



Senior Moments

Special 2009 Holiday Edition

The Official ESP Newsletter for Florida's Alpha Delta Life Members

Retirees Meet In Orlando National ESP Highlights 4-H Celebrates 100 Years



These Extension retirees met with the Dean following the annual Retirees Luncheon at this year's EPAF Conference in Orlando, Florida. Over twenty retirees and Life Members attended



Senior Moments Has New Editor starting in 2010 . . . We're happy to announce that **Linda Cook** will become our new *Senior Moments* editor starting with

the next issue. Linda, who recently retired as the National Executive Director of ESP, will bring lots of experience to the job so expect a lot of positive changes in the upcoming issues. Linda will work closely with our Life Member & Retirees Chair, Mary Chernesky in the coming months.

It is critical that members send Linda news on what's happening in their lives as this has been identified as the #1 reason for reading *Senior Moments*. Start sending your news items to Linda at: jimlinda@bellsouth.net

As I prepare my last *Senior Moments* issue, I would like to personally thank Linda for taking on this task and also thank my many Alpha Delta friends who assisted me along the way. Let's keep it going strong!

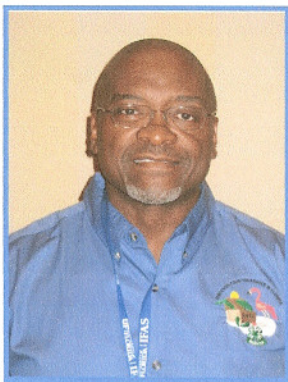
Mike McKinney



Season's Greetings

Happy Holidays to all our Life Members and wishing you all Happiness and Good Health in the coming year.

A Case of Mistaken Identity . . . Just when you think nothing else could go wrong: Our friend and fellow Life Member, Marilyn Tileston had the misfortune of falling and breaking her shoulder while attending the NAEFCS Conference in Birmingham this past September. To make matters worse, doctors told her she had a serious heart condition that prevented them from doing surgery on her shoulder. The good news however is that the doctors had the wrong chart and nothing is wrong with Marilyn's heart. How's that for today's modern medicine. Here's wishing Marilyn a speedy recovery!



John Lilly to Lead Alpha Delta in 2010. .

John G. Lilly Sr. grew up in Hamilton County, Florida. He attended Tuskegee University where he earned a Bachelors Degree (1985) and

Florida A&M University, earning a Masters Degree (1991); both degrees were in Agricultural Education. He taught Vocational Agriculture in Jasper and was FFA Advisor, then joined the Alachua County Extension office as Courtesy Agent in 1986. Since 1988, he has been 4-H Coordinator in Jefferson

County, initially with FAMU. In 2000, his position was transferred to UF/IFAS Extension with an Extension faculty appointment. Lilly was awarded Permanent Status in 2003, and promoted to Extension Agent IV in 2007. John is currently Acting County Extension Director in Jefferson County. John Lilly lends his enthusiasm and skills to state-wide 4-H programs. His participation and leadership in district activities, Congress, the 4-H Program Committee and professional development events are substantive and abundant. He served as President of FAE4-HA. He was elected to represent agents in the Northwest District with a term on the initial IFAS Faculty Assembly. He has completed the Extension Leadership training program for faculty with management potential and aspirations.

The President's Report:

Welcome to Senior Moments Newsletter. We trust that all is well with everyone. This my first article as President of the Alpha Delta Chapter, and I am looking forward to writing future articles. I would like to personally thank Mike McKinney for doing a phenomenal job compiling this newsletter.

It was great seeing the retirees at EPAF (Extension Professional Association of Florida) this past August. I sincerely hope that you enjoyed the retiree's luncheon. I would like to send a big thank you to those retirees who attended the ESP Membership Meeting. If you didn't make it to EPAF this year, we are look forward to seeing you next year.

Congratulations to all ESP Award Winners at EPAF:

Administrative Leadership: Betty Miller – Leon County

Cultural Diversity: Betsy Crisp – Pasco County
Scholarship: Betsy Crisp – Pasco County & Brenda Rogers – Manatee County

Team Award: Stephen Brown – Lee County, Bill Kern – Ft. Lauderdale – REC, Gene McAvoy, - Hendry County, Ken Rudisill – Bay, Norma Samuel – Marion.

At our next membership meeting there were changes made to the by-laws and constitutions. One of the changes will affect future retirees wanting to join ESP as life member. In the past when paying ESP dues you had to pay your fees in full, now you have the option of paying in installments over two years. We realize times are

hard , this is why the chapter has adopted the new by- laws, and constitution changes.

Since retiring you can assist the chapter by helping recruit more life members. If you know any retired extension faculty, please encourage them to become a life member. To become a member go to our web site and download a membership form. The web address is: <http://esp.ifas.ufl.edu/>. If you are not internet savvy you can also email Dr. Ray Mobley, ESP Analyst at ray.mobley@famuedu



4-H Gala Celebrates 100 Years in Florida . . .

