Hello CES,

I hope this letter reaches you happy and healthy. I am acutely aware that these have been stressful times. Whether it is Workday, OneDrive, Nelnet, going back to the office or not going back to the office quickly enough, there are and have been many issues to deal with. Not to mention that May to September is an extremely busy time of year. Most of us have returned to the office in some compacity, and with that comes new or renewed challenges. We must remember how to be a team again and not just individuals doing our own tasks. We need to be kind and patient, not only to our team members but to ourselves.

I just want all CES members to know how honored I am to be a part of this magnificent team we call CES! Your dedication to keeping our offices running in top form and working as a team never ceases to amaze me, especially during these trying times. I am sure many of you have come across the quote from Jane Marczewski (of Zanesville, OH), also known as Nightbirde on America’s Got Talent. However, I believe everyone should hear it as much as possible, here it is ……

“You can’t wait until life isn’t hard anymore to decide to be happy.”

Best,

Carol Wagner
CES President
CFAES Staff Advisory Council: Terri Fisher, CFAES SAC Liaison

The first of two planned rounds of the 2021 Staff Professional Development Awards was recently open to applicants through June 11, 2021. These awards are provided to supplement the costs associated with travel and fees for professional development opportunities for CFAES staff. It is not too early to make plans to apply for the second round of awards, which will be due September 30, 2021. Please reference the website for first round awardee announcements, the Call for Applications, and to learn more: https://cfaessac.osu.edu/professional-development-0

Staff Advisory Council is also eagerly anticipating our first in-person meeting of the year, on July 14th at the Gwynne Conservation Area’s Cabin at the site of Farm Science Review in London, Ohio. We are very excited to be getting out to connect in person with those around the state again. Please feel free to reach out to me or any of our reps with any staff-related comments, concerns, and questions you would like us to address at this meeting or at any time. Additional SAC reps and news can be found on our website at https://cfaessac.osu.edu/. Thank you for the amazing work you do as CFAES staff!

Excerpts from our webpage: Ces.osu.edu

CES Leadership

- Committees
- Meeting Schedule
- CES Finance Reports & Board Minutes
- Constitution & Bylaws

Member Benefits

- CES lapel pin & certificate
- Quarterly CES newsletters
- Optional participation in the "Secret Friend" program
- Recognition for professional and personal achievement
- Years of Service and New Member Awards
- Annual Meeting and Membership Awards
- Awards through OJCEP Creative Works
- Dorothy Rex Inspirational Award
- CES Extension Support Staff Excellence Award

CES Awards and Recognition

- CES Creative Works & Scholarships Via OJCEP
- CES Extension Support Staff Excellence Award
- Dorothy Rex Inspirational Award

OJCEP: Mission: to promote the professional development of and to provide ongoing support for the professionals of Ohio State University Extension. Scholarships
Hello from TERSSA!

North Carolina’s state association made the difficult decision to host their annual conference as a virtual event which means we’ll not be visiting them this year. The good news is you have a year to get ready and anticipate a great trip to Kitty Hawk. We will be travelling to Kitty Hawk September 20 – 23, 2022 for much needed in person networking and yoga on the beach. This means Ohio will likely be the host of the 2023 TERSSA conference. We aren’t allowing this setback to keep us from meeting in 2021. We are partnering with the LOD team and Support Staff Conference committee to plan for a way to include TERSSA in our conference this fall. Watch your inbox for updates.

**2022 TERSSA National Conference**

<table>
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<th>Start</th>
<th>September 20, 2022</th>
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<tr>
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<td>September 23, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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**TERSSA FACEBOOK – www.TERSSA.ORG**

**TERSSA**

**Current Participating States:** Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Virginia Tech

**Why be a member of TERSSA?**

As with program staff (4-H, FCS, CD, AG), national associations and conferences provide the opportunity to add to our professional development, network with our peers, expand Extension knowledge, and broaden our world view.

**Mission Statement:** The Extension & Research Support Staff Association will improve the lives and careers of members by providing one voice to improve the development of Extension and Research across Regions through professional recognition, networking with states, administration advocacy and professional and personal improvement.

