

Chi Epsilon Sigma News

Extension Support Staff Fraternity

Alpha Chapter

SPRING 2015

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Thank You

I can think of no better way to start my first letter to you with words of appreciation and pride in the remarkable people who work alongside me, from miles away...

- ♦ to Amanda Forquer and Crystal Ott for organizing and promoting the Professional Development program this month.
- ♦ for the planning efforts being spearheaded by Linda Good and Kathy Mohler for the 2016 TERSSA Annual Conference in Ohio. A first for CES!
- ♦ for your confidence and support. I am honored to be serving you and this organization as your president this year.
- ♦ to the CES Board for the extra work of finalizing bylaw changes and budget revisions.
- ♦ to each and every one of you for the difference you make on a daily basis. Imagine the impact you have on local residents, on educators working with your county programs, the time you spend supporting others pays dividends throughout Extension and your counties.

I hope you all took some time last week to reflect on the roles you play each day and give yourself a pat on the back in honor of Administrative Professionals Week, but don't let it stop there... Read those county highlights. Your name is 'between the lines in every program there: You provide tangibles and intangibles; official and unofficial support; and handle both the mundane and the "stop the presses!" with the same professionalism and caring.

You keep things running smoothly at all times and work to make the crazy times a little less so. A special tip of the hat for all of you who have been processing 4-H enrollments this spring. - an exacting, but critical task.

Let's not forget to support each other with a kind word ~ and a smile of understanding!

Ramblings ~

Debbie Delp



**Nothing beats
a sunny
spring day!**



**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

XES

established 1987

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.

Secret Friends Revealed

2014 CES Secret Friends were revealed at the CES Annual Meeting.

- Krista Bradley had Linda Newman as her Secret Friend
- Teresa Funk had Kimberly Roush as her Secret Friend
- Linda Good had Faye Wilson as her Secret Friend
- Marianne Guthrie had Krista Bradley as her Secret Friend
- Lee Ann Hiatt had Teresa Funk as her Secret Friend
- Patti Holbrook had Linda Good as her Secret Friend
- Jenny Lindimore had Marianne Guthrie as her Secret Friend
- Paige Matney had Lee Ann Hiatt as her Secret Friend
- Phyllis McMasters had Patti Holbrook as her Secret Friend
- Patrica Millikin-Molihan had Jenny Lindimore as Secret Friend
- Cathy Minor had Paige Matney as her Secret Friend
- Kathy Mohler had Phyllis McMasters as her Secret Friend
- Lisa Murphy had Patricia Millikin-Molihan as her Secret Friend
- Linda Newman had Kathy Mohler as her Secret Friend
- Kimberly Roush had Beth Young as her Secret Friend
- Faye Wilson had Cathy Minor as her Secret Friend
- Beth Young had Lisa Murphy as her Secret Friend

Note: Secret Friends for 2015 were assigned to members who completed an registration. If you've misplaced your Secret Friend Info Sheet, contact CES President, Debbie Delp.

Your CES Board

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Visit our new website!
ces.osu.edu

CES Thank You Notes for the 2014 Annual Meeting



2015 Board Installation: Back Row: Lisa Murphy, Julie Evans, Melissa Walters, Beth Young, Debbie Delp, Michelle Moon, Ann Meyer, Tami Combs. Front Row: Amanda Forquer, Linda Good, Lee Ann Hiatt, Crystal Ott, Christine Benson. Seated: Marianne Guthrie. Not pictured: Kathy Mohler.

Look at those happy faces!

The CES Annual Meeting is the highlight of the year for our membership and a great deal of effort goes into organization and planning. Thanks to the 2014 board members who were part of this effort. Recognition for new CES members, for members who have reached Years of Service milestones as well as award and scholarship winners is always front and center. Reports from our many committees round out the day.

A very special thank you to the board members who stepped in and pulled together themes and favors for this annual celebration. You gave me peace of mind knowing my lack of decorating flair would not interfere with an otherwise awesome event.

Thank you all! I know that you will afford Deb that same support.

Marianne

Your Life is In Your Hands

High on a hilltop overlooking a beautiful city, there lived a wise old man. The local children were taught to seek his guidance and respect his teachings.

One day, two boys devised a plan to confuse the old man. They caught a small bird and headed for the hilltop. As they approached the seated figure, one of the boys held the little bird cupped in his hands.