The rich and famous, and the not so rich and famous

were all in Jacksonville on Saturday evening, November 14th, to celebrate one hundred years of 4-H in the great state of Florida. Past and present Deans, Directors, and Faculty all took part in the celebration. Among some of the retirees in attendance were Dr. Sue Fisher, Dr. John Woeste, Ruth Ann Miller, Mike McKinney, Linda Cook, Nettie Ruth Brown, Tom Braddock, Helen Fleming, the Hulusky's (and others).

The Oldest Living Florida 4-H Alumni was Oscar Harrison (former Washington, Dixie, and Walton County Agent) who was just 12 when he joined Walton County 4-H in 1921. Oscar retired from Extension in 1965. Longest Running Florida 4-H Club was in Escambia County with Honorable Mention going to Suwannee and Sarasota Counties. Longest Serving Florida 4-H Volunteer was Betty Hicks of Suwannee County serving over 42 years. The Longest Serving Active 4-H Agent was Marvin Weaver who started his professional career in 4-H back in 1972. He was followed by Marcia Morris in Sarasota County in 1976 and Shirley Ellison in Volusia County in 1979.

Not many of us will be around to celebrate 4-H's Bicentennial, but we all pay tribute to an organization that has shaped and molded many of our lives, both professionally and personally.

CONGRATULATIONS 4-H !



The Director's Corner . . .

It was so good seeing a lot of you at EPAF. I really enjoyed visiting with all of you and catching up on what you have been doing. I received a copy of the

photo that was taken during our group meeting. Everyone looks great! I'm sure it will create lasting memories.

Last time I wrote, I informed you that IFAS received a \$7.7 million dollar cut. The \$7.7 million budget cuts have been fully implemented. The breakdown of these cuts resulted in seventeen staff members laid off, eighty-five other staff moved to alternative funding sources, and no state funded faculty laid-off.

IFAS successfully competed with other university units and received eight new faculty positions through the stimulus-funded "jump-start" program. Other stimulus funds have been committed for employee transition; for off-campus facility renovations, for on-campus facility projects, for CALS teaching needs and program enhancement opportunities.

Finally, I wanted to let you know that the search for the IFAS Senior Vice President is in place. Dr. Joe Glover, UF Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs will chair the search committee. The president announced the search at the Board of Trustees meeting on September 11, 2009.

Best regards,
Millie

Don't Forget!



Return the enclosed ESP National Life Member Survey by December 15th.

Email to: mckcar@msn.com or mail to: **Mike McKinney**

**1850 Ravenridge St.
Wesley Chapel, FL 33543**



ESP Life Member & Retiree Committee

By: Mary Chernesky,
Chairperson

IFAS/Extension

Budget: Next year
may be another tight
budget year for the

organization. Your contacts with decision makers are vital to Extension's future. Send your e-mail info & I will send information as I get it.

County Extension Budget: As an Extension retiree, you know the mission and use of local Advisory Committees as they plan programs for local needs. Support your county!! *We may be gone, but I hope we have not forgotten!!*

Health Care Bill: Stay alert for Health Care developments and speak to your Congressmen regarding your wishes on health care. It will affect the future for every one of us!!!

Federal Employees Retirement

Benefits: The easiest way to stay informed is by joining & following NARFE. They are the only organization dedicated to preserving federal employee retirement benefits at: www.narfe.org/fedemployees

ESP Bylaws & Charter Constitution

Changes: Faculty, Professional & Administrative Staff with full or part time appointments are now eligible to join ESP if they are employed for 3 years as of 6/1. Former ESP retired members who have let their membership lapse may update to Life ESP Membership by paying a \$10 reinstatement fee & the current Life Membership Fee (\$200 which may be paid over a 2 year period)

-Editor of this newsletter: Mike McKinney has graciously volunteered to publish this newsletter issue. Thank you Linda Cook for taking on this task!

Contact me at: mechernesky@aol.com
or USPS: 666 Boca Ciega Pt. Blvd. N, St Petersburg, FL 33708

Retirees Honored:

-Lowell Loadholtz – Presented with Distinguished Service Award & inducted into the Berry College Hall of Fame - 2009

-H.E."Ed" Jowers – Inducted into the Florida Association of County Agriculture Agents Hall of Fame in 2008

Welcome Aboard: . . . One of our biggest challenges is to obtain and update changes in email and mailing addresses of our retirees, especially those recent retirees. This may be the first time these colleagues have received *Senior Moments*. If so, we welcome them to our ranks and encourage them to become ESP Life Members if they are not already. Remember, you can become a Life Member by paying over a period of two years.

Mary Peters, Ed Jowers, Larry Halsey, Tom McCubbin, Clayton Hutcheson, Deborah Boulware, Donna Peacock, Lockie Gary, Jim Self, Gerald Kidder, William Becker, Lizette Murphy, Virginia Peart, JoAnn Pierce, Tom Hintz, Lowell Loadholz, Jim Stricker, Loretta Hodyss, Marie Hammer, Mary Lou Shirar, Paula Stanley Johnson. (We're trying to find Pat Miller's address and Email)

Please report any changes in email to our Chair, Mary Chernesky or Editor Linda Cook.

