



CES Newsletter— Winter 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



On the calendar —

- CES Board Meeting, February 1, 10 a.m.
- PLONE WebEx Training, February 16, March 1, 15, 29, 9 am - 10 am
- USAC Hidden Benefits Fair, April 12, 8:00 am - 2:30 pm, Ohio Union

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“A leader is a dealer in hope.”

— Napoleon Bonaparte

Dear Fellow CES members:

I love the quote above and I truly believe it reinforces the goal of Chi Epsilon Sigma. Membership in CES puts each of us in the unique position of showing leadership and contributing to the continuing impact Ohio State University Extension makes for the citizens of Ohio! By doing all we can to improve the lives of support staff, listening to concerns and needs, and showing leadership by setting plans in motion to address those needs – we strengthen Extension and foster an atmosphere of hope for ourselves and the future of Extension.

CES support of the 2011 Extension Annual Conference is an excellent example of what we can achieve as a unit. I look forward to 2012 with optimism and certainty as we continue to professionally contribute to our peers and our college.

The next CES board meeting is Wednesday, February 1st beginning at 10 am via webex. Log in information will be emailed to membership. Everyone is welcome to participate.

Sincerely,

Linda Good

Chi Epsilon Sigma President

Thank you!

In the past few weeks, I have received many kind and positive comments concerning the 2011 CES Association Meeting and leadership CES has shown in 2011. I sincerely thank each of you for your support and share the accolades with the entire CES board and many CES members who volunteered their time and expertise to make 2011 the wonderful year it was. A president is only as good as the board and peers they serve. It was your help, support and time commitments that made 2011 a great year for CES. I thank all of you and look forward to serving alongside you in 2012!

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.



2011 CES Annual Meeting Member Recognition

Professional Development Awards

Kathy Gamble, Knox County

Kathy plans to attend a *Skillpath Social Media Marketing Conference* that is being held in March 2012. With the skills learned at this conference, she plans to improve her county's *Facebook* page and looks forward to gaining knowledge of *Twitter*.

Cindy Kratzer, Brown County

Cindy will be attending computer classes at her local career and technical center to become more proficient at utilizing Microsoft Access and Excel. She hopes to learn fundamental tasks and obtain valuable job skills.

Outstanding Achievement Awards

• *Newsletters/Brochures*

Michelle Key, Cuyahoga County

• *Web Pages*

LeeAnn Johnson, South Central

Scholarships

• *Annual Meeting*

Connie Shauck, Clermont County

• *Membership*

Nancy Tilton, Preble County

Dorothy Rex Inspiration Award Winner—Michelle Key

According to one of Michelle's nominators, "Michelle is far and away the most helpful and reliable staff person I have ever encountered in my 15 years of being a volunteer. As a volunteer, I depend on Michelle as my direct personal connection to OSU Extension. Michelle's approachability and professionalism has enabled and

empowered me to be a far more effective volunteer. She is a marvel and an inspiration. I've observed Michelle treat everyone she encounters, whether it is another staffer, a supervisor, client, or "just" a volunteer, with the utmost respect. This is a rare quality and the mark of a true professional as well as a special human being."

2011 Support Staff Excellence Award



Chi Epsilon Sigma (National Extension Support Staff Fraternity), in partnership with Ohio State University Extension, is honored to announce the recipient of the 2011 Extension Support Staff Excellence Award. This year's award was presented during the OSU Extension Annual Conference on December 15 in Columbus, to LeeAnn Johnson, Office Administrative Associate with OSU Extension South Central Regional Office.

Lee Ann is described as "the consummate professional. She is creative and displays a leadership style to complete tasks in the best possible manner. Her confidence in her knowledge and skills allow her

to work with anyone, in any situation and with a smile. She not only does her job to the highest standard of excellence, but helps others reach for this level as well. She not only excels in her position, but she also takes on other tasks that are of great need for OSU Extension. She currently serves as a Business Office Advisory Group member which is focused on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of financial items in Extension. The comments we receive from counties she assists is that she is an invaluable team member and they would be less efficient without her support. She is the finest example of what it means to be "Support Staff" and how, by example, we CAN make a difference!"

This excellence award represents the highest honor presented to a superior support staff member and recognizes the importance of knowledge, skills and service which Lee Ann demonstrates daily in her responsibilities with the OSU Extension South Central Regional office.

Our Newest CES Members

Marcia Brueck, Wayne County
 Jenny Cudd, Coshocton County
 Kimberly Howard, Ashtabula Co
 Michelle Key, Cuyahoga County
 Darlene Myers, Van Wert County
 Carrie Newland, Hardin County
 Debbie Watson, Meigs County

***A warm CES welcome
 to all of you!***

Excellence,
 by definition, requires
 continued deviation
 from the norm.
 -- Robert Quinn



Where Are they now? CES Charter Members

While CES originated in Ohio a little over 25 years ago, 22 of our charter members still remain involved with our organization, including some of our earliest officers: president Dorothy Rex and secretary/treasurer Becky Hooper.

