Greetings

A year ago on this page of the newsletter, Mike Hogan highlighted the need for OSU Extension folks to remain positive during the economic downslide. We’ve gone through some tough times. No doubt we have suffered cuts during the “Great Recession”, but I feel we have kept our optimism. And OAEP plays a key role in keeping Extension professionals connected and feeling upbeat about our future.

With restructuring, we are in the era of EERAs. According to reports in the Communique and comments from individuals, the opportunity to work across county lines and get personally acquainted with others in the EERA is a positive outcome. Although less than desirable, we find ways to provide good Extension programming with fewer people and less money.

Technology is one way we cut some costs. I still like face to face meetings, but Webinars and old fashioned conference calls save time and travel expenses. I recently got introduced to Basecamp. While trying to figure out my ID and password so I could access a simple 3-page report from an Extension colleague, I’ll admit to a brief thought about the good old days of ripping open an envelope. No password needed. Social media is growing as a nearly instant communication tool. At my OSU office, during the recent PILD conference I was receiving updates on Twitter from an attendee on key points by the keynote speaker way before he finished. Several of you are using Facebook and Twitter to effectively communicate important information to clients and others in Extension.
OAEP Professional Improvement Scholarships

I was pleased to be invited by Ohio Farm Bureau to join the county presidents during their 3-day visit to Washington, DC, to meet with Sen. Voinovich, Rep. John Boehner, other House members, and USDA folks. (That’s an example of a face-to-face gathering that cannot be duplicated by sending emails.) It was worthwhile to spend time chatting with the FB folks and others on the trip. I’m convinced that OSU Extension has no better friend than Farm Bureau.

Here’s an example where Extension must stand arm in arm with Ohio agriculture. The so-called Humane Society of the U.S. is back in Ohio, trying to get on the November ballot to restrict, and eventually eliminate, animal agriculture. The recent example of HSUS sneaking a program onto a national 4-H conference program illustrates the sneaky methods they use to raise funds, fool donors, get signatures, and trick voters. HSUS appears to pit large livestock and poultry farms against small farms, but in reality they are against all animal agriculture. Our role in educating Ohio citizens about animal agriculture is a prime example of the value of Extension.

Randall Reeder

OSU Extension Professionals Attend PILD

From Brenda Young

As 2nd VP of 4-H, I was honored to represent Ohio at Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) in Washington D.C. April 26-28, 2010. The conference was a mixture of sessions, speakers and action.

We heard a wonderful speaker from Washington D.C. Central Kitchen. They train felons for food service in a kitchen designed to serve those in need in the city. His message was about thinking differently to meet community need and incorporating as many needs as possible into the plan.

Sessions I attended were about eXtension, Using Your Social Contacts to Help You Accomplish Things for Your Work, and NAE4-HA.

The first night, we had the opportunity to dine and build relationships with colleagues across the nation in our program area.

The next day, we heard several different speakers helping us to understand how to navigate our visits on Capital Hill. We also heard from the representatives from the Department of Defense (DOD) who shared the great partnership between DOD and 4-H reaching children on U.S. military installations around the world.

We then attended dinner with our state colleagues and volunteers. This gave me a great opportunity to personally become better acquainted with our own delegation which was very helpful the next day, as we visited our legislative representatives. We broke up into two teams to do the visits. Our team visited Congressman Space, Congressman Latta’s Aide and Senator Brown’s Aides.
Ohio NEAFCS Chapter

Need a graduation gift? We have the perfect gift for that graduating senior. Our Living Well book will provide that senior starting out-on-their own or attending college away from home with information that they will need. Please contact Linnette Goard at goard.1@osu.edu to order the books. Cost is $27, which is a bargain for all the information you get in the book.

Many Ohio NEAFCS members have turned in award applications for National awards. These have been sent on to National Awards Chair (our own) Carol Chandler. Many of Ohio’s FCS Educators will be assisting Carol in judging the National awards this year.

Starting in August NEAFCS will have items for auction on eBay. Anyone can bid on the items, so kept watch and get your bids ready. We need items for this auction and our silent auction at the Annual meeting so please let Pat know of items you have.

