



Illinois Extension Agricultural Association

President's Report—James Morrison

Winter weather has finally arrived (at least in northern Illinois)! Know the winter months are busy and hectic for all, be sure to allow some time to participate in IEAA and NACAA activities-it can be a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Welcome to our new members John Pike, Omar Koester, Susan Meeker, and Amy O'Leary.

Here are two events that should be on your calendar. March 6 and 7 is the Joint Council of Extension Professionals spring meeting at the Holiday Inn Brandywine, Peoria. In this newsletter you will find the details; but note that IEAA will have a membership meeting at 9:30 am on March 7, a block of rooms are saved until February 13, and meeting registra-

tion needs to be made prior to February 25. Pete Fandel and Dennis Bowman have arranged for a tour/program in the USDA Research Lab on March 7 at 1:30 pm. Hope to see you in Peoria!

The 2002 NACAA Annual Meeting/ Professional Improvement Conference will be July 28-August 1 in Savannah, GA. Workshops, tours, and the opportunity to interact with co-workers from across the country are 3 good reasons to attend. It can also be an excellent family vacation! Be watching The County Agent magazine for details.

Our Resource & Program Development Committee (previously called Policy), composed of Ron Waldrop, Dennis Epplin, and Pete Fandel

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Annual Spring Extension Association Meeting—Penelope Crinion

Join members of all Extension professional associations (IEAFCS, IEAA, IEPYE, ESP) on March 6-7, 2002 at the Holiday Inn Brandywine in Peoria for our annual spring meeting. The two-day conference will include professional development opportunities and times for each association to conduct a business session.

Attendees will learn techniques to release their **CREATIVITY** to develop new ideas, improve efficiency and solve problems in delivering Extension programs. The workshop will be conducted by Cathy Langlois, an educator from Indianapolis, who is experienced in conducting this and similar workshops offered by the University of Illinois Human Resource Development unit.

Extension staff will also be able to capitalize on the Peoria location to tour the USDA Research facilities. Three one-hour tours are being arranged for Thursday afternoon to visit with researchers working on agriculture, natural resources, or nutrition topics.

A tentative agenda and registration details are attached. The registration deadline is **February 25** (hotel rooms held until February 13). Send your registration today to Pennie Crinion, 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Ste. F. Champaign, Illinois 61821.

President's Report—*cont.*

(Continued from page 1)

have been hard at work revising our By-Laws and Constitution. Be watching for a mailing on this as we plan to vote on the proposed changes at our membership meeting on March 7.

Candidates for IEAA Secretary (2-year term) and Vice-President (serve as President in 2004-2005) are being sought by our nominating committee—John Church, Dave Fischer, and Pete Fandel. If you would be interested, please contact one of the committee members.

Rhonda Ferree, our treasurer, recently received the membership database from NACAA and is reviewing it for corrections, etc. This may be one reason why

some members have not been receiving The County Agent. If you did not receive the December issue of this magazine, please contact me as I have a few extra copies.

NACAA professional development programs depend on leadership from committees. There are opportunities for members to serve in leadership roles in 2002-2004. Please consider applying for one of these NACAA North Central Region committee openings: Vice-Chair of Agronomy & Pest Management committee, Vice-Chair of Agricultural Economics committee, Vice-Chair of Forestry & Natural Resources committee, Vice-Chair of Public Relations & Agricultural Issues committee, Vice-Chair of Teach-

ing & Educational Technologies committee, Vice-Chair of Extension Programs committee, Vice-Chair of Public Relations committee, Vice-Chair of Recognition & Awards committee, and Vice-Chair of Scholarship committee. Also open are Extension Development Council Chair (3-year term), and Chair for Recognition & Awards, Public Relations, and Professional Excellence committees. Job duties are shown in the Committee Handbook on the NACAA website. Applications are due March 1, if interested please let me know.

Thanks for your involvement with IEAA. Take care.

Creativity Workshop Offered at Spring Association Meeting

As a business professional, your creative mind holds the key to developing new and different ideas that can lead to more effective ideas and solutions. At the same time, scientists have found that as we get older, we use less and less of our creative minds. This workshop will help you learn how to tap into the vast resources of your own creativity.