"Wise old man," the boy said. "Can you tell me if the bird I have in my hands is dead or alive?"

The old man gazed silently at the two boys and then said, "If I tell you the bird is alive, you will close your hands and crush the life from it. If I tell you the bird is dead, you will open your hands and it will fly away to freedom.

"Son, in your hands you hold the power of life and death. You have the power to choose destruction and the end of a spirit and a song. Or you can choose to free the bird so it has a future, with all its potential. You are wise to know you can choose between life and death.

"If you allow my answer to determine whether the bird lives or dies, you will have given away your power. You will have also given away your responsibility to make the correct choice, and to rejoice in your own strength and wisdom."

Reference: Riffenbary, J. (2007). No excuse! Incorporating core values, accountability, and balance into our life and career, page 22. Possibility Press.



CES Personal Glimpse: Kathy Mohler, Emeriti

I realized when I read Deb Delp's email that it was time for me to contact someone on the Emeriti for a short bio.

With such a quick turn around required... I decided to take on the task myself.

Quoted from Wikipedia the Free Encyclopedia:

{Emeritus} (/iˈmɛrɪtəs/; (Latin *ēx*, "out of", and *meritus*, "merit"), in its current usage, is a postpositive adjective used to designate a retired professional.

In some cases, the term is conferred automatically upon all persons who retire at a given rank. In others it remains a mark of distinguished service, awarded to only a few on retirement. It is also used when a person of distinction in a profession retires or hands over the position, enabling his erstwhile rank to be retained in his title. The term *Emeritus* does not necessarily signify that a person has relinquished all the duties of their erstwhile position and they may continue to exercise some of them.

I have been retired for four years. The last sentence of the definition above sums up retirement for me.

As many of you know, I am the CES Emeriti Director and belong to TERSSA. I am co-chair with Linda

Good on the 2016 TERSSA Conference held here in Ohio.

During my "working days" I would ask others what it was like to be retired. I would always get the same answer "I am busier now than before I retired. I don't know how I accomplished everything I did and worked too!"

One of the big luxuries of retirement has been not waking to an alarm clock. The clock in my head still gets me up early, around 7:30 am, much better than 5:30 am work days required! And having time to do some of the things I only wished I could do when I was working.

At this time, I am making fifteen curtains for my daughter's classroom cubbies. Today I will be planting my Vinca in the flower gardens.

Tomorrow I will meet with Linda regarding TERSSA and planning for the 2016 Conference.

Retirement or Emeriti status means the best of both worlds to me.

Kathy Mohler
2011 Emeriti



2014 Support Staff Excellence Award – Dawn Ford

To paraphrase the letters of support that accompanied the nomination for this year's Extension Support Staff Excellence Award...

"She is always positive, professional, and trustworthy. She is a great example of the some of the best support staff members in this organization. In her role on a daily basis, she strives to make the program staff always look good. She takes pride in her work and in the work of those she supports. She is **THE** anchor member of the Belmont County office team keeping us all connected and coordinated throughout the busy seasons.

"Dawn never hesitates to step up and take on a new role or responsibility and always helps out when called on, even at the last minute, and when it means working over, coming in early or covering a weekend program.

"Dawn is an enthusiastic team player, always encouraging others and lending support to each of us as we pursue our Extension mission. She is the friendly face that greets our clientele, making friends of volunteers and staff alike while successfully managing the front office. She is practical and

organized in her approach to accomplishing tasks and helps keep us all on track.

"Her dedication to the Extension program and her co-workers is second to none. She is appreciated by clientele, customers, volunteers and staff. We are truly blessed to have her in our office."

Congratulations Dawn!



Dorothy Rex Inspiration Award – Patty Corfman

Patty lives her life as an inspiration to many through her work and personal contacts.

During the past year she has provided consistent administrative support for the West Region and



remained flexible as she transitions through six different Regional Directors!

Patty's willingness to help others learn current and new practices serves as an asset to the OSU Extension organization and an encouragement to all,

regardless of regional boundaries. She is known as a kind and caring person, always ready with a helping

hand. She is one of the "go to" people in Extension: ready to go the extra mile to help others: teaching them about computers, deciphering paperwork or just being a listening ear.

In addition, Patty volunteers for numerous service opportunities, most recently Extension's Centennial Celebration. She serves on the Extension Director's Internal Advisory Committee.

