



Senior Moments

Spring 2010

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

Panama Cruise Tops Expectations

ESP Floridians Bill Summerhill, Joy Jordan, and Mike McKinney, along with friends and family, Faye Summerhill, Larry Jordan, Susan Lial and Jerry Carlineo took part in the National ESP Friends and Family cruise to the Panama Canal. The cruise left Ft. Lauderdale on January 12th for destinations to the Bahamas, Aruba, Curacao, Costa Rica and the Panama Canal. A total of thirty-two ESP Members and Friends took part on the cruise. This was the second cruise that ESP has sponsored and by the popularity of the event, it won't be the last. ESP Members came from Maryland, Arizona, Iowa, Florida, Illinois, and the state of Washington.

Cruisers enjoyed seeing examples of tropical agriculture including bananas, coffee, aloe, pineapple, cattle and ostrich. Highlights of the trip included passage through the legendary Panama Canal and touring the Costa Rican rain forest. On board they toured the ship's galley, enjoyed exquisite dining and took part in many of the ship's social events for the ten-day cruise.



The Summerhills took home the group's spirit award with their Mardi Gras costumes. It was the first time for most of the Florida delegation to be on a cruise.

Life Member Survey Gets Board's Attention...Mike McKinney

Epsilon Sigma Phi, like many other professional associations, is turning "Gray". For the first time in its history the majority of the membership is comprised of Life Members and retirees. The Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee recently mailed out a national survey asking Life Members to provide input on how ESP can continue to serve the needs of retirees after members leave active Extension service. Only 61% of the respondents felt they were getting a positive return on their Life Member dues and 85% said they were willing to support the establishment of a Life Member & Retirees Committee on the National ESP Board. The Board took a giant step in achieving this action by establishing a Life Member & Retirees Ad Hoc Committee to develop a comprehensive proposal to meet the needs of retirees in time for their National ESP Annual Meeting in Wyoming. The Committee will also develop a Life Long Learning Tract for the Wyoming meeting that will include classes, workshops and tours, designed especially for ESP Life Members and Retirees. The Board asked Mike McKinney (FL. Alpha Delta) to chair the committee for the coming year.

News to Share or Address Changes

Something is missing from this issue...**YOU!** Send news items and USPS and E-Mail address changes to Linda D. Cook, Senior Moments Editor, at jimlinda@bellsouth.net or 2621 NW 29th Place, Gainesville, FL 32605.

ESP Alpha Delta Chapter



President... Greetings

Everyone, I would like to personally welcome Linda Cook as the new Senior Moments Editor. Many thanks to Linda for taking on this huge responsibility, and if we can do anything to

assist you don't hesitate to let us know.

Membership and retention is one of the most difficult and demanding positions in our organization. We have just finished a crucial part of the ESP membership campaign for 2010. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Ray Mobley, membership chair for all his hard work in completing this enormous task.

The number of members as of 1/21/10: 117 renewed members that include 13 new members, and 1 new life member. We have an overall total of 131 life members in the Chapter. If you have questions regarding membership, please contact Dr. Ray Mobley.

Hey folks, check out the ESP, Alpha Delta Chapter website. Dan Culbert has done a remarkable job keeping us up to date on local and national ESP issues. Please go to the following website: <http://esp.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

Retirees, the Alpha Delta Chapter does not take your membership for granted; we are elated that you are a part of this distinguished professional organization. You are all pioneers of this organization, and you have paved the way for upcoming agents; this is why your input and participation is very important to us.

Enjoy the Seniors Moments Newsletter and have a great summer.

John G. Lilly Sr., ESP, Alpha Delta Chapter
President



The Director's Corner... Greetings to all retirees, It is surprising how time escapes us. On January 12, 2009, I accepted the position of Interim-Dean for Extension. After a little

over a year serving in this position, I can truly say it has been an incredible and rewarding learning experience. During this time I confirmed further what I already knew. Extension has so many committed faculty and staff that work tirelessly to deliver educational programs to help people find solutions for their many challenges. I am proud to be part of the Extension family. As you may all know by now, Dr. Jack Paine was selected as the Sr. Vice President for IFAS. He will be with us starting in June.