Kathy Mohler, a charter member, is in her first year as an emeriti and will serve on the CES Board as their director.

Seven others are still active in Extension: Carol Bottoms, Marie Bouic, Kathy Bulka, Kay Collins, Cheryl Fishnich, Vicki Myers, and Trudy Yoakam.

If you're lucky enough to run into any of them, thank them for their foresight and follow-through. Those first steps have helped create the vibrant organization we enjoy today.

Years of Service Awards

5 years of service

- Melissa Hudelson, Miami County
- Catherine Minor, Butler County
- Brenda Sandman-Stover, Greene County

10 years of service

- Cindy Kratzer, Brown County
- Darlene Myers, Van Wert County
- Linda Newman, Clark County

15 years of service

- Dawn Feller, Hancock County
- Carla Wickham, Noble County

20 years of service

- Christine Comden, Defiance County

25 years of service

- Carol Bottoms, West Region
 - Marie Bouic, Union County
 - Marcia Brueck, Wayne County
-

Professional Development

For several years now Comm Tech's trainer, Bonnie Scranton, and I have collaborated through the Learning Center East to provide hands-on training for the staff in our region. In the past 3 years we have taken advantage of a service provided to us by Administration: WebEx. This allows us to service the entire state and provide convenient, at-your-desk training at no cost. How could it get any better than that?

Some offices have met together, one even using a projector so several at their location can join in (Thanks Peg!) and this only uses one port- so we are able to broadcast out to many more in this manner and not go over our allotted 25 ports in WebEx.

Email me your suggestions on topics for the trainings, we are just limited by who has the capability and is willing to take the time to lead the sessions. All ideas are welcome and we keep a Wish List- still hopeful to offer them at some point in time.

Register by emailing me your session choices and I will send you the connection information.

Here is the link to the previously recorded sessions that perhaps you missed or would like to review again: <http://lceast.osu.edu/webex-trainings>

Let's sharpen our skills in 2012 –

Vickie Snyder
 CES Administrative Liaison

Professional Development Opportunities

~ available for all staff ~

WebEx Thursday Training, 9-10 a.m.

by Bonnie Scranton

PLONE: Home Page, Part 1	Feb. 16
PLONE: Home Page, Part 2	March 1
PLONE: County Topics	March 15
PLONE: Extras -images/tables/videos, etc.	March 29

University Staff Advisory Committee

The [University Staff Advisory Committee](#) was established in 1986 as an advisory body to the president of The Ohio State University and is an advocate for more than 22,000 university staff. USAC is dedicated to providing a forum through which university staff can raise, discuss and make recommendations on university issues.

Since its founding, USAC has helped to improve and expand staff benefits in healthcare, compensation guidelines, dependent tuition, life insurance, personal information security, area retail discounts, parental leave, and much more.

USAC is composed of 30 staff members from classified civil service, administrative and professional, and senior administrative and professional sectors. Committee members are elected at-large and have expertise in areas such as finance, governance, marketing, and human resources. Each year, 10 new members are selected to join USAC as 10 existing members rotate off the committee. Members serve three-year terms.

Applications for the July 2012-June 2015 USAC term will be accepted through February 3, 2012. You may either complete the online application and supporting materials, and submit them electronically to mailto: usac@osu.edu, or via the instructions at the bottom of the application.

Hidden Benefits Fair

The Hidden Benefits Fair is planned and sponsored by USAC to introduce university staff to the sometimes unknown “perks” to which they have access. Admission is free. There are door prizes, plenty of free items and lots of information. The next Hidden Benefits Fair will be held on April 12, 2012 at the Ohio Union's Archie Griffin Grand Ballroom.



[USAC promotional video](#)

As part of its 25th anniversary year, USAC has produced a promotional video featuring current and former members of the committee. *Click the photo to view the video.*

Expand Your Mind

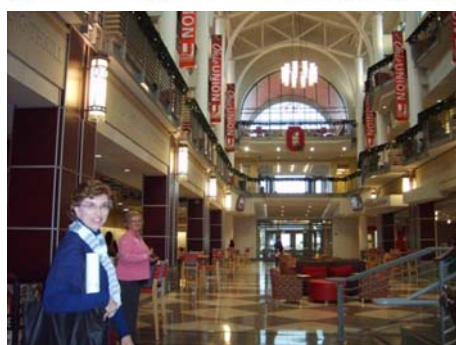
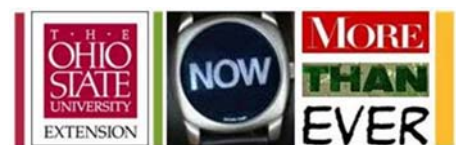
using

eXtension's Professional Development site

Recently revamped, this site offers a varied yet purposeful menu of options for learning. Whether you can set aside time to participate live online or would prefer to watch at your convenience. You may just find something of interest. Visiting the site today, I found a schedule of programming that included a Social Media & Technology Webinar Series; another about Improving your PowerPoint presentations; and an opportunity to Learn More about the Health Benefits of Blueberries. (and who doesn't want more reasons to eat blueberries!)

