



2006-07 IEPYE Leadership Team

Officers

Jessie Crews, President
Peggy Hampton, President-Elect
Cheryl Geitner, Vice President
LaDean Scheurer, Secretary
Dana Homann, Treasurer
Deanna Roby, Past President

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Carrie Titus, Northwest
Charissa Townsend, Northeast
April Littig, West Central
Natalie Bosecker, East Central
Susan Hayden, Southern

Committee Chairs

Katie Zuber, Diversity
Tessa Hobbs-Curley, Member
Recognition
Cheryl Geitner, Membership
Johnna Jennings, News & Views
Sheri Seibold, Professional
Development
John Davis, Programs
Denise Kistner, Public Relations &
Information
Deanna Roby, Advisory

Related Committees

Mary Jo Stewart, IEPYE Association
Historian
Larry Wachtel, IEPYE Association
Historian
Wilbon Anthony, Illinois 4-H
Foundation
Jesse Crews, Field Staff Advisory
Pat McGlaughlin, IJCEP
Deanna Roby, IJCEP
Jessie Crews, IJCEP
Susan Guinnip, Employee Benefits



Notes from the President

By Jessie Crews, IEPYE President

At our recent Youth Development Team meeting, Dr. Clark posed several questions as we worked together to develop a new vision for the Illinois 4-H program. A couple of the questions he asked were “what does it take for a teen to feel they are a part of the mainline teen culture?” and “how can we attract teens to the Illinois 4-H program?”

As we were doing this activity, it struck me how we need to ask similar questions for the IEPYE organization...what does it take for a youth professional to feel they are an important part of Extension and secondly, how can we attract new members to our organization?

Many of the answers to the first part of the question are remarkably similar between the two groups...the need to be accepted by peers, the opportunity to be connected, not lagging behind on the current trends, the opportunity for self expression, and very importantly, the opportunity to have fun!

In fact, many of the answers to the second part of the question...how can we attract them to be a part of our group, are also similar: Listen and follow through on what the members are saying, use better techniques to market to new members, create opportunities to

connect with others, and tell members what's in it for them.

Does our organization currently do these things? Hopefully! Do we have the potential to do them even better? Definitely!

The IEPYE Board has been asking ourselves some important questions – how can we recruit more members to make a stronger organization and how can we better serve our current membership.

A task force is being put into place to look closely at member needs and recruitment. University of Illinois Extension is changing and IEPYE needs to change with it. Not only do we want to provide a new opportunity for the youth of Illinois to Engage! Explore! and Extend! We need to create these opportunities for ourselves as well.

How can we make this happen? There's only one way – through your input and involvement. Consider this quote by Margaret Mead. “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world, for indeed, it is the only thing that ever has!”

Southern Region Report

By Susan Hayden, Southern Region Director

Southern Region IEPYE members have been reminded and encouraged to submit award applications showcasing program accomplishments and service. The award process is a great way to share information about the excellent programs that are taking place all around the state. At least six award applications were submitted from Southern Region members. Thanks to those members willing to put in the extra time to submit applications.

Members have also been encouraged to attend the Spring JCEP meeting. A great turn-out of Southern Region members is anticipated for the Retirement Planning PDO, the updates from Extension Partners, and Administration, and the Spring IEPYE meeting.

The next Southern Region IEPYE meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, 2006, from noon until 1:00 p.m., at the Marion County Extension Office in Salem. Members unable to attend in person are strongly encouraged to tune in via telenet. The meeting will feature an overview of IEPYE, as well as benefits of the association, and opportunities for leadership and awards. Information about the 2007 NAE4-HA Conference in Atlanta, Georgia will be shared.



Northeast Region Report

by Charissa Townsend, Northeast Region Director

Our last meeting was at Marklund in Geneva, Illinois on December 20, 2006. Marklund is a not-for-profit network of services providing a full life experience for infants, children and adults with developmental disabilities. When we arrived, we had the opportunity to see and purchase items from a holiday craft sale the youth and adults there were hosting. We then went on outing to a record store, Hallmark, and Wal-mart with some of the youth and adults who attend Marklund. This was an incredible experience for all of us. The group that we worked with was a fun group and it was interesting to see different reactions people had as we assisted some of the group members in their wheelchairs in and out of stores. We all learned a lot from this event!

