Dear Southwest Region Educators and Staff:

Winter Greetings! We hope that those of you who were caught in the latest storm are faring well. I am hearing about many exciting programs happening around the Southwest Region. Thanks for all each of you do to make our organization great!

We want to welcome our latest addition to our ANR program this week! Brian Kleinke is the new Extension Educator, ANR in Greene County as of January 25. Welcome Brian! We are glad to have you join this dynamic Region.

Have a productive and enjoyable week! Remember . . . "The same boiling water that softens the potato hardens the egg. It's about what you're made of, not the circumstances." Anon.

Best Regards,
Barb
"The harder the life, the stronger you'll become. The stronger you become, the easier the life will be." ~ Anonymous

"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking about yourself less."
~ C. S. Lewis

Easy Ways for Teams to Celebrate

Design a tee shirt that captures your team mission, motto, or project. Wear to reinforce group identity or accomplishments.

Congrats to 4-H Grant Awardees

Kudos to our 2016 4-H foundation Grant Award winners:

- Tracie Montague (Clinton County) $ 855
- Nate Arnett (Adventure Central) 5500
- Patty House (Clark County) - 3 6700
- Janet Myers (Clark County) 4400
- Betty Wingerter (Montgomery County) 1150
- Rhonda Williams (Darke County) – 2 1600
- Rebecca Supinger (Greene County) – 2 2550
- Demetria Woods (Miami County) 1437
- Steve Brady (Warren County) 3975
- Kim Catchpole (Adventure Central) 1200

Congratulations and best wishes on your projects!

Congratulation

Cindy and Greg Meyer on their new addition to their family.
Dirk James Meyer was born Monday January 11 at 8:23 p.m.
and weighed 7lbs. 13 ounces.
Jenny Even is the Family and Consumer Sciences and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program Educator for Hamilton County. Jenny’s specialization is community nutrition education with a focus on food security and healthy lifestyles. She also serves on the Live Healthy Live Well Signature Program team and the Tri-State Diversity Conference Planning Committee.

Jenny holds a BS in Family and Consumer Science from Miami U. and a Master’s degree in Nutrition from the University of Cincinnati. Prior to coming to Extension, she worked at the National School Boards Association in Alexandria, VA, while attending graduate school at GWU. Jenny is a member of the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and the Greater Cincinnati Dietetic Association.

Jenny and her husband Rob live in Loveland, a suburb of Clermont County. One of Jenny’s favorite ways to relax is walking or skating on the bike trail in Little Miami State Park. Some of her other interests include travelling, camping, and showing her nephews the sights of the “Queen City”, Cincinnati.
Our Connection Page

We are happy to announce the arrival of Tobias (Toby) Bradley Walters, son of Nathan and Melissa Walters. Melissa is the Miami County Office Assistant. Toby was born December 29th at 12:19pm and weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 20.25" long. Well wishes can be mailed to 820 Skylark Dr., Troy, OH 45373 or emailed to walters.590@osu.edu. Mom and baby are doing well. (and Dad too!)

Buck-IRB Updates . . .
New updates to the Buck-IRB submission system went live on Friday (1/15). An important enhancement for researchers provides an abbreviated, annual status report for minimal risk, expedited studies that are not FDA-regulated or federally funded. The annual status report is limited to questions regarding study changes and current study status. Other added features are intended to streamline submission screening within Buck-IRB. Log in to Buck-IRB at go.osu.edu/Buck-IRB. -- > Contact: Susan Ebert at ebert.55@osu.edu

Severe Weather Policy . . .
With our recent sub-zero temperatures, scattered snow squalls and poor road conditions, it is a good time to remind you to review Extension’s Severe Weather Policy: http://extension.osu.edu/policy-and-procedures-handbook/i-administration-policies/severe-weather-policy

Don’t miss the 12th Annual Tri-State Diversity Conference, February 18-19, 2016 (pre-conf on 2/17) at the Marriott, Greater Cincinnati Airport. Registration is only $275 (which includes amazing meals and the famous “International Dinner”). This professional development opportunity is planned for community and classroom professionals who are interested in expanding their diversity competence. The Extension programs at Kentucky State University, University of Kentucky, Ohio State University and Purdue University collaborate to offer this award-winning conference that has become national in scope.

“A Healthy Perspective on Diversity – Progress, Partnerships, and Possibilities” is the theme for the 2016 conference.
Information and registration here: http://ces.ca.uky.edu/tristatediversityconference/index.html
Hurry. The conference room rate will be honored till 2/1/16!
To: Extension Educators
The Boot Camps (Curriculum Development and P & T) will be offered state-wide again in 2016. Each boot camp has six – 5 hour sessions (9am-3pm). Every session includes training and technical support for participants as they complete a personal work session. The goal is to prepare professionals to be successful in designing formal curriculum and developing strong dossiers. The cost will be $120 per participant to cover the cost of materials and food. The boot camps will be held at the Ohio 4-H Center. If you are interested in participating, please send an email to Vicki Myers at: myers.26@osu.edu. Just let her know which boot camp interests you (sorry only 1 per year). Sign up soon--- space is limited!

Testimonials from Boot Camps:
• "Really helped pull back the veil on promotion and tenure and undusted – what can be a complicated & nuanced process."
• "This series of lessons was very helpful, well-organized and geared towards helping the participants."

Boot Camps Schedule – 2016*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum Development</th>
<th>P &amp; T</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 15th</td>
<td>July 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 19th</td>
<td>August 5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17th</td>
<td>September 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 21st</td>
<td>October 7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19th</td>
<td>November 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 16th</td>
<td>December 2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dates subject to change with advanced notice

Best Wishes,

Jackie

Welcome. . .
Southwest Region welcomes Stephanie Sommers to Montgomery County as a Program Assistant, EFNEP.