Dear CES Friends:

With the weather giving us its ups and downs, it makes me think back on how many of the counties are going through their own ups and downs. I hope this year will bring only positive things your way.

The 26th Anniversary CES Association Meeting was held on December 4, 2012, at the 4-H Center in Columbus, Ohio. The evening was a huge success due in large part to our key speakers: Laughing Your Stress Away, Beth Flynn; Business Office Updates, Cindy Buxton; and Access 4-H Database, Tracy Grody. I want to say thank you to all three for taking the time to enhance the performance of the CES members. I would also like to thank Debbie King (2013 TERRSA President) and Christine Barrier (2013 TERSSA Membership Secretary), from our national organization, for sharing their time and support during our annual meeting.

We extend congratulations to Vickie Snyder, recipient of the 2012 Support Staff Excellence Award. I would like to thank all the CES members who served on the board and committees to make 2012 such a success. Even though we have many things on our plates, we stand strong by working together to make our jobs resourceful and exceptional at everything we do.

The first CES board meeting will be February 12 starting at 10:00 a.m. at the 4-H Center. Both 2012 and 2013 board members are invited to attend the first meeting to pass on knowledge and manuals. We are working to advance in this age of technology by creating manuals via flash drives for the new board members so they have a working template already implemented. If you have any issues or new ideas to bring to the board please let me know. I also would like to invite any CES members to join our board meeting in person or via WebEx. Please contact me for the link to the WebEx.

One of the many benefits of being a CES member is the CES scholarships. However, I would like to point out another benefit to CES membership- discounts on CES sponsored Professional Development workshops. The membership fee pays for itself when the member attends more than one workshop. If you have any suggestions on Professional Development workshops you would like to see CES offer, please let Leah Meranda meranda.9@osu.edu or me corfman.4@osu.edu know so we can add it to the next board meeting’s agenda.

I have to say I am really excited to be your CES president this year, and I hope to meet and get to know all the great people that make up this organization.

Patty Corfman
Secret Friends Revealed

2012 CES Secret Friends were revealed at the CES Annual Meeting.

- Kay Collins had Marianne Guthrie as her Secret Friend
- Jenny Cudd had Beth Young as her Secret Friend
- Linda Good had Carrie Newland as her Secret Friend
- Marianne Guthrie had Kathy Mohler as her Secret Friend
- Melissa Hudelson had Jenny Cudd as her Secret Friend
- Jenny Lindimore had Leah Meranda as her Secret Friend
- Leah Meranda had Lisa Murphy as her Secret Friend
- Kathy Mohler had Connie Shauck as her Secret Friend
- Lisa Murphy had Vickie Snyder as her Secret Friend
- Carrie Newland had Jenny Lindimore as her Secret Friend
- Cindy Scherger had Linda Good as her Secret Friend
- Connie Shauck had Melissa Hudelson as her Secret Friend
- Vickie Snyder had Cindy Scherger as her Secret Friend
- Beth Young had Kay Collins as her Secret Friend

Secret Friends for 2013 were assigned to members requesting this fun activity. If you’ve misplaced your new Secret Friend Info Sheet, contact CES Annalist Debbie Delp at delp.4@osu.edu.

“One of the secrets of a happy life is continuous small treats.”
- Iris Murdoch

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Visit our new website!
ces.osu.edu
CES Annual Meeting, December 4, 2012

Professional Development Awards
Each year Chi Epsilon Sigma awards two scholarships to CES Members interested in pursuing professional development that will enhance their role within Ohio State University Extension. Our newest recipients are Leah Meranda from Clermont County and Lisa Murphy from the Business Office.

Leah plans to use these funds to take the Certified Administrative Professional exam. She hopes this will help her expand her knowledge in the key areas of organization, planning and administrative skills. Leah “hopes it will help familiarize her with current technologies and advanced practices and procedures that are important in business today.”

Lisa plans to use her award to take a QuickBooks class or a class related to her accounting degree. Many counties are beginning to use QuickBooks and Lisa’s knowledge would be a real asset to Extension in the Business Office.

Congratulations to these hardworking ladies!

Years of Service Awards

5 years of service
Tina Dendinger, Erie County
Nancy Tilton, Preble County
Deborah Watson, Meigs County

10 years of service
Marianne Guthrie, Ross County

25 years of service
Christine Brubaker, Henry County
Kathy Gamble, Knox County

Our Newest CES Members

Kim Baldwin, Union County
Barbara Birney, Harrison County
Krista Bradley, Clermont County
Tamara Combs, Highland County
Sandra Davis, Ross County
Arlene Duffey, Madison County
India Fuller, Human Resources
Lee Ann Hiatt, Greene County
Patti Holbrook, Clark County
Paige Jenkins, Lawrence County
Karen McDougall, Hancock County
Amanda Rysz, FCS Administration
Jennifer Shaw, Monroe County
Elaine Tschanan, Wyandot County
Shannon Wenger, Hocking County
Twila Wright, Guernsey County

A warm CES welcome to all of you!