Our next event will be towards the summer and will include a social outing.



East Central Region Report

By Natalie Bosecker, East Central Region Director

Working with children with autism was the program topic for the East Central Region meeting on February 8. Dr. Lori Vallelunga, director for the Illinois Autism Program, shared definitions and ranges of autism diagnosis as well as techniques to work with youth. She also discussed autism resources available for East

Central Illinois families. The organization's web site is www.theautismprogram.org.

After the program, EC Region members discussed various situations of working with children with behavior issues and brainstormed ways to resolve those situations.

Rod Stoll, director of the Illinois 4-H Foundation, discussed the new State 4-H Youth Development Center. Cost is estimated at \$8-10 million dollars. He also asked for feedback on the 4-H folders that have been distributed for the past two years.

During the business meeting, several committee reports were shared and a thank you note from the Crisis Nursery was read. Special thanks to Sherry Fulton and Sheri Seibold for coordinating the meeting logistics and program.

The next meeting will be May 8.



Northwest Region Report

By Carrie Titus, Northwest Region Director

The Northwest Region of IEPYE will be meeting by telenet on Tuesday, March 6 at 9:00 a.m. for an exciting agenda. Diane Baker will be providing members an update of plans for the 2008 Galaxy Conference, a discussion for plans for the annual spring meeting will be held, and updates from the IEPYE board. We also welcome our new members: Melanie Costello, Courtney Finch, Jen Holldorf, Lindsay Hankes, and Cheryl Baldwin.

West Central Region

By April Littig, West Central Regional Director

The West Central IEPYE members met on February 7th at the Springfield Extension Center. Those present were: April Littig, Tanya Hetelle, Brenda Eyer, Denise Kistner, Chris Anderson, Tosha Cantrell-Bruce, Amy Roady, Judy Taylor, Cathy Blunier, Peggy Hampton, Judy Schumacher, Tessa Hobbs-Curley, and Janis Blout.

April discussed items with the group that was presented at our last IEPYE board meeting in February. Members were encouraged to join a committee and to promote the activities within each committee. There was also a big question on how to get more community workers involved in our association.

Reports were given from some of the committee. From the member recognition committee, Tessa reported that award applications were due on February 15th to the McDonough County office. As of this meeting, only three applications have been submitted. Denise Kistner reported that Public Relations and Information committee have been looking at ways to publicize IEPYE to interested members. They are looking at different types of promotional materials such as shirts, bookmarks, and updating displays and brochures. Denise also spoke on how to recognize what is happening in the youth development area in Extension. Some ideas included FYI, Extension in Action and

Legislative Connection. Judy Schumacher reported that the Diversity committee had resources on a new website. Check them out!!!

April reminded the group that ILJCEP meeting is on March 1st and 2nd in Springfield. Registration forms were passed out to the members.

The last item of business is our spring meeting. The group decided to do some type of community service activity. Some of the ideas included Central IL Food Bank, Midwest Distribution Center, and Operation Military Kids. The group decided to volunteer with OMK. Tessa and Peggy stated that they will look into what we could do within the West Central Region. The next meeting will be on April 4th in conjunction with Quality Circle.

That afternoon, the IEPYE members and Quality Circle members enjoyed a presentation by Judy Schumacher entitled "Stamp, Create, Market 4-H". Judy explained to the group how the "Stampin It UP" products could benefit the recognition of 4-H volunteers and members. Judy showed us small ways to involve the 4-H members in recognizing our volunteers in unique and different ways through cards, coasters, and gift certificates. 4-H members could be reminded that these ideas were all man-made and came from the heart to recognize someone special in their life.



Public Relations & Information

By Denise Kistner, Public Relations & Information Committee Chair

A goal of the PRI committee is to make Extension administration, legislators, and other employees aware of the program success achieved by IEPYE members. PR&I members will work with the Member Recognition committee to share award winner program information with the state. This information will be disseminated through FYI and Extension in Action. The committee also plans to highlight a few ideas six times yearly, through FYI or other sources.

