

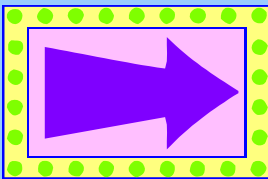
# UMEA Newsletter - Fall 2009

Wendy Flat, UMEA President Elect, has accepted an agricultural advisor contractor position with the USDA Provincial Reconstruction Team and will be serving for a year in Iraq. We all are going to miss Wendy's involvement and service in our UMEA organization and on our Executive Board. However, there is no doubt her expertise and involvement will be invaluable to the country of Iraq and its people. Wendy's expertise in agricultural extension, livestock health, and animal production will go a long way in helping revitalize the country's agricultural resources.



Wendy is leaving for training in Washington D.C. on August 26<sup>th</sup>. From there she will be heading to Iraq for a twelve month tour of service. This is certainly a very exciting opportunity for Wendy. UMEA is very proud of her willingness to serve in this very important role and she is wished the very best.

**HOLD THE DATE!** The 2009 Galaxy Conference will be held **November 10-11**, at Windermere Conference Center in Roach, MO. The Galaxy Conference is a time for professional development, networking, and association meetings. The professional development break-out sessions will include: Technology – How to Better Utilize it, Evaluations – How to Capture Impact Data, Investing in Uncertain Times, Retirement Planning Issues, and Listening – Are You Really Paying Attention. Our keynote speaker, Susan Brown from the University of Nebraska, will speak about the Importance of Laughter in the Workplace. There is no registration fee for attending the Galaxy Conference, but attendees will be responsible for their room costs. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend this event!



**Karisha Devlin**

## **Letter from UMEA President Marsha G. Alexander**

I hope each of you have been having a wonderful summer. I am sure it has also been a busy one. Our UMEA organization has been busy as well. On May 28<sup>th</sup> our executive board met with Extension administrators Dr. Michael Quart and Beverly Coberly to discuss a variety of issues of current and ongoing concern of UMEA members. These executive board and administration meetings have been productive and the next one is planned for September 18<sup>th</sup>. Minutes from the May meeting can be found on the UMEA website.

One of the concerns addressed in February and more recently is the ongoing issue of a career ladder initiative for our non-tenured Extension faculty. A formal committee made up of Extension field and state faculty and administration was appointed nearly five years ago. Based on the information shared by other Extension organizations throughout the country, a career progression system recognizes professional accomplishment and superior performance. A strong system encourages academic rigor and provides incentives for continuous improvement. A well designed system will also provide for the recruitment and retention of Extension faculty.

We are very fortunate that our Extension administration recognize the strengths of a career ladder and have worked hard to gain support for a system to be established through MU Extension. There continues to be debate on the issue at various levels throughout the MU system. The good news is the conversation continues and I believe we will move beyond the debate in the near future. A meeting is currently being planned that will include several members of UMEA with Extension administration, and MU administration including the Provost. During this forthcoming meeting concerns will be addressed and the biggest question will be, "How do we move this initiative forward?" UMEA's involvement is recognized by our administration as critical to the process.

In closing, several of our newest members have approached me recently about being more involved in UMEA. I want to suggest that each of you, whether you are a new member or long time member, seriously consider running for an office and joining a committee. UMEA is our faculty senate. As exemplified through the career ladder initiative, Legislative Day and more, UMEA's involvement has been and continues to be requested in many different and important ways throughout the University of Missouri. We need strong, engaged Extension faculty to initiate and persevere on issues relevant to our mission. For those who are providing your time and leadership to UMEA, please know it is greatly appreciated. If you are not actively involved, please consider your special talents and how they can be utilized to strengthen our organization. Thank you to all for your support.



### ***UMEA Awards & Nominations Committee Report***

Congratulations to the 2008 Awards winners. There were many qualified applications in each category. The winners and their biographies are available on the UMEA Website.

UMEA will once again be seeking applications for awards from members in three categories in 2009. The three categories are **UMEA Meritorious Service Award, Innovator Award, and Rookie of the Year.**

Award nomination forms will be available on the UMEA website in mid July. The nomination forms will be due at the end of August. Plaques and a professional development funds will be given to each winner at the Galaxy Meeting in November. Please help us reward our members for their outstanding work by nominating them for a 2008 UMEA Award!!!