Check it out for yourself— <http://learn.eXtension.org>

More photos on the web!
ces.ag.ohio-state.edu/scrapbook



Annual Conference Thank You!

A special thank you goes out to CES members serving on the 2011 Extension Annual Conference Planning Committee, as well as CES members who served in other capacities at the conference. The success of the conference was the direct result of the dedication and creativity of many colleagues working together in a variety of capacities. It was truly a team effort. A lot of positive feedback has been received, and CES members were a big part of making that possible.



Editor's Note: This year's conference was chaired by two remarkable, but humble, young women—Amanda Forquer and Theresa Fisher—both CES members. Bravo, ladies!



You Were Born to Be Brilliant

Embedded deep within our souls, in the very fiber of our DNA, is our blueprint for greatness. Each one of us has our own unrivaled brand of genius, irrespective of the fact that we may repeatedly forget that. It is as exclusive to us as our thighs, and as quirky as our personalities. Denying our brilliance doesn't make it any duller, ignoring it breeds nothing worth mentioning and avoiding it brings unnecessary pain, misery, and suffering.

We came into our lives to get something done, something unique to us. Our impact can only be accomplished by us. There is no job sharing... nor is there a do-over or makeup class. This is it. We are the keeper of our message.

You will never know the magnitude of the possibilities of your impact unless you show up in life.

Source: Solomon, N. D., (2010). Impact!: what every woman needs to know to go from invisible to invincible. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Spotlight on...

2010 Professional Development Award Winner

Kaye Clay, Guernsey County

I am the Master Gardener Coordinator for Guernsey & Noble counties. As such I try to attend the state MG conference each year to make contacts and bring back information that can be utilized by our volunteers.

In 2011 the International Master Gardener Conference was held in West Virginia, the closest to us it's ever been held. Ohio decided not to have a state conference, but to incorporate a state night into the International Conference.

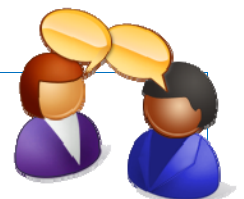
I attended the International Master Gardener Conference in Charleston, West Virginia in October 2011. I can honestly say it was the best conference I have ever attended. I attended seminars on pertinent topics: going green, composting, old plants to try again, mission of Master Gardener volunteers, and others.

Due to the high cost of registration, I was the only one from my area attending. I decided I would go outside my comfort zone and sit with a new group of people at every opportunity. As a result, I chatted with gardeners from Hawaii, California, Missouri, Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Conference participants came from as far away as Korea, who are using U.S.'s Master Gardener program as a prototype as they start their own program.

What an experience! I learned so much! I could not have attended without the support of CES. Thank you for allowing me to have this opportunity.

Kaye

**What could you
do with a \$200
Professional
Development Award?**



**Karen Bixler**

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The Extension and Research Support Staff Association (TERSSA) is currently comprised of support staff in several states namely Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina and West Virginia. This group came together in July 2007 and began working toward a common goal. We hope to eventually include states throughout the nation and possibly the world.

Any support staff employed by an Extension or Research organization in any state is eligible to become a member of this growing Association. The basis on which this Association was formed is to improve the lives and careers of members by providing one voice to improve the development of Extension and Research across the nation through professional recognition, networking with states, administration advocacy, and professional and personal improvement.

For more information:

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/sressa/>

Happy New Year, TERRSA Members!

I hope your holiday was a great time with family and reflection. Now that the New Year is upon us, what is your goal for 2012? Where do you see TERRSA in the year 2012? I hope you see it as an organization that is constantly growing and providing excellent professional improvement to this organization.

As your new President, my goal is to see TERRSA do just that. As a National Organization, we need to have showmanship of a growing and professional organization.

The planning stages now begin for our TERRSA Meeting to be held in Montgomery, Alabama in the fall of 2012. I hope each of you are planning now to attend. I hope to be able to provide great professional improvement sessions, as well as show you some good southern hospitality! The board will start meeting this month to begin planning this meeting. I encourage all TERRSA members to attend. This

is a TEAM Organization and I want all members to know that they have a voice. I know that all of the officers would love to hear about your concerns.

Thanks for supporting me this year as your 2012 TERRSA President. My goal is live up to your expectations of me and provide the best meeting there is. So, come down South and join us in the fall of 2012 for our TERRSA Annual Meeting.

Look for monthly updates via your State's President. I hope each of you have a great New Year and let's look at the positive side of our job as an Extension Support Staff: we are the first people that our clients will see. Let the public see your smiling face and winning attitude!

Karen Bixler
TERRSA President
2012



2012 TERRSA OFFICERS

President: Karen Bixler, Alabama
President-Elect: Debby King, North Carolina
Recording Secretary: Trelle Cavallaro, Alabama
Membership Secretary:
Christine Barrier, North Carolina
Treasurer: Deana Malone, Arkansas
Webmaster: Tracy Brown, North Carolina

Warm up someone's winter with a short note reminding them that you have them on your mind.

...Be a Secret Friend!