A second goal of the committee is to update the IEPYE display, to include new marketing and promotional materials developed by IEPYE members. Members will be asked to submit promotional & marketing materials, which they have utilized, to their Regional contact person. These will be utilized in the state IEPYE display, which can be used at state and national events.

The PRI committee will meet again in April.



Illinois
Extension
Professionals for
Youth
Education

Diversity Committee

By Katie Zuber, IEPYE Diversity Committee Chair

The IEPYE Diversity Committee met by telenet on January 9, 2007. The committee discussed the NAE4-HA Diversity Committee POW and how we might contribute to the efforts, and Katie Zuber will act as liaison for the group. It was decided to add to the efforts of the State Diversity Committee by submitting a piece on some kind of diversity topic every month to be put in Dr. Champion's FYI. **Reminder for the coming months: Chris Hill—February, Carol Wilcoxon—March, Katie Zuber—April, Maureen Staland—May, and Ruth Ann Vokac—June.** The committee decided that the members would each give reports at their respective Regional IEPYE meetings about the IEPYE Diversity Committee's activities and efforts, especially about youth-related topics and the topics for the last few months' FYI articles (depending on how often the Regional meetings are held). **The committee members are soliciting ideas from IEPYE members in their respective regions of diversity topics about which they would like to know more, so please speak up!** For those who are interested in upcoming diversity conferences: The 2007

National Diversity Conference, "Diversity Leadership: Modeling Systemic Change," is set for April 25-27 in Seattle. More information can be found at <http://emmmps.wsu.edu/NDC/>.



Welcome to IEPYE and NAE4-HA!

By Cheryl Geitner, IEPYE Vice President

New members who have recently joined the Illinois Extension Professionals for Youth Education and National Association for Extension 4-H Agents are

Cheryl Baldwin, Rockford Center
Mary Spahr, Tazewell County

Welcome to our professional organization!



IEPYE 2006 – 2007 Treasurer's Report

February 6, 2007

By Dana Homann, IEPYE Treasurer

<i>Balance as of December 13, 2006</i>			\$10,533.50
	Income		
	Expenses		
	2006 NAE4-HA Conference Facilities	\$25.00	
	IEAA	40.00	
	NAE4-HA-North Central Region	67.00	
<i>Total Expenses</i>		\$132.00	
<i>Balance as of February 6, 2007</i>			10,401.50

Travels to Mongolia

By Joel Brumley, Professional Development Committee

After being asked to present an educational program for high school students recently, I started thinking very hard about how I might gather the latest information pertaining to my students and the subject. In my search for the knowledge that would help me present this program I bought an airplane ticket and boarded a flight to Mongolia. I spent three nights sleeping in a yurt and three days climbing to the top of a mountain to see a wise man who reportedly dispensed great amounts of wisdom that had been tested by time. And as we all know, time-tested wisdom is the best kind.

Since I am not a conditioned mountain climber I stumbled over small pebbles the last few steps as I moved toward the elderly wise man with a huge beard. I drew in a few strained breaths and demanded: "Oh wise one, how do I impart leadership skills to the youth in today's world?" His eyes slowly scanned me from top to bottom. He asked me three questions about myself and then disappeared into his cave which was apparently outfitted with wireless internet for when he returned he was holding two pieces of paper that were copied from web pages. The first one was from something called the Journal of Extension. The web address is: www.joe.org. The second was the Journal of Youth Development (which he had apparently accessed through the

NAE4-HA website). That website address is: www.nae4ha.org/directory/jyd/index.html. My knees buckled as I was suffering from the altitude. My thinking was obviously not clear because I should have recognized these web addresses.

