



Spring 2007 Newsletter

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Dear CES Members:

As the temperatures gradually rise (along with those gas prices), it seems the summer is finally not too far off. Graduations and parties are being organized and celebrated. As the mother of a high school senior, I have to wonder where all the time has gone.

The CES officers and directors have been working diligently on many new opportunities happening with the fraternity. First and foremost was the overhaul of the Standing Rules and By-laws for CES. With all the additional responsibilities being added, it is important to stay up to date with the publication. A special thank you to Vickie Snyder and Becky Hooper for all their help and dedication to the completion of this gargantuan task. Also, be sure to register for mentor training if you are so inclined. This is an excellent opportunity to provide assistance to new employees within Extension.

We are looking forward to the Support Staff Conference CES and Extension Human Resources will be offering to you on October 24 – 25 in Columbus at Fort Rapids (a new indoor water park located at the former Holiday Inn East). Mark your calendars now and keep your eyes open for promotional information via e-mail. This conference is being designed especially for you, by fellow support staff members within CES and CFAES. This year's theme is "All Hands On Deck" and plans are underway for a great professional and personal development event for all who attend.

We'll also be celebrating the achievements of CES during our Annual Meeting for our membership on the morning of October 24, in conjunction with the start of the Support Staff Conference. We will be holding a brunch meeting this year instead of an evening meeting, so an additional professional session and networking can be scheduled for the evening of the first day of the Conference.

It will soon be time for our "membership renewal campaign". As the membership drive draws near, it is important to remember that without this professional organization of CES, opportunities for your professional growth and development would be significantly decreased. With the addition of our Excellence in Extension Support Staff Award, a \$1,000 prize will be given to a qualified candidate who possesses knowledge, skills, and service in leadership positions. This will be awarded in addition to our Professional Development Awards and CES Scholarships. CES does have a voice in representing the needs of support staff and program assistants within the organization of Ohio State University Extension. Each membership contributes to the unity and overall value of this professional fraternity!

In closing, I wish you a wonderful summer filled with happy occasions and relaxing vacations. Take time for yourself to enjoy the sun (don't forget your sun screen) and smell the flowers. We tend to take life too seriously and don't stop to observe all the beauty around us. Enjoy!

Carol Bunn
CES President



Lou Fourman's Personal Glimpse

It seems funny at this point in time being retired to provide a Personal Glimpse. But, CES and its members have always been dear to my heart, and I have enjoyed my membership in the organization for the past seventeen years.

It goes without saying that I believe the support staff in our county, regional and center offices and at the state level are the very backbone that makes Extension a great organization. I always enjoyed the opportunity to participate if at all possible when support staff had their in-service training. I believe that each of us as a professional has an obligation to ourselves to keep developing our skills and talents to the extent we can. As all of you know, we are in a changing environment in terms of business practices, program emphasis and constantly changing personnel. Therefore, it is critical that we as professionals in all roles within the organization stay as current as possible.

I have enjoyed my seventeen years in Ohio Extension and prior to that my eleven years with the University of Maine Extension. It seems funny to be out of the "loop" and at the same time I have to confess that retirement is not all bad. I've been surprised at the number of projects that have crept up since I began taking some leave time in early April. Had I known there was so much to be done around the house, I might have kept working! I am enjoying an opportunity to travel during June and have a memorial service later in July for my brother who passed away last Christmas. My three sons are all in Columbus and at the moment gainfully employed. In kidding, I told Rosie that they are geographically far but still financially close. I look forward to some part-time employment perhaps beginning in the fall so that I can keep myself mentally challenged. While I always felt that being a Wal-Mart greeter was a super job, I doubt that it's particularly challenging.

I wish each of you the best as you continue your contributions to a great organization. Ohio Extension is all the better because of each of your individual efforts, and it has been an honor for me to work with those of you, particularly in the old East District and the current South East Region.

Marusela Anders, Communications and Technology's program assistant, joined OSU in January of 2005. She assists Bob Furbee, director of CommTech, and supports the department on everything she can from PCard, travel, HR and some financials, to translating fact sheets for Ohioline, and other Spanish publications that come her way, among other 1000 things that pop up during the day (I bet you can relate!) She holds a Bachelor's degree in Communications from the Intercontinental University in Mexico City. She is also a member of Extension's Ohio Latino Work Force and CES. She is currently pursuing the opportunity to do her master's in Latin American Studies in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese here at OSU.