The NEAFCS Annual Conference is in Portland, Maine this year from September 21-24. Ohio is looking forward to having the 2012 conference in Columbus.

Pat Brinkman
1st V.P. for OAEP FCS

Program Committee – Learning Together

The purpose of the OAEP Program Committee is to create opportunities for sharing program ideas among Extension professionals. The committee is to encourage free communication among administrators, specialists, and members in matters relating to Extension programs and activities through formal and informal exchanges, and provide additional avenues for feedback on statewide programs from members.

With that in mind, we have conducted/will conduct a series of WebEx Roundtable discussions intended to provide a forum for Extension professionals to learn from each other regarding topics of current interest. The WebEx sessions held thus far were: Creative Funding (February 15) and Creative Staffing (May 10). Watch your e-mail for future dates and topics and join us for the dialogues!
Submitted by Mary Beth Albright, Committee Chair

Each year OEAP distributes $3,000 in professional improvement scholarships to members of the organization - $1,500 in the spring and $1,500 in the fall. The maximum funding awarded per individual is $500. Applications are due to Lisa Barlage, chair of the scholarship sub-committee, by April 30th and September 30, respectively. Applications can be downloaded from the OAEP website: http://oaep.osu.edu/

Scholarship recipients are asked to submit a summary following the completion of their professional development activity. Below are two summaries from recent recipients:

In opening, I would like to thank the Ohio Association of Extension Professionals for offering the Professional Improvement Scholarship Grant to extension agents throughout Ohio.

Just as other professions have certification and continuing education requirements, so too does economic development profession. The International Economic Development Council’s Certified Economic Developers (CEcD) are recognized around the world as having achieved a level of excellence in their understanding of the tools and programs of economic development. Prior to qualifying to sit for the CEcD exam, candidates are required to have at least four years of consecutive, paid, full-time economic development related experience and completed 117 hours of course work and education requirements.

I recently attended Session 1 of the Oklahoma University Economic Development Institute (OU/EDI) in Indianapolis Indiana the week of March 22nd. During the weeklong OU/EDI conference I attended 31 course hours and completed 9 courses including:
- Introduction to Oklahoma University Economic Development Institute
- Finance Lab
- Deal Structuring
- Business Incubators & Accelerators
- Technologies Role In The Economic Development Office
- Entrepreneurship Economic Development
- Federal Tools & Programs
- Technology Transfer & Innovation
- Asset Mapping Your Downtown Business District

Furthermore, during my week in Indianapolis I was actively involved in network with other educators and industry professionals to develop educational materials for use with the community development population in Ohio. During this networking, I learned how other communities have creatively developed alternative methods to fund a community development revolving loan fund. Ultimately, this network fostered relationships with educators and community development professionals throughout the country that will continue to grow for years to come.

As an OSU Community Development Extension Educator, my long term professional development goal is to obtain the CEcD certification. As mentioned, I will be required to complete 117 educational course work hours (Delivered by The University of Oklahoma) in order to sit for the exam. This exposure to high quality community economic development information will continue to expand my knowledge base on community economic development best practices, current issues, and trends.
Ultimately this broad spectrum of advanced education for economic development will be incorporated into my community development programming for the Erie Basin EERA. I will continue to utilize newsletters to distribute OU/EDI information to my peers in extension. In addition, I will partner with other educators to incorporate this information into factsheets, educational programming, curriculum, and/or workshops.

Once again I would like to thank the Ohio Association of Extension Professionals for the $250 scholarship to attend the OU/EDI conference.

Eric Romich
OSU Extension Educator
Economic Development & Regional Planning

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Thank you to the Ohio Association of Extension Professionals for the $250 scholarship to attend the National Camping Institute in Salem Oregon in March. We spent four days at the Oregon State 4-H Camp.

Ann Golden and I (Kathy Booher was unable to attend) did a presentation on “Don’t Mock It- Know the Risks,” a mock trial used with camp counselors and adult staff to help them understand the gravity of their responsibility as part of our county camp staff. This opportunity gave us the chance to offer new solutions to old problems for other camp directors, glean ideas from across the nation and become known for our expertise in camping.

