Hello Colorado Zeta Chapter members,

It’s hard to believe that the summer is over and we are gearing up for a busy fall with Forum and many of our national association meetings. We also have many things on our ESP schedule so please read through our latest newsletter. As you may know, California is considering reactivating ESP and recently a California friend contacted me to get my thoughts about the value of ESP and why people should join. That encouraged me to reflect on why I value my ESP membership. Locally, our membership connects us with colleagues in different program areas, discovering what they do and what opportunities we might find for collaboration. Our chapter provides resources for professional development (including money), opportunities for recognition, and a chance to take on leadership roles.

Through our chapter, we are also connected to professional development, awards, funding, leadership and learning on a bigger scale with our national organization. Beyond those good things however, being part of ESP is my connection to the larger mission of Extension. In a time of corporate takeover of almost everything, it is amazing to be part of an organization that can touch every citizen and community with research based, non-biased information whose whole goal is to make lives better. Whether its moms learning good nutrition, youth engaged in community service, families managing finances, seniors maintaining healthy lifestyles, farmers and ranchers applying new practices, small businesses making business plans or community issues faced through good facilitation, Extension has the tools and resources to do good in so many ways. I am proud to be part of this organization and ESP supports that sense of belonging.

It encourages my love of innovation, gives me skills and tools to advocate for our programs and connects me to those who work at the national level to maintain funding, identify current needs and increase our diversity. Just as I love being part of 4-H and how my professional association makes me a better 4-H agent, I love being part of ESP because my membership makes me a better Extension professional.

What’s ESP’s value for you?? Have you applied for or nominated someone for a well-deserved award? Requested professional development funds? LISTENED in to a webinar or met a new colleague at our annual meeting? And……How can provide value to ESP? We’re having a Silent Auction at Forum to raise funds to support our chapter. What can you bring? We have a community service project going. How can you participate? We need a president-elect and a secretary and a bunch of committee chairs this year. Is it your year to step up? You’ll find details about all of these in this edition of the newsletter.

I look forward to being active with YOU!

Christy

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON OCTOBER 25 11 AM-1 PM
Cherokee Park Room, Lory Student Center
Sign up to attend through your Forum registration!
Don’t Forget our ZETA Chapter Community Service Project

Bring your Contributions to Forum

Do you come back from a trip with more little bottles and toiletries than you could ever use? Did you ever think that people living in shelters or on the street would find those items more valuable than you could ever imagine? Don’t forget that ZETA Chapter will be collecting new, unopened shampoos, conditioners, lotions, soap and so on for distribution to an organization that can get them to the people who need them. If you know of a particular group or home that could use the hygiene articles, let us know and we can distribute throughout the state as supplies are available.

Bring your items to Forum and look for our collection basket! FMI, contact Sheila Kelley sheila.kelley@colostate.edu
Have you given back to ESP Zeta? Would you like a unique leadership opportunity? Run for office!

At the Annual meeting during Forum in October, officers for the 2018 year will be elected. This is YOUR time to step forward and be the leader we need for our chapter!

The Past President will, of course, be Christy Fitzpatrick; President will be Sheila Kelley who is serving this year as President-Elect. The Treasurer will continue to be Dennis Kahn who is serving the second year of his two-year term. Martha Sullins is completing her second year so a new Secretary is in order. And, most importantly, the President-Elect, who will serve as President in 2019. The Executive Committee meets monthly by phone – or at least has been doing so for the last several years. This keeps us all informed and ensures that the work of Zeta Chapter gets completed efficiently and in a timely manner.

Officers and duties:

**President-Elect**
- Perform the duties of the President in his/her absence or disability.
- Move into the role of President at the end of the term.
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Operational Guidelines.

**Secretary**
- Record complete official minutes of Annual Executive Committee, and any special chapter meetings.
- Handle all official correspondence, except financial, on behalf of the chapter.
- Present Secretary’s minutes at Executive Committee and Annual Meetings.
- Perform other duties as outlined in the Operational Guidelines.

To express interest you may contact any officer. (See contact information on the front page.) Presiding over the nominating committee is Jacki Paone, Past President. However, any member of the Executive Committee will be happy to discuss the role of each office.