Last year, IFAS went through difficult budget cuts and here we are again with another year of possibly more budget cuts. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees released their latest budget proposals. In the current budget proposal, the House cuts to IFAS are significant and disproportionate to the state universities.

The House's proposal would cut the IFAS budget by \$7 million, or 5.5%, causing a significant loss of operating funds needed for research, extension, programs and services. The Senate is more supportive toward IFAS. We are hoping the final budget outcome will bring the House and Senate budgets together in our favor. In the meantime, the Sr. VP has announced a one-month "freeze" on hiring any new faculty or staff.

Finally, I want to let you know that I continue to be committed to faculty development. A call for proposals was sent out to Goal or Focus Team Leaders

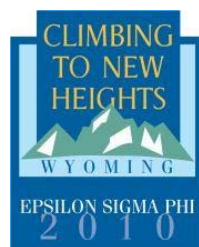
to identify in-service programs that are needed during the coming year (2010-11). Proposals are due the first week of April 2010. In addition, I recently announced an opportunity for State and County Extension faculty to apply for a professional improvement mini grant. I believe professional growth and development are key factors to job satisfaction and effectiveness. A total of \$30,000.00 has been set aside this year to support possible local, state, national, and international initiatives. Individual awards may vary from \$500 to \$2,500 each.

It has been a cold winter for Florida, but spring is in the air. Let's hope spring weather stays with us a while. Thanks for your continuous support.

Best Regards, Millie

Remembering Past IFAS Faculty... The following faculty have passed since the last EPAF Conference:

- John Bethea**, Levy Co Ext. Forester, September 22, 2009
- Bob Curtis**, Lee/Manatee CED/4-H/Hort/Ag, November 26, 2009
- Judson T. Fulmer**, Liberty, Suwannee & Nassau Ag CED, December 19, 2009
- Jackson Alexander Haddox**, Polk/Lake Ag CED, January 12, 2010
- Bonnie Rowe**, St. Johns Co. FNP, February 23, 2010
- Edwina Robinson**, Escambia FCS, March 2010
- Paula Paris (Stanley) Johnson**, Citrus FCS, March 11, 2010





ESP Life Member & Retiree Committee

By: Mary Chernesky,
Chairperson

Thank You!! Many thanks to Mike McKinney for developing & editing this newsletter for 3 years. If it weren't for his persistence we would not have this communication tool. Thanks Mike!! And, thanks to Linda Cook for agreeing to take over as our new newsletter editor. If you have something for us to include please send it to Linda or myself & we'll get it into a future issue.

County Extension Budgets: This is another challenging year for many County budgets. As an Extension retiree you know the Extension system & can speak for Extension Programs when they need it most. Please support your county!! Check with your office or OverAll Advisory Committee to see how you can help.

Save the Date!! Plan to attend!!

The EPAF meeting will again be held at the Buena Vista Palace in Orlando. Special events for retirees include the ESP State Meeting (10:30 am – 12:00 pm), Retiree Luncheon (12 – 2 pm), & Retiree Reception with the Dean (2 -3:30 pm). All will take place on Tuesday, August 31, 2010. Watch for your letter with details & registration forms early in the summer. We hope to see you there.

Legislative Issues: Things are happening very quickly on the national & state levels that could affect us all for the rest of our lives. If you have concerns, do not hesitate to contact your State Legislators or Congressmen. They are elected to serve us! We will try to keep

you updated on what we hear, but often there is a very quick turnaround. We need your current USPS & e-mail addresses. If they have changed please send the current ones to me.

New CPR Method from Mayo Clinic

New method, no mouth to mouth & works better. View the video & pass it on. You may be saving someone's life! Go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESebZpM>

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

NEED A MOTHER'S DAY OR WEDDING GIFT?

If wedding bells are ringing this summer for a friend or family member, a copy of Simply Florida A Taste of Flavors from the Sunshine State makes an attractive, practical gift for only \$20. Full of recipes featuring Florida-produced commodities, this colorful cookbook also contains a nutritional analysis of each recipe and nutrition and health information throughout the book. Contact your local UF/IFAS Extension Office or visit www.simplyflorida.org (<http://www.simplyflorida.org/>) to purchase your copy today! This cookbook was compiled by Family & Consumer Sciences Extension Agents & is dedicated to Mary Harrison, a long time Extension Agent & State Specialist.

