



Illinois Extension Agricultural Association

Fall Meeting in Southern District

Officers:

- President- Russ Higgins
- President Elect- Ed Billingsley
- Vice President- Ronda Ferree
- Secretary- Lynn Weis
- Treasure - Martha Smith
- Past President- Marion Shier (JCEP chair)

District Directors:

- North
 - Greg Clark
 - Bill Lindenmeirr
- West Central
 - Rick Keim
 - Mike Roegge
- East Central
 - Brenda Roedl
- Southern
 - Ruth Hambleton
 - Elizabeth Wahle

Newsletter Editors :

- Ed Billingsley
- Rhonda Ferree

Inside this issue:

- Paul Mariman receives first Directors Award 2
- Upcoming Meetings
- Attention: Retirees 3
- Presidents Report 4

The Associations fall meeting was held in the Collinsville area and hosted by the southern District.

The activities began with an in-service opportunity of touring a horseradish production facility which was very interesting. This activity was hosted by Keller Farms and the group saw packaging of the product and field production.

Tours followed this stop of either the Cahokia Mounds site or the Lewis and Clark Museum were we learned about history of Illinois.

The day concluded with a evening meal of social time to reflect on the day and to visit with colleagues.

Be sure to thank our meal sponsors when you get the chance Illinois Farm Bureau and Randy MC Elroy from Monsanto.

Addresses:
Randy MC Elroy
2667 Cardinal Lane Farina, IL 62838

Attention Phil Nelson
Illinois Farm Bureau
!701 Towanda Avenue
Bloomington, IL 61701
Plan to come out to the next gathering and support your association.

Time to pay Dues

Time to remind everyone to mail their dues check to Martha Smith. The dues are 100 dollars a year and the benefits are well worth it.

Send your check to
Martha Smith
Macomb Center
480 South Deer Road
Macomb Illinois 61455



Elizabeth Wahle describes horseradish root to the group.



New Directors take oath of office at fall meeting

Mariman Recognized For His Disaster Relief effort

by Stu Ellis

DECATUR, ILLINOIS—The States of Illinois and Mississippi converged on University of Illinois Extension Educator Paul Mariman October 11 to recognize his humanitarian efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina. Mariman mobilized other Illinois Extension staff members to gather clothing, food, cleaning supplies, and livestock feed which Mariman himself hauled to the center of hurricane destruction in Hancock County, MS.

Director of University of Illinois Extension Dr. Denny Champion, in presenting Mariman with the very first Director's Award, said, "Paul's efforts linked Extension staff in Illinois and Mississippi, helping the Mississippi staff to re-focus their lives and to put renewed energies into their professional roles improving the lives of community residents."

In addition to the award presented by Champion, Mariman also received the appreciation of the President of Mississippi State University, conveyed by Hancock County, MS, Extension Director Gwen Smith, who attended the recognition. Champion said Smith's presence brought heartfelt appreciation for the humanitarian acts of kindness that helped her staff and the people they serve begin to recover from Hurricane Katrina. She especially recognized

the leadership of Paul Mariman and others who contributed. Champion thanked Smith, saying, "Thanks, Gwen, for making us feel special; our only interest was to help folks in need."

Personal as well as educational items worth \$14,200, animal feed valued at \$15,000 and \$3,546 in cash were delivered to Mississippi At Extension's Annual Conference in Decatur, and in front of several hundred of Mariman's Extension colleagues, Champion said, "As we watched in horror the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, one remarkable Extension Educator went to work organizing a state wide relief drive to assist fellow Mississippi Extension staff. There were many who stepped up to help, but Paul Mariman exhibited outstanding leadership organizing the two University of Illinois Extension projects assisting University of Mississippi Extension colleagues."

Mariman is a member of the Illinois Extension Agricultural Association (IEAA) and the National Association of County Agents Association (NACAA).

Paul Mariman receives first Directors Award

Be Sure to Recruit

There are many professionals we work with who could benefit from joining IEAA. Be sure to give them an application off our web site and some good reasons why to belong to your association. We need to increase our membership and that will only come if we take the time to encourage others to join. COME ON DO IT!

Up Coming Meeting Dates

Spring Meeting is March 2 at the Springfield Center

The 2007 AMPIC is July 15-19th at Grand Rapids Michigan

Southern District Report

The southern district hosted IEAA state meeting on September 13 & 14 in the Collinsville area. Thirty-five IEAA members toured a horse-radish farm and wholesale outlet and historical points of interest, Lewis and Clark Museum and Cahokia Mounds. Our thanks to Justin Sexten Elizabeth Wahle, Bob Bellm, Dave Fisher Lynn Weis and Dennis Epplin for arranging tours, sponsors and meals. Randy McElroy, Monsanto, updated the group on weed control during the dinner hour at Horseshoe Lake. We are always glad to be joined by IEAA retirees. This year attendees from the retired group included Chris Doll, Larry Casey, Bill Brink, Bob Frank, Charlie Willman and Paul Wirth.

