Dear Friends,

What a busy couple of weeks it has been! I traveled to New Orleans to attend the NAE4-HA conference and to co-present a session entitled, “Operating on All Cylinders: Organizing Space, Time, and Projects” with Morgan Domokos and Doug Foxx. You can access the presentation and handouts at: go.osu.edu/OrganizingSTP. Many professionals from other states agreed that managing and balancing the many aspects of their jobs and their lives is a challenge we all continue to face. I came back to Ohio and attended our first New Educator Core Training Retreat hosted by Roger and facilitated by many of our expert units (e.g., PDE, Ed Tech) and experienced educators (Melinda Hill, David Marrison, Eric Barrett, Emily Adams). I also attended TERSSA in Columbus and enjoyed seeing our amazing support professionals in action and learning a great deal about women in the workforce from Keith Smith during his celebration of TERSSA’s 30th anniversary. I’m currently in New Jersey at the national ESP conference where many of our colleagues are certainly recognized as leaders at the national level and are presenting posters, concurrent sessions, and providing leadership in a variety of capacities. OSU Extension is absolutely full of incredible professionals and I am so glad to be a part of this team and the efforts to live the land-grant mission every day.

Thanks for all you do!

P.S. Go Indians! World Series baby!!! Living the dream #CLE

Best wishes,

Jackie

Many Congratulations...

Congratulations to our 4-H staff who attended the National 4-H Conference (NAE4-HA) in New Orleans. We are proud of your participation and the recognition that you bring to Ohio! Ohio’s acceptance rate was 40% for seminars and workshops and 75% for posters.

Competency Guild Workshop – (2 of 7 were from Northeast Region, 29%)

- Operating on All Cylinders: Organizing Your Projects, Time & Apace for Optimal Results and Limited Stress - Morgan Domokos (Medina), Doug Foxx (Wayne), Jackie Wilkins (Northeast Region)
- Promoting Improved Working Relationships with Young People in Leadership Roles – NAE4-HA Youth Empowerment Taskforce – Jenna Hoyt (Ashtabula) and colleagues
Program Showcase – (1 of 12 were from Northeast Region, 8%)
• Creating a SMASH’ing 4-H Club – **Kiersten Heckel** (Tuscarawas)

Posters – (2 of 18 were from Northeast Region, 11%)
• Adding a Youth Flavor to OSU Extension’s Signature Program, Local Foods – **Heather Neikirk** (Stark) and colleagues
• NAE4-HA Youth Empowerment Taskforce – **Jenna Hoyt** (Ashtabula), **Morgan Domokos** (Medina), and colleagues

Program Seminar – (1 of 6 were from Northeast Region, 17%)
• Buckeye$ Buck$: Ohio’s Innovative Local Fundraising Options – **Morgan Domokos** (Medina), **Michelle Fehr** (Muskingum), and colleague

Leadership – (5 of the 13 NAE4-HA Task Forces will be chaired by 6 Ohio 4-H professionals – including one from our Region)
• **Jenna Hoyt** (Ashtabula) and colleague – Youth Empowerment

Our 4-H staff is working hard on plans for the 2018 Conference to be held in Columbus. Please consider volunteering to help with this event.

**65 participated in the Ohio State’s Night Out, held at the court of Two Sisters**
Congratulations to support staff from across the state who were award winners at the TERSSA Conference held October 18 - 19 in Columbus.

- Linda Good, Office Associate, Miami County [and 2016 TERSSA President] and Marianne Guthrie, Office Associate, Ross County – recipients of the two TERSSA scholarships
- Vickie Snyder, Office Associate, Southeast and Central Region – recipient of the 2016 TERSSA Above and Beyond Award
- Debby King, (North Carolina State University), 2016 TERSSA Executive Board Award
- Dana Braswell, (North Carolina State University), 2016 TERSSA Excellence Award
Our Condolences to . . .