**Membership Dues:** $15.00 payable with CES/OJCEP dues in the fall

**Mark your calendars:**

October 14-19th... partial day Zoom sessions

Support Staff Conference
Hosted by LOD
In Memory: With a sad heart we share the loss of one of our own:

Deb Delp OBIT
May 16, 1951 – October 28, 2020
A Tribute her husband shared: “Memory of Love”
Deb was Mentor Coordinator 2008-10,
an amazing CES Annalist 2010-2014
and a wonderful CES President 2014-15, &
Past President 2015-16
Her work and memory live on…

Notes from OSU Retirees – past CES members/officers:

Marilyn Bloom Mohr, formally of Ottawa County mjbmohr@sbcglobal.net on Facebook too!

Marilyn was a CES Charter member, first Annalist 1986-87, Vice President 1987-89, President Elect 1989-90 , President 1990-91, Past President 1991-92

I graduated from Harris-Elmore High School May, 1953.
The following week I started a temporary employment as a Job Clerk for Western Electric, the company constructing facilities to convert the Ohio Bell telephone company in Fremont to a dial system which eliminated the need for telephone operators.

In the fall of 1953, my dad was helping construct two buildings at the Oak Harbor Veterans Park for 4-H and especially for exhibits during the Oak Harbor Fall Festival. County Agricultural Extension Agent, Fred Grimm, was working with my dad. Fred shared with dad that his secretary was getting married and moving away. Fred asked my dad if he thought I’d be interested in working at the Extension Office. Of course, I jumped at the thought of a better job. So October 31, 1953 I descended the steps of the Oak Harbor Post Office and as I went down each step I looked at the bars on the windows and wondered what kind of a place I was going to. Those bars were not so bad after all knowing no one could break in thru the windows. There was a bell on the outside door alerting that someone had entered the building. Thirty-eight years of my life was spent in that basement. This was a job that I had not applied for, my dad did it for me.

There was an effort underway to locate new office facilities which went on for many years. It was about 2 years following my retirement when a new office was obtained and it was moved out of the basement.

One fall quarter Fred took a leave to enroll in classes at OSU. He became acquainted with Carlene Hamilton, CPS and wanted me to meet her. Fred’s wife, Katie, and I headed to Columbus to meet Fred and Carlene for dinner as well as attend an OSU basketball game. It was an enjoyable and enlightening time.

Fred shared that since the Extension agents all participated in professional organizations; he felt that I should also get involved as well as taking some secretarial classes. I had seen in the newspaper that a secretarial organization was being organized in the Fremont area so I inquired about it. This was a chapter of the National Secretaries Association (NSA) and also the organization of which Carlene was a member. I joined and actively became very involved. I served first in the local chapter and then on to the Ohio Division where I served as Secretary, Vice President and President. I was fortunate to be able to attend several international annual meetings as well as working alongside my counterparts in our region. Today I am still very grateful that Fred encouraged me to be a part of NSA as well as all educational events.

When I started working it was just Fred and I along with a home economics agent. Those home ec agents came, got settled in and the next thing we knew they were leaving to get married. It was like we were a training place. Over the years I worked with 16 different agriculture, 4-H and/or home economic agents, program assistants plus in the summer many OSU work study students in the summer. One summer we ‘had’ to employ a girl from a county program and she...
could not/would not follow directions! I could give her a job and walk away from her desk turn around to see she was doing something else and not what I had given her to do. When the work she had done was not correct, it was my fault since I was supervising her. I could have gotten it done much faster on my own.

One former 4-H Agent had moved to another county and became the Agricultural Agent. During his tenure an individual entrusted him to become Executor of her estate when she passed. Apparently, this responsibility was just too much for him. It was the middle of the night when Fred called to tell me that he had just received notice that Bill had committed suicide. A real blow as he had been a well-respected and looked up to person.

