Greetings OAEP Members...

Since taking office as your President in December, I have worked hard to organize board meetings, assign members to committees, and represent our membership to the best of my ability. During March 14-16, I had the opportunity to attend the Ohio Farm Bureau County President’s Trip to Washington, D.C. Each year, OFBF invites the OAEP President to participate in this trip. This activity presents many opportunities. First, I had the chance to interact with county Farm Bureau Presidents, to listen to the issues that their counties face, their work with OSU Extension staff within their county, and the suggestions that they offer for Extension as it moves forward. Second, I enjoyed the opportunity to be updated on issues being dealt with at the national level that are of great importance to Ohio’s agricultural industry. Beyond that, we enjoyed the time spent meeting with Ohio’s House and Senate representatives as they discussed their work on the issues of our country. As our visit to the capital drew to a close, we met with our own representatives and spoke of how the issues impact each of us.

Later in March, I was one of ten professionals invited to meet with the OSUE Administrative Cabinet on March 24 as they presented anticipated structural changes to Extension. I followed that meeting by asking for input from our membership – which netted responses from approximately 80 members. Those comments and suggestions were compiled into one complete document that was shared with Administrative Cabinet on April 20, and is available for your review on the OAEP website. Your responses were not only appreciated, but also very helpful. The many voices of OAEP were heard and will certainly be taken in to consideration as our organization moves forward. Everyone within Extension will continue to be updated on the progress of this transition as decisions are made, directly from our Director, Keith Smith.

Please know that I continue to appreciate the opportunity to represent each of you. Should there be a way that I may be of service, I invite you to contact me.

Most Sincerely,
Lisa
The 2011 PILD Conference was titled Cooperate Extension: Relevant Now and Beyond. PILD is a special professional development opportunity that brings together key volunteers and leaders from all levels and program areas of Extension to gain insight into the “big picture” of how the Extension System and our government work at the federal level.

One constant in today’s world is change, and our Extension System is not an exception. All of us are experiencing major changes at county and state levels, and the federal outlook is undergoing transformation as well. From the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) leadership speakers, we gained insight into the structural changes taking place.

Concurrent sessions focused on professional growth, pertinent issues, and preparation for meetings with federal and local decision makers. A special highlight was Tuesday morning’s roundtable breakfast with national program leaders. This provided an opportunity to network with Extension leaders whose positions at USDA support programs and provide funding to address critical county, state and national issues.

The most interesting concurrent session I attended was with the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) grant person who spoke about what they were looking for in the grants. AFRI Grant acceptance rates are less than 20% and are more seriously considered when research and outreach are clearly included as a team. One of the big concerns expressed was the amount of research conducted that is not adopted by citizens because researchers are notoriously poor about getting research results into the hands of everyday citizens.

On the final day of the conference our Ohio delegation went on “Hill Visits” as we met with congressional staffers and aids of various Ohio federal elected officials. We put in a good word for Cooperative Extension amidst all the hustle and bustle of the last minute deal making taking place as the government was nearing a shutdown later that week.

A congressional staffer for House Speaker Boehner was very interested in the Grand Lake St Marys water quality issues and on our OSU Extension research on manure usage. They had gotten a large number of contacts from constituents The Grand Lake St Marys last summer. The staffer also asked if farmers were willing to do their part in improving water in the lake.
OSU Extension Professionals Attend JCEP

Wm. Bruce Clevenger, OSU Extension Educator
2011 OAEP 1st V.P. for ANR
2011 NACAA State President, Ohio

The 2011 JCEP Conference was titled Extension – **Moving Forward: New Structure, New Opportunities**. The economic issues Ohio is facing are similar across the U.S. As a result, extension organizations nation-wide find themselves looking at the future with change. OSU Extension finds itself in the mist of the JCEP Conference title...moving forward, new structure, and new opportunities.