Originally from Mexico City, Mexico where her family still lives, she married a handsome U.S. sailor at 24 and was a proud U.S. navy wife for 10 years having the opportunity to travel to exciting places like Japan and Europe. She lived four years in Iwakuni, Southeast Japan's Honshu Island where her two sons John Paul and Joseph Alexander were born. She also lived in Catania, eastern coast of Sicily in Italy, Newport News, Virginia, and Seattle, WA, among other places.

After her husband Ronald retired in 2003 from the navy out of Bremerton, WA, they stayed in WA State for a while but then decided to return to Lancaster, OH where Ron grew up and still has family in January of 2005. They decided that the Midwest, especially Lancaster would be a great place to raise their two boys JP (14) and Alex (13) and be close to his family.

Besides work, she also keeps really busy with soccer and football games year round, scrapbooking and card making classes, and volunteering at the Fairfield Heritage Association. She loves hanging out with her three boys (husband included) and travel anytime and everywhere she can. When she is at home, she loves to cook authentic Mexican food that she loves to share with her friends and family.

She joined CES in 2006 and looks forward to serve to the best of her ability as an active member for many years to come.

Marusela



By Carol Wheeler – Emeriti

Fond memories, those are the words that I would use to describe my work in extension and my association with friends in CES. I have been retired almost 2 years, but how time does fly. I worked in the Guernsey County Extension office 17 years and the Noble County Extension office 3 years. I had the fortune of being the first P. A. to work multi-county (Guernsey & Noble) way back when this system was implemented by extension. So much for the past.

Retirement is not actually “free time” or “nothing to do” as some might believe. My husband, Howard, and I live on a farm (Rolling W Farm) and raise Registered Angus cattle. We sell registered bulls, heifers and cows to other cattle producers. We try to always have a good stock dog to help work the cattle. I have my dog Molly (half Border Collie, half Australian Shepherd) an excellent working dog and Howard has his dog Lizie (red Australian Shepherd). We just recently got a new pup Annie (Border Collie). Annie is already working cattle and she is only 3 months old. We have great expectations for this dog.

We have a large extended family as I have 3 children and 6 grandchildren and Howard has 5 children, 12 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

I have been involved with extension for many years, first as a 4-H member, then a 4-H advisor, next a 4-H parent and finally as an Ag. Program Assistant employee. Since retirement, I have stayed away from the county fairgrounds. I had enjoyed somewhere around 47 years of county fair activity, enough for now.

I am currently serving as Emeriti Director with Chi Epsilon Sigma. I must admit I have not been very active as time to attend meetings is very limited for me. I have no idea how I had time to work away from the farm. Time to go, need to mow lawn, work in the garden and move cows. Work never killed anyone, but the aches and pains increasing. Enjoy life.



Gift Card Winners

West Region—
Deb Knapke from Van Wert County

North Central Region— Sandy Davis from
Knox County

South East Region—
Becky Hooper from the South East Region

New Award for Support Staff

Chi Epsilon Sigma and Extension Administration have committed to a partnership to recognize a CES member who excels in support staff responsibilities. This annual \$1,000 Excellence in Extension for Support Staff Award was announced last fall by Director Keith Smith and will be funded through a cooperative effort between Extension Administration and Chi Epsilon Sigma.

The award and process for selecting recipients are patterned after Epsilon Sigma Phi's Excellence in Extension Award for educators. Eligibility is based on CES membership. The award recognizes the importance of knowledge, skills and service and acknowledges recognition by the Extension organization. A committee representative of Extension administration and the CES board will convene soon to review the proposed guidelines and application process. Nominations can be submitted by a supervisor, educator, co-worker, clientele or emeriti. The application and guidelines will be available at the time of the annual CES membership drive which is held during the month of August. An official announcement to all Extension will be sent via the Communiqué and the all Extension listserv.

Members can soon look forward to additional details. This tremendous opportunity brings recognition to a staff member who excels daily in fulfilling responsibilities when serving customers and staff within our organization. Since the award will only be given to a CES member, we hope the award will also serve as a motivation for staff to join our professional organization.