Member News:

Virginia Muth and Helen Webb reported that Lester Hatch passed. He was a retired agent in Hillsborough County and was 90 years old.

* Reprinted from the National ESP Connection Newsletter.

Is There Life After Extension? Attention all you Life Members and Retirees!

Did you know that retirees now comprise over half of our national ESP membership. Retirement often brings about changes in personal and professional priorities. Can Epsilon Sigma Phi still play an important role in our retirement status? With your help we're about to find out. Included in this newsletter is a survey for all Life Members and Retirees. We urge you to take a few minutes and complete the survey and return by the December 15th deadline. You can either post and mail your response or email your survey form. The data obtained will help your National ESP Board and our Membership Recruitment & Retention Committee to better determine how to address Life Member/Retiree issues at the national level. Do you currently feel you are getting a positive return on your ESP Life Member dues? Let us know by returning the survey.

The ESP Family & Friends Leisure Cruise in 2008 to the Caribbean was a huge success and the upcoming Panama Canal cruise in January promises to be even bigger. The cruises are just tips of the iceberg (pardon the analogy) of the many opportunities that can be available to retirees through our professional ESP organization.

If the data supports the theory that Life Members are looking for new ways to get involved in ESP, then a proposal will be submitted to the Board to establish a standing National Life Member & Retirees Committee to plan, implement and host opportunities for our retired members. As Life Members we also need to fund the committee through voluntary donations. The only way we can move forward on this proposal it to receive your responses to this survey. **PLEASE** do it today. Retirement is no excuse for stopping the learning process. Lifelong learning opportunities will be a major focus of this effort.

Thank you for the many years of service you gave to Extension and ESP. Now's the time to start expanding your horizons in a slightly

different professional endeavor.

Michael McKinney (Florida)
ESP National Membership
Recruitment & Retention Committee

**COMPLETE SURVEY FORM
AND MAIL OR EMAIL
PRIOR TO Dec. 15th deadline.**

The Fargo Report:



Past Alpha Delta President, Brenda Rogers (R), was joined in Fargo, ND at this year's ESP National Conference by Betsy Crisp, our Southern Region DSA recipient and Mike McKinney.



Retiring National ESP Executive Director Linda Cook received many remembrances in Fargo for her exemplary service. She is pictured here with a token from her home Alpha Delta (FL) chapter.

**EPSILON SIGMA PHI
Alpha Delta Chapter**

***LIFE MEMBER
2010 Invoice***

Life Member \$200.00 _____

Total \$ _____

*(I wish to pay \$100.00 now and \$100.00 in 2011)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ FAX #: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please make check payable to *Epsilon Sigma Phi* and mail to:
Lori C. Wiggins, Treasurer
c/o Taylor County Extension Service
203 Forest Park Drive
Perry, FL 32347-0820

Dear IFAS/Extension Retiree:

If you are not an ESP Life Member, we urge you to join so you can remain connected and involved. One of the benefits of Life membership is staying connected through our retirees newsletter, *Senior Moments*. You can now divide your onetime dues into two payments within a 12 month period. Enjoy your complimentary issue of *Senior Moments*.

Epsilon Sigma Phi Life Member & Retirees Survey

Conducted by:
ESP Membership Recruitment & Retention Committee

Dear Fellow Life Members and Retirees:

Did you know that Life Members now comprise over half of our national ESP membership. In recognition of this fact the National ESP Board has asked your Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee to investigate the needs/wants/issues of Life Members/Retirees. The Board, working with the Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee, will utilize the data from the survey to determine how to best address Life Member/Retiree issues at the national level.

You can play a major role in identifying issues by taking a few minutes of your time to complete the following survey and mailing your responses back by **December 15, 2009**. Thank you ESP Life Members!

Life Member & Retirees Survey

1. Do you currently feel you are getting a positive return on your ESP Life Member dues:

Yes No No opinion

2. Retirement often brings change and shifts in personal and professional priorities. Please rank the following items (1 through 7) as being most important to you currently and what you would like the new Life Member and Retirees Committee to address:

Professional Development Lifelong Learning Opportunities Volunteering Serving as a support base for ESP and Extension Issues.

Retirement issues (healthcare/investments/monitoring changes in retirement pensions)

Networking with other senior organizations like AARP and NARFE

List other items important to you: _____

3. Would you be willing to support this committee and these efforts with a small voluntary annual donation in order to better represent and serve the needs of ESP Life Members:

Yes No (If yes, at what level of support: __\$ 5.00 __\$10.00 \$_____ Other)

4. What would make you more inclined to attend a National ESP Conference as a Life Member:

Location Costs Tours & Activities Senior Issue Seminars & Workshops

Other: _____.

5. Would you be willing to serve on a National Committee to address these issues: Yes No

If you said yes, please give us your name: _____ State: _____ Email: _____

6. What is your #1 hobby: _____.

Please complete by **December 15th**, stamp and mail to: **Mike McKinney,**

1850 Ravenridge St., Wesley Chapel, FL 33543 / or email to: mckcar@msn.com