She believes strongly about her Extension peers and has served as CES President as well as various other roles for CES.

Patty truly cares about people and has a special ability to lift other's spirits and motivate them to keep going, tackle their problems, and live life to the fullest. She is an inspiration to us all!

Congratulations Patty!

"Our lives are richer and CES is stronger for having these women in our midst!"

CES 2014 Annual Meeting Recognition

Years of Service Awards

10 years of service

Amanda Forquer, 4-H Youth Development, Campus
Debbie Dunn, Muskingum County

15 Years of service

Teresa Funk, ANR, Campus

25 years of service

Jackie Bailey, Lucas County

30 years of service

Dawn Ford Cramer, Belmont County



Professional Development Awards

*Each year Chi Epsilon Sigma awards two scholarships to CES Members pursuing professional development that will enhance their career. This year's recipients are Crystal Ott from the State 4-H Office and Tami Combs from Highland County. **Congratulations to you both!***

Crystal plans to take a class or two at the OSU Leadership Center this year, and Tami will apply these funds to attend the 2015 CES Professional Development Training in April.

We encourage all CES members to apply for CES Professional Development awards. The process is easy and it's a great way to accomplish a goal without straining either local or personal finances.



Newsletter, Brochure & Website

**Julie Evans, Pike County and
Krista Rose, Clermont County**

Both Julie and Krista were recognized
for their newsletters.



Our Newest CES Members

Nancy Bennet Ottawa County
Cynthia Dininger, Ashland County
Rebecca Guinther, Crawford County
Tami Kromer, Erie County
Erin Mancuso, Seneca County
Charissa McGlothlin, South Centers
Mary Beth Mylander, Sandusky County
Marcy Payne-Lavigne, Campus
Abbigail Robinson, Wayne County
Barbara Rowe, Adams County
Mary von Philip, Trumbull County
Carol Wagner, Hardin County
Teresa Webb, Clinton County

A warm CES welcome to all of you!

CES Personal Glimpse: Christine Benson

Christine Benson is the new Campus Director for CES. She works as an Accountant in the CFAES Columbus Business Office located in Ag Admin. She currently supports the departments of Horticulture and Crop Science (HCS), Agricultural, Environmental & Development Economics (AEDE), Agricultural Communication, Education & Leadership (ACELE), Farm Science Review (FSR), and serves as the primary Travel Approver for College. She also assists Extension County Offices as needed and works on special projects for the Business Office.

Christine recently celebrated her five-year anniversary as an OSU Employee, working for the OSU Wexner Medical Center for the first 2.5 years in Medical Center Development & Alumni Affairs before transferring to CFAES as an OARDC Employee and now as an Extension employee. Her past work experience was in both the non-profit sector and the (extreme) for-profit sector. Her most enjoyable work experience was during her eight-year tenure in the Gaming Industry in both Nevada and on a riverboat in Mississippi. Although she prefers dealing Blackjack to mucking Roulette, she has many stories to tell from her time working for Circus Circus Enterprises.



In her personal time, Christine does volunteer work throughout the University and in the Columbus and Groveport Communities. She continues working on her bachelor degree now under the AEDE program of Agri-business, and spending time with her family. If she had to name a hobby, it would be "Curiosity" as she loves to learn and often takes classes for fun, like "Chocolate Science". She is thankful to be a member of CES and hopes to learn more about Extension and her fellow CES members.

Managing Multiple Priorities, Projects and Deadlines Workshop a Big Success!

Forty-seven people were able to attend this training on April 20 at the 4-H Center. The day was sponsored by CES with support from Extension Administration. The facilitator was excellent and provided top notch information. We hope everyone left with some ideas they can use on their everyday work schedules.

After reviewing the evaluations it safe to say that the *Managing Multiples Priorities* training was a huge success. Here are a few things that were listed on the evaluations:

- "The speaker was very engaging and helped me set goals to prioritize easier."
- "Great e-mail organization tips to manage my folders."
- "Exceptional techniques for mapping a weekly calendar in advance; I feel so much more confident going into a week with a plan!"

Note: CES is committed to promoting professional development for its members as well as support staff throughout Extension. Please let someone on the Board know if you would like to see more opportunities like this.

We welcome your thoughts and suggestions. DD



Tips from a Secret Friend...