At one time I thought that one day I would write a book about my experiences working in the Cooperative Extension Service. I guess this is as close to a book as I will get and I will not share much except this one thing. In the early 1960’s we had a home economics agent vacancy and we were suddenly sent a home economist from Wisconsin and to my memory the Extension Advisory Committee had not been involved as was the normal procedure. She used her desk top as a file with piles at least 24 inches high while she worked on the little pull out on her desk. The Post Office (landlord) was having new flooring installed due to water damage and we were told to get our desks and other things ready so the installers could easily move them. So what did she do…she put a label on the top of each pile labeling them right front, back right, middle, left front, etc. You get the message. She was not doing her job and she was under watch by administration. This was when we finally learned she had been ‘fired’ in Wisconsin prior to moving to Ottawa County, a fact that the county had never been told. She resigned from Ottawa County just prior to being fired. Prior to her departure she brought to my desk all the old stuff that had accumulated on her desk to be filed.

I served as a 4-H advisor for 52+ years which was a real joy. Today I still hear from some of the girls via Facebook. I was very happy when one of my 4-H’ers became a home economics extension agent. The girls always enjoyed going on outings each summer and as hard as they tried, I refused to take them to Cedar Point. We did educational things and a couple of years attended the outdoor theater in southern Ohio with stops in Columbus to tour the Capitol with our state representative as tour guide and also some locations on campus. One year we attended the Ohio State Fair on the day of the Junior Fair Horticultural Auction. This auction brought great interest to several of the girls who immediately said they would enter some of their horticulture and floriculture products the following year. Enter they did with several items and winning they did with their champion house plant and champion tomatoes. These items were then sold at the auction bringing a large sum of money for the girls. The champion tomatoes and their exhibitor were featured the next morning on a national TV show. It is the little things in life that make a big difference. The family of those three girls with horticulture interest has now built a large successful greenhouse business which they started the year the girls took interest.

A Senior Citizens apartment complex had just been built in Elmore. The girls took interest in assisting residents on move in day which happened to be one with lots of snow on the sidewalks. Shoveling and sweeping snow did not bother the girls as they helped carry boxes. Spring came and many residents wanted flowers in their flower beds, so yes, the girls got on their knees and planted flowers. A friendship between the residents and the girls soon became evident with several social events being planned by the girls. They especially liked the May Day Parties. The complex had a social room which we were invited to hold our 4-H Club meetings in…but remember no red drinks as they had nice new carpet.

Ottawa County did not have a county fair at that time. Fred Grimm along with many others worked to establish an Agricultural Society which would sponsor the county fair. The county commissioners had land next to the County Home which they designated for the fairgrounds. A junior fair for the county youth was established in 1964. Eventually horse racing was added along with some open class events. Extension Service was in charge of the youth portion and I spent a week each year at the fairgrounds. The first fair office was an old chicken coup. A local lumber company donated a building which had to be cut in half to be moved down the highway from Oak Harbor to the fairgrounds. It was of course put back together. The office became the hang out for the junior fair board members coming in to see what jobs they could do and also to enjoy a beverage. The company that supplied soft drinks to the fairgrounds also provided a soft drink dispenser for the fair board members which was located behind my desk.

I helped establish the Ottawa County 4-H Endowment Committee to raise funds for future 4-H programs as well as scholarships for deserving 4-H’ers. One scholarship is now given in my name. Annual fund raisers are held with a dinner, silent as well as live auctions. Several long time 4-H supporters have remembered Ottawa County 4-H Endowment fund in their estate planning which boosted the income.

Throughout my tenure as Extension secretary, I was invited to be a part of the Annual New Agent/Secretaries Training held annually on campus. Many of the new secretaries had never been in Columbus and had no idea of where to go for the evening meal. I ended up being the restaurant guide and discovered this was a highlight of their training.

Annual reports were due the end of every year which the agents prepared. It was up to the secretary to type on either a manual or electric typewriter about 5 copies…1 hard copy and about 4 copies on onionskin paper with carbon paper in between. Mistakes were hard to correct.