By the end of the workshop, you'll be able to:

- Identify barriers to creativity
- Use techniques to develop your creative mind
- Use a creativity process to generate new ideas
- Use creativity to make your job more interesting and rewarding.

Cathy Langlois has had a lifelong career in education beginning as an elementary teacher in public education and moving to sports publishing where she served as the director of a national continuing education program for physical educators. Most recently, Cathy has held positions of leadership development coordinator and director of education in a Midwestern multi-specialty healthcare system. Her passion for lifelong learning and her expertise in leadership development enables her to work effectively with leaders at various levels to enhance their performance.

Cathy earned her undergraduate degree from Illinois State University and her master's in Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Creativity Means Better Business: Learn Techniques to Make You and Your Organization Soar!

Membership Update—*Rhonda Ferree*

Our membership is growing! As of February 1st, we have 47 paid members including 5 new members. Welcome John Pike, Omar Koester, Susan Meeker, Ellen Trainor, and Amy O'Leary!

My records show that there are still about 10 outstanding memberships. Since I need to turn in paperwork to NACAA soon, I must have your paid memberships by February 15th. Please take a few minutes and submit your payment today!

Kudos for Stan Eden—*Russ Higgins*

Thanks to Stan Eden for providing information on the Ogle County *Farm Visit Day* Program for the first issue of ***Extension in Action*** that was delivered to legislators. Lets continue to educate those in Springfield on the accomplishments our IEAA members attain in the field. Please send a synopsis (300 words or less) of a successful program you have started or been involved in (or volunteer a co-worker who has had a successful program). Please send any information or questions by **February 22.**

Articles should be sent to:

Russel Higgins
Integrated Pest Management Educator
University of Illinois Extension
Matteson Center
5527 Miller Circle Drive, Suite C
Matteson, IL 60443
708-720-7520
708-720-7529 Fax
higginsr@mail.aces.uiuc.edu

Northern District News—*Russ Higgins*

On December 7th members of the IEAA Northern District gathered at the J.F. Richardson Wildlife Foundation near West Brooklyn. After a brief business meeting the group had the opportunity to learn the history and future goals of the 1800-acre site from Terry Moyer, site biologist and manager.

The Foundation site, located on the edge of an area that was once one of the largest inland swamps located in Illinois, had been used largely for agricultural purposes and as a hunting club. Landowner Edward Richardson, CEO of Richardson Electronics had a vision for the area. He has dedicated the area to wild-

life study and habitat restoration.

Terry and his staff have converted the majority of the acreage back to prairies, wetlands and Black oak savannas. The Wildlife foundation cooperates with the Illinois Natural History Survey and other colleges on a number of research projects and programs. All wildlife including insects, and plants found at the foundation have been extensively catalogued.

The meeting ended with a short walking tour on the mild December day. The next meeting date for the northern region is February 8th 2002.

Participation in District activities is an important member benefit.

Southern District News—*Robert Bellm*

On February 11th, active and retired members of the Southern District were hosted by the Pioneer Hybrid International, Inc. soybean seed processing facility near McLeansboro.

This new state-of-the-art facility contracts for production, and processes seed primary for use in the southern one-third of the state.

After an excellent presentation outlining the company's seed propagation procedures by the facility's staff, IEAA members had the opportunity to

tour the facility and ask lots of questions.

After the tour, the group retired to a local restaurant for a short business meeting.

The next District meeting is scheduled for March, when the group will take a guided tour of Cypress Creek Refuge

Extension Retirees Meetings Announced—*Larry Casey*

IEAA Life Members, and other Extension retirees remain an active group, with several upcoming luncheon events scheduled!

All Extension field staff and State Specialists retirees are invited. Current Extension employees who would like an opportunity to visit with former co-workers are also encouraged to attend.

Each gathering is built around eating a good meal and visiting with friends. What a way to spend a day!

If you know of someone who might be interested in attending one or more of these get-togethers, please let them know.