The resources gained from the rest of the institute are great pick up and use at home tools. Sessions I attended were: Essential Staff Training Activities by Jim Cain from New York, Creating Your Realistic Illusion by Mike Hauser and Bryan Chadd from Arizona, Clues All Around Us by Mary Engelbreth from California, Raising the Bar Counselor Performance Evaluation by Natalie Kinion and Alissa Schneider from Washington, New Ways to Teach the Same Old Stuff by Sandra Carlson and Judi Peters from Oregon, and Building Camper Involvement and Progression in Program by Niki Nestor McNeely from Ohio.

Essential Staff Training Activities used “hands on” activities to teach concepts crucial to staff effectiveness. Creating Your Realistic Illusion helped each of us understand how to create/build our own illusions for team building activities to make them more exciting and relevant. Clues All Around Us was about different ways to use nature in programming at camp making it exciting for the participants. Raising the Bar was about Using Performance Evaluations to improve not only your Camp Counselor Performance but ultimately your camp. New Ways to Reach the Same Old Stuff was a creative effort to explore different ways to teach the materials vital to our counselor training; the stuff that needs reviewed annually. Building Camper Involvement and Progression in Program looked at ways to keep campers coming back.

This trip to National Camping Association not only renewed me but also provided a shot in the arm for my camp staff training.

Once again, “Thank You” OAEP.

Brenda Young
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development, Crawford County
Erie Basin EERA
Personnel Committee - monitor and report on salary and benefits information; faculty and extension tenure systems updates and support staff issues.

Policy Committee - monitor and update constitution and by-laws issues as deemed necessary by executive committee.

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OAEP Newsletter - support and facilitate the purpose of OAEP through effective communication; keep OAEP and emeriti informed of OAEP committee and board actions; to strengthen communication between OEAA and Extension administration; publish an OAEP News for the membership.

If you would like to help out on a committee please contact President Randall Reeder reeder.1@osu.edu.
Greetings!

The OAEP Board held a successful face-to-face meeting October 18. We are doing more communication by telephone and internet, so the times we get together in the same room becomes even more valuable.

On October 28 I attended the Joint Advisory Committee meeting of OARDC and OSU Extension. Again, having folks together provided more opportunities for conversations and connections. We learned more details from Steve Slack about the tornado that ripped through OARDC at Wooster, and how the entire OSU community is working to get operations back to some semblance of normal.

Perhaps not on the same scale as a tornado, but close to it, is the budget calamity about to blast Ohio. I was out of state all last week (I voted absentee) so I missed most of the local reaction to the election results. I had stated weeks before the election that filling an $8 billion hole in the state budget would impact Extension, regardless of who got elected.

On the optimistic side, consider this point I read about one of Governor-elect Kasich’s plans to reduce spending. He wants local government entities, including school districts, to work together to share responsibilities, resources, and workloads in order to minimize duplication and cut costs. Well, OSU Extension started this process many months ago. We’ve maintained the local (county) base, while working regionally. Besides serving as a role model for other agencies, Extension has experts in Community Development who can aid local townships, town councils, and school districts in organizing joint efforts to do more (or at least the same) with less.
The agriculture economy, at least for grain farmers, is looking mighty good. Twelve months ago, who would have predicted that Ohio corn and soybean yields and prices would be at the current levels. Extension plays an important role in helping farmers increase crop yields and produce better animal products.

Extension professionals in Ohio can feel proud of the great work we’ve done as we optimistically face the future.

I’ll close with a continuing opportunity for Extension folks to support Ohio’s economy. We need to keep educating the public, especially in cities, about the fraudulent activities of the so-called Humane Society of the U.S. (HSUS). In Missouri HSUS got a proposition passed to limit dog breeders to only 50 dogs. It passed only because St. Louis and Kansas City voted in favor. The entire rest of the state was opposed. It is easy to imagine HSUS getting an Issue on the Ohio ballot to limit, for example, livestock farms to a maximum of 50 beef cattle, dairy cows, hogs or sheep. Extension professionals can passionately use science-based information to support animal agriculture. And at the same time we can help expose HSUS as an organization with a hundred million dollar budget, with only about one percent spent to support local animal shelters.

I’ll see you at annual conference, December 15 in Columbus.

