Barb’s Notes and Quotes...

Dear Southwest Region Educators and Staff:

Good Day, Colleagues!
It’s a busy week for me with visits to Miami, Montgomery, Clinton, Auglaize, Shelby and Union Counties. Congratulations to our eleven people who have taken on the challenge of going for promotion. Best Wishes!

Registration for Spring Conference should be out this week. Remember, it is designed for Educators, Program Coordinators and Program Assistants (not EFNEP or SNAP). Biometric screenings will be available at no cost that day. Carol Bottoms is sending you information to register for an appointment. The conference is planned for April 29 from 9 – 3:30 at the Champaign County Extension Office.

Welcome back to Cindy Meyer (Butler, ANR Educator) who returns this week from maternity leave!

Keep Your Conversations Alive
Frequent – Ongoing conversations build relationships
Inclusive – Connect with everyone
Authentic - Care about the whole person
Engaged – A sincere question or appreciation builds rapport
Open – Be willing to share yourself

Have a wonderful spring week!

Barb
"Play is hard to maintain as you get older. You get less playful. You shouldn't of course." Richard Feynman

Most of us have been to one of those meetings where the leader asks the audience to engage in some silly game or activity. We groan. We roll our eyes. We do it. We find ourselves laughing. Our shoulders drop and we relax. Enough said. Important stuff, play. How can you add some to your work?

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**Easy Ways for Teams to Celebrate**

When a new person joins a team, current team members give the new member an object/item symbolizing something (humorous or serious) they will need to survive on the team.

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**Ohio State Cedar Point Day – May 6 . . .**

OHIO STATE DAY at CEDAR POINT will be held on May 6 and tickets are offered at a special price of $25.00. Buckeyes do have exclusive park-only access this year prior to 7:00pm, since it is the day before the park officially opens, and there are special Ohio State festivities happening throughout the day (Buckeye Bash, autograph alley, caricatures, airbrush tattoos, performances, and pop-up giveaways).

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

- First 2,000 people to enter the park will receive a free t-shirt
- Everyone can stay until the park closes at 11:00pm (although only exclusive to Ohio State from 11:00am-7:00pm)
- Free drinks all day (Ride and Refresh Pass) if tickets are purchased before March 31

More information and updated details can be found at: https://www.osu.edu/alumni/activities-and-events/events/2016/ohio-state-date-at-cedarpoint.html.
Wayne Dellinger has served as the Union County Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Educator for just about one year. Wayne received his Bachelors of Science with a dual major in Agricultural Education and Agricultural Economics. While an undergraduate he worked as a student research assistant at the “Agronomy Farm” (now part of the Waterman Farm Complex) for three years. From there he went on to manage a dairy farm for a few years before deciding to return to OSU for employment and pursuit of a Master’s Degree. He then received his Masters of Science Degree in Extension Education (Human and Community Resource Development).

He has been with The Ohio State University for over 20 years. Positions have included the following: field technician for the Extension State Specialist in Soil Fertility, Program Coordinator in the State Extension Agricultural Safety and Health Office, managing Ag Safety grants in the College of Public Health, managing pre- and post-award grants in the Comprehensive Cancer Center, and most recently coordinated an interdisciplinary graduate program in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology.

Union County has been Wayne’s home county throughout the years. His professional interests include grant proposal development, agricultural safety, small ruminant production, and agronomic crops. He serves as a 4-H advisor and volunteers as the Parliamentary Procedure Coach for Fairbanks FFA. Wayne is a member on the Union County Chamber of Commerce Community Improvement Corporation Board, the Union County Agriculture Association, the Marysville Agriculture Education Advisory Committee, the Union County Jr. Fair Livestock Committee, and the Union County Sheep Improvement Committee.

Wayne has been married for 24 years. His wife, Melanie, is a CPA and the Controller for the CareWorks Family of Companies in Dublin, OH. They have a daughter, Amanda, who just received her American FFA Degree and is finishing her second year at OSU majoring in Accounting with a minor in Ag Business. They have a son, Travis, who is a freshman at Fairbanks High School and an active member of the FFA Chapter. The family has a sheep flock where they raise Suffolk/Hampshire cross market lambs for 4-H and FFA members to purchase as beginning projects.

In his spare time, Wayne enjoys woodworking with his son. Both Wayne and Travis help on Melanie’s family’s 1,800 acre grain farm, and the whole family enjoys vegetable gardening, canning, and playing in their church brass band.
We’ve reached the halfway point in reaching our goal of 45% participation (our current participation is 27%)! But as you can see in the graph, we still have a long way to go to reach 45%. Thank you to everyone who has made a gift to Campus Campaign so far, and especially to our Extension faculty! 59% of our Extension faculty given a donation! That’s wonderful and appreciated! Now we need the rest of the team to help get us to our goal!

Remember, it is your participation, not the amount you give that matters. A one-time contribution of $1 counts toward the overall percentage of participation from Extension. You can give $1 in cash or check, $5 by credit card, or why not make an ongoing contribution that is automatically deducted each pay period? Just click here https://www.osu.edu/giving/assets/downloads/CC/blank_pledge_card.pdf to find a gift form.

And don’t forget – you get to select the fund you’d like your contribution to support. If you are a current faculty or staff member, you can search for funds to support by logging into the Campus Campaign online giving site at https://www.osu.edu/giving/philanthropy-programs/campuscampaign/ - just click on the big red rectangular button that says, “Give Online or Search for Funds.”