We were now shrouded in clouds and the old man was barely visible standing just a few feet away. I gathered my energies and said, "Tell me wise one, do these websites belong to you?" He replied, "Of course not, they are Extension and 4-H websites. You should have already known about them". Very embarrassed, I asked how he knew I worked for Extension. He said, "The same thing happened years ago, but it was a young man named Bill Million who came seeking wisdom and truth. "Ah, Bill Million", I whispered to myself. I then asked if we could keep this meeting between just the two of us. He laughed softly and said, "It is too late, I already instant messaged Bill at the State 4-H Office. We are best friends". I took the information and vowed to become a member of the IEPYE Professional Development Committee and spread the good word and help others to avoid the misguided quest for knowledge and truth experienced by Bill and me and quite possibly many others.

Moral: Reading professional journals take time, but you will face a harsh environment in Mongolia.



IEPYE Member Recognition

By Tessa Hobbs-Curley, Member Recognition Chair

Awards have been submitted and will be reviewed on March 2nd, 2007. The committee realizes the effort that individuals and teams endure for submitting award applications. Once the applications are judged a letter will be sent to applicants. The winners will be forwarded to our North Central Regional Contact. I look forward to hear back from the NAE-4HA Regional Contact to reveal who is Regional and hopefully National Winners. I want to complimented individuals for their outstanding achievement, exceptional work and contribution to the 4-H Youth Development profession.

Notification letters will be sent 2 weeks post judging to the award winners, Regional Directors, and those who submitted applications. For Team awards, only one letter will be sent to the individuals completing the application form so, please notify co-applications. If you received an award as part of a team you will need to let your Regional Director know of your participation in the award process.

IEPYE award recipients will be recognized at the IEPYE fall meeting. NAE4-HA award recipients will be honored in Georgia.



Advisory Committee

by Deanna Roby, Past President & Advisory Committee Chair

The IEPYE Advisory Committee met via telenet on Friday, January 12. There were several items on the agenda to discuss. Below is a list of those agenda items and the committee recommendations that were presented at the February 6 IEPYE board meeting.

Structure of IEPYE budget

Advisory Committee

recommendation: We should consider purchasing a basic accounting program for use with a computer for the current treasurer. Quicken was suggested since this is what U of I Extension currently utilizes. Training on this program should be provided for the current treasurer. In the future, the outgoing treasurer would be responsible for training the incoming treasurer on the IEPYE budget structure. Finally, the treasurer should provide a written treasurer report at each board meeting. Those written reports should also be included in the IEPYE newsletter for the membership.

Earmarking funds for the Professional Development Committee

Advisory Committee

recommendation: Current EAI funds should be designated for professional development for the membership. When EAI dissolved, many felt that this was the intent when the money came back to IEPYE.

Should IEPYE consider associate and affiliate memberships?

Advisory Committee

recommendation: Before pursuing associate/affiliate memberships, we need to look at getting paraprofessionals more involved in our organization. Essentially, we need to “grow our own.” It was suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to look at this issue of paraprofessional membership. It would be crucial to involve current IEPYE members who are paraprofessionals on this ad hoc committee. We would also need to involve Extension administration and county directors.

Should past national officers pay state association dues?

Advisory Committee

recommendation: IEPYE membership dues for anyone who has served as a NAE4-HA president will be waived.

The Advisory Committee will be meeting in late spring and early summer to begin our search for open board positions for the 2007-08 year. If members know of individuals we should consider for open board positions or if you are interested, please contact Deanna Roby.

◆◆◆ Field Staff Advisory Committee Meeting

The Field Staff Advisory Committee will be meeting Friday, March 9 and Friday, June 1. IEPYE President, Jessie Crews represents the Association on the committee. Please feel free to forward comments or concerns on to her prior to one of the upcoming meetings.

Order Extension Apparel

By Judy Taylor,

The Illinois Extension Professionals for Youth Education is once again holding a **fundraising effort for IEPYE National Leadership Support Fund**. These funds are used to help support members who serve in national leadership positions.

To obtain an order form ,individuals should go to the following web address:

<http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/iepye/07fundraiser.pdf>

Orders need to be turned in by Friday, March 23. If you have questions, please contact Judy Taylor at 217-782-6515 or e-mail: jmtaylor@uiuc.edu .

On behalf of the **IEPYE Board**,
Thank you for your support!

