

February 2004

IEPYE NEWS

Illinois Extension Professionals for Youth Education



IEPYE

2003-04 IEPYE Leadership Team

Officers

Lisa Woessner, President
Pat McGlaughlin, President-Elect
Deanna Roby, Vice President
Cathy Deppe, Secretary
Chris Hill, Treasurer
Bill Million, Past President

Regional Directors

Debbie Moser, Northwest
Mary Ann Petersen, Northeast
Carolyn Ashton, West Central
Tina Veal, East Central
Jamie Wheeler, Southern

Committee Chairs

Judy Schumacher, Diversity
Dana Homann, Member
Recognition
Deanna Roby, Membership
Natalie Bosecker, News & Views
John Zalanka, Professional
Improvement
Sara Hankemeier, Programs
Kelly Lafferty, Public Relations &
Information
Bill Million, Advisory

Related Committees

Mary Jo Stewart, IEPYE
Association Historian
Larry Wachtel, IEPYE Association
Historian
Wilbon Anthony, Illinois 4-H
Foundation
Lisa Woessner, Field Staff Advisory
Bill Million, IJCEP
Lisa Woessner, IJCEP
Pat McGlaughlin, IJCEP
Sherry Fulton, Employee Benefits
Anne Wend, Employee Benefits

2004 Upcoming Meetings

IL JCEP Spring Meeting 3/4-5
Springfield
IEPYE Fall Meeting 8/26
TBD

President's Message

by Lisa Woessner, IEPYE President

I love to listen to music. I'm really not too particular about what kind of music – my choices tend to vary with my mood. This love of music blends well with the need to spend lots of “car-time”. While friends have tried to talk me into listening to books on CD it just never really works for me. I always find myself looking around for a music CD or a good radio station to listen to just in to the second chapter.

In fact, one of my Monday morning rituals is selecting the week's music that I will be traveling with. (Sometimes the choices aren't the greatest and only last halfway through the week, but other times the CD's actually go into a second week!)

Last semester I had the chance to take a class on campus. The class was mostly populated with 20-something, traditional students working on their Master's degrees. One day during break one of my classmates and I were talking about music and what we liked to listen to. We agreed to create a CD for each other and exchange the CD's at our next class. When I listened to Holli's CD on the way home from class that day I found it was a mix of music that I was familiar with, along with songs from artists that I hadn't heard before. The result has been that I have “discovered” artists that I probably would not have otherwise come across and I have new music to “travel by.”

This experience reminded me of how we sometimes get stuck in a rut. We tend to do the same things at work – because we have always

done them before; fix the same food for dinner – because we know how the recipe turns out; and even work with the same people – because we know what they are like and how they will likely handle a particular situation.

As we move into a new year, I would challenge each of you to go out on a limb and try some new things. You could:

- ✓ Take a class (yoga, Spanish, pottery, etc.)
- ✓ Seek out a colleague you haven't worked with before
- ✓ Get more involved in your professional association
- ✓ Listen to some new music!

Best wishes for much happiness in 2004 – let me know if you try something new!

Lisa Woessner
President, IEPYE

P.S. Mark on your calendar 2004, Illinois Joint Association of Extension Professionals Meeting, March 4-5 in Springfield, Illinois! See the promotional information included with this newsletter.

Illinois JCEP Spring Meeting -- March 4 & 5 in Springfield

Don't forget to register soon for the IL JCEP Joint Spring Association Meetings!

Register for the Grant Writing PDO at the PDO web site by Feb. 15. IEPYE registration forms are due to Bill Million by Feb. 24.

West Central Region Report

by Carolyn Ashton, WC Region Director

IEPYE West Central Region members met on October 15 in Springfield. We began the meeting with members who attended Galaxy in Salt Lake City, Utah, sharing their experiences with the group. The group then discussed goals for the WC region: A) Encourage professional improvement B) Improve general status of extension youth program C) Provide leadership opportunities and recognition of its members and D) Increase interest in Extension youth work as a career.

Members also discussed program opportunities for future IEPYE WC meetings. Future meeting dates are:

- Friday, December 5, 2003
- Wednesday, February 11, 2004
- Wednesday, April 7, 2004
- Wednesday, June 2, 2004

All meetings will be held at the Springfield Extension Center's Office.

Northeast Region Report

by Mary Ann Petersen, NE Region Director

November 3, 2003 four IEPYE members from the Northeast Region and one guest meet at Kline Creek Farm in West Chicago. It was a very rainy day but everyone enjoyed the tour of the 1800's historic farm. The farm manager Mark Johnson gave the group a tour of the farm talking about how the farm began and why. He also touched on some of the practice that they used in the 1800's and how they are different today. We were given an overview of the many programs the farm offers to groups such as cutting ice for the working ice house, making maple syrup, harvest activities, cider making and more.

After touring the farm, we had a great lunch in a nearby restaurant and enjoyed getting to know each other. We also talked about encouraging others to join IEPYE and talked about possible outing they would like to take.

