to the National Website <http://espnational.org/> and view Dr. Ed Smith's Ruby Award Speech. It's just the inspiration we need to inspire greatness out of all of us, in life and working for Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Past Ruby Award Winners

Dr. John E Hutchison 1977

Dr. Zerle L Carpenter 1995

Dr. Chester Fehlis 2004

Dr. Bonnie McGee 2006

Dr. Edward Smith 2011

Billy's Corner - Life Members & Retirees Representative

Keeping up with the loss of lifetime members is challenging. Since the last newsletter we have had three members that have passed away (Vera Harris-01/15/2012, Edgar E. Neal Jr.-10/30/2011, and Dorothy M. Talbot-10/26/2011). I have to give Dana Daugherty the credit for keeping me updated.



I had the opportunity to meet with the Retirees from District 7 on December 5, 2011. The Old Timers and Friends of Extension luncheon was held in San Angelo, TX. It was great to see the 20 plus people that attended and share our journeys & accomplishments since our last meeting in 2010.

On December 6 & 7, I attended the ESP Board meeting at the 4-H Center in Brownwood. One of the questions asked was why be involved in Epsilon Sigma Phi. The other Extension Associations have professional development as a goal. How is ESP different? The focus is on you as a professional and Extension as a profession. How do I get to be one of the best at what I do? That is where ESP has helped me over the years. As I have attended national conferences I have met the best in the nation at what they do. As I strive to reach their level of achievement it has benefited me, as well as Extension. ESP is worth your time, effort and money to participate. What about Retirees? Dan James from the Dallas area is working to develop educational opportunities for ESP members and the programs certainly lend themselves to continued education that benefits the participants and the hosts.

Currently under discussion are study tours in:

Greece

Tentative dates: October 21 - November 3, 2012

Costa Rica

Tentative dates: February 14 - 28, 2013

Japan

Tentative dates: May 9 - 23, 2013

Poland

Tentative dates: October 17 - 30, 2013

Australia

Tentative dates: Mid - Late January, 2014



For more information contact Dan James at djworld04@sbcglobal.net