Here are some tips on “Understanding Audiences”:

- Talk with them, not at them.
- Share personal experiences.
- Meet each person. Shake hands. Establish rapport.
- Be genuine.
- Limited resource doesn’t mean limited interest and knowledge.
- Return to Extension’s beginning. Go where people are. Spend time with them. Get to know them. Learn how they learn. Understand their values.
- Build cultural competence.
- Develop relationships with “leaders” in the community.
- Learn group history and the differences in the group.
- Realize that no one’s way is best.
- Develop a comfortable atmosphere.
- Be flexible and open-minded.

How to Strengthen Partnerships:

- Take time for relationship building
- Learn to talk about inequalities and causes with candor.
- Identify underlying reasons for developing partnerships.
- Develop an understanding of norms, expectations, culture, tradition.
- Ensure fairness in exchange of resources.
- Be meticulous about details.

The ultimate measuring tool - Do they ask me to come back?
Barb’s Notes and Quotes...

Dear Southwest Region Educators and Staff:

October Greetings! It’s that time of year . . . “When the frost is on the pumpkins and the fodder’s in the shock”. I am enjoying these pretty days visiting programs and county office staff and doing teaching observations. Miami County is on the schedule this week and Logan, Warren, and Mercer next week. We also had a visit with the folks at Central State to start working out details for operation. Take a look at the pictures of some of these recent events at the end of the newsletter.

Reminders:
Leadership Summit October 5, 9 am -2:30 pm, 4-H Center
New Educator Retreat October 12-14, Geneva on the Lake. Contact Barb if you want to ride along.
TERSSA October 18-19. Over 100 persons have registered!
CED Call October 19, AM. Details coming soon.
State FCS Conference October 26-27
State 4-H Conference November 1
SW Region Conference November 3, Central State Branch, Dayton. Topic: Mental Health First Aid. Open to all Educators and all staff in the Southwest Region. Details coming this week.

Teaching Observations – Educators are encouraged to contact me with dates you will be teaching in the next three months so I can schedule a time to do a teaching observation. There are 12 Educators left to schedule: Beth Guggenbiller, Beth Miller, Tracie Montague, Rhonda Williams, Godwin Apaliyah, Ken Ford, Jenny Even, Annie Mead, Demetria Woods, Laura Norris, Wayne Dellinger, and Kara Colvin.

Volunteer Insurance – Dr. Rennekamp has decided that all volunteer insurance fees will be paid through state funds this year. This includes 4-H volunteers and Master Gardeners. You might want to send him a note of thanks!

Have a great week!
Remember, only you can help you. You are worth spending time on!

“REFLECTIONS”
When I have finished a long day’s work
And at last there is time to sit
What a joy to ease into a comfortable chair
And simply relax for a bit.

What a pleasure to think for a moment
Of the gifts that have been mine today;
The privilege to serve, a world to observe
And a heart to feel love pass my way.
Author Unknown

Sincerely,
Barbara

Southwest Region Forum

Happy October Birthdays…

• October 1 Susie Broidy, Program Assistant, Clark County
• October 9 Mark Badertscher, Extension Educator, Hardin County
• October 9 Chelsea Sites, Program Assistant, Montgomery County
• October 10 Erin Trempe, Program Assistant, Clark County
• October 10 Barb Hennard, Extension Educator, Auglaize County
• October 15 Mary Griffith, Extension Educator, Greene County
• October 20 Melinda Morrison, Educator/Director, Champaign County
• October 21 Brian Raison, Field Specialist, Greene County
• October 25 Linda Good, Office Associate, Miami County
• October 25 Debbi Custer, Program Assistant, Greene County

Barb Brahnm’s Schedule

• October 3 Campus
• October 4 SEAC Meeting
• October 5 Leadership Summit
• October 6 Miami/Greene
• October 7 Campus
Hello my name is Julie Crook and I am the Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Coordinator in Hamilton County. I was born in Cincinnati but my family moved from Ohio shortly after my birth. As a child we lived in Dallas, TX, Atlanta, GA and Fairfax, VA. My family moved back to Cincinnati when I was a senior in high school. I returned to Virginia a year later to attend Virginia Tech where I earned a bachelor of science in horticulture. After graduating, I moved back to Northern Virginia where I got married and worked several horticulture jobs that included working in a nursery, greenhouse, plant store, florist and an interior landscaping company. After the birth of my second son I became a stay at home mom.

In 1992 my husband's job brought us back to Cincinnati where I worked part-time and volunteered many hours at my son's school and church activities. In August 2008 my husband and I became empty nesters when our youngest child went to college which was perfect timing to start my ideal job one month later at OSU Extension.

In my job as program coordinator I am the Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator and the chair of the Tri-State Green Industry Conference committee. I also answer consumer horticulture questions, am a member of the Extension Nursery Landscape Turf Team (ENLTT) and writer for the Buckeye Yard & Garden onLine (BYGL).

In my free time I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, playing tennis, gardening and flower arranging. I became a grandmother in March of this year and I am totally smitten with my grandson, Landon. Spending time with my grandson has quickly become my favorite past time. The picture I have included is of my family's recent trip to the Outer Banks. It includes my husband, three sons, my daughter-in-law, my daughter-in-law to be and of course Landon!
Mark Badertscher at Hardin County Field Day

Amanda Bennett at Farm Science Review

Pat Brinkman and Lisa Barlage at NEAFCS

Elizabeth Hawkins, Glenn Arnold, and Sam Custer at FSR

Barb Hennard at her NEAFCS Display

Darke County Staff at Autumn Visit.