Our 2012 Retiree
Marie Bouic, Union County

Think of us from your hammock!

Bravo, ladies!
(You obviously have experience herding cats.)
2012 Support Staff Excellence Award – Vickie Snyder

Vickie Snyder, Office Associate at the South Central Region Office was recognized at Extension Annual Conference on December 5 with the 2012 Support Staff Excellence Award. Vickie was nominated by her supervisor and co-workers at the Region Office. Excerpts from the nomination included:

Over the years Vickie has worked with many different projects, transitioning through these new responsibilities with grace and enthusiasm. She currently coordinates the behind the scenes logistics for the Tax Workshop Program offered state-wide. She also manages a grant with Connect Ohio to offer basic computer classes to the local community and serves as the go to person for travel guidance and PCard in the Region. Vickie approaches each task, giving over 100%. In addition to her normal duties, she also coordinates WebEx professional development that is offered to all Extension staff across Ohio.

She recently took the lead for Chi Epsilon Sigma in coordinating an apparel fundraiser, learning about the many University policies, getting quotes from multiple vendors, working with the committee to coordinate a broad selection of items, worked with the PD&E Office in developing the survey for the ordering of the apparel and then announced the fundraiser numerous times, summarized the information and submitted it to the vendor. Over $14,000 in merchandise was purchased by staff from around the state. Vickie also took the lead to sort the items and have them distributed. Vickie also recently helped the Annalist to transition the CES webpages to the new Drupal site.

Vickie has served in numerous officer positions for Chi Epsilon Sigma (including President). She works tirelessly with all she serves and is known and respected by all.

Congratulations Vickie!

Dorothy Rex Inspiration Award -- Kathy Mohler

Kathy was a dedicated Extension employee for 20+ years and a charter member of Chi Epsilon Sigma. Throughout her time as a CES member, Kathy wholeheartedly promoted professionalism within Extension.

Her dedication and sacrifice has enabled CES to be the viable association it is today. She has been a tireless advocate of CES: serving on board positions (ultimately as President); and traveling to other states to support a national support staff association initiative. TERSSA (The Extension and Research Support Staff Association) is an offshoot of her efforts. TERSSA membership currently covers 9 states (Ohio included) and is actively recruiting nationally. It is in part due to Kathy’s many efforts that this is coming to fruition.

When she retired, Kathy accepted the 2012 nomination as CES Emeriti Director. We continue to benefit from her knowledge of Extension and the history of CES. She continues to selflessly support CES and her colleagues by serving on committees, being active in TERSSA, and offering guidance and wisdom to her fellow CES members and board members.

Kathy is an inspiration to everyone she meets!
FAMILY RULES
Keep your promises, share, think of others first, do your best, say please and thank you, tell the truth, laugh at yourself, hug often, use kind words, and love each other.

Update from TERSSA
The Extension and Research Support Staff Association
The first 2013 TERSSA webex is scheduled for Tuesday, February 19th at 10 am (Eastern Standard Time). All TERSSA members are welcome to attend the webex. However, only TERSSA board members may vote. If you have not received log in information, please contact me at good.72@osu.edu.

Current Chi Epsilon Sigma members who have submitted membership to TERSSA are: Carol Bottoms, Patty Corfman, Deb Delp, Linda Good, Melissa Hudelson, Lee Ann Johnson, Leah Meranda, Kathy Mohler, Peg Meents and Vickie Snyder. If you submitted TERSSA membership and are not on this list – please contact me or Patty Corfman. If you are considering becoming a member of this National Support Staff Association, join us! Visit the TERSSA website to download and submit your membership form. http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/assn/terssa/. CES will represent Ohio well with 10 members and we look forward to continued growth in membership numbers.

The TERSSA Executive Board is excited and busily planning the 2013 TERSSA Conference to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina. TERSSA members are invited to attend. As a member of the TERSSA board (Nominating Committee Chairperson), I will be sending along updates and TERSSA information as it comes available.

If you have any questions concerning TERSSA, please don’t hesitate to contact Patty Corfman, Kathy Mohler or myself.

Linda Good, Past President

Support Staff Specialization
A new resource specifically designed for you!
Chi Epsilon Sigma, in conjunction with OSU Extension Human Resources, has compiled a Specialization list for Ohio State Extension Support Staff. This list mirrors the educator specialization list that has been available for some time. The specializations are gathered annually along with the CES membership drive.

Are you the sole support staff in your department and in need of help? Ever feel isolated and/or frustrated because you are working on a project and in need of assistance? If only we knew of another support staff to call and ask questions. Now you can! The Support Staff Specialization List is a statewide listing of support staff and their top specialization. Now you have a resource at your fingertips for help, questions and support.

The Support Staff Specialization list will be accessible from both the CES (ces.osu.edu) and OSU Extension Human Resources (extensionhr.osu.edu) websites.

Please check periodically at these sites as launch dates for this specialization list are expected shortly.