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is the federal partner and national issues leader for the national extension system. **The national strategic goals of NIFA** are supported by funding from the Agricultural and Food Research Initiatives (AFRI). As we view the national strategic goals, how well do OSU Extension’s signature programs match-up? AFRI has five Challenge Areas:

1. Climate Change
2. Sustainable Bioenergy
3. Food Safety
4. Childhood Obesity Prevention
5. Global Food Security

OSU Extension is strategically positioned with our strong relationship with OARDC to competitively seek funding within these Challenge Areas. AFRI Grant acceptance rates are approximately 18% but applications that included a **high level of extension education with research were successful** and a priority in the future. AFRI grants embrace the Logic Model and expect measurable results.

What is the life Expectancy of NIFA Challenge Areas and for that matter OSU Extension Signature Programs? Nationally, NIFA knows society changes with rising priorities so **the life expectancy of the Challenge Areas was stated at 2-5 years**; so to should be our flexibility and ability to deliver results on our OSU Extension Signature Programs.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Professionals shared their experience and values in technology to deliver extension education. Many examples of texting, Facebook, Twitter, blogs, YouTube, websites, on-line courses and 24/7 learning. **Ohio’s experience and use of Camtasia** to capture teaching presentations and deliver it on a website was well received by states across the U.S. OSU Extension should pursue and prioritize resources to support teaching with technology.
Linnette Goard  
OSU Extension Educator  
2011 OAEP 1st V.P. for FCS  
2011 NEAFCS State President, Ohio

Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Leadership Conference
Thank you for providing me with a wonderful opportunity of attending the JCEP Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas. I thought it would be a warm and sunny getaway as well as an opportunity to network with Extension professionals well..........at least it was sunny!

We had the opportunity to work with Deborah Sheely, Assistant Director, NIFA, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability. She presented us with the many opportunities we have available to obtain grant monies through NIFA proposals, AFRI grants and more. The nifa.usda.gov website lists many of these opportunities and resources for building successful proposals.

I will share the TOP TEN TIPS for writing a successful proposal. I believe these tips are applicable for any type of grant funding you may be working on. So, in David Letterman style,

10. Submit on time.
9. Have your colleague review. Also try to find copies of grants that have been funded from prior years.
8. Write a meaningful and engaging project summary.
7. Write the proposals for reviewers.
   “What will be different as a result of your project?”
   If a letter of intent is required, describe key objectives and potential outcomes.
6. Define the roles for every team member.
5. Develop a comprehensive project outline using the logic model.
   Who is involved? What will they do?
   Include a timeline.
4. Include goals and objectives.
3. Assemble an effective team and develop the proposal together.
2. Serve on a review panel so you can learn more about the grant program.
1. Read the RFA, Read the RFA, Read the RFA!
The 2011 NACDEP Conference was held on March 7-9 in Charleston, SC. The theme for the conference was *Creating Opportunities in an Evolving Economy*, which focused on the role of Extension Community Development professionals in dealing with the current economic sustainability of communities. The conference afforded countless opportunities to meet colleagues sharing their work in the following conference tracks: Economic Development; Environment and Land Use; Building Collaborations; Leadership, Civic Engagement & Public Deliberation, and; Growing Sponsored Funding.

In total, 11 representatives of the OSU Extension CD unit attended the conference. Members of our CD Unit were responsible for 11 of 88 peer-reviewed session presentations, including:

- 2 multi-state efforts (Davis; Lucente)
- 3 in-state joint efforts (Bowen, Romich, & Lloyd; Moss, Romich & Bowen; Fox, Raison & Bowling)
- 6 solo presentations (Bowen, Civittolo, Raison)

In addition, CD unit members were responsible for 2 of 22 peer-reviewed posters (Raison & Fox; Bowling, Civittolo, Davis, Merkowitz & Williams)

We had two projects/three individuals (Romich, and Civittolo & Davis) receive National Awards. A third project/four individuals (Moss, Grunkemeyer, Romich, and Bowen) received a Regional Award. CD Unit members also served on conference track review committees and served as conference session moderators. Also, OSU’s Mark Partridge (AEDE) was the conference opening ceremony plenary session presenter on Tuesday morning.