April 12, 2002

Maxon's Manor
Oregon, IL

Contact person:

Stan Eden
1781 N. Daysville
Oregon, IL 61061
phone: 815-732-7746

August 23, 2002

Ryan's Steak House
3150 Chatam Road
Springfield, IL

Contact person:

Larry Casey
12740 E. St. Highway 33
Newton, IL 62448
phone: 618-783-2534

October 18, 2002

Giant City Lodge

Contact person:

Jean Skinner
211 Meadow Hills Drive
McLeansboro, IL 62859

Epplin Wins State CCA Award—*excerpted from IFB news*

Dennis Epplin, Extension educator, crop systems at the Mt. Vernon Extension Center is the recipient of the 2001 Illinois Certified Crop Adviser Award. The honor was presented at the Illinois Farm Bureau annual meeting December 2-5 in St. Louis. The award is given by IFB, in cooperation with the Illinois Certified Crop Adviser Board, and recognizes an individual who has performed superior service for his farmer clients in nutrient management, soil and water management, integrated pest management, and crop production.

Epplin provides crop production information to over 19 counties in Southern Illinois.

"Dennis has truly been a great asset to farmers in our area. The advice he has given over the past 28 years has improved the bottom line for our area producers," said Jefferson County Farm Bureau President John Kiefer.

Dennis has been recognized with several awards and accomplishments, including the Southern Illinois AgriBusiness Distinguished

Service Award and past president of the Illinois Extension Agricultural Association.

The Certified Crop Adviser Award is designed to increase awareness that farmers and their service people strive to do their best in making economically and environmentally sound cropping decisions.

Individuals considered for the Illinois Certified Crop Adviser Award must be nominated by county Farm Bureaus or by an active member who knows of the CCA's qualifications.

The Illinois Certified Crop Adviser Award is given annually at the IFB annual meeting. The Illinois winner is also considered for the national Excellence in Crop Advising award, sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation in association with the American Society of Agronomy. The national award is given annually at the American Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting.



Dennis Epplin receives the Illinois CCA Award from Kevin Black.

Professional Improvement Council Report—*Rhonda Ferree*

Our association has many benefits. One very important one is opportunities for professional development and improvement. These opportunities are available through IEAA at our district and statewide meetings or outings. Additional opportunities are available through NACAA.

Take a few minutes to look at the many offerings in the December 2001 issue of *The County Agent*. If you don't have a copy, please let Jim Morrison know and he'll get you one. Listed below are this year's offerings. Please note that the **deadline for all applications is March 15** submitted to the state committee person listed in parentheses.

There are also several study tours available as part of conference in Georgia.

Take advantage of these opportunities!

- Agricultural Explorer Workshop (Endress)
- Remote Sensing & GIS Decision Support Seminar (Higgins)
- Animal Science Committee Pre-AM/PIC Seminar & Tour (Fischer)
- NACAA Pre-Am/PIC Horticulture Workshop & Tour (Ferree)
- NACAA/RISE Horticulture/Turfgrass Study Tour (Ferree)
- NACAA Pre-Am/PIC Coastal Aquaculture/Seafood Industry Tour (Higgins)
- Search for Excellence in Remote Sensing and Precision Agriculture (Waldrop)
- Search for Excellence in Crop Production (Waldrop)
- Search for Excellence in Environmental Protection through Responsible Use of Pesticides (Waldrop)
- Search for Excellence in 4-H & Youth (Schwamberger)
- Search for Excellence in Farm and Ranch Financial Management (Waldrop)
- Search for Excellence in Livestock Production (Waldrop)
- Pride Program (Baird)
- Communications Awards Program (Roegge)

***Remember
that award
application
deadlines are
March 15!***

Congratulations to Stan Eden!

Please join us in celebrating Stan Eden's retirement after 42 years of service to the citizens of Illinois through University of Illinois Extension. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have questions or need directions, please call 815/732-2191.