Enter the world of computers. County offices did not have computers but campus offices were starting to have computers. Computer training was held on Fridays with secretaries sharing a computer to learn the basics and you were...
suppose to remember what you learned until the following Friday for more advanced training. Remember you did not have a computer back in your office. The day finally arrived when a computer was delivered to our office. Columbus administration had made bulk orders on computers as well as long 8 ft. tables to put them on.

As a member of National Secretaries Association (NSA) we would meet annually for our Ohio Division Meeting. It did not take long before friendships developed between those who were also Extension Secretaries. Carlene Hamilton CPS, Bette Kidd, Caroline Parks, Dorothy Rex and I enjoyed our time sharing and discussing the need for a state wide Extension Secretary organization. Carlene, who was secretary to the Extension Director, kept assuring us that it would happen but it would have to be the idea of administration. So, we patiently waited and yes it did happen in 1986 when Extension Director J. Michael Sprott gave the initial approval. It was now time to put our fertile minds to work. Representation from across the Extension areas were selected for this task: Micki Daniels, Administration; Becky Hooper, East District; Irene Moore, Ashland County; Dorothy Rex, Knox County; Jacqueline Mueck, Entomology and myself, Marilyn Bloom, Ottawa County. We met in the Knox County facilities where we spent many hours making the foundation of this new organization. First was deciding a name, constitution, getting secretaries to come on board with us, design for membership pins and the list goes on since there were so many things to be decided on. It all came together as we held the initial meeting of Chi Epsilon Sigma October 21, 1987 in conjunction with the annual support staff conference.

Many friendships developed within CES. One particular was mine with Jackie Mueck as we became confidents. I was heading to the OSU hospital to visit a very sick friend and decided I needed to stop at Jackie’s Entomology office for some encouraging words before crossing the river to the hospital. Jackie made a trip to Oak Harbor to attend my retirement party. She also surprised me by attending my wedding November 12, 2006. Jackie lost her life in 2010.

There is a book that I highly recommend all Extension staff read as it shares the beginning of Extension Memories and Milestones of Ohio State University 1905-2013. Chapter 8 has a section on Support Staff and Chi Epsilon Sigma Support Staff Fraternity. Dr. Marilyn Spiegel and Dr. Jo Jones came to my home to interview me in 2004 as they were starting to interview 100 current and former employees researching for their book. I am quoted several times in this book.

OSU football ticket purchase was a great fringe benefit with my seats varying from first row in C Deck down from press box to the almost top row in south stands following the buyout as my points were cut in half. Conclusion: sitting on our Lazy Boy recliners and watching the game on our big TV is better than fighting the crowds but we still miss skull session and actual live activity. Point loss is one thing but aging is another!

A second “buy out” for retirement was offered and I decided this was a good move for me retiring December, 1991. Five months later I assumed the position of Easter Seal Director for Sandusky County, a position I held for 2 years.

Faith Lutheran Church, where I am a member, was hiring a new secretary and I was asked to fulfill this position. As a life-long member of Faith, I was now seeing things from a different view and working with members and the organizations.

I soon became involved with the Northwestern Ohio Synod of the ELCA and was elected to the Synod Council which I served on for 8 years and then elected secretary for another 4 years. Now I was working with the Bishop and his staff as well as congregations throughout Northwest Ohio.

The Lutheran Brotherhood Branch of Sandusky County became part of my life as we participated in numerous activities and projects to spread the gospel in helping people. Our branch nominated me for Fraternalist of the Year and I soon became Lutheran Brotherhood’s nominee for the National Fraternalist of the Year a competition among 99 fraternal organizations. It was August, 1991 and I received a phone call from the President of Lutheran Brotherhood that I had been selected as the national winner but I was not to share the information at this time. The official announcement would be made in October at the National Fraternalist meeting in Washington, D.C. Yes, you will be required to give an acceptance speech which our speech writers will assist you on. My nephew had been a speech writer for the FBI and was now writing speeches for a large telecommunications company so I was not sure I needed outside help! As I registered for the event, I was given two name tags, one that I was a guest and the other that I was the 1991 Fraternalist of the Year. I was told that I should move to the back of the room during an announcement, change name tags and meet the President of Lutheran Brotherhood who would escort me to the podium. My speech worked out just fine and I followed President George Bush at the podium. Lutheran Brotherhood had made arrangements for a special dinner at the Capitol in my honor. As I watched TV on Jan. 6 seeing the destruction that was taking place it was disturbing to me especially as I recalled my walks down those same halls for my celebration.