The Awards & Nominations Committee will also be seeking people to run for an UMEA office. This year we will be seeking nominations for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Secretary. Please keep this in mind as we go through the year and encourage your colleagues to consider this opportunity. UMEA is a great voice for Extension Faculty and this could be your chance to become more involved.

**Randa Doty**



***Report from Professional Development and Staff Benefits Committee:***

The Professional Development and Staff Benefits committee would like to report that it will be making two Professional Development awards this Spring. The first award will go to Amie Schleicher, Livestock Specialist from the Northwest Region. Amie will be using the money to help with her cost of participating in the Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow (ALOT) program. The A LOT program is a two-year agricultural leadership development program that consists of nine three-day sessions held across the state of Missouri in which class participants meet with community leaders to discuss issues impacting communities and agriculture.

The second Professional Development award will go to Nina Chen, Human Development Specialist from the West Central region. Nina will be using the money to help with her costs to attend the annual conference of Generations United. The Generations United conference focuses on new and creative intergenerational programming, strengthens local, national and international practice, and supports effective public policy initiatives that share the goal of improving the lives of people of all ages and connecting generations. Nina will be making a presentation on her Building Bridges program for the pre-conference on Intergenerational Programming and Cooperative Extension.

**Carole Bozworth**

# Association Reports

## MAEP

The **Missouri Agricultural Extension Professionals** held their Explore Missouri tour and membership meeting in Atchison County June 25-26. Amie Schleicher, MAEP Past President hosted the group of about 35 members, spouses and children. Tour stops included the loess hills near Rockport, a diversified family farm that includes hoop houses, pumpkins and livestock, water partnerships, wind energy development and a tour of the Hundley Whaley Research Farm. A membership meeting was held on the evening of the 25<sup>th</sup>.

MAEP members are planning to attend the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Portland, Oregon September 20-24. This conference allows members to participate in professional improvement and conduct business of the national association. Several members will be presenting oral presentations or posters on programs they have conducted. Mark Stewart will transition from Vice Director to Director representing the North Central Region for the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. Dan Downing is serving as the National Chair for the Agriculture Issues and Relations Committee and Todd Lorenz is serving as chair of the Recognition and Awards committee. Parman Green is running for Treasurer of the National Association of County Agricultural Agents. This will be two years in a row that Missouri has a candidate running for national office.

## Matt Herring

## MEAFCS

The National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences is celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, and plans to commemorate this special occasion by publishing a resource cookbook, "*Living Well – More than a Cookbook*". Members across the nation have submitted practical tips, timely resources on health, family, and finances, and regional recipes to create a wonderful addition to any cookbook collection. These books will make wonderful gifts or keepsakes. So If you are interested, contact Lynda Johnson, the cost will be \$25. NEAFCS is also preparing an association history, and Beth Burke, former NW Family Financial Education Specialist, worked with several retired and current MEAFCS members to prepare a "history" of MEAFCS, including snippets and some photos from the earliest days to present. Missouri has a rich tradition of national leadership.

Our very own Kathy Dothage just completed her term as NEAFCS President, and Diana Milne recently served as secretary. This year, Maude Kelly is Chairing the Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser at the NEAFCS conference in Birmingham, AL, and Tammy Roberts will present a workshop highlighting her utilization of technology when working with youth audiences. Kris Jenkin's "Silver Threads" newsletter received national recognition, winning a '09 Media Award. MEAFCS is also supporting this year's Missouri Galaxy Conference, and wants to encourage staff to attend. The lineup of workshops is timely, and the keynote speaker will lift your spirits during these challenging times!



**Lynda Johnson**

### **MAE4-HYW Update**

MAE4-HYW members had an AMAZING Spring Retreat in Hannibal April 15-17. With over 40 members in attendance, Spring Retreat was a great professional development event with committee meetings, an association meeting, poster sessions, "Stepping in the Right Direction" GPS/GIS training, and networking. The committees are working diligently to advance the 4-H profession and MAE4-HYW.