Next year’s 2012 conference is to be held May 21-23 in Park City, UT.
While many of my colleagues may know that I maintain specializations in livestock quality assurance programming and teen leadership development, it is not as widely known that I am happy to share expertise pertaining to accommodating clientele (both youth and adults) who have food allergies. My experience regarding food allergies has been fine-tuned over the past nine years after my daughter was diagnosed with life-threatening food allergies at the age of two.

Early on, I learned about food allergies so that I could keep her safe. Today, I learn about food allergies so that I may keep the children of other parents safe – while attending 4-H camp, club meetings, and other events typically attended 4-H members. Nine years ago, I knew nothing about food allergies and knew of no one that had been diagnosed. Since then, I have worked with several families who are dealing with food allergies as they prepare for their children to participate in a 4-H residential camp. In order for that participation to take place, a great deal of training must be done along the way.

Through the support of the OAEP Professional Improvement Committee, I had the opportunity to participate in the Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network’s (FAAN) Food Allergy Conference held in Oak Brook, Illinois in mid-April. While there, I not only had the opportunity to network with other professionals who support youth with food allergies, but also to hear directly from specialists in the field regarding steps that can be taken to prevent exposure and the research that is being done to benefit those who have been diagnosed. This information has enhanced the expertise that I offer to share with any of you who may be facing an opportunity to involve a child with food allergies in a 4-H or OSU-supported educational event.

As you find that you have an opportunity (not a challenge!) to work with a family who is dealing with food allergies, I encourage you to be patient, open to listening, and willing to learn all that you can in order to accommodate their needs. The parents of these special children will be intent on insuring the safety of their child, and will respect your attention to detail and openness to learn. Children who have life-threatening food allergies are diligent in being cautious, but can only be successful when supported by those adults who are serving as mentors, chaperones, and staff. It is our responsibility as professionals to insure a safe and enjoyable experience.

While simple awareness can create a safe environment when participating in an activity such as a club meeting, when a child with food allergies is planning to participate in a residential camp, much more in-depth education and training is needed. It is essential that all adult staff and camp counselors be trained to recognize the signs of a food allergy reaction and know the appropriate steps to treat the child and then seek medical attention. It would also be appropriate for all camp facility staff members to be trained – just as all school staff would be trained for a school-age child.

As you find that you will be welcoming a child with food allergies in to your program, please feel free to contact me for information and resources. Because I have had the opportunity to have numerous food allergic children at camp, and through my personal experiences, I have provided training for my adult camp staff, teens who serve as 4-H camp counselors, as well as the summer staff at 4-H Camp Ohio. I am more than happy to work with you, as well as your camp nurse, to insure that you have the resources that you need.

Most importantly, it is critical to remember that children with food allergies are just that – children! They have a special need that requires your attention, but they just want to be like everyone else! They want to blend in, participate in the same activities, eat the same meals, etc. But they also need to feel as though they have an advocate that will assist them in making the right choices and provide an additional layer of protection throughout their experience. With the appropriate knowledge and training, you can be that advocate!
March 10th – 12th I participated in the Mid-States Camping Conference in St. Charles, Illinois. It was very exciting to meet other camping professionals from Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kentucky, and a few other places. I decided to participate in a full day workshop with Michael Brandwein which was very helpful! One of his books is on the shelf in my office and I didn’t understand how best to use the materials and plans inside until this day. One of the most important concepts that I took away from this workshop is “camping with intent.” It is definitely a theme that I wanted to infuse in our county camp counselor training this year; participation in Brandwein’s workshop gave me the additional inspiration to do that more effectively. I used his presentation “Thinking Out of the Bag” during the Core Training for 29 camp counselors that I had after returning from the conference. One of the counselors left the Core Training telling me it was one of the best counselor trainings she had been to.