Randall Reeder
OAEP President

OSU Extension Professionals Attend PILD

Thank you for the opportunity to attend the 2010 Public Issues Leadership Development Conference. Attending the conference provided me with both personal and professional opportunities for growth. There are exciting times even though we are faced with tight budget situations. We are still concerned with helping our citizens make their lives better. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture helps us to focus our work around the following issues: 1) local food security and hunger, 2) global climate change, 3) sustainable bio energy, 4) childhood obesity, and 5) food safety. This conference gave us an opportunity to meet with others (both Extension Educators and volunteers) around the country to study these issues and also to discuss these issues with our legislators.

Linnette Goard
Extension Educator, Family & Consumer Sciences
Western Reserve EERA/Lorain County
Is PILD a Necessary Expense for OAEP?

Public Issues Leadership Development Conference

Wm. Bruce Clevenger, OSU Extension Educator
2010 OAEP 2nd V.P. for NACAA

The annual Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) is attended by Extension Professionals from across the United States and traditionally OAEP sends our slate of 2nd Vice Presidents. 2010 was no exception. We were fortunate to have Gwen Wolford from Ohio serve as Chair of the 2010 PILD Planning Committee. Gwen provided leadership to organize a very professional conference and coordinated our visits to “The Hill.”

What’s the cost? Registration: $400, Airfare: $558, Lodging: $526, Other: $230. Total: $1714. Washington D.C. is a costly town and travel expenditures can stress any personnel or business budget. But those are the numbers. What’s the return?...the best leadership conference about the future of Extension I’ve attended. The conference began with an Extension Outlook from our Federal partners from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) by setting the tone of our local, state and national value and impact. Robert Egger, Director, DC Central Kitchen, motivate the group on the value of people and our potential to make a positive impact “today.” Breakout sessions got more specific to our public issues and one by the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation delivered Ohio’s proactive model to deal with animal rights groups and effect on food animal production practices. The NACAA professionals also held public issues discussions and hosted an Association’s Night Out.

Preparing to Visit the Hill: If OSU Extension or Cooperative Extension nationally doesn’t make appointments to visit our Federal legislators, someone else will fill our appointments. The conference help use prepare our message and to let us know what to expect during a congressional visit. PILD was not only attended by Ohio Extension professionals but some of our brightest, most supportive and motivate volunteers of OSU Extension. Their voice does carry tremendous weight with Congressional members and staff. Visiting the Hill: Delivering an efficient and effective message was the key. Time was short but our congressional members and staff were ready to listen and learn. It’s nice to go to D.C. and find staff and congressional members experienced with OSU Extension. With some, we still have work to do.

The Value. I had my doubts as a 16 year member of OAEP if PILD was worth the cost. I’ve decided by this experience and reports from others that PILD adds value to our Extension efforts and we have and need a place at “the table” to garner Federal support for the work we do in our local communities. I support sending 2nd V.P.’s to PILD and will encourage the OAEP Board to continue this tradition.
Ohio NEAFCS Chapter

Twenty-two Ohio NEAFCS members including Assistant Director Jill Nolan and Ken Martin, Department, Chair and Associate Director of Programs, plus six spouses and six NEAFCS Life members attended the 2010 National NEAFCS Conference in Portland, Maine on September 20-24. Nine Educators were presenters of workshops and 6 Educators had Poster Presentations. Carol Chandler, Top of Ohio EERA, serves as vice president on the national NEAFCS Board. Joyce Shriner and Monadine Mattey received Distinguished Service Awards with Susan Zies and Deb Angell receiving Continued Excellence Awards. Cindy Shuster and Joyce Shriner received the Healthy Lifestyles Education Grant. Lois Clark was the Central Region Winner for the Marketing Package. Linnette Goard was recognized for receiving 3rd place at the National and Central Region for Newsletters. State’s Award Night was held at the Old Port Seafood Grill and attended by all. The conference was an excellent conference in a very beautiful place.

NEAFCS has compiled national impact statements in financial management, food safety, Childhood Obesity, the environment (family and individual life, living green, housing) and nutrition, health, and fitness. These statements provide information on what Extension Educators are doing throughout the country to address these concerns. Ohio NEAFCS members contributed to these statements. Special thanks to Kirk Bloir for setting up an on-line survey to obtain information from members. The national statements can be viewed on the NEAFCS website.