Total membership in the Southern district

West Central District News

The West Central district had two outings this summer.

In June, Rhonda Ferree hosted a day of tours for six members. The day started at Curless Flying, Inc. where the group learned all about aerial agricultural spraying. Harley Curless, owner, then demonstrated how to load a plane and another pilot left to spray a field. Participants were able to see aerial planes up close and even sit in the pilot's seat. After lunch at Rhonda's parents house, the group toured Anderson Lake State Conservation Area. They viewed corn and sunflower fields managed for hunters and water control structures.

Attention Retiree's

There are three retiree meetings a year for you to attend. Be sure to watch for upcoming dates. The first meeting for 2007 is not finalized but should be in April. The Fall meeting was recently held this month at Giant City Lodge.

Please send any changes of address or email to

Larry Casey
12740 E State Highway 33
Newton, IL 62448-3607

stands at nine educators and county directors.

Two southern District members received national recognition at the NACAA Professional Improvement Conference, held in Cincinnati, OH in July. Ruth Hambleton was national finalist in Personal Column and Ed Billingsley in the PRIDE. Ed Billingsley was also a regional finalist in Slide Set/Transparencies/ Computer Generated Graphics.

Southern District will meet November 10, 10:00 a.m. at the new state-of-the-art World Shooting and Recreational complex in Sparta, IL. All IEAA members are invited to this meeting.

In October, Mike Roegge led a day of fun and learning in Macomb. First the group of six did a turf inspection at the Western Illinois University (WIU) golf course. After lunch, Drs. Roskamp and Phippen of the WIU agronomy farm discussed their research. Gordon Roskamp conducts agronomy research (majority is weeds) while Win Phippen researches alternative crops (milkweed, cuphea, etc.).

Plans are underway for the WC district to do tours/meetings in March, May, July and September 2007.

***Southern
region has two
national
award finalist
in Ohio.***



West Central district tours aerial spraying facility

This will help Larry keep you in touch. Larry stated, "These meetings are a fun time to share some Extension Stories."

So be thinking of some fun things to share and plan now to visit with some friends at these meetings.

Presidents Report: by Russ Higgins

First and foremost, congratulations to the Southern district for hosting the 2006 Fall Meeting. The two day event was the perfect mix of hospitality, education and business. To those who visited Edwardsville, be sure to share your experience with those who did not, and encourage them to attend our 2007 Fall Meeting.

In the next few weeks our members have the opportunity to greatly enhance our association through new member recruitment. I would like to challenge each of you to think about the association and all that is gained from your participation; from leadership opportunities, professional improvement, national and state awards and peer recognition. With those benefits in mind think of one person who you can contact and invite to join the Illinois Extension Agricultural Association.

Why recruit now? We are at a perfect time to rejuvenate our association with new members. At our recent Extension conference Dr. Dennis Campion extolled the virtues of the associations and encouraged the extension audience to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by the associations, including IEAA. Our new reporting system evaluates "Scholarship". Scholarly activities include awards, presentations at national meetings, and poster presentations. Our association provides membership with extensive award and presentation opportunities which could result in career advancement. The 2007 AMPIC is in Grand Rapids Michigan. From a distance perspective this is a close National Meeting and transportation costs from most of Illinois will be minimal. We are hosting a welcome basket for members arriving on Sunday and expect a great Illinois turnout. We can utilize

the AMPIC as a tool to retain our new members.

Our by-laws state:

Who can be a member?

"All memberships in the association shall be active. Members may be academic professionals of University of Illinois Extension with educational responsibility to the general public. Members shall hold a four-year degree from a college or other institution doing equivalent work and/or have met all of the requirements for employment by the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at the University of Illinois. Members must be invited by the board of directors, accepted by a three-fourths vote of the members present at any regular meeting and by payment of the membership fee."

There are a number of county directors, educators and program coordinators who fall under this description. Those individuals need to be contacted and invited to join our association. Our membership has been hovering near 40-45 members for the last three years. How much would we like to grow? At our Fall Meeting our North Central representative Stan Moore shared that an increase to 77 members would give Illinois another delegate and DSA in Michigan. At the very least I would be encouraged to see our membership initiate an upward trend.

At the Fall Meeting it was suggested that personal invitations be sent to suggested individuals to join our organization. I am waiting as we attempt to move our IEAA website to a more accessible server and update the site. Whether the move is successful or not, the letters will go out in early November. If you would like to suggest an individual to receive a letter please let me know. I'm encouraging **everyone** to take the time to think of an

"Lets start our renewed growth here and now"
President Higgins

IEAA on The Web

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/ieaa/>