- Terri Worthington, FCS Educator, Geauga County, on the recent passing of her father.
- Les Ober, ANR Educator, Geauga County, on the recent passing of his mother.

Please keep Terri, Les, and their families in your thoughts at this difficult time.

Director's Drop-In . . . (Source: Roger Rennekamp)

I had the pleasure of attending the Ohio 4-H Foundation’s annual Celebration of Youth event at the Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on Saturday night. Together with sponsors, those in attendance raised more than $150,000 at the event. Participants enjoyed sampling the vast array of Ohio food and wine prepared by local chefs and bidding on items at both silent and live auction. A highlight of the evening was the inspirational message delivered by Dustin Homan, a graduate student and 4-H alumnus from Shelby County. Dustin presented a compelling vision for the future of 4-H in Ohio, across the nation, and around the world. Special thanks goes to presenting sponsor Nationwide and platinum clover sponsors Bob Evans Farms, Heartland Bank, and Ohio Farm Bureau Federation.

2016 Extension Support Staff Excellence Award! . . .

CES and Extension Administration are committed to a partnership that recognizes a CES member who excels in support staff responsibilities. It is once again time to solicit nominations for the annual $1000 Extension Support Staff Excellence Award!

The award and process for selecting the recipient is patterned after Epsilon Sigma Phi’s Excellence in Extension Award for educators. The award recognizes the importance of knowledge, skills and service. This tremendous opportunity brings recognition to a staff member who excels daily in fulfilling responsibilities when serving customers and staff throughout our organizations.

Nominations may be submitted by a supervisor, faculty/staff, peer/co-worker, customer, or emeriti. Required documentation includes completion of online nomination form, letter of support from direct supervisor and two additional letters of evaluation and support. Any Extension support staff member who is a current active member of Chi Epsilon Sigma and has been a member for five years is eligible for nomination. If you are uncertain if your nominee has been a member of CES for the required five years, please don’t hesitate to contact me and I can verify that for you.

The award guidelines, criteria, eligibility, and selection procedures can be found at http://extension.osu.edu/about/chi-epsilon-sigma/ces-awards-recognition/extension-support-staff-excellence-award

Visit http://go.osu.edu/2016CESaward to enter a nomination. Nomination deadline is Monday, October 31 by 5:00PM.

Please take the time to consider possible candidates for this award, and take action to nominate a top office professional.

Presentation of the award will be during the OSU Extension Annual Conference.

Important Open Enrollment Information . . . (Source Amy Burns)


What’s New for 2017

One of the primary enhancements for 2017 is the introduction of Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA) to connect your personal wellness and participation in Your Plan for Health (YP4H) activities with the amount you pay for health care.

A Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) is an employer-funded, tax-advantaged* account that can be used to help employees cover out-of-pocket health expenses. Beginning January 1, 2017, faculty and staff enrolled in an Ohio State medical plan will be eligible to earn HRA credits instead of Amazon gift cards. Learn more about Ohio State’s Health Reimbursement Accounts.

For additional information or to view the recorded webinar, please visit, https://hr.osu.edu/oe/.
Webinars listed below:
This 90 minute webinar will provide you with information about changes to your health and welfare benefits for the upcoming 2017 plan year. From November 1 through November 15, 2016, you will have the opportunity to make new benefits elections and make changes to your existing elections for an effective date of January 1, 2017.

During these sessions, Benefits Consultants will describe 2017 plan changes and will address issues you need to consider when making your elections.

I strongly encourage you to view one of the webinar sessions below:
- **November 1, 2016 (Tuesday), Noon-1:30 p.m.**
  Join at [http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov1/](http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov1/)
- **November 3, 2016 (Thursday), 5-6:30 p.m.**
  Join at [http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov3/](http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov3/)
- **November 4, 2016 (Friday), Noon-1:30 p.m.**
  Join at [http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov4/](http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov4/)
- **November 8, 2016 (Tuesday), 1-2:30 p.m.**
  Join at [http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov8/](http://carmenconnect.osu.edu/oenov8/)

**County Highlights . . . (Source: Roger Rennekamp) Message sent to CEDs on 10/18/16**
It is time to collect information for our 2016 OSU Extension County Highlights – to be published in early January 2017. As always, we count on you to pull together meaningful impact statements that highlight just a few of the many differences you are making at the local level.

This year, I'm requesting that you compile your impact statements by the new impact areas that I announced in July – Health and Wellness; Job Skills and Careers; Thriving Across the Life Span; Sustainable Food Systems; Engaged Ohioans, Vibrant Communities; and Environmental Quality. A copy of the impact area list with descriptors is posted in a Resources file within a new Box folder that has been set up for the **County Highlights 2016**. CEDs, Cabinet members and unit leaders, you will receive a Box invitation soon.

As you pull together this information, please write at least one impact statement for four (or more) of the six new impact areas. As I’ve talked with our faculty and staff over the past few months, it’s been clear that many of your programs already address one or more of the impact areas, so this should be a fairly straightforward way to summarize impacts for this year.

To help with this thought process, we have also posted in the Box Resources file a matrix with both the program areas and impact areas outlined for you. Because we are changing how the impacts are reported (by the new impact areas), we have not posted a copy of the 2015 highlights in Box, but you are welcome to refer to your county’s previous highlights at this link: [http://communications.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/resources/marketing-and-brand-strategy/county-highlights](http://communications.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/resources/marketing-and-brand-strategy/county-highlights).

Also, we are moving to an online format for the county highlights, and this year’s highlights will be available on a new website in early January 2017. More information will be available as final updates are made to the new website during the next couple of months.

With this note, the 2016 county highlights reporting period has begun, and you have until Thursday, November 10 to write and submit impact statements for your county. At that time, we will ask the regional directors to review the statements for each of their counties.

I have also asked that we make sure we include several unit impact statements with the county in which they are located. This is a change from previous years, and this information does not impact the 1,500-word limit for the rest of that county’s highlights. If you work with one of the units listed below, please connect with the local CED to make sure your impact statements are included with the other county information.

- Alber Enterprise Center – Marion
- Youth Outdoors – Cuyahoga
- Adventure Central – Montgomery
- 4-H AgriScience in the City – Cuyahoga, Hamilton

Complete instructions for the 2016 county highlights writing process are posted in the Box County Highlights 2016 folder. Please contact Cheryl Buck at buck.19@osu.edu if you have any questions about the process.
2017 Planner and Reporting Notebook for Extension Professionals . . . (Source: Morgan Domokos)
Are you interested in purchasing a 2017 planner designed for OSU Extension Professionals? Ordering is simple! Visit http://go.osu.edu/2017planner. The 2017 planner measures 8.5” x 11” and includes a 3-year at-a-glance calendar, a state map of Ohio with counties and EERAs, goal planning, monthly checklist, 2-page monthly calendar view, month in view, event summary reporting pages, travel log, to-do list, notes pages, 2018 planning page, 2 pockets and a pen loop bound together in a professional leather notebook. ($40)

For those who prefer the electronic calendar but desire help gathering reporting data and staying organized beyond daily appointments, the Reporting Notebook might be the solution for you. It contains all of the same features as the planner without the monthly pages. ($35)

Deadline to order is November 15. These orders will be available for pickup at Annual Conference.

Program Leader Changes . . .
As the year winds down and each EERA Program is discussing new program leaders, please send an email to the Region Director (and please cc to Vicki at myers.26@osu.edu) if you will be continuing as the 2017 Program Leader for your EERA or if there will be a change in the contact information. Thank you!

National Extension Conference on Volunteerism . . . (Source: Pam Bennett)
The National Extension Conference on Volunteerism is now accepting Proposals for Presentations and Posters.

National Extension Conference on Volunteerism
April 10-13, 2017, Asheville, North Carolina
https://go.ncsu.edu/necv
https://www.facebook.com/1NECV/

- Proposals due 11/1/2016
  - Begin lining up your funding to attend now!
- $275 Early Bird (received by 2/15/2017)
- $350 Regular (received after 2/15/2017)
- $150 One day rate

This conference is designed for professionals of all disciplines within Cooperative Extension who work with volunteers and/or manage volunteer programs. Workshops, keynote presentations, poster sessions, lightening talks, and super seminars will address key issues related to volunteer development and volunteer program management.

10. Get out of your box!
   See the best of how volunteers are being managed in a variety of different platforms across the country and across disciplines (Family Consumer Science, Extension Master Gardeners, 4-H Youth Development)

9. Engage in Workshops, Presentations, Poster Sessions and More!
   Invest in your own professional development.

8. Become Inspired by Keynote Presenter John Paul Chaisson Cardenas!

7. Share in a 3 minute Lightening Round
   Bring a few slides and share one of your successes, present in front of a national audience.

6. Present a National, Peer Reviewed Poster!
   Proposals due 11/26/2012

5. Come to Asheville North Carolina.

4. Get Connected!
   Nothing like face-to-face for developing professional relationships and partnerships.

3. Deliver a National, Peer Reviewed Presentation!
   All presentations are peer reviewed prior to acceptance. Proposals due 11/01/2016

2. It’s a Bargain, a great investment in promotion & tenure!

1. Create a National Peer Reviewed Publication with no page charges!
Finance Update Posted . . . (Source: Cindy Buxton)
An October Finance Newsletter has been posted. We normally call this the Business Operations Center update but there are some general finance topics in this one! A PDF version is available.

In this issue:
- Workday Update
- Finance Process Change – Transferring & Depositing Funds, Federal Benefits
- Vendor Maintenance Changes
- Staples – Save up your purchases
- Airport Parking
- Daily Parking Passes
- Calendar Year Purchase Order Renewals are due 11/04/2016
- Bank Statements will be required soon
- 4-H Volunteer Background Checks
- Extension Administration Professional Presentation Support

Ed Tech News . . . (Source: u.osu.edu/extensionedtech)
With a growing number of tools and technologies available, how do you know which is best for you? The Ed Tech Unit has developed a list of tried-and-true educational technology tools that we feel are great options to include in your digital content strategy. We’ve organized the tools based on specific goals you may have for your county or program. Read more…

Blog Links . .
- CFAES Weekly News Digest – http://u.osu.edu/cfaesadmin
- Extension Director, Roger Rennekamp – http://u.osu.edu/conspectus/
- Community Development – http://u.osu.edu/extensioncd/
- OSU Extension Ed Tech – http://u.osu.edu/extensionedtech/

Award Nominations . . . NEW SECTION!

2016 Extension Support Staff Excellence Award Nomination Link – Due October 31
- Award guidelines, criteria, eligibility, and selection procedures

Chi Epsilon Sigma – Due October 31
- Newsletter, Brochure and Website Contest
- Dorothy Rex Inspiration Award

Schindler Excellence in CD Award – Due November 1

2016 Excellence in 4-H Award – Due November 7
- 2016 Excellence in 4-H Nomination Form
- Excellence in 4-H Award Background
- Excellence in 4-H List of Award Winners

Important Dates and Deadlines . .
If there are dates that apply to many that you would like to see included in this section of the newsletter, please send them to Vicki at myers.26@osu.edu.

OCTOBER:
- 24-27 – ESP National Conference, Cape May, NJ
- 26-27 – All FCS Conference, Crowne Plaza, Dublin

NOVEMBER:
- 1 – 4-H Professional’s Update, 4-H Center, Columbus
- 2 – Assuring Quality Care for Animals In-service, 4-H Center, Columbus

DECEMBER:
- 6-7 – Extension Annual Conference, Ohio Union