Another honor LB bestowed on me was an all-expense paid trip to Kauai, Hawaii to be part of the LB Agents Conference and also a week in San Antonio for another conference.

May 15, 2006 Rev. Dan Mohr asked me to marry him. My response, “only if the Bishop will agree to conduct the service”. Dan did not waste any time placing a phone call to Bishop Lohrmann and of course he agreed. We coordinated our dates with his calendar and selected Sunday afternoon, November 12 for our wedding. Our wedding had a Buckeye theme with scarlet and gray colors, buckeyes arranged on each pew, guests arrived in the appropriate colors and Carmen Ohio as the processional. Dan requested that I quit my job as church secretary as we were going to travel.

Travel we did…Hawaii, Panama, San Antonio, Tucson, Alaska, Australia/New Zealand, New England, Nova Scotia, Branson, National Parks of California and Utah, Florida. And then we got 2 Shelties so that ended most of our travels.

As a church secretary there was a computer program to network with other church secretaries. One such person
was from Fairbanks, Alaska. We were in process of making our travel arrangements to Alaska and I mentioned to my friend in Fairbanks that we would be in her area. She immediately said she would meet us at our hotel and take us out to see some sights. She already knew that I had worked for the Ohio State University Extension Service. Her father had been involved with the establishment of the Alaska State Research Center and was still involved. She gave us a great tour of Fairbanks with visits to the deer research area and the peony gardens where they were working on getting the flower blossom just right to be able to ship the flowers to the lower 48 states as brides wanted them in their wedding bouquets.

I had a knee problem and it was recommended by my orthopedic surgeon to have knee replacement surgery. Surgery on October 12, 2017 went well and I was back home. It was necessary to return to my ortho’s office within a week and upon returning home, I lost control of my walker and fell. A 911 call took me to the ER and then 2 weeks in a rehab facility before I could come back home. I had moved the tibia out of place and it would require 3 months of non-weight bearing before another surgery would be possible. My knee likes to buckle so my ortho surgeon says to always have either a cane or walker at all times so I do not fall.

It is very interesting reading the CES newsletters and realizing just how far what we started has now come. Keep up the good work.

I would really love to attend the annual meetings but it is hard for me to get around. ~Marilyn

Carol Bottoms, Findlay, OH: carol4osu@gmail.com
Carol was CES VP 2005-06, President 2006-07, Past President 2007-08

I retired from OSU Extension in June of 2017. Since that time, I have taken a couple of cruises to the Caribbean and Nova Scotia and, out of complete boredom, returned to the workforce part time in March of 2018. I am working in the office for Brinkman’s Turkey Farm, and it’s a really laid back, family-owned atmosphere that I totally enjoy.

I have also become a Color Street nail independent stylist and, with a friend, we have been attending various vendor events around the state. I really enjoy meeting other vendors as well as all the people who visit our booth.

During the past year of being confined to the house, we have spent some time (and lots of money) remodeling our home (which was way overdue). We finally have an office since, after ten years, my two daughters have finally removed all the furniture and “treasures” from their former bedrooms. It is so nice to have all the extra room now.

Last year, after one postponement due to the pandemic, my youngest daughter, Whitney got married in July. It was a scaled-down event, but beautiful all the same.

My oldest daughter, Audrey, has a two-and-a-half year old daughter, Khloe; and both of my daughters are due to give birth to boys in June and July. Needless to say, this will be a busy and exciting year for my family!