We are continuing to sell “Living Well” resource books. They make excellent gifts. Please contact Linnette Goard at goard.1@osu.edu if you are interested. The national office has more to sell and need to sell them before the end of the year or they will have to store them. They are encouraging everyone to order a book of 10.

An increase in dues was approved by the voting delegates at the Board meeting at national conference. For 2011 National dues will be $85 for 2012 it will be $90. With fewer memberships it has been difficult to have the necessary funding. The Board cut the budget by 20% in 2010. They are aware and are trying to reduce spending. Payment for dues for 2011 needs to be at National office by December 15, 2010. Members will need to complete an on-line form on the NEAFCS web site and send dues through OAEP.

Report by Pat Brinkman
1st VP FCS
Ohio 4-H

NAE4HA Conference in Phoenix, Arizona is quickly approaching (Oct 23-28). Ohio will be well represented with 14 poster presentations and 17 sessions led by one or more Ohio 4-H Professional.

There are thirty county 4-H staff members, seven state staff members, one retiree and nine guests registered to attend. The following is a list of awards that will be presented to Ohio 4-H Professionals in Phoenix:

2010 Meritorious Service Award: Carolyn Wilson

2010 Distinguished Service Award: Becky Barker
2010 Distinguished Service Award: David Crawford
2010 Distinguished Service Award: Mary Beth Albright

2010 Achievement in Service Award: Travis West
2010 Achievement in Service Award: Tracy Winters
2010 Achievement in Service Award: Hannah Kohler

Susan Barkman National Research and Evaluation Award: Jeff Dick, Jason Hedrick

25 year award: Judy Villard-Overocker
25 year award: Beverly Kelbaugh

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Dick, NAE4HA Ohio President
Brenda Young, NAE4HA Ohio V.P.
OAEP Professional Improvement Scholarships

Submitted by Mary Beth Albright, Committee Chair

Each year OEAP distributes $3,000 in professional improvement scholarships to members of the organization - $1,500 in the spring and $1,500 in the fall. The maximum funding awarded per individual is $500. Applications are due to Lisa Barlage, chair of the scholarship subcommittee, by April 30th and September 30, respectively. Applications can be downloaded from the OAEP website:  http://oaep.osu.edu/

Scholarship recipients are asked to submit a summary following the completion of their professional development activity. Below is a summary from a recent recipient:

The 2010 CYFAR (Children, Youth and Families at Risk) National Conference was held May 4-7 in San Francisco, California. In true CYFAR fashion, the conference did not disappoint, and neither did the location! I participated in this year’s conference as both an attendee and presenter. While it is difficult to summarize all that this conference has to offer, I will try to highlight some of the sessions I attended. The keynote session was not only timely, but spectacularly attention-getting. Given by James Garbarino (Ph.D., Loyola University) on the topic of adolescent bullying, harassment, and emotional violence, the session drove home the importance of “poisonous pedagogy” – a term used to describe how treating children in a traditionally “normal” way can potentially be harmful. Information was also shared on the correlation between high school size and issues related to bullying, as well as the need for schools to promote a “pro-social environment” for learning. Also on the first day of the conference, I attended a research session focused on a study which strived to “build stronger families” by following their coping strategies during times of stress in south-side Chicago. While my Extension appointment does not allow for me to work with families or youth in an extremely urban setting such as Chicago, I garnered many interesting general facts from this session.

With help from co-presenter Mark Light (Allen County, Maumee Valley EERA), we presented a successful computer lab workshop to more than 10 participants. Extension 2.0: Harnessing the power of the blogosphere to expand programming potential and impact was well received by all participants. During the session, we touched on topics such as the importance of blogs in today’s world of social connective-ness and information sharing, how to set up a blog, how to garner statistical data from a blog, etc. We also demonstrated various uses for social networking tools such as Facebook and Twitter. Many participants stated they had been waiting for this particular information for quite some time.