During the conference I participated in sessions on campfire skits, funding camps, creating a food revolution at camp, and storytelling. The storytelling session gave me several ideas to use with my counselors to help them create meaningful end of day signatures, teachable moments, and more thought out session planning for their own. I really enjoyed the campfire skits and the enthusiasm for fun brought by the staff. We were challenged to create a series of short campfire skits to present to each other. The group I was with did some that are fairly well known, but I learned a great, very short, skit called “The Life of a Rain Drop.” I will have to use that one with my counselors.

The speakers were very inspiring and interesting. Gary Forester, who works with YMCA camps, talked about research being done on why kids go to camp. He gave some very interesting insights about how community and family culture play into the decisions of not letting a child go away to a resident camp. Forester was also very comical in sharing some of his findings about boys participating in camps, poor facilities and great facilities, and many other unique situations he found in his travels around the country. He was very kind to share his presentations with me. Faith Evans gave an inspiring speech telling the story of how to shine the light within others – making opportunities to show others how valuable and inspiring that they are. This also reinforced the idea of camping with intent.

There was a nice, small trade show, but the only booth that was of interest was the book store. I took the recommendation of another Ohio camping professional and purchased two curriculum guides for counselor training. It was very pleasant to talk with other people who love to work with kids and believe in camping programs. I was not aware of very many other Extension staff, but I did meet up with Denny Eliot as he was cleaning up an outdoor cooking session. The accommodations were very pleasant. I would recommend this conference to anyone early in their camping program career or feeling the need for fresh ideas. I appreciate the assistance to help me take this trip and gain some professional development that will be very useful in the future.
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.

Program Committee - create opportunities for the free flow of programming ideas between members of the association; encourage feedback to administrators on statewide programming issues.

Professional Improvement Committee - support opportunities for membership’s professional improvement thorough in-service activities; support the continuation of support dollars to agents.

Recognition Committee - implementing and facilitate the selection process for the state personnel service awards; distinguished service awards; achievement awards and tenure awards.

Public Relations Committee - increase the visibility and image of The Ohio State University Extension and the Ohio Extension Agents Association; create awareness for new agents of the objectives, work and accomplishments of OAEP; to act as a liaison between OAEP and Ohio county commissioners.

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 Lisa McCutcheon mcutcheon.46@osu.edu
Greetings OAEP Members!

As fall approaches, it becomes ever too apparent that our year with OAEP is about to draw to a close. With that said, I want to thank each and every one of you who has been active within OAEP – whether it has been serving as an officer or committee chair, being an active committee member, or participating in and OAEP meeting, training or activity. The involvement of our membership is critical to our progress. With that said, let’s not forget that there is work yet to be done...

I hope that many of you have planned to join us at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center on Monday, October 17th! That will be a busy day for OAEP, and our last membership meeting prior to Annual Conference. The schedule that day will begin with Committee Meetings at 10:00 a.m., and then continue with a lunch time discussion with program area ADs at 11:45 a.m. and an open dialogue with OSUE Director Keith Smith at 1:00 p.m., and close with our OAEP Board meeting at 2:00 p.m. Those of you who are actively involved with committees will be receiving updates from Committee Chairs as to meeting plans for that day... Lunch is being provided by OAEP! I certainly hope that you will take advantage of this valuable opportunity to re-connect with OAEP and your fellow colleagues across the state!

Our last gathering of 2011 will take place on Wednesday, December 14th. That evening, at 5:30 p.m., members of OAEP, ESP and CES will join together for dinner at the 4-H Center and then move in to our Annual Meetings and Recognition Program. For the first time, OAEP and ESP will hold their gatherings together. We hope that this will be the first of many opportunities to unite the two organizations, which maintain a similar purpose and membership. We look forward to recognizing our retiring board members and welcoming the new, while also making our final reports to the membership and installing our 2012 officer team. You will register for this event in the same manner that you register for Annual Conference. And we hope that many of you will choose to join us for this evening of recognition and fun...

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not recognize that we have lost many distinguished OAEP members over the past few months. Their time, expertise, and dedication have been invaluable over the years. I feel certain that I represent each and every OAEP member as I wish them good health and much happiness as they begin this new chapter in their lives. We have each been touched by their kindness and mentoring over the years... Congratulations to each of our retirees!