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**Congratulations to….,**

Two of our colleagues were chosen as 2017 National Epsilon Sigma Phi Recognition Recipients!

Please congratulate:
- Irene Schonle for receiving the Mid Career Service award.

**Congratulations to you both!**

Irene and Mark were chapter award winners last fall. All of our chapter award winners then go on to be judged at the Regional and National levels. Yet another reason to nominate our exceptional staff members for awards this fall!
Committee Updates

ZETA CHAPTER - EPSILON SIGMA PHI RECOGNITION AWARDS

It is time to recognize your Extension peers, support staff or retirees for their outstanding work by nominating them for one, or more, of the Epsilon Sigma Phi Awards.

You do not have to be an ESP member to nominate a co-worker for an individual or team award. Nominees for the Friend of Extension and Meritorious Support Service Award do not have to be ESP members, but all other nominees must be a current ESP member and at least 50% of the team members eligible for ESP membership must have paid current dues. Nominees should not have received the award previously, but those nominated who did not win may be nominated again.

On 8/28, Sheila Kelley, Awards Committee Chair, sent out an email with information on all the awards, the criteria and a short nomination form. Please see that email for forms and information. Briefly the process is to look over the awards, think of someone you would like to nominate, and then fill in the short nomination form or email Sheila with the name of the person, which award the nomination is for and why the person should be chosen in 100 words or less. You can do as many as you like. Sheila will then contact the person nominated and they will fill in the online form. This all needs to be done by SEPTEMBER 22, so get your nominations in right away!

BETTER YET, you do NOT have to wait to be nominated. I encourage any of you who qualify for the awards to go on-line and complete an application by Sept. 22. At the end of the application where it asks for Chapter Recognition Contact, put in Sheila Kelley and Chapter Recognition Email, put in sheila.kelley@colostate.edu.

Information about awards is on the ESP website at www.espnational.org. On the top of the page, select Applications/Reports and then select Recognition Award Applications, the next screen. Then you can see specific award details and applications. All applications will be completed on the website so you can actually see what information is requested. Most application sections only have a 100 word maximum, so information must be very concise.

So, to nominate yourself, go to the National website, to nominate someone else either fill out the little form or write the info in an email to Sheila.

Meritorious Support Service Award and Retiree Award are not on the national website since they are only given at the chapter level. Persons submitting these nominations must prepare written documentation for why the person should receive the award and include at least one letter of recommendation.
Apply for ESP Zeta Professional Development Funds

There is money budgeted annually for ESP Zeta members who need financial support for upcoming professional development opportunities. These funds don’t necessarily have to be used for conferences, but can be used for textbooks, curriculum, etc. for helping you on your professional development path. Awards of up to $200 are available through a simple one-page application process located on the ESP Zeta web site: http://esp.colostate.edu/docs/scholarship-esp.pdf in the left column under State: Scholarship Application. After completion, e-mail to: Sheila.kelley@colostate.edu.

Go for it—it is there for YOU!
Putting the Fun in Fund Development

Because we want to continue to be able to support our chapter’s professional development scholarships, awards and the ability for officers to attend national meetings, it’s important for us to find ways to replenish our coffers. And if we have the opportunity for FUN while we are at it, so much the better. Here are two great opportunities that you can help support, coming up at Forum!

It’s Back!!! The ever popular SILENT AUCTION

During the Extension Awards Banquet, ESP will be holding our annual Silent Auction. We need every member to contribute one or more quality items for everyone to bid on. Crafts, food or beverage, theme baskets, gift certificates, art, are just a few of the possibilities in case you are having trouble thinking of something. We will be contacting some of our committee members to help set up and run the auction and if you would like to volunteer, please get in touch with Christy or Dennis (our contact information is on Page 1). And don’t forget to come ready to bid!!

And as if that weren’t enough!

We are excited and grateful to Bill Nobles for providing a brand new venue for our Vacation Door Prize Drawing

For a donation of $5 for one ticket or $20 for 5 tickets, you will have the opportunity to win a 3 day, 2 night stay at Bill and Cindy’s luxury cabin in Pagosa Springs.

Not coming to Forum, or know some folks who are not. We will be selling tickets before and during Forum! Just contact an Executive Committee member to get yours!

We’ll need everyone’s help to sell tickets on this wonderful package.