I truly miss all the people I worked with and the CES friends I made during my 31 years with OSU Extension. Annual Conferences were very educational and networking- was an invaluable part of the experience. I am hoping to be able to participate in another future TERSSA Conference as well.

This year, my husband and I are hoping to resume cruising as soon as the ships start sailing again. My family has been very blessed with good health, and I am so enjoying my retirement. I highly recommend it!
Remember Your Secret Friend:
The Secret Friend Activity is designed so CES members can get to know fellow members better. This informal, voluntary arrangement encourages those who signed up, to commit to sending (anonymously) notes, cards and remembrances throughout the year. Below is a little info for ideas “Just a minute Mr. Postman…”

Adding to the CES Family: Welcome to these little ones:
Ashley Gerber welcomed baby boy William in October 2020
Paige Matney welcomed baby boy Jhett, in March 2021
Chloe Hart welcomed baby girl Harper in June 2021
Brittany (Rohr) Weaver welcomed twins baby boy Lawson and baby girl Aeva June 10

CES 2021 Executive Board: …here to help…

President – Carol Wagner, wagner.1142@osu.edu, OSU Extension Operations
Vice President – Patty Corfman, corfman.4@osu.edu, OSU Extension Operations
Treasurer – Chris Comden, comden.1@osu.edu, Defiance County
Secretary – Kay Kramer, kramer.578@osu.edu, Union County
Membership Secretary – Paige Matney, matney.30@osu.edu, Lawrence County

Annalist – Vickie Snyder, snyder.252@osu.edu, OSU Extension Operations, Caldwell
Historian – Ashley Gerber, gerber.248@osu.edu, Holmes County
CFAES Staff Advisory Council Liaison – Terri Fisher, fisher.456@osu.edu, OSU Extension Administration
Support Staff Liaison – Lori Moff, jmoff.1@osu.edu, Mahoning County
Past President – Adam Ziadeh, ziadeh.4@osu.edu, OSU Extension/ANR
CES Committee Sign Up: sign up for more than one!!

We are about to start summer, but we do not have very many CES members who have signed up for committees. We strongly encourage all of you to sign up! These committees are a great opportunity for you to make a difference in your organization! There are numerous committees to choose from, and your help is needed for all of them! Here is the list of committees:

1. CES Annual Meeting Committee
   a. Shall plan the details of the CES Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the OSU Extension Annual Conference.

2. CES Nominating Committee
   a. Shall secure nominations from the CES membership and prepare a slate of all CES officer positions to be presented to the membership prior to the CES annual meeting.

3. CES Membership and Annual Meeting Scholarship Committee
   a. Shall be responsible for soliciting applications for the CES Annual Meeting (1) and CES Membership (6) scholarships.

4. CES Budget and Finance Committee
   a. Shall be responsible for developing and proposing the budget.

5. CES Extension Support Staff Excellence Award Selection Committee
   a. Shall be responsible for coordinating this annual award including publicity, selection, securing the plaque and processing the paperwork for payment of this award.

6. CES Outreach Committee
   a. Shall be responsible for keeping contact with other state CES chapters and promotion in new states.

7. CES Recognition Committee
   a. Shall be responsible for securing nominations and overseeing the selection process for the CES Members Years of Service Awards, New Member Induction, and Dorothy Rex Inspirational Award. Explore other opportunities for recognition.

8. CES Fundraiser Committee
   a. Shall be responsible for all CES fundraisers.

9. CES Professional Improvement and Activities Committee
   a. Shall explore educational opportunities for professional development and will promote to support staff. Activities will also be explored to build CES membership relations.

10. CES Constitution and Bylaws Committee
    a. Shall be responsible for reviewing proposed changes and updating the CES constitution and bylaws and standing rules.

To sign up for a committee(s), please follow this link:

Volunteer on a CES Committee

CES Purpose: The purpose of this Fraternity shall be to maintain the standards and ideals, uphold the morale, prestige and respect of Ohio State University Extension Support Staff, to develop an effective working relationship and a spirit of fraternal fellowship among the present and emeriti employees of Ohio State University Extension and to encourage professionalism within Extension.