Vicky Broos
Unit Leader
Ogle County
421 W. Pines Rd., Suite 10
Oregon, IL 61061
815/732-2191
fax 815/732-4007
broosv@mail.aces.uiuc.edu

Retirement Reception Honoring Stan Eden

**Sunday, February 24, 2002
1 - 4 p.m.**

**Ogle County Farm Bureau
Building
421 W. Pines Rd., Oregon**



Illinois Extension Agricultural Association

Officers:

President - James Morrison
President Elect - Dennis Bowman
Vice President - Marion Shier
Secretary - Gary Bretthauer
Treasurer - Rhonda Ferree
Past President - Pete Fandel

District Directors:

North - Joe Schwamberger
- Jeff West
West Central - Jay Solomon
- Mike Roegge
East Central - Stu Ellis
- Tim Laatsch
Southern - Robert Bellm
- Mark Hoard

Newsletter Editor

- Robert Bellm

Benefits of Joining IEAA

- Participate in defining the future of your profession
- Opportunities to become better acquainted with other NACAA members and staff on regional and national levels
- Recognition from colleagues for your educational programs and other activities
- Direct input into Extension policy that may affect your future
- Satisfaction of doing your part in the advancement of your profession
- Improvement of professional skills and abilities through Association activities

IEAA on The Web

[Http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/ieaa/](http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/ieaa/)

Goals of IEAA

The Pursuit of excellence in Extension Education by professionals interested in agriculture .

Objectives:

- To encourage the pursuit of professional improvement activities by IEAA members.
- To provide leadership opportunities for IEAA members.
- To recognize members for professional excellence.
- To provide professional improvement opportunities for IEAA members.
- To promote professional improvement by IEAA members.

Protect, enhance and promote the interests of Extension Professionals.

Objectives:

- To encourage participation in IEAA activities.
- To build coalitions with other Extension organizations in the advocacy of and in response to University administration, legislators, and other officials on matters impacting Extension professionals.
- To serve as a conduit between field staff members and administration.
- To provide a means for program development in all facets of agriculture.



**Illinois Joint Council of Extension Professionals
Helps You
SOAR To New Heights!**

*Spring Meeting – March 6 & 7, 2002
Holiday Inn Brandywine
440 N. Brandywine Drive
Peoria, Illinois*

Wednesday, March 6

- 10:00 a.m.: ILJCEP Board
- 11:00 a.m.: ESP Association Meeting
- 12:30 p.m.: Lunch
- 1:30 p.m.: Release Your Creativity
Cathy Langlois, Presenter
- 5:00 p.m.: Adjourn

Thursday, March 7

- 7:30 a.m.: Buffet Breakfast
 - 8:15 a.m.: What's Illinois JCEP Done for Me Lately?
 - 8:35 a.m.: Professional Development
Where We've Come & Where We're Going
Richard Clark, Presenter
 - 9:10 a.m.: Extension Partners Report
 - 9:30 a.m.: IEPYE, IEAA, IEAFCS Professional Assc. Meetings
 - 12:00 p.m.: Lunch on Your Own
 - 1:30 p.m.: Tours of USDA Research Lab (*optional*)
- PLEASE REGISTER BELOW for one of the three optional tours of research on 1.) Agriculture, 2.) Natural Resources, or 3.) Nutrition.

Cathy Langlois is a lifelong educator with experiences in a variety of settings. Cathy will help you learn techniques to release your CREATIVITY to:

- develop new ideas
- improve efficiency
- solve problems



Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

MEMBER REGISTRATION

- IEAFCS IEAA IEPYE ESP
- Wednesday only, \$30
- Thursday only, \$12
- Full Registration, \$41

1st TIME ATTENDEE

- (less than 2 years Extension employment)
- Wednesday only, \$15
- Thursday only, \$6
- Full Registration, \$20

Please indicate your plans for participating in a USDA Research Lab Tour.

Check One: Agriculture Tour Natural Resources Tour Nutrition Tour Will Not Participate

- Please write checks accordingly and make payable to Epsilon Sigma Phi.
- Mail registration to *Pennie Crinion, 801 N. Country Fair Dr, Ste. F, Champaign, IL 61821* before **February 25.**
- Make room reservations directly with Holiday Inn Brandywine (309) 686-8000.
- Ask for the University of Illinois block of rooms at a rate of \$63 plus tax for single or double room. **(Block rooms only saved until February 13)**