Keep note cards and pre-stamped postcards handy so you can easily jot a letter to someone who needs a boost. It's always heartening to know someone cares.

You can't make someone else happy without making yourself happy. It will surprise you how much better you feel.



2015 Silent Auction a Success!

The Silent Auction has been part of a long-standing, but evolving tradition for CES. What started 20+ years ago as a raffle for a weekend get-away at an Ohio State Park, morphed into a raffle for a signed Longaberger Basket loaded with goodies, and has now evolved into a basket auction drawing donations from CES members, county offices and state level departments. **Thanks for helping us raise \$894 to support CES scholarships and awards!**

We appreciate our buyers, our window shoppers and those of you who just like to play the game!

Basket	Donor	Buyer
Buckeye Fans	OSU Cares	Cathy Minor
5 Pound Hershey Bar	Highland County	Andrea Bowlin
Family Puzzle Basket	Teresa Funk	Karen Bruns
Bountiful Bow-Wow Basket	State 4-H Office	Keith Smith
Adorable	Patty Corfman	Melinda Hill
Homemade Chocolates	Marianne Guthrie	Kathy Lechman
Burlap Wreath	Carroll County	Teresa Johnson
Ballreich's Basket	Seneca County	Rose Fisher-Merkowitz
DerDutchman Popcorn Bowl	Linda Newman	Melissa Walters
NutriBullet	Kate Shumaker	Christine Benson
Go Bucks	FCS Administration	Erin Simpson-Sloan
Cincinnati Reds	Butler County	Linda Good
Glass Yard Art	Jill Stechschulte	Linda Newman
5 Pound Hershey Bar	Highland County	Melissa Walters
Adorable	Patty Corfman	Shawn Ochs
Disney Basket	Southeast Region Office	Andrea Bowlin
Holiday Relaxation	Betsy DeMatteo	Chris Kendle
Crafted Fairy Tree House with Forest Baby	Jill Stechschulte	Candie Glover
Movie Night	Beth Young	Judy Villard Overocker
You Are My Sunshine	Debbie Delp	Linda Good
Mixed Nuts	Miami County	Glen Arnold
Baby Basket	Amanda Forquer/Crystal Ott	Jane Wright

Special Thanks to our basket donors for their generous spirit and creativity!



TERSSA and the CES Connection:

In 2016, Chi Epsilon Sigma and Ohio State University Extension have the honor of hosting the TERSSA Conference. This will be the first time the conference is held in Ohio. Our sister states are as excited to travel to Ohio as we are to show them our Buckeye Pride. Planning has already begun. There will be opportunities for CES/TERSSA members to participate. Join us for a fun and exciting experience!

Stay tuned for updates!

TERSSA – The Extension Research and Support Staff Association

Tid Bits and Updates:

The National Association is gearing up for a great year! Outreach to increase membership within current participating states and adding new states are two goals for 2015. TERSSA membership is open until May 31st. CES members may pay their \$10.00 dues via org/fund transfer, department check or personal check. You can download the TERSSA registration form at www.aces.edu/dept/associations/terssa and pay them directly using cash or check; or use the CES registration form at extension.osu.edu/about/chi-epsilon-sigma to pay with your org/fund transfer.

The next TERSSA Board meeting is set for Thursday, July 23rd 1:00 (CST). Everyone is invited to attend (only board members may vote.) If you do not have the log in information, please contact Deb Delp or Linda Good.

The Following TERSSA information was shared at the Southwest Region Support Staff Inservice March 17, 2015:

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.

“One Voice – to improve the development of Extension and Research Across Regions”



Current Participating States: Alabama, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, and South Carolina

Membership: as of April 23, 2015 : 140 (27 from Ohio)

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.

“I hope you will consider joining TERSSA. It’s a wonderful organization that will benefit you as a person, personally as well as professionally!” ~ Karen Bixler, Membership Secretary, TERSSA

Important TERSSA dates:

Membership Dues: \$10.00 payable on or before May 31

**Save the Date: 2015 TERSSA Annual Conference
Tupelo/Verona Mississippi, September 9 - 11**



2 National Battlefields



Tupelo is proud to offer a shopper’s paradise, adding to one of the highest retail sales rankings in all of Mississippi.



Birth Place of Elvis



Tupelo Automotive Museum