Sincerely,
Lisa D. McCutcheon
2011 OAEP President
Committee and Officer reports for the OAEP Annual Report are due on October 31, 2011. Please email those reports to Pat Brinkman, President Elect at brinkman.93@osu.edu.

OAEP Membership and National Association Membership renewal requests will soon be coming out, please look for the information and sign up to belong to your association. Forms may be found online at http://oaep.osu.edu as well as membership fees, and a step-by-step guide to pay dues and submit forms.

Deadline for renewal is October 31, 2011.

Questions: Contact Membership Chair:
Teresa M. Johnson, Defiance County johnson.1389@osu.edu
OAEP Professional Improvement Scholarships

Teresa M. Johnson
Disney’s Approach to Leadership Excellence
April 20, 2011

This session was sponsored by Ivy Tech Community College – Northeeast in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This full day event allowed area professionals an opportunity to learn how a leader’s behaviors are instrumental in conveying values, guiding strategy, and inspiring passion and interest among employees.

Whether subtle or overt, behaviors demonstrated by employees - in particular those in management roles - are instrumental in conveying values, guiding strategy, and inspiring passion and interest. When practiced, the effect is far more powerful than merely directing employees to adhere to company policy. Positive actions consistently tell the story not only of who you are, but of the behaviors you value. When you convey a shared and meaningful purpose, in time employees will naturally follow the storyline you’ve written.

Program Objectives
• Discover leadership strategies and best practices that can be adapted to any organization.
• Explore the Disney methods for leadership development.
Learn how accountability is needed to align organizational values and individual leadership values and behaviors.

About Disney Institute:
Disney Institute was created to showcase Disney best practices that easily adapt to other organizations. As one of the most recognized names in professional development, Disney Institute travels the world offering engaging seminars, workshops and presentations, as well as fully customized programming. Topics include Leadership Excellence, People Management, Quality Service, Brand Loyalty, Inspiring Creativity, and Business Excellence
Report from NACAA AM/PIC

Report from OAEP Board Meeting by Bruce Clevenger:

Ohio was well represented at the 2011 National Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Overland Park, Kansas.
- 29 Educators + 7 family members
- 6 life members/spouses
Total attending from Ohio = 42 registered.

Please join me in congratulating Amy Stone and Jim Jasinski for representing Ohio nationally in the NACAA Communication Awards program.
- Amy Stone was the National Winner in the Program Promotional Piece
- Jim was the National Winner in the Video category and a National Finalist in the Audio category.

Amy and Jim were recognized in Kansas

Professional Oral Presentations at NACAA AM/PIC
- Twelve Ohio Educators gave 19 peer-reviewed, abstract published presentations
Presenters included: Clevenger, Bennet, Bruynis, Landefeld, Gastier, Barrett, Wilson, Gao, Mechling, Hoorman, Sundermeier, Jepsen

Professional Poster Presentations at NACAA AM/PIC
- Ohio Educators presented 16 peer-reviewed, published abstracts & posters
  **14 posters – Extension Education (Ohio had 44% of the North Central Region Posters)**
  **2 posters – Applied Research**

Search for Excellence in Farm Financial Management—National Finalist: Annie’s Project—Woodruff, Bruynis, Herringshaw
You are invited to attend and participate in the OSU Extension 2011 Annual Conference on December 15. This year’s conference theme is “Extension...Now, More Than Ever!”

Proposals are due by October 1. All topics are welcome, but the planning committee is especially interested in proposals covering the following topics: use of tablet/iPad/smart phone, WebEx, Camtasia, Web-based surveys, social media and policy, eXtension, Microsoft Office programs, eReports, PeopleSoft, Quickbooks; time management tools; designing marketing/communications pieces; clicker technology for evaluation; and presenting information via the Pecha Kucha technique. Proposals may be submitted to present in one of the following formats: half-session, full-session, or poster.

Note - association meetings will be held this year the evening of December 14; specific times to be determined. More information will be distributed when available.

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