Southern Region Report

by Jamie Wheeler, Southern Region Director

The Southern Region met on December 2 at the DuQuoin City Hall for a brief business meeting. Signing up for IEPYE and NAE4-HA committees was discussed, as well as how to recruit other staff into IEPYE and NAE4-HA. We also discussed plans for a Southern Region Spring Meeting in May. Jamie Wheeler was elected Southern Region Director for the remainder of the year to replace Patsy Williams. After the meeting, the group went on a tour and ate lunch at Francie's Bed and Breakfast Inn in DuQuoin. The Southern Region IEPYE will meet again on May 14.

IEPYE Newsletter

Deadlines:

April 4
July 3



EC region visits Alto Vineyards

Nineteen members of the EC IEPYE group met December 17th at Mary Jo Stewart's in Mt. Zion. Special guests included Jim Stewart (Mary Jo's husband), Larry Wachtel & Ann Rund (Extension retirees and life members). After the business meeting a catered lunch was served and members all brought goodies to share. Members participated in a "white elephant" gift exchange – where IEPYE members "trash" became "treasures" to other IEPYE members! We also shared new programming or new ideas gained from the National Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT. The Stewarts beautifully decorated home was a wonderful setting for a holiday gathering – Thanks Mary Jo and Jim for your hospitality!

Future meeting dates for 2004: March 30; May 12; October 7

East Central Region Report

by Tina Veal, EC Region Director

Twelve members of the EC IEPYE group met on October 29th at the Pickle Tree in Mahomet, IL. Natalie Bosecker was elected as the Junior Director for the EC Region and a slush fund was established for the group. We then retreated to Alto Vineyards for a tour of the new facility in Champaign. One of the owners presented the history of the vineyard and types of wines produced. Wine tasting followed.



EC Region celebrates the holidays.

Public Relations and Information

by Kelly Lafferty, PR&I Chair

The Public Relations and Information Committee recently met via telenet. We are looking for individuals to become part of a committee to help plan a future PDO entitled Planning for Successful Programs. We need a couple of individuals to help plan the format, speakers and topics. If interested please contact Kelly Lafferty at klaffert@uiuc.edu. We are looking for more members to join our group if you are interested please contact Kelly at the above email. If anyone attended Galaxy and has information pertaining to the Public Relations and Information Committee, I would appreciate in seeing that information. Thank you.

Science Siesta!

by Sara Hankemeier, Programs Chair

Imagine a giant slumber party for 4-6th grade girls. Now imagine a science theme and a museum for the setting. You have just imagined Science Siesta!

A team of University of Illinois Extension Youth Development Educators in northwestern Illinois developed Science Siesta. It has reached more than 250 4-6th grade youth from a nine-county area. Participating youth have come from both rural and urban settings, and with a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds.

Science Siesta was awarded the 2003 IEPYE Excellence in Teamwork award. The program will be presented at the 2004 CYFAR Conference in Seattle, WA.

You can find out more about Science Siesta by visiting: <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/RockfordCenter/ScienceSiesta/info.html>

Resources included on this site are meant to assist Extension workers in other locations to replicate this event in their home area. This site will give you easy access to files for forms, brochures, letters, etc.

IEPYE MEMBER RECOGNITION

by Dana Homann

The February 20 due date will be here before you know it, so I hope you are busy writing your award applications. The 2004 NAE4-HA Member Recognition Program Book is now available on line at www.nae4ha.org. Click on Teams & Committees, scroll down to Member Services Team, then click on 2004 Member Recognition Application Booklet. You may also access this book along with the applications for Early Career, State Outstanding Program (individual and team), Achievement In Service, Distinguished Service, and Meritorious Service Awards on the IEPYE web site at <http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/iepye/>

Be sure to submit a Member Recognition application form for each entry you submit, except for Early Career and State Outstanding Program, which don't need the application form.

The award applications are to be postmarked by February 20, 2004, and sent to Dana Homann at the Coles County Extension office.



Award applications are due February 20!

Employee Benefits Report

by Sherry Fulton, Employee Benefits Representative
(Editor's Note: Below are responses excerpted from an email from Kathy Seibert to questions raised at a recent IEPYE meeting.)

Question 1: Why can't I go to Northern Illinois University free of charge? (secretaries and community workers can, but I can't)

Answer: The reason that civil service employees can attend any State of Illinois college/university is because they are part of the State Universities Civil Service System. Academic Professionals are exempted from SUCSS and, therefore, only get a tuition waiver from the University of Illinois, their employer.

Question 2: Can we get an updated list on rental car prices?

Answer: For an updated list on rental car prices, you would visit the Purchasing Site at this link: <http://www.obfs.uillinois.edu/obfshome.cfm?level=2&path=travel&xmldata=cartravel>.

Question 3: There are concerns about health insurance. Illinois seems to be doing okay, but what are the updated changes going on in other states, and how can that affect our state?

Answer: The Faculty Benefits Committee is a link to CMS and negotiations for our new benefits package for the next 3 years are going on this fall and spring. The committee chair of the Senate Faculty Benefits Committee would like our committee to come up with up to 3 specific concerns we have heard expressed (i.e., up to 3 actionable proposals) they can take to CMS. Please contact the Faculty Benefits Committee if you have suggestions.