

CHI EPSILON SIGMA



GAMMA CHAPTER

*The National  
Cooperative  
Extension Support  
Staff Fraternity of  
the University of  
Kentucky*

The purpose of this fraternity shall be to maintain the standards, ideals, morale, prestige, and respect of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service support staff; to develop an effective working relationship and a spirit of fraternal friendship among the employees; to encourage professionalism; and to recognize, share, and reward professional excellence in job performance.



**Cooperative Extension Service**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development



## A Message From Our President

Hello Everyone,

As I have been putting my thoughts together for this article, I started thinking back over my last two years in CHIES (I have been a member much longer). One thing that spoke to me was excitement I had when I came across the history of our organization while going through all things CHIES that I have accumulated. This was touched on in our virtual annual meeting and highlighted in our last newsletter.

Chi Epsilon Sigma: Life, Loyalty, Learning.

What does this organization mean to you? What are/were you looking for joining this organization?

Moving forward towards our annual meeting, remember your purpose for joining our organization and not only what it can do for you, but also, what can you do to make it better? Consider a position on the board, how you can support with your ideas and creative thinking, or even someone you know that would be a great, uplifting speaker or teach a great class. While the board does plan the annual meeting, we need everyone to make it happen. Get to know your directors; they are here to work for you.

I look forward to seeing you all in April.

*Nancy Williams*

Nancy Williams  
President



Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

## Officers

### President

*Nancy Williams*

### Vice President

*Tami Widelski*

### Secretary

*Georganne Collins*

### Treasurer

*Sherry Stith*

### Annalist

*Robyn Edgell*

### Past President

*Eileen Kopp*

## Directors

### West Region

*Stephanie Caldwell*

*Kelsey King*

*Linda Martin*

*Sue Ann McCandless*

### Central Region

*Donna Browne*

*Marie Grimes*

*Heather Russell*

### East Region

*Lisa Stevens*

*Donna Napier*

*Kim Campbell*

*Carrie Adkins*

### UK Campus, Lexington

*Cristin Sullivan*

### UK Campus, Princeton

*Marilyn Hooks*

## Chi Epsilon Sigma Annual Meeting

Members of the CHIES Board and Directors are so excited to be moving forward with planning an in-person annual meeting in April! After two years of not having an in-person meeting, it will be great to get together. The annual meeting is a perfect time to meet fellow support staff and learn new things. Using the theme "Remember Your Purpose", the 2022 meeting will focus on the importance of support staff. The work of program assistants, staff assistants, and all support staff is vital to the success of Extension. "The secret to success is support." — Stacia Pierce

## Recruiting New Members

As with most places, Cooperative Extension has gone through many changes recently. Work days can get chaotic and sometimes leaves new employees trying to figure things out as they go. While the mentor program is a great opportunity for new support staff, Chi Epsilon Sigma is a way to continue learning. I personally believe that I owe most of my job success to my experiences with Chi Epsilon Sigma. With some of the administrative changes in Extension, we haven't been receiving e-mails with staffing updates as we did in the past. If you know of a new employee, let the appropriate Chi Director know so they can reach out.

## Open Board Positions

Serving on our board and learning how everything comes together for our annual meeting gives a unique perspective of what goes into making it all happen. We meet a few times throughout the year to plan the annual meeting and conduct chapter business. It is a very rewarding experience and friendships are made across the state. As it gets closer to the annual meeting, the nominating committee will send out information on which positions are open. In the meantime, consider serving as a director in your area. Responsibilities include sending cards/emails of congratulations, condolences, etc., to members in their area on behalf of the Fraternity; providing news articles for inclusion in newsletters; contacting new employees in the area to make them aware of Chi Epsilon Sigma; and performing other duties as requested by the president and executive board. The term of office for directors is two years. You can visit our website at <https://chies.ca.uky.edu/> for more information about each position and for the map of each area.

*Member News*



**Stephanie Meredith of Hardin County** started riding and showing horses at age 9 in 4-H. Horses have always been her passion. She recently attended her first World Show with International Buckskin Horse Association during July in Indiana. She was awarded World Champion Amateur Select Western Pleasure, Reserve World Champion (with trainer Shawn Budke) in Senior Western Pleasure, 3 Top Five placings, and 2 top ten placings! Pictured is Stephanie Meredith with In The Dark I'm Good (Lily), Shawn Budke (trainer), and Jenna Meredith (daughter).

**Kelly Dockter of Henry County** earned a Masters in Public Finance Management in August and will be running for County Judge Executive in 2022!



On October 23, 2021, Julianne, the daughter of **Roxanne Lee in Marshall County**, married Chase Ray.



Welcome **Mayme Hunt** to the **Warren County** Extension Office as the new Staff Support.

**Sue Akers of Pike County** is proud of granddaughter, Kiersten Doston, for serving as the Kentucky 4-H State Treasurer.



**Nan Montgomery of Warren County** will be starting her masters with UK in January.



**Jessica Lawrence of Jessamine County** is retiring after 36 years as an Extension Staff Assistant. Her last day will be on January 3, 2022. The Jessamine County office is sad that she is leaving us and do not know what they are going to do without her. However, she deserves her retirement years to enjoy traveling with her husband. They intend to camp across the country.



**Kim Middleton of Garrard County** partially retired on June 30, 2021. She is now working part time and loves it!



**Rohdene Rollins of Henderson County** is the proud Nana to a new grandson, Brixen Harrison Rollins, born December 5, 2021, weighing 10 lbs 11 oz and 23 1/2 inches long.

Elladie Marie Edge, niece of **Kelsey King of Farm Analysis**, was born on November 28. She weighed 8lbs 8oz.



**Janie Oliver of Knott County** is incredibly proud of her son, Wade McGuire, age 17, who attends The Craft Academy at Morehead State (a HS dual credit academy), was offered a 4 year renewable full ride scholarship to the University of Louisville Honors program with a major in Political Science. He has applied to other colleges including Cornell University, Columbia, and American University. He is a smart kid, good head on his shoulders, and wants to make a difference for people.



Congratulations to **Heather Shaw, Metcalf County** Senior SNAP Educator on her new role as W5-W8 Area Nutrition Agent!



THE CHI EPSILON SIGMA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS SEND YOU

*Warm Holiday Wishes*

AND

*Cheers to the New Year!*



*Save The Date*



**APRIL 20-22, 2022**

*remember your*  
**PURPOSE**

*Chi Epsilon Sigma  
Annual Meeting 2022*

**CHI EPSILON SIGMA  
ANNUAL MEETING**