Committees are looking for additional members, please contact the committee chair for more information. Information on each of these committees in on the MAE4-HYW website at <http://mo4h.missouri.edu/resources/MAE4HYW/>

Awards Committee:

Chair: Dave Hileman

Chair-elect: Melissa Sheer

Committee members: Kay Sparks and Serenna Wright

Banquet Committee:

Committee members: Nancy Coleman, Joan Zeller, and Pam Heimericks

Budget and Finance Committee:

Chair: Bob McNary

Committee members: Ben Gallup, Joyce Taylor, Kathy Bondy

Membership Committee:

Chair: Bob Mc Nary

Committee members: Pat Wiggings, Jackie Stuart, Lesley Daniel, Amanda Struchtemeyer

Nominating Committee:

Chair: Kathy Bondy

Committee member: Meg Sage Mach

Policy and Resolution Committee:

Chair: Sarah Staude

Committee member: Christy Hicks

Professional Improvement Committee:

Chair: Becky Simpson

Committee members: Alison Copeland, Julie Schmitt, Chris Mosbrucker, Kim Hall, Patti Fisher, Don Nicholson

Public Relations and Information Committee:

Chair: Lynna Lawson

Chair-elect: Elver Pardo

Committee members: Rhonda Shafer, Susan Smith, Becca Wheeler, Meg Sage Mach

Thanks to the officers and regional representatives for their leadership and dedication to the profession for 2009.

**Officers**

President – Meg Sage Mach

President Elect – Becky Simpson

Secretary – Kim Hall

Treasurer - Bob McNary

Reporter – Sarah Staude

Archivist – Stephanie Femrite

**Regional Representatives**

Central – Lori Gerke

East Central – Donna Garcia

Northeast – Don Nicholson

Northwest – Debbie Davis

South Central – Donna Clavin-Mistler

Southeast – Debra Henk

Southwest – Karla Deaver

West Central – Kathy Bondy

State 4-H Staff – Gerry Snapp

**Meg Sage Mach**

***UECRDA***

***The University Extension Community Resource Development Association (UECRDA)*** is a vehicle for community resource and economic development professionals within University of Missouri Extension to accomplish together what we could not do alone. Through volunteer efforts provided by organizational committees and members at large, the association...

- encourages and supports the application of the principles of community resource development throughout University of Missouri Extension;
- encourages, supports, and creates opportunities for the professional and personal improvement of its members;
- recognizes extraordinary service to the Association, to MU Extension, and to the

- and provides representation of CRED programming to University of Missouri and extension administration.

The association currently has 31 members. Dean Larkin is currently President and Richard Proffer is President-Elect. The association is also working to get our awards in sync with the national association – NACDEP (National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals).

The association is interested in nominations for any of three awards given. Those awards are: Distinguished Service to Community Development, Distinguished Service to Business and Industry as well as Friend of UECRDA. Our website is <http://extension.missouri.edu/UECRDA/join.html>.

**Dean Larkin**

### **Epsilon Sigma Phi – Missouri Alpha Tau Chapter**

The Alpha Tau Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi currently has 69 active members and 92 life members.

Award nomination information and forms for Friend of Extension and other ESP Awards are available at <http://extension.missouri.edu/esp/awards.html> Nominations are due September 1 to Joe Koenen, chair of the ESP Awards Committee.

The national ESP Conference will be held in Fargo, N.D. September 13 – 16. Mary Anne Patten, ESP President-elect will represent Missouri as a voting member.

The ESP annual meeting will be held on November 11 during the Missouri Galaxy Conference. We invite everyone attending the conference to enjoy Buck's Ice cream sponsored by ESP!

Fall MU Extension Retiree meetings will be held at the following locations on the following dates:

October 8, Lamar  
October 9, Springfield  
October 14, Gallatin  
October 16, Sedalia  
October 21, Columbia  
October 23, Jackson

**Barb Casady**

This newsletter was put together by Joe Koenen. All comments and suggestions are welcome. You can contact me at [koenenj@missouri.edu](mailto:koenenj@missouri.edu) or (660) 947-2990. UMEA and it's officers are here to serve you, the members of this organization, so we want and appreciate your input. **Remember** you can also check out our organization online at <http://extension.missouri.edu/UMEA>.