



## **ESP Chapter Report**

**State / Chapter:** Texas / Alpha Zeta

**Region:** Southern Region

**Annual Members:** 150

**Life Members:** 152

**Membership Requirements:** 0

**Annual Dues above National Dues:** 15

**Life Member Dues above National Life Member Dues:** 75

**Chapter Initiation Fee above the \$5 National Fee:** 0

### **Other Sources of Chapter Financial Resources:**

donations and interest from savings and CDs

### **Chapter Activities Held:**

Our chapter activities included a strategic planning meeting with the executive committee and committee chairs prior to our Spring board meeting. This resulted in bylaw updates, committee restructuring, and enthusiasm among board members. We also hosted one of four state Judges and Commissioners meetings in San Angelo. Two officers attended the JCEP Leadership Conference in Nashville, one attended the PILD conference in Washington DC and eight attended the national meeting in Jackson Hole.

### **Life Member Activities:**

We began a life member committee informally in 2009 with a liaison to the board, this was formalized in 2010 to better communication with our life members and keep them involved on the state and district levels. We are currently facing the challenge of changing email systems to one that does not include our life members.

### **List and Describe Chapter Committees:**

Our committee structure was aligned with national at the strategic planning meeting and added to the bylaws which were approved by the membership in December. The committees that were active during 2010 were the Scholarships, Grants, and Recognition committee, the Professional Development committee, Nominating committee and the Life members committee.

### **Member Recruiting, Training and Retention and Life Member Involvement Activities:**

An invitation to members with an explanation of benefits was sent by the chapter president to all extension professionals through the email system. Also the Chapter President met with mid-management at their annual Ag conference to encourage their membership and to help them see the benefits of encourages their employees to join. Also the Executive committee visited with Extension

administrators about being part of the graduation ceremony for new employees which takes place 9 months to a year after hire.

**How does Your Chapter Market ESP to Members and Potential Members:**

Our chapter utilizes our 13 district directors to market ESP on the district level. Our most active districts host a district meeting and awards luncheon during one of the staff development conferences and presents awards and recognition of new members. We are encouraging our less active districts to follow this format to increase our visibility and the involvement of members.

**Is There a Defined Progression of Leadership in Your Chapter?:**

We have a semi-defined progression of leadership in that a president elect serves one year prior to serving as chapter president for a year, then one year following as past president. We encourage progression from the secretary or the treasurer to the office of president-elect, however when that is not possible we recruit from members who have served on the board for at least three years.

**How does your Chapter Provide Professional Development to New and Existing Members:**

We support professional development through two grants, one for continued education and one for first-time attendees at the national conference. We also promote the national professional development opportunities as they are available.

**How can the National Board Provide Better Support to your Chapter**

We would like to see more webinar style professional development opportunities from national so that all members may benefit without excessive travel costs. We would also like to have the national committee chairs make more contact with our state chairs to help them understand their roles. We have people willing to serve, but not many knowledgeable about the committees.

**Report Submitted by:** Sandra Duke

**Email:** [se-duke@tamu.edu](mailto:se-duke@tamu.edu)