

## Resource Development Committee Report

*Report excerpted from former Committee Chair, Peg Reedy's 2011-2012 annual report, updated by Peggy Compton (4/16/2013)*

The purpose of the Resource Development Committee is to solicit and manage funds for the ESP Foundation and to work closely with the Grants and Loans Committee to determine the amount of scholarship monies to be awarded on an annual basis. In addition, the committee is responsible for administering the Evergreens sculpture recognition of our most generous donors by maintaining a current record of "leaf" plaques on the sculpture. The past several years, the silent auction at the JCEP conference has benefitted the ESP Foundation. In addition, several memorable Extension Olympics supported the Foundation. An annual letter to donors was sent recently.

The Epsilon Sigma Phi Professional Development Endowment was founded in 1982 with a gift of \$45,900 from Henry Ahlgren, former Director of Cooperative Extension, who was a tremendous advocate of professional development for county based Extension educators. Dr. Ahlgren was responsible for restructuring Extension for more effective outreach, making it a national model for the sharing of university research, i.e. the "Wisconsin Idea". An agronomist and former Agronomy Department Head for the UW-Madison, Ahlgren also initiated the Ahlgren Endowment specifically for agriculture educators to improve their ability to work in modernizing family farms, to develop creative means to support and maintain family farms, and to develop and implement niche farming in Wisconsin. Since 1982, \$305,786 has been donated to the Foundation, including \$1,796 in 2012.

Income available for 2013 scholarships:

ESP Grants and Named Awards:	\$26,800
Ahlgren Awards	\$6,400
Total	\$33,200

The Resource Development Committee is composed of one representative from each program area, a retiree, and a liaison to the Board. **There is currently a need for new members and a chairperson for this committee.**