The standout session during the second day of the conference goes to New Mexico State University, who (in my opinion) may be light-years ahead of the Extension technology curve. The Computer in Your Hand and in Your Programming: Phones, Mobile Devices, Games, and Learning workshop session brought to light many of the smartphone Extension applications currently being developed at the New Mexico State University Gaming and Learning Lab. Through various skits and interactive games, NMSU is reaching out to a younger audience of potential Extension clientele while teaching skills such as general reasoning, math aptitude, social relationship building, etc. Their concept of teaching the same life skills traditionally taught by Extension in different ways (via the mobile web and handheld devices) could play a critical role in the transition of Extension programming for modern clientele.

Throughout CYFAR 2010, I was able to network with colleagues that I had spoken to “virtually” many times, but had never had the opportunity to meet in person. It was very exciting to me to finally get
the chance to have conversations with them face-to-face. I also visited with many other 4-H and FCS colleagues from around the country. CYFAR has never disappointed me in the quality of its conference year after year. If you were unable to attend CYFAR, please click the link below to view recorded keynote and research presentations as well as browse workshop session materials. 
http://www1.cyfernet.org/cyfar2010/index.html

Jamie Seger
Program Assistant
Family & Consumer Sciences / 4-H Youth Development
The Ohio State University Extension, Miami County

One In 88 Program

Ohio State has a program called the One in 88 program. A student from each county serves on the 88 "board". The board is interested in doing a community service project across Ohio and also conducting a College Access event with elementary and Junior High Students. They are looking for Extension Educators, Program Coordinators to link with in rural and urban counties to extend the OSU mission as the land grant university. If interested, please contact Becky Cropper at cropper.1@osu.edu.

PR Committee Update

The PR Committee met during the October 18 OAEP meeting. In order to increase awareness of the organization and membership, an invitation will be given to all new (membership-eligible) OSUE employees at Annual Conference, encouraging them to join OAEP. This will include a letter from President-elect Lisa McCutcheon and organization information. In addition, the OAEP tabletop display will also be staffed at Annual Conference. The benefits of OAEP were presented to 4-H professionals at their in-service on Nov. 3.

OAEP will once again have a presence at the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) annual meeting in December. Commissioners and personnel will be given door prize tickets attached to an OSUE information sheet. As in previous years, PR Committee members will purchase door prizes and staff the OAEP booth at the CCAO conference. It was noted that attendance at this conference has declined over the past several years. As a result, at the end of the year the committee will evaluate the effectiveness of our presence at the CCAO conference and make a recommendation as to OAEP participation in 2011.

Connie Goble is the retiring chair of this committee; Sally McClaskey will chair it in 2011
Membership Report and Recruitment

You are encouraged to join the OAEP (Ohio Association of Extension Professionals) for 2011. Also please consider enrolling in your National Association through OAEP. This helps us maintain an accurate list for award eligibility for the National Associations. OAEP has set up an on-line membership renewal form for you to be a to fill in the information and print for your records and also email to our Treasurer.

Visit the OAEP Website for membership enrollment forms.

http://oaep.osu.edu/OAEPMembership.htm

The following memberships will be processed through OAEP.

OAEP Membership: $55
Ohio Association of Extension Professionals
OAEP membership is open to any OSU Extension personnel with an Administrative and Professional (A&P) or Faculty appointment. Active membership of this association shall carry with it the privilege of holding any Board position in the Association and of voting on all matters coming before meetings of the Association. Members of OSU Extension Administrative Cabinet and civil service employees are excluded from membership.

National Organizations:
Even if you do not join OAEP you are encouraged to enroll with your national organization thru OAEP so that we may maintain a record of your membership for eligibility for national association awards.

NACAA; National Association of County Agricultural Agents: $60
NACDEP; National Assoc. of Community Development Extension Professionals: $75
NAE4-HA; National Association of Extension 4-H Agents: $75
NEAFCS; National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences: $92
ANREP; Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals: $45

Please contact me should you have any questions regarding OAEP membership or National Association memberships for 2011.
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If you would like to help out on a committee please contact President Randall Reeder reeder.1@osu.edu.

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If you would like to help out on a committee please contact President Randall Reeder reeder.1@osu.edu.

Committees: Where can you help?

Registration is open!

https://www.regonline